Mayfield Youth Development Center Hosts Innovative Strategies: Cowboy Ethics

Staff members from Mayfield Youth Development Center, New Pathways for Children and Genesis Home gathered on February 15 to explore some innovative strategies to use with their students.

Ann Moore brought the Cowboy Ethics program to life, a program based on the book of the same name by James P. Owen. Ann was a pioneer in using this simple ideology of living by a code of conduct to teach character education and goal setting.

 KECSAC Awards Mini-Grants for 21 Program Initiatives

The Kentucky Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children (KECSAC) recently initiated a special mini-grant Request for Proposal (RFP) process to benefit currently funded programs.

As in years past when mini-grant funds have been available, the intent is to help programs implement projects designed to meet the significant academic achievement needs of the state agency children they serve.

“Unfortunately this year we had several programs that were receiving KECSAC funding close for various reasons,” Director Dr. Ronnie Nolan explains. “However, this meant we had some limited funds available and we wanted those funds to benefit the students. Therefore, we opened this competitive process, like we have done in the past, for programs to implement specific projects or initiatives they wouldn’t otherwise have the funds for.”

KECSAC began accepting RFPs mid-January through February 11, 2013. By the deadline for submissions, 21 proposals were received highlighting many varied projects and initiatives that demonstrated the criteria of: serving children in the least restrictive educational setting possible; providing the child with a therapeutic atmosphere; and allowing educators to address educational issues as they occur in the classroom setting.

Each request was limited to $2,000 per program, and submissions outlined details of the program, the goals and impact of the project/initiative, and specific objectives the mini-grant would help meet if it were awarded. All mini-grant recipients are also required to report back to

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Mini Grant Winners!
Over the last several years, we have been engaged in an ongoing discussion related to the graduation bill and raising the legal age a student may choose to drop out of high school. This week our general assembly passed the much anticipated and highly debated graduation bill. It essentially gives school districts across the Commonwealth the option of increasing their dropout age to 18 and then, at a certain point, when 55 percent of all districts have implemented this change, the dropout age across the state would be changed.

It’s not the perfect approach in my opinion, but it is a huge win for education advocates across the country. I expected the debate. I actually enjoy it. I think it challenges all of us to look at every aspect of this issue and to really examine both intended and unintended consequences. It certainly did that for me.

I have written here in this column before about my childhood friends who dropped out after finishing the 8th grade, when both turned 16 years old. I have shared the juxtaposition between my life and theirs and I shared why I supported this bill from the very beginning, even when my education colleagues across the state did not. It was personal. It is personal.

Frederic Douglass captured it best when he said, “it’s easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.” As I think about our Commonwealth and about how many students we lose each year due to dropping out, this quote becomes even more fitting. More appropriate. More real. In our programs serving state agency children we are actively involved in changing lives each and every day.

We challenge our students to do better than they have and we empower them with the tools necessary to meet new challenges, not just in our programs but also in their everyday lives. The idea of building strong children isn’t new for us, it isn’t some cutting edge new idea; rather, it is simply what we aim to do every day. The graduation bill, in my opinion, gives us one more tool in our toolbox to help students.

We know, and the research has demonstrated, that high school graduates are more engaged in their communities, contribute more to our economic system and depend less on others for support. And as programs that serve juvenile justice centers, neglected and abandoned children and children with mental health issues, we see the very critical value of a high school education in helping our students have productive, meaningful lives of purpose.

So, as we move into a new era with a higher level of expectation for our children, I would encourage all of us to remember Frederic Douglas and stay focused on building strong children so, in the end, we have fewer broken men to repair. We will all benefit from this strategy...especially the children we serve.
3

to her at-risk students at Cherry Creek High School in Denver, Colorado. She developed a curriculum around the 10 principles for a successful and ethical life outlined in Owen’s work and has used that curriculum to see real results in the academic achievement and overall well-being of her students.

The group of teachers and administrators in Graves County gained valuable strategies for not only implementing the curriculum, but developing their own ideas around the program and helping each student find his or her own “11th Principle” to live by. By helping students develop self-esteem and confidence in their decision making skills, the Graves County staff looks forwarding to seeing the young men and women become not only successful in their education, but in life beyond school.

KECSAC staff would like to thank the staff of Mayfield Youth Development Center for hosting this installment of the Innovative Strategies Series and Ann Moore for providing a valuable training that will positively impact students.

Cowboy Ethics Curriculum Developed Around Book by James P. Owen ...from page 1

Ann Moore explains the Cowboy Ethics program and how to help students find their “11th Principle” to live by.
KECSAC to share measurable outcomes and successes of their projects.

The RFPs were reviewed by KECSAC staff and the Interagency Advisory Group (IAG) at their bimonthly meeting in February, where they voted to award the mini-grants to all 21 programs requesting funding.

This mini-grant effort was conducted in collaboration with the Kentucky Departments of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), Community Based Services (DCBS), Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID) and the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), all of which have representation on the IAG.

You can review the list of KECSAC programs receiving mini-grants and a brief description of projects they have planned in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Projects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diocesan Catholic Children’s Home</td>
<td>To purchase four iPads for the classroom to boost literacy and increase student participation in lessons.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calloway County Day Treatment</td>
<td>Achieve3000 differentiated literacy solution software program for 30 students to improve reading.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campbell County Day Treatment</td>
<td>Evidence-based treatment workbooks for teenagers for use by day treatment counselors for student binders and during sessions with students.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christian County Day Treatment</td>
<td>Kindle electronic readers, books and Accelerated Reading materials to improve the center’s library and improve reading.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Green River YDC</td>
<td>To purchase iPods, books, audio books, and other educational materials to expand their reading program and improve reading and writing skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Cumberland YDC</td>
<td>Interactive educational technology (SMART Board and document camera) to support varied curriculum and college and career-readiness goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayfield YDC</td>
<td>To purchase four iPads for students to access Apex Learning, Accelerated Reader, Teenbiz3000, and Star Reading and Math educational software.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCracken RJDC</td>
<td>Fees for a summer yoga and exercise program to promote physical fitness and social, emotional and behavioral skills as well.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunrise Children’s Services</td>
<td>NOVEL/STARS online curriculum subscriptions for 12 students that allows students to earn missing credits in many content areas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morehead YDC</td>
<td>Achieve3000 differentiated literacy solution software program and other resources to improve students’ reading, writing, math and social studies skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Pathways for Children</td>
<td>Four iPads for students to utilize “Flipped Classroom” videos, resources and interactive materials to reduce teacher repetition but increase student comprehension.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Otter Creek Academy</td>
<td>To create a Piano Keyboard Lab in order to improve humanities curriculum.</td>
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<td>Pulaski Somerset Day Treatment</td>
<td>Student and teacher editions of algebra, geometry, and English textbooks to support curriculum.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ramey-Estep High School</td>
<td>To help purchase four Wifi-enabled laptop computers in order for students to access Odysseyware online curriculum resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunrise Children’s Services Cumberland Adventure Program</td>
<td>A student response system for two classrooms and Ladders to Success on State Writing test books to help increase student writing scores.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodsbend YDC</td>
<td>Four iPads to use in the classroom to engage students and address many different learning styles with learning software and applications.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunrise Children’s Services Woodlawn Campus</td>
<td>To help purchase four desktop computers to support curriculum and increase students’ reading, writing and math comprehension.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audubon YDC</td>
<td>A two-month art program “Shakespeare Behind Bars” that uses theatrical encounters to help incarcerated juveniles develop life skills for successful integration into society.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corbin Educational Center</td>
<td>An Interactive projector with SMART Notebook to enhance instructional delivery and collaborative learning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safe Harbor Academy</td>
<td>SMART Interactive Classroom Package (board, projector, 3D software) for the English Language Arts classroom to enhance interactive learning and curriculum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix Academy</td>
<td>TI Inspire CX calculators with Navigator system software for math intervention lab and exploratory program; materials for Aquaponic Gardening Project.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Programs Will Use Mini-Grants for Technology, Curriculum and More!**

**Awards for Students and Educators!**

- **KECSAC STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD!**
  - Nominate that special student in your program who deserves recognition. Due to Kaye Parker
  - **kaye.parker@eku.edu** by 5 p.m. April 1, 2013
  - **To Download the Forms Visit** [www.kecsac.eku.edu/documents](http://www.kecsac.eku.edu/documents)

- **SACSAA AWARDS!**
  - Nominate a teacher, staff person, school administrator or outstanding community member/organization who exemplifies excellence in education and commitment to student success. Due to Sonny McManus
  - **earl.mcmanus@graves.kyschools.us** by May 31, 2013
Professional Development

Innovative Strategies Series – We can come to you!

Does your program or district have a need for training? KECSAC wants to help. Rather than asking you to travel to professional development opportunities, we want to bring those straight to you. Let us know what need your district has and we’ll try to help by bringing in training. Contact Katie Helton at katie.helton@eku.edu or (859) 622-8538 to find out more!

KECSAC Innovative Strategies Series

DRUGS 101

April 23, 2013
Perkins Conference Center, EKU
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
or
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Adam Aquillin, a dynamic trainer and experienced police officer, will share his expertise on spotting drug use, identifying the types of substances being used, current trends, synthetic substances and more. The training is 3 hours, and you can register for either the morning or afternoon session. This training will also be filmed and placed online as part of the KECSAC Live professional development series. Contact Katie Helton for more information or to register.

March 25 - Average Daily Membership (ADM) count for MARCH 15 due. Please note, if you are on spring break during March 15, use your ADM on March 8.

April 1 - Application for new programs and notification of program closures due.

KECSAC Teaching in Action Series

Corbin Educational Center
Corbin Independent Schools
430.13
901 South Main Street
Corbin, KY

Join us to learn strategies from the teachers, administrators and students of a program using innovative strategies to promote student achievement.

Earn EILA Hours • Network with Colleagues • See “Teaching in Action”

The MYDC Greyhound 2013 Calendars are Here!!!

If you are interested in purchasing a calendar, or would like to make a donation toward publication costs, please contact Valerie Kazee at MYDC, 495 Forest Hills Dr., Morehead, KY 40351, (606) 783-8565, or email to valerie.kazee@ky.gov. Calendars and card packages are $10 each. Shipping fees vary with number of items but start at approximately $2 per calendar. We can mail your items to anywhere in the United States. Please make checks payable to MYDC, and write “2013 Calendar” in the memo line.

This year, along with the 2013 calendar, we have available Greyhound notecards and Christmas cards. Each package contains ten cards. All items are $10 each.

KECSAC Deadlines

Alternative Strategies for Educating Students At-Risk
A Conference for Educators in Alternative Settings
July 24-25, 2013 - Richmond, KY

Christmas Cards

Greyhound Notecards (Batch 2)
Greyhound Notecards (Batch 1)
Across Kentucky

The Phoenix Academy Chess Champions

On January 26, 2013 the Phoenix Academy chess team competed, and were named champions of the K-12 Division at the “Knight to C3” chess tournament sponsored by the Winchester Chess Club.

The event was held at the College Park Library and is part of the Winchester Scholastic Chess League (WSCL) season. The Phoenix team won 18 total matches during the event. In addition, all seven members of the team won at least one match. The team will advance on to the 2013 Super Nationals in Nashville, TN on April 5-7.

Chess team members include Patrick Lee, Jacob Pesina, Jacob Levy, Rose Crim, Michaela Dunn, Jacob Richards, and Austin Ousley.

Individual awards won by the Phoenix Academy team included:

- 2nd Place Overall – Patrick Lee
- 3rd Place Overall – Austin Ousley
- 4th Place Overall – Jacob Pesina
- 5th Place Overall – Jacob Richards

District Grant Provides New Technology for Phoenix Academy

By Patrick Lee, Phoenix Academy Student (reprinted from the Phoenix Sun– the Academy’s student newspaper)

On December 11, 2012 at the Clark County board of education meeting the school board awarded a grant of $22,000 for every school in the District. On behalf of the Phoenix Academy, I would like to take the time to acknowledge and thank the Clark Board of Education for the grant. We have made drastic changes in our use of technology.

One of the many purchases our school made was getting 20 Mac Mini Computers. We use them for the college and career lab, math and reading intervention labs and also for credit recovery on education 2020. This last program allows students to achieve their goal of graduating.

The second thing we got was two new interactive projectors for our history and reading class. For the music class we got a new microphone and two new HD video cameras for making documentaries, interviews, and video story telling. With this equipment we will work on podcasting and vodcasting.

We are planning to get new TI-Nspire calculators with a CX Navigator wireless network adaptor. On these calculators students can communicate with the teacher and the teacher can guide them from one computer. They go beyond basic calculating to an interactive system that provides instant feedback.

The teachers and students are excited about the new equipment.

When I asked Mr. Roberts what he thought, he said, “This is really great (the new equipment) but I’ve got a lot to learn. I’m really looking forward to the opportunities this brings our students.”
Christian County Day Treatment Awarded Field Trip Grant

Christian County Day Treatment was recently awarded $700 for a 2013 Target Field Trip Grant. These grants have been awarded to schools nationwide since 2007 for the purpose of giving students opportunities to learn outside the classroom. The grant was received in January and field trip plans are scheduled for April.

Day Treatment students will experience a two-phase field trip that will include touring Ebonite International (a bowling ball manufacturer whose corporate headquarters are located in Hopkinsville) and Indian Hills Bowling Center, where each student will get to play two games of bowling.

In the meantime, students will learn how to bowl with Licensed Bowling Sets in the gym during their recreation class, and will also learn how to keep score in their math classroom. The grant money is being used to purchase the bowling sets, ‘How to Bowl’ booklets, a ‘How to Bowl’ video, transportation, and bowling and rental shoe fees.

While touring Ebonite, they will receive instruction from the company’s human resources on employability and specific skills needed to perform manufacturing jobs. The trip to Indian Hills Bowling Center will incorporate the recreation, life and math skills pertaining to bowling they will be learning about.

This experience will also benefit the students by emphasizing the importance of skills learned in high school such as punctuality, attendance, and math and reading comprehension that are needed to enter the work force.

Campbell County Day Treatment Collects Books to Help Homeless Community

The Campbell County Day Treatment Center collected books for the homeless community in Northern Kentucky from December 2012 through January 2013.

Donations will go to the library at the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Northern Kentucky, said teacher Theresa Snyder, organizer of the school’s Books from the Heart donation drive. The school is collecting new or gently used books for children and adults since the Interfaith Hospitality Network serves homeless families, Snyder said. If they like a book, the people served by the network are often able to take the book with them to keep.

Snyder said she works with students in grades 7-12, usually on a one-to-one basis. Students from the Day Treatment Center routinely travel to the network’s offices to help out the youngest children with literacy by reading to them or making crafts. It’s an ongoing service project for the students, Snyder said.

Snyder said she decided to give to the network because she has a friend who interned, and she knew they needed books.

McCracken Regional Juvenile Detention Center (MRJDC) implemented two new programs recently. A wellness program that includes weekly yoga sessions for the residents began in January. Certified yoga instructor, Eric Romanak, visits twice weekly and meets with a different group of students for one hour of yoga instruction. With this program they hope to promote: body movement and breathing as ways to de-stress; building self-awareness and the ability to self-regulate; an increase in self-confidence and self-control; teaching students how to be “in the moment”; the ability to make good choices; and reducing peer pressure.

Teachers are optimistic that the skills students learn through this program will provide academic benefits as well. The ability to selectively focus and improve attention span leads to increased academic involvement and achievement.

The nursing staff at MRJDC has joined with the education department to present another new program to the center called the Period of PURPLE Crying. This program approaches shaken baby syndrome prevention by helping parents and caregivers understand the frustrating features of crying in normal infants and how that can lead to shaking or abuse. The program provides the opportunity for students to learn about crying characteristics from professionals and more than 25 years of research. Many of the students are already parents or plan to become parents someday, and this program provides them with tools to become more informed. Included with the program is a family tool-kit that is sent with the student when they leave MRJDC so that the resources and strategies are available to new parents when they need them most.

McCracken RJDC Introduces New Programs for Health and Parenting
The Collaborative

KECSAC’s Upcoming Professional Development: Sign up Now!

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