

P.A.C.T.

Potomac Association of Cooperative Teachers
Established 1961

Jennifer DeBernardis, Newsletter Editor
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FALL 2012 NEWSLETTER

Fall Workshop Meeting:

Wednesday, October 17, 2012
9:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
First Christian Church of Falls Church
6165 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA
Tel: 703-532-8220
****Directions below****

Time Schedule:

9:00-9:45 a.m.	Registration, Refreshments, Displays & Exhibits
9:45-11:15 a.m.	First Workshop Session
11:15-11:45 a.m.	Break
11:45-1:15 p.m.	Second Workshop Session

Yearly Dues:

\$40.00 per person

DIRECTIONS TO FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF FALLS CHURCH

From DC and MD

Take Beltway (495) South. Exit onto Route 50 East toward Arlington. Go 3-4 miles to Route 7 Exit (Leesburg Pike East). This will be a right side exit. Go ½ mile (through several lights) to the First Christian Church of Falls Church, which will be on the right side of the street. There is plenty of parking behind the church.

From Alexandria

Take Route 7 (Leesburg Pike) 2 miles past Bailey's Crossroads. You will see Colonial Funeral Home on the left. The next building, set back from the street, is the First Christian Church of Falls Church. There is plenty of parking behind the church.

➔ **SAVE MARCH 12TH FOR THE SPRING CONFERENCE AT CEDAR LANE IN BETHESDA.**



A Note From Our President...

Dear PACT Members,

It is with much difficulty that I inform you of my resignation as PACT President this past August. The reality is that my work with the Inspired Teaching Demonstration School has taken me further and further away from the issues of cooperative preschools (however dear these may be to my heart).

Please consider joining the PACT Board! The PACT Board consists of people just like you (fabulous folks!) - voluntarily working to support cooperative schools in the "DMV" (D.C., Maryland, and Virginia). You can help make great things happen for PACT members! Come join!!

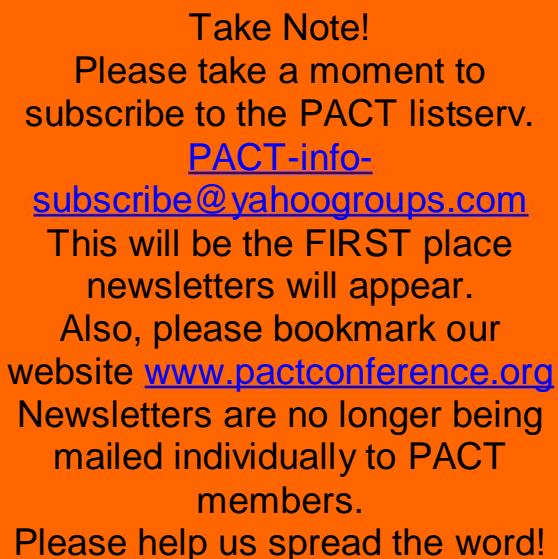
I hope that you thoroughly enjoy the PACT Fall Conference on October 17th. PACT is offering a wide variety of workshops, including curriculum ideas, ideas for helping children with special needs, plus health issues and workplace/professionalism concerns. Please review the workshop summaries included herein and sign up today!

I am grateful for my work with the PACT these past several years. I have truly enjoyed working with all of you.

Thank you, and wishing each of you the very best,
Maureen Ingram



**I know a man
named Dirty
Bill
He lives in a
house on
Garbage Hill
Never took a
bath and he
never will!
Eww! Eww!
Dirty Bill**



Take Note!
Please take a moment to
subscribe to the PACT listserv.
[PACT-info-
subscribe@yahogroups.com](mailto:PACT-info-subscribe@yahogroups.com)
This will be the FIRST place
newsletters will appear.
Also, please bookmark our
website www.pactconference.org
Newsletters are no longer being
mailed individually to PACT
members.
Please help us spread the word!

Workshop Descriptions

Choose one workshop per session. Please mark your choices by **number** on the registration form.

Child Development – 1.5 hours each:

1. Social Emotional and Emotional Literacy. This workshop will provide an introduction to the Center for the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) pyramid model and a focus on building emotional literacy in young children. Participants will become familiar with the CSEFEL pyramid model, understand emotional literacy development as a critical social-emotional skill in young children, and apply social-emotional teaching strategies to infants, toddlers and preschoolers. This workshop will be presented by Lindsay Allard Agnamba, Director, School Readiness Consulting. Child Development, 1.5 hours.

2. Teaching Children to Write from the Start: Ability, Culture, Meaning and Mechanics. This workshop will present a variety of strategies to engage young children in writing. Participants will learn to identify children's natural abilities, how to make use of the rich world of print that surrounds them, and to merge instruction in mechanics with meaningful writing activities. This workshop will be presented by Dr. Paul Rogers, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of English, Director, Northern Virginia Writing Project, George Mason University. Child Development, 1.5 hours.

Curriculum – 1.5 hours each:

3. Bring a Little STEM into Your Daily Curriculum. This workshop will focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math in the early childhood classroom. Together, participants will brainstorm ideas for incorporating STEM into their daily curriculum and explore hands-on activities for enriching their program daily. Everyone will leave with many ideas for using in the classroom immediately as well as tie in the habits of mind that are engaged when exploring Science, Technology (it's not all computers!), Engineering and Math. This workshop will be presented by Jennifer DeBernardis, 4s teacher, Silver Spring Nursery School. Curriculum, 1.5 hours.

4. Imagine the Possibilities: Hands-On Learning in Museums. This workshop is designed for teachers and administrators who want to explore the possibilities of teaching young children in a museum-based setting. Whether you go to a museum or bring images into your classroom, the adventures are endless. Participants will engage in hands-on activities that can be done in or out of a museum and will have the opportunity to see first hand what object-based learning looks like. In addition to lesson plans and field trip ideas, we will also explore the integration of children's literature, objects, and art as it relates to projects and themes in early learning. Participants will leave with a greater understanding of learning in museums, tips and tricks for wonderful field trip journeys, and tools to build meaningful, active adventures in learning. This workshop will be presented by LynAnn Derrick, Early Childhood Museum Educator/Director of Colonial Nursery School. Curriculum and Community, 1.5 hours.

5. Ramps and Pathways: Developmentally Appropriate, Intellectually Rigorous, and Fun Physical Science. Young children engage in reasoning about physics when they try to figure out how to achieve an exciting result by building structures with pathways for marbles and other objects that roll. Through their participation, teachers learn how on-going science activities can be extended into a science inquiry. The workshop will provide participants the opportunity to experience a physical science activity that involves children (and adults) in observation, building and re-designing their structures, making relative measurements, documenting their thinking through drawing and writing, and sharing ideas. This workshop will be presented by Peggy Ashbrook, Preschool science teacher, Columnist—"The Early Years." Curriculum, 1.5 hours.

6. Storytelling in the Early Childhood Classroom. This storytelling workshop will give an understanding of storytelling's value in the classroom. Participants will learn and create a story, providing opportunity to take and tell the story in their own classrooms. Additionally, participants will be provided resources for continued study of storytelling. This workshop will be lead by Rebecca Cohen, Children's Librarian and Storyteller. Curriculum, 1.5 hours.

Health, Safety, Nutrition – 1.5 hours each:

7. Helping Children Make Healthy Snack & Drink Choices: Curbing the

Overweight & Obesity Epidemic. This workshop provides an interactive experience wherein participants will acquire the skills to make healthy eating and drinking choices. Teachers and administrators will be provided materials so that they may replicate key objectives of this workshop in various settings with children. The workshop helps participants understand the importance of food labels. In the "*Think Your Drink*" portion of the workshop, participants will measure into a cup how much sugar is in popular sodas, sport drinks, and fruit drinks; this helps participants connect how their drinking habits may be affecting their health. In the "*Healthy Snacks*" part of the workshop, participants will rate a variety of displayed snacks. In an interactive game, participants are asked whether they should eat the snacks often, sometimes, or never. Some of the snacks are also offered as samples so participants can taste low fat or other alternative varieties of the same snack. This workshop is presented by Tom Pruski, Register Nurse, Health Educator. Health, Safety, and Nutrition, 1.5 hours.

Special Needs - 1.5 hours each:

8. The No-Friends Club: Supporting Shy and Anxious Children in the Preschool Classroom. This workshop will provide strategies for helping shy or anxious children learn to socialize, including classroom techniques and teacher-parent collaboration. Participants will 1. Learn to identify socialization difficulties and their possible causes in preschoolers. 2. Learn strategies for collaborating with parents to help shy or anxious children increase social adeptness in school, at home, and in the community. 3. Develop and share classroom techniques to help shy or anxious children become more comfortable and socially adept in the school environment. This workshop will be presented by Jennifer Pleasure, Licensed Psychologist; School Psychologist, Silver Spring Day School. Special Needs, 1.5 hours.

Professionalism – 1.5 hours each:

9. Stop Gossiping and Start Finding Solutions: Communicating with Coworkers. In this workshop, participants will learn how to cultivate a caring community among your staff and avoid the pitfalls of gossip. Children learn how to build strong, positive relationships with others by observing the adult

relationships around them. It is essential for adults who work with children to model positive problem solving skills. Participants will learn specific strategies for managing their emotions and communicating assertively with co-workers. This workshop is presented by Mandy Lloyd, Conscious Discipline Certified Instructor and Director of Little Beginnings. Professionalism, 1.5 hours.

10. **Working with Your Co-op Board.** An effective board is key to the success of the cooperative as the board is elected by the members to govern the cooperative in accordance with the school's bylaws. This workshop will explore the make up of the co-op board, its powers and responsibilities. Participants will discuss how teachers, directors and board members can work together. In addition, participants will discuss ways to find new board members and foster leadership. This workshop presented by Leta Mach, retired Director of Co-op Education and Communications at the National Cooperative Business Association. Professionalism, 1.5 hours.

2012-2013 PACT Board Members

President

Maureen Ingram 240-460-9532 maureen_ingram88@yahoo.com

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Annette Fitzpatrick 301-986-5161 annette.fitzpatrick@verizon.net (DC)

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 Lisa Schwartz 202 276 2124 Silver Spring DaySchool(MD)

Secretary

Amy Pollok Silver Spring Day (MD)

Treasurer

Janise Allyn Smith 301-388-0303 Nisey150@aol.com Silver Spring NS (MD)

Conference Committee:

Logistics

OPEN

Exhibits/Resource table

OPEN

Folders/Evaluations

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Dawn Matthews dawn_matthews@juno.com

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Past President
Paula Ott

301-229-4498 Stassiott@aol.com

THE DIRECTOR'S GROUP meets monthly during the school year at rotating preschools. This year's first meeting will be Sept 20 from 1-3 p.m., at Rockville Presbyterian Cooperative Nursery School, 215 West Montgomery Avenue, Rockville, MD. 301-762-1293 Contact Melissa at melissamitchelljordan@yahoo.com for more info. Bring your lunch-dessert and drinks will be provided.

Please sign up for the PACT listserv to stay up to date on information and to exchange ideas with other PACT members. Send an email to PACT-Info-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to join or contact Jennifer DeBernardis (jennifershmennifer@verizon.net) to be added.

DVD Collection and LCD Projectors available to members!

PACT has recently assembled a new collection of training DVDs! Current members and Directors who have PACT members on their staff may borrow the DVDs free of charge. Postage fees will apply if DVDs are not collected in person. The collection, to which more titles will be added later this Fall, is housed at Chevy Chase Presbyterian Weekday Nursery School, One Chevy Chase Circle, NW, Washington, DC, 20015.

PACT has also acquired two LCD projectors for use by presenters at our training conferences. The projectors may also help to facilitate staff training sessions, and are now available for members to borrow. The projectors must be collected in person, and a nominal donation is required. The projectors are housed in two locations: Chevy Chase Presbyterian Weekday Nursery School, One Chevy Chase Circle, NW, Washington, DC, 20015 and Fort Hunt Preschool, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria, VA 22307.

A list of the DVD collection along with loan details and forms are on PACT's web site <http://pactconference.org/Resources.html>.

Making the training DVDs and LCD projectors available helps fulfill our mission of promoting ECE training for our members. We hope you will plan to take advantage of this new resource!

Pick Your Workshops and Sign Up below

This registration form and **\$40.00** registration fee (payable to **PACT** or **Potomac Association of Cooperative Teachers**) must be returned by **October 8, 2012** to:

Annette Fitzpatrick
7203 46th Street
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Annette.fitzpatrick@verizon.net

Name _____ Phone Number (home) _____

Home Address _____ Zip _____

E-mail address (will be used only for communication concerning PACT) _____

How many years have you been involved with Early Childhood Education?

_____ Rookie (0-3 yrs) _____ Veteran (4-10 yrs) _____ Seasoned Veteran (10+ yrs)

Workshop Choices: Indicate the NUMBER of the workshop below:

1st session # _____ **2nd session #** _____ **Alternates #** _____

School name _____ phone _____

E-mail _____ web site _____

We have several openings on the PACT Board. Are you interested in serving on the PACT Board? Yes _____ Maybe, need more info! _____

P.A.C.T. is a professional organization of cooperative nursery school teachers. Its main purpose is to provide additional training for teachers through workshops and speakers in all areas pertaining to early childhood. All Co-operative preschool teachers are invited to join. Non co-op teachers are also welcome on a limited basis.

Dues of \$40.00 per individual per school year cover:

- € Two professional conferences per year with exhibitors and Resource Table of information
- € Lending library of educational DVDs, videos, audio tapes, and books
- € Two newsletters per year