



EDUCATOR'S HEARTBEAT

Volume XV Issue 2 Nov. 2010

JOB OPENING

FDLRS Heartland has a job opening for an eleven month HRD/Child Find Specialist position. The HRD (human resource development/professional development) duties would be to conduct training/workshops on current trends in ESE policy and procedure. This position would also be required to attend state and regional trainings on research based programs for improving the performance of all students. HRD would be approximately 75% of the job and cover the four district area of FDLRS Heartland (DeSoto, Glades, Hendry and Highlands).

The Child Find duties would be for Glades and Hendry Counties and would involve screening 3-5 yr. olds for developmental delays, meeting with Early Steps to transition children in their programs to the schools, and meeting with school level pre-k teams in Glades and Hendry Counties. This part of the job would be approx. 25% of the job duties.



It is preferred that this position be filled with someone who is current with trends in technology and learning and has had experience with distance learning, adobe connect (or other online instruction), etc.

To be eligible for this job you have to have a Florida teacher's certificate and ESE certification. Since Highlands County is the fiscal agent for FDLRS, the employee would have to become or be a Highlands employee.

To apply for this position you must do it online. Go to the Highlands County Schools website and there is a tab at the top entitled "Job Line". There you will find a more detailed description of the job duties and requirements.

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Three New PDA Courses Coming In January

FDLRS Heartland will offer three more PDA online courses from January 11-April 5, 2011. As always, there will be minimal face to face meetings but the course itself is online. We will have to have a minimum of 7 participants for each of these courses in order for the course to “make” and be offered. If a group of 10 or more is from a specific district, we will work to bring the face to face meetings to you after the initial meeting.

Listed below are the three courses offered next.

The attached registration form must be sent in to FDLRS Heartland in order to register for the course.

In-service points in your district are offered for each online course.

DIFFERENTIATED SCIENCE

(30 Credits)

- **Define terms and guidelines related to differentiating instruction.**
- **Define common terms used in effective science instruction.**
- **Discuss the rationale for differentiating science instruction and self-evaluate their current instructional practices related to the guidelines of differentiating instruction.**
- **Utilize current research related to effective science instruction.**
- **Explain the connection between continuous assessment and meaningful differentiation and identify types and sources of assessment information related to effective science instruction.**

Three New PDA Courses...

INTERPERSONAL INTERACTION (30 Credits)

- **Select appropriate instructional procedures for teaching adaptive life skills based on observation, ecological assessments, family interviews, and other student information.**
- **Identify methods for evaluating and documenting student progress in acquiring, generalizing, and maintaining skills related to interpersonal interactions and participation in activities across settings (e.g., at school, at home, in the community).**

Identify skills necessary with disabilities to engage in self-determination and self advocacy.

ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION (60 Credits)

- **Identify the purposes of assessment (e.g., early identification, screening, interventions, eligibility, diagnosis, identification of relevant instructional content, monitoring the effectiveness of instruction) across disciplines.**
- **Identify the legal requirements and ethical principles regarding the assessment of students with disabilities (e.g., confidentiality, adherence to test protocols, appropriateness of assessment for students needs).**
- **Identify measurements concepts, characteristics, and uses of norm-referenced, criterion-referenced, and performance-based assessments for students with disabilities.**

The Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resource System is funded by the State of Florida, Department of Education, Division of Public Schools and Community Education, Bureau of Exceptional Student Education and Student Services, through Federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B, IDEA, Part B Preschool and State General Revenue Funds

REGISTRATION FORM
PDA Online Modules

Sponsored by FDLRS Heartland – Lake Placid, Florida

Class Location: Heartland Educational Consortium – Training Room 1080

US Hwy 27 N Lake Placid, Florida

Registration Deadline Jan. 4th, 2011

Module begins on First Mandatory Face-To-Face Meeting on Jan. 11, 2011

(Additional face-to-face meetings will be scheduled at this meeting.)

Please print name: _____ Date: _____
School: _____ County _____ ESE () Yes () No

Teaching Assignment: _____

Home Address: _____

() Primary e-mail _____ () Alternate e-mail _____

() Home phone: _____ () Work phone: _____

*Email addresses and phone numbers are requested so the course instructor can contact you, if needed.
Please check (✓) in the box above, the best way to contact you.*

Please select ONE module you plan to complete:

() Differentiated Science (30 Credits) _____

() Interpersonal Interaction (30 Credits) _____

() Assessment & Evaluation (60 Credits) _____

I will use this module to the following: (Please check only one)

() To renew my teaching certificate

() To satisfy the in-service hours required as I am teaching out of field

() To target an area on my Professional Development Plan

I agree to attend all sessions of the course and to complete all required assignments in a timely manner.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Fax to FDLRS Heartland at 863-531-0425

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FDLRS Heartland's Newest Employee

*Welcome
Helen!*



FDLRS Heartland would like to introduce Helen Burton to our four county area constituents. Helen comes from Wisconsin and will be the Child Find specialist for Highlands and DeSoto counties as well as the Parent Specialist for DeSoto County.

Helen has a master's degree in Elementary Education from Aurora University. She is licensed in Elementary K-6, and Special Education K-8 with emphasis in Emotional Behavioral Disabilities (EBD). Helen taught an EBD class

for 4 years, was a Rtl Math specialist for a year, and has 8 years of Early Childhood experience. She also introduced a Reading Therapy Dog into her EBD classroom in Wisconsin through a grant and she received recognition for that program through local media.

Helen has three children - an 18 yr. old in college in Wisconsin, a sophomore at Lake Placid High and a 6th grader at Lake Placid Middle School.

If you need to reach her here at FDLRS her phone number is 863 531 0444 x235 and her email is helen.burton@heartlanded.org

ALL TYPES OF ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO TARGETED SCHOOLS/PROGRAMS

- Is your school struggling to make AYP?
- Do your teachers not know how to interpret their FCAT data or other available data in order to make effective changes in their instruction?
- Is the state requiring you to do something different? Is discipline a major issue?

FDLRS Heartland has workshops to help.

We can provide in-service to your teachers on:

- **Strategic Instruction Model (SIM)**- SIM provides instruction and research-based materials in both Learning Strategies and Content Enhancement Routines to address learning needs in reading and content areas. The purpose of SIM is to provide students with diverse learning needs and low achieving students with strategies and routines that allow them to become independent learners.
- **Understanding the Data**- Workshop contains several components pertaining to data collection at individual school or grade levels. Student achievement data is necessary to make instructional decisions for an individual class or an entire district. Learn how to navigate through FCAT data to improve student achievement and enhance instructional effectiveness. Training includes an in-depth understanding of the School Grade and AYP Report, Classroom Trend Reports, Learning Gains and FCAT test design
- **CHAMPS**- A proactive and positive approach to classroom management that helps teachers evaluate, develop or “fine tune” their classroom management plan in ways that will increase student responsibility and reduce the frequency and intensity of misbehavior.

Contact FDLRS Heartland at 863-531-0444 X 229

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FDLRS Heartland Mobile Computer Lab



The FDLRS Heartland mobile computer lab is ready to roll! With our 10-netbook lab, we can bring training to your site. We offer a variety of presentations, and can schedule an hour, a day, or a series of sessions, depending on your needs and preferences. All we require is internet access. Presentation topics include:

- Introduction to NIMAS
- Classroom Applications of Technology
- Universal Design for Learning
- Accommodations (emphasizing FCAT tools)
- Understanding Data
- Accessibility Tools within Microsoft Office
- BoardMaker Applications and Resources
- Whiteboard Applications and Resources
- S.O.L.O.
- Read & Write Gold

Please contact us to arrange a visit at smithb@hendry.k12.fl.us ; kathy.mathis@heartlanded.org or 863 531 0444 x 229.

FDLRS NEEDS ASSESSMENT

FDLRS Heartland is again requesting your assistance in planning our activities so that we can meet your needs and interests. Please take five minutes to complete our needs assessment questionnaire. Just click on the following link (some systems may require holding the CTRL key as you click the link): <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/M6NDDKF>.

Child Find

One of FDLRS four functions is to provide screening and, if needed, referral to school districts for an evaluation to find out if early intervention is needed to benefit a child.

If you know a pre-school aged child, (3-5 yrs), with significant developmental problems please call: 1-800- 316- 7057 or (863) 531-0444 ext.228.



Resource Collection!!

Don't forget that FDLRS Heartland has a resource collection available to all teachers. Last year we added some new materials to assist you with your classroom instruction. **Contact us at 863 531 0444 ex 228 if you want to check one of these out.**

New Items

1. *Differentiated Instruction in Action* - Carol Ann Tomlinson Differentiated Instruction is brought to life in this practical, easily implemented professional development program. Multiple vignettes depict the many ways that teachers can provide respectful tasks to all students and support all learners. Using the integrated professional development plan, with accompanying powerpoint and handouts, will empower educators as they lead for student success.



2. *Ideas, Samples and Designs - Helping All Students Learn Successfully in General Education* - Patti McVay and Heidi Wilson

This book includes ideas for educators, parents, and others interested in building success for all students, with and without

disabilities. These samples and ideas are for modifying the day-to-day curriculum and activities for students with a variety of learning needs.



3. *Handbook of Special Education Technology Research and Practice* - Dave Edyburn, Kyle Higgins, Randall Boone

An authoritative single volume reference documenting the latest research and practice developments in special education technology.

4. *Reading in the Content Areas with Resource-Based CRISS Strategies, Elementary Edition* - Featuring Carol Santa (videos)

Project CRISS (Creating Independence through Student-owned Strategies) provides teachers with a philosophy, planning guidelines, and classroom strategies to help students read and comprehend in the various content areas.

5. *Reading in the Content Areas with Resource-Based CRISS Strategies, Secondary Edition* - Featuring Carol Santa (videos)

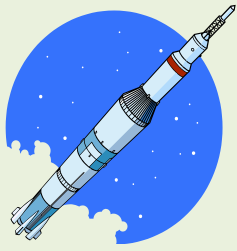
Project CRISS (Creating Independence through Student-owned Strategies) provides teachers with a philosophy, planning guidelines, and classroom strategies to help students read and comprehend in the various content areas.

6. *Differentiation in Practice, A Resource Guide for Differentiating Curriculum Grades K-5* - Carol Ann Tomlinson & Caroline Cunningham Eidson

Teaches you how to implement differentiated curriculum in all subject areas. Included are: annotated lesson plans for units in lang. arts, social studies, science and math; samples of differentiated product assignments, rubrics and homework handouts; overview of non-negotiables in differentiated classrooms and guidelines for using the book as a learning tool; extended glossary and recommended readings for further exploration of key ideas & strategies.

7. *Differentiation in Practice, A Resource Guide for Differentiating Curriculum Grades 5-9* - Carol Ann Tomlinson & Caroline Cunningham Eidson

Teaches you how to implement differentiated curriculum in all subject areas. Included are: annotated lesson plans for units in lang. arts, social studies, science, math and world/foreign languages; samples of differentiated worksheets, product assignments, rubrics and homework handouts; overview of essential elements of differentiated instruction and guidelines for using the book as a learning tool; extended glossary and recommended readings for further exploration of key ideas & strategies.



FREE

Gifted Education Class Required Class for Your Gifted Endorsement **Special Populations of Gifted Students**

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the evolution of gifted education and of the Nature and Needs of students who are from Gifted Special Populations (i.e.: disabled, underachieving, economically disadvantaged, highly gifted and minority populations) The class will use a wide variety of instructional strategies which include multimedia, outside research, class discussion, and individual projects.

**Instruction will take place at the
Heartland Educational Consortium
1100 US Hwy 27 North Rm. A
Lake Placid, Florida**

5-8:00 PM on the following Thursdays:

Jan. 6	Jan. 13	Jan. 20	Jan. 27
Feb. 3	Feb. 10	Feb. 17	Feb. 24
Mar. 3	Mar. 10	Mar. 17	Mar. 24

Internet/Independent Assignments to Complete 60 Hours of Inservice Credit towards your gifted endorsement.

Requirements: Classroom attendance, independent homework, class projects, post test, portfolio.

Appropriate Participants: Teachers of the gifted, Advanced Academics, General Education Teachers K-12, Honors, etc.

Fax the attached registration form to FDLRS Heartland at 863-531-0425 if you are interested in attending.

Registration Form

Special Population of Gifted Students

Sponsored by FDLRS Heartland – Lake Placid, Florida

*Class Location: Heartland Educational Consortium – Training **Room A**
US Hwy 27 N Lake Placid, Florida*

Registration Deadline Dec. 17, 2010

Please print name: _____ Date: _____

School: _____ County _____ ESE Yes No

Teaching Assignment: _____

Home Address: _____

Primary e-mail _____ Alternate e-mail _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

*Email addresses and phone numbers are requested so the course instructor can contact you, if needed.
Please check (✓) in the box above, the best way to contact you.*

I will use this training in the following way(s):

- To understand school-wide data and use it to improve instruction at my school*
- To understand classroom data and use it to guide instruction in my classroom*
- To understand individual data and use it to differentiate instruction for my students.*

I understand that in order to receive professional development credit for this course, I must attend the complete presentation and the required followup assignments in a timely manner.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Fax to FDLRS Heartland at 863-531-0425

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www.RecognitionandResponse.org Provided by the National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD) this site provides free information and resources to educators and early childhood practitioners about Recognition & Response system. The system is designed to help teachers and parents respond to signs of learning difficulty in young children as early as possible, (beginning at 3-4 years of age), before they experience failure in school and are referred for formal evaluative services through exceptional student education. Visit this site as there is a lot of information for teachers and parents.

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