



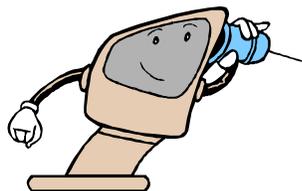
The Coastline Newsletter

March 2006
volume XXV #3

Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System/East serving Brevard & Volusia Counties

PDA-ESE 2006 - 2007

FDLRS/East Online Course Offerings



- Seeking in-service points toward recertification?
- Preparing for the ESE K-12 subject area exam?
- Teaching out-of-field and need inservice hours?
- Targeting an area on your Professional Development Plan?



If you answered “YES” to any of these questions, FDLRS has the answer for you.

The Professional Development Alternatives for Exceptional Student Educators (PDA-ESE) utilizes online training courses to provide instruction in the ESE competency areas. All courses are FREE! 60 hours of inservice credit will be awarded for successful completion of each course, except for Interpersonal which awards 30 hours of inservice credit.

PDA-ESE Schedule

Course	July – Sept. ‘06	Oct. – Dec. ‘06	Dec. – Feb. ‘07	Mar. – May ‘07
Assessment and Evaluation		Brevard		
Language Development and Communication			Volusia	
Foundations of ESE		Volusia		
Instructional Practices				Brevard
Interpersonal Interactions	Volusia			
Positive Behavior Supports			Brevard	
Transition Process				Volusia

Register for any of the above courses by contacting your FDLRS PDA Coordinator.

Watch for advertisements regarding upcoming courses being offered in Volusia and Brevard Counties. For more information contact your local PDA Coordinator:

Volusia County: Linda Davidson, FDLRS/East
phone: 386-258-4684
email: lldavids@volusia.k12.fl.us

Brevard County: Cindy Wickham
phone: 321-633-1000 ext. 559
email: WickhamC@brevard.k12.fl.us

You may view additional information on the PDA-ESE Courses and the steps to ESE certification by going to the website:
www.pda-ese.org

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VSA Arts of Florida - Brevard - *Artosaurus!*

Mark your calendar for the 18th annual VSA arts of Florida-Brevard festival, “Artosaurus”, on April 19th, 20th and 21st, 2006 at Brevard Zoo in Viera. Elementary and middle/jr. high school ESE classes are invited to attend. Also, secondary classes are invited to sponsor and run a booth at the festival. In addition to the hands-on arts activities, festival participants will have the opportunity to experience the Zoo’s newest exhibit, “Extreme Dinosaurs.”

In preparation for the festival, teachers attended an inservice (February 20th at Brevard Zoo with a Crayola representative and local artist, Suzanne Frank), hosted artists in the classroom, created artwork and decorated a cut-out dinosaur. Select pieces of artwork travel around the county during the year for display in various locations.

Looking ahead, VSA arts of Florida-Brevard is working with the Museum of Art and Science to begin offering inclusive art classes. Beginning in March, plans call for one after-school class per week for six weeks, targeting students in grades 1-3. Interested students may contact Bobbi McMillan at the museum at 321-242-0737.

Plans are being made to repeat the popular VSA arts summer arts inclusion project in partnership with the school district. This is a summer school class for high school students, disabled and non-disabled, who earn high school credit and service hours towards Bright Futures or other scholarships as they create a public art project. Schools, teachers and artists are still being identified and two locations are anticipated this summer. Last summer, teacher Ceci Epperson and artist Gina Hulse led the students on a mural painting project at the Blue Heron Water Reclamation Facility in Titusville.

A playwriting opportunity for secondary students is in the works and will be unveiled in the fall. Students will have the opportunity to compete with their peers writing one act plays for a local production. Plays will focus on disability themes.

For more information about any of VSA arts of Florida-Brevard activities, contact Janice Kershaw, VSA arts District Director, at 321-632-8610.



FDLRS Newest Professional Library Materials

Do you want to keep current on the latest educational research? The FDLRS library can help! Here are a few of our most recent acquisitions. Contact FDLRS/East at 321-631-1911, ext. 540 to checkout these materials and more.

ACA562 Reading Mastery Training Series – SRA Direction Instruction – Level K-6, SRA McGraw Hill
Contains 12 training videotapes.

KA082 Beyond F.A.T. City: A Look Back, A Look Ahead; A Conversation about Special Education, Richard Lavoie – PBS Video

Offers practical strategies as well as inspirational messages for those who teach children with learning disabilities who constantly struggle with Frustration, Anxiety, and Tension (F.A.T.). This is filled with powerful and provocative stories about the history and philosophy of the F.A.T. City project, major trends and issues in the field of learning disabilities, and the challenges ahead for parents and education professionals.

KB192 How to Thrive as a Teacher Leader, John G. Gabriel - ASCD

Explores the responsibilities and rewards of teacher leadership, offering practical, positive advice on enhancing communication and earning respect, improving student and teacher achievement, etc.

KB248 Getting the Grant, Rebecca Gajda - ASCD

How educators can write winning proposals and manage successful projects.

LA117 Innovative Approaches to Literacy Education: Using the Internet to Support New Literacies,

Rachel A. Karchmer – International Reading Association
Makes connections among theory, research, and practice by offering the stories of pioneering, award-winning classroom teachers who successfully use the Internet to support literacy instruction and scholars who study the relationship between literacy and technology.

LA121 Developing Critical Awareness at the Middle Level: Using Texts as Tools for Critique and Pleasure, Holly Johnson – International Reading Association

Helps you create conditions for your students to critique texts and take pleasure in them by first defining critical terms, explaining the concept of literature circles, and discussing literary theories.

MA047 Autism: The Hidden Epidemic? – Autism Speaks

Approximately 4 hours in length. A compilation of NBC News special reports on the subject of America’s fastest growing serious developmental disability. Included on the DVD are a ten-part “Today” show series, a six-part series from CNBC, extensive reporting from “NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams,” as well as comprehensive coverage on autism, which aired on MSNBC, NBC Universal’s owned-and-operated stations and Telemundo.





Volusia “Celebrates” ESE Teachers Mardi Gras Style!

February 2nd, 2006, was the date for Volusia’s ESE Teacher “Celebration”! Sponsored by Space Coast Credit Union and SRA, the event drew 197 ESE teachers, many adorned with their finest beads and feathers. A welcome by Dr. William Fink, Director Exceptional Student Education and Student Services, and Mr. Stan Whitted, Area One Superintendent, kicked the event off! Teachers dined on deli sandwiches and could visit a scrumptious dessert table and specialty coffee table. Each teacher was awarded a beautifully arranged basket of goodies or an envelope of mystery money. Additional gift cards, learning labs and more were doled out from center stage! The event was a huge success!

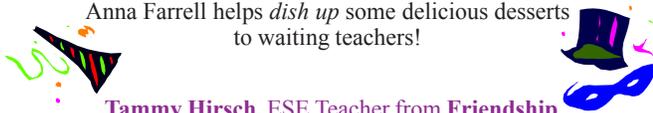
Keep up the good work Volusia ESE Teachers!



Teachers arrive at registration ready for a great time at the 2006 ESE Teacher “Celebration”... Mardi Gras style!



Anna Farrell helps dish up some delicious desserts to waiting teachers!



Tammy Hirsch, ESE Teacher from Friendship Elementary, was the winner of Space Coast Credit Union’s Mardi Gras \$50.00 gift card drawing! Congratulations Tammy!

Guidelines for Teachers and Administrators When Discussing Psychotropic Medications

The 2005 Florida Legislature addressed the issue of psychotropic medication by creating Section 1006.0625 Florida Statutes (F.S.) Administration of Psychotropic Medications. The term psychotropic medication means a prescription medication that is used for the treatment of mental disorders and includes, without limitation, antihypnotics, antipsychotics, antidepressants, anxiety agents, sedatives, psychomotor stimulants, and mood stabilizers. This legislation prohibits public schools from denying any student access to programs or services because the parent of the student has refused to place the student on psychotropic medication. **It further states that any medical decision made to address a student’s needs is a matter between the student, the student’s parent, and a competent health care professional chosen by the parent.**

The public school teacher and school district personnel may share school-based observations of a student’s academic, functional, and behavioral performances with the student’s parents and offer program options and other assistance available to the parent and the student based on these observations. However, public school teachers and school district personnel may not compel or attempt to compel any specific action by the parent or require a student to take medication.

If you have questions contact:

Volusia: Sheila Harlacher, ESE Family Support Specialist
386-255-6475, ext. 52905

Brevard: Ms. Betty Dunn, 321-633-1000, ext. 270
Dr. Karen O. Palladino 321-633-1000, ext. 505
Ms. Michele Solazzo, R.N., 321-454-7135



Great Professional Development!

<http://www.readingrockets.org/profdev/webcasts/1001>

Visit this website to view a webcast entitled *Differentiated Reading Instruction - Teaching Every Child*. It’s free and available any time any place!

Other webcasts are slated to be posted this year. They are: *From Babbling to Books* (March 29, 2006); *Assessment of English Learners* (early 2006); *Comprehension: Helping ELLs Grasp the Full Picture* (April 27, 2006)





Telementoring Program

The Florida Department of Education has announced that the Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development and Retention offers a telementoring service to new Florida teachers through <http://www.teachinFlorida.com>. This program supports the Department's efforts to increase the supply of highly effective teachers. Telementoring is an electronic mentoring program in which knowledgeable veteran teachers share their experience and expertise with beginning teachers in ways that help them develop and grow their skills, knowledge and confidence.

This is a free service that teachers at all grade levels can use to get assistance from experienced teachers. Telementors select teachers based on their professional needs, area of certification and grade level. Teachers are contacted via phone or email and a contact schedule is created based on the needs of the teacher.

Research suggests that a mentor can be an integral part of a positive beginning to a career in education. Research also shows that what beginning teachers need more than anything else is support and guidance as they develop their professional skills and knowledge.

The telementoring program is a wonderful opportunity to provide new teachers with additional support, guidance and feedback during their early years of teaching. Through telementoring, it is expected that beginning teachers will have an opportunity to discover individual pathways to professional development. They currently have over two hundred mentors available on their website to provide telementoring services to beginning Florida teachers. Therefore, we highly recommend your district's participation in this opportunity.



Educational Services Facility
2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Viera, FL 32940-6699

Palm Terrace Elementary
1825 Dunn Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32114



Resources for Floridians through the Clearinghouse Information Center

Clearinghouse services and resources focus on Florida's educators and families. Please contact the Clearinghouse (325 West Gaines Street, Room 628, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400; phone: 850-245-0987; or email: cicbises@fldoe.org) to request copies of free materials, to borrow materials, or for further assistance or information on services.

Two types of information services are offered through the Clearinghouse - a library of books and videotapes for loan and a very large inventory of free publications.

The Clearinghouse publishes many manuals, booklets and brochures, as well as a Publication Index that lists free materials. The index is available in print or online at: <http://myfloridaeducation.com/commhome/clerhome.htm>.

Topics include information on:

- Disabilities, giftedness, and other special needs
- The Individual Education Plan

See website for more information



Florida's Virtual ESE Distance Learning Program Spring 2006

The statewide Virtual Distance Learning Program has released its list of spring 2006 online courses.

Course Title: **Instructional Strategies**
Instructor: Dr. Gwen Williams, Florida A & M University

Course Title: **Advanced Theory & Practice**
Instructor: Dr. Susan Sheffield, Univ. of South Florida

Course Title: **Secondary Transition**
Instructor: Dr. Janice Seabrooks, Univ. of North Florida

Course Title: **Introduction to Autism**
Instructor: Dr. Cythis Pearl, Univ. of Central Florida

If you have questions, feel free to contact Sue Kupchunas at 386-312-2265 or email at kupchunasa@nefec.org

*****Please note:** Online courses are equivalent to traditional graduate courses; they are as rigorous and demanding as face-to-face courses. Course syllabi are posted on the Virtual ESE website (<http://virtualese.nefec.org/currentCourses.asp>) Please review the syllabus prior to registering for a Virtual ESE course.

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 32940-6699, (321) 633-1000, ext. 535 and in **Volusia County** to Linda Stackpole, FDLRS, 1825 Dunn Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32114, (386) 258-4684.

* You can access the *Coastline* newsletter by visiting the FDLRS/East website at <http://fdlrs.brevard.k12.fl.us/east/> OR http://www.volusia.k12.fl.us/ese/fdlrs_east