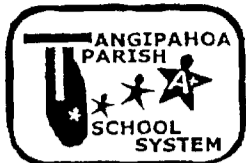


TANGIPAOA PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM NEWSLETTER



TIMELY INFORMATION OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES AND OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY

VOL: XXXV

September 29, 2006

NO. 6

LOUIS JOSEPH, SUPERINTENDENT

TO: ALL EMPLOYEES

Please see the attached letter from Mr. Keenan C. Gingles, Daily Star Publisher and Mr. Daniel Edwards, Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff regarding Santa Bear's Christmas Crusade for Children.

RON GENCO, DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

TO: PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS

Please see the attached information regarding the Louisiana Branch of the International Dyslexia Association's conference in Ruston on October 21, 2006.

Tangipahoa Parish School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disabilities or veteran status. We are an equal opportunity employer.



Santa Bear's Christmas Crusade for Children

August 31, 2006

Dear Friend

Most everyone in the United States is aware of the major disaster that occurred August 29, 2005 in Louisiana. Thousands lost homes and jobs, and many lost loved ones to Hurricane Katrina and Rita. Many families were displaced and had to relocate. Businesses closed while many struggled to stay open and worked with skeleton crews.

Families from the devastated areas moved to area parishes that were not hit as hard. Tangipahoa was one of those parishes. As of March 3, 2006, our parish's population had increased by 17,371 according to a report from the Claritas Demographics and Market Research firm. Prior to the hurricane the pre-Katrina population was 107,041 and the post-Katrina people count was at 124,411.

Each year The Daily Star, the local daily newspaper, and the Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Department join forces to help the under-privileged children of the parish with a toy drive. After Katrina we thought long and hard and decided not to have our Santa Bear's Christmas Crusade for Children. Many of our businesses were still not up and operating full time, and many of our contributors were having their own problems with their businesses, homes, etc. We realized that each year we had raised money to help around 1200 children of our parish and we knew we could not raise enough money to help them and also the children that were displaced. So Santa Bear was put on hold until 2006.

We know that our parish has grown and that the task will be a much larger one. We are ready to do what has to be done to help make Christmas for these children better.

This cannot be done unless we have the help of our businesses, civic clubs and anyone that has the resources to help us. With your generosity we know that we can help every child in our parish along with all of the children that have been displaced by the hurricanes of 2005.

Let's start working together now to make these dreams come true. A monetary donation of your choice would be greatly appreciated.

Monetary donations can be mailed to Santa Bear's Christmas Crusade for Children, P.O. Box 1149, Hammond, LA 70404. New toys can be dropped at The Daily Star, 725 S. Morrison Blvd., Hammond, LA 70401.

Together we can make these children's dreams come true.

Sincerely yours,

Keenan C. Gingles
Daily Star Publisher

Sheriff Daniel Edwards
Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff

Post Office Box 1149 Hammond, Louisiana 70404

LABIDA FALL CONFERENCE IN RUSTON

OCTOBER 21, 2006

Please make plans to join LaBIDA at the fall conference in Ruston, Louisiana on Saturday, October 21. The outstanding speakers will deliver a wealth of information designed to help professionals, educators, parents and dyslexics better understand dyslexia and how to help.

The informative day will begin at 8:00 with registration and continue with a keynote address by **Caresa Young, Ed.S.** Ms Young is the coordinator of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Reading Family Outreach Center at Vanderbilt University. The afternoon will provide attendees with the opportunity to choose between various breakout sessions.

The breakout sessions will include

12:30-1:30

Dyslexia Simulation by Alice Higginbotham (LaBIDA President)

Recognizing and Testing for Dyslexia by Billie Hill, M.Ed.

Accommodations in the Classroom by Jennifer Kelly

1:45 - 3:00

"Any Child Can Read" by Jude Williamson

Evaluation Interpretation by Billie Hill, M.Ed.

How to Help Your Child Read by Kristie Townsend

Complimentary breakfast and lunch are included in the cost of the conference (see page 5 for registration form). Register early for this event which takes place on the campus of Louisiana Tech in Davison Hall. If you have any questions about this outstanding opportunity, please call Alice Higginbotham at (318)255-3431 or email alicehigginbotham@hotmail.com.

LABIDA ANNUAL MEETING

All LaBIDA members are invited to attend the Louisiana Branch of the International Dyslexia Association Annual Members meeting on October 21 in Ruston. This event will coincide with lunch at the Fall Conference described above. It is scheduled for 11:30 am in Davison Hall on Louisiana Tech campus in Ruston, Louisiana. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

Call to order

Introduction of Board Members

Activities of the Board

Financial Statement

RECEIVED

SEP 25 2006

TANGIPAHOA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
RON GENCO'S OFFICE

SEP 25 2006

CONCEPT IMAGERY DISORDER BY NANCI BELL

Is visualizing related to language comprehension? The answer is yes. Research and clinical experience have verified that **concept imagery- the ability to image the whole- is directly related to oral and written language comprehension and critical thinking.** *Gestalt imagery is the means by which we connect to and interpret language.* Individuals with good comprehension report that they image easily. However, individuals with weak comprehension report not seeing anything when they read or seeing only a few fleeting images. **"Words go in one ear and out the other,"** is often their lament. They get parts.

This propensity to get parts means it is difficult to connect to the entire content or concept of what is read or heard. Family members or peers, as well as children performing below their potential, often have this problem. When they read or listen they grasp a few facts, but get lost after a few sentences. They can recall some specifics, but not generalize and create a "whole" or "gestalt" from the information. The label for this problem is Concept Imagery Disorder (CID).

Symptoms of the disorder include: weakness in reading comprehension, weakness in oral language comprehension, weakness in following oral directions, weakness in expressive language, weakness in higher order thinking skills and problem solving.

Treatment

Imagery can be stimulated to develop language comprehension and expression. The *Visualizing and Verbalizing for Language Comprehension and Thinking (V/V) Program* is one of the Lindamoodbell programs and develops imagery from one word and extends through sentence by sentence processing to whole paragraphs and pages of text. Images are used to create a gestalt from language, which is then used to develop the interpreting skills of identifying the main idea, drawing conclusions, inferencing, predicting, and evaluating. Able to verbalize their images using *structure words* such as size, color, number, shape, and background, individuals also become verbally succinct and sequential.

This process begins at a very basic level and has been effective even with individuals previously unable to image. Once automaticity in imaging becomes available from both oral and written language, significant gains occur in reading comprehension, oral language comprehension, oral language expression, following directions, and paragraph writing.

Summary

Is imaging so basic to thinking and language processing that we have assumed it?

The Concept Imagery Disorder can occur no matter what age, gender, background, or education. And, it often goes untreated. The Visualizing and Verbalizing program requires specific steps and interaction with individuals, but it is easily learned and applied. More importantly, it results in significant growth for all individuals.

Aristotle said, "Man cannot even think without mental images." With the heavy influx of television in our culture, gestalt imagery could be the missing link to the development of critical thinking, problem solving, and the ability to reason.

* Nanci Bell is a regular speaker at national IDA conferences.

Louisiana Branch of the International Dyslexia Association

Fall Conference: Response to Intervention

with

Caresa Young, Ed. S

coordinator of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Reading Family Outreach Center at
Vanderbilt University

October 21, 2006

Louisiana Tech University, Ruston in Davison Hall

8:00 - 8:30 Registration and Breakfast

9:00 Keynote Speaker

11:30 Lunch

12:30-3:00 Breakout Sessions

Registration Form

Conference Registration Form: Please include your current IDA# or a copy of your current student ID if applying for the discounts. Fee includes breakfast and lunch.

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Circle One: Parent Educator Medical Professional Student Other: _____

\$45 non-member \$35 member \$15 student

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ email: _____

IDA Membership Number: _____ (found on your membership card)

Afternoon Breakout Sessions: check your selection

12:30-1:30 - Dyslexia Simulation

Recognizing and Testing for Dyslexia

Accommodations in the Classroom

1:45 - 3:00

"Any Child Can Read"

Evaluation Interpretation

How to Help Your Child Read

Please send to:

Lisa Best 1997 Atkins Road Ruston, LA 71270

318-251-2348 labest@cox.net

Arrange for a free presentation or simulation by LaBIDA board members in your area or school.*

Call Alice Higginbotham

318-322-3431

**experience what dyslexics experience in the classroom*

Go to

www.

letssaythanks.com

to send a free card to an American soldier serving overseas

The Literacy Alliance of Greater New Orleans and the Boggs Center for Community Literacy are re-organizing, attempting to establish which providers of literacy services remain active in the New Orleans area, and working with community entities to update and re-define the literacy needs of our city post-Katrina. For more information regarding the Alliance go to www.literacyalliancegno.org

SUPPORT IDA THROUGH E-BAY

IDA members who have been around for awhile know that the Branch Council of the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) is a group comprised of the forty-seven IDA Board of Directors and the Branch Development and Relations subcommittee, and is the heart of our organization. Presidents meet twice a year to participate in leadership development as well as have opportunities to meet on teletraining sessions several times a year. These activities include such things as learning about audits and managing branch funds; updating technology skills; keeping abreast of the many IDA activities; and training in marketing, membership, conference organization, and branch outreach projects.

In addition, Branch council provides financial assistance to branches when needed; shares copies of current publications such as Ten in Every Hundred; and funds mini-grants to branches for innovative projects that can be shared with other branches. Mini-grants are approved for a variety of branch activities: providing in-services and workshops in regions throughout the branch, distributing books on dyslexia and learning disabilities to libraries, training Head Start teachers to help students develop pre-reading skills, creating a branch website, developing a resource book, or other creative outreach projects.

IDA is very supportive of Branch Council. We have our own budget and must fundraise to support our work with the branches. One of the projects in 2005 was establishing a Store on eBay that receives, auctions and sells donated items. We are very grateful to Betty Carney, Pendleton, KY, who volunteers her time on our behalf to receive donations, manage and operate the site and Store. We encourage all of you to participate. Donations and related expenses (postage and gas) are tax-deductible and bidding/buying is great fun!

How to donate items

- Fill in the donations form, one for each item you are sending;
- Include a copy of the donation form(s) in the package and mail (UPS Parcel Post or Media Mail are the least expensive) to Betty Carney; and
- Send a copy of the donation forms to Christy Blevins at IDA.

How to buy items on eBay

- Set up an eBay account with username and password
- Go on-line and enter <http://stores.ebay.com/IDAS-SHOPPE>

**HAPPY SHOPPING!
THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING
IN THIS BRANCH COUNCIL PROJECT WHICH BENEFITS ALL OF
THE BRANCHES OF THE
INTERNATIONAL DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION AND INDIVIDUALS
WITH DYSLEXIA**