

RPDS Happenings 11-29-06

Beaver Run Elementary:

- Current interns (Stephanie Hoehn, Megan Holland, Heather Wallace, and Stacey Johnson) completed their legacy project on October 20th. They decided to get teachers, parents, and community members involved in re-painting the doors and doorways at our school to their original color of blue. Way to go and bring back that school spirit! In addition to the painting project the interns have also created a new décor in the office of the principal, Mr. Curtis, using student handprints from ALL the classes at BRES. It looks fantastic!

Salisbury Middle:

- Rhonda Ellis and Regina Royer have sponsored three workshops for teachers at the Salisbury Middle School PDS. The workshops focused on helping the faculty understand PDS initiatives. The September workshop included a presentation by Stacie Siers on the collaborative/co-teaching model. And two November workshops provided hands on professional development in the use of United Streaming and student response systems. Kudos to Aaron Deal for leading the technology workshops and for developing a web site to support interns in the use of technology during their internship. Kudos to Rhonda, the site coordinator, for facilitating. These workshops were supported by an MSDE grant, which provided stipends and snacks for participants. What a great way to grow a PDS partnership!!

Snow Hill High:

- As a brand new PDS site we have created our PDS bulletin board and hung our banner! We are currently fine-tuning our PDS site Description and Stacie Siers presented an hour and a half in-service on PDS, co-teaching and the collaborative internship to the entire SHHS faculty on November, 1st.

Snow Hill Middle:

- Snow Hill Middle School has taken off as a new PDS site this year. We currently have 8 methods/foundations students placed for observations and several interns beginning in January. Promoting our PDS has taken off too with our bulletin board of FAQ's and pictures of everyone involved. The first installment of our PDS Corner is being printed in the December newsletter with a question of the month and PDS news. Other highlights at SHMS include:
 - ⇒ Two SU spring '06 interns were hired this year to teach ILA. Brittany Hulme is teaching 6th grade and Laura Whitehead is teaching 8th.
 - ⇒ Fall intern Cassidy Dougherty is serving as an interim 5th grade teacher.
 - ⇒ Nine SHMS teachers have completed EDUC 567 Collaborative Teaching course laying the foundation for mentoring.

Bennett Middle:

- BMS Spanish teacher/mentor Kim Fitzgerald made a presentation to Dr. Arlene White's foreign language methods class at Salisbury University on November 13, 2006. Ms. Fitzgerald provides authentic teaching examples and relative information for methods candidates entering their 100-day Extensive Internship experience in the public schools.
- Marc Garlock, BMS social studies teacher/mentor, will be presenting with Dr. Jenne, SU history methods instructor and Kenneth Berlett, former BMS history intern, at the National Council for Social Studies (NCSS) conference in Washington DC on Dec. 2nd. The presentation entitled, "Practice What We Preach," involves hands-on/interactive demonstrations on how to successfully integrate content area reading and writing strategies in a middle school social studies classroom.

Chipman & Glen Ave. Paired Elementary Site:

- Both sites have participated in professional development offered by SU liaison EJ Olinde on PDS terminology, standards and the collaborative/co-teaching model.
- Both sites are involved in professional development being offered by Dr. Nomsa Geleta and Dr. Joyce Weinecke on Ruby Payne's book entitled, Understanding the Framework of Poverty. Interns from both sites have been involved in the book study workshops.
- Chipman mentors expressed that they are very pleased with the quality of candidates and interns assigned to the school this fall including many positive comments about how SU candidates are going above and beyond to assist the mentors and the students in the classrooms.

Choptank & Sandy Hill Elementary Paired Site:

- Choptank and Sandy Hill are very fortunate to be named Professional Development Schools (PDSs), working collaboratively with Salisbury University to improve student performance through research-based teaching and learning. We will be welcoming many new faces (SU candidates and interns) into our shared classrooms. Our partnership will reflect activities and approaches to improving both teacher education and individual school performance. This is definitely an exciting win-win partnership!

Pittsville Elementary/Middle:

- Upon successful completion of her 100-day Extensive Internship experience PEMS intern Leanne Raleigh will be hired to be one of our Intervention Teachers beginning in January. Ms. Raleigh will be working with fifth grade.
- Current intern Chris Mc Cormick has asked to extend his internship above and beyond the 100-day requirement to add a middle school experience. Mr. Mc Cormick is interested in working with a math teacher and felt that the

extended placement at PEMS would be beneficial to his preparation as a teacher. PEMS couldn't be happier to accommodate his wishes!

- Our one remaining intern, Kelly Mulligan, is working on her legacy project with site coordinator Joe Foster. She is creating colored signs for the school wide crisis plan.
- Pittsville is currently an elementary seminar site for the SU under the leadership of Joe Foster.
- The co-teaching or collaborative internship is alive and well in the intern/mentor classrooms at PEMS.

Wicomico High:

- Currently, Wicomico High School has many Salisbury University candidates and interns working with our faculty beginning their internship in Methods II or completing their foundations field work. We are fortunate to have candidates placed in a wide variety of content areas including Math, Foreign Language, Science, History, Physical Education, Health, Music and English. We are looking forward to a productive spring semester with so many SU folks in our building!

Pinehurst Elementary:

- Dr. Althea Pennerman's EDUC 415 Instructional Techniques in Inclusion class has visited Pinehurst on a regular basis this fall. The SU candidates are given a tour of the school in such a way that they get to see first hand the best demonstration of inclusion. They interact with the principal Mr. Bryson and other school personnel (occasionally students themselves) and see assistive technology devices being used. No two visits are the same because no two school days are the same. For example, one group this semester witnessed the effective use of a timeout room, another observed a student being tested and fitted with hearing aids and the third group met with a parent who is very knowledgeable about special education and had a very engaging conversation with the candidates. Mr. Bryson talks to the SU candidates about such valuable topics as the hiring processes and steps to acquire special education certification.

Wicomico Middle:

- We started the semester with 11 Foundations candidates, 13 Methods II candidates, and several spring interns have dropped in to meet with their future mentor teachers.

Worcester Elementary Cluster:

- Methods candidates, Lauren Hall and Lauren Walker are conducting an action research project in collaboration with Showell's first grade team. The SU candidates are working to improve sight word recognition with 1st graders whose scores were less than 50% on the basic Dolch word list. The first graders will be reassessed before the end of the term.
- Long-time Berlin Intermediate and Stephen Decatur Middle mentor Michelle Hammond was chosen Maryland's Teacher of the Year at a gala banquet in Baltimore. Among the many teachers and administrators who made the trip to support Michelle were her current intern, Noel Gardner and intern Michelle Russo. As a strong supporter of PDS, Michelle has agreed to speak at the National PDS Conference this March in Las Vegas and at the Maryland State PDS Conference in April.
- Spring 2007 will mark the 10th year of the Early Start Internship program in Worcester County. The 23 Early Start interns will begin on January 2nd and finish in late April, an approach that has proven popular with interns, mentors and school administrators. Jennifer Garton (nee Byard), site coordinator at Berlin Intermediate School, will co-teach the Early Start seminar this spring with help from Dr. Connors and two other PDS mentors. The large seminar group will feature satellite sessions once or twice a month at local PDS sites to reduce travel for interns and locally involved teachers.
- Snow Hill Elementary has successfully piloted a program of rotating methods candidates among teams of teachers during blocks A, B and C. Under this system, prospective interns get to work in multiple classrooms with different teachers and students. One positive outcome has been the ease of making block D internship placements. In three cases, mentors and interns independently requested the opportunity to work with each other during the spring semester.
- Fall 2006 intern and ELED/ECED double-major Cassidy Dougherty has had an interesting internship. First, she traveled to New Zealand over the summer to complete her pre-primary internship. She next interned with Clara Outten in grade one at Snow Hill Elementary at the start of the school year. In October, a fifth grade vacancy occurred unexpectedly at Snow Hill Middle School. She is currently completing her third placement there and will continue in fifth grade for the balance of the school year.
- Berlin Intermediate Site Coordinator Amanda Senter has co-taught the internship seminar on multiple occasions and this fall added EDUC 304 (Learning and Assessment) to her credentials as she delivered the class with Dr. Connors. Clara Outten (SHES) will co-teach one section of 304 this spring with Dr. Connors as well.
- Buckingham Elementary became the fourth building to host the ELED 411 internship seminar this fall as Marge Orendorf and site coordinator Patti Hogan co-taught the course on site.

Somerset Intermediate:

- We have developed a PDS committee within our school to help meet the needs of all interns and observers and to work on integrating the SU candidates into our school's SIT plan to assist with our student achievement goals.