

# *The Ability Advisor*

*"Focusing on Student Abilities"*

## ***The Month Of:***

March, 2009

## ***Quote of the Month:***

- "It is, in fact, nothing short of a miracle that the modern methods of instruction have not entirely strangled the holy curiosity of inquiry."

Albert Einstein

## ***Upcoming Events:***

- March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> - "2009 Governors Conference on Development Disabilities" see attached information or click here <http://register.oucpm.org/ddsd2009gov/>
- March 3<sup>rd</sup> - Counselor Conference - Moore Norman Technology Center South Penn Campus. Register at <http://sde.state.ok.us/Services/Conference/default.html>
- March 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> - "Supporting Children with Autism" workshop, see attached information for registration.
- March 7<sup>th</sup> - Down Syndrome - "Reaching Across the Plains Conference". For more information see the attached document or go to <http://www.dsaco.org/news.html>
- March 12<sup>th</sup> - Disability Services Provider Fair - Shepherd Mall in OKC. For more information you can contact the Oklahoma Office of Disability Concern, <http://www.odc.ok.gov/index.html> or see the attached document.
- March 12<sup>th</sup> - "Transition Education: Make it Happen" This presentation focuses on the essentials of transition education. For more information see the attached document.
- March 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> - Oklahoma APSE Conference. For more information see the attached registration form. Or go to <http://www.ok-apse.org/>

- March 26<sup>th</sup> - Regional Transition Meeting - You can register for this event by going to the following website. <http://education.ou.edu/zarrow/?p=84> or see the attached document.
- April 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> - OK-AHEAD Spring Conference at Francis Tuttle Technology Center Reno Campus. You can find out more information about the conference by going to the OK-AHEAD web site <http://www.ok-ahead.org/index.html> . The Office of Civil Rights has agreed to send someone to present at this event.
- April 23<sup>rd</sup> - Oklahoma Association of Minorities in Career and Technology Education (OAMCTE) annual Leadership Conference to be held on Thursday, April 23, 2009, at the Moore Norman South Penn Campus, Oklahoma City. See the attached document for more information.

### ***Reminders:***

- Casy Cundiff Outstanding Student Award is open for application. The cash scholarship / awards are designed to encourage students to access or complete a Career and Technical Education career major. The awards range from \$300 to \$500. The application packet can be found at the OKACTE - ESSP web site <http://www.okactesnd.org/scholarships>

### ***Word of the Month:***

- Peculate \PEK-yuh-leyt\, *verb*: to steal money or goods entrusted to one; embezzle.
  - Not surprisingly, they use their positions to demand bribes and **peculate** public funds. -- Christian Parenti, Taliban Rising, The Nation, December 10, 2006

### ***Useless Fact of the Month:***

- When Coca-Cola began to be sold in China, they used characters that would sound like "Coca-Cola" when spoken. Unfortunately, what they turned out to mean was "Bite the wax tadpole".  
<http://www.angelfire.com/ca6/uselessfacts/>

### ***Resources for Educators:***

Special Education

- The Americans with Disabilities Act and the school in the article below reached a settlement. This is one example of why it is important to ensure you are compliant with the law. It is far better to choose to create an accessible environment rather than be forced to make your facility accessible. If you need help in creating an accessible environment feel free to contact me. The full settlement can be found at the web site listed below.

<http://www.ada.gov/chatham/chathamsa.htm#settlement>

## Academics

- The article "What Curricular Designs and Strategies Accommodate Diverse Learners" is an article from The Council for Exceptional Children. The article gives several strategies on helping, students with special needs, learn the curriculum presented in the classroom. You can access the article by clicking on this link [http://www.dldcec.org/pdf/teaching\\_how-tos/what\\_curricular\\_designs.pdf](http://www.dldcec.org/pdf/teaching_how-tos/what_curricular_designs.pdf) , or you can find the attached document.

If you have any questions or need assistance feel free to contact me.

Kahle Goff  
Disability Services Specialist  
Oklahoma Department of CareerTech  
1500 W. 7<sup>th</sup>  
Stillwater, OK 74074  
[kgoff@okcareertech.org](mailto:kgoff@okcareertech.org)  
Office: (405) 743-5138