



# South Dakota Education Service Agency Region 6 & 7 Newsletter

Serving 30 school districts in western and central South Dakota

Spring 2006

## Project ENRICH to Offer Book Study on Marzano Texts

by Jamie Morris and Debbie O'Doan

Project ENRICH will offer three on-line book studies as an extension of the ESA 6 Regional In-service program, "What Works in Education." Educators in ESA 6 and 7 are eligible to participate.

The on-line book studies are scheduled from June 26 to July 28, 2006. The registration deadline is June 12, 2006.

Participants will have the opportunity to earn one credit by having participated in the ESA 6 in-service program and completing one book study or by completing two book studies.

The book studies will focus on the Dr. Robert Marzano's research-based texts: *Classroom Management that Works*, *Classroom Instruction that Works*, and *Building Background Knowledge*.

To register and download a copy of the course syllabus go to [www.enrich.tie.net](http://www.enrich.tie.net).

For more information please contact Jamie Morris, [jmorris@tie.net](mailto:jmorris@tie.net) or Debbie O'Doan [dodoan@tie.net](mailto:dodoan@tie.net).

## New Strategies Book Available

by June Preszler

Help students hone their skills at making inferences and finding meaning with the fourth booklet in the *On Target* series of strategy books.

*Strategies to Help Readers Make Meaning through Inferences*, compiled by South Dakota's Education Service Agencies 6 and 7 with support from the South Dakota Department of Education, is now available in print and on-line. Access the on-line version at <http://www.sdesa6.org/content/projects.htm>.

Previously published books in the series include *Reading Strategies to Guide Learning*, *Strategies to Improve Student Test Scores*, and *Strategies to Help Struggling Readers*. For more information regarding the *On Target* booklets, contact June Preszler, ESA 7, 605-394-1876.



## AIMS II Update

by Craig DeTample

Research shows that a standards-based mathematics curriculum using inquiry is very effective for student learning. Team planning and professional development are essential for the successful implementation of inquiry-based curriculum.

Teachers and administrators throughout ESA 6 & 7 schools have participated in a Mathematics Curriculum Overview, Fostering Algebraic Thinking, Classroom Management, Investigating Inquiry-based Mathematics and three on-line courses for inquiry-based math for K-5, 6-8, and 9-12 teachers.

All ESA 6 & 7 educators are eligible to participate in the following professional development opportunities through AIMS:

### Upcoming Events:

- Considering New Math Curricula – Online Course March 17-May 12
- Using Data: Getting Results Part II – June 6-9 – BHSU campus
- CGI - Children's Mathematical Thinking – June 12-16 – BHSU campus
- Algebra by Inquiry – Sponsored by CAMSE – June 19-23 – BHSU campus
- CGI II – Algebraic Thinking – June 26-30 – BHSU campus
- Teaching Algebra with Technology – July 24-28 – BHSU campus
- Hands-on Calculus
- College Preparatory Mathematics

Participants may receive stipends and credit for individual events. A menu of programs and on-line registration is at <http://aims.tie.net>. For more information, contact Marcia Torgrude at 605-394-1876 or e-mail [mtorgrude@tie.net](mailto:mtorgrude@tie.net).



## Grade Level Assessment Project

by Tammy Bauck and Craig DeTample

Approximately fifty-five K-12 teachers from across South Dakota are working to develop grade level assessments in the areas of Language Arts/Reading, Mathematics, and Science. The work on these tests will be complete by the end of this summer and be available for schools to pilot by the fall of 2006.

In the Fall of 2005, SD DOE put out a request to all K-12 schools for teacher participation. All teachers who applied and were able to make the time commitment were accepted to participate in the project. Teachers involved in this project have received training on effective classroom assessment from Karen Bailey of Measured Progress, who has also been working with South Dakota's ESAs this year.

The process used by this project includes unpacking each of the content standards into student and teacher friendly language. After unpacking standards, the teachers locate acceptable test items, modify existing test items, or create new test items that align with the standards.

Two forms of the assessment are being developed so that schools can give the tests more than once during the school year and still have different test items available each time the test is administered.

The test items, once created, will be loaded onto Scantron's Achievement Test website, which is the same platform used for the DACS test. Tests will be available both on-line or they can be printed out and administered by hand. If taken on-line, reports can immediately show how students, classes, or grade levels performed on the tests.

The tests, once available, will not be mandated by the State. They are only intended to serve as an instructional tool to classroom teachers and to serve as an additional measure outside of the DakotaSTEP.

Teachers from the following ESA 6 & 7 districts are among those working on this important project:

Todd County	Bennett County	Agar-Blunt-Onida
Pierre	Oelrichs	Meade County
Rapid City	Spearfish	

### Put on your Calendar

TIE 2006 – April 23-25 – Sioux Falls

ESA 6 Advisory Council Meeting – April 27, 2006 – Pierre

ESA 7 Advisory Council Meeting – April 28, 2006 – Rapid City

ESA 7 Regional In-Service – November 17, 2006 – Rapid City



## SD Reads Update

by Faye LaDuke-Pelster, Barb

Boltjes, and Coly Blake

Three SD Reads coaches serve ESA 6 and five coaches serve ESA 7. Each coach teaches a graduate-level course that includes a monthly training session along with periodic practicum visits. At this time, SD Reads coaches have three training sessions remaining in order to meet the 45-hour classroom requirement for college credit. Coaches will also continue practicum visits to the classrooms.

Teachers involved in SD Reads have recently completed the winter round of testing. These data are essential in driving instruction to ensure that students continue to make progress throughout the remainder of the school year.

Teachers are also working on rough drafts of their case study projects for SD Reads. Teachers are asked to collect and document assessment information and reflections of student response to strategic thinking. Each teacher will include this information in his/her case study project.

Reflection is an important concept throughout SD Reads. Teachers are asked to turn in monthly reflections of lessons they've taught and strategies they've tried in order to gain a better understanding of themselves and their students. SD Reads coaches help teachers become more reflective through the use of Cognitive Coaching. The coaching conversations help teachers become familiar with the process of reflecting in order to modify instruction to meet the needs of all students.

## Social Studies Content Standards - DOE

The revised Social Studies Content Standards are currently online and open for public comment. They will be open for comment until 5:00 PM March 9, 2006 after which time the Social Studies Content Standards Revision Committee will reconvene and address the comments.

Please note that these standards are in draft form only. The format and content of the standards are subject to change due to open comment. Please look for a finalized version of the standards this spring, pending State Board approval.

The URL for the content standards webpage for review and public comment is as follows: <http://doe.sd.gov/contentstandards/social/newstandards/Index.asp>

For more information, contact Michelle Mehlberg, South Dakota Department of Education at [michelle.mehlberg@state.sd.us](mailto:michelle.mehlberg@state.sd.us). Phone: 605-280-3614.

## ESA 6 Regional In-Service

by Micky Wienk

Four hundred fifty educators from central South Dakota attended the ESA 6 Regional In-service in Pierre, South Dakota, on Feb 17, 2006. Despite bitter cold weather, ASCD presenter, Mary McDonough, received a warm welcome as she shared information about the research done by Dr. Robert Marzano on *What Works in Schools*.



Participants had the opportunity to spend "An Afternoon with a Good Book" during the afternoon breakout sessions. Presenters from SD READS, TIE, and ESA 6 & 7 provided information on Dr. Marzano's research-based texts: *Classroom Instruction that Works*, *Building Background Knowledge*, *Building Academic Vocabulary*, *Classroom Management that Works* and *School Leadership that Works*.



The PowerPoint presentations from the "Afternoon with a Good Book" breakout sessions can be seen on the ESA 6 website at <http://www.sdesa6.org>. Once there, click on Regional Inservice Information and Presentations.

In-service participants were asked to pledge to use selected strategies in their classrooms during the next nine weeks of the school year. Those returning the pledge sheets were entered into a drawing for the Marzano texts.

### **Congratulations to the following winners:**

*School Leadership that Works*

Marquette Brink – Onida Elementary – Agar/Blunt/Onida

*Building Background Knowledge*

Tova Heiss – Jefferson Elementary – Pierre

*Building Academic Vocabulary:*

Julie Bauer – Harrold

*Classroom Instruction that Works*

Kenneth Graupman – Norris Elementary – White River

*Classroom Management that Works:*

Sandra Dalton – Todd County Middle School – TCSD

*Teaching Reading in the Content Areas*

Lee Heibel – Stanley County MS/HS

Sharon Aman – Jones County Elementary – JCSD

## The South Dakota Parent Resource Network's Family Leadership Institute

by Lori Laughlin

**REGISTER TODAY** for The South Dakota Parent Resource Network's Family Leadership Institute!

**Registration deadline – March 8, 2006.**

The Family Leadership Institute seeks to establish a new level of parent engagement across the state and for ALL parents, including those who have had the most difficulty being involved. The Institute offers an exciting curriculum that is designed to:

- Provide information and skills that will assist parents to expand their role in their child's education and in the larger educational community.
- Build confidence in their understanding and interpretation of school data.
- Support the development of effective partnerships between schools and families.
- Motivate parents to assume leadership roles.

The Institute consists of three days of training. The first two days in a central location, the third day on site at the school with the participation of the principal.

The Institute is designed to work with a TEAM of parents (4-6 participants) from each school building.

### **Upcoming Dates:**

- ESA 7 - Thursday/Friday March 23/24 at the TIE office in Rapid City.
- ESA 6 – Thursday/Friday March 30/31 at the Isaac Walton in Pierre.

For more information or to register, contact Lori Laughlin at [lilaughlin@bhssc.tie.net](mailto:lilaughlin@bhssc.tie.net) or 800-219-6247.

## State Reading/Language Arts Standards Revision Committee - DOE

The South Dakota Department of Education is currently seeking and accepting nominations for the State Reading/Language Arts Standards Revision Committee. **We are in strong need of teachers of grades 9-12.** If you are interested in being nominated or have someone you would like to nominate to work on the K-12 Reading/Language Arts Standards revisions, please send the person's contact information to Brenda Robertson, South Dakota Department of Education at [Brenda.robertson@state.sd.us](mailto:Brenda.robertson@state.sd.us). Phone: 773-2533.



## ESA Region 6 Professional Development Opportunity

### Teacher as Assessor

#### *Aligning Assessment to Instruction*

ESA Region 6 is excited to offer schools a chance to participate in extensive professional development on quality classroom assessment.

### Cost of Training:

There is no cost for your teams to participate in the assessment trainings. However, we will ask that each team purchase a set of the assessment books which will be using during the training. (Approximate cost: \$125 to \$150)

### Assessment Areas to be Covered During the Coursework:

- Keys to quality classroom assessment
- Looking at student work: what does it really tell us?
- Using protocols to look at student work
- What do we want the assessment to assess?
- Characteristics of effective classroom assessment
- Strengths and weaknesses of different assessment tools
- Design considerations for assessments
- Assessment for learning versus assessment of learning

### Training Model: Train-the-Trainer:

- A team of teachers will come together for training.
- The team must consist of no less than two people (three or four team members are preferable).

- Each team will receive extensive assessment training.
- The team will be given time at the training to plan how to implement what they learned back at their buildings.
- Time must be given to the team to lead the assessment trainings within their buildings. Time could be given during teaming time with teachers, could be incorporated during in-service time, could be used during staff meetings, etc. (In order for change to happen, time for conversations about student work must occur.)

	ESA 6 Dates	Tentative Location	Delivery Format
1	Tuesday and Wednesday, August 8-9, 2006	Todd County	2 days on-site
2	Wednesday, October 11	DDN and On-line	2 hours on DDN after school Plus 2 hours on-line and discussion board 4-6 pm
3	Tuesday, October 24	DDN and On-line	2 hours on DDN after school Plus 2 hours on-line and discussion board 4-6 pm
4	Saturday, November 4	Pierre	1 day on-site
5	Friday, January 26, 2007	Todd County or Pierre	1 day on-site
6	Saturday, March 17	Todd County or Pierre	Depending on participant input, this may be either a Saturday or a DDN format.
7	Friday, April 27	Todd County or Pierre	1 day on-site

## Up-Coming Professional Development Opportunity

by *Mary Lou McGirr*

Administrators and teachers will have an opportunity to receive training in academic coaching techniques. TIE and ESA personnel will be offering professional development in the process and techniques of coaching. The intent will be to support teachers and students as they reflect on their teaching and learning.

The content is grounded in the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards five core propositions and will focus on developing metacognition, reflective practice, and participation in a learning community.

To learn more about this training and how it works collaboratively with your professional development plan, contact MaryLou McGirr, Jamie Morris, Pam Lange and Barb Rowenhorst at the TIE Office, 605-394-1876.

## Become a Reader for College Boards New SAT Essay - DOE

If you are interested in becoming a reader for the College Board's new SAT essay, check out how at <http://www.collegeboard.com/prof/counselors/tests/sat/reader.html>.

The new SAT was administered for the first time in March 2005 and includes a new writing section composed of multiple-choice items and an essay. Scoring the new SAT essay is a unique professional development opportunity for educators. The College Board has partnered with Pearson Educational Measurement to recruit experienced teachers to read and score the new SAT essay. Readers will work from their homes or offices with a user-friendly online scoring system to allow accurate and effective essay scoring. Pearson will provide comprehensive training, competitive pay, and flexible hours. For more information, go to the College Board website or contact Michelle Mehlberg, South Dakota Reading First Director, DOE, 700 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501.

Phone: 605-280-3614. Fax: 605-773-3782.