



Lee/Ogle ROE Newsletter

February March
2011

Professional Development

Signs of Spring: snow is melting, temperatures are warming, and the Office of Professional Development is busy making preparations for a fabulous and educational summer of professional development!

Workshops for the winter/spring of 2011 include:

Smart Board Training for Beginners;
Internet Safety, Cyber Bullying & Sexting – What You Need to Know;
Writing Across the Content Areas;
Implementing the New Common Core Standards in Mathematics
Online Reading First Modules for K-3rd Grade
Gifted Education Seminar

Please continue to check our website under the “Workshops” tab for an up-to-date listing of our winter learning opportunities and partnerships.

Our office is pleased and excited to announce that we are collaborating with ROE 8 (Jo Daviess/Stephenson/Carroll), ROE 55 (Whiteside), and Sterling Public Schools to offer an even wider variety of professional development session, formats, and locations for the summer of 2011.

Summer opportunities will be posted on www.leeogle.org by mid-March.

Congratulations to Oregon CUSD and Dixon PSD as the two districts chosen by the ROE to be included in the latest Illinois Math and Science Partnership Grant. The project will be working intensively with 6th-12th grade math and science teachers aligning their power standards and assessments to the Common Core over the next 3 years. We will find out if the project is funded by the end of March!

The ROE continues its work to improve student achievement and effective teaching practices through on-going, differentiated, and relevant professional development. If you have professional development needs or ideas, please contact Anji Garza at agarza@leeogle.org.

*Check our
Website
regularly for
new
workshops.*

www.leeogle.org

Mentoring

The Lee/Ogle Mentoring Program is taking advantage of technology developed by the Monroe/ Randolph ROE to keep track of the 60 contact hours of contact time required by this year's grant. TimsWeb software, accessible on-line, allows mentors and their new teachers to enter not only the hours spent together, but the types of contact as well. The reports generated from TimsWeb in turn allow program leaders access to up-to-date information needed to monitor their programs.



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H.E.A.R.T. (Homeless, SEL, PSFA, EC 0-3)

McKinney- Vento Homeless Education

Homeless Education staff presented several sessions at the NCLB conference Feb 7 – 10 in Chicago. The Lead Liaisons for the State met for a coordinator's meeting because there continues to be re-interpretations of the law as districts and parents test out the requirements.

There will be a Lee/Ogle Homeless Liaison's update meeting at the ROE on April 5th. Every district must have someone in attendance. Please contact Marcy West to confirm your district's attendance mwest@leeogle.org

Preschool For All classroom in Mt. Morris continues to move forward with energy and excitement. We continue to serve 40 kids and already have a waiting list for next year. We had over 170 people attend our Christmas program. In January, the Cooperative Extension provided a program on family nutrition. Because of the snow and cold weather, we are forced to be inside but spring will be coming, and with that we are looking forward to being able to go outside again.

Early Childhood RFP - We are anxious to apply for funding to continue and maybe grow our program in Lee and Ogle. We are looking at a more collaborative program which would include services to day care centers and home providers. A meeting will be scheduled at the ROE in March to start those conversations, even if this might not be something we can do in time for this grant cycle.

Alternative Ed Programs (Truancy, Nachusa, ALOP, RSSP)

ALOP- *One of our Paw Paw students in the Rochelle program will graduate in May with his diploma and we have 3 students from our Dixon program who have already obtained their GED certificate. We are very proud of their determination and commitment to accomplishing their goal. Several of the ALOP students, along with their teachers, were treated to an Ice Hogs hockey game on Feb. 16. In November a couple of the Ice Hogs players spoke to our students about setting goals and sticking to them and then presented our students with complimentary tickets to one of their games.*

The annual Illinois Coalition for Educating At Risk Youth conference will be held March 10 & 11 in Bloomington. The Lee Ogle ROE is in charge of registration and Sherry Marchek has been busy organizing and accepting registration forms from around the state.

Nachusa Campus School celebrated the excellent second quarter attendance of 6 students by taking them on an "outing" .. To qualify for an outing students must have had no unexcused absences, above 90% overall attendance, and successful weeks the entire quarter (based on daily point awards for behavior and academic achievement). Half the students traveled to Chestnut Mountain for fun on the slopes and the other half traveled to historic Galena. Those visits might not be too special for most teenagers, but they were unique and special for our students. After an outing to a nice restaurant last year, one of our students thanked us and said it was the first time she'd eaten with a waiter visiting the table. It makes one appreciate how limited the life time experiences of our students can be and what a celebration it is for them to attend school, study, learn, be successful, and enjoy the positive consequences!