

9-2011

Educational Leadership Program Newsletter September/October 2011

Educational Leadership Department, University of Southern Maine

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Recommended Citation

Educational Leadership Department, University of Southern Maine, "Educational Leadership Program Newsletter September/October 2011" (2011). *Educational Leadership Newsletters*. 27.
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Important Dates

- No classes Oct. 10th or Oct. 11th
- Matriculated Students can register for classes Nov. 7th
- No Classes Nov. 11th
- Thanksgiving break starts Nov. 23
- Class resume Nov. 28

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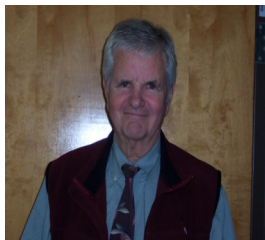
UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

Educational Leadership Program Newsletter

Volume 2/Issue 1

September/October 2011

Letter from the Program Coordinator



Tom Edwards,
Program Coordinator

Dear Colleagues,

This brings you our best wishes for a great year of teaching, learning and leadership! This is also to report The Educational Leadership Department's top priorities for progress this year. They are exciting and include:

- Re-establishing the Southern Maine Partnership as a vibrant resource for professional learning connecting USM with all our colleagues in the field. A launch is on the way! Announcements will follow.
- Continuing the planning for a USM doctorate in Educational Leadership. The Educational Leadership Advisory Committee, led by Jo Anne Sizemore and Andrew Dolloff, and Elaine Tomaszewski are carrying our proposal to the USM Administration.
- Launching a new Leadership for Tomorrow's Schools cohort. This cohort, USM's eighth, is sponsored by the Falmouth, Gorham, Kennebunk, SAD 6, Scarborough, South Portland, Westbrook and Windham districts. The new cohort brings together 30 rising leaders, nominated by their principals and superintendents.
- Extending Educational Leadership's blended and online instructional offerings. Our philosophy is to offer blended courses, since USM students affirm that face-to-face learning is a positive part of studying at USM. **This spring we will begin offering the Assistant Principal Certificate program blended.** MaryJo O'Connor will offer EDU 670 Introduction to Leadership. In addition, Jim Curry will teach EDU 604 Curriculum Development blended in the spring

We hope you all have great years and continuing success in your important work,

~Tom

Please email me or Joline Spence, joline.spence@maine.edu, questions, notes you might like to post to colleagues and news!

Alumni Spotlight: Linda Bleile



This is my 10th year as principal of the Wiscasset Middle School. I was an 8th grade reading teacher here for 29 years before becoming the principal. During the 2009/10 year I served as the President of the Maine Principals' Association and then was very fortunate to be named the MPA

Middle Level Principal of the Year for the 2011/12 year. I will be traveling to Washington D.C. October 20- 22nd to receive the award.

One of the major challenges in being a middle school principal is to ensure that my staff and I are providing a safe environment and a relevant and appropriately challenging curriculum that meets the social, emotional, and physical needs of our students. In this ever-changing, global society, we as educators, have both the responsibility and pleasure of providing our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in the 21st Century. In conjunction with the state and national standards, we still get the opportunity to have our students be actively involved in their own learning, where they can construct meaning from that learning, find their learning to be relevant to their lives and the world around them, which will in turn, allow them to learn at high levels.

The knowledge and skills that I gained from my graduate work at USM have truly been an asset to me as a middle level principal. The professors really worked hard to make the course material relevant and informative. I always felt that they really cared about me personally. My time spent at USM was invaluable and helped me to understand what it takes to be an effective school leader. The classes created a collaborative and collegial atmosphere that established relationships among faculty and peers that will last a lifetime.

I would encourage students to ask questions, join in the discussions, stay current with the professional literature, and talk with practicing school leaders. I enjoyed being an active participant in every class discussion which has served me well over the years because I asked every question I could think of! I can still hear Jody asking if anyone besides Linda has something to share!

I loved being a teacher, but being a principal is awesome. One of the greatest secrets in education today is that working with middle level students is very rewarding. It certainly is never boring.

"Linda brought a passion for learning to every class meeting. Her enthusiasm, positive attitude, and willingness to take risks contributed to class discussions. I am not surprised that Linda was selected as Middle Level Principal of the Year."

Jody Capelluti~

Faculty Profile: Dr. David Silvernail



David L. Silvernail is Professor of Education Research and director of the Center for Education Policy, Applied Research and Evaluation (CEPARE). Dr. Silvernail is a former mathematics and social studies teacher in middle and high schools, and has over 30 years of experience as a researcher, evaluator, and policy analysis. He has published over 60 monographs,

chapters, articles, and research briefs. As director of CEPARE, he has worked closely with the Maine Legislature, Maine Department of Education, Maine State Board of Education, and school districts across the state in conducting research and evaluation on a variety of topics, including higher performing, more efficient schools, school funding, large scale assessment, STEM education, technology, and informal learning.

Advisory Committee

USM Educational Leadership Program (2011-2012)

One of the most important ways our program stays connected to the community we serve is through our Advisory Committee. An important role the committee performs is to help review our current offerings to assess their effectiveness and relevance. Another critical function is to help identify and assess the needs of school districts and the subsequent development of programs that meet those needs. The committee meets at least once every semester during the academic year. The faculty is appreciative of the expertise and dedication they bring to our program. Current members are listed below:

Jo Anne Sizemore, Chair, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Scarborough

Andrew Dolloff, Vice Chair, Superintendent of Schools, RSU 21

William Burke, Academic Vice Principal, Cheverus High School

Melanie Chasse, Principal, Meroby Elementary School, Mexico

Jeannie Crocker, Assistant Executive Director, Maine Principals Association

Dick Durost, Executive Director, Maine Principals Association

Ted Finn, Principal, Lake Region High School, Naples

John Jones, Out of District Placement Coordinator, Lewiston Public Schools

Alison Marchese, Director, Special Services, Scarborough

Mike McCarthy, Principal, King Middle School, Portland

Roger Shaw, Superintendent, SAD 42, Mars Hill

Elaine Tomaszewski, Superintendent of Schools CSD 18, Wells

Grace Valenzuela, Program Director, Office of Multilingual and Multicultural Programs, Portland

Steven Lovejoy, Maine House of Representatives, Portland, Maine

Cheryl White, Administrative Consultant, Brunswick Schools

Notes of Interest

USM Leadership Graduates

Congratulations to these leaders who have assumed new responsibilities this year.

- Marco Aliberti, Principal, Mt. Abram High School, Salem
- Tonya Arnold, Principal, Lake Region Middle School Naples.
- Kathleen Ball, Asst. Principal/Teaching Strategist, Lyman Moore Middle School, Portland
- Scott Bell, Asst. Principal, Hall-Dale Middle/High School, Farmingdale
- Rick Benoit, Principal, East Grand High School, Danforth
- Polly Brann, Principal, Narragansett School, Gorham
- Steve Chabot, Asst. Principal, Memorial Middle School, South Portland
- Susan Cressy, Principal, Kennebunk High School
- Philip Darasz, Athletic Director, Lyman Moore School, Portland
- Jane Esty, Principal, White Rock School, Gorham
- Brian Jandreau, Asst. Principal, Massabesic Middle School, Waterboro
- Michael Johnson, Director, Portland Arts & Technology High School
- Daniel Joseph, Principal, Memorial Elementary School, New Gloucester
- Kathleen Marquis-Girard, Asst. Principal, Portland High School
- Louise Moses, Asst. Principal, Lyman Moore Middle School, Portland
- Jennifer Mull-Brooks, Asst. Principal, Westbrook High School

- Stephen Rogers, Principal, Lyman Moore Middle School, Portland
- Brendan Scully, Athletic Administrator, Massabesic High School, Waterboro
- Carrie Stilphen, Principal, Mahoney (Daniel) Middle School, South Portland
- Melanie White, Asst. Principal, Messalonskee Middle School in Oakland

Advising Session

There will be an advising session on November 3, 2011 for all Educational Leadership students from 4-5:30 in 221 Bailey Hall.

Jody Capelluti's Blog

WANTED-aspiring authors, critics, observers, contributors, editors, leaders and students of leadership, creative people, and skeptics.

I have a contract to write a book on leadership and will primarily use the blog to get feedback on my writing. At times I will also be posting random thoughts on topics and posing questions to get your reaction. If you are interested in being part of this endeavor you can access my blog at <http://JodyCapelluti.blogspot.com>.

Thank-you,

Jody

Faculty & Staff Program Directory

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