

The **PARASeries** provides professional growth for paraprofessionals that is based on the **Wisconsin Personnel Development Model**. Working in collaboration with both the **Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction** and the **WEAC Professional Development Academy**, programs are offered each year that address the *paraprofessional competency areas* identified by the DPI, as well as core and elective programs that meet the WEAC requirements for ESP certification. Additionally, several of the programs offered also address the *State Performance Plan Indicators*; another tool used by the DPI to measure progress of students with disabilities. The **PARASeries** follows a two year cycle, providing a paraprofessional the opportunity to complete the requirements for the ESP Level 1 certification in a two year period.

For further questions about the PARASeries programs offered at CESA 5, please contact Karen Lietzow, Project Director for the Regional Service Network, at (608) 742-8814, ext. 309, or email lietzowk@cesa5.k12.wi.us

For information about the WEAC ESP certification, please visit the WEA Professional Development Academy at:

http://www.weac.org/Home/esp/esp_programs.aspx

Registration fee/each workshop:
\$65.00/session or

Early Bird Special! \$235 if all 4 sessions are registered and paid for by October 4, 2010—Early Bird fee is non-refundable, but attendance at each session is transferable!
(lunch and materials are included)

All workshops held at
CESA 5, 626 East Slifer Street, Portage, WI

Registration questions? Contact: Jo Ann Senzig at (608) 742-8814, ext. 272, or email senzigj@cesa5.k12.wi.us

TO REGISTER, LOG ON TO
myQuickReg.com

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The PARASeries continues...



Best Practices for Paraprofessionals in Supporting The Diversity of the WKCE Sub-Groups:

- **Dealing with Socio-Economic Factors**
- **Gender-Based Teaching Strategies**
- **When English is not the Native Language**
- **Working with Students with Disabilities**

I. Diversity of the WKCE Subgroup Areas— Dealing with Socio-Economic Factors Monday, October 18, 2010 — 9:00 AM-3:30 PM

The first session in the **PARASeries** for the 2010-2011 school year will focus on the achievement of students coming from a low, socio-economic status. Poverty has a huge impact on a student and his performance in school. It should also impact how students are instructed, how adults interact with students, and how parents are involved in school activities. Each paraprofessional in attendance will be asked to leave his/her comfort zone and look at school through the eyes of a child living in poverty. Using the research of Ruby Payne in issues addressing poverty will provide paraprofessionals with a wealth of information that will enable them to provide appropriate interventions for students from low, socio-economic backgrounds.

Presenter: Sue Wellnitz formerly worked as program support and the RSN Coordinator for CESA 5. She has presented at local, state, and national conferences on best practices in special education and the importance of providing quality staff development opportunities. Sue was a REACH mentor, regional center coordinator, and a CESA 5 CREATE representative.

WEAC Level I. Core Growth & Development—Core Level II. Diversity (5 hours)
DPI Paraprofessional Competencies #3.2 Growth & Development—#6.1, 6.6 -Diversity
SPP Indicator #3 Performance on WKCE and WAA-SwD

II. Diversity of the WKCE Subgroup Areas— Gender-Based Teaching Strategies Friday, February 11, 2011—9:00 AM -3:30 PM

Boys and girls learn together in classrooms around the country. But when assessment data is looked at, a difference in achievement of the two genders is very evident. What is the basis for these differences? By examining gender differences, paraprofessionals attending this session will learn about some of the developmental differences between boys and girls and specific techniques to address these differences and assist students in learning.

Presenter: Genevieve Kirchman is the Safe and Drug Free Schools Project Director (SDFSC) for CESA 5. Genevieve provides information, training, and support to ATOD coordinators throughout CESA 5, as well as information and resources on violence prevention, TRIBES trainings for positive school environments, and brain works trainings. She was recently awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award for Prevention at the State Prevention Conference in Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

WEAC— Level I. Core-Legal/Ethical Issues - Level II Diversity (5 hours)
DPI Para Competencies #3.1, 3.3 Growth & Development, #5.1 Instructional Strategies,
#6.1 Diversity
SPP Indicator #3 – Performance on WKCE and WAA-SwD

III. Diversity of the WKCE Subgroup Areas— When English is not the Native Language Wednesday, March 2, 2011—9:00 AM-3:30 PM

Paraprofessionals work with many different students on a daily basis. Are any of these students ELL? How are students identified as ELL? What does this mean for a paraprofessional? These questions, and many others, will be addressed as the subgroup area of English Language Learners is addressed. In many districts, students come and go throughout the school year. Many times a student may be in a classroom for some time before anyone realizes there might be language concerns impacting what a student can learn. Paraprofessionals attending this session will be equipped with strategies to assist students and help teachers in working with students when English is not the native language.

Presenter: Julee Dredske is a curriculum specialist at CESA 5, who offers extensive training and support to teachers developing professional development plans. She also is the Title III Coordinator responsible for the ELL networking meetings, where she shares a wealth of information and resources with teachers supporting students when English is not the native language.

WEAC ESP Certification Level I Core-Communication – Level II Diversity (5 hours)
DPI Paraprofessional Competency #2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 Communication, #6.1 Diversity
SPP Indicators #3—State Performance Assessment; #5 – LRE

IV. Diversity of the WKCE Subgroup Areas— Working with Students with Disabilities Monday, May 2, 2011—9:00 AM-3:30 PM

Students with disabilities perform significantly below their same-age peers on the state assessment. More students with disabilities may be receiving instruction in general education classes, often supported by paraprofessionals. It is important to know how to help these students by addressing his/her particular learning needs in order to be the most effective. Paraprofessionals attending this session will learn some basic information about students with disabilities, as well as techniques for working with students, and providing support in inclusive classrooms.

Presenter: Karen Lietzow, is the Project Director for the Regional Service Network (RSN) at CESA 5. Prior to this she was an Assistant Director of Special Education at CESA 5 and served in this position in the Wautoma, Wild Rose, and Westfield School Districts. Before coming to CESA 5, she was a Special Education Supervisor with Milwaukee Public Schools. Karen is also an adjunct faculty member at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, National-Louis University, and Viterbo University. She was granted distinction as a Professionally Recognized Special Educator (PRSE) from the Council of Exceptional Children (CEC), and has been recognized by both MPS and the DPI for her contributions to staff development. Karen has presented on a variety of educational practices at local, state, and national conferences.

WEAC ESP Certification-Curricular Core Area IV Growth & Development/Psychology (5 hours)
DPI Paraprofessional Competency #3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, Growth & Development of Children/Youth, #6.1 Diversity; SPP Indicators #3—State Assessment Performance