



# CONFETTI!!!

Teacher Training Academy Pre-Intern Teaching Program District Intern Program Master Plan Teacher Training Program  
Volume #15 Issue #10 NEWSLETTER December 2, 2009

## All District Interns

### This week's FISH! Philosophy: Choose Your Attitude!

The fourth and final tenet of the FISH! Philosophy is Choose Your Attitude. It is easy to justify our attitudes by blaming something or someone else – to believe that external events, such as unpleasant experiences or people, are responsible for our reactions: He made me upset! She did not give me a choice! As an educator you see this all the time in the classroom... in faculty meetings, and in the staff lounge.

While external factors may trigger our attitudes, we are the ones who decide – consciously or not – to express them. And these choices affect others. Just as happiness is contagious, negative attitudes also pass from person to person. If you doubt this, just try spending a day with a pessimistic or cynical person. Whoopee!

So how do we become effective “choosers”? To start, it helps to know where attitudes come from.

Often without even being aware of them, attitudes are views we hold in response to situations or stimuli. Emotions are symptoms of attitudes and can lead us to what we are thinking underneath. Attitudes and emotions work together simultaneously and can be difficult to disengage, but not impossible.

When we find ourselves in the middle of heated or frustrating situations in which we have reacted a certain way hundreds of times, we will most likely continue the habit. That is, unless we are aware of our ingrained reactions, and have practiced new responses to take their place.

It helps to think ahead and to examine what you believe to be true. Is the person who is upsetting me really doing it intentionally? Do my reactions help solve the problem? Some think it is healthy to blow off steam when they feel they need to. But there is evidence that unloading your anger, without questioning why you are doing it, simply makes you angrier in the short term and reinforces a hostile habit.

It helps to look at the language we use. Have you ever said or heard someone say: “Oh no, I have that kid next year?” “Only nine more months until summer vacation!” or “Why did I ever decide to become a teacher?!” Such statements tend not to fuel passion for one’s chosen profession.

People often use the phrase “Choose Your Attitude”, when they really mean “choose the right attitude – or else!” But life is not all sunshine and roses; sometimes angry or sad are what is called for. That is why Choose Your Attitude, at its core, is not about putting on a “happy face” or giving in to pressure to adopt the outlook that’s “officially” acceptable.

Choose Your Attitude asks only that you own your choice and not try to pass it off on something or someone else. Once you accept that you are the only person who is Choosing Your Attitude right now, you can decide, whether to keep it, or to shape it into an attitude that’s more satisfying. You control your attitude, not the other way around.

- from Schools of FISH! By Strand, Christensen, and Halper.

## EDUCATION SPECIALIST DISTRICT INTERNS

### District Intern Education Specialist:

*All intern classes are now at Fairfax High School. We will meet in the main building on the third floor. Please do not enter the building until 3:45 p.m. Please plan on bringing a snack for break.*

*“Students will misbehave at times. Keep your cool. Don’t have a confrontation in front of the class.” Remember ESEd 512a has been cancelled for Saturday. Please attend the PM class at Fairfax HS.*

### CENTSE YEAR 1 M/M

ESEd 520.1: EL for Special Ed will begin on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:20 p.m.

ESEd 402c: Reading for Students with Special Needs will begin on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and meet through Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>.

### CENTSE YEAR 1 M/S

ESEd 520.1: EL for Special Education will begin on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:20 p.m.

### WINTER '08 M/M

ESEd 406: Collaboration and Communication Skills for Special Education will continue to meet through Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>.

ESEd 402.1 Seminar 2 Portfolio will meet on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

### CENTSE W 08

ESEd 406: Collaboration and Communication Skills for Special Education will continue to meet through Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>.

ESEd 520.1 EL for Special Education will begin on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:20 p.m. The first class is face to face.

ESEd 402.1 Seminar 2 Portfolio will meet on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

### M/M Year 1

ESEd 402.1: Seminar 2 Portfolio will meet on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 – 4:15 pm.

Ed 202ab: Curriculum and Methods of Teaching Reading, and Language Arts will begin on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

### M/S Year 1

ESEd 402.1: Seminar 2 Portfolio will meet on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 p.m. – 4:15 pm.

Ed 202ab: Curriculum and Methods of Teaching Reading, and Language Arts will begin on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

### YEAR 2 M/M AND YEAR 2 M/S

ESEd 406: Collaboration and Communication Skills for Special Education will continue to meet through Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>.

ESEd 402.1: Seminar 2 Portfolio will meet on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

### YEAR 3 AND CENTSE II

ESEd 514: Advanced Assessment will meet on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

ESEd 516: Professional Development will meet Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 12:20 p.m.– 4:15 pm.

### YEAR 3 M/S

ESEd 521: Advanced Assessment will meet on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

ESEd 516: Professional Development will meet Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 12:20 p.m.– 4:15 pm.

### WINTER 06 AND CENTSE WINTER '07

ESEd: 516: PD Final IIP Revisions will be on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 a.m. – 11:45am.

ESEd: 510: Transition, Vocational, and Career Development will end on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Winter 07/08 M/M

Exit reviews will begin on Saturday, December 5th in the afternoon. Please return books at the parking lot at 12:00 p.m.

Regards,

The Education Specialist Team

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## Single Subject District Interns

### Semester One Preparation Summer/Fall '09-'10 Cohort

#### ED 200.12 Methods of Teaching English Language Learners (Session 4):

Please bring the following items to your class on  
**Monday, December 7th:**

- WestEd's Map of Standards for English Language Learners
- WestEd's Teaching Science to English Language Learners.
- The Cross-cultural Language and Academic Development Handbook
- Fully-charged laptops.

## Make-Ups for ED 200.12 ELL Class

If you missed session 3 you **must** complete the make-up before next Monday's session. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Ontell.

## Preparation Semester 2 Winter '08-'09 Cohort

#### ED 200.20 Methods of Teaching Reading- Session #2

This week's literacy factoid:

Individuals demonstrating higher levels of literacy were more likely to be employed, work more weeks in a year, and earn higher wages than individuals demonstrating lower proficiencies, while seven out of ten prisoners perform at the lowest literacy level. (Source: NAAL, 2003)

Your fourth session of the Methods of Teaching Reading class will be on Monday, December 7th. Please be sure to be there on time, as we have much to cover in this session. Please be sure to bring your entire Plan and Deliver materials, as well as, all books that were issued to you during session one.

## Make-Ups for ED 200.20 Reading Class

If you missed session 3 you **must** complete the make-up before next Monday's session. If you have any questions, please contact Samuel Burke.

## What's Due...

ED 300a Networking One on One – Due: January 11, 2010.

## Preparation Semester 3

### Summer/Fall '08-'09 Cohort

#### ED 200.2 Advanced Classroom Management – Session #4

We look forward to seeing you on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at Cochran MS for your fourth session of the ED 200.2 **Advanced Classroom**

**Management class.** This is primarily a work session for you to complete your behavioral

assessments. Please be sure to bring your ER&D Binders to class.

Please be sure to bring your ER&D binders to class.

### Make-Ups for ED 200.2 ACM Class

If you missed session 3 you **must** complete the make-up before next Monday's session. If you have any questions, please contact Samuel Burke.

### Looking Ahead..

Your final portfolio classes are coming. On Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, you will be submitting your FACT; Context for Teaching task, and preparing your portfolios for final submission. We will also begin scheduling exit interviews for interns who have completed all work up-to-date.

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Remember to make copies of all documents that you submit

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