L E R A C

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LATERAL ENTRY RESOURCE AND ADVISING CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

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Lateral Entry Website Now Available!

http://www.gcsnc.com/HR/lateral/index.htm

Lateral Entry Teachers Named Rookie of the Year

Congratulations to these sixteen first year lateral entry teachers who have been named Rookie Teacher of the Year at their schools!

Jessica Blakewood, Spanish teacher at Southeast High, finds the strong teacher-student relationships to be rewarding. She has received much help from her mentor, also her former HS Spanish teacher. Blakewood feels observations of her colleagues have been very helpful to her in the classroom. Blakewood is completing the GCS ACT licensure program. After a long day at school, she enjoys reading a good book, cooking, and socializing with friends and family as "a strong social network is important."

Robin Britt, social studies teacher at Brown Summit Middle, enjoys developing enduring and meaningful relationships with his classroom children. Britt receives much help from a family of educators who get together for Sunday lunch. Britt believes love, differentiation, and perseverance are keys to success in the classroom. He is completing ECU's NC TEACH program. To rejuvenate after work, he enjoys spending time with his wife and two children and playing basketball.

Dorinda Carver, art teacher at Archer Elementary, enjoys when her students tell her they love art or want to be an artist. She has received much support from the Right Start program and coaches, her mentor, and other art teachers. She believes teachers should be willing to learn as much as they teach. Carver is completing a RALC plan. After work, she enjoys spending time with her family and expressing herself through art.

Patricia Cason, social studies teacher at Penn-Griffin Middle, feels rewarded through her students' enthusiasm about social studies. She greatly appreciates the help of her 6th grade teammates. She deals with the profession's challenges by staying focused on her students. Cason is taking classes at High Point University. At the end of a long day, she relaxes with a short nap on her sofa.

Jacqueline Cianfrani, special education teacher at Gateway Education Center, finds reward in the smiling faces of her students after they've accomplished a task. She credits her principal, curriculum facilitator, and mentor for her smooth transition. She encourages others to ask questions and seek advice from so many GCS human resources. Cianfrani has completed her licensure program at Greensboro College. To refresh at the end of a busy week, she enjoys shopping, eating out, and working out.

Sarah Harmon, science teacher at Northeast High, really enjoys making a difference by inspiring her students to make changes for our global environment. She appreciates the tremendous help from a core group of teachers who assist her in many areas. She encourages others to seek assistance from other teachers and to constantly look for ways to improve. Harmon is completing a RALC plan. To relax, Harmon enjoys hanging out at home, cooking, and playing with her pet rabbit.

Christian Hill, history teacher at NC A & T Middle College, feels rewarded by making a positive difference in his students' lives and being a positive example for his students. A supportive staff helped him have a successful start. He encourages others to take advantage of the tremendous support in GCS and to establish positive professional relationships. Hill is completing the GCS ACT licensure program. After a busy day, he enjoys working out and listening to music.

Allison Markwood, English teacher at Southwest High, enjoys helping her students develop new attitudes and set new goals. She has received much help from her mother, also a teacher, and from many teachers at her school. She encourages others to manage their time wisely and to find a support system outside of school. Markwood is earning her M.A.T. in English at NC A & T. To rejuvenate at the end of a long day, she takes time to be still (not a typical state for her) and read scripture or journal. She also enjoys cooking a nice meal with her husband. ***(Cont. on page 3)***

Upcoming Events

February 2009

19	Early Release / Professional Development
20	Regular School Day (Make-up Day)
21	GCS ACT Frameworks 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM
24	Lateral Entry Networking at Elizabeth's Pizza on Lawndale in Greensboro, 5 to 6:30 PM
27	Deadline to register for March 7th Praxis II Preparation Workshop

March 2009

7	Praxis II Preparation Workshop 9 AM-12
20	Early Release / Professional Development
21	GCS ACT Frameworks 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM
27	Deadline to register for April 4th Praxis II Preparation Workshop End of Grading Period
30	Protected Workday
31	Lateral Entry Networking at Liberty Steakhouse in High Point, 5 PM to 6:30 PM

Get Connected!

Save the date! Join us on **Tuesday evening, February 24, from 5 to 6:30 PM** for our next professional networking event at **Elizabeth's Pizza on Lawndale Drive in Greensboro.**

Our special guests for the evening, our Guilford County Schools' **Curriculum Coaches for elementary, middle, and high school levels,** will be on site to talk to you about your curriculum and best practices for your content area and answer questions you have about Pacing Guides, testing information, and more.

You are also invited to network with other lateral entry teachers to share instructional and classroom management strategies and with the LERAC team for additional support.

Need information on the PRAXIS II? Visit www.ets.org/praxis

Want more information on the North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE)? Visit www.ncae.org

Frequently Asked Questions

How can I get additional resources for my classroom? Adopt-A-Classroom invites the community into the classroom in support of teachers and their students. By adopting a classroom, donors form partnerships with specific classrooms providing financial support. To learn more, visit this website: http://www.adoptaclassroom.com/. To register your classroom, click on the Teachers' link near the top of the webpage.

Help! Is the Lateral Entry Resource and Advising Center (LERAC) offering any Praxis II preparation workshops? The North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE), in partnership with the Lateral Entry Resource and Advising Center, is offering two Praxis II Preparation workshops on two Saturdays, March 7 and April 4, from 9 AM to 12 PM. The workshops will be held at the Washington Street Annex, Room 223. **Registration is required and is restricted to NCAE members.** If you are not an NCAE member and would like to attend, please contact Mark Jewell, GCAE President, at jewellm@gcsnc.com regarding pro-rated NCAE memberships. Please see the attached Praxis II Workshop Registration form. Although the workshop is free for NCAE members, seats are limited so please be sure to check your availability first and mark your calendar once registered. Please register for only one workshop. For registration, please see the attached LERAC/NCAE Praxis II Workshop Registration Form.

Register now for Praxis II Preparation Workshop
Choose one: Saturday, March 7 *or* Saturday, April 4
9 AM to 12 Noon
Washington Street Annex, Room 223

Rookie Teachers of the Year

(continued from Page 1)

Molly Matich, EC teacher at Western High, enjoys seeing her students succeed and accomplish goals they have set for themselves. She has received tremendous support within her department, and she also shares a room with her mentor. She encourages others to ask questions and to find a 2nd or 3rd year teacher AND a career teacher to add to your support system. Molly is completing a RALC plan. At the end of a busy day, she relaxes by watching a good movie while she crochets or works on another craft project. She also enjoys a good Jazzercise workout to de-stress.

Julia Moore, language arts teacher at Kiser Middle, finds great reward as she sees her students grasp a new concept or skill. She greatly appreciates the support provided to her by her administrators and especially her grade level family. She reminds others to seek help and advice from all those who offer. Moore is completing her M.Ed. at UNCG. At the end of a busy day teaching her students and completing her coursework, when time permits, she enjoys reading young adult literature. She also likes to cook and entertain friends.

Natalya Moore, English teacher at Andrews High, finds the most rewarding part of her job is having positive professional relationships with her students and knowing they can talk to her about any situation or issue. She understands that teenagers need to confide in encouraging and understanding adults. Moore appreciates all of the help provided by her colleagues and the great teamwork at Andrews High. Like many others, Moore encourages teachers to ask questions and seek help from other staff or faculty. In addition, she encourages new teachers to work hard at work and to find time to relax and rejuvenate at home. Moore is completing her M.A.T. in English Education at NC A and T.

Tonia Purvis, social studies teacher at Allen Middle, enjoys the relationships with her students and the opportunity to make a positive difference in their lives. She greatly appreciates her strong support system, including her mentor, colleagues, coaches, and her GCS ACT cohort and advisors. She encourages other new teachers to ask for help, utilize all available resources, and have a healthy outlet. Tonia's outlet is dancing, working out, and occasionally splurging on ice cream. Tonia is completing the GCS ACT in-house licensure program.

CeCe Taylor, EC teacher at Peeler Elementary, finds the relationships with her students to be the most rewarding part of her new career. She has received much help and support from her colleagues, teachers she worked with as an assistant, and her GCS ACT cohort. She says she has "learned to reach out to all of them when I need help and they have always responded graciously." In addition, she encourages new teachers to take the time to get to know their students so they can make wise decisions about their education. Taylor is completing the GCS ACT program. After a long day at work, she enjoys unwinding by working in her garden, spending time with her family, and watching her son play baseball at Page High.

Erin Velzeboer, history teacher at Greensboro Middle College, truly enjoys those moments when history becomes very real to her students as they connect their experiences to the history lessons in class. She credits a very supportive mentor for her smooth transition to the classroom. Her advice to others includes keeping a sense of humor, making time each day for you, and enjoying and learning from your students. Velzeboer is completing the NC TEACH program at NC State University. To relax at the end of the day, she reads something every day (that has nothing to do with school) and participates in a physical activity like hiking, running, or climbing.

Paul Vernon, social studies teacher at Northeast Middle, finds great reward in inspiring young minds to achieve and set higher expectations for themselves. He appreciates the support from the faculty and staff at NEMS, the lateral entry specialists and other GCS support personnel. Like many others, Vernon encourages new teachers to use the many valuable GCS resources and to seek new strategies from colleagues. Vernon is completing a RALC plan. Although it's difficult to find spare time, he likes to unwind by reading, watching the history channel, and spending time with family and friends.

Lanetta Wright, science teacher at Welborn Middle, loves helping her students develop and learn about resources needed for a healthy environment. She appreciates the help from her mentor and grade level teammates. Wright's advice is to always over-plan and to maintain a positive attitude. Wright is completing her licensure program at High Point University. She enjoys relaxing by eating a good meal and exercising at the Rush.

Contact Information

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