



PCESC *News Flash*

October 2008

What's a *News Flash*

PCESC *News Flash* is our newest communications tool to keep you informed of news and events between newsletters, which we will begin publishing bi-monthly beginning with a Nov/Dec 2008 issue.

Drug-Free Workplace Training

FACT: Substance abuse is a major contributor to workplace violence.

FACT: Substance abusers are 33 percent to 50 percent less productive than non-abusers.

FACT: One of every 30 people on average meets the clinical definition of substance abuser.

For all of the above reasons and more, the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation offers deep rate discounts for employers who implement a Drug-Free Workplace Program. One of the requirements of DFWP is a two-hour annual training for employees. Part of the training will provide employees information about the signs and symptoms of substance use/misuse.

The training for Pickaway County ESC staff is scheduled for **Friday, October 24 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** Put this date on your calendars.

Becoming a Master Teacher

Being recognized as a Master Teacher would be a significant accomplishment in any teacher employed by a school district or specialized professional service provider from agencies or organizations like the Pickaway County Educational Service Center. Pickaway County Education Service Center would like to help you gain the Master Teacher recognition. The plan has been forthcoming since 2005 when the *Standards for Ohio Educators* was published and a Master Teacher clearly defined

Ohio Senate Bill 2 directed the Educator Standards Board (ESB) to define a *Master Teacher* in a manner that can be used uniformly by all districts and to adopt criteria to use in determining whether a person is a Master Teacher.

Under SB 2, school districts must report the number of Master Teachers they employ into the education management information system (EMIS) beginning in fall 2008. The Ohio Department of Education is required to include the number of Master Teachers employed by each district on the state report card. Master Teachers may be employed through organizations such as PCESC or career centers and work in multiple buildings for one district or in multiple districts in one or multiple buildings.

(See "Master Teacher" on next page)

Master Teacher *(Continued from Page 1)*

To be eligible for the Master Teacher designation, educators must at least:

- A. hold a valid professional license or certificate;
- B. have taught a minimum of 7 years;
- C. work a minimum of 120 days during the current school year;
- D. work under a teaching contract/employed as a teacher.

Teachers certified through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) have already demonstrated exemplary status in the Master Teacher criteria and may be reported as Master Teachers for their building and district count.

The program overview, eligibility details, explanation of evidence criteria and official application can be found on the ODE website www.ode.state.oh.us and by searching the words *Master Teacher*. PCESC will be implementing the necessary requirements to offer support and guidance for the process over the next few months. Our goal is by October 31 to know and communicate the details of the process and to begin working with interested candidates by October 31. Sherry Kneece will be the contact person for the state department and for ESC employees.

We are proud of the excellent teachers and professional staff we have in our schools and look forward to helping every eligible candidate reach the new Master Teacher level of recognition.

Sincerely,

Mr. Ty Ankrom
Superintendent

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!

Oct. 2
Kim Fausnaugh

Oct. 5
Jane Osborne

Oct. 7
Rick Stevens

Oct. 8
Nancy Moshtaghi