



MAACE Messages

Issue II

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Discovering the Heart of Teaching Through Diversity

Fall MAACE Conference Has Something for Everyone

What do you have planned this October 16-18? Join us for this year's conference for the Montana adult learning community that is sure to motivate you, energize you and help you recommit to meeting the diverse needs of our learners.

A new feature this year will be "Table Chats" with presenters from programs around the state sharing strategies for success in their areas of expertise. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from others and to share your own advice based on practical experience in the trenches.

Along with table chats and great breakout sessions, several keynote speakers will present information on working with American Indian learners, the changing dynamics of today's workplace and entertaining tips on how to survive in the education field.

Having spent a career of teaching and administrating in Montana, Dr. Murton McCluskey is considered one of the leading experts in Indian education in the Northwest today. He has worked with a variety of agencies in the region teaching individuals on how to be effective in teaching our Native learners – strategies he will share with us at the conference. Dr. McCluskey currently works at the University of Great Falls.

Former University of Great Falls Career Services Director Mark Willmarth will provide us with an understanding of generational differences in the workforce along with the changes in today's workplace. His presentation may be of particular interest to those who are working with Workplace Essentials. He is currently the City of Great Falls Training and Development Director and teaches graduate courses in career counseling and organizational communication.

On Friday of the conference be prepared to laugh and learn as Maureen G. Mulvaney offers tips on "How to Keep From Going Bonkers in Education Today." Better known as MGM, she is a multi-faceted professional speaker and author of *The Stress Strategist* and *Any Kid Can Be a Superstar*. MGM, of Phoenix, has also been a private practice therapist, psychology instructor, public relations executive and elementary educator.

With the conference centrally located in Great Falls this year, you will also have the opportunity to visit a source of local pride, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center. McGraw-Hill will host a reception Thursday evening at the center in recognition of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

Registration forms have been mailed. If you didn't receive one, contact MAACE Secretary Kristin Bay at 406-752-9087 or kristinbay@centurytel.net. Be certain to ACT NOW and register for the MAACE Conference at the Holiday Inn in Great Falls!

MAACE Logo Contest

Are you feeling creative? MAACE is sponsoring a logo contest to replace the fisherperson logo. This contest is open to participants in the Adult Education, Community Education, and Family Literacy programs. The new logo should be black and white and easily reproducible; it should reflect the MAACE vision statement (see below). MAACE members will view and vote on the logo during the fall conference. Monetary awards will be given to the following winners:

- first (\$100)
- second (\$50)
- third place (\$25)

Send or e-mail logos or questions about the logo contest to Kathy Jackson at 415 N. 30th Street, Billings, MT 59101, or email attachments to jacksonk@billings.k12.mt.us. **Entries must be postmarked by Oct. 4 or emailed by Oct. 7.**

MAACE Vision Statement: The Montana Association for Adult and Community Education strives to provide an environment that is responsive to student needs, encourages life-long learning from basic literacy through advanced education in a safe, supportive atmosphere, so that each individual can become informed, responsible parents, citizens, and productive members of our community, state, nation and world.

MAACE Summer Institute 2002

PowerPath: Moving from Vision to Reality

“PowerPath Moving from Vision to Reality: Practical Applications for Improving Services to Persons with Special Learning Needs” was the title of the June 11-14 Summer Institute at MSU in Bozeman. Dr. Laura Weisel, the creator of the PowerPath intake, screening and intervention system that screens for learning difficulties, facilitated in the Institute.

As part of a Department of Public Health and Human Services

grant targeting TANF recipients, Dr. Weisel has been conducting PowerPath certification trainings since November of 2001. So far, nearly 50 ABE and LVA practitioners have been trained to administer the PowerPath screening and implement the process into their programs. The Summer Institute included a total of 28 trained and untrained instructors, volunteers, agency staff and program directors.

Sessions offered included; “Emotions! The Prerequisites to Learning,” “Share the Power: Training of Trainers,” and “Integrating PowerPath’s Interventions into your ABE Program” (facilitated by practitioners). “Working with your Community Partners” was a valuable session presented by Jan Paulsen from DPHHS in Helena. Jan discussed the protocols that her department and OPI created for referring TANF clients with potential learning difficulties. Jan and Becky Bird, our ABE State Director, were instrumental in obtaining the funds we are using to implement PowerPath and in initiating this partnership across the state.

Another series of PowerPath trainings is planned to begin this fall. ABE program directors will be receiving information in the near future. There will also be a session at the October MAACE Conference in Great Falls.

As stated in a September 10, 2001, memo from Becky Bird to ABE program directors: “Starting with program year 2003 (July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003), all eligible recipients receiving federal and/or state funds for Adult Basic and Literacy Education will be required to implement PowerPath in the program”.

Comments from Institute evaluations included: “Laura’s passion and commitment to this system and what it can do for our student population are contagious and inspiring!” “Laura’s modeling of strategies was excellent, as she responded to the needs of the participants and our interest and concern.” “I thought it was interesting to see many attitudes change during the course. Many came not knowing, some skeptical...and most of those left with a feeling that PowerPath can be a good, workable tool.”

For more information about the PowerPath process go to the website at www.powerpath.com.

For more information about PowerPath in Montana, call Margaret Girkins at 406-756-3884.

President’s Corner

Greetings Friends!

To be honest, I thought that I would have more time before I would have the “opportunity” to write an article like this. (If you think that all of you miss Nancy Reynolds’ smiling face, let me be the first to assure you that I miss her even more!) I am ready, though, to take on the challenge of the MAACE presidency because this is a professional organization in which I truly believe.

Since Nancy left for greener pastures, I have had the wonderful “privilege” of putting the end- of-the-year report together. As I scratched my head, furrowed my brow, and rubbed my temples, the most important thing I discovered was that there were many people who were willing to help me through this transition. There were those with the answers, those with yet more questions, and those with the bottles of aspirin. And that is what adult education is all about – helping others!

Of course, many more realizations came to pass as I proceeded with the report. MAACE is a great organization! This past year the State Professional Development monies supported several activities developed by MAACE:

- Fall Conference 2001
- Scholarships for individuals to attend workshops and conferences
- Survey of Montana adult and community educators
- MAACE mini-grants
- Summer Institute at MSU-Bozeman
- Communication via MAACE Messages and the MAACE webpage

Fortunately, for all of us, MAACE has provided some terrific experiences for Montana adult educators and literacy providers.

Finally, new blood is beginning to flow into MAACE, and we are revived and rejuvenated with this transfusion. We are excited by the diversity that members bring to this organization. We are challenged to acknowledge their goals and meet their needs. And, hence, my challenge to all of you: Come to the MAACE Fall Conference 2002, *Discovering the Heart of Teaching Through Diversity*. Make yourself and your needs known to MAACE! Discover the similarities in our differences!

Norene Peterson, MAACE President

MAACE Messages is published quarterly by the Montana Association of Adult and Community Education (MAACE). Contact Kristin Bay regarding newsletter submissions, questions, copies: P.O. Box 10724, Kalispell, MT 59479, kristinbay@centurytel.net, (406)752-9087. MAACE Vision Statement: The Montana Association for Adult and Community Education (MAACE) advocates programs and services that are responsive to student needs. The Association encourages life-long learning, from basic literacy through advanced education, in a safe, supportive environment so that individuals can become informed, responsible citizens, family members and productive participants of their community, state, nation, and the world.

MAACE Scholarships: Only one round offered this year

By now you should have received your MAACE scholarship application in your mailbox. *Those interested in applying for funds will have just one opportunity to do so during the 2002-03 school year.*

Having just one fall round of scholarships means it is important to begin now to gather information on any conference you may want to attend this year. Priority will be given to those applicants planning to attend the following three conferences:

1. MAACE annual conference - Great Falls - October 16-18, 2002. Conference brochures have been mailed.
2. COABE conference - Portland, OR - April 26 - 30, 2003. See www.coabe.org for more information.

3. MPAEA conference - in Boomtown, NV, near Reno - April 23-26, 2003. See www.mpaea.org for more information. MAACE members are strongly encouraged to attend these events.

The application is available electronically on NW LINCS. (www.nwlincs.org) Go to LINCS, download the form, fill it out, print it, and mail it in. Please type applications. We request that applications be snail-mailed back to the treasurer for submission. **The deadline for submitting applications is September 18.**

For further information, contact Margie Sylvester, MAACE Treasurer, at 265-4356, ext. 333 or 265-6048 (home.) E-mail: sylvesterm@havre.k12.mt.us.

MAACE Board Nominations Needed

It's time to nominate a MAACE member (or yourself!) from your district to serve on the MAACE board. There are three representatives from each district who serve three-year terms. New board members begin their term at the MAACE conference this fall and attend annual meetings in February and June.

Send nominations to: Jim Baker, P.O. Box 668, Cutbank, MT 59427 or 3suns@northerntel.net or call him at 406-873-2315. **The deadline for nominations is September 18.**

Get linked to Montana LINCS!

Stay current with What's New in the region and Montana. Download the MAACE scholarship form, award information, and the membership form from the MAACE site. Go to www.nwlincs.org, click on "Montana", then click on MAACE-Montana Association for Adult & Community Education. If you are not on the mailing list for LINCS updates, please send your email address to Norene Peterson at petersonnh@billings.k12.mt.us.

Newsletter Deadlines

We have established regular deadlines for the MAACE Messages newsletter.

- Deadline for September issue: Aug. 10
- Deadline for December issue: Nov. 10
- Deadline for March issue: February 10
- Deadline for June issue: May 10

Your input is appreciated. Email Kristin at kristinbay@centurytel.net if you have information to share or a story that could be covered.



New President Elect

MAACE member James Baker, administrator for East Slope Development in Cutbank, is the new MAACE president elect. He fills the

vacancy left by Norene Peterson who became president when Nancy Reynolds accepted a position in Wyoming.

Volunteer for COABE

An exciting professional development opportunity is happening on April 25-30, 2003 at the annual COABE conference in Portland, Oregon. This is the only national conference that focuses only on Adult Basic and Literacy Education issues. Montana is one of the sponsors and we need five or six volunteers to help with various conference activities such as evaluation and introduction of sectional speakers. Please call or email Sue Webster if you plan on attending the conference and are willing to help: email sueandtomwebster@earthlink.net or call 406-829-1844.

Technical Assistance Site Visits

In an effort to assess what the technical assistance needs are in the Adult Basic and Literacy Education programs Becky Bird, Director of the ABLE Programs, has contracted with Sue Webster to visit ten of the programs during the current fiscal year. This is similar to the previous evaluation visits, but the emphasis is on orientation for new programs, assistance and follow-up for existing programs. The team will consist of Sue Webster, one or two people from a similar program, and someone from the state office.

MAACE Secretary Moved

MAACE Executive Secretary Kristin Bay moved to Kalispell at the end of July. Contact her at P.O. Box 10724, Kalispell, MT 59901, (406)752-9087 or kristinbay@centurytel.net.



MAACE AWARD NOMINATIONS

The MAACE Awards will be presented during the Fall Conference again this year. Recognize the exemplary people in your program or community by nominating them for one of the following awards:

- **MAACE Education Leadership Award**
This award is given to a professional educator who has provided exemplary leadership for Adult Education, Community Education, and/or Family Literacy for his/her agency or organization.
- **MAACE Outstanding Adult Learner Award**
This award is given to an adult learner who has shown an interest in lifelong learning, has advanced toward meeting his/her educational pursuit, and is an exemplary student.
- **MAACE Community Leadership Award**
This award is given to those individuals/agencies/companies who have provided exemplary service/support to an Adult Education, Community Education, and/or Family Literacy program in their community.
- **MAACE Outstanding Volunteer Award**
This award is given to an Adult Education, Family Literacy or Community Education volunteer who has shown exemplary service to his/her students and/or program.

In order to nominate an individual, download the forms from the Internet. To easily download the forms, complete the following steps:

- Go to the Northwest LINCS site at www.nwlincs.org.
- Click on **Montana**.
- On the **Welcome to Montana Adult Literacy!** page, click on **MAACE- Montana Association for Adult & Community Education** then click on **Awards**.
- Download the award you wish to complete.

Please provide a short statement and other supporting information listing accomplishments and contributions this nominee has made to the field. Please include any unique or unusual teaching methods, length or service, dedication in meeting student needs, etc. **Return the completed form and supporting material by September 20 to: Kathy Jackson, Adult Basic Education, 415 N. 30th Street, Billings, MT 59101, or email as an attachment to jacksonk@billings.k12.mt.us**

**MAACE
P.O. Box 10724
Kalispell, MT 59901**

Deadlines!
**Sept. 18: Scholarship Applications
& Board Nominations Due**
Sept. 20: Award Nominations Due
Oct. 4: Logo Designs Due