



REGIONAL OFFICE of EDUCATION

## *Bi-County Brief*

*Monroe & Randolph Counties*

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### **ROE IS AUTHORIZED PEARSON VUE TESTING CENTER**

When you need to take licensure tests, remember that both Waterloo and Chester ROE offices are now official Pearson VUE testing centers. After checking FAQs on the Illinois Licensure Testing System website, you can register online for tests such as the Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP), ILTS ELA, Math and Elementary/Middle Grades and test locally.

### **INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE A NATIONALLY KNOWN SPEAKER ON EDUCATION**

The ROE is excited to promote the appearance of Rick Wormeli to speak with area educators. Wormeli, an experienced teacher who has won numerous awards, including a Disney Outstanding Teacher Award, and author of several books, including the renowned *Fair Isn't Always Equal: Assessment and Grading in the Differentiated Classroom*, will describe how to construct a differentiated lesson plan from scratch and explain how it is a way to teach smarter and not harder. Sign up today at <http://www.educationregistration.org/thetrail>. Early bird registration has been extended to March 11, 2014.

### **PERANDOE HAS TWO REQUESTS**

First, consider attending the Perandoe and Infinitec-sponsored, grade appropriate, Web-based workshops on Thursday, April 24 from 8:30–11:30 a.m. or 12:30–3:30 p.m. at 1525 Locust Street, Red Bud. The three basic tenets of Universal Design for Learning—multiple means of representation, expression and engagement—will be defined in terms of the practical application of the Internet. Register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GB2TRNY> or e-mail [dcolvis@perandoe.org](mailto:dcolvis@perandoe.org).

Second, general and special education and parochial/private school teachers can help the Perandoe Special Education District with its annual needs assessment to match federal funds with the needs of bi-county schools and their special education students. Perandoe is asking for your feedback about how well they are addressing the special education needs of your students and how they can improve their professional development efforts. Please complete a survey for them by March 21 at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/cooperative\\_assessment](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/cooperative_assessment).

### **ART DU JOUR SHOWCASES ARTISTS**

Artists from eight regional high schools enjoyed a challenging day at Art du Jour last month. *Challenging* in a good way as participants competed in specific areas but also learned from instructors in selected media at Southwestern Illinois College. Special recognition goes to Kelly Fletcher from Gibault for “Best of Show,” Kaitlyn Mulrone from Columbia for “People’s Choice” and Jessica Tierce from Waterloo for her winning logo design. Those who placed were **Drawing**-1) Amy Zhao, Waterloo 2) Lacey Shelton, Waterloo 3) Elizabeth Fleming, Columbia 4) Mandy Matt, Waterloo and 5) Aneliesa Gilpin, Gibault; **Painting**-1) Hannah O’Neill, Gibault 2) Sarah Wisneski, Columbia 3) Alexandra Feldker, Waterloo 4) Aubrey Davitz, Gibault and 5) Mary Dinovi, Waterloo; **Sculpture**-1) Gabby Schmitz, Gibault 2) Jakota Burdell, Red Bud and 3) Sophia Hart, Gibault; **Photography**-1) Amber Birke, Red Bud and Alana Grimm, Steeleville; **Computer Art**-1) Haley Eads, Red Bud and Olivia Holston, Red Bud and **Mixed Media**-1) Kelsey Weatherford, Columbia 2) Kathleen Howland, Waterloo and 3) Kady Barnfield, Red Bud.

### **EDCAMP SOUTHERN ILLINOIS IS AN “UNCONFERENCE”**

What’s an *unconference*? To get an idea, the day begins at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, April 5 at Gardner Elementary School, Waterloo with an hour to meet other teachers over coffee and a light breakfast. There will be an empty session board where you and all attendees can post session titles—those you might want to lead or topics in which you are interested. A session might explore a technology tool, discuss best practices or be a collaborative presentation with multiple facilitators. Over the course of the morning, you have the opportunity to attend up to three sessions. The only rule is “vote with your feet.” If a session doesn’t meet your needs, simply get up and move on to another room. What should you bring? A friend! . . . and possibly a laptop to view the session board online, take notes or visit websites discussed during the day. Register soon for this innovative approach to continuing education at <http://edcampsouthernillinois.weebly.com>. Questions? E-mail [edcampsillinois@gmail.com](mailto:edcampsillinois@gmail.com).

### **APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH**

Chester, Columbia, Red Bud, Sparta, Valmeyer and Waterloo kindergarten–second grade public and parochial teachers should watch for the Violence Prevention Center’s “Pinwheels” entry forms, which will be delivered to your school for the April 1–11 coloring contest. Completed entries should be returned to the office, and prizes will be awarded by VPC.

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CORNER

### TEACHER TREAT

#### Shifting Students to Close Reading

**Middle and junior high ELA teachers**, join Lyndi Davis, Waterloo Jr. High; Stephanie Rubach, Steeleville Jr. High; Heidi Klein, Columbia Middle School and fellow educators to discuss how teachers accomplish shifting students to close reading. This Teacher Treat is Thursday, April 24 from 4:00–6:00 p.m. at SWIC-Red Bud in Room 123.

**Remember sessions are free**, but you must register at [www.educationregistration.org/roe45](http://www.educationregistration.org/roe45). Also, if you are interested in hosting a Teacher Treat and have a topic you would like to discuss, contact Rosie Gardner at [rgardner@roe45.org](mailto:rgardner@roe45.org) with your name, a date and place approved by your administrator(s) and your chosen topic.

### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

#### Engaging Students with Questions, March 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

How many closed questions do you ask? How many “yes” or “no” ones? Which students ask questions? Which students do you ask? Have you ever considered having an administrator or fellow teacher collect such data? Such information can be invaluable. This and other strategies will be presented at the two-evening workshop *Engaging Students with Questions* on consecutive Wednesdays March 19 and 26, 4:00–7:00 p.m. at SWIC-Red Bud, Room 123.

#### Transitioning to Performance Assessments, April 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> or April 10<sup>th</sup>

Can your students defend their answers on a true/false test? When you bring some of your tests and/or quizzes to this *Transitioning* workshop, you will work in groups to determine how your assessment might be changed to a performance assessment or how the evaluation of a current performance assessment might be better focused on learning targets. Choose the all-day workshop on April 10 from 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. or two evenings on April 1 and 3 from 4:00–7:00 p.m. to learn these and other strategies. Both workshops are at SWIC-Red Bud, Room 123.

#### Exploring Differentiation Strategies in the Classroom, April 30<sup>th</sup>

An example of pre-assessment of students’ vocabulary knowledge is a word sort activity with different directions. All students get the same word list, but those students who have little background can divide the words into 3 or more categories (including “I have no idea.”). Students knowing more of the words are given 2 categories and come up with a third, and more advanced students can create the categories themselves. Explore more strategies for teachers to use to help *all* students move forward with their learning at the *Exploring Differentiation* workshop on Wednesday, April 30 from 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. at SWIC-Red Bud, Room 123.

For ROE workshops register at [www.educationregistration.org/roe45](http://www.educationregistration.org/roe45). An Early Bird Discount is available until 14 days before the event, and a participant must cancel 5 working days prior for a refund.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 7, 2014	Superintendents’ Council	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
March 19, 2014	Engaging Students with Questions	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
March 20, 2014	Perandoe Transition Fair	SWIC Red Bud	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
March 26, 2014	Engaging Students with Questions	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
March 27, 2014	Principals’ Meeting	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	8:30 am – 11:00 am
March 29, 2014	Young Authors’ Conference	Valmeyer Elementary	8:30 am – 11:45 am
Apr. 1 & 3, 2014	Transitioning to Performance Assessment	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
April 2, 2014	Platinum Chef	Red Bud High School	8:15 am
April 3, 2014	Rick Wormeli “Differentiated Instruction”	Lady of the Snows-Belleville	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
April 5, 2014	EdCamp Southern Illinois <i>Un</i> conference	Gardner Elementary-Waterloo	8:00 am – noon
Apr. 7 & 8, 2014	Perandoe Low Vision Clinic	Perandoe Sp. Ed. Conf. Rm.	8:00 am – 4:00 pm
April 10, 2014	Transitioning to Performance Assessment	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
April 10, 2014	Art Festival	Red Bud Elementary	5:00 pm – 7:30 pm
April 24, 2014	Teacher Treat-Middle & Jr. High ELA	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
April 29, 2014	Principals’ Meeting	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	8:30 am – 11:00 am
April 30, 2014	Exploring Differentiation Strategies	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
April 30, 2014	Area V Homeless Liaison Workshop	SWIC Red Bud-Room 152	10:00 am – 12:30 pm

**THE MONROE-RANDOLPH ROE IS HERE TO SERVE YOU. CONTACT THE WATERLOO OFFICE AT 618-939-5650  
OR THE CHESTER OFFICE AT 618-826-5471.**