

Office of Adult Education

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER — SPECIAL CONFERENCE EDITION
ISSUE 4 APRIL 2012



From the Desk of Dianne Duthie, Director Education and Career Success

What a great conference! I sincerely hope that all of you were able to take back to your programs some helpful hints, best practices or even names and email addresses of other educators to partner with over the coming year. I want to thank Patty Higgins and the planning committee for doing an outstanding job organizing and preparing for this conference. I would also like to thank MACAE for their help in getting the conference off to a great start. It is always good to have partners that can work together to achieve the very best.

We will showcase the conference in this issue of the newsletter. For those of you who did not attend, you missed a great event. Hopefully, you will be able to put the April 8-11 dates on your calendar for next year at the Amway Grand in Grand Rapids and enjoy this issue of the newsletter. If you are interested in joining the planning committee, please email me at duthied@michigan.gov.

Our last Practitioner's Task Force meeting for this year will be held this Friday at the Lexington Hotel in Lansing. If you are interested in joining a task force for next year, please email me so that I may put your name on a list of members.

I wish you well with the close out of the school year and your graduations as they begin to take place in May. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need anything before the end of the program year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dianne M. Duthie".

this issue

As this issue is a special conference edition, please note that stories you have previously sent in for publishing in this month's newsletter will run in the newsletter next month.

2012 MAETC Exhibitors

A special thank you to each of our exhibitors for providing continuing support and expertise at our conference. Hopefully, you were able to visit each of their booths.

- Alpha II Learning Systems
- Aztec Software
- Boston Reed
- CTB/McGraw-Hill
- Education 2020
- IntegraSource, Inc.
- International Book Centre, Inc.
- McGraw-Hill/Contemporary
- Michigan Association for Adult and Continuing Education (MAACE)
- Michigan Association of Community and Adult Education (MACAE)
- ODYSSEWARE®
- Pat's Leather Goods
- Pearson Digital Learning
- Scantron, an affiliate of Global Scholar
- Steck-Vaughn/HMH
- The Secondary Teacher's Store
- Townsend Press
- Wonderlic, Inc.

2012 MAETC Awards Presentation

The 2012 MAETC awards recognize those who are “Making a Difference” in the lives of our adult learners.

The Michigan Adult Education and Training Conference for 2012 got underway on Tuesday, April 24 with the GED Examiners session. On Wednesday, April 25th, guests attended the conference grand opening luncheon and welcome to the conference comments given by Dianne Duthie, Director of Education and Career Success. During the luncheon, the 2012 MAETC presentation of awards went to the following who were recognized for their efforts and continued dedication to the adult learners that served in adult education programs across the state. Those recognized during the awards presentation were:

- ◇ Mike O'Connor
- ◇ Bob Steeh
- ◇ Carole Wells
- ◇ Doug Wood
- ◇ Bert Quinn

Performance recognition went to the following adult education programs that met or exceeded all of their federal benchmarks for program year 2010-11. Those programs included:

- ◇ Allegan Public Schools
- ◇ Birmingham School District
- ◇ Community Action Agency
- ◇ Oakland Literacy
- ◇ Otsego Public Schools

Throughout earlier issues of the newsletter, we introduced you to the winners of the Teacher Spotlight. During the awards presentation, these teachers were recognized for their outstanding practices and performance in the adult education classroom.

- ◇ **Malissa M. Smith**, Milan Area Schools
- ◇ **Christine Schneider**, Novi Adult/Alternative Education
- ◇ **Ben Hassenger**, A+ Language School, Okemos
- ◇ **Susan Duryea**, Dominican Literacy Center
- ◇ **Jerry Hawes**, Northwest Michigan Works Kalkaska Learning Lab
- ◇ **Emily Norton and Candice Taylor**, Southwest Solutions Detroit Learning Lab

North Menominee Community Schools and Iron Mountain Kingsford Community Schools directors Josh Sampson and Julie Wonders received special recognition for the work they have done in collaboration with their Project E3 Excellence in Education and Employability, an adult learning demonstration and scale up grant.



Congratulations to all of the award recipients!!

Michigan Association for Adult and Continuing Education (MAACE) Awards

The Michigan Association for Adult and Continuing Education (MAACE) presented recipients with two awards:

President's Award—The association's most distinguished and highest honor is given in recognition of the person's exemplary contribution to adult and continuing education in Michigan. This award was presented to Ken Walsh of ATS Educational Services.



Distinguished Service Award—This honor is given in recognition of excellence and dedication in service to adult and continuing education in Michigan. This award was presented to Cliff Akujobi, Office of Adult Education.



Congratulations, Ken and Cliff!!!

PPI MAN...PPI MAN

He'll help you hit your numbers and take away your shame



When “Cliff T. Terminator” threatens to take away “Loosie Hasn’t-A-Clue’s” funding in the ABE Program she runs, because her data isn’t good, she gets a visit from “Performance & Program Improvement Man”, aka, “PPI Man” and “Wonder What’s going on Woman” or “WWW”. Both introduce a tool to help her administrators, teachers, and support staff identify at what points in their program they are losing participants, and offer Miss Loosie best practices and strategies for student



retention.

Not only could conference participants get data tools to help their programs retention rate, but they could also receive best practices on working with adults that have learning disabilities with the Learning to Achieve four module series; basic tutor techniques for working with ABE, GED®, and English language learners.

Attendees may have also found themselves receiving the most up-to-date

information on what is happening at the legislative level, or “Getting Out from Under Your Rock and Teach!”..ing.

Many of the sessions also focused on integrating contextualized learning into classroom instruction. These sessions centered around technology, health care, finan-



cial and integrating some of the employability skills that adult learners need as they enter into the world of work.

Regardless of which sessions you attended, many of them offered attendees the opportunity to gain insight on best practices, ask questions, and provide collaboration. Some of them even offered, perhaps a clearer understanding of being able to assess adult learners with the CASAS, TABE or GAIN.



MAERS 2.0 Open Lab

New to MAETC this year was the opportunity for a MAERS 2.0 Open Lab. Attendees could drop in if they had questions and needed answers. Several members from the MAERS 2.0 training team were available to provide one-on-one help. The MAERS 2.0 training team were also available to assist with suggestions and solutions to help programs and data entry personnel organize and expedite the data entry process.



Please remember that you may always contact the MAERS 2.0 Help Desk at 313-456-3200 or by emailing your question to:

MAERS2.0@michigan.gov.



Tunes, Trivia & Line Dancing!

Conference goers were able to enjoy some tunes and try out the latest in line dancing with dancers from Diamonds & Denim. Or, participants could settle in for a game of Trivia, Euchre, Scrabble, Dirty Minds & more. However, some simply chose to kick back, enjoy the dance, music and visit with friends!

Networking: 2012 MAETC

Given the many outstanding presentations and sessions for this year's conference, there were also opportunities to network and share in some key learning with others in attendance.

Wednesday afternoon kicked off the grand opening of the exhibits. Participants were able to snack on light hors d'oeuvres and beverages while wandering about discussing key takeaways from sessions earlier in the day.

On Thursday, attendees were welcomed to the MAACE Reception. Later in the evening, another networking opportunity took place at the Tunes, Trivia & Line Dancing gala.

Friday morning wrapped up the conference with breakfast, followed by Dianne Duthie addressing those in attendance with important happenings in the world of adult education with the State Update.



State Update

The State Update, provided by Dianne Duthie, Director of Education and Career Success included:

- PY 2012-13 Federal Grant
- Section 107
- Regional Planning Grants
- Cluster Strategy
- Monthly Newsletter
- Website
- MAERS
- Learning Labs
- August Institutes

New to attendees, this year, was an opportunity to provide the Office of Adult Education with questions around areas such as regionalization, career pathways, and the upcoming changes to the 2014 GED Test. The answers to the questions that were asked will be posted on the MAEPD.org website. So, keep a watchful eye out for the answers to the questions that you provided!



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Upcoming Events

May 4: Practitioner's Task Force

Lexington Hotel, Lansing @ 8am

May 10: MACAE Focus Group

May 11: ESL Workshop

May 18: MACAE Board Meeting

EDUCATION AND CAREER SUCCESS

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