



*"... Teaching and Learning Together ..."*

## From the Executive Director

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back to the 2011-2012 school year! Over the summer, the JCPS Gheens Academy for Curricular Excellence and Instructional Leadership content specialists and resource teachers have been hard at work overhauling our website to ensure you have the most up-to-date resources to support you in meeting the instructional demands required by the Kentucky Core Academic Standards (KCAS) and Senate Bill 1!

Providing resources to educators is not a new endeavor for Gheens content teams. However, in the past, the distribution of resources

and information has been through a variety of sites or sources, such as Sharepoint or JCPS Online. While these sites were certainly helpful, many teachers reported their frustration in attempting to locate the items they needed. This is no longer going to be an issue...WE HEARD YOUR CRY FOR ONE-STOP SHOPPING!!! Now you will find that the Gheens website is a repository for all content areas! On the our website you will find current curriculum maps, handouts from the summer conferences, videos, and myriad of resources to support your instructional efforts. Furthermore, existing re-

sources are updated and new resources are being posted on a daily basis!

We encourage you to visit the Gheens website to access the current resources that are posted, and come back to visit our site often for updated maps and supporting materials. Have a wonderful school year opening, and please don't hesitate to call us if you need support or have questions.

Sincerely,

*Lynne*

Lynne M. Wheat, Ed.D.  
Executive Director  
Gheens Academy of  
Curricular Excellence and In-  
structional Leadership

## Dr. Donna Hargens

Gheens welcomes Dr. Donna Hargens, who comes to JCPS from North Carolina. Serving as superintendent for Wake County since January, her past experience includes interim superintendent, chief academic officer, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, and western area superintendent for Wake County Public Schools. She received a doctorate in educational leadership, management and policy from Seton Hall University in 2005.



Dr. Hargens is the second female superintendent for JCPS. The first was Rosa Phillips Stonestreet, who led the district from 1898 to 1910.

*Continued on page 3*

## Visit the Professional Library and CRC!

Have you ever been in a quandary over how to deliver an instructional concept in multiple ways? Gheens has the resources to help you deliver even the most challenging content in ways that help students make meaning of their work. Many of you already take great advantage of the services offered by the Curriculum Resource Center and Professional Library at Gheens, and we encourage those of you who haven't to come and check us out!

Over 10,000 visits to the Curriculum Resource Center

(CRC) and Professional Library occurred last school year. With state adopted textbooks, color poster makers, professional journals, current books, educator databases, puppets, die-cuts, laminators and the opportunity to network with teachers across the district, there is little question about the value of how they spent their time in these centers. Each center facilitates continuous improvement of the art and craft of teaching. Both centers have a rich and long history of helping teachers reflect on their practice in the classroom.

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## In this issue . . .

- Executive Director Letter
- Superintendent Intro
- Visit the Professional Library & CRC
- ELL Summer Programs
- 2011-2012 PD Dates
- Counselors Corner



## Summer Learning for English Language Learners

### *Programs Held at Multiple Sites to Meet Student Needs*



**Above: English Language Learners participating in the Early Grade Reading Program this summer at Klondike Lane Elementary.**

It is an unusually warm day, even for July, in Louisville. At the Americana Community Center on Southside Drive, children are busily working in small groups in several classrooms. Some are solving math problems with the help of an enthusiastic volunteer teaching assistant. Others are meeting with the teacher to improve their reading skills. Vibrant art work adorns the walls, while the smells of the delicious products of a student cooking class waft down the hall. One young rising second grader, whose family moved to Louisville from Vietnam, tells his teacher, "I can't wait until Friday." Since Thursday is the last day of the summer program, she thinks she knows what he will say when she asks him why. "Because," he answers with a big grin, "my dad promised to take me to the library so I can read some more books when summer school is over!"

The summer program for English language learners (ELLs) at Americana Community Center is just one of five programs serving the needs of Jefferson County Public School ESL students ranging from elementary to high school ages. The benefits of structured and effective Out-of-School Time (OST) programs are well-known. Many ELLs are particularly at risk for difficulty in reading. There are various reasons that include the fact that the students' primary

language and that of their family is not English, limited prior educational opportunities, and factors compounded by low family income. Additionally, students who do not have access to summer learning opportunities often experience summer learning loss which, according to research by Robert Marzano, puts them at risk for achievement gaps. It is not surprising then, that an OST Needs Assessment for Louisville, Kentucky conducted by Market Research, Inc. in June of 2011, reports that school aged children and youth and their parents find many advantages to student participation in structured OST activities in the summer months. Some of these include socializing with a positive peer group, student safety, getting exercise, improving academic skills, and building self-esteem and leadership.

The summer programs for ELLs were held at different sites and were designed to meet the varying needs of the students. For example, at Crescent Hill Baptist Church, 30 elementary aged students received three hours of instruction each morning followed by activities in the afternoon. The church provided transportation for the children and the JCPS ESL Program partnered to provide instructional materials and professional development for the teachers. The ESL Pro-

gram also collaborated with Catholic Charities and Kentucky Refugee Ministries to provide five weeks of English language development to newly arrived refugee children. These students will enroll in JCPS for the first time in the upcoming school year. The Early Grade Reading Program for ELLs is the newest summer program. It took place at Klondike Elementary, where 70 JCPS ESL students who live in the Hikes Point area attended three mornings a week for four hours during four weeks. Parents had the opportunity to join in the classroom and to take books home to share with their children. This program was funded through a "Turn Up the Heat Together Grant" from Metro United Way and The Community Foundation of Louisville. The largest summer program for ELLs is the Summer Program for ESL Newcomers in grades 6-10. Approximately 170 ESL students in grades 6-10 continued their progress in learning English and math as they met with ten ESL teachers and four bilingual associate instructors for half days, five days a week during five weeks at Olmsted Academy North

Each of the summer programs maintained a focus on literacy development and made use of specially designed ELL in-

*Continued on page 3*

**Summer Learning for English Language Learners**  
Continued from page 2

structional materials, supplemented by leveled readers. Students were invited to attend based on their English language proficiency levels, with an additional consideration being their reading performance. Each program was able to design effective instruction by grouping students based on their end of year assessment data. Post tests administered at the end of each program will provide valuable data about student progress. The Summer Program for ESL

Newcomers benefited from a unique opportunity to collaborate with Bellarmine University and the University of Louisville. Education students from both schools had the opportunity to observe experienced ESL teachers and to interact with the students.

Parents and teachers agree that summer learning for ELLs is an effective way to provide continued support to students as they learn English. The students often just know that sum-

mer school is fun! However, the outcomes are numerous. Students learn and prosper, the partnerships fostered by the JCPS ESL Program through the summer program sites are strengthened, and community partners and school personnel learn from each other about ways to better serve the needs of our community's immigrants and refugees. Teaching improvement is a continuous process driven by attempts to fine tune teaching to meet the needs of every student.

*"...One young rising second grader, whose family moved to Louisville from Vietnam, tells his teacher, "I can't wait until Friday." Since Thursday is the last day of the summer program, she thinks she knows what he will say when she asks him why. "Because," he answers with a big grin, "my dad promised to take me to the library so I can read some more books when summer school is over!"..."*

**Professional Library and CRC**  
Continued from page 1

For the past 25 years, the staff of CRC has helped teachers develop student tasks that are engaging and thought provoking. The Professional Library has sustained a commitment to helping teachers research and apply the concepts associated with the methodology, psychology and philosophy of teaching in a public school for well over 100 years. Visitors to these centers guide their own professional growth and value their experiences with the

resources because they "make sense" in their professional practice.

Each year teachers bring to the Professional Library and CRC more expertise, expect more because of their wider experience with tools and resources, and can take more away. With the recent adoption of the Kentucky Core Academic Standards (KCAS), all teachers are adapting their planned instruction to reflect this change. Regular opportunities for teach-

ers to plan and reflect on their practice are more important than ever. Great teaching can be learned.

Service to teachers is the cornerstone of the Professional Library and CRC. As we work to continuously improve, please take a few moments and let us know what tools and resources we need to add to our community. [Take CRC/Library survey](#)



**Above:**

**Gheens CRC has excellent materials to support instructional creativity.**

**Below:**

**Gheens Professional Library provides educators with a wide variety of literature to support best practice instruction.**



**2011-2012 PD DATES**

Kentucky law requires all teachers to participate in professional development each year. If you missed this summer's PD opportunities, Gheens will offer additional sessions on each of the following dates:

**September 30, 2011**  
**March 2, 2012**  
**May 4, 2012**

For more information, contact Gheens at 485-3415.



**Above:**  
**JCPS counselors pre-**  
**pare for the 2011-12**  
**school year.**

## Counselors Corner

### **ASCA National Model - RAMP Application**

JCPS Counselors are proud to announce that approximately 25 schools (K-12) are in the process of applying for RAMP. RAMP (Recognized ASCA Model Program) recognition for our district would mean that schools are following the ASCA National Model set by the American School Counselors Association. Having a RAMP program is similar to being National Board Certified, except the recognition goes to the school and not an individual.

When schools apply for RAMP, they must first take an overview of the School's Counseling Program. This requires Counselors to focus not only on individual student success, but systemic changes that support school-wide success and cultural changes.

The application process requires Counselors to focus on shifting from a service or position orientation to the program conceptualization and organization of the school counselors' work. Counselors will identify current school counseling activities, perceptions of stakeholders (students, parents, faculty, community), and create a plan of action to address the

needs of their school and community.

While creating the application, counselors will learn about results and outcomes by using data to make school program decisions. They will discover how to use the school report card data. They will focus on how data-driven school counseling programs align with district and school improvement plans and address specific goals such as student achievement, attendance, college access for all, graduation rates, achievement gaps, interventions and school safety.

### **Suicide Prevention Training**

All Middle and High Schools are gearing up for the annual Staff and Students' (Grades 6-12) Suicide Prevention Trainings. State law requires Suicide Prevention by September 1 of each year for middle school and high school. For this school year, the state and JCPS endorse the Lifelines Curriculum. Middle and high school counselors are in the process of being trained to teach staff and students about the warning signs for suicide for self and others. Our district has also created Responder Training to help school staff deal with students who self-identify that they need help and want to talk with someone.

**See Page 5 for Counselors' Upcoming Important Dates** →

**Special Notes:** In addition to the dates listed on Page 5, Counselors have more training opportunities. There are many (15) dates for ECE Training for Counselors (K-12). Please contact Todd Elder if you need those dates. Once those trainings are over, Kathy Whitehead is the contact for counselor training on a

variety of ECE subjects. Assessment training dates will be publicized by Lou Spencer. ILP training dates will be shared by Heather Gray. For additional information about PSP trainings, please contact Marti Kinny. Infinite Campus training for Student Information System Rights is provided by Ruth

Ann Reteneller and Amy Mueller. For Scheduling training for middle school and high school, contact Naomi Brahim. For Advance Program training, contact Bernadette Hamilton. Advanced Placement contact is Pam Royster. 504 trainings are on-going and the contact is Gloria Talbott.

## Counselors' Upcoming Important Dates

Date	Event	Time	Location
August 2, 2011	Administrators' Retreat	6:45 – 7:45 a.m. Meet & Greet with Dr. Hargens; 8 a.m.- 10:30 Kick-Off Morning Address	Durrett Auditorium (Male High School Campus)
August 2, 2011	Jefferson County Counselors Association Event: Brian Law (ASCA Presidential Visit)	12:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Highland MS Auditorium
August 3, 2011	New Counselor Training (HSC)	12:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Republic Bank (Springhurst)
August 5, 2011	New Counselor Training (ESC)	1:00-4:00 pm	Republic Bank (Springhurst)
August 11, 2011	Suicide Prevention Training HSC and MSC Make-up Training	8:00 am – 11:00 am	Sullivan College of Technology and Design
August 11, 2011	New Counselor Training (K-12) Make-up	1:00 – 4:00 pm	Sullivan College of Technology and Design
September 1, 2011	ESC Leadership Training Meeting with PSP Training for ESC in am	8:00 – 3:30 pm	Gheens (am) and locations TBA (pm)
September 1, 2011	PSP Training for all HSC	2:00 – 3:00 pm	Sullivan College of Technology and Design
September 7, 2011	MSC Leadership Training Meeting with PSP Training for MSC in am	8:00 – 3:30 pm	Gheens (am) and locations TBA (pm)
September 7, 2011	PSP Make-up Training for ALL Counselors (K-12)	2:00 -3:00 pm	Sullivan College of Technology and Design
September 8, 2011	Mentor/Mentee Training for Counselors	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Mulligan's 1801 Newburg Road Upstairs Meeting Room
September 9, 2011	College Counseling Information Exchange	8:00 am – 2:30 pm	Brown & Williamson Room (Cardinal Stadium)
September 15, 2011	HSC Leadership Training Meeting	8:00 am – 3:30 pm	University of Louisville
September 20, 2011	ASCA Cadre (RAMP)	12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	Mulligan's 1801 Newburg Road Upstairs Meeting Room