

# Potomac Association of Cooperative Teachers Inc.



March 2019

Spring Newsletter

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

## Letter from the Co-Presidents

Greetings PACT Members,

As we write this letter, we are home on yet another snow day. We will certainly welcome warmer spring days that are just around the corner. We hope the school year is going well for all of you and for all of the children you work with.

We are looking forward to our spring PDD with Sally Neuberger on Thursday, March 28 at Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville. PACT has partnered once again with Silver Spring Day School Training Institute, under Emily Ederer. Thank you, Emily! SSDS is willing to assist PACT by entering into this affiliation, and is thereby facilitating the March 28 Professional Development Day. Members attending the Spring PDD will be issued their certificates by the Silver Spring Day School Training Institute.

The Board voted upon an increase in fees from \$50 to \$60 for the 2019-2020 school year. We now have an additional Core of Knowledge hour at the fall PDD, increasing from 3 to 4 hours with two 2-hour sessions. We also have additional fees incurred with serving lunches on both days.

We encourage you to think about joining us on the PACT Board. Most of us are continuing on in our positions, but we really need someone to take over Logistics/Hospitality for VA (the fall PDD) and Exhibits/Resource Table for the two PDD's. We conduct most of our business by email and conference calls.

For planning purposes, here are the dates for next year's PDD's:

Fall - Wednesday, October 23, 2019

Spring - Thursday, March 26, 2020

We hope to see many of you in a few weeks as learn about challenging behaviors with Sally Neuberger on Thursday, March 28.

Warmly,  
Bernadine Occhiuzzo and Ellie Griffin  
PACT Co-Presidents

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## Join the PACT Board!

The PACT Board is run by dedicated volunteer early childhood educators.

This Fall the Board approved a new position – Professional Development Day Administration. Jessie Auten will be assisting in all aspects of the PDD March 28<sup>th</sup>. The Board has also removed the position of Folders, since they are now viewed as an unnecessary, expensive item. These changes will be incorporated in an amendment to the PACT by-laws. The proposed new by-laws may be viewed on our website, and will be presented for a vote of approval by members at the upcoming business meeting in March.

A number of positions are currently open, so we need members to step forward! If you are interested in being involved, please check the list below for open positions and contact us at [info@PACTteachers.org](mailto:info@PACTteachers.org)

### 2018-2019 PACT Board Members

- Co-Presidents - [Bernadine Occhiuzzo](#) (Cedar Lane Nursery School, MD)
  - [Ellen Griffin](#) (Cedar Lane NS, MD)
- V.P., Program Co-Chairs - [Scott Mitchell](#) (Silver Spring Nursery School (MD) -
  - [Doreen Bunten](#) (Cedar Lane NS, MD)
- V.P., Membership - [Christine Waltz](#) Silver Oaks Cooperative School (MD)
- Secretary - [Melissa Jordan](#) Rockville Presbyterian Cooperative NS (MD)
- Treasurer - [Janise Allyn-Smith](#) Silver Spring Nursery School (MD)
- Logistics & Hospitality – VA: **OPEN**
  - MD: [Rana Oriolo](#) Learning Center for Young Children (MD) & [Kim Mahoney](#) Rockville Community NS (MD)
- Exhibits/Resource Table – **OPEN**
- Assessments and Evaluations - [Kim Mahoney](#) Rockville Community NS,(MD)
- Professional Development Day Administration - [Jessie Auten](#) Providence Nursery School (VA)
- Legislative Contact - MD - [Bernadine Occhiuzzo](#)
  - 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: [Scott Mitchell](#) Silver Spring Nursery School (MD)

Listserv - [Jennifer DeBernardis](#) (MD)  
Web Master - [Annette Fitzpatrick](#) (MD)  
Newsletter editor - [Annette Fitzpatrick](#) (MD)  
Past Co-Presidents - [Nancy Renner](#) Fort Hunt Preschool (VA)  
- [Jennifer DeBernardis](#) (MD)

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## Membership Renewal

PACT membership for the 2018-19 school year entitles members to participate in PACT's two professional development days – October 17, 2018 and Thursday, March 28, 2019. Membership renewal and professional development day registration is available online at <https://www.pacteachers.org/forms.html>

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## Professional Development Day – Thursday, March 28

***Guest speaker – Sally Neuberger , LCSW-C***

***"Navigating Challenging Behaviors in Preschool"***

***Approval # CWO-157164***

### Content Description

Complicated preschool behaviors can be overwhelming for teachers and disruptive to classroom functioning. A toolbox of classroom strategies can help teachers support all children for success. This workshop will provide support strategies for children who are reluctant, are boisterous, have emotional or motor dysregulation, or have sensory issues. As a result of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- 1) Identify when and why a specific behavior is problematic
- 2) Identify classroom strategies for supporting children with challenging profiles

- 3) Anticipate and plan for challenging behaviors during group learning activities
- 4) Review the value of universal design in teaching preschool children
- 5) Transfer effective tools and strategies to parents and caregivers

### **Core of Knowledge Area**

3 Core of Knowledge hours in Child Development

### **Brief Biography of Presenter**

Sally Neuberger LCSW-C has been providing clinical and consultation services to children, families and schools for the past 30 years. Her experience with children and their families has spanned developmental clinics, medical resident training programs, maternal child health programs, and schools for children with special needs. From 1991-2015, Ms. Neuberger created and supervised a counseling department at a Prek-12 school for children with special needs. During that time., Ms. Neuberger presented 3-5 annual MSDE approved workshops for teachers and early education specialists. Ms. Neuberger presently maintains a private clinical practice, provides potty coaching services throughout the country, and continues to offer workshops and provide classroom consultation services to preschool and elementary level teachers.

### **Registration**

Registration should be submitted by **Friday, March 15.**

Current Members (dues paid for the 2018-19 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 2018-19 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 March 28<sup>th</sup> and earn 3 Core of Knowledge credit hours. 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

Attendees are asked to indicate their lunch preference on the PDD registration form. Note that orders will not be accepted after March 23.

**Vendors:** Make sure you allow time to check out the vendors' tables! Usborne Books and Discovery Toys will have a wide range of items on display.

**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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## Award for Devoted Service in Early Childhood Education

The *PACT Award for Devoted Service in Early Childhood Education* was re-instated in 2016.

The deadline for nominations for this school year has been extended to March 10. The award committee looks forward to receiving completed forms for a potential candidate! The award will be presented at the Spring Professional Development Day. Information about the nominations process is on our website <https://www.pacteachers.org/welcome.html>

## Hall of Fame

Last Spring, the PACT Board established a *PACT Hall of Fame* to recognize members who have given exemplary service in the field of Early Childhood Education. Following are the members who have been inducted so far:

- Janise Allyn-Smith (Teacher/Director, Silver Spring Nursery School, PACT Board member (2017)
- Jennifer DeBernardis, Teacher, Silver Spring Nursery School, PACT Board member (2018)
- Annette Fitzpatrick - Director (retired), CCUMC Preschool, PACT Board member (2018)
- Helene Segal-Turner – Director, Kensington Nursery School, PACT Board member (2018)

Cindy Walsh – Director (retired) CCPC Weekday Nursery School, PACT Board member (2018)  
Fran Warthen – Director, Suburban Nursery School (2018)

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## Silver Spring Day School Training Institute – Sponsor for PACT’s Spring PDD

The graphic features a background of overlapping geometric shapes in shades of orange, red, and teal. In the top left corner, there is a logo for Silver Spring Day School with the letters 'SSDS' in a stylized font. Below the logo, the text 'TRAINING INSTITUTE' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. A large teal starburst shape is positioned in the lower-left quadrant, containing the text 'We can bring workshops to your school or workplace!'. The central part of the graphic is a red vertical band containing the quote: 'We believe in giving every educator equal opportunities to succeed.' Below the quote, contact information is listed: '33 University Blvd. E, Silver Spring, MD 20901, 301-393-6381, silverspringdayschool.org'. At the bottom of this red band, it says 'MD approved Care of Knowledge workshops: CKO-4882'. To the right of the red band, the text 'ABOUT US' is written in a bold, red font. Below this, a paragraph describes the institute's mission: 'Silver Spring Day School Training Institute provides high quality training for early childhood educators. Workshops are led by dynamic, experienced instructors who combine theory and practice to give new perspectives on work with children. Every class offers techniques and materials that you can use immediately in your classroom or business.' At the bottom right, it says 'Visit us online at silverspringdayschool.org/training to learn more.'

The Institute conducts workshops for early education educators. Visit their website at <https://silverspringdayschool.org/training>

### 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 March 28<sup>th</sup>.

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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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## 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-directorssubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:pact-directorssubscribe@yahoogroups.com)

**SAVE THE DATES!!**

**PACT Professional Development Days  
for the 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR:**

**Fall: Wed., October 23, 2019 at First Christian Church, Falls Church, VA**

**Spring: Thurs., March 26, 2020 at Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville, Rockville MD**