

RPDS Announcements ~ Spring 2009

Offering EDUC 567 (Summer I):

- EDUC 567: Collaborative Teaching and Mentoring will meet as a weekend hybrid online course. Face-to-face classes are scheduled for May 29-30, June 12-13, and June 26-27 in the TETC (room TBA). Friday class sessions run from 5-8:30pm and Saturday classes run from 8:30-noon. The balance of the course is delivered online via SU's MyClasses feature. Mentors who take this course qualify as "Clinical Mentors" in our PDS program.

Riall Lecture Series at SU:

- The Riall speaker for spring is Dr. Pedro Noguera. He will be speaking on the evening of Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at 7:30 pm in Holloway Hall.
- Pedro Noguera, PhD, is a professor in the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development at New York University. He is also the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Center for Urban Education. He is the author of such books as *The Trouble with Black Boys: And Other Reflections on Race, Equity, and the Future of Public Education* & *Unfinished Business: Closing the Racial Achievement Gap in Our Schools*.

RPDS Happenings ~ Spring 2009

Sandy Hill Elementary: (Dorchester County)

- We are currently hosting four interns and one methods candidate. Sandy Hill continues to receive from Salisbury University and Chesapeake College, very capable candidates and interns that wish to continue their educational training with us. It is an exciting benefit to have two teachers in one classroom, working as a team.

Choptank Elementary: (Dorchester County)

- This past fall we had 3 interns that were shared with our partner school, Sandy Hill Elementary. They were all December graduates, did a fabulous job, and have all been hired in Dorchester County to fill 3 long-term substitute/teaching jobs – 2 at Sandy Hill and 1 at Choptank. A win-win for all!

Mardela Middle/High: (Wicomico County)

- 15 Foundations candidates are participating in the MSA Grand Slam program at MMHS. The candidates from Ron Siers' EDUC 300 course are partnering with MMHS under the direction of ILT Chair Renee Hesson to provide feedback and guidance on MSA Math and Reading test preparation materials.
- Intern's Mary Sarah Kneebone (Nancy Heflin Mentor) & Jenna Makris (Ann Sann Mentor) constructed the brand new MMHS/SU PDS Board outside of the guidance office. The new board displays Intern and Mentor biographical information and allows for PDS activities to be displayed for all MMHS/SU stakeholders.



James M. Bennett High: (Wicomico County)

- At our January in-service, we introduced our interns to the staff, recognized our clinical mentors, and introduced Dr. Dewitt to the staff. Dr. Dewitt is currently collecting data for the BMS/JMB grant process.

Buckingham Elementary: (Worcester County)

- The PDS bulletin board is ever-evolving and is now entirely managed by SU-PDS candidates. These wonderful PDS candidates hi-lite the ways they interact with children in an educational setting and make a difference. It is rewarding to see them shine front and center in our hallway, the same way they do in the school environment.
- Sharing legacy projects with teachers- Our principal Roger Pacella takes an active role in filling-in the faculty about the on-going and pending PDS action research.
- A PDS grant has been awarded to BES
- A PDS breakfast is in the planning.

Chipman: (Wicomico County)

- On February 11th, we held a "Welcome" orientation for interns who enjoyed the light refreshments, learning about the school, and receiving their new whistles.
- Chipman is using SU interns and candidates to assist students with the Book Adventure program. The goal is to help targeted students to improve their reading comprehension scores.

Snow Hill Middle: (Worcester County)

- Snow Hill Middle School is proud to announce that we now have 22 clinically trained mentors using the collaborative teaching model with interns. At the present time, there are 3 interns placed at our school.
- Allie Davis, who completed her internship in fifth grade in the fall, is currently filling a full-time substitute position while her former mentor, Kim Stephens, is on maternity leave.
- Co-site-coordinator, Mrs. Ali Giska, was also named SHMS Teacher of the Year.

Bennett Middle: (Wicomico County)

- On Wednesday, January 28, the BMS coordinating council officially welcomed 7 interns and their mentors to a breakfast orientation. Thanks to the efforts of Teresa Parrot and Paige Smith a hearty welcome was extended. Additionally, the interns were introduced to Ms. Julie Giordano, the "technology guru" of the school and someone that will be very important to them over the course of their intern experience.
- As the 2nd semester begins Bennett Middle School announces the continuance of its "helper program" in conjunction with a mini grant from the Salisbury University. This grant, awarded in the Fall of 2008, has allowed the BMS After School Academy to acquire SU candidates to tutor students in a one-on-one setting in the areas of math and reading. During the first semester 11 Salisbury University candidates worked with students in grades 6-8. Four of the SU candidates from the fall are continuing with this program and efforts are currently underway to "orient" an additional "baker's dozen" so that the program can continue and expand.

East Salisbury Elementary: (Wicomico County)

- An orientation breakfast was held in January to welcome the SU Spring semester interns and to introduce them to their first and second experience mentors.
- A newly developed East Salisbury School Handbook for SU Candidates has been distributed to interns and methods students. The handbooks feature a sign out sheet and were created using 3 ring binders and protective sheets for interns to use during their experience and then return to the school upon their departure.
- The PDS Action Plan for 2008-09 has been revised to involve SU foundations and methods candidates in the Accelerated Reader Program.
- Brandy Terrill, Dept. of Ed. at SU, visited ESS to present a workshop titled "Arts Integration Field Guide – Giving Roots to Your Teaching" during a Wicomico County professional day.

Pittsville Elementary/Middle: (Wicomico County)

- Intern Jordan Holler is creating a legacy project involving "Cody Cash". This project is tied into all aspects to the everyday life of a school child. The children will receive "Cody Cash" for several reasons such as a score of 3 on their BCR's, perfect attendance for the week, and overall civil behavior to the faculty and staff just to name a few. The children will use the cash they earn to purchase various items from their teachers. Ms. Holler is heading up the criteria for her 5th grade team.
- Pittsville Elem/Middle School and Salisbury University continue their collaborations with each other by utilizing a popular program here at school. The SURF program, Salisbury University Reading Friends, is a partnership between Pittsville students and SU teacher candidates. During the first semester fourteen different students from grades four to six, were paired up after school with a reading buddy from SU. Our students were able to select a high interest novel of their choice and read it with their SU friend. Many students completed interest surveys, online activities, illustrations, and discussions relating to their book. This program benefits reluctant readers as well as those beginning their teaching careers. Mrs. Baum, SURF coordinator, looks forward to providing this program again in the spring with new teacher candidates. The interns will be completing their action research based on this SURF data.

Stephen Decatur Middle and High: (Worcester County)

- Dr. Joel Jenne, SDMS/SDHS PDS Liaison, is team teaching the MAT seminar on site at SDMS with Worcester County TOY Amy Gallagher.
- SDMS/SDHS successfully held our mentor mentee Meet and Greet. Not only were all of our interns in attendance (including our UMES interns) but also our county superintendent Dr. Andes came. We introduced our "Decatur Experience" project and our standards for artifact collection policy.
- We have also begun our data collection process for our mini-grant.

Parkside High: (Wicomico County)

- Now that PHS is officially onboard as a PDS partner with SU we held our first intern reception and orientation in January. We have also added two new players to our PDS team. Dr. Doug DeWitt has agreed to be our liaison and mentor Courtney Lewis has agreed to be a co-site coordinator.

Wicomico Middle: (Wicomico County)

- We are currently hosting only one intern but looking forward to five more when the switch is made half way through the semester. We have also created a handbook that is intended to welcome and provide interns with essential information that should help make their experience a positive one. We're still working on establishing assistance programs involving SU students.

North Salisbury: (Wicomico County)

- Site Coordinator Donna Callaway hosted an orientation attended by 16 SU candidates. The candidates were given a tour of the school, made aware of school policies and other expectations.

- Intern Sabrina Larmer attended EDA, a physical education convention. She brought back many new great ideas to share with mentor Mrs. Marianne Noelte.
- Intern Jennifer Heagy is working with Mentor Mr. Richard Dickson on making a google map of NSS with different information about our school. It is a work in progress but both teachers and students are very excited about it!
- Intern Izelle VanZuylen is working with Mentor Mrs. Debbie Wilkins and her fifth graders. Students learned about deforestation in the Amazon forest. Following the lesson they had the opportunity to present an environmental report. Students could choose to be an environmentalist completing a report for GO GREEN at SU, a news anchor for CNN on location, or write an article for TFK. Many students chose to be an environmentalist for SU because it came with a PhD!
- Intern Carolyn Guy is working with Mentor Mrs. Hill in third grade where the students designed a diorama of an animal habitat and wrote a paragraph about it to help introduce a new theme to their classroom.

Beaver Run Elementary: (Wicomico County)

- To celebrate HEART DAY at Beaver Run, SU Kindergarten Intern Kara Doarnberger collaborated with Mentor Debbie Vorhis, to teach a Valentine Heart Candy graphing activity to the four K classes in their building. These students enjoyed predicting, sorting, graphing and interpreting their graphs. SU Intern Lindsay Diehl has her First Graders researching famous African Americans. The responses will be used in a project to be entered in Wicomico County's Technology Media Festival.
- To help prepare Second Grade Students for their upcoming field trip to the Baltimore Aquarium, SU Intern, Lisa Roth has created Pre / Post student activities focusing on Dolphins. These will be shared with all second grade teachers. Site Coordinator Beth Keyser reports that SU Interns are creating a Power Point as part of their Legacy Project to be used during TRANSITION DAY, when Pre-K students are visiting BRS from the Wicomico Early Learning Center (WELC).

Willards Elementary: (Wicomico County)

- Every year Willards selects a country for a year-long cultural study and this year's focus is on South Africa. SU Intern Ali Mente (in Christy Walston's Kindergarten) exposed students to counting to ten, and learning color words in Swahili; they created ceremonial masks and models of the South African flag; and enjoyed preparing and eating Akwadu, a South African fruit dish.
- SU Intern Shannon Clegg baked individual gingerbread cookies for the second grade students in Jessica Foster's class. The children enjoyed decorating and eating the sweet treats. Students used a Venn Diagram to compare/contrast several versions of the Gingerbread Man story.
- On February 2, SU Interns (for the Spring), were given a warm reception by the faculty. Site Coordinator Jessica Foster presented them with several welcoming gifts.
- Amanda Caron is planning and facilitating our annual Jump Rope for Heart event. She will create jump rope and jumping stations for students to participate in on March 5th and 6th.

Pinehurst Elementary: (Wicomico County)

- SU Interns Tammi Duffy and Jennifer Minopoli are making an impact at Pinehurst beyond the school day. Both interns are assisting Mentor Lisa King in an after school reading program for Pinehurst students.

RPDS Conference Strands ~ *Setting the Table for PDS*

1. **P-12 student learning-** The overriding goal of the Professional Development School initiative is to contribute positively to the education of P-12 students. This strand invites proposals that focus on ways to enhance P-12 student achievement in PDS sites or to help document that PDS can add a special flavoring to the goal of student learning.
2. **Preparing the next generation of teachers-** Just as teaching hospitals serve to provide physicians the intensive clinical experience that they need to join the medical profession, PDS sites are the proving ground for soon-to-be teachers. Proposals that address strategies for supporting and improving the clinical experiences of pre-service teachers add body and flavor to the PDS menu.
3. **Professional development for faculty-**The partnerships between Salisbury University and its 34 PDS sites afford many opportunities for enhancing the professional growth of both school and university faculty. This strand

welcomes proposals that highlight programs and initiatives to “kick it up a notch” for faculty professional development in PDS sites.

4. **Inquiry and action research-** All SU teacher-candidates undertake action research investigations during their internship year. While these projects are modest inquiries designed primarily to help pre-service teachers hone their decision-making, they often lead to the re-examination of instructional strategies by educators in the PDS site. Proposals that highlight outstanding action research projects or strategies for supporting intern investigations will add spice to this strand.
5. **Collaboration-** If there is one idea that characterizes PDS, it is collaboration. Whether the scope is intern-to-mentor, intern-to-intern, school-to-school, school-to-university, or some other configuration, the synergy of mutually invested stakeholders is the recipe that characterizes the PDS menu. This strand invites proposals that highlight successful joint ventures or strategies for enhancing collaborative efforts in the PDS arena.