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University System of Ohio

ADULT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY FACTS

FROM DENISE L. POTTMEYER, STATE DIRECTOR
ADULT BASIC AND LITERACY EDUCATION
February 20, 2009

Spring Directors' Meetings

We have decided not to conduct our traditional Spring Directors' Meeting this year. This decision was based on a variety of factors including the attention needed at this time to devote to the transfer to our new agency. Other factors include our collective time commitments to various initiatives including the Ohio Skills Bank, the "Stackable Certificate Early Adopters" pilots and the ABLÉ Collaboratives activities. The ABLÉ grant will also be a focus for most of you for the next couple of months.

We are proposing informal regional meetings, as needed, to provide technical assistance on issues of importance to you. We will work through the ABLÉ Regional Resource Centers to determine your needs. As always, we are available to meet with individuals and programs upon request. Our two-day fall meeting will continue as planned.

Funds in your ABLÉ grants earmarked for this event can be used to support other professional development activities and to support your commitments to the initiatives mentioned above. Budget revisions, if needed, will be accepted through the end of May.

Portfolio Training

The State ABLÉ Program values the use of student portfolios. The *Portfolio Connection* training offers classroom teachers practical tools to use with students in order to build portfolios that document students' academic growth using a standards-based education design. Since maintaining a portfolio is a requirement for all ABLÉ students, we hope this training supports your needs for implementation.

The Northwest ABLÉ Resource Center has several *Portfolio Connection* training options:

- The next *Portfolio Connection* face-to-face training is scheduled for April 2nd at the OCLC in Columbus. Registration is through the Resource Center Calendar http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/rcn/calendar_results.cfm.
- For those who have already attended the training, but want a review, materials are available to download through the NW Resource Center's website at https://www.owens.edu/workforce_cs/nw_center.html.
- The *Portfolio Connection* complete training is now available as an alternative delivery option. Staff can register for this training by going to the Resource Center calendar at http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/rcn/calendar_results.cfm and clicking on *alternative delivery PD options*. Eligible participants are entitled to a stipend upon completing the training and submitting the required assignments to the Northwest ABLEResource Center (NWRC).

The *Portfolio Connection* alternative delivery training consists of two parts. The first part is in electronic format and can be downloaded at https://www.owens.edu/workforce_cs/nw_center.html. The second part of the training packet contains resources and activities that are mailed to the participants.

For more information about the *Portfolio Connection* training, contact Joyce Winters at the NWRC, (567) 661-7675 or Joyce_winters@owens.edu.

Attention ABLEResource Staff – Changes to NTO !!

Please be aware that there are upcoming changes in the New Teacher Orientation (NTO) training. Currently teachers have two years from their date of hire to complete NTO Part 1 (online) and Part 2 (face to face). **Beginning July 1, 2009, the PD policy will be changed to require new teachers to complete both parts of the new teacher orientation within one year from the date of hire.**

Additionally, the format of training will change. NTO Part 1, the on-line training, will be re-developed to allow more interactive modules and updated resources. Therefore, the current NTO Part 1 training will be shut down at the end of March while the content is developed for the new system. **Please advise your teachers that if they are currently participating in the NTO online course, they must complete it by March 30th.** Also, if you have new teachers who have not yet registered, they have two options for completing NTO Part 1: (1) they must register by March 13th and complete the course by March 30th or (2) wait until the new system is up and running, tentatively scheduled for July 1.

Please contact the NW ABLEResource at 567.661.7355 if you have any questions.

Quote of the Week

“Don’t wait around for other people to be happy for you. Any happiness you get you’ve got to make yourself.” – Alice Walker

"Alice Walker was born on February 9, 1944, in Eatonton, Georgia, the eighth and last child of Willie Lee and Minnie Lou Grant Walker, who were sharecroppers. When Alice Walker was eight years old, she lost sight of one eye when one of her older brothers shot her with a BB gun by accident. In high school, Alice Walker was valedictorian of her class, and that achievement, coupled with a "rehabilitation scholarship" made it possible for her to go to [Spelman](#), a college for black women in Atlanta, Georgia. After spending two years at Spelman, she transferred to Sarah Lawrence College in New York, and during her junior year traveled to Africa as an exchange student. She received her bachelor of arts degree from Sarah Lawrence College in 1965." Read the rest of the bio at: <http://www.luminarium.org/contemporary/alicew/>

Taken from aalbc.com – the African American Literature Book Club web site.