

# Friday NewsBriefs



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## Visit Our Calendar of Events

[www.ohioable.org](http://www.ohioable.org)  
[www.neable.org](http://www.neable.org)

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## Stay Connected

Sign up for the Friday NewsBriefs online

## Contact Us

[info@neable.org](mailto:info@neable.org)

## Professional Development Opportunities

### Ohio TESOL

Remember the Ohio TESOL Conference is coming up on November 11-12, and the Board of Regents is supporting registration for up to 100 ABLEResource Center staff members. **All** ABLEResource Center staff are eligible for OBR Conference Registration support this year. If you are planning on requesting Board of Regents support for your conference registration, please do so as soon as possible, as there are still a limited number of slots available.

To request OBR support, please visit

[http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/rcn/calendar\\_detail\\_prelogin.cfm?ItemSID=2207](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/rcn/calendar_detail_prelogin.cfm?ItemSID=2207)

### NERC NEOEA PD Day

The NEOEA Day PD Day is just a week away! Trainings being offered include

- ESOL Basics
- BEST Plus
- Learning to Achieve (only local training for FY12)
- Gadgets, and Tablets, and Apps, Oh my!

This is a wonderful opportunity to get one of those required trainings out of the way while staying close to home! There is still time to register, so sign up today!

## RCN Fall PD Day

As if there weren't enough exciting PD opportunities around the corner, the RCN Fall PD Day is November 4<sup>th</sup>! Trainings being offered include

- Assessment Fundamentals
- BEST Plus Training
- Building Better Writers
- ESOL Basics
- Accountability: What Does All This Data Mean?
- Infusing Technology into Your Lessons
- Algebra That Makes Cents
- Learning to Achieve

There is still space available in all of the sessions being offered. For more information and to register, please visit [www.ohioable.org](http://www.ohioable.org).

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## News and Updates

### GED Age Waiver Rule Changes

Effective September 29, there have been some changes to the GED Age Waiver Rule. The new rule states

“Approval to take GED  
(R.C. 3313.617)

The act requires a person who is 16 to 18 years old to obtain written approval from school officials to take the General Educational Development (GED) tests, passage of which qualifies a person for a high school equivalence diploma. In the case of a person who was last enrolled in a school district, the district superintendent (or a designee) must give the approval. If the person was last enrolled in a

community school or STEM school, the approval must be provided by the school principal (or a designee). The act supersedes an administrative rule of the State Board of Education, which requires the person to obtain the approval of the superintendent of the school district in which the person was last enrolled or in which the person currently resides.<sup>106</sup> As under the State Board rule, the act permits the Department of Education to require a person younger than 18 also to obtain the written approval of the person's parent or a court official in order to take the GED.

In other words, the statement on the previous age waiver forms...

I confirm the applicant currently resides in this school district, but is not enrolled in this school district... has been removed.

The new waiver form is included as an attachment. For more information, please contact Sharon Bowman at [sharon.bowman@ode.state.oh.us](mailto:sharon.bowman@ode.state.oh.us).

## Mathematics Assessment

Central Southeast Resource Center is conducting a Math Assessment. Several years ago, a math assessment was sent to all teachers who taught mathematics in ABLE classrooms. The results were used to inform the planning and delivery of math professional development. We are repeating this assessment to inform the Curriculum and Instruction Committee, its Math sub-committee and the State ABLE Program in planning professional development and developing resources. These resources can help to build math instructors' instructional strategies, reducing a student's need for further mathematics remediation as they move to postsecondary education. The assessment is anonymous and will only be used to gather aggregate information. Please forward the following link to your instructors who teach mathematics in any capacity and have them complete it anytime from October 1-31.

[http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/math/start\\_original.cfm](http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/math/start_original.cfm)

## Adult Literacy Impact and Action Survey

The Center for Literacy is conducting a national impact and action survey on adult literacy. To thank those who participate, the Center for Literacy will award one lucky winner an HP Pavilion Laptop! All entries must be received by midnight on October 31, 2011. To take the survey, please visit

<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07e4l5egl9gr9l2zje/a012ugss0rsf5/greeting>

### Matt's Tech Tip

Did you ever wish you could take a picture of what's on your computer monitor? It is easier than you think and you don't even need a camera. In the upper right hand corner of your keyboard there is a key just for that. The key might say PrintScreen or PrntScrn, but they all do the same thing:



Press the key to take a screen shot and then you can paste it into a Word document or an image editor program.

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# The Resource Room

## Spotlight on Writing

### Bodega Resources

#### Focus on Basics-Writing Instruction

"*Focus on Basics* is the quarterly publication of the National Center for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy. It presents best practices, current research on adult learning and literacy, and how research is used by adult basic education teachers, counselors, program administrators, and policy makers. To request this resource, please visit

<http://www.neable.org/resources/bodega/bodega-fob/>

#### Beginnings and Expressions

These publications are collections of adult student writing from various sources. In the *Beginnings* series, the different books focus on different themes. In the *Expressions* book, there are different themes within the one book, as well as a section of student artwork. These books are great motivational pieces to use with your students.

#### "Florida Technet GED 2002 Teachers' Lesson Bank - Writing

This lesson plan bank has over 50 lesson plans geared towards GED teachers to help their students with writing. The lesson plans are available online at

<http://www.floridatechnet.org/GED/LessonPlans/Lessons.htm>

or you may request a hard copy of the lesson plans through the Bodega!

To request any of these resources, please visit

<http://www.neable.org/resources/bodega/bodega-writing/>

**Remember that all Bodega items are provided at no cost and are yours to keep!**

## Library Resources

- Talk and Write! A Photocopyable Collection of Writing Activities (Morey and Schafers, 2011)
- Writing Extra: A resource book of multi- level skills activities (Palmer, 2004)
- Great Writing 1: Great Sentences for Great Paragraphs (Folse, 2010)

## Web Resources

### Wiggio for Writing Instruction

Have you ever wished for a chance to network with other ABLE writing teachers? As of October 2011 you can! The Southwest ABLE Resource Center has established a Wiggio to provide Ohio ABLE Instructors with an online forum about teaching writing. Beginning in October, during the last week of each month, a topic of relevance to writing instruction in the ABLE Classroom will be discussed. The Wiggio can be found at

[http://wiggio.com/group\\_open\\_join.php?groupid=854861&password=buckeye&ref=392921](http://wiggio.com/group_open_join.php?groupid=854861&password=buckeye&ref=392921)

For more information, please see the attached flyer.

### Northeast ABLE Resource Center Website Writing Section

Part of our job is searching the web to find teaching resources so you don't have to. We know you're busy! We have collected some great websites to provide all kinds of information and activities to use when teaching writing, both in the ESOL classroom and the ABE classroom. To check them out, please visit

<http://www.neable.org/resources/websites/writing/>

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# Thoughts on Persistence

From the Mini Book on Retention Strategies in *The Retention Toolkit*.

Gearing the orientation/intake process toward program completion helps to encourage students to recognize the relationship between consistent attendance and achievement.

- Give certificates to students with good attendance. Include on certificate new skills learned or increased scores.
- Help students determine when they might be able to complete the program if they come on a regular basis.