LERAC

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LATERAL ENTRY RESOURCE AND ADVISING CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

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Special Interest Article

GCS Teacher of the Year Gets Start as Lateral Entry Teacher

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Lateral Entry Website Now Available!

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

Rodney Morgan, Former Lateral Entry Teacher, Named 2008-2009 GCS Teacher of the Year

After graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a BA in English, Rodney followed his lifelong dream of living in California. In San Diego, he worked a variety of sales positions, some quite lucrative. No matter the salary or position, he never felt content. After finding his way back to North Carolina, Rodney began working as a tutor and assistant director at a local learning center. He loved the interaction with the students and knew he wanted his own classroom. After meeting with Melissa Harrelson, former principal of Aycock Middle School, Rodney happily accepted a sixth grade language arts and math teaching position.

Rodney affiliated with UNCG to begin the required licensure courses for lateral entry teachers; however, he quickly decided he wanted a graduate degree. Rodney earned his teaching certification and a M.S. in Middle Grades Language Arts at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

To enhance learning experiences, Rodney moves beyond the classroom with meaningful field trips. During an overnight trip to Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Camp in Reidsville where his students strengthened their team skills and participated in the camp's high ropes course, he watched one 12-year girl climb to the top of a 50' pole, perch on top, and then jump forward in an attempt to grab hold of a horizontal bar. Though she missed the bar and fell (safely as her harness caught her), he was amazed at her bravery. Rodney provides his students with a positive, safe environment where they are inspired to venture outside their comfort zone and set new goals.

Drawing on his prior business and sales experience, Rodney incorporates real world learning experiences in his classroom. At the end of last year, Rodney's classes designed, organized, and managed their own businesses during Market Day. He said, "The kids had a ball and their enthusiasm was like nothing I've ever seen. They really rose to the occasion and become responsible citizens of our made-up town of Morganville."

Now with over six years of teaching experience, Rodney serves and supports others as a New Teacher Buddy and a Cooperating Teacher. Reflecting on his important role as a teacher, Rodney writes, "It brings me great pride to say that I am a teacher and that I am among those that help shape young lives. There exists no other profession that shapes the future or impacts the present like teaching. One could leave no better legacy than that of a teacher who inspired students to learn. Teachers are the dream keepers and wish granters that make everything seem possible. They are motivators and inspirers. They are students' coaches and fans at the same time." Thank you, Rodney Morgan, for making a positive difference in the lives of so many and for being a model of excellence!

Congratulations, Mr. Morgan,
on this outstanding professional achievement!

Upcoming Events

September 2008

30 Lateral Entry Professional Networking, 5-6:30, Ham's Lakeside, 699 E. Cone Blvd. Featured Guests: LERAC faculty and State Employees Credit Union Representatives

October 2008

4 Right Start Orientation Make-up Session, 8:30 AM-3:30 PM, Washington Street Annex

9 Greensboro College PAL Licensure Program Information Session for LE's, 5-6:30 PM, Lateral Entry Resource & Advising Center, Eugene Street Warehouse

15 High Point University LEAP Licensure Program Information Session for LE's, 5 – 6:30 PM, High Point Andrews High School, Media Center

21 Lateral Entry Professional Networking, 5-6:30, Rock-Ola Cafe, 1600 Battleground Avenue.

Resources for Success

Suggested Reading:

Seven Simple Secrets: What the Best Teachers Know and Do
By Annette Breaux and Todd Whitaker

Written in very short, easy-to-read chapters, this book provides great tips on planning, classroom management, instruction, professionalism, motivation, and more!

Online Resources:
Visit the Educational Resources provided by the Guilford Education Alliance at http://www.guilfordeducationalliance.org/links.htm
To become more culturally competent, scroll down to see the links for
Kaleidoscope: Cultural Diversity in Guilford County

Frequently Asked Questions

I am a new lateral entry teacher who missed the 3-day Right Start Orientation held in August. Am I required to attend the make-up Right Start Orientation on Saturday, October 4, 2008?

Yes, if you missed the August session, you are required to attend. The make-up session is only one day, Saturday, October 4, 2008, from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. The session will be held at the Washington Street Annex. To register, click on the following link.
http://www.solutionwhere.com/guilford/cw/showcourse.asp?2065

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

Need to review your BT Requirements? Visit http://www.gcsnc.com/depts/induct_success/btrequirements.htm

I need to find a licensure program to meet my LE requirements. How can I find out about licensure program options available to me? The Lateral Entry Resource and Advising Center is hosting information sessions on local licensure program options. The UNCG NC Teach session was held on Sept. 23. The Greensboro College PAL session will be held on Thursday, Oct. 9, at the Lateral Entry Resource and Advising Center. The High Point University LEAP session will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 15, in the High Point Andrews Media Center. Both sessions are from 5 to 6:30 PM. NCA&T opted to mail information to LE teachers about the NCA&T Master of Arts in Teaching.

You can also learn about licensure program options by visiting the following site http://www.gcsnc.com/HR/lateral/options.htm or by scheduling an advising appointment with your *lateral entry specialist.* To schedule an appointment, please call us or visit this site http://www.gcsnc.com/HR/lateral/advising.htm. Finally, the LERAC faculty will be available to answer questions at our monthly professional networking events.

Professional Networking

The Lateral Entry Resource and Advising Center realizes that one of the best ways to achieve long-lasting success in teaching is to network with others. To that end, we have arranged monthly networking opportunities that will allow you to interact socially with other lateral entry teachers. Additionally, we have invited guests to join us and share with us pertinent information about the district. Throughout the year, you will meet successful lateral entry teachers, school board members, teacher advocates, and district senior level staff members. We hope you can join us for all of our exciting events! All monthly networking events are on **Tuesday evenings** from **5 to 6:30 PM**. Mark your calendar with these networking opportunity dates:

DATE	LOCATION	GUESTS
September 30, 2008	Ham's Lakeside—Cone Blvd. Greensboro	LERAC Faculty and State Employee Credit Representatives (about summer cash options)
October 21, 2008	Rock Ola Grille- Battleground Ave. Greensboro	Successful Lateral Entry Teachers and LE Teacher Buddies
November 18, 2008	The Press—Martin Luther King, Jr Blvd. Greensboro	GCAE President – Mark Jewell
December 16, 2008	Natty Greene's—S. Elm Street Greensboro	Human Resources Staff
January 27,2009	J. Butler's –Tinsley Drive High Point	Monica Walker – Diversity Officer
February 24,2009	Elizabeth's Pizza – Lawndale Greensboro	Curriculum Coaches
March 31, 2009	Liberty Steakhouse—Mall Loop Road High Point	School Board Members
April 28, 2009	TBA	Lateral Entry Teacher of the Year
June 2, 2009	Café Europa Patio—N. Davie Street Greensboro	End of the Year Celebration

All lateral entry teachers are invited to attend these monthly events!
Bring your questions to ask the lateral entry specialists and other teaching professionals.
Come eat and network with others in a relaxing, fun environment.
We hope you will join us!

Contact Information

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

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