



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE Dr. Tammy Pawloski



This edition of our newsletter marks the start of our sixth year at the Center of Excellence. In these unstable economic times, it is understandable that all districts are struggling with budget pressure, and professional development often is at risk. Even though the initial seed grant that established the Center ended in August 2009, continued access to high quality, research-based professional study opportunities is ensured because of the support of FMU and our school district partners. We are especially grateful to our Partner Districts that have recognized the Center as a worthy investment. We thank you for your commitment to work with us as we continue to advance education practice through quality professional development. **Best wishes for a successful school year!**

Center of Excellence Wins National Award



Francis Marion University's Center of Excellence won a **2009 Partnership Organization Award** from the **National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS)** at Johns Hopkins University. The Center of Excellence was recognized for making excellent progress in guiding districts and schools to develop comprehensive programs of school, family, and community partnerships.

In honoring the Center with the Johns Hopkins University NNPS Partnership Organization Award for the second year in a row, **Dr. Joyce Epstein** wrote,

"All of us at NNPS are proud of the work that the Francis Marion University Center of Excellence is conducting on school, family, and community partnerships. You may know that we measure other organizations as "more-or-less like Francis Marion" – a new metric to learn if organizations are preparing district leaders, training school teams, and supporting both leaders and teams to help them improve their own programs over time."

For more information about NNPS please contact Markey Bee at 843-669-3391 ext. 27.

NOW LIVE!

**First
Publication!**

Teaching Children of Poverty Online Journal

<http://journals.sfu.ca/tcop/index.php/tcop>.

Congratulations! The following manuscripts are the first to be published in the **NEW TCOP Online Journal**:

- **"Multicultural Literature: Enhancing Student's Understanding of Themselves, Their Communities, and the World"**
 - Dr. Marla Sanders and Dr. Daljit Kaur of FMU
- **"Shifting from Deficit to Generative Practices: Addressing Impoverished and All Students"**
 - Dr. Paul Thomas of Furman University

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



WE NEED YOUR CANS!

This fall, the **Center of Excellence Service Committee**, in conjunction with the **COE Fall 09' workshop**, is sponsoring a canned food drive! The committee is collaborating with *Harvest Hope Food Bank* and *Kid's Café* to provide nutritious meals for children of poverty in the Pee Dee Region.

Bring your cans to the Fall Workshop on September 26, 2009! Members of the COE Service Committee will be at the registration table to collect your donations.

The purpose of the **COE Service Committee** is to provide a community of support for teachers and children of poverty through different pathways such as Service Projects, Tutoring and Volunteering. To become a Volunteer please contact **Janis McWayne** at 843-661-1467 or jmwayne@fmarion.edu

You Be the Judge!



Earn \$25 cash awards by contributing personal feedback on Center of Excellence Resource Library texts.

- **Who?** Open to ALL FMU students including previous contest winners.
- **What?** Write book reviews (5-star rating).
- **When?** The last Friday of every month, book reviews may be submitted for online publication and cash awards!
- **How?** Come by the Center of Excellence office to pick up a copy of the guidelines and get started! Or, go online to the COE website.
- **Where?** The Center of Excellence Resource Library in the Pee Dee Education Center (beside the Center for the Child). A list of available books can be found on the Center of Excellence website at: <http://fmucenterofexcellence.org/fmu/resources.asp>.

Fall 2009 COE Calendar

September 2009

16	NNPS New Member Training	9:00 - 3:00	Ervin
26	Fall Workshop	8:00-12:00	McNair

October 2009

1	Advisory Committee Breakfast	8:30-10:00	PDEC
20	Faculty Seminar – M. Sanders	2:30- 3:30	TBA

November 2009

10	School, Family, & Community Partnership Day		TBA
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December 2009

Happy Holidays!!!

Register Now!



CLASSROOM STRATEGIES
THAT WORK!

COE Fall 09 Workshop
FMU Chapman Auditorium
Saturday, September 26, 2009
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Registration is free to all Partner District educators and college students with IDs. There will be a \$10.00 fee for all others, payable on site

The **theme** of the Fall 2009 Workshop is **"How 2: Classroom Strategies that Work!"** Sessions will focus on research-based classroom strategies and best practices in the following areas as they relate to the **needs and abilities of children of poverty.**

- Culture of Poverty
- Language and Literacy
- Family and Community Partnerships
- The Classroom Community
- Curriculum Design, Instructional Strategies & Assessment
- Teachers of Children of Poverty as Learners, Leaders, and Advocates
- School Leadership

- **SC DSS credit awarded for Early Childhood sessions!**
- **Professional development recertification hours will be awarded to all participants!**

- Seating is limited – Register Now!
- Email your name, school & district to coe@fmarion.edu
or
• Call 843-669-3391 Extension 28



Check out the COE Resource Library!

New Books added to the COE Library:

50 Ways to Close the Achievement Gap
by Carolyn Downey, Betty Steffy, William Poston, Jr. & Fenwick English

Teach Them All to Read: Catching Kids Who Fall Through the Cracks
by Elaine McEwan

Designing & Assessing Educational Objectives: Applying the New Taxonomy
by Robert J. Marzano & John S. Kendall

2 New Helpful Websites recently added:

<http://palmettohorizon.org/> - an independent public charity designed to promote and improve SC public education.

<http://www.donorschoose.org> – online charity making it easy to help students in need

Resource Library Link:
<http://www.fmucenterofexcellence.org/fmu/resources.asp>