



PCESC Update

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RANDOM THOUGHTS

by Ty Ankrom

There's more to TBI than you may think



I discovered once again that you can teach an old dog new tricks, or at least help an old dog – in this case me – be more informed. The subject I learned more about was traumatic brain injury (TBI), which was the topic of discussion at a recent School Study Council of Ohio (SSCO) Board of Trustees meeting.

I had always thought TBI was just the result of a severe auto accident or a helmet-to-helmet hit in a football game. But there are many more causes, which is why I hope to have a guest speaker address TBI at a future staff meeting. This is a topic educators need to know more about.

Until then, here's some basic info provided at SSCO meeting to consider:

What causes TBI

A traumatic brain injury occurs when the following happens:

- An outside force impacts the head hard enough to cause the brain to move in the skull.
- An outside force causes the skull to break and directly hurt the brain.

A rapid acceleration or deceleration of the head can force the brain to move back and forth across the inside of the skull. The stress from rapid movements pulls apart nerve fibers and causes damage to brain tissue. This type of injury often occurs as a result of motor vehicle crashes and physical violence, such as Shaken Baby Syndrome.

A direct blow to the head can be great enough to injure the brain inside the skull. This type of injury to the head can also break the skull and directly hurt the brain. A direct impact can occur from motor vehicle crashes, firearms, falls, sports, and physical violence, such as hitting or striking with an object.

Ankrom is superintendent of PCESC

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March Birthdays

4 – Rhonda Leath

10 – Shannon Clark

15 – Tami Stamper

16 – Jennifer Sorrell

27 – Bill Chesser

April Birthdays

13 - Eric Horvath

15 – Debra Lemaster

24 – Sharon Wachenschwanz

PCESC Profile

Brandy Sydnor

Editor's Note: This feature is to share information about the talented, dedicated people who are part of the ESC team.



Name: Brandy Sydnor

Job Title: Speech Language Pathologist Intern

Years of Service with Pickaway County ESC: First Year

Degree(s)/College(s)/Year(s): BS/ Ohio University 07'; MA/ University of Toledo 10' (one more year!)

Family Information:

Single, no children. I'm the oldest of three, and I have a host of family and friends that are dear to my heart!

Interests/Hobbies:

I don't have any true hobbies, but I enjoy spending time with my friends and family, traveling, exercising, and shopping (only when there is a sale!)

A little known fact about me:

I am a reality television buff. Thank goodness for DVR! (Guess it's not a little known fact anymore?)

Describe your job (100 words or less):

I am a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) Intern. I am learning the ins and outs to becoming a school-based SLP. I assess and remediate speech and language difficulties. I work with a team that includes Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Psychologists, Administrators, and Teachers.

(Finish this sentence): My job is rewarding because ... "the people I work around assist me so much! Also, children say the "darndest" things!"

(Finish this sentence): I get the most satisfaction from ... "walking into a head start classroom and 10 children saying, 'Can you get me today?'"

My advice to young people:

Choose a career you love. I love what I do. I couldn't imagine picking a career or major that I didn't enjoy and having to stay with it for life.

ESC Technology Class



Todd Tomlinson will again teach a two-day technology class for ESC personnel. Ashland credit (1 semester hour), CEUs or contact hours will be available.

Dates: June 10-11

Location: Todd's classroom at LEHS

Topic: Google tools and Firefox (browser) add-ons. All free tools and features geared toward efficiency and improved productivity.

Interested: Contact Ty by April 17

Certificate/License Renewals

All certificates/licenses expire June 30.

Is this your year to renew? If so, review license renewal requirements in the LPDC Employee Handbook. Submit your paperwork to LPDC chair Kate Boelky. LPDC meetings are normally held the last Friday of each month. After your renewal has been issued, it is critical that you submit for approval a new Individual Professional Development Plan (IPDP) to the LPDC.

Questions about the expiration date of your license? Date may be confirmed on ODE's website, or contact Lydia Rittinger.

Employee Contract Renewals

At its April meeting, the Pickaway County ESC Governing Board will act on employee contracts. The following ESC employees have contracts that expire at the end of this year: Kate Joseph, Jennifer Sorrell, Jenni Cheek, Brandy Sydnor, Jane Osborne, Melissa Kerns, Amber Wells, Nancy Kennelly, Anne Wisniowski, Jessica Mohler, Lindsey Scott-Robbins, and Rhonda Leath. If you are on the list and believe there is an error, contact Ty ASAP. Likewise, if you are not on the list but believe this is the final year of your contract, contact Ty.

Board approves pay raises

The Pickaway County ESC Governing Board approved a 2.5 percent pay raise effective the 2009-10 school year. In making this decision, the Board expressed appreciation for the difference all of you are making in the lives of our county's students. During these difficult economic times, the raise is fair and within the scope of those who are fortunate enough to receive increases in pay.

Staff Meeting April 3

Staff meetings are important because 1. They allow us to meet together as a team; 2. Share experiences, successes, best practices; and 3. Learn about topics that are important to education. Our last staff meeting for the year is scheduled for Friday, April 3 at 1 p.m. at the ESC.

