

# 2011 Schedule

## Nebraska Adult Education Conference

October 13-14

*Pre-registration October 12 at 6:30 pm*

**Kearney Holiday Inn  
110 Second Avenue  
Kearney, Nebraska  
308/237-5971  
Fax: 308/236-7549**

**From I-80: Kearney Exit #272, turn north to  
Talmadge Road, turn west to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to hotel**

## **Adult Education XXX Conference Information Kearney Holiday Inn**

### **Wednesday, October 12**

<b>12 Noon – 4:00 pm</b>	<b>BEST Plus Recalibration Training Session</b>
<b>2:00 pm – 4:00 pm</b>	<i>News for You - Special Training Event from New Readers Press</i>
<b>6:30 pm – 8:30 pm</b>	<b>Pre-Conference/Registration Event: “CSI Kearney”</b>

### **Thursday, October 13**

<b>7:00 am – 4:00 pm</b>	<b>Conference Registration</b>
<b>7:45 am – 9:00 am</b>	<b>Opening Session – Served Breakfast</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>♦ <i>Welcome –Ann Chambers, Master of Ceremony</i></li><li>♦ <i>Conference Opening Remarks - Vicki Bauer, State AE Director</i></li><li>♦ <i>Teaching Excellence in Adult Literacy: An Overview</i> – <i>Mary Ann Corley, Director of TEAL</i></li></ul>
<b>9:15 am – 10:30 am</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>
<b>10:45 am –12 Noon</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>
<b>12:00 Noon – 1:00 pm</b>	<b>Lunch:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>♦ <i>Sharon Katt, NDE Senior Administrator, Adult Program Services</i></li></ul>
<b>1:15 pm – 2:30 pm</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>
<b>2:30 pm – 2:45 pm</b>	<i>Break</i>
<b>2:45 pm –4:00 pm</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>
<b>4:00 pm</b>	<i>Break</i>
<b>4:15 pm – 5:15 pm</b>	<b>Special Vendor Event</b>
<b>4:30 pm – 5:15pm</b>	<b>Scavenger Hunt Walk—Meet in registration area</b>
<b>6:15 pm</b>	<b>Dinner :</b> <b>CSI Nebraska</b> <b>GED® Presentation</b>

### **Friday, October 14**

<b>7:00 am – 7:45 am</b>	<b>Conference Registration</b>
<b>7:00 am – 8:00 am</b>	<b>Continental Breakfast</b>

Please check out of your room before the focus session or before brunch.  
There will not be enough time to do so during the focus session break.

<b>8:00 am – 11:00 am</b>	<b>Focus Sessions</b> <i>(The ESL/EL Civics cohort group will meet during this time in room B.)</i>
<b>11:30 am –1:00pm</b>	<b>Closing – Served Brunch and Door Prizes</b>

## **Concurrent Session Descriptions**

### **Thursday, October 13 - 9:15 am - 4:00 pm**

#### **A Best Practice Spotlight: Nebraska Career Connections**

***Bethney Larson, Vice President of Business Development - Kuder, Inc./Nebraska Career Connections***

Nebraska Career Connections ([www.nebraskacareerconnections.org](http://www.nebraskacareerconnections.org)), powered by Kuder® can be a great resource to spark your students' career planning! Join this interactive session to learn how this free resource can be used to facilitate career assessment, educational planning, and lifelong career development. Attendees will be provided with a systematic process for implementing the system in their program.

#### **AIMS – What's New?**

***Kathy Boshart, Senior Analyst - Nebraska Department of Education***

If you can spell AIMS, AND even know what it stands for, this is your session. Come hear about the updates and changes in the Adult Information Management System (AIMS). Topics include: New login process, new reports, using the new instruction manual, and changes to the post-test hours. Be sure to find out what's new in reporting student placement and progress!

#### **AIMS 101- Where Do I Start?**

***Kathy Boshart, Senior Analyst - Nebraska Department of Education***

If you can spell AIMS, but don't know what it stands for, this is your session. AIMS (Adult Information Management System) is the Nebraska Department of Education's (NDE) online reporting system for Adult Education students. Every site is required to report their students to NDE through this system. If you are new to this system, come to this session for an introduction to AIMS, and how to use it. We'll also cover "What's New" in AIMS this year.

#### **And Just How Do I Teach Them That?**

***Jeanette Evans, Consultant - Nebraska Department of Education***

Too many requirements. Not enough time. Lack of student achievement. Enough to give you a headache, isn't it? Come hear and experience some techniques/strategies that just may help you in the classroom.

#### **Becoming Fluent in Mathese**

***Joe Steinbock, AE Instructor - Douglas County Department of Correctional Services***

This session will cover tips and strategies in teaching math and general classroom strategies: terminology, overcoming anxiety, building confidence, classroom management, etc. (some information from last year, but mostly new).

#### **BEST Plus and BEST Literacy ...What's the News?**

***Ann Chambers, Director - Central Community College***

***Sharon McClaren, EL Civics/ESL Instructor - Alliance Public Schools***

***Shannon Schaben, AE/ESL Instructor - Mid-Plains Community College***

Each ESL student is given an oral BEST Plus placement test. How is that working for you? You have been waiting for it - BEST Literacy. Join our panel to discuss current assessment strengths and weaknesses, discuss instructional practices, preview BEST Literacy and hear from Ann and Shannon who conducted the pilot for BEST Literacy. We will have BEST Literacy tests to preview so we can begin preparation for its use July 1, 2012. All questions and comments welcome.

## **Bridging the Gap for Low Level Readers**

***Ryan Hinz, Special Programs Instructor - Crete Public Schools***

Do you have trouble finding the time to comb through all those books and materials in preparation for class? Do you ever feel your material just isn't getting the job done? Are you having trouble advancing your students through the TABE reading tests? Join us for a discussion about how one instructor in Crete uses a variety of materials, especially guided reading programs, to juggle the task of preparing for multiple classes every week while remaining conscious about the student TABE performance. In addition, we will discuss how Crete has used the TABE to identify students' literacy deficiencies and the program they are developing to address these deficits, as well as prepare these students for future success. This presentation is appropriate for all program directors and ABE/ESL instructors who work with students in pre-GED® classes and those advancing out of the BEST Plus.

## **Building Wealth in America**

***Gregory Housel, Community Affairs Specialist -FDIC, Kansas City, Missouri***

This presentation will discuss specific wealth building options for the low and moderate income communities. I will give a specific overview of wealth building actions and, unfortunately, how wealth and assets can be minimized. I will also discuss the FDIC Money Smart financial education program.

## **Can I Use Other Languages in My ESL Classroom?**

***Steve Przymus, Instructor - South Sioux City Senior High School***

This session is a presentation of the new 2-1-2 bilingual education model and is intended for educators and volunteers who work with English Language Learners (Ells) in ESL classrooms and wonder how much of the students' first language could or should be used in classroom instruction in order to have the greatest impact on their learning. The 2-1-2 model for incorporating other languages into classroom instruction was developed and tested with college age and adult students by the presenter during his recent Fulbright fellowship in Mexico and is currently being used to teach English and Spanish at the South Sioux City Senior High School. The model will be explained and modeled during the session.

## **Characteristics of Quality Adult Literacy Programs: Reflecting on Your Own Program and Using Data to Guide Program Improvement**

***Mary Ann Corley, Principal Research Analyst and TEAL Director - American Institutes for Research, Washington, DC***

This session will review the literature about effective adult literacy program practices that can result in improved student achievement. Participants will be invited to conduct a self-assessment of their own programs in terms of these practices. The session also will present an overview of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) and federal expectations of state and local grantees. Participants will explore the National Reporting System (NRS) as a vehicle for the federal government to measure program accountability, and they will consider ways that data can be used to guide continuous program improvement.

## **Create, Share, and Collaborate with Free Online Documents and Tools**

***Melinda Holt, Project Specialist - Sacramento County Office of Education - IMS/OTAN***

This session will focus on using Google Tools in the classroom for teachers and students. The main focus will be Google Docs and includes: creating, uploading, and sharing online document types, designing and creating online forms and manipulating the data, building online presentations, and the ability to collaborate in real-time on almost any online data with colleagues and students - for free! Other cool sharing and collaboration tools (event calendars, web pages, etc.) will be covered as time permits. Who needs to install software?! Take your office or classroom documents with you anywhere!

## **EducationQuest Programs and Services**

***Treve Florom, Director of Outreach Services - EducationQuest Foundation***

EducationQuest Foundation provides free services for anyone wanting information on higher education. You will learn about how EducationQuest can help students decide on a program of study, search for colleges, and apply for scholarships and financial aid.

## **ELL Ambassadors: Linking Community Leaders and Volunteers with English Language Learners**

***Steve Przymus, Instructor - South Sioux City Senior High School***

The ELL Ambassador program aims at promoting friendships, increasing language practice opportunities for English Language Learners in the community, and inspiring mutually heightened cultural understanding. The program pairs fluent English speakers who are leaders and members of community groups, clubs, and activities with ELLs new to the community or who do not currently participate in community groups. We know from recent research that ELLs who participate in community groups, clubs and activities many times learn English faster than those who do not participate and may also feel lesser degrees of culture shock and negative feelings that come with the acculturation process. This session will include an overview of the program and time to brainstorm the possible uses of this program in the participants' classrooms and communities.

## **Finding Your Way Through the Maze of Beginning an Essay**

***Jan Axdahl, NDCS Education Coordinator - Nebraska Department of Correctional Services***

"I don't know how to start!" "I can't write." "200 words! That's a book!" Have you heard these comments or something similar? If so, this session is for you. Help students get a jump start when writing essays. We'll be discussing essay and paragraph formats, organizational tools, and how to approach different types of essays.

## **GED® 2014 – Fact and Fiction**

***Vicki Bauer, State AE Director, Nebraska Department of Education***

There is a lot of hearsay going around about the new 5<sup>th</sup> series of GED® tests that will be released in January 2014. What's true and what's not? What has been determined and what is yet to be decided? How will it affect our programs and your teaching? Hear the latest news!

## **How To Keep It Together Without Losing It All**

***April Heisel, Instructor - Department of Correctional Services***

***Amy Sturm, Instructor - Department of Correctional Services***

***Mark Wentz, Lead Teacher - Department of Correctional Services***

Are there grip marks on your steering wheel? Have you recently been asked if you were intending to make that vein pop out on your forehead? Do you feel like you are constantly running yet getting nowhere? Have you recently checked into living in a cave? Ever thought of running away to join the circus? Do you find yourself thinking about applying to work at the bait store down by the lake? If your cat is cowering in the corner when you come home, maybe it's time to rethink a few things.....

This session will provide insight into how to keep it together without getting squashed, lost, or buried. Topics to be discussed include stress, burnout and prevention techniques.

## **I Like to Move it! (The Brain and Body Learning Connection)**

***Melissa Buss, Teacher - Nebraska Department of Correctional Services***

***Susan Harder, Principal - NCYF Community School***

Come join us in this hands-on session to re-discover the joy of movement and understand why using physical activities helps students of all ages. Using programs like Brain Gym® and MeMoves® this session will show you how to address test anxiety, lack of focus, distractibility, motivational issues, and allow students of all ages to maximize their learning by activating their brains. It will also help teachers get back to their love of teaching through proactive behavior management.

## **Learn to Jigsaw in 10 Easy Steps**

***Janet Kletke, Instructor - Metropolitan Community College – Fremont***

No! Jigsawing is not the latest dance craze! The jigsaw approach is a valuable tool which promotes better learning, improves student motivation, and increases the enjoyment of learning. There will be a hands-on demonstration of this cooperative learning technique. It's free! It's easy! It doesn't involve music, rhythm, or dance steps! You can be ready on Monday to use this technique if you attend this session.

## **More Learning, Less Work for Adult ESOL Teachers!**

***Robin Lovrien (Schwarz), ESOL Consultant***

Teachers of adult ESOL learners are faced with so many challenges of different levels, language backgrounds, ages and needs that planning and running a class can be overwhelming. In this session, you will learn how use of games can help reduce that burden enormously. The presenter will demonstrate—and you will try out—one game in particular—Go Fish—so that you can see how with implementation of games your life as a teacher can be made simpler and your students can learn so much better than in teacher-directed classes.

## **On-Line Resources for Secondary Students**

***Sue Henry, Education Specialist - Nebraska Dept. of Education-Migrant Education Program***

The Migrant Education Program supports educational programs for migrant children and youth to help reduce the impact of educational disruptions. This session will showcase on-line resources that have been developed by a national migrant consortium to address the unique needs of migrant youth.

## **Teaching Tips and Tricks for Test-Takers to be Triumphant: Helping Students Pass the Writing Test**

***Joe Steinbock, AE Instructor - Douglas County Department of Corrections***

Gain a new insight in dealing with commas. Tackle parallel structure head-on. Prevail over popular homonyms. Help your students gain confidence in preparing for the essay.

## **Technology Tools and Resources That You Can Really Use!**

***Stefanie Emrich, EL Civics/ESL Coordinator - Northeast Community College***

An overview of technology tools and resources that you can really use in your classroom and with your co-workers. Learn fun and easy tools and tricks you can start using right away to make your life a little easier and your classroom a little more interactive.

## **The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom: Using Technology to Supplement Classroom Instruction; NOT Replace It**

***Ryan Hinz, Special Programs Instructor - Crete Public Schools***

Do you want to challenge your students while keeping them engaged? Are you worried about preparing your students for the workforce or postsecondary education? Are you unsure of how to use technology in the classroom? Join us for a discussion on how one instructor in Crete is using technology to engage students and expand upon classroom material while preparing them for 21<sup>st</sup> century jobs and/or postsecondary education. Our focus will be on technology applications for the ESL, ABE, and GED® classrooms. Subjects include using laptops/computers, iPads/iPods, and audio/video equipment in the classroom. If you currently use or are contemplating using any technology in your classrooms, you should plan to attend this session! This session is appropriate for all program directors, instructors, and volunteers who work with ESL, ABE, and GED® students. No prerequisite knowledge or equipment is required to explore and enjoy the session.

## **The Benefits of Planned Integration of Online Learning in Adult Education**

***Crystal Hack, i-Pathways Project Coordinator - CAIT/WIU, Macomb, Illinois***

What does it mean to be a 21<sup>st</sup> Century learner? If it can be defined as helping students learn how to collaborate, build digital literacy skills and become independent learners, then how do we become a provider of 21<sup>st</sup> Century education? The integration of a structured, planned, and successful online learning initiative can help connect the instructional opportunities offered by an adult education program and the needs of today's students. Join this interactive discussion and explore the advantages of distance learning and how to create a plan for successful implementation.

## **What Should I Do When Students Share TMI (Too Much Information?)**

***Jeanette Evans, Consultant - Nebraska Department of Education***

This roundtable session will allow AE professionals to share TMI examples and brainstorm ideas for tactfully handling tough situations.

## **When We Stop Counting**

***Jan Sears, Special Programs Director - Crete Public Schools***

When is the last time you got to sit back and enjoy a success story that is directly linked to our work with adult students and how it affects the next generation? This is your opportunity to do that. This video has been shown across the state and nationally. It was made in conjunction with the Nebraska Department of Education, Crete Public Schools, the Humanities Council, and El Centro de las Americas. If you are lucky, we'll have a few bowls of popcorn to pass around too. This session is appropriate for directors and all adult staff and volunteers.

## **Workplace Essential Skills – Making it Work**

***Angela Bischoff-Mandl, Teacher - Nebraska Department of Correctional Services***

***Vickie L. Zelenka, Teacher - Nebraska Department of Correctional Services***

*PBS Literacy Link* addresses the growing nationwide demand for both improved workplace basic skills training and high school completion opportunities for adults. This new instructional system presents a unique, integrated, multimedia approach combining online Internet interactivity with video programs and printed materials. Key components are Workplace Essentials Skills, Pre-GED® Connection and GED® Connections. Workplace Essential Skills consists of 25 video programs, 24 online lessons, and four workbooks covering critical skills in the areas of employment, workplace writing, communication, reading and math skills.

# Focus Sessions

## Friday, October 14 - 8:00 am – 11:00 am

### **i-Pathways.....Room C**

**Crystal Hack, i-Pathways Project Coordinator, CAIT/WIU, Macomb Illinois**

The i-Pathways Project is a nationally respected online learning initiative. Programs and students from across the country are finding success. During this interactive session, you will explore the features and tools of GED®-i and the support from the i-Pathways team. You will learn about more program and student success and discover how the inclusion of distance learning has led to an increase of students served and aided students in building skills needed for transition into higher education. Students are actively using the Internet in their daily lives, accessing social networking sites, watching videos on YouTube, and building relationships. Learn how to bring their experience with technology to the forefront of their desire to obtain the GED® credential.

### **USA Learns .....Room A**

**Melinda Holt, Project Specialist, Sacramento County Office of Education, Sacramento, CA**

USALearns is a free website designed for ESL students who want to improve their English skills outside of the traditional classroom. The site offers three unique courses for beginner to intermediate and on to high level students. This workshop will introduce you to the content and activities and show you how to use the teacher site to monitor your distant learners' progress. New features of the sites will also be shown along with a videocast that includes Scope and Sequence information.

### **Need New Teaching Ideas for Writing? TEAL Can Help!.....Room D**

**Janet Kletke, AE/GED® Instructor, Metropolitan Community College-Fremont**

**Sue Pohlman, AE/GED® Instructor, Northeast Community College**

**Shannon Schaben, AE/ESL Instructor, Mid-Plains Community College-McCook**

**Maggie White-McLean, AE/GED® Instructor, Southeast Community College-Lincoln**

“Write?”

“ An essay?”

“ I HAVE TO write an essay to pass?”

Come share how you handle writing fears and learn some easy, fun techniques for helping your writing-challenged students! Expect to go away from this session with some new strategies and **HANDOUTS** to use.

### **How to Teach It, So They Get It.....Room E**

**Sheila Kepler, President, EsKay Enterprises**

Are you looking for some terrific tips for turning listeners into learners? As educators, we know that people learn in different ways, and so it only makes sense to teach them in different ways.

Thomas Angelo states that motivation to learn is positively or negatively affected by the task, the environment, the teacher and the learner. Have you ever faced a group of less than eager students who didn't necessarily want to be in class? If your response is yes, it means you have been teaching for more than a week. Facing a group of not so motivated students happens to all of us, but there are some things we can do, and things we can avoid doing that will help our learners become and remain activated and motivated. This seminar has great application for any teacher who is looking for some fresh, novel and fun ways to assist a variety of learners found in any typical classroom. You will leave this seminar with the following: An overview of four learning styles based on Bernice McCarthy's 4-Mat System; A multitude of teaching tips for working with each learning style; the five characteristics students most want in a college teacher; Over 20 ideas on how to teach it quick and make it stick; and Nine strategies for moving learning from short-term memory to long-term memory.

# Speakers

## **Jan Axdahl, Education Coordinator and Program Director**

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services and York Public Schools

[janice.axdahl@nebraska.gov](mailto:janice.axdahl@nebraska.gov)

Jan Axdahl taught ABE/ASE/ESL classes at the Nebraska Correctional Center for Women in York for 31 years and then transferred to NDCS's Central Office in Lincoln where, for the past four years, she has served as its Education Coordinator. Since 1994 she has also been the lead teacher at the York Public School's ABE/ASE/ESL program and also served as its director the past four years. Prior to working with adults, she taught for four years in a one room school.

## **Vicki Bauer, State AE Director**

Nebraska Department of Education

[Vicki.L.Bauer@nebraska.gov](mailto:Vicki.L.Bauer@nebraska.gov)

Vicki Bauer is the State Director for Adult Education. Prior to coming to the Nebraska Department of Education, she was an Adult Education instructor at Southeast Community College in Lincoln.

## **Angela Bischoff-Mandl, Teacher**

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

[angela.bischoff@nebraska.gov](mailto:angela.bischoff@nebraska.gov)

Angela Mandl taught Business Education for ten years at schools in Nebraska and Kansas. She has also worked in the corporate world as a secretary and an account manager. Angela began her career with the Department of Corrections as a unit caseworker at the Tecumseh State Correctional Institution in February 2006. In January 2008, she transferred to the Lincoln Correctional Center to teach Adult Education.

## **Kathy Boshart, Senior Analyst**

Nebraska Department of Education

[kathy.boshart@nebraska.gov](mailto:kathy.boshart@nebraska.gov)

Kathy Boshart is the Senior Analyst at the Nebraska Department of Education. She has been with NDE for 8 years. Prior to that she tromped through the forests of Colorado and Oregon working for the Forest Service. (Really, she did!) She provides technical support for the Adult Information Management System (AIMS).

## **Melissa Buss, Teacher**

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

[Melissa.Buss@nebraska.gov](mailto:Melissa.Buss@nebraska.gov)

Melissa Buss taught for 6 years in public and parochial middle and high schools in Nebraska. She has been with the Nebraska Department of Corrections since 1998, and has held numerous positions including, case manager, lieutenant, and training specialist. In 2008, Melissa became a teacher for the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services at the Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility.

## **Ann Chambers, Director**

Central Community College

[achambers@cccneb.edu](mailto:achambers@cccneb.edu)

Ann is Central Community College's Adult education Director and has worked in Adult Education in Nebraska since 1987. She is a certified BEST Plus Test Administrator and piloted BEST Literacy in Grand Island this past year and piloted BEST Plus and TABE Clas-e. She serves on the Greater Nebraska Workforce Investment Board representing CCC and Adult Education issues.

## **Mary Ann Corley, Ph.D., Principal Research Analyst (Director of TEAL)**

American Institutes for Research, Washington, DC

[mcorley@air.org](mailto:mcorley@air.org)

Mary Ann Corley is a principal research analyst for the American Institutes for Research where she directs the Teaching Excellence in Adult Literacy (TEAL) project. Mary Ann has worked in adult education and literacy for more than 40 years as a teacher, local program administrator, Maryland state GED® administrator, and director of the National Adult Literacy and Learning Disabilities Center. Her main focus is translating research to practice and creating professional development materials for adult educators.

## **Stefanie Emrich, EL Civics/ESL Project Coordinator**

Northeast Community College

[stefaniee@northeast.edu](mailto:stefaniee@northeast.edu)

Stefanie Emrich has been involved in Adult Education since 2003. She has worked with the ESL program at Metropolitan Community College and is currently working at Northeast Community College. Stefanie has been a techie all of her life and has been doing computer consulting for over 10 years as an independent consultant. In addition Stefanie does contract writing work for computer textbooks and teaches online classes.

## **Jeanette Evans, Education Consultant**

Nebraska Department of Education

[jeanette.evans@nebraska.gov](mailto:jeanette.evans@nebraska.gov)

Jeanette Evans is currently the adult education consultant in the Nebraska Department of Education. Prior to that, she worked as an ABE Program Director, GED® Examiner, ESL and Literacy instructor. Jeanette started her career in education (a long time ago) in a public elementary school as a kindergarten teacher!

## **Treve Florom, Outreach Services Director**

EducationQuest Foundation

[trevef@educationquest.org](mailto:trevef@educationquest.org)

EducationQuest Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization with a mission to improve access to higher education in Nebraska offering free college planning, financial aid and career exploration services. Treve has been in financial aid for 14 years--10 in his current position at EduQuest.

## **Crystal Hack, Director**

i-Pathways

[chack@cait.org](mailto:chack@cait.org)

Crystal Hack has served as the i-Pathways (formerly known as GED®-i) Director for many years. During the launch of the i-Pathways curriculum in 2002, she led adult education programs in Illinois through their distance learning curriculum implementation and deployment. As i-Pathways national exposure grew, Ms. Hack facilitated state-level pilot programs that resulted in partnerships with statewide i-Pathways use beyond Illinois in Maryland, Minnesota, and Iowa.

## **Susan G. Harder**

Principal, Nebraska Department of Correctional Services NCYF Community High School

Contract Administrator, Heartland Family Services YouthLinks

Principal/Founder, NOVA Alternative School

[susan.harder@nebraska.gov](mailto:susan.harder@nebraska.gov)

Susan is a 1998 Peter Kiewit Foundation Outstanding Teacher Award winner and 1999 Target Teacher Scholarship winner. Susan has spent over 15 years assessing the educational needs of individual students involved in residential substance abuse treatment and/or the Nebraska Juvenile Justice System while providing specialized academic instruction designed to motivate recalcitrant students to complete their education. Susan has a Master's Degree in Educational Administration and Supervision and is completing coursework to add endorsements in Special Education and Library Media through the University of Nebraska - Omaha.

## **April Heisel, GED®/ESL Teacher**

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

[april.heisel@nebraska.gov](mailto:april.heisel@nebraska.gov)

April Heisel has taught in the public and private sectors. She has tutored English Language Learners and worked with youth who have behavioral challenges. April has been with the Department of Corrections as an instructor for 1 year.

## **Sue Henry, Education Specialist**

Nebraska Department of Education-Migrant Education Program

[Sue.Henry@nebraska.gov](mailto:Sue.Henry@nebraska.gov)

Sue Henry is an Education Specialist at the Nebraska Department of Education/Migrant Education Program. She has been with NDE for seven of her 18 years with the Migrant Education Program. She provides technical assistance to the Nebraska migrant projects.

## **Ryan Hinz, Instructor/Tech Ninja**

Crete Public Schools

[ryan.hinz@creteschools.org](mailto:ryan.hinz@creteschools.org)

A former GED® student himself, Ryan is now an instructor and technology advocate with the Crete Special Programs department working with over 140 ESL, ABE, and migrant family literacy (MFL) students in 5 or more classes each week. Ryan has also worked hard to advocate for and apply technology to the many classroom situations he encounters each week. In his spare time, Ryan pursues his first college degree from Peru State College, which he hopes to complete in December of 2011.

## **Melinda Holt, Project Specialist**

Sacramento County Office of Education

[scoetech@gmail.com](mailto:scoetech@gmail.com) or [mholt@scoe.net](mailto:mholt@scoe.net)

Melinda Holt is currently a Project Specialist with more than twenty years of experience in providing technical support for a wide variety of hardware, software programs, database development and maintenance, Web site development, video event planning and production, as well as developing, coordinating and presenting workshops on a variety of online topics. Prior to that she worked in the Juvenile Court Schools system in Sacramento County with at-risk and disadvantaged youth.

## **Gregory R. Housel, Community Affairs Specialist**

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

[GRHousel@fdic.gov](mailto:GRHousel@fdic.gov)

Greg Housel is a member of the Community Affairs Department of the FDIC. He organizes the FDIC Alliance For Economic Inclusion for the Kansas City area. The AEI is a group of over 100 organizations that coordinates financial outreach, products and services for low and moderate income families in the Kansas City area. He came to the FDIC after nearly five years of service to the Housing Authority of Kansas City, MO. At the Housing Authority he managed the homeownership and financial education programs enabling nearly 1,000 families to complete the Money Smart Financial Education Program and over 150 families to purchase homes.

## **Sheila Kepler, President**

EsKay Enterprises

[S\\_Kepler@yahoo.com](mailto:S_Kepler@yahoo.com)

Sheila is the president of EsKay Enterprises, a local consulting firm. Sheila has worked in the realm of education for over 40 years and has presented leadership programs throughout the Midwest. For several years, Sheila worked with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as both a faculty member as well as a presenter with the Center for Leadership Development. Sheila recently retired from Southeast Community College as the Director of Faculty and Staff Development.

## **Janet Kletke, AE/GED® Instructor**

Metropolitan Community College-Fremont

[JKletke@mccneb.edu](mailto:JKletke@mccneb.edu)

Janet has been involved in adult education since 1984. Janet is a member of the Nebraska TEAL (Teaching Excellence in Adult Literacy) team.

## **Bethney Larson, Vice President of Business Development**

Kuder, Inc. (Nebraska Career Connections)

[larsonb@kuder.com](mailto:larsonb@kuder.com)

Bethney Larson specializes in consulting with secondary and postsecondary schools, workforce offices, and government agencies to create individualized career planning solutions. For more than eight years, she has worked closely with local, regional, and state leaders to determine and meet the career development needs of today's students and adults. Bethney has extensive experience in conducting executive presentations and has successfully worked with multiple states to aid with system development, training and implementation. Bethney holds a bachelor's degree in journalism and mass communications from University of Iowa, and is currently pursuing a Master of Business Administration degree from Drake University.

## **Robin Lovrien (Schwarz), ESOL Consultant/Trainer**

[robinlovrienschwarz@robinsadultesl.net](mailto:robinlovrienschwarz@robinsadultesl.net)

Robin has been a consultant and trainer in adult ESOL for over two decades. She is a veteran ESOL teacher and LD specialist and enjoys helping teachers of adult ESOL learn how to run more effective classrooms. Robin has been conducting a 6-month project with some Nebraska ESOL teachers and is wrapping up that project at this conference.

## **Sharon McClaren, EL Civics/ESL Instructor**

*Alliance Public Schools*

[sgmccclaren@yahoo.com](mailto:sgmccclaren@yahoo.com)

Sharon McClaren is an EL Civics/ESL Instructor at the Alliance Public Schools. She is a certified BEST Plus trainer and certified BEST Plus Test Administrator. She piloted the BEST Plus and TABE Clas-e in Alliance.

## **Sue Pohlman, ABE/GED® Instructor**

Northeast Community College

[dpohlman@cableone.net](mailto:dpohlman@cableone.net)

Sue has been teaching literacy, math, and GED® classes for over 25 years. She holds a B.S. in elementary education and enjoys attending professional development trainings at the state and national level.

## **Steve Przymus, TESOL & Spanish Instructor**

South Sioux City Community Schools

[steve.przymus@ssccardinals.org](mailto:steve.przymus@ssccardinals.org)

Steve Przymus currently teaches Spanish at the South Sioux City Senior High School. In his 15 years of teaching he has also taught English to English Language Learners of all ages and teaching methodology classes at local colleges. Steve is a former Peace Corps Volunteer to the Dominican Republic and Fulbright alumni to Mexico and has a passion for multicultural understanding and how languages are learned and taught.

## **Shannon Schaben, AE/ESL Instructor**

Mid-Plains Community College-McCook

[schabens@mpcc.edu](mailto:schabens@mpcc.edu)

Shannon Schaben is an AE/ESL instructor, Student Success Center Assistant, and International Club/PTK sponsor for McCook Community College, a Division of Mid-Plains Community College. She piloted BEST Literacy this past year and is a certified BEST Plus Test Administrator. Shannon is also a member of the Nebraska TEAL (Teaching Excellence in Adult Literacy) team.

## **Jan Sears, Director**

### **Special Programs, Crete Public Schools**

[jansears@hotmail.com](mailto:jansears@hotmail.com)

Jan Sears has been the director of Special Programs at Crete Public Schools since 1995. Special Programs includes Adult Education, GED® Testing, Migrant Education, Migrant Even Start, Even Start and a Young Parent Program. Jan claims to have the best job in the district since she works with a fantastic staff and their students really want to be there.

## **Joe Steinbock, AE Instructor**

Douglas County Department of Correctional Services

[jsteinbock@dccorr.com](mailto:jsteinbock@dccorr.com)

Joe has a degree in elementary education with a minor in math. He has worked as an ACT Test-Prep Instructor for Sylvan Learning Centers, a tutor at the Math and Learning Center with Metro Community College, and as a tutor for the Upward Bound Program. He taught ABE/GED® classes at Metro for approximately 3 years. He now works at the Douglas County Department of Corrections in the same position and has been there for 3 years.

## **Amy Sturm, Teacher**

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

[amy.sturm@nebraska.gov](mailto:amy.sturm@nebraska.gov)

Amy Sturm has taught in public and private schools in Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Amy has worked with special needs student populations which involve the Deaf/Hard of Hearing and students with behavioral and learning disabilities. She has been with the Nebraska Department of Corrections since 2008 as a teacher in the GED® program.

## **Mark Wentz, Lead Teacher**

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

[Mark.wentz@nebraska.gov](mailto:Mark.wentz@nebraska.gov)

Mark Wentz taught for 15 years in public and parochial middle and high schools in California, Florida, and Nebraska. He has been with the Nebraska Department of Corrections since 2004, and held positions as a caseworker, recreation specialist, and safety specialist. In 2008, Mark became a teacher for the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services and has been Lead Teacher at the Lincoln Correctional Center and the Community Corrections Center of Lincoln since September 2009.

## **Maggie White-McLean, AE/GED® instructor**

Southeast Community College-Lincoln

[imclean@neb.rr.com](mailto:imclean@neb.rr.com)

Maggie teaches for Lancaster County Corrections and she has been an instructor for the SCC program for 10 years. Maggie is a member of the Nebraska TEAL (Teaching Excellence in Adult Literacy) team.

## **Vickie L. Zelenka, Teacher**

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

[Vickie.zelenka@nebraska.gov](mailto:Vickie.zelenka@nebraska.gov)

Vickie Zelenka taught for 7 years in public schools in Nebraska. She spent 2 years with the Nebraska Department of Social Services/Child Protection Services. Vickie started with the Department of Corrections in September of 2001 as a case worker; promoted to case manager in 2002 and unit manager in 2004. She became a teacher for the Department of Corrections at Tecumseh State Correctional Institution in 2008 and is currently still teaching.

<b>Room</b>	<b>Thursday - October 13 Concurrent Sessions</b>			
	<b>9:15 - 10:30</b>	<b>10:45 - 12:00</b>	<b>1:15 - 2:30</b>	<b>2:45 - 4:00</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>BEST Plus and BEST Literacy What's the News?</b> <i>Ann Chambers Sharon McClaren Shannon Schaben</i>	<b>Bridging the Gap for Low Level Readers</b>  <i>Ryan Hinz</i>	<b>The Benefits of Planned Integration of Online Learning</b>  <i>Crystal Hack</i>	<b>Teaching Tips and Tricks for Test-Takers to be Triumphant on the Writing Test</b>  <i>Joe Steinbock</i>
<b>B</b>	<b>Workplace Essential Skills - Making it Work</b>  <i>Angela Bischoff-Mandl Vickie L. Zelenka</i>	<b>Technology Tools and Resources That You Can Really Use!</b>  <i>Stefanie Emrich</i>	<b>Becoming Fluent in Mathese</b>  <i>Joe Steinbock</i>	<b>AIMS What's New?</b>  <i>Kathy Boshart</i>
<b>C</b>	<b>ELL Ambassadors</b>  <i>Steve Przymus</i>	<b>Can I Use Other Languages in My ESL Classroom?</b>  <i>Steve Przymus</i>	<b>How To Keep It Together Without Losing It All</b>  <i>April Heisel Amy Sturm Mark Wentz</i>	<b>On-Line Resources for Secondary Students</b>  <i>Sue Henry</i>
<b>D</b>	<b>Nebraska Career Connections</b>  <i>Bethney Larson</i>	<b>EducationQuest</b>  <i>Treve Florum</i>	<b>Finding Your Way Through the Maze of Beginning an Essay</b>  <i>Jan Axdahl</i>	<b>More Learning, Less Work for Adult ESOL Teachers!</b>  <i>Robin Lovrien (Schwarz)</i>
<b>E</b>	<b>Building Wealth in America</b>  <i>Gregory Housel</i>	<b>Create, Share, and Collaborate with Online Documents</b>  <i>Melinda Holt</i>	<b>The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom</b>  <i>Ryan Hinz</i>	<b>And Just How Do I Teach Them That?</b>  <i>Jeanette Evans</i>
<b>F</b>	<b>GED 2014 Fact and Fiction</b>  <i>Vicki Bauer</i>	<b>AIMS 101 Where Do I Start?</b>  <i>Kathy Boshart</i>	<b>Learn to Jigsaw in 10 Easy Steps</b>  <i>Janet Kletke</i>	<b>When We Stop Counting</b>  <i>Jan Sears</i>
<b>Ballroom 2</b>	<b>What Should I Do When Students Share Too Much Information?</b>  <i>Jeanette Evans</i>	<b>Characteristics of Quality Adult Literacy Programs</b>  <i>Mary Ann Corley</i>	<b>I Like to Move it!</b>  <i>Melissa Buss Susan Harder</i>	<b>I Like to Move it!</b>  <i>Melissa Buss Susan Harder</i>