

FRIDAY FACTS
FROM JEFF GOVE, STATE ABLE DIRECTOR
ADULT BASIC AND LITERACY EDUCATION
April 30, 2010

FY 2010 ABLE Innovation Grants Selected

The Ohio Board of Regents' State ABLE Program is pleased to announce the following six FY 2010 ABLE Innovation Grant applicants that have been selected for approval. They are:

- Canton City Schools
- Miami Valley CTC
- Middletown City Schools
- Project Learn of Summit County
- Upper Valley JVS
- Warren County JVS



We want to acknowledge all applicants for this grant. All applications represented strong effort on the parts of the partners. We received 29 applications in total and based our final approval recommendations to Chancellor Fingerhut on the review teams' final ratings. We look forward to learning from these Innovation grants over the 15-month cycle and will be sharing effective transitions models that come from them. Approved Innovation grants will also be available soon as a reference on our web site. Thank you.

FY 2011 Ohio ABLE Assessment Policy Updates

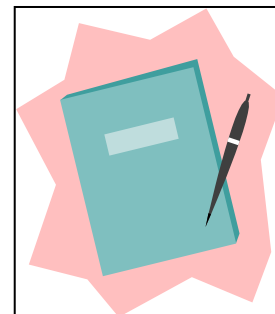
There are a few updates to the Assessment policy. Please note the following items.

- *WorkKeys Writing* was not submitted for NRS review this past year; therefore, this assessment will not be included in the FY 2011 Assessment Policy. It may be used as a supplemental test to document writing skills for issuing the ABLE Advanced Skills Certificate.
- CASAS now has free online trainings. More information is available at www.casas.org. CASAS Online Registration is on the right-hand menu.
- *TABE CLAS-E* (Complete Language Assessment System – English) will be included in the FY 2011 Assessment Policy as an ESOL test option. The test publisher, CTB, is offering a 20% discount on all CLAS-E products. CTB has

also agreed to offer free trainings in Ohio for those interested in administering CLAS-E. No date or location has been determined yet. If you are interested in attending CLAS-E training, please contact Donna Albanese by May 19th at dalbanese@regents.state.oh.us or 614.466.6204.

Ohio ABLÉ LD Plan Update

Updates to the online LD Policy and Planning Guide for the upcoming FY 2011 project year are to be made and a **verification form** sent to the State ABLÉ Office **no later than June 30, 2010**. Attached to this Friday Facts are directions for making changes in the LD Policy and Planning Guide. Also included is the **FY 2011 LD Plan Verification Form** that must be mailed or emailed (if you have an electronic signature) to your state consultant no later than **June 30, 2010**.



You will be emailed your username and login by May 15. If you cannot locate that information, please contact Brian McCoy at the C/SE ABLÉ Resource Center at 740-593-4419. For other technical questions about the guide, contact Sharon Reynolds at 1-800-753-1519 or reynols1@ohio.edu.

Distance Education Information

- *Referring Programs* - If you are an ABLÉ program that is serving as a “Referring Program” to one of our distance Hubs, please note that you do not need to complete an updated MOU with your Hub for submission with the FY2011 ABLÉ Continuation grant. However, you will be asked to do so later in the spring when the Hub submits a special report on its distance activities to the State ABLÉ Office.
- *All Programs* - It is very important that students served at a distance be appropriately noted in ABLÉLink. When reviewing 3rd quarter ABLÉLink data, we have noted that several of the ABLÉ programs approved to offer a “program only” distance component have no students coded as distance students in ABLÉLink. Please review directions for noting distance students in ABLÉLink (received earlier in the project year from Tim Ponder at OLRC). If you have any questions about reporting, please contact Tim at tponder@literacy.kent.edu.



Eureka! Offers Great Resources

Eureka! offers resources to help teachers plan their instruction as they address learning gaps with students. For students who struggle to read

literature at their grade level, content area reading is even more daunting when they study subjects such as history, math, and science. Adults often find they are missing valuable background knowledge as they prepare to take the GED test and continue postsecondary learning.

Of particular interest in your lesson planning might be:

- *Thematic Collections* that contain lists of books on specific topics such as the Civil Rights Movement, Civil War and Slavery, and Ohio History
- *Proven Teaching Ideas* and *Teaching Strategies* that have been collected and organized for you to be able to use immediately in your planning

The Eureka! Lesson Plan of the Month <http://literacy.kent.edu/eureka/lessonplans> will be sharing a history unit on the Civil War and Slavery for this spring and summer. Each month, teachers can download a complete lesson ready for classroom instruction. Special to each of these lessons, a Teacher Resource is provided to give you additional information on approaches included within each lesson.

Month	Theme	Teaching Idea
May	<i>The Civil War</i>	Reading on the Internet Teacher Resource
June	<i>Quilt Codes</i>	Information Literacy Teacher Resource
July	<i>Quilting Geometry</i>	Improving Mathematics Using Manipulatives Teacher Resource
August	<i>Underground Railroad</i>	Journals Teacher Resource
September	<i>Slave Narratives</i>	Primary and Secondary Sources Teacher Resource

If you would like more information about lessons planning, please contact Judy Franks at 330-672-0753 or jfranks@literacy.kent.edu.

COABE Conference Tidbits

About 25 Ohio ABLE staff attended the National Commission on Adult Basic Education (COABE) Conference in March. Details and most conference presentations are on the COABE website



<http://coabe.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=proDev>. The attendees were asked to share tidbits about what they heard at the conference. Some of the sessions are summarized here:

- **Research-based Perceptions of Effective Instruction in GED Classrooms**
In this session, the presenters offered perceptions of effective instruction from three different views.

- Students want: to keep on trying, to work in groups, to have instructors provide clear explanations, to use hands-on exercises, have someone model the correct process
- Teacher strategies: keep on trying, work in groups, be flexible, start with the basics, use real-life examples, set goals, break lessons into manageable pieces
- Administrators: did not observe classes often, were not involved with instructional practices used in the classroom, did not consider themselves instructional leaders

- **Self-Determination**

This session focused on how students can better learn about how they learn.

- Students should do more than one “learning styles inventory.” People always like to learn about themselves and perspectives change over time, so giving students different inventories over time helps them to continue learning about themselves and their process of learning.
- Have a wall of all the students’ pictures so as new students arrive they could look at pictures with names to help build their familiarity with the group and feel included.
- Have students post positive feedback around their house using mnemonic of their name. **N**=nifty **A**=arty **N**=nice **C**=creative **I**=innovative **E**=enthusiastic

And then say them to themselves,

“I am Nancie! I am nifty, arty, nice, creative, innovative, and enthusiastic.”

- **Powerful and Effective Presentations – Avoid Death by PowerPoint**

In this session the presenter gave hints about effective presentations.

- The presenter IS the presentation
- Human brain can only retain three-four chunks from a presentation – focus on those!
- Slideshows should be for images, not text (at least, keep text minimal)
- Worst is to read the text on the slide – audience can’t listen and read

- **What is Math? How Instructor Beliefs Shape Student Learning**

The presenter discussed how the instructor shapes the learning process in the classroom.

- Instruction should encourage collaboration and engagement with problem-solving
- Connect problems to real world and other disciplines [deeper thinking]
- Value multiple approaches – there’s more than one way to solve a problem
- Encourage more oral and written (narrative) responses.

- **Other Conference Tidbits**

GEDTS is focusing on how to make the GED test a better predictor of workplace and college readiness.

COABE is an organization that supports the field of adult education. As a result, four Incentive Grants worth \$1500 each are offered annually to COABE members to support activities or projects in the field of adult basic education. By joining, COABE you support these activities and projects.

Outreach Services Offered by US Citizenship and Immigration Service



The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) offers an outreach service to provide immigrants and refugees with information regarding Naturalization and Citizenship. The

Naturalization informational session includes a video, steps and requirements of becoming a naturalized American citizen, required forms, fees, and a question and answer period. Yass Benis, ABLÉ coordinator at Leo Yassenoff JCC, recently used this informational service to educate staff and students; she recommends this service to other ABLÉ programs.

USCIS will tailor any event/presentation to meet your agency's needs. If you are interested in these outreach services, please contact Lisa Mace, USCIS Community Relations Officer at liaison.cle@dhs.gov or 216-622-4616.

Ohio ABLÉ Partnerships in Transition Trilogy

The National Coalition for Literacy (NCL) held its second public policy advocacy symposium in connection with our statewide *Partnerships in Transition* events. The symposium was planned by NCL, Ohio Association for Adult and Continuing Education (OAACE), the Ohio Literacy Network, and the ABLÉ Resource Center Network (RCN). Speakers included Jackson Routh from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation; Dr. Peter Waite, President of NCL; Aketa Marie Simmons, Press Secretary and Education Staff for Congresswoman Fudge; Ed Roberts, Congressional Aide to Senator Brown; Jeff Gove, State ABLÉ Director; representatives from local partnerships and collaboratives; and luncheon speaker, Dawana Martin, an adult literacy student.

For those of you who attended the *Partnerships in Transition* events in Columbus last week, "Thank you!" It was such a pleasure to meet with everyone, listen to your feedback and soak in all your energy and excitement. If you were not able to participate

in this event, please take some time to visit the [NCL Blog](#) or the [NCL Clearinghouse and Toolkit](#) to learn more about advocating for adult literacy.

As the OAAACE Interim President, I appreciate all of you sharing your thoughts and feelings about OAAACE and how important this professional organization is to you in terms of advocacy, awards and scholarships, and professional development. OAAACE offered 30 concurrent professional development sessions throughout the day and raised over \$1500 for the general scholarship fund through your support of the silent auction, 50/50 drawing, and quilt raffle. Your enthusiasm energized me as well as other members of the Board of Directors. I am excited about the actions OAAACE is taking to build a stronger, more responsive system to support adult literacy education in Ohio.

The RCN sponsored **Spring PD Day** held last Friday had over 160 ABLE staff participants. Each resource center offered training sessions in support of state ABLE required and core training needs focused around transitions.

If you had the opportunity to attend any of these three days and left as renewed and energized as I was, please take a moment to thank someone who was involved in the planning, organizing and/or support.

Jody Angelone, Northwest ABLE Resource Center Director and Interim President OAAACE

Reminders

1. The **ABLE Spring Directors' Meeting** is Monday, May 24th from 9:30 – 4:00. Registration begins at 8:00. The meeting will be held at the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) 6565 Kilgour Place Dublin, Ohio 43017. The theme for this year's meeting is *Moving Adult Education to the Future: The Time is Now!* Topics include: State ABLE Update, Key Transitions Initiatives, and Peer Sharing.
2. The 2011 ABLE Instructional and EL/Civics Continuation Grant applications are available at <http://www.uso.edu/network/workforce/able/grants.php>. The submission deadline for both the FY 2011 AB-S1 and AB-S2 CCIP grant applications, CCIP portions and paper addendum pages, **is 5:00pm on May 21, 2010.**

Quote of the Week

The heart of a mother is a deep abyss at the bottom of which you will always find forgiveness.

Honoré de Balzac, 1799-1850



Happy Mothers' Day

Mother's Day will be celebrated on **Sunday May 09, 2010** (in the U.S.).

Did you know...

that the celebration of motherhood dates back to the ancient Greeks?

Rhea, the mother of all Greek goddesses, was honored annually at a springtime feast. In ancient Rome, a raucous spring festival was held in honor of the Roman mother goddess, Cybele, while the Celtic Pagans linked their celebration of the mother goddess Brigid to the coming of spring and the first milking of the ewes.

that the first official celebration of mothers in the United States took place in 1858?

Anna Reeves Jarvis campaigned for a Mothers' Work Day in her home state of West Virginia to raise awareness about local sanitation issues. When Jarvis passed away in 1905, her daughter Anna pursued a national mother's day in honor of her own activist mom. Anna's efforts paid off when in 1914, Mother's Day was recognized as a national holiday by Presidential proclamation.

From <http://www.holidays.net/mother/didyouknow.htm>