

August 2005

Volume 1, Issue 1

APTD CONNECTIONS

Newsletter of the Ackerley
Partnership for Teacher
Development: The APTD Network



Cohort I Schools Meet June 7!

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- Induction Resources

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The Ackerley Partner School Network Meeting was held on June 7, 2005 with Cohort I Schools¹ and the University of Washington at Château Ste. Michelle, Woodinville, WA. The purpose of the day was to gain an understanding of partner school goals and possibilities in general and of specific models in practice. Ideas were generated through team discussions that followed presentations on the role of partner schools in the Teachers for a New Era (TNE) initiative, the Washington Center for Teaching and Learning (WCTL), and the UW's Teacher Education Program (TEP). Participants were given several opportunities to collaborate with their teams and cross-teams to discuss their goals, the possibilities of the Network in meeting these goals, and expectations that schools and the university should have in governing this process.

The day was filled with insightful thoughts, hard work, and collaboration, followed by a reception at the end of a day. By sharing opportunities and resources

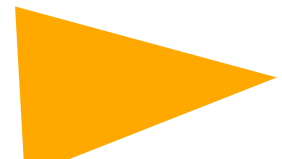
available via the Network, the stage was set for an exciting future of collaborative experiences. Several guest speakers shared information about Partner Schools Networks, both local and national. They included Richard W. Clark, Sr. Associate with the Institute for Educational Inquiry, author of *Effective Professional Development Schools*, Ann M. Foster, Executive Director, National Network for Educational Renewal, Bill McDiarmid, College of Education, and Senior Fellow, TNE, and Juan Guerra, English Dept. and Co-Director, TNE. Dr. Thelma Jackson, member of the OSPI sponsored Multi-Ethnic Think Tank and founder of Foresight Consulting Services served as our lunch speaker. She shared her insights about effective strategies to "Close the Achievement Gap" and emphasized the need for "cultural competence" training within school districts to better prepare P-12 staff to address the diverse cultural needs of their students.

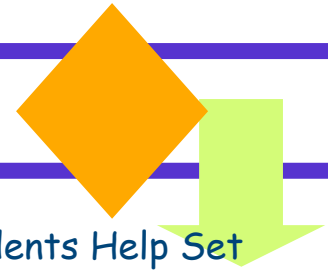


Cohorts I and II on August 18th

The Ackerley Partner Schools Network will hold its Summer Institute with Cohorts I and II schools on August 18th at the UW Urban Horticultural Center. Participants will include teachers, administrators, superintendents, and university faculty and staff coming together to collaborate and plan for future possibilities with the

Network. Events of the day will include several opportunities for team discussions, focused break-out sessions on Network Opportunities, and a large group presentation by Dr. Thelma Jackson on "Closing the Achievement Gap." We're expecting close to 100 participants!





Dimmitt Principal Says Goodbye

On the front page of the Dimmitt Viking Press, there is a letter to Dimmitt Middle School from Mrs. Bailey. In it she says a heartfelt goodbye to the many connections she had while principal of the school. She describes her experience as one that gave her the opportunity to lead an "outstanding group of educators", to meet "deeply dedicated parents", and to encounter "a delightful group of students". Mrs. Bailey is leaving Dimmitt to be Renton's Executive Director of Secondary Education. The new principal will be Charles James.

Sanislo Students Help Set World Record for Tree Planting

Sanislo students in the Garden and Earth Clubs took part in a nationwide effort Friday to break the Guinness World Record for most trees planted in an hour. Our students and Nature Consortium members planted 1,800 trees in the West Duwamish Greenbelt in West Seattle. A photo was taken and delivered to national media by AP showing Sanislo students running with trees provided by the Nature Consortium. Students also got to meet Seattle Seahawk Marcus Trufant, who helped plant trees and encourage the students

"Shift happens." Group 2 of Conversation Café, APTD Meeting, June 7, 2005

Words from the Dean Nathan Hale Pride

A partnership between the UW College of Education and the Ginger & Barry Ackerley Family Foundation will offer new teachers at high needs schools the added support they and their students need to succeed.

"Most new teachers are placed in schools with the greatest needs and yet have access to the fewest resources," says College of Education Dean Pat Wasley.

"Our project with the Ackerley Foundation will bring help in the form of learning communities, technology and ways to bring into the classroom new insights in how children learn in order technology to offset teacher isolation and the problems novice educators are sure to face in their first classroom." New teachers in high needs schools often have little access to experienced mentors or colleagues who can help them improve their teaching skills. This isolation leads to frustration, disenchantment and too often a job search. Almost half of teachers in urban schools leave the profession within their first five years.

The APTD program is the latest major collaboration between the College of Education, private supporters and public schools. "The Ackerley Foundation shares the College's commitment to the educational success of every child," said Dean Wasley. "We are excited to work with the Ackerley family and deeply appreciate their support."

"Education begins with energized and effective teachers," Wasley added. "The APTD program will keep teachers motivated and connected with new ideas about learning, resulting in a better classroom experience for them and their students."

The Class of 2005 of Nathan Hale High School had every reason to be proud of their success, their achievements, and their efforts. As members of this class they had National Merit Scholars, Washington Scholars, Wave Scholars, ACE Scholars, and winners of local, state, and national scholarships recognizing their academic prowess, their athletic abilities, their artistry, their leadership, and their service to their community. Some of the outstanding details are as follows:

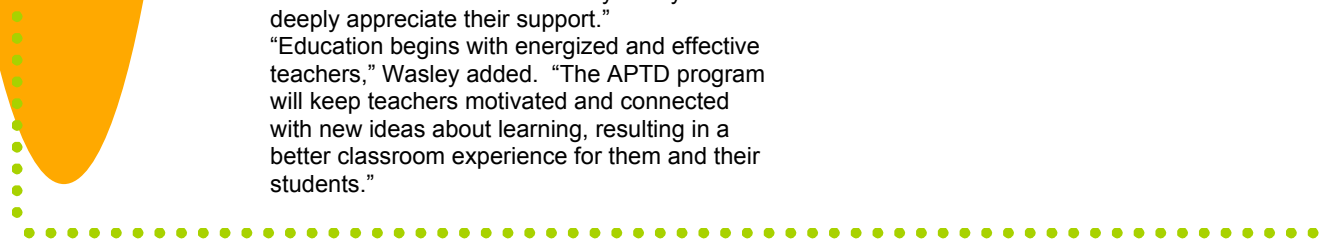
§ This class served over 23,000 hours in their community, contributing to the improvement of the quality of life and to those whose needs are greater than their own.

§ The Class of 2005 earned approximately \$710,000 in scholarships (and we're still counting!)

§ Close to 80% of our graduating class are planning on pursuing post-secondary education through university studies, military service, or technical education within Washington and across the nation.



UW College of Education, Miller Hall



Video Traces Hits Newport Heights!

Newport Heights Elementary School has added a new tool to support teacher and student learning. Two student teachers, Anne Grant and Amy Johnson, along with classroom teacher, Susan Ball, are using the Video Traces software to ask questions about student work and get feedback from their cooperating teachers, university professors, and other school and university members. They do this by collecting artifacts of student work, student behaviors, and teacher practice in the form of images or video clips and pairing them with voice recordings of their ideas and questions. It allows for input from a variety of interested professionals (i.e., other teachers, specialists, university members, etc.) in the form of a virtual conversation surrounding a single question and piece of student work. The experience with Video Traces thus far is that it is not only a means for keeping Teacher Education students connected to the university and their professors while out in the field, but also a way to refine, clarify, and validate the questions that arise in teacher practice. With it, they have been able to bring both university and P-12 perspectives together in analyzing problems of daily practice. According to Anne, Video Traces is helping to better understand how students learn and how she can improve her teaching to meet the needs of her students. Already it seems that there is not only value for preservice teachers and the university, but also for the classroom teachers, the school and the district.

News from Nelsen Middle School

Our 2004/05 school year ended successfully with our awards assemblies for 6th, 7th and 8th grades. Many awards were given for academics, after-school activities and community service. In a partnership with the City of Renton Recreation Center, the 8th grade promotion end of year trip was a great success; it even made the front page of the King County Journal! We are looking forward to an even more successful 2005/06 school year, including our partnership with the Ackerley Partnership for Teacher Development Network.

Induction Resources

1) **The New Teacher Center (NTC)** at the University of California Santa Cruz "is a national resource dedicated to teacher induction, development and new teacher training, and the support of programs and practices that promote excellence and diversity in America's teaching force" (from Web site). The center offers resources and tools for teachers and administrators including online professional development courses for teachers and teacher-mentors and workshops for administrators. The Center sponsors an annual symposium on Teacher Induction. It produces DVDs and print material on induction-related topics. Links to Web sites that support induction programs are also provided.
<http://www.newteachercenter.org>

2) **Washington Education Association (WEA)** developed the *Welcome to Washington Mentors* manual. Published in April, 2003, this 300-page manual supplies information regarding the successful development of local mentoring programs. Primarily a resource for districts and their mentors, it offers an outline of best practices around mentorship programs as well as references and resources that can be used when creating and implementing a mentor program. Download the manual at:
http://www.washingtonea.org/static_content/ed_reform/mm/FINAL_Mentor_Manual.pdf

The ultimate need is that there must be better teachers to have better schools and we need better schools to get better teachers.- John Goodlad

Parkwood's Compliment Jar

In an effort to recognize outstanding acts that Parkwood Elementary School students do, we initiated a "Compliment Jar". When a staff member sees a student who did some kind act, they fill out a compliment slip and the names are read out to the school each Friday. Kind acts in May included holding a door for a substitute, including another student in their game, drying off the slides on the playground, and helping the nurse interpret for a sick student. Way to go Parkwood!





Book Review

Teacher Education for Democracy and Social Justice

Edited by Nicholas M. Michelli, City University of New York & David Lee Keiser, Montclair State University

Foreword by John I. Goodlad.

This dynamic text, moving from informed and engaged views of policy to the narratives of classroom teachers committed to social justice and diversity, accomplishes what few contemporary accounts manage to do. The

chapters not only open multiple perspectives on the issues of concern. They move brilliantly from theory to practice, thereby making visible all kinds of possibilities for new lives in classrooms. Involving readers in a vital conversation, they speak of the centrality of the arts as well of the natural and social sciences, in each case highlighting the contribution each can make to the pursuit of social justice and the honoring of diversity. —MAXINE GREENE, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University



A Note from Cori...

Dear Colleagues;

It has been a pleasure meeting many of you this past year as we have worked to create the Ackerley Partnership for Teacher Development. I so appreciate the commitment each of your schools has demonstrated to all students, striving to provide each of them the best learning opportunities possible.

I have recently accepted the position of Chair of the Department of Teaching and Learning in Washington State University's College of Education in Pullman, Washington. Although I will be relocated to the "other" side of the state, I will continue to think about the hard and important work you do for the region's students and to support your

partnership efforts any way I can. This new network of urban schools and the University of Washington holds great promise. Working together, you can achieve important goals. For example, you can help to ensure that new teachers are as ready as they possibly can be to work with your highest need students. You can help to ensure that university-level coursework takes into account current realities that schools face. And you can, by working together, open new pathways to learning and continued growth of all adults involved. I wish you the very best for the upcoming school year and in the development of a vibrant and rewarding partnership.

Warmly,
Cori Mantle-Bromley

ABOUT OUR NETWORK...

YOUR SCHOOL

NEWS HERE!!!!

Please contact Marisa Bier at mlbier@u.washington.edu with comments, questions, and suggestions for newsletter!

We're on the Web!

See us at:
<http://depts.washington.edu/wactl/ackerly/index.html>