

RESA 4 Common Core Trainings



Spring 2013

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During January and February, RESA 4 continued to offer professional development sessions targeting implementation of the Common Core State Standards. Nearly 200 RESA 4 teachers and administrators engaged in learning activities to deepen their understanding of the Social Studies and English Language Arts standards. **Rachel Hull**, WVDE, was the presenter.

A training for county administrators, principals and instructional coaches targeting Common Core mathematics will be held February 28, 2013. **Lou Maynus** and **Lynn Baker**, WVDE, will be presenters for the session. The next training for this group is scheduled in April.



Additional professional development to provide on-going support for implementation of the Common Core State Standards is planned.



Special points of interest:

- STEM Training—See Pages 5 and 6
- Common Ground—See Page 7

SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Scott Cochran, Special Education Director

As we all look forward to the warmer temperatures and the smells that are associated with Spring time, we can take a deep breath because we have almost made it through the winter months.



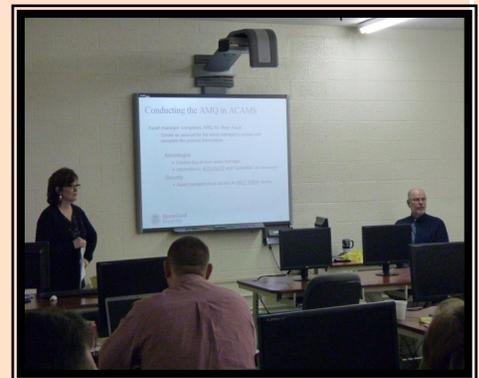
We have been very busy here in the Special Education Department in the past months as we prepare for the roll out of the Common Core State Standards. We also continue to provide support to our counties by providing Nonviolent Crisis Prevention training to those staff members at each school as specified in Policy 4373.

The picture shows all of our county **Special Education Directors and some Special Education Specialists** at our most recent RESA 4 directors meeting which was held at Braxton County Board of Education. Continue to stay warm and remember that Spring is right around the corner.

ACAMS Training for County Asset Managers

ACAMS, which stands for Automated Critical Asset Management System, is a tool used to collect and organize information about critical infrastructure assets. ACAMS is a secure, Web-based information services portal used to support infrastructure protection efforts at the state and local level.

Provided by Department of Homeland Security for state and local first responders, emergency managers, and homeland security officials, ACAMS is an optional, no-cost software application that provides access to a comprehensive set of tools and resources to develop and implement critical infrastructure protection programs. At its core, ACAMS provides for the collection and effective use of critical asset data, protection information, and incident response and recovery plans pertaining to critical infrastructure assets. While ACAMS focuses on pre-incident prevention and protection, it can also be used to assist in post-incident response.



RESA 4 ACAMS trainers, Executive Director, **A.J. Rogers** and Regional School Wellness Specialist, **Cara Phillips**, provided the first round of training to all of RESA 4 County Asset Managers

Participants took part in classroom lectures and practical hands-on learning exercises related to the ACAMS process. The training culminated with an assessment of an actual critical asset. During this assessment, all aspects of the ACAMS classroom instruction are incorporated, exercised and tested.

ACAMS provides the framework for the development of a comprehensive Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Program. The Department of Homeland Security provides ACAMS at no cost to the state and local community to support infrastructure protection efforts.



WVEIS Points to Ponder

- ◆ Don't forget to check the resources available at <http://wveis.k12.wv.us/>; here you can find:
 - ◇ WVEIS Data Collection Dates (click on 'Calendar')
 - ◇ Documentation for many of the programs used in WVEIS (click on 'Support')
 - ◇ Links to WVDE, government, RESAs and various other sites (click on 'Links')
 - ◇ Access to WVEISweb (click on 'WVEISweb')
 - ◇ Link for signing on to WVEIS on the Web (WOW) on the home screen in the News Flashes column

- ◆ ***FY2014 will be the first year that all teacher evaluations, for all schools, for all counties are required to be completed through WOW and the WOW version of discipline will be the only version of discipline available (no more 'green' screen discipline)***
 - ◇ All users at a school will need access to WOW, whether you are an administrator or a teacher
 - ◇ A quick way to get all teachers a WVEIS WOW user ID is to have them work through the tutorials at <http://wveis.k12.wv.us/teachers> and then have them click 'Obtain WVEIS ID'; IDs created through this method are passed through security measures to verify the employee's existence in the WVEIS system and the IDs are only given the evaluation menu item (but then our office or your county contact can adjust their menus for other needs)
 - ◇ This is also the site where teachers can work through the tutorials for the evaluation process

- ◆ Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) submittals are upon us
 - ◇ Remember that these submittals are based in WOW this year (**NOT** WVEISweb)
 - ◇ All procedural questions and concerns should be passed through the Office of Professional Preparation
 - ◇ Be certain that your teachers are defined with the correct employee ID (STU.240) and that they are assigned to a valid course code in the master schedule (SCH.320) which they are endorsed to teach
 - ◇ ***DO NOT USE the 4 digit endorsement code as a course code***

- ◆ A few of our counties are already working in FY2014, so be aware of what fiscal year you are working in and for what purpose if you have multiple years' worth of assignments.

Contact the WVEIS Department (ext. 6) at RESA 4 if you have any questions.



MEDICAID UPDATE

The Medicaid program is going well as we move towards the end of the fiscal year. There may be some upcoming changes to our billing process in the very near future, but those changes are currently in the decision making phase. The changes may also determine how we bill some of our current services provided to Medicaid eligible students.

We have still had quite a few new providers to enroll in our program, and I am sure we will continue to get more enrolled. I will soon be traveling to my next Medicaid Specialist meeting in March to learn about any

updates or changes to the Medicaid program. We are moving forward into our next session of the Random Moment Time Study System. This system is used to gather information related to the Medicaid program, where participants complete their "moments" which help to determine the amount of time spent doing Medicaid related activities. The thought behind this study is that it will help, not hinder, our Medicaid program.

To see our scheduled trainings visit our staff calendar at the link below
(click control + link):
[RESA 4 Calendar](#)

**Visit RESA 4 Resource Catalog Resource
Library Department at <http://resa4.k12.wv.us>**



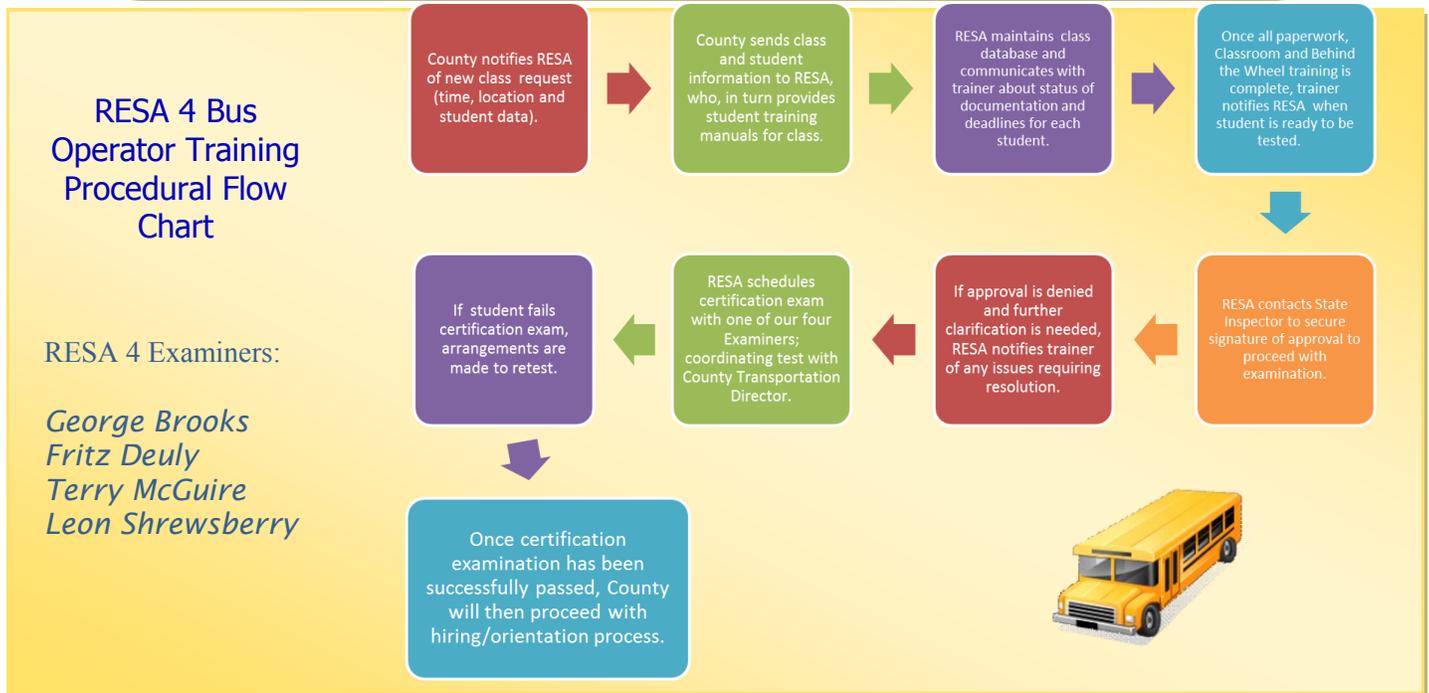
BOOK STUDY 1004.07

Teaching with Poverty in Mind: What Being Poor Does to Kids' Brains and What Schools Can Do About It - includes 2-set DVD Elementary/Secondary (Eric Jensen, 2009, ASCD) 25 per set – After setting forth a detailed discussion of the damaging effects of poverty on the brains of disadvantaged children, the bleak picture brightens with offsetting research to support significant effects of a positive, enriching environment. Each chapter follows a veteran teacher in a high-poverty secondary school as he progresses from despair to commitment, learning to structure a productive classroom around what kids raised in poverty need. The book is structured with *Theory/Research* sections followed by *High Poverty Schools Making it Happen* sections, and research-based *Action Steps* sections designed as a practical guide to replicating these changes in your school.

BOOK STUDY 1004.13

Teaching in Tandem: Effective Co-Teaching in the Inclusive Classroom (Gloria Lodato Wilson, Joan Blednick, 2011, ASCD) 25 per set --- The question/answer format and the introductory vignettes of each chapter (which target content information) provide an organized reference valuable to teachers (every grade and subject), principals, administrators, and paraprofessionals. Basic definition of authentic co-teaching expands into how-to guides for planning, curriculum, instructional strategies, and other elements of a successful inclusive classroom. Case studies highlight common issues and approaches to solutions; roles of administrators and paraprofessionals are discussed in detail; parent and student concerns are explored and addressed.

*Place loan request online;
call 304-872-6440 / 1-800-251-7372, ext. 17; or fax 304-872-6442.*



Department of Technology

The RESA 4 **Technology Department** continues to serve its six counties by providing a variety of technology services.

Cabling has begun on the new Gauley River Elementary School in Nicholas County. The department will be installing over 300 plus Cat 6 drops for both internet and phone services. In addition, our technicians will be installing the fiber optic cables between the wiring closets. The job began the early part of February.

The technology department also received an additional 12 BTOP routers and is currently configuring and installing those in their designated counties. Nicholas, Braxton, and Greenbrier counties will all receive new BTOP routers.

For questions and requests regarding the computer repair, sub-calling, and router departments, please call the Director of Technology, **Aaron Williams**, at 304-872-6440 ext. 37, or email at alwillia@access.k12.wv.us.



Randy Taylor, RESA 4 technician, hard at work installing cabling at the new Gauley River Elementary School in Nicholas County.

STEM Training Held at RESA 4

RESA 4 recently welcomed **Bill Albert**, owner of STEMfinity, to conduct two trainings on the use of STEM activities in the afterschool programs. The morning session included elementary STEM/enrichment teachers and secondary STEM/enrichment teachers attended the afternoon session. The 21stCCLC Afterschool Programs have included STEM activities as a focus during the afterschool time. Participants in the trainings learned how to incorporate the materials purchased by RESA 4 as a way to encourage more students to participate in afterschool programming.

For more information about the afterschool programs in RESA 4, please contact **Dana Thomas**, Director of

21stCCLC Afterschool Programs, by email to dethomas@access.k12.wv.us or by phone at 304-872-6440, ext. 27.



Bill Albert, owner of STEMfinity, presents information to the RESA 4 21stCCLC Afterschool Program STEM/Enrichment teachers.



Linda Spencer (Craigsville) and Kim Hypes (Ansted) work on a STEM project.

Continued on page 6

The Child & Adult Care Food Program theme is, "The Food Program is a **WIN-WIN-WIN** for parents, children, and providers." *Research proves that good nutrition in young children not only contributes to their physical growth, but to their intellectual and emotional development as well. Children who participate in the CACFP have the opportunity to acquire positive eating habits that will lead to a lifetime of good eating habits and good health.*



BENEFITS TO THE CHILD

The Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) offers lifetime benefits. Proper nutrition during the early years of childhood ensures appropriate development and reduces physical and educational problems later in life. The preschool years are when eating patterns and habits are being established that may determine the quality of one's diet throughout life. Children who are in child care with providers who participate on the CACFP are given the opportunity of nutrition education by providers who understand their role in shaping attitudes toward the acceptance of nutritious foods.

BENEFITS FOR THE FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDER

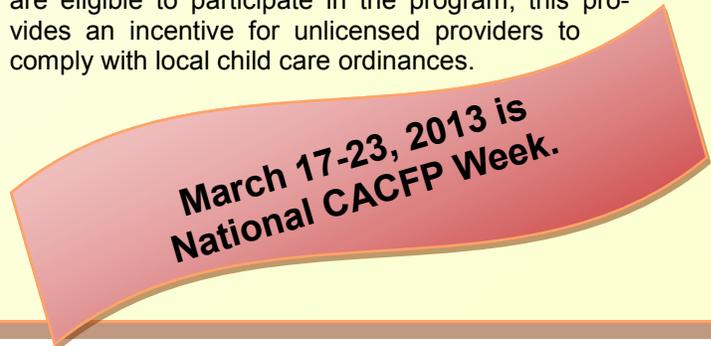
Providers receive valuable nutrition education that helps them know the proper foods to feed children in amounts appropriate for these young age groups. They receive help through nutrition education and personal visits from CACFP staff in understanding how to encourage positive eating habits that will benefit a child throughout life. They help children make healthy food choices for their meals and snacks that will last a lifetime.

BENEFITS FOR THE PARENTS

Parents are assured that their children will be served high quality meals. The benefit is children are less likely to experience fatigue and illness, and less time a parent must be absent from work. The child is also more likely to be healthy, happy and develop at a normal physical, emotional and intellectual pace.

BENEFITS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Because of the CACFP, federal tax monies are returned to the provider's state and invested in the health of the community's children. The added revenue is a means of helping to keep child care costs down for employees working in the community. Since only regulated providers are eligible to participate in the program, this provides an incentive for unlicensed providers to comply with local child care ordinances.



STEM Training Held at RESA 4 *Continued from page 5*



Jamie Howard and Libby Hunter, both from Crichton Elementary, work together on a STEM activity to use during the afterschool program.



Ashley Pettit (Ansted Middle) and Margie Stewart (Webster County High) work with Bill Albert to program a robot to be used in the afterschool programs at their schools.

Set your clocks ahead March 10th



The Common Ground Program is a partnership between the West Virginia Department of Education, the West Virginia Board of Education, and the United States Military recruiting organizations which serve West Virginia. This partnership not only provides career resources and tutoring, but also military mentors, who can inspire, advise, and enlighten students.

Common Ground also helps support military families through the Interstate Compact, which honors out-of-state academic credits from children of military members who transfer into the West Virginia school system.

Regional School Wellness Specialist, Cara Phillips, collaborated with Shelly DeBerry, Student Success Advocate Coordinator from the WVDE Office of School Improvement, to enlist members of the Common Ground team to speak at the Regional School Wellness Council Meeting at RESA 4. One of the most impressive elements of the Common Ground Program is their Speaker Series.

The Speaker Series is aimed at connecting West Virginia students with mentors from different branches of the military. Each speaker is an expert on a variety of important topics affecting youth today. Service members from different branches often have the background to deliver speeches in a captivating and motivating manner, which is perfect for the classroom setting.



A number of topics relevant to education, character development, citizenship and career development are offered. Those include but are not limited to:

- Anti-bullying
- Suicide prevention
- Substance abuse prevention
- Drop-out prevention
- The American Flag



To request a speaker go to <http://wvde.state.wv.us/common-ground/> and fill out the online request form.

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RESA 4 Regional Council Membership

Braxton County

Dennis Albright, *Superintendent*
Kathy Parker, *Board Representative*

Fayette County

Keith Butcher, *Superintendent*
David Arritt, *Board Representative*

Greenbrier County

Sally Dalton, *Superintendent*
Bob Toothman, *Board Representative*

Nicholas County

Beverly Kingery, *Superintendent*
Barbara Taylor, *Board Representative*

Pocahontas County

C. C. Lester, *Superintendent*
Kenneth Vance, *Board Representative*

Webster County

Dr. Martha Dean, *Superintendent*
Harold Carpenter, *Board Representative*

West Virginia Department of Education

Brenda Williams, *Executive Director Office of Instructional Technology*

Higher Education

Dr. Ron Childress, *Marshall University*

Teacher Representative

George Sumner, *Fayette County*

Principal Representative

Sue Anderson, *Webster County*

Chief Instructional Leader Representative

Terrance Beam, *Pocahontas County*

West Virginia Board of Education

Thomas Campbell

RESA 4

Arthur Lowell Rogers, Jr., *West Virginia Board of Education*

Main Phone Numbers

304.872.6440
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(800.251.7372)

Telephone 'Help Desk' Lines

WVEIS 304.872.6440
ext. 11 and 12

Substitute Calling System

304.872.6440,
ext. 37 and 29
(available from
6:00 am until 2:00 pm)