FLORIDA ASSOCIATION FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BILL HALL



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New Year!

Since the Fall

Leadership Conference, there have been many changes and challenges that have confronted our membership. One such change hit close to home with the resignation of FASD's Region II Director, Clyde Sperring. Clyde's roles and responsibilities changed this fall, and he is no longer working in the professional development arena. We will miss him dearly and wish him the very best. His enthusiasm, leadership, and support of professional development made him

a most valued member of our board. Good luck, Clyde!

Speaking of changes and challenges, each one of us is being exposed to all kinds of conditions and possibilities as we work through these economic hills and valleys. We are feeling it at work and at home – it seems that its effects are everywhere. As I reflect on all that we're dealing with, I am reminded of something I heard a few years ago, "As the water hole gets smaller, the animals of the jungle look at each other differently." And so as resources become more

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FASD Spring Forum May 4 -5, 2009 Melbourne, Florida

FASD SPRING FORUM*



Save the date!!

FLORIDA ASSIOCIATION FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT

FASD SPRING FORUM

May 4th (8:30-4:00) - May 5th (8:30-12:00)

Crowne Plaza Melbourne Oceanfront 2605 North Highway A1A Indialantic, FL 32903 Reservations Telephone: 1-800-227-6963

Deadline for registering at FASD group rate: April 10, 2009

Use group name: FASD

<u>Rates:</u>
-\$119.00 (plus tax) king or double

For details, contact your Regional Director

GREETINGS FROM REGION IV

BY BARBARA STAFFORD

s a staff developer have you ever wondered if the time you commit to the planning, delivery, follow-up and evaluation of professional development is really making an impact on teachers and ultimately students? Is it worth the effort? Even after a visit from a team completing the Professional Development Protocol review are you still asking, "Is the training we are providing for teachers really making a difference?"

I recently received an email from a dynamic young teacher who previously worked in our school district and is now teaching in Philadelphia. The following email helped me to reflect on the work we do with teachers.

"Today, I was at the district offices for a day-long training on how to give an ESOL assessment. More importantly, I was at a poorly-planned, redundant, sit 'n' get training about how to give an ESOL assessment. It, as well as many other district-level trainings, made me appreciate what it's hard to appreciate when you're in the middle of a system. You took care of me. At every turn, you and those you surround yourself with were there to take care of me as a teacher. You supported me, you listened and you made me feel valued and respected. At no time did any of that ever falter. There were moments when I

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Region IV

Charlotte-DeSoto-Glades-Hardee-Hernando-Highlands-Hillsborough-Lee-Manatee-Pasco-Pinellas-Polk-Sarasota

Region IV

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wanted to be with my kids more than I wanted to be in a training session, but that's the nature of the job. Now, on reflection, I see that those trainings were designed to make sure that I would be the best teacher possible for those kids and any other kids I'll ever teach. Thank you for that. You have no idea how much I value it.

After my training today, I walked across the building to the professional development office and asked to talk with the woman in charge of the induction program for Philly. I went through induction here at the end of the year last year and found it

to be an incredibly frustrating part of my day that was diin an impromptu meeting and could be in Philadelphia. I entiate, to respect the years in inherently reflective, to make



process. This takes me to the rectly because of you. I sat down talked about what induction talked about the needs to differthe room, to make the practice the process transparent, and to

make it what it can be rather than settling for what it is. Because you took the time to model what professional development can and should do, I know enough to demand the best.

I've frequently lamented the imperceptible shift that happened in teaching where educators gave up ownership of their learning. In fact, too many teachers I meet here and around the country have given up the stake they hold in lifelong learning. I'll never do that. As a person, I probably would never have given that up. As a teacher, you set the groundwork to making sure I will always lead my classroom as a student. Thank you for that. Thank you forever."

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LEGISLATIVE NEWS

NEW EDUCATION BILLS FILED FOR FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- * House Bill 543 allows delivery of an inspirational message at a noncompulsory high school event.
- * House Bill 595 would establish a sales tax exemption on school supplies for one week in August 2009.
- * House Bill 627/Senate Bill 1320 would prohibit school bus stops from being established directly on a state-maintained road with a speed limit of 55 miles per hour or greater.
- * House Bill 765/Senate Bill (not identical) would allow for school years calendars of 180 days of instruction or their hourly equivalent, and provides authority for adjusting these requirements in emergencies.
- * Senate Bill 619 would modify the state's current program in which businesses receive tax credits for providing vouchers for private school tuition. If approved, the bill would require businesses to donate at least 25% of their contributions to scholarships to pay for tutoring of pubic school students, and would require school districts to account for these donations.
- * House Bill 677/Senate Bill 112 would prohibit use of a cellular telephone while operating a motor vehicle in a school zone.
- * Senate Bill 918 would expand eligibility for Florida Kid Care low-income health insurance program.
- * Senate Bill 1182 would prohibit a retired person from receiving both a salary from an employer in the state-administered retirement system and retirement benefits, and from reenrolling in the State Retirement System. Exemptions

Information of education bills complied by Jeff McCullers, Lee County Schools

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NSDC BOOK AWARD WINNER

Nancy Fichtman Dana and Diane Yendol-Hoppey, presenters at our Fall *FASD* Conference, 2007, were awarded the NSDC Staff Development Book. Their book, The Reflective Educator's Guide to Professional Development: Coaching Inquiry-Oriented Learning Communities is published by Corwin Press, 2008.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 1)

limited and as we're asked to do much more with much less, I encourage you to keep your heads up and your eyes looking forward – I encourage you to see these potential barriers as opportunities to serve our customers in newer, more efficient ways. In my own work, I see reductions in services and resources as an opportunity to promote more job-embedded professional development. Here at home, I see that focusing on NSDC's new definition of professional development helps us shift the responsibilities of providing professional development from the district level to the building level. Of course, our own Professional Development System Evaluation Protocol has systemically moved Florida well ahead of the rest of the nation with regard to addressing many of the components of the definition – aligned with rigorous state standards, conducted among educators at the school, provides jobembedded coaching, etc. (Note: there is a link on the NSDC website to a blog on budgeting for PD in these days of budget cuts. You may want to look at it.)

As we all look for alternate ways of meeting the professional development needs of our districts, FASD, too, is looking at different ways to serve its membership. At our Winter Meeting, the board will discuss ideas on how to better leverage our resources to meet your needs. I will share with you the outcome of those discussions in a later issue of this newsletter.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

(Continued from page 5)

would include employees currently enrolled in DROP and substitute teachers, and also part-time, non-contractual education paraprofessional, transportation assistants, bus drivers, or food service workers.

- Senate Bill 1214 would cer from receiving employer in the statesystem and retirement
- * Senate Bill 1248 would that a school collect 50



prohibit an elected offiboth a salary from an administered retirement benefits.

delete the requirement to 75 percent of a text-

book's purchase price from a student who has lost, destroyed, or damaged a textbook that has been in use for more than 1 year.

REGION IV

(Continued from page 4)

This email really touched me and reaffirmed for me that the work we do as staff developers is important for the growth of teachers. I hope this teacher's words will let us know that as staff developers we are impacting teachers' and students' lives.



WEB RESOURCING http://www.fasdonline.org/

http://www.nsdc.org/index.cfm



FLORIDA ASSOCIATION FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT FASD Officers and Board Members 2008—2009



Officers

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Treasurer Cathy Starling Beacon Educator, Bay

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ida Diagnostic and Theresa Vernetson (At Large)

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Leadership Conference Co-Chairs

Becky Shermis (Region V Director)

Cathy Starling Beacon Educator, Bay

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Broward-Collier-Hendry-Martin-Miami-Dade-

Monroe-Palm Beach