



# Potomac Association of Cooperative Teachers

[www.PACTeachers.org](http://www.PACTeachers.org)

## Spring 2018 Newsletter

### Letter from the Co-Presidents

Dear PACT Members,

As we write this letter it is another exceptionally warm day in the DMV and we hope that everyone is enjoying the welcome warmth and sunshine.

This past year, PACT has undergone a few changes. As mentioned last Fall, we are now incorporated and have our own tax ID number. Additionally, we are currently working on getting our own training number for PACT. Bernie attended the orientation for obtaining this number, and the necessary paperwork has been submitted. It is a long process and until the time that this is accomplished, we will be using Silver Spring Day School for our training number. Emily Ederer has generously offered to provide us with this and the certificates for our Spring PDD, as she did in the Fall.

We are so thrilled to welcome you to a very special training session with Jacky Howell. Her topic "Create a Culture of Acceptance and Kindness in a Challenging World: It All Starts in Your Program!" is bound to be both entertaining and informative!

There are a few PACT Board positions to be filled. Please get involved and the good news is that you will earn two PAU's (Professional Activity Unit) towards credentialing. Open Board positions include:

V.P., Membership  
Folders & Evaluations  
Legislative Contact - DC and MD

We also have four incredible women who will be retiring this year, so let's all give them a round of applause for their many years of service to the field of early childhood education. They will always be a beacon of light to guide our paths as we pursue excellence in early childhood. We say a fond thanks and best wishes to Helene Segal-Turner at Kensington Nursery School; Fran Warthen at Suburban Nursery School, Jennifer DeBernardis at Silver Spring Nursery School and Annette Fitzpatrick who has already retired as a director and is now retiring from her Membership position on the PACT Board.

Mark your calendars for the Fall and Spring Professional Development Days for next year - October 17, 2018 in VA and March 28, 2019 in MD.

We look forward to seeing many of you on April 3 for an inspirational day with Jacky Howell.

Bernadine Occhiuzzo and Ellie Griffin  
PACT Co-Presidents

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## Professional Development Day – Tuesday, April 3

### ***Guest speaker - Jacky Howell***

***"Create a Culture of Acceptance and Kindness in a Challenging World:  
It All Starts in Your Program!"***

*"This session looks at a variety of ways we can help young children grow and develop the social emotional skills of kindness and empathy to promote a sense of connectedness in our world today. Looking at current information and research on HOW to teach these skills from infancy to all ages will be discussed. Experiences and information from a variety of programs will be shared. Participants will have an opportunity to share what works in their programs. Resources and ideas will focus on teaching these skills in an interactive, lively format. Participants will leave with a wide variety of ideas they can use in their programs or classrooms."*

Jacky Howell, MA., has been working in the field of early childhood education over 40 years. She received her Masters' in Human Development from Pacific Oaks College. She has been an early childhood teacher, assistant director, keynote presenter, workshop presenter as

well as an on-site consultant and mentor to early childhood programs throughout the DC Metropolitan area and beyond. She presented this same workshop at the NAEYC conference in Atlanta, Georgia in November 2017. In addition, she presented this topic as a webinar through Early Investigation Webinars. She is an author and has written a column for *Teaching Young Children*, articles for *Young Children* and co-authored a book published by NAEYC, *Rituals and Traditions: Fostering a Sense of Community in Preschool*.

### **Registration:**

Registration should be submitted by **Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

Current Members (dues paid for the 2017-18 school year): There is no additional fee to attend the Spring Professional Development Day. Please complete the online registration form at <https://www.pacteachers.org/forms.html> to let us know you plan to attend, and which lunch box you would like to order.

New and returning members who have not yet paid their 2017-18 fees: \$40. Complete the online membership and registration form at <https://www.pacteachers.org/forms.html>

**Venue:** Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville, 100 Welsh Park Drive, Rockville, MD 20850

**Directions:** <http://www.uucr.org/directions.php>

**Credit:** Attend April 3<sup>rd</sup> and earn 3 clock hours of continued training in ECE. In accordance with MSDE regulations, attendees must complete their evaluation and assessment form before receiving their certificate. Personalized certificates will be available at the conclusion of the Professional Development Day, also in compliance with MSDE regulations.

**Schedule:** 9:00 - 9:30am Registration, refreshments, displays and exhibits

9:30 - 9:45am Business Meeting

9:45 - 11:15am Presentation – first half

11:15 - 11:45am Light lunch is served

11:45am - 1:15pm Presentation – second half

**Light refreshments** will be available during the registration period (9:00 to 9:30am).

**Lunch:** Served 11:15 to 11:45am. Following are the options for lunch:

- ham, turkey or vegetarian sandwich (comes with chips and whole fruit); or

- salad with grilled chicken and gluten free dressing (\*\* \$2 extra charge – new members should add this to their membership fee; returning members please send bring \$2 on April 3.)

Members are asked to indicate their lunch preference on the PDD registration form. Note that orders will not be accepted after April 1.

**Vendors:** Make sure you allow time to check out the vendors' tables!

**Resource Table:** Want to share information about an upcoming event, training, or ECE organization? Bring 25 copies for the resource table, located in the vendors' area.

**Further PDD details:** see [www.PACTeachers.org](http://www.PACTeachers.org) or e-mail [info@PACTeachers.org](mailto:info@PACTeachers.org)

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## Silver Spring Day School Training Institute



designing and producing workshops for early childhood educators

### SPRING 2018 TRAINING SCHEDULE

**Basic Health and Safety**  
 6 CECE hours -- fulfills MSDE requirement  
 Saturday, April 21, 2018, 9 am - 2:30 pm

**Teaching Mindfulness Through Play**  
 3 CECE hours  
 Thursday, May 17, 2018, 8:00 - 9:00 pm

**Determining the Meaning of Challenging Behavior: SEFEL Module 3a**  
 6 CECE hours  
 Monday, June 11, 2018, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

**Developing a Behavior Support Plan: SEFEL Module 3b**  
 6 CECE hours  
 Tuesday, June 12, 2018, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

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visit [silverspringdaychool.org/training/](http://silverspringdaychool.org/training/) to see our training workshops

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## Award for Devoted Service in Early Childhood Education

The deadline for nominations for the PACT Award for Devoted Service in Early Childhood Education has been extended to March 10. Members who are still preparing their nomination for this school year are encouraged to complete the process, as the award will be presented at the April 3 Professional Development Day. Nomination forms and further details can be found on the website <https://www.pacteachers.org/> (scroll to bottom of page)

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## Join the PACT Board!

The PACT Board is run by dedicated early childhood educators. If you would like to be involved, check the current list below for positions that will be **OPEN** for the 2018-19 school year, and contact us at [info@PACTteachers.org](mailto:info@PACTteachers.org).

### 2017-18 PACT Board Members

- Co-Presidents - Bernadine Occhiuzzo (Cedar Lane NS, MD)
  - Ellen Griffin (Cedar Lane NS, MD)
- V.P., Program Co-Chairs - Scott Mitchell (Silver Spring NS, (MD)
  - Doreen Buntin (Cedar Lane NS (MD)
- V.P., Membership - Annette Fitzpatrick (MD) **\*OPEN 2018-19**
- Secretary - Melissa Jordan Rockville Presbyterian Cooperative NS (MD)
- Treasurer - Janise Allyn-Smith Silver Spring NS(MD)
- Logistics & Hospitality - VA: Barbara Bradley Tauxemont Preschool (VA)
  - MD: Rana Oriolo Rockville Community Nursery School (MD)
- Exhibits/Resource Table - Dawn Matthews Tauxemont Preschool (VA)
- Folders & Evaluations - Kim Mahoney Rockville Community NS,(MD) **\*OPEN 2018-19**
- Legislative Contact - MD - **OPEN**
  - DC - **OPEN**
  - VA - Nancy Renner Fort Hunt Preschool (VA)
- DVD Collection - Nancy Renner Fort Hunt Preschool (VA)
- LCD Projector Loan - VA: Nancy Renner Fort Hunt Preschool (VA) -
  - MD: Jennifer DeBernardis Silver Spring Nursery School (MD)
- Listserv - Jennifer DeBernardis Silver Spring Nursery School (MD)
- Web Master - Annette Fitzpatrick (MD)
- Newsletter editor - Annette Fitzpatrick (MD)
- Past Co-Presidents - Nancy Renner Fort Hunt Preschool (VA)
  - Jennifer DeBernardis Silver Spring Nursery School (MD)

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## Listserv

**PACT members' listserv:** Take a moment to join the PACT members' listserv to stay up-to date on PACT information. The listserv is open to current PACT members. To join, send an e-mail to [PACT-Info-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:PACT-Info-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

**Directors' listserv:** Share resources, ideas and training opportunities by joining the PACT Directors listserv. PACT membership is not required. To join, send a message to [pact-directors-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:pact-directors-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

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## DVD Collection

PACT maintains a collection of educational DVDs that current PACT members may borrow free of charge. Schools that have at least one PACT member on staff may borrow DVDs for training purposes. The borrower must pay postage costs both ways, or pick up and return in person. See loan form and instructions on our web site <https://www.pacteachers.org/resources.html> The collection, which includes nine titles, will be on display at the resource table April 3.

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## Job Postings

Looking for a new teaching position in the Washington, DC area? PACT posts job openings on the website – so check it out at <https://www.pacteachers.org/resources.html> . Directors wishing to post job openings should e-mail details to [info@PACTeachers.org](mailto:info@PACTeachers.org).

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### SAVE THE DATES!!

### PACT Professional Development Days for the 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR:

**Fall: Wed., October 17, 2018 at First Christian Church, Falls Church, VA**

**Spring: Thurs., March 28, 2019 at Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville, Rockville MD**