

Professional Development Schools (PDS) Retreat

September 29, 2006
Buffalo State College Student Union

Keynote: Push Theater

Presentations

Foundational Skills for Reading Success: Educating Teachers of Reading Disabled & At-Risk Students *Shannon Gormley, Buffalo State*

Teachers are now being required to deliver "scientifically based reading instruction" to their students; however, many feel they need an additional knowledge base in order to successfully deliver such instruction. One area that research has shown teachers struggle with is *knowledge of the structure of the English Language* and the *44+ speech sounds of English*. A recent professional development workshop to local teachers focused on teaching them about phonemic awareness sequence, structure and classroom use. The workshop demonstrated how effective, informative, fun, and enjoyable learning can be... even for teachers!

Simple Science, Big Ideas: An action Research Project looking at Fifth Grade Student Learning about Static Electricity and Magnetism

David Henry, Buffalo State and Sara Fernays, graduate student

A unit on electromagnetism was modified to include inquiry activities about static electricity and magnetism. We will demonstrate some of the activities that use simple, off-the-shelf supplies. We will report on what happened in the classroom, and discuss the learning gains by the students.

[Click here for the presentation.](#)

Agenda

Breakfast Gathering and Networking in Assembly Hall

Welcome & Introductions: Leslie Day, PDS Director, Ron Rochon, School of Education Dean, and Nancy Chicola, Interim Chair, EER

PDS Business: by-laws, yearly goals, meeting schedule, evaluation

Presentation by Lindsey Seitz, student rep, on teacher candidate knowledge of PDS

Presentation by Shari Jakubowski, student rep, on PDS website activity

Break out presentations (25 min. each)

Celebratory Remarks from President Howard, Buffalo State College

Barbeque Lunch served

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Wrap up and closing remarks/Evaluation