



Friday NewsBriefs

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Upcoming Events

Northeast NEOEA PD Day

October 17, 2008
Henn Mansion, Euclid, OH

Statewide PD Day (See attached flyer)

LD 202, BEST Plus, The Write Skills for Success,
CASAS ESL, Portfolio Connection, Math Math Math!
USCIS Regional Training Conference
October 30, 2008
Hilton-Easton, Columbus, OH

Ohio TESOL Conference (Registration Open!)

October 31-November 1, 2008
Hilton-Easton, Columbus, OH

Register for these training sessions on our calendar of events @

www.ohioable.org or www.neable.org

Register for the USCIS Regional Training Conference at

http://www.uscis.gov/files/article/Registration_Form.pdf

Northeast Professional Day

Join us for a day of Professional Development on October 17, 2008 at the Henn Mansion in Euclid, OH

- **Equations, Graphs and Charts... Oh My! Exploring Algebra (1:00-3:30pm)**
Just like Dorothy explored the Land of Oz, we'll explore the world of algebra in this interactive workshop! Using a variety of activities, we will make meaning of algebra by examining how an equation, graph, and chart can all be used to express a real-life situation. Come prepared to increase your personal understanding and skill with algebra and to explore math lessons to use with ABE students.

*The workshop will not duplicate activities used at the Math Kick-Off.

- **Technology 101 (9:30am-3:00pm)**

Technology 101 is designed to introduce the skills necessary for ABLE teachers to effectively utilize technology to accommodate and enhance classroom instruction. Concepts covered will include basic computer applications, Email, and searching and retrieving resources available on the Internet.

Participants will learn basic computing concepts, while gaining hands-on experience surfing the Web and using office productivity applications through practice in the NERC mobile lab. Participants will take home a flash drive containing resources saved during the training.

- **ESOL Resources, Updates & Information to Equip You & Your Students! (9:30am-3:00pm)**

Join this training to learn about new resources both hardcopy and virtual for ESOL students and teachers. This session will provide information on updates in the field of ESOL, changes in assessments, where ESOL fits into the Ohio Skills Bank and new ESOL resources that are available. In addition, a local immigration attorney has been invited to answer questions on immigration law.

The second part of this session will focus on integrating the internet into your classroom. Learn more about using the internet as resource for you as a teacher and for your students as learners. Participants will take home new resources and classroom activities to implement with ESOL students tomorrow!

- **GED Training (9:30am-12:00pm)**

The topics covered at this training include:

1. GED marketing and preparation to 2011
2. Accommodations - beginning the process and successfully submitted forms to the GED office

- **Make It/Take It Full-Day Session (9:30am-3:00pm)**

Make It/Take It provides the teacher with an opportunity to assemble materials to be used in the classroom. Laminator and copy machines will be available.

- **Make It/Take It Half-Day Session (9:30am-12:00pm)**

Make It/Take It provides the teacher with an opportunity to assemble materials to be used in the classroom. Laminator and copy machines will be available.

Food will be available for this event at a cost of \$10.00.

Additional information: Join Jeff Gove, ODE State ABLE Consultant for a luncheon discussion from 12:00pm -1:00pm about the Ohio Skills Bank, the Stackable Certificates and the ABLE Collaboratives.

Register for these trainings at www.neable.org

Statewide PD Day

Hilton Easton
Columbus, Oh

- **The Write Skills for Success (9:30am-3:30pm)**
The Write Skills for Success (offered as one of the trainings at the statewide ABLE PD Day). Most educators recognize that students must have strong writing skills to succeed in their academic and work lives. This workshop provides opportunities for instructors to learn what current research and practice say works in writing instruction. Participants will learn a variety of approaches in assessing and teaching writing that can help prepare students for postsecondary education and employment-related writing skills. Writing today is not a frill for the few, but an essential skill for the many. (National Commission on Writing, 2003).
- **Learning Disabilities 202 (9:30am-3:30pm)**
This session for instructors emphasizes instructional strategies, materials, software, resources, adaptations and accommodations that are useful when working with students with learning disabilities in reading, writing and math. Instructors will have an opportunity to review materials, practice strategies and use accommodations. Pre-requisite: LD201
- **BEST Plus (9:30am-4:00pm)**
Registration begins at 9:00 am, the training begins at 9:30am. The BEST Plus Training Workshop prepares participants to administer and score the test by providing an overview of the test, opportunities to practice delivery and scoring, and clarification of administration and scoring issues. Participants will recognize the importance of assessing oral language proficiency and be able to administer and score the test and interpret BEST Plus scores. If available, please bring your program's "Test Administrator Guide" book. PLEASE NOTE: TEST ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING IS REQUIRED BY THE CENTER FOR APPLIED LINGUISTICS. IN ORDER TO RECEIVE CERTIFICATION CAL REQUIRES THAT PARTICIPANTS NOT MISS MORE THAN 30 MINUTES OF THE TRAINING.
- **Math! Math! Math! PD Day (9:30am-3:30pm)**
MATH! MATH! MATH! Come to this interactive workshop and brush up on those Algebra skills needed for the GED math test and the basic stackable certificate. This is part of the CONTENT based series of workshops that are being given this year. (This is not a classroom strategies workshop.) If you missed the Math Kick-Off, then this is for you! Materials will be provided: bring your calculator and a willingness to learn some new math. The Ohio Math Training Team will be presenting.
- **CASAS ESL (9:30am-3:30pm)**
This training is for ESL providers who would like to be trained in using CASAS (Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System) as an assessment option. Focus will be on the Reading and Listening tests. Successful completion of this training allows participants to train staff in their program to use the CASAS system. Participants will be able to: (1) administer and score tests - appraisal/locator, pretests and posttests; (2) use CASAS test

results, student competencies and class profiles to plan instruction; and (3) discuss how CASAS can be used to meet Ohio and national accountability requirements.

- **The Portfolio Connection: Connecting Teaching and Learning (9:30am-3:30pm)**

This training will focus on providing classroom teachers with practical tools to use as they work with students to build a portfolio that captures the students' academic growth while in their programs. Presenters will model conferencing techniques and use portfolio sample activities to help teachers design a meaningful, useable and efficient portfolio system for their classrooms.

- ***USCIS Training Conference***

The Northeast ABLE Resource Center is pleased to announce the USCIS Regional Training Conference for Civics and Citizenship Teachers of Adults as an Ohio TESOL Pre-Conference on Thursday, October 30, 2008! This training is designed to help adult civics and citizenship teachers and volunteers improve their skills in teaching U.S. history, civics and the naturalization process to immigrant students. The regional training conference will include sessions on how to effectively teach the history and ideals of our founding documents; to learn the process on how lawful permanent residents become citizens; and to impart information on the redesigned naturalization test. This regional training conference is open to the public. **Interested parties must register at www.uscis.gov/files/article/Registration_Form.pdf.**

Register for all of these training sessions (except the USCIS training) at www.ohioable.org

OHIO TESOL Conference Extra Opportunity!

Once again the Resource Center Network is offering a special PD opportunity for all ABLE ESOL teachers to attend the Annual Ohio TESOL Conference. Register by completing the "ABLE" Registration Form (and Membership, if applicable) located on www.neable.org under "Highlights." ABLE participants are eligible to receive paid registration for a one (\$70/50) or two-day conference (\$95), plus a reimbursement up to \$105 from the Regional Resource Center for hotels and/or meals. (Individuals are responsible for making their own hotel reservations). Please note: registrants must be current members of the Ohio TESOL organization. The \$25 membership can be paid upon registering for the conference. See the attached flyer for more details and register by **October 10th!**

The Ohio TESOL Conference: *Access to Education, Access to Technology* includes an exciting lineup of speakers and sessions! Don't miss these presenters: plenary speaker and TESOL technology standards development team, Dr. Paige Ware of Southern Methodist University; Dr. Michael Jones of the United States Citizenship

and Immigration Services; State ABLE Director, Denise Pottmeyer; and Chancellor Eric Fingerhut of the Ohio Board of Regents and the University System of Ohio (invited).

We are also thrilled to have Michael Jones conducting a pre-conference on Thursday, October 30! He will deliver the USCIS Regional Training Conference for Civics and Citizenship Teachers of Adults with information on the newly released citizenship test. This pre-conference is open to the public. Interested parties must register for this training using the USCIS Registration Form located at www.uscis.gov/files/article/Registration_Form.pdf. See attached for more information.

Power Path

PowerPath is an easy-to-use engagement, screening and SMARTER intervention system that is built on 30 years of evidence-based research.

The BASIC Certification Series begins October 1, 2008 and the PROFESSIONAL Certification Series begins March 2, 2008. See attached flyer for details.

COABE Call for Nominations

COABE offers awards, incentive grants and scholarship to members to provide financial support for small special projects or advanced study in adult education. COABE members are eligible to compete or nominate for the prestigious awards, incentive grants and scholarships.

AWARDS

Award recipients receive:

- \$1,650 financial award (includes transportation and hotel accommodations).
- Recognition at the annual COABE national conference during the awards banquet.

Successful nominators receive:

- Complimentary conference registration for the annual COABE national conference where the award is presented

INCENTIVE GRANTS

Incentive grant recipients receive:

- \$1,500 financial award.
- \$750 travel stipend to present on project at the annual COABE national conference.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship recipients receive:

- \$2,000 financial award.

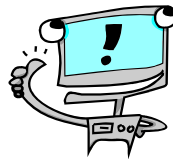
To nominate an individual, go to www.coabe.org, click on Awards.

All applications must be received by December 1, 2008 for inclusion in this year's award selection process.

Top Twenty Online Learning Games

17. **Word Connect** - It's a great Tetris-like game with various difficulty levels accessible to English Language Learners. Players get to pick the categories of words for their particular game, and the words themselves are shown on the side. It's an excellent vocabulary-reinforcing activity.
 18. **What 2 Learn** – It has a variety of templates, and a fairly easy process, that teachers and students can use to create and play learning games.
 19. **Planet Green Game** – It's basically a role-playing game where players have to minimize their carbon emissions. And it's combined with learning environmental facts. There is audio support for most of the content.
 20. **Stock News Game** – In it, you're given a very short piece of information about a company, and then have to predict if its stock goes down, stays the same, or goes up by the end of the day the news came out.
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Matt's Tech Tips



Software Updates

At some point in time, your computer has probably displayed a notice that new software updates are ready to be downloaded or installed to your computer. These notices can be related to any of the programs stored on your computer that have been configured to automatically check for updates daily, weekly, or monthly.

So, why would you need to update software, when your computer seems to be running fine?

Software updates are important for a few reasons, but the most important of them relate to system security and bug fixes. Any security related need to be updated to patch the gaps that malicious programs can exploit. Software updates can also address any bugs that exist in the programming that may cause your program or system to crash when encountered. Other updates can include increased functionality, new features, and improved graphics.

When should I update my software?

Updates should be installed when they are released to ensure that your computer system is running the most secure and stable configuration possible. In Windows

XP and Vista, software updates can be scheduled using the Automatic Update utility that can be found in the Control Panel. Application software like Mozilla Firefox, Adobe Reader, Apple Quicktime, and Java all have settings for scheduling automatic updates.

Just like backing up your data and performing routine maintenance like defragmenting your hard drive, updates should be done on a regular basis. Once a week or every two weeks, make it a point to schedule some time to install software updates.

Grant Opportunities



Tommy Hilfiger Education Grants

Tommy Hilfiger Corporate Foundation Education Grants support programs/partnerships that promote educational opportunities for diverse populations in the United States. **Maximum Award:** \$25,000. **Eligibility:** 501(c)(3) organizations. **Deadline:** October 1, 2008.

www.tommy.com/opencms/opencms/corporate/foundation/aboutthefoundation.html/

Comcast Foundation Grants Support Youth Leadership Development

The Comcast Foundation is awarding grants to maximize the impact of community investments so they yield tangible, measurable benefits to the neighborhoods Comcast serves and the people who live there. The foundation's primary focus is in funding diversity-oriented programs that address literacy, volunteerism and youth leadership development. **Maximum Award:** \$570,000.

Eligibility: 501(c)3 organizations operating within communities that Comcast serves. **Deadline:** N/A.

www.comcast.com/corporate/about/inthecommunity/foundation/comcastfoundation.html

Employment Opportunitites



- The Willoughby-Eastlake ABLÉ program has immediate openings for a daytime instructor (9 hrs/week plus planning time) and an evening instructor (5 hrs/week plus planning time). Each position (both day and evening) also includes providing orientation once per month. Current Ohio teaching credentials and ABLÉ experience preferred. Contact the Director, Janene Ishee, with inquiries at 440-946-3336.
- Project Learn of Summit County is seeking applicants for several positions throughout Summit County:
 - **Downtown Akron GED Teacher**
 - **Twinsburg Literacy/GED Teacher**

- **Barberton Literacy/GED Teacher**
- **Barberton Instructional Aide**
- **Portage Lakes Career Center Instructor**

Any interested parties please send cover letter and resume to Rick McIntosh, Executive Director at info@projectlearns Summit.org



The Resource Room

El Civics/Social Studies in honor of Constitution Day

Do you want to go deeper into a civics topic with the help of videos? The NEABLE Library has new DVD's which might be just what you need.

The Presidents: The Lives and Legacies of the 43 Leaders of the United States produced by The History Channel

Part 1 – Washington to Monroe: 1789 – 1825, John Q. Adams to Polk: 1825 – 1849, and Taylor to Lincoln 1849 - 1865

Part 2 – Andrew Johnson to Arthur: 1865 – 1885, Cleveland to Taft: 1885 – 1913, Wilson to Franklin D. Roosevelt: 1913 – 1945

Part 3 – Truman to Ford: 1945 – 1977, Carter to George W. Bush: 1977 to Present, All the Presidents' Wives

The States: Part 1, 2, and 3. This set of DVD's takes you across the United States and shows the best of each state.

The Statue of Liberty: Enlightening the World is produced by The History Channel. This DVD “explores the remarkable steps leading to the Statue of Liberty’s creation, from the initial struggles to find adequate funding to its celebratory centennial restoration. 50 min. + extras

Tesla: Master of Lightening produced by PBS Home Video. Croatian students in your ESOL class may identify Nikola Tesla as a native son and scientific hero. “This program recounts the life of scientist, inventor, and visionary Nikola Tesla, often remembered as more of an eccentric cult figure than an electrical engineering genius. Many of his achievements are still attributed to contemporaries Thomas Edison and Guglielmo Marconi. Tesla's surprising inventions are revealed in his autobiographical and scientific writings, supplemented by rare photographs and recreations.” 90 minutes

Underground Railroad is produced by The History Channel and hosted by Alfred Woodard.” The extraordinary story is told through historical documents, visits to important sites, interviews with descendents of noted abolitionists and comment from experts like Ed Rigaud, the President of the National Underground Freedom Center.” 150 minutes + extras

Type the title in the **title search box** at www.neablelibrary.org and reserve your choice. We will send you the books/ DVDs and a return postage paid envelope. Please call us if you need any help or have questions at 1- 800 - 361 – 7076.



Thoughts on Leadership

Thoughts on Leadership will return in the next issue of the Friday NewsBriefs.