



# Coastline Newsletter

FDLRS/East  
Holiday Issue  
volume XXX II #2



## Parenting in Today's World "Enjoy the Parenting Journey"



In Brevard County, parents had the opportunity to attend the annual Parenting in Today's World workshop October 6th from 8:00 - 12:00 at the Educational Services Facility building. The day of learning began with an array of food prepared by the culinary art students from Cocoa High School under the supervision of their teacher, Chef Knight. Parents were encouraged to visit any of the thirty-five community resource tables stationed around the board room.

As they enjoyed the refreshments, the day began with the keynote presentation from Sharon Tolson. The hour filled presentation allowed for audience participation as she used the metaphor of driving a car to explain how we learn and the different stages children go through so parents can navigate the twists, turns and bumps along the road of parenting.

Following the keynote presentation, a variety of breakout sessions were held including topics such as: Raising a Healthy Child, Weather the Journey Through the Teen Years, The Art of Setting Limits, Fathering Mission Possible and many more which allowed parents the opportunity to network and gather materials to use at home with their family. Toward the last breakout session, families were given the book 365 Ways to Raise Great Children to take home.

This year, a special breakout session for bilingual parents was offered entitled, "Enjoy the Journey, a Conversation with Ana Diaz." Ana lead a conversation in Spanish about the keynote presentation and so much more.

### Coastline Contents:

Home Page: Parenting in Today's World  
page 2: Explorations Fair  
page 3: Disability History and Awareness Weeks Follow-up  
page 4: Project Success & AFCEA grant winners  
page 5: Child Find, FACT Fair, Reading Corner & Tech Corner  
page 6: Communication and the Bilingual Child  
page 7: Pencil Grasp Activity, PDA 2nd Semester Update



Pictured from left to right: Paula Ferrell, Ginny Gleason, Becky Holmes and Beth Mills



Parenting in Today's World keynote presentation by Sharon Tolson



We appreciate you reading the *Coastline* newsletter. Please click on this link to complete a quick satisfaction survey. <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MN5BPT5>

## Explorations Fair, Planning for your Future

The Volusia County Transition Team (VCTT) is a network of community agencies, school personnel, and concerned individuals working together to empower persons with disabilities with knowledge to access services to make successful life transitions. Each year VCTT typically holds an Annual Pathways to Transition Fair that brings agencies, families, and community members together to discover assistance that is available to students after leaving high school.

This year the Transition Fair has teamed up with the Volusia College Expo to better meet the needs of all students in a similar format. As a result of this collaboration, Volusia County Schools presented the 2012 Explorations Fair, "Planning for Your Future," on October 25, 2012. This event hosted colleges, universities, vocational schools, and local agencies in order to provide students and families a relaxed, friendly atmosphere to explore options.

With knowledge comes power to make more informed decisions that will best prepare students for their post school choices. Individuals with disabilities had the opportunity to interact with representatives from ten local agencies and attend a Transition Agency Forum sponsored by Project 10, disAbility Solutions for Independent Living, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

The event was an enormous success for all students and families and they hope to continue this collaboration again in the coming school year.



Julie Bluel & Leslie Kieler with ARC of Volusia



Suki Glick from disAbility Solutions



Above Left: Kerri Harrelson from Children's Medical Services and Susan Reaves, ESE Coordinator from Volusia County Schools

Above Right: Ben Fischer for the Visually Impaired and Dawn Renea Nichols from the Division of Blind Services

**Disability History and Awareness Weeks 2012 Follow up**

Disability History and Awareness Weeks was celebrated October 1 through 12, 2012. These two weeks brought forward many dedicated educators working to increase disability awareness at their schools as well as with parents and communities. In Volusia County Schools, over 30 individuals shared the events and activities that were held to both increase awareness and celebrate individuals with disabilities as well as those that educate them each and every day. Thanks to the gracious donation from the Council for Exceptional Children Volusia Chapter #563, educators at two area schools won gift cards. This year's winners were Kathleen Tager and Linda Weeks/Misty Martin (shared). Winners were surprised by the FDLRS Prize Patrol and School Administrators on October 16th!



Kathleen Tager, Pre-K at Edgewater Public Elementary School accepts her prize from Melissa Bisesi, FDLRS Resource Specialist. Kathleen borrowed books from FDLRS, created lesson plans for general education classes to increase disability awareness; teachers made paper chains linking everyone together as they 'Celebrate our Differences'; students from separate ESE classes paired up with students in General Education classes to decorate paper and link chains together that hung in their lunch room all through October; and the ESE Department also treated the faculty and staff to a breakfast with gratitude for always including all children.

Linda Weeks and Misty Martin, ESE teachers at Indian River Elementary School, accept their prize from FDLRS Prize Patrol Melissa Bisesi and Shari Hill, Principal Dee Stevenson, and Assistant Principal Willie McCoy. They displayed Disability and History Awareness on their school marquee; provided tips for parents with children with learning disabilities in their school newsletter; highlighted famous individuals with disabilities each day for the two weeks on their morning news; created an interactive bulletin board display with tips for teachers working with students with different learning styles; created a "Guess Who" board with famous individuals with disabilities; and created a PowerPoint presentation to share at their faculty meeting with a focus on misconceptions of learning disabilities.



Linda Weeks, pictured fourth over from left.



Misty Martin, pictured in center

## Community Service Project by Dr. Stephen Godfrey

Our new assistant principal, Brandy Douglas, has encouraged all the students and staff at the North Area Adult Education Center in Titusville to give back to the community and the North Area Center.

Fostering a sense of personal responsibility and pride in your school, community and yourself is an important element of the educational experience. For students who often arrive at the adult education center with a variety of experiences in the K-12 system and a lack of self esteem, learning to view themselves and their educational experience more positively is a goal of the Project Success program.

When planting trees and plants on the center grounds, students learn to work together as a team, make healthy decisions and learn to become productive, contributing citizens in their community.

Brandy Douglas, Assistant Principal of the North Area Adult Education Center, encourages staff to “think outside the box” and utilize brain-based educational activities, such as the Project Success class’ ongoing Community Service Learning Projects, to create and foster a productive educational environment.



Project Success students hard at work at their school. Kathy Lowe was on hand to take pictures and assist.



Above: Dr. Stephen Godfrey with his Project Success students after a productive day at the North Area Adult Community Education Center.

## AFCEA STEM Grant Winners



The AFCEA, Armed Forces Electronics Association, Canaveral Chapter, has again announced their continuation of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Teaching Tool Awards. A significant improvement in the chapter commitment is to encourage Brevard teachers in their focus to bring the very best challenges to their students. This year the grant will be increasing to \$1,500.00. Ginger Davis, at the school board, serves as one of the liaisons and Janice Kershaw spoke at the September luncheon with some of the grant winners in attendance, including Slavka Roselip, a science teacher at DeLaura Middle School.

Slavka received the monetary award which allowed her class to attend a Sea Camp in November 2012. They experienced the hands-on marine science in a beautiful setting with highly educated and rigorously trained instructors. Students and chaperones were able to snorkel and explore the coral reef, study the taxonomy of selected marine organisms, and experience how scientists work in the field. Sample programs included algae and plankton labs, squid dissection, shark biology, and near shore ecology by wading to a nearby island.

While learning about science, the students develop a better understanding of their own capabilities and interests which can influence their future career choices. It was a great way to experience the outdoors with friends, classmates and parents forming new friendships and creating life long memories.

A favorite activity by both ESE and gifted students was the ‘predator’ game. In this game, students tried to blend in with the mangroves and become camouflaged so they would not become ‘prey’ by being detected.

**Teachers interested in applying for the grant should email Don McLamb ASAP at [fdjmc@aol.com](mailto:fdjmc@aol.com) as it is due on January 23, 2013.**



## The Child Find Teams are Here for You!



Child Find, a federally-funded program administered through Brevard and Volusia County Public Schools, offers free, developmental screenings for children 3-5 years old. The components of a screening includes vision, hearing, cognitive, language, speech, motor, and behavior.

Referrals come from agencies, childcare providers, doctors, and parents when there is a concern about a child's development. Screenings are done only with parent/guardian consent.

Referrals to community agencies and/or the public school may be made at the conclusion of a Child Find screening. Further evaluations through the schools system may be made to see if a child meets the eligibility criteria for free school board services, for example, speech therapy.

The goal of our service is to reach children who need help prior to kindergarten in the hope that they may no longer need services when entering school, or that they have been identified so that support is in place as they continue into kindergarten.

If you have any questions about our program, please call (321) 633-1000 ext. 552 in Brevard or (386) 255-6475 ext. 52837 in Volusia.

## FACT FAIR

FDLRS East participated in Title 1 FACT Fair (Families and Community Together) at New Smyrna Beach Middle School on November 27th. A total of 28 exhibitors shared information and resources from within the community. Parents and students enjoyed the hands-on opportunity provided by FDLRS East, featuring assistive technology software, Read:Outloud 6 and Write:Outloud 6, as well as Lottie kit low tech tools. The event was very well received with 98 families and 284 participants in attendance.



## Reading Corner



### Art and Science of Teaching by Robert Marzano

Looking for a great professional development book to read; a book that will help you grow as a professional that's online through our district and earn inservice points? Well, look no longer. The Art and Science of Teaching is available through the district professional library in Brevard. This ASCD book can be accessed at the Brevard Public Schools website on your school computer. Once on the BPS website, click on Teachers and then Professional Library.

This book is also available as a Wiki Book Study hosted by FDLRS/East in Brevard. Check out ERO for the next spring gathering or contact Heather Theobald at Theobald.Heather@brevardschools.org for more information. Our first fall book study was a success for both the teachers and students!

Marzano's book is a comprehensive framework for effective instruction filled with action steps mapped out.

## TECH CORNER Holiday Tech Tip



What could be better than **FREE** at this time of year? **Google Drive** is the newest storage space that allows you up to 5 GB for free. You can use Google Drive/Docs to create documents, presentations, spreadsheets, forms and drawings and then share from anywhere and everywhere you go on Google Drive! Want to create a presentation? Start it at work and finish it at home or even in Panera! "Google Drive is everywhere you are—on the web, in your home, at the office and on the go. So wherever you are, your stuff is just...there. Ready to go, ready to share." The latest version of Google Drive, which collaborates with google docs, saves automatically and has many more features than the previous Google Docs suite.

Google Drive. Keep everything. Share anything.



### Watch the Video

**Google Drive is available for:** PC and Mac, Chrome OS, iPhone and iPad, Android devices. **All you need is a login!** Go to <http://drive.google.com>

## Communication and the Bilingual Child

Across the United States and the state of Florida, the number of children who are learning to speak more than one language is rapidly increasing. The number of referrals to Child Find for children whose primary language is a language other than English has also shown an increase. While some of these referrals are appropriate with children needing interventions; the majority of children referred do not qualify for or need Exceptional Student Education Services.

Here is what you need to know about children learning two or more languages:

- Children learning more than one language may begin talking later and take more time to develop their expressive language skills (Rosenberg, 2000).
- Children exposed to both languages early will pick up each language more easily with a native accent. The later you wait, the more difficult it is for children to become fluent in either language.
- Children may show a delay in one language and be more fluent in the other because they have been exposed to one language more than the other. These children often do not need speech-language services; they simply need more exposure to the language which shows a delay.
- Children who show a delay in both languages also may not need speech-language services. The delays in both languages may be due to learning new words and phrases in both languages.
- Children who show a significant delay in acquiring both languages may need intervention, since there may be a language disorder which permits this child from learning any language.

Here are ways that you can help children develop good language skills:

- Provide plenty of opportunities for practice. The more children are exposed to a language, the better they will become at using and understanding it. So the more a child hears English vs. Spanish, the more fluent the child will become in English. To help children become fluent in both, use both languages equally at home and school.
- Slow down. Talk more slowly so that children have an easier time understanding what they hear.
- Keep it simple. Use and model language that children understand. Encourage children to use sentences rather than 1-2 word phrases.
- Story time. Read books in each language to help build vocabulary, phonemic awareness and early literacy skills.

Website with further information provided by Judith Magloire, ESOL Resource Teacher:  
[http://www.edline.net/pages/Brevard\\_County\\_Schools/ESOL](http://www.edline.net/pages/Brevard_County_Schools/ESOL)



## Pencil Grasp Activities

While many of us just grab a pencil and proceed to write, few of us actually think of all the skills that must be developed prior to accomplishing that task.

Hands and wrists must be strong, we need the ability to use different amounts of pressure, and also the ability to separate the sides of the hands so that one side can stabilize while the other has movement.

These qualities are very important when learning how to print and write and will allow for the greatest amount of finger movement and the least amount of fatigue for the muscles of the hands.

In order to develop or refine a pencil grasp, try some of these activities:

- Painting with an eye dropper or releasing and counting drops of water one at a time
- Picking up fragile objects with tweezers, tongs, fingers without breaking or denting them
- Squeezing the trigger on a spray bottle using the thumb and other fingers to stabilize it
- Holding several buttons or beads and then placing them in a container one at a time using only the thumb and index finger
- Lining up a row of pennies and turning them over quickly
- Punching holes with a hole punch; double up paper as you get stronger
- Winding an alarm clock
- Screwing and unscrewing jar lids
- Crumpling up pieces of paper with one hand
- Stretching a rubber band between thumb and index finger, then middle, ring finger, etc.
- Peeling stickers off of a cookie sheet
- Stringing beads, or put a dowel in Styrofoam and put beads on them
- Twisting nuts off of and on to bolts
- Pushing golf tees into floral clay, or pegs into a pegboard
- Opening and closing zip lock bags
- Play with legos, lacing cards or play dough



The Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System is funded by the State of Florida, Department of Education, Division of Public Schools and Community Education, Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Services, through federal assistance under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B, IDEA Part B, Preschool, and State General Revenue Funds. This publication can be made available to persons with disabilities in a variety of formats, including large print, cassette tape, and braille. Telephone or written requests should be made at least two weeks prior to the time you need the material and should include your name, address and phone number. In **Brevard County** requests should be made to Kim Riddle, ESE Lead Teacher, 2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, FL 32940, (321) 633-1000, ext. 535 and in **Volusia County** to FDLRS, Hurst Support Center, 1340 Wright Street, Holly Hill, FL 32117, (386) 258-4684. You can access the *Coastline* newsletter by visiting the FDLRS/East website at <http://fdlrs.brevardschools.org/east/> OR <http://myvolusiaschools.org> (click on “departments” “fdlrs”)



## Brevard Health Alliance

From newborns to seniors, BHA offers affordable primary health care, dental and mental health on a sliding scale for those that qualify regardless of age, income or the ability to pay.

BHA accepts all state health insurance plans as well as Health First, Blue Cross, United, Aetna and Cigna. BHA is committed to assuring all Brevard residents have access to a healthcare home!

BHA is a Florida KidCare Community Partner and can assist with questions or applications for state health insurance at any of the five federally Qualified Health Care Centers or on the mobile medical unit



### PDA Online Training Modules Scheduled for 2013:

#### **Differentiating Reading Instruction (Comp four)**

January 9-April 17 Brevard

January 15-May 24 Volusia

#### **Instructional Practices**

January 10-April 4 Brevard

#### **Positive Behavior Support**

January 15-April 2 Brevard

#### **Technology for Student Success: An Introduction**

January 22-March 12 Brevard & Volusia

#### **Formative Assessment Process for Differentiating Instruction**

January 23-March 6 Brevard

#### **Introduction to Differentiated Instruction**

February 5-April 2 Brevard

#### **Differentiating Science Instruction**

February 7-April 11 Volusia

February 19-May 14 Brevard

#### **Technology for Student Success: Assistive Technology**

February 12-April 9 Brevard & Volusia

#### **Brevard County:**

Educational Services Facility  
2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way  
Viera, FL 32940  
(321) 633-1000 x540

#### **Volusia County:**

Hurst Support Center  
1340 Wright Street  
Holly Hill, FL 32117  
(386) 258-4684