



Southwest ABLA Resource Center

Exposure

New Registration & Stipend Process

On October 1st, the new **Ohio ABLA PD Registration and Stipend System** was introduced. This is the second step in centralizing the stipend process. The first step was having the Northwest ABLA Resource Center at Owens Community College volunteer to be a one-stop center for processing and paying out stipends and reimbursements. While all of the resource centers will continue to approve payments and manage their regional IPDPs/PPDPs, the checks will now be issued from Owens. That's why you needed to complete a new W9 IRS form this year so it can be on file at Owens. The online system continues the practice of participants managing their own registration for events. The added factor is that you can now register and request your stipend online.

Why such a system? The first advantage is to provide a consistent process for all ABLA users in Ohio and to decrease the amount of paper floating around. Also, participants can now have 24-7 access to their information. You don't have to wait until you're in the office to sign up for an event or find out where your stipend is.

How does this work? All ABLA staff has a code uniquely assigned to them. This code allows you to see your contact information, your training history, the workshops for which you're currently registered, whether you've applied for a stipend and if yes, where those dollars are in the process. Your director also has access to all staff codes and can also track training history. If you haven't been given your code, please contact your director.

How does the SWRC participate? We check your IPDPs, your attendance at an event which you were registered to attend and your eligibility to receive payment. If everything matches, we approve requests for payment and notify NWRC at Owens what is allowable and appropriate to pay. If we have to put a payment on hold or deny the request, we will contact you directly.

Who do I call if there is a problem? If the problem is difficulty in registering for an event, contact the Southwest Resource Center. If there is a delay in receiving payment, contact the Northwest Resource Center. If you're not sure what the problem might be, call SWRC and we'll determine how to proceed.

Enjoy using the new system. We hope you like the quick access to professional development events and being able to track your own PD history.

The link to the new system is: <http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/rcn/registrations/login.cfm>

October 2010

A Thought about Professional Development

Never before has there been a greater recognition of the importance of professional development for teachers. Every proposal to reform, restructure, or transform schools emphasizes professional development as the primary vehicle in efforts to bring about needed change ~ Guskey



SWRC's long-time Events Specialist, Ann Marie Convey, retired in July.

ABLE programs and partners in southwest Ohio will surely miss the friendly voice on the SWRC phone. Our "Re" was famous for her smiles, great signage for training events, and warm personality at all times.

As Re changes focus from ABLA to her grandkids and traveling, we wish her all the best!

Reading Tips



Looking for reading practice for your students who read below the 8th grade level?

Check out Marshall Adult Education's *Reading Skills for Today's Adults*. These online short stories are designed for adult learners on a wide variety of topics including Civics, Employment, Housing, Health, School, Money and Government. The reading levels range from 0.7 to 8.0 at 1/2 grade increments.

You can download print versions of the stories as well which include Comprehension and writing extensions. These can be used for extra reading, fluency practice and/or lesson materials.

Visit <http://www.marshalladulthoodeducation.org/reading-skills-for-todays-adult> to learn more and to access the stories.

Writing Tips



Writing: Do You Only Evaluate the "End Product?"

Writing teachers spend a good deal of time reviewing and giving feedback on student work. But often the feedback comes after the student has turned in an assignment. It is just as important, if not more important, to pay attention to the entire process that students follow to produce their writing. Students should become comfortable with pre-writing techniques, multiple strategies for developing and organizing a message, strategies for revising and editing, and strategies for preparing products for public audiences. In explaining assignments, teachers should provide guidance and options for ways of going about it. Sometimes, evaluating the processes students follow -- the decisions they make, the attempts along the way -- can be as important as evaluating the final product. At least some of the time, the teacher should guide the students through the process, assisting them as they go. Writing instruction must provide opportunities for students to identify the processes that work best for themselves as they move from one writing situation to another.

Tech Tips



With all the centralization of ABLE services (stipends/library), we sometimes find that the website we need to go to is on another computer. How can you manage all the websites you frequent on different computers (work/home)? The answer is simple—Social Bookmarking. Social Bookmarking is a method for Internet users to store, organize, share and search bookmarks of Web pages.

To learn about Social Bookmarking, visit: <http://commoncraft.com/bookmarking-plain-english>

The most common social bookmarking sites are: <http://delicious.com/> and <http://digg.com/>. Investigate these and never leave home (or work) without YOUR favorite websites again!

UPCOMING Tech Training

Using Web 2.0 Tools to Enhance Instruction (HYBRID: Alternative Delivery/Face-to-Face)

How can ABLE staff use the ever-expanding list of Web 2.0 tools to enhance their instruction or program? In this multi-step course, participants will first learn about various Web 2.0 tools by independently completing a WebQuest. Next, they will select a lesson plan or program component which they want to enhance with technology. The course will culminate with a hands-on working day in a computer lab where participants can utilize one or more of these tools to enhance their chosen topic. **Teacher Standards Addressed:** 3.3.1, 4.1.5, 4.2.2

Note: The WebQuest portion of this training is to be completed prior to attending the face-to-face session. It will be available on the SWABLE website November 1, 2010.

New *LINCS* website <http://lincs.ed.gov>



With the closing of the National Institute for Literacy (NIFL) September 30, the Literacy Information and Communication System (*LINCS*) was transitioned to the Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE). The new *LINCS website* premiered on October 1, 2010.

Visit the site for an array of new, final publications from NIFL, other publications in adult education and literacy, the *LINCS* Resource Collections (online subject-oriented collections of high-quality instructional resources), archives of all NIFL webcasts, and a continuation of popular resources such as the calendar of events, news items, and discussion lists.

Register with your email address at "Stay Informed" on the homepage and receive information about upcoming face-to-face and online professional development opportunities; links to the monthly Resource Collection Newsletters; announcements of discussion list guests and webcasts; and other items of interest to the adult education and literacy community.

Standards Training

Want to learn more about the Standards for Reading, Writing and Math?

Unpacking the Standards

*October 22 — Sinclair Community College
Register by October 14*

Description

Have the revised content standards been a puzzlement for you since you've received them? Would you appreciate some guidance on how to use them effectively in your lesson planning? During this session, teachers will familiarize themselves with the ABE/ASE content standards by clarifying terminology and structure, identifying specific skills and knowledge by unpacking the standards collectively as a team, determining power (lead) standards as priorities for instruction, and then grouping benchmarks in preparation for lesson development.

Comments

Administrator Standards Addressed: 2.1.2, 2.1.3
Teacher Standards Addressed: 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.5.1
Support Staff Standards Addressed: 2.2.1

Library News

Resource Center Library System

Over the summer, the Resource Center Network merged its separate libraries into a common web accessible OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog). The new system is now available, allowing ABLE staff to find resources from all the RCN libraries using one site located at www.ohioablelibrary.org

There are over 15,000 cataloged items in the combined system available for preview including basic classroom texts, manipulatives, audio/video resources and professional literature. A few features also worth noting are an improved web interface that makes it easier to view and reserve materials, as well as improved search technology for more accurate retrieval of library records.

Ohio ABLE staff can browse the catalog and request items by phone or through email until patron accounts are issued enabling staff to reserve materials online. A roll-out of the new library system and a demonstration will be available at the Administrators' Meeting in October.

Please note that this applies only to the **online** library. The SW Resource Center still houses a collection of materials that you can drop in and browse. Just call ahead and let us know you're coming!

Check out this Resource!

Reading Detective Rx: Using Higher-Order Thinking to Improve Reading Comprehension

Do you ever wonder how deeply your students think about the material they read in your classroom textbooks? Do you suspect that they "read the words" but are not really processing the information? The purpose of this book is to provide instruction and practice in using higher order thinking to develop reading comprehension. The goal of the program is to teach students how to analyze and synthesize what they read. Students answer questions based on a passage and then provide supporting evidence from the text for their answers. Each sentence is identified with a superscripted number; each paragraph has a letter. Students use these numbers and letters to cite special sentences and paragraphs as evidence.

Eureka Lesson Plans of the Month— Career Awareness



As part of the ABLE Collaboratives, programs in EDR 5 of Southwest Ohio came together to write lessons focused on career awareness and planning. Starting in the Orientation, students are introduced to career planning and the concept of transitioning into postsecondary options. The toolkit contains talking points to use in the ABLE Orientation, a career awareness assessment matrix, sample inventories, lesson plans and resources.

Special thanks to the team of instructors who worked on this toolkit:

- Tawna Eubanks, Hamilton City Schools ABLE
- Debra Holmes, Urban Appalachian Council
- Karen Karnes, Warren County ABLE
- Matt Long, YWCA of Greater Cincinnati (Chair)
- Alexa Noel, Cincinnati Public Schools ABLE

The complete toolkit will be found at the ABLE Transitions Repository: http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/uso/resources_all_bytopic.cfm. This fall, Eureka Lesson Plan-of-the-Month will be spotlighting three of these lessons that focus on the Basic Certificate:

October Career Investigation – Compare and Contrast

November Education Pays – Using Graphs to Calculate

December Writing a Well-Structured Paragraph

You can find these lessons at Eureka Lesson Plans <http://literacy.kent.edu/eureka/lessonplans>. These lessons contain everything you will need to be able to use immediately in your classroom. If you have questions about lesson planning or would like more information, please contact Judy Franks at 330-672-0753 or jfranks@literacy.kent.edu.



Ohio ABE Disabilities Web Portal

The Central/Southeast ABLE Resource Center at the Stevens Literacy Center in Ohio University is excited to unveil the Ohio ABE Disabilities Web Portal.

www.Oh.abedisabilities.org

This national network is a gateway to current information and resources related to serving adult students with disabilities. Look for information, links, professional development, news and other resources specific to the topic. Please explore the new website and provide feedback to the Central/Southeast Resource Center on this new resource specifically for ABE disability related information.

Southwest ABE Resource Center

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 Room 6130
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 800-558-5374 (Ohio only)
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Visit us on the web:

www.sinclair.edu/facilities/swable

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OFFICE CLOSURE

SWRC will be closed
 Oct. 29
 for campus business.

Please contact SWRC with training questions. You can also visit www.ohioable.org to register for workshops across Ohio and to see what other Resource Centers are offering for Alternative PD.

FY11 SWRC Professional Development Calendar

(All are located at Sinclair CC except where noted)

Date	Event
10/15	Building Better Writers
10/18-19	Fall Directors' Meeting (Columbus Marriott Northwest)
10/22	Unpacking the Standards
11/11	Statewide Fall PD Day (Columbus Hyatt Regency) SEE ATTACHED FLYER
11/12-13	Ohio TESOL Conference (Columbus Hyatt Regency) SEE ATTACHED FLYER
11/19	New Support Staff: PD Introduction (Online)
12/3	Using Web 2.0 Tools to Enhance Instruction
1/28	New Support Staff: Communication (Online)
2/11	Research Papers: Basics to College Prep
2/25	Using Web 2.0 Tools to Enhance Instruction
3/4	Instructional Strategies for Reading Comprehension
3/18	New Teacher Orientation
4/8	Statewide Spring PD Day (TBD)
6/3	Advisory Committee/Directors' Forum

SWABLE's Ongoing Alternative PD



Online Training
12 titles

available via
 Training Calendar

Links to online trainings developed by SWRC and other resource centers as well as other web-based portals.

Stipends may be available upon completion.



Media Packages
6 titles

available via
 Training Calendar

Packages contain media (DVD/VHS tape), user's guide, resources, handouts and online sites.

Stipends may be available upon completion.



Literacy Trunks
4 titles

available for check-out
 in our lending library

Trunks contain "ready-to-go" lessons and activities, including user's guide, resources, handouts and online sites.