



TEAM TALK

Teacher Educators, Administrators and Mentors
Working Together for New Teachers

March / April 2009

Certification News

New administrative guidelines were put into place with the start of the New Year. The ATCP program has always maintained high standards but would like to take them to a new level. One goal of the ATCP program will be to enhance current observation practices by developing structured field experiences for new teachers. Teachers will spend time in classrooms engaged in activities aligned to teaching standards. These opportunities provide a person with real life experiences with students before they officially enter the classroom. The ATCP program will be seeking master teachers to support these field experiences. Master teachers will receive support and training in adult education from the ATCP team. If you have a master teacher to recommend, please e-mail Pam at pgrossman@pasadenaisd.org.

ATCP Application Goes Online

We are currently recruiting future teachers for critical shortage areas for the 2009-2010 school year. We are excited about our new online application which has improved the initial screening process. We are holding monthly seminars to share application and training information. Our best recruits come from you. Please let people know about the upcoming Career Choice Seminars. The next available Career Choice Seminars will be:

- Saturday, February 28- 10:00 am
- Saturday, March 28- 10:00am
- Wednesday, April 8- 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, April 21- 7:00 pm
- Saturday, May 2- 10:00 am

All seminars are held at the Administration Building

ATCP Highlights

Nazar Haji



Nazar Haji is a first year teacher teaching 5th grade Math and Science at DeZavala Middle School. When asked what he most likes about teaching he responds that, "It is the level of fulfillment and contentment achieved if the job is done right." He appreciates the opportunity to positively impact human lives. "It is a profession of endless rewards", says Nazar. These sentiments can be seen in his genuine efforts to provide lessons of substance while honoring his student's learning preferences. Nazar continually utilizes best practices with his students. Nazar has done a wonderful job as a first year intern and we are honored to have him in our program.

Important Dates

3/3	Science Review
3/4	Social Studies Review
3/5	Bilingual Seminar Math Review
3/7	Bilingual and Special Ed. Review
3/10	Science and ELAR Review
3/12	Math Review
3/24	ELAR Review
3/26	Bilingual Seminar
3/28	Career Choice Seminar
3/30-4/2	Exam Practice Sessions for All Exams
4/1	TEExES Exam
4/8	Career Choice Seminar
4/9	Bilingual Seminar
4/18	Grades PK-6 Saturday Training
4/21	Career Choice Seminar
4/25	Grades 7-12 Saturday Training

Current Events

Intern teachers are busy preparing for and taking competency exams. These high stakes exams are available in either electronic or paper pencil format. Saturday and evening trainings are extremely important to intern teachers as they prepare and practice for the exams. Review sessions have been set up for the majority of the exams. The team will be available the week of March 30 through April 2 so that interns can practice with released test questions. Staff will be able to provide assistance and answer individual questions. We anticipate great test scores!

Spring Observations are Underway

It seems like just yesterday that we began this journey, but in actuality interns are two thirds of the way towards their certification goal. Interns will be completing their observations with their mentors by April. Instructional specialists will be on campuses for observations and coaching conversations. This extremely busy time of the year is sometimes difficult for new teachers. Clear communication and expectations are very helpful.

Alternative Teacher Certification Program
Sent by Pam Grossman

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