July 2012
Volume 7, Issue 2

Office of Professional Development in Education
(OPDE)

College of Charleston
School of Education, Health, and Human Performance

Director’s Message

Andrew Lewis, Ph.D.

This past winter will be one for the record books in terms of weather and our course enrollments. While the economy is slowly recovering we have been very busy in OPDE. Our office sees the next school year as one of promise and growth with students, programs, and funding sources. We are excited about the future of OPDE and hope your school district will join us in our enthusiasm for this journey. At the same time, we understand that budgets will continue to be under stress, and many difficult decisions will need to be made.

In our January Newsletter we extended an opportunity for you to provide feedback on our proposed name change to Learning Forward – CoF. A final decision has not been made about the name because we are still reviewing its potential impact on our office and the PD programs we serve.

Coming this fall we will begin posting on our website a listing of professional development courses offered by our office around the state. We hope these postings will allow more school districts to collaborate and work together in their PD offerings.

Once again, we continue to facilitate a variety of Catalog (classes leading to a Masters degree) courses and encourage you to give us a call, or send an email to see how we can help you reach and accomplish the goals of your program.

While the OPDE cannot radiate out to the nation as Learning Forward does, we can and will continue our efforts to assist local and regional staff and others in their quest to offer the finest professional development opportunities available.

Have a great year, and we look forward to working with you in the future.

We cannot meet all your professional development needs, but those we can assist with will be done with professionalism by a staff that desires to help improve the educational outcomes of the children of South Carolina.

Enjoy your summer!

Boeing “STEM” Grant

Boeing has provided a grant in the amount of $750,000 over a three year period to South Carolina’s Coalition for Mathematics and Science at Clemson University to begin their new research program. Inquiring Minds: Reading to Learn and Innovate in Mathematics and Science will test the effectiveness of specific literacy strategies in mathematics and science classrooms to increase student achievement.

The program has accepted ten middle schools to participate in the study. Two local schools, College Park Middle (Berkeley County) and St. George Middle (Dorchester Four), have been accepted.

The research will address 3 main questions:
1. What effect does professional development focused on disciplinary literacy strategies have on the instructional practices of middle grades mathematics and science teachers?
2. To what extent does the application of disciplinary literacy strategies in mathematics and science classrooms improve student achievement in literacy?
3. To what extent does the application of disciplinary literacy strategies in mathematics and science classrooms improve student achievement in these content areas?

For more information visit: http://www.s2temsc.org/research projects
Gifted and Talented Partnership with CCSD

The Office of Professional Development in Education has been working with Dr. Lisa Herring, Associate Superintendent, and other administrative personnel from Charleston County School District. Dr. Julie Swanson, from the College of Charleston, will be in charge of course curriculum for this project. The group is working to develop a set of courses that will be taken by CCSD teachers in preparation to become Gifted and Talented certified. At this time we are working to develop a plan that will lead to recruitment of teachers wishing to seek the G & T certification. Current plans call for the project to begin during the summer of 2012.

Professional Development Tip

Asking “GOOD” Questions:

As a teacher, so much time is put into planning engaging lessons, creating smartboard activities, and grading student work. But, how much thought goes into the questions being posed to students during their lessons? By reflecting on and making improvements of your own question asking student learning can improve.

Here’s some tips for HOW:

-Ask questions that assess the students’ learning: Allowing students to contribute their understanding instead of simply asking if everyone understands.

-Before instruction brainstorm any misconceptions, confusing vocabulary, or potential questions students may have so you are prepared for them.

-Try to close each lesson with a summarizing question that reiterates the main themes and knowledge.

- For the students who aren’t as comfortable sharing, encourage them through strategies like think-pair-share, etc.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Why is it important for instructors to check and verify their class roles?

Answer: Verification of class roles helps to eliminate and address student enrollment issues at the beginning of the term. It also allows for verification and correctness of the registration process.

Question: How do I find out about PD offerings in my school district?

Answer: Teachers should check with the Director of Staff Development and/or persons in charge of professional development offerings for their district. Other options are to visit the District ERO site or to contact our office.

Question: Why am I being asked to mail verification documents?

Answer: Because many of the documents received in the past by fax or scanned e-mail have been very difficult to read and/or is illegible.
Professional Learning: Common Core Update

Professional Learning
As South Carolina has adopted Learning Forward and their common core standards we also see a change in our standards for professional learning. A paradigm shift occurred when the name Professional Development was changed to Professional Learning, demonstrating the need for higher emphasis on continuous learning by all educators.

The focus of professional learning is to enhance educator practice and student results. The new standards provide educators the information needed to increase their effectiveness and student learning. Learning Forward has created seven main standards; 1) Learning Communities 2) Leadership 3) Resources 4) Data 5) Learning Designs 6) Implementation and 7) Outcomes. Within each main standard core elements are included to better assist educators in the continuous cycle of improvement.

How it affects OPDE
Our office is dedicated in providing quality opportunities for educators throughout the state to engage in Professional Learning. With the addition of Learning Forward’s Professional Learning Standards we have also decided to include these within our own course offerings. All syllabuses must directly align with these new standards. We want to ensure that the course offerings we provide are continuously meeting the high expectations and standards of Learning Forward.

Update:
The second report by Center for Education Policy was released earlier this year. In summary, the report found that states view the Common Core State Standards as more rigorous than their previous standards, according to our survey, and are making progress in transitioning to the new standards. But states face challenges in fully implementing the standards, particularly in finding adequate funding. The majority of the CCSS-adopting states in our survey do not expect to fully implement the new standards until school year 2014-15 or later. Nine states are projecting full implementation of the standards by 2013-14; 16 states in 2014-15; and one by 2015-16.

For More Information
- Go online to http://www.learningforward.org/
- Visit South Carolina’s Learning Forward site at http://www.sclearningforward.org

“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”
-William Butler Yeats

“The test of a good teacher is not how many questions he can ask his pupils that they will readily answer, but how many questions he inspires them to ask him whom he finds it hard to answer.”
-Alice Wellington Rollins
816-Q60: Web 2.0 Tools for the 21st Century Classroom

In this course teachers will be introduced to the advanced features of the second generation of the web. It is designed to assist teachers with the integration of the World Wide Web into classroom instruction. Participants will learn how to use an online course management system and Web 2.0 tools to engage students while effectively supporting the curriculum. Upon completion of the course participants will plan and design effective technology integrated lessons, and become comfortable and confident in using various web based tools.

815-O60: Demystifying the Common Core: 6-12 Social Studies

This course is designed to assist social studies teachers in grades 6-12 to better understand their role in the implementation of the ELA common core standards. Participants will be required to present ideas and resources as they explore ways to incorporate the key features of the Common Core in their respective classrooms. Teachers will see how they can use these standards to improve student literacy while engaging students in a more in depth understanding of history.

815-A60: Engaging Young Readers K-2

Through this course teachers will be provided in-depth instructional strategies to engage young students in an effectively managed reading workshop. Teachers will develop an understanding how children develop literacy skills, strategies, and habits through speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Teachers will engage in professional collaboration as they plan, implement, and reflect on strategies for literacy instruction. Reflection as well as examining research will contribute to this learning process for teachers.

811-H60: A Step SMARTer

This course is the next ‘step’ after teachers successfully complete “The Smart Way to Integrate Technology”. The purpose of this course is to take prior SmartBoard knowledge and use it as the building block to enhance the delivery of daily interactive instruction. Teachers will be learning how to use Interactive Whiteboards to their fullest potential. This course will help teachers effectively teach using their SMARTboard and implement best practices to integrate technology into the curriculum.
Using the New Management System (Banner)

The College of Charleston has replaced its old SIS system with a new management system entitled: Banner. Banner is an administrative software application developed specifically for higher education institutions. MyCharleston is your secure gateway to Banner. Only students, faculty, staff, and alumni can access and manage academic and administrative information via MyCharleston. Some of the services provided are below:

- Faculty: view class rolls, assign final grades, obtain official forms for grade changes, additions, and deletions of students from a class roll.

Current Students and Alumni: unofficial academic transcript review, official transcript requests, view status of transcript requests, login or register for the alumni community.

Faculty and students may contact Earline "Kandy" White at white@cofc.edu regarding access to MyCharleston.

Course Offering – Summer 2012

EDPD 816- D60, E60, F60, G60, H60, and I60

Elementary School Science Standards Institute

This set of courses is designed to provide teachers with thorough instructional strategies and content information that will help teachers deliver a challenging and effective science program that directly correlates the South Carolina Science Standards. Through various in-class activities, such as demonstrations and group discussions, teachers will become knowledgeable on how to effectively engage students in Science learning. Each class will be devoted to hands-on investigations and will have content specialists on site to instruct and support content delivery. Teachers will be expected to develop a series of science lessons that reflects science, language arts, and math standards as well as integrates technology.

Each of the courses directly pertains to a specific grade level as follows:

- 816-D60: Kindergarten
- 816-E60: First Grade
- 816-F60: Second Grade
- 816-G60: Third Grade
- 816-H60: Fourth Grade
- 816-I60: Fifth Grade

Initiator Highlight: Janet Thompson

Janet K. Thompson is an Education Associate for the Office of Adult Education at the S.C. Department of Education. For the past 17 years, Janet has been responsible for the professional development activities along with guiding program administration for adult education practitioners statewide. Janet is the Coordinator of the Summer Training Institute, which is a partnership with College of Charleston that provides eight re-certification courses for adult education practitioners.

A graduate of Benedict College in Columbia, SC and Barry University in Miami, FL, Janet has been a classroom teacher, college administrator, School Volunteer Coordinator for the State Department of Education and is currently the senior state staff person in the Office of Adult Education.

Janet is a firm believer and lives by the philosophy that ‘people don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care!’

“Every single one of us can do things that no one else can do - can love things that no one else can love. We are like violins. We can be used for doorstops, or we can make music. You know what to do.”

~Barbara Sher
Professional Development Partnerships

Anderson County School District Two
Aiken County School District
Ashley Hall School
Bamberg County School District
Beaufort County School District
Berkley County School District
Blessed Sacrament Catholic School
Calhoun County School District
Charleston County School District
Chester County School District
Chesterfield County School District
Christ Our King-Stella Maris
Clarendon County School District
Colleton County School District
Darlington County School District
Dillon County School District One and Three
Dorchester School District Two
Edgefield County School District
Florence County School District One
First Baptist Church School
Georgetown County School District
Greenville County School District
Horry County School District
Jasper County School District
Lee County School District
Lexington County School District One, Two, and Three
Marion County School District
Marlboro County School District
Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC)
School District of Newberry County
Orangeburg County Consolidated School District Three and Four

Pickens County School District
Porter Gaud School
Richland County School District Two
Sumter County School District Two
Sumter County School District Seventeen
York County School District Two and Four
Williamsburg County School District
S'TEM Centers South Carolina
Time To Teach
South Carolina Department of Education
(Office of Adult and Community Education & the Office of e-Learning)
South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice
South Carolina Department of Special Needs—Autism Division
South Carolina ETV
SC Forestry Commission
Sumter Soil and Water Commission

Contact Information

General information and questions on Professional Development in Education
Tia Brown, Administrative Assistant
Phone: 843-953-7651
Fax: 843-953-4819
e-mail: browntn@cofc.edu
Web page: http://www.cofc.edu/~pdie

Course initiation, development, and approval
Dr. Andrew H. Lewis, Director
Phone: 843-953-8250 or 843-953-0784
Fax: 843-953-4819
e-mail: lewisa@cofc.edu

Elizabeth R. Grantham, Assistant for Administration and Public Relations
Phone: 843-953-6385
Fax: 843-953-4819
e-mail: granthame@cofc.edu

Registration, class rolls, grades, payroll, and evaluation
Earline (Kandy) White, Associate Director for Records and Budget
Phone: 843-953-8049
Fax: 843-953-4819
e-mail: whitee@cofc.edu

Visit OPDE online at: http://cofc.edu/~pdie

“Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.”

~William James
ENJOY YOUR SUMMER
– From the OPDE STAFF

Dr. Andrew Lewis
Program Director

Elizabeth Grantham
Asst. for Administration and PR

Earline “Kandy” Lincoln White
Assoc. Director for Records and Budget

Tia Brown
Administrative Assistant

Mahogany Collins
Graduate Assistant

Morgan Collins
Graduate Assistant