

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

Volume 7-Number 2–August 24, 2009/ Page 1

This Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors and administrators at all levels throughout the state.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT WEBINAR SERIES PLANNED FOR THIS FALL

The following webinars will be presented for professional development in the coming months.

[Guidance Program Evaluation: Program + Personnel = Results](#)

September 29 & 30 (Two part series)

[An Introduction to the Internal Improvement Review \(IIR\)](#)

October 20 and 29 (Same session – offered two times)

[Evaluating School Counselors](#)

October 22 and November 3 (Same session – offered two times)

More information about these webinars, including registration directions, will be sent in a Special Transmission. Please pass this information on to all other counselors and administrators in your buildings.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

(From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA listservs or other means that could be used as part of a guidance program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either our section or DESE.)

{CURRICULUM}

FREE WEBSITE AVAILABLE

Counselor's Room is a FREE website for school counselors and school social workers that has organized classroom guidance lesson plans, therapeutic games and group activities for school counselors to download. All of the resources are hands-on activities as opposed to worksheets, and follow the ASCA model. It was designed as a service to help serve the counseling community (both school counselors and school social workers). There is NO FEE to join and NO FEE to download any of the resources. To visit the website, go to <http://www.counselorsroom.com>

{INDIVIDUAL PLANNING}

MISSOURI CONNECTIONS: DID YOU KNOW?

From Renee Bales, Missouri Field Trainer: "July was a busy month with several conferences as well as training opportunities. I had the opportunity to present to approximately 350 special education educators at the Missouri Transition Conference. I have already had several requests for additional trainings as a result of that conference. The Missouri ACTE conference followed with great responses from many users of the program who stopped by our booth. The *Missouri Connections* presentation offered at the conference was well attended. Rhonda Mammon from the Springfield School District did a co-presentation with me on how to incorporate *Missouri Connections* into the school district."

If you are interested in training, contact Renee at balesr@kuder.com or 515-326-1725.

MISSOURI EMPLOYERS ID THE SKILLS THEY NEED MOST

New studies by state economic developers spell out the skills workers need to do well in occupations important to Missouri's future.

The Missouri Department of Economic Development and its business partners across the state are releasing "competency models" that identify the core competencies needed for careers in industries the state has targeted for growth, including information technology, transportation, energy and life sciences. To read the complete story, go to:

http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/MC_newsroom_competency-models_073109.htm

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

Volume 7-Number 2–August 24, 2009/ Page 2

{RESPONSIVE SERVICES}

ADDICTIVE BEHAVIOR INFORMATION AVAILABLE

The following are two web sources brought to our attention that are good sources for information, posters and curriculum about addictive behaviors:

- National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information: 800-729-6686 <http://ncadi.samhsa.gov>
- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) 877-643-2644 <http://www.nida.nih.gov/pubcat>.

PRESENTATION SCHEDULED

ACA of Missouri and ACAM-KC, together with the Department of Psychology of Avila University in Kansas City, would like to invite counselors to attend Dr. Harriet Lerner's presentation at Avila on September 26, "Shame: A Blueprint for Restoring Voice and Self-esteem." MSCA members will be offered the ACAM members' rate, though this would only make a difference to MSCA members who are LPCs and thus could use the three NBCC CEUs associated with the presentation.

There is a \$5 discount for registering by September 4th. Graduate students, however, are charged \$10 (60% discount) no matter when. Registration and secure online payment are available on the ACAM website at www.counselingmissouri.org.

{SYSTEM SUPPORT}

RESOURCE AVAILABLE

The Missouri State Library and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education are happy to announce that LearningExpress Library has been renewed through Sept. 30, 2011, and is available to all MOREnet members as a part of their membership. LearningExpress Library is funded through MOREnet's K-12 Program and the REAL Program reserves.

Access LearningExpress Library at www.learningexpresslibrary.com. Promotional materials are available at www.more.net/online/promotional01.html.

LearningExpress Library is a comprehensive collection of test-preparation tools, skill-building materials and career resources. More than 770 online practice tests and interactive skill-building tutorials are available, along with more than 130 e-book titles developed by expert academic and industry professionals.

- Preparing for professional certification, licensing and aptitude tests in health care, civil service/government, law enforcement, firefighting, EMS, military and real estate, among others.
- Improving workplace skills such as resume building, interviewing techniques, job search and assessment, business writing and core computer skills.
- Achieving higher scores on college entrance exams such as the ACT and SAT and improving performance on Advanced Placement (AP) exams.
- Preparing for graduate school admissions tests such as the GMAT, GRE, LSAT and MCAT.
- Improving proficiency levels in reading, writing and math for elementary, middle and high school students as well as adult learners.

Features include:

- Practice tests that mimic the timing, scoring and Q&A format of official exams.
- Instant feedback and diagnostic score reports to pinpoint strengths and weaknesses.
- Detailed answer explanations, which allow for a better understanding of the subject matter.
- Instant essay scoring that enables writing skills improvement and provides authentic essay practice for the ACT, SAT and GED exams.
- Individual user accounts that allow patrons to save works-in-progress and access completed tasks and score history.
- Personalized notifications that alert users of related tests, courses and eBooks based on their usage patterns.

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

Volume 7-Number 2–August 24, 2009/ Page 3

Once an individual sets up an account, they can access their learning centers anytime, anywhere there is an Internet connection.

Please contact MOREnet Technical Support at (800) 509-6673 or help@more.net with any questions about accessing LearningExpress Library. For information on training for LearningExpress Library and other Online Resources visit <http://www.more.net/training/index.html>.

PLEASE PASS TO COLLEAGUES. GRANT APPLICATION AVAILABLE.

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has issued a grant application for the Service-Learning program in the Community Education Section for the 2009-2010 school year. School-based Service-Learning programs combine meaningful service to the community with classroom studies in a way that improves student learning and strengthens the community while applying core concepts from the regular classroom curriculum. If you are interested in submitting a grant application, a copy of the application is available on the Department's Web site at: http://www.dese.mo.gov/divcareered/service_learning_index.htm. The deadline for submission is 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 16, 2009. Please note this grant application has a primary emphasis on poverty in the community.

PLEASE PASS TO COLLEAGUES TEACHING ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES OR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (ESS CLASSES) THIS YEAR.

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has just launched its third year for free field trips for students enrolled in ESS classes. DNR staff will help you set up visits to DNR regulated sites, join you on the trip, and reimburse your school for transportation, up to two substitute teachers, and lunch. To learn more about this project, go to dnr.mo.gov, click on "site directory" and scroll down to Field Trips and Career Awareness Project. Since the fall of 2007, we have provided field trips for over 30 schools and we hope to cover about 25-30 this year if the weather cooperates. Also, I'm compiling a list of ESS teachers to develop a directory targeting this group. So if you have taught, are teaching or would like to teach an ESS class, please let me know!

This project will be presented at the STOM conference (STOM.org) in Jefferson City, on Saturday, October 3, 2009. Another opportunity comes up October 16-18 at the annual conference of the Missouri Environmental Education Association in Ozark, MO (visit meeaa.org for more information; registration is now open). Feel free to call James D. Lubbers, Ed.D., Environmental Education Specialist at 800-361-4827, or e-mail (preferred) at jim.lubbers@dnr.mo.gov.

CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS OF NOTE:

A. THE ANNUAL MISSOURI SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (MSCA) LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

– will be held on September 19-20, 2009, at Tan Tar A Resort, Osage Beach, Missouri. A brochure with registration information is available at <http://schoolweb.missouri.edu/msca/Conferences.htm>

B. THE MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF CAREER SERVICES (MACS) FALL CONFERENCE will be held on September 24-25 in Columbia, Mo at the Courtyard by Marriott, at 3301 Lemone Industrial Blvd. Information and a registration form will be available **in the near future** at the MACS website at <http://macs.mo-acte.org/macs/>
You can also contact Stacie Wild at swild@sfccmo.edu to get more information or the registration form.

C. THE ANNUAL MISSOURI SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (MSCA) FALL CONFERENCE will be held on November 8-10, 2009 – at Tan Tar A Resort, Osage Beach, Missouri. Information about the conference and a preview brochure are posted at <http://schoolweb.missouri.edu/msca/Conferences.htm>

D. THE ANNUAL BUILDING BRIDGES CONFERENCE FOR 2009 will be held on November 15-17, 2009 at Tan Tar A Resort, Osage Beach, Missouri. To see more information about it, go to <http://www.missouricareereducation.org/pd/conference09.html>

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Title IX Coordinator, 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0480; telephone number 573-751-4212.