

CROSSCURRENTS



Fall 2011

Volume 29, Number 1



The 2011 – 2012 Special Education Association of BC Executive

Check out our website at:
www.bctf.ca/sea/

Crosscurrents Conference
37th Annual Crosscurrents
Conference
March 1-2, 2012

Crosscurrents Magazine is the official publication of the B.C. Special Education Association, a PSA of the BC Teachers' Federation.



Please share a copy of this publication with a friend or leave it in the staff room!

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President's Message



Throughout B.C., public school teachers returned to work wondering what this year would bring. Phase one of job action began on our first day of school and as I write this message it is continuing without an end in sight. One exciting aspect of the bargaining over-arching objectives is that the first objective addresses teaching conditions that support all students. All teachers who have taught and supported students with a variety of diverse learning and educational needs recognize the importance of this bargaining objective. Members of the Special Education Association are aware of the amount of support students with special needs deserve and how stretched the resources are.

One exciting development to our quest for adequate support for students with diverse learning needs happened at the BCTF AGM during Spring Break. A proposal regarding Case Load Language Recommendation to be added to section 7.7 of the BCTF document *Declaration of Working & Learning Conditions for Teachers* was brought forward and successfully passed. Thanks to the Special Education Association (SEA) executive committee who developed this proposal. You can view the recommendation on the SEA website.

Did you know that the Ministry of Education has a new resource available as of this fall? If you are supporting students with a Learning Disability then you will want to peruse the document ***Supporting Students with Learning Disabilities: A Resource for Teachers***. Some members of the SEA provided input and feedback into the development of the document. This document is posted on the Ministry of Education website at: http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/sped_res_docs.htm. You can also locate this link on the SEA website under the Links/Resources tab.

Have you checked out our SEA website lately? We have been busy updating our website once again. You will want to venture through the various tabs

to find out what information has been added or changed. If you want to locate the website without navigating through the BCTF site you will locate it by using the link: <http://www.seaofbc.ca/>. A new feature you will discover is the addition of a Blog to our website. If you wish to comment on a post or create a new post you must register by emailing seabcpresident@gmail.com to receive a login and password. We welcome your input regarding useful information to include in the SEA website to share with other special educators.

We look forward to meeting you at the 2012 Crosscurrents Conference on Thursday, March 1st and Friday, March 2nd. As you will notice the conference dates have been moved to the beginning of March due to the variability of Spring Break dates across the province. Our Speaker Coordinators are excited to announce our Keynote Speaker is Dr Richard Allington who will present on the topic *Research and Learning to Read*. If you located the one page conference teaser that was sent to all B.C. schools you had a preview of some of the speakers and sessions that will be offered. The teaser is also available to view on our website. Our conference program will be ready in the near future. Keep checking your email, as this year we are emailing the conference program to all our members and conference attendees. You will also be able to locate the conference program and registration on the SEA website.

This year the Provincial Specialist Associations (PSA) are celebrating 40 years of PSAs. The Special Education Association is one of 33 PSAs. As quoted on the PSA web page, "PSAs are channel for members to exchange ideas on research, teaching strategies, curriculum development, and other shared interests." If you are reading this and want more information about PSAs or to join the SEA or another PSA follow this link: <http://bctf.ca/PSAs.aspx>. Watch for the *Teacher*



Newsmagazine's recognition of the 40 year accomplishment PSAs are celebrating this year.

The SEA continues to be involved in the Teaching to Diversity website. If you have been searching for information on this resource you will notice some changes. Members of the SEA, LATA, ESL/D and other resource people have met and determined updates and changes that needed to be made. The new website link is

<http://www.bctf.ca/TeachingToDiversity/>. You will find this resource useful to "support educators of school aged students of all abilities with information, strategies and resources related to special education, learning assistance and ESL."

The Ministry of Education published the *Diversity Newsletter* which contains topics of interest for teachers. You will find a list of free resources useful for teaching students with diverse learning needs in several of the volumes published. This information can be found at:

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/diversitynewsletter.htm>

If you know of anyone who deserves one of the Awards or Scholarships offered by the SEA please check out the criteria and information provided on our website. There has been a slight change

in the dates of our awards to coincide with the conference dates.

The Fall 2011 publication will be the first copy to be emailed out to all our members. SEA will continue to send future publications to our members via email. It will be important to make sure your SEA membership application includes your correct email address.

A welcome to the nine other members of our executive who continue to share their passion to meet the learning needs of our students with diverse learning needs. This year we welcome three new members to the SEA executive. All the executive members understand the challenges experienced by special educators on a day to day basis while meeting their executive responsibilities.

As you experience the busyness that fall brings make sure to take some time to do some 'fun' activities. Take time to enjoy the wonderful fall colors we are surrounded with at this time of year. Enjoy an exciting fall everyone.

BJ (Bonnie-Jean) Foulds

***"If a child can't learn
the way we teach,
maybe we should
teach the way they
learn." (Ignacio
Estrada)***

37th Annual Crosscurrents Conference

March 1-2, 2012

Vancouver, BC

This year featuring **Dr. Richard Allington** as our keynote speaker

Topic: **“Research and Learning to Read”**

Other sessions include:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Dr. Richard Allington | Summers Matter |
| Colleen Politano | Give Your Kids a Break! |
| Stacey Wakabayashi | Supporting Learners with FASD |
| Kathleen O’Hanley | Transitions to Adulthood |
| Lindi Rae & Diana Wilk | Video Modeling for ASD |
| Janet Jamieson | Social Skills for Kids who are Deaf & Hard of Hearing |
| Diana Mogensen & Dr. Elizabeth Saewyc | Mental Health |
| David Nicks | Gifted Learners |
| Dr. Vanessa Lapointe | ABCs of Mental Health |
| Dawn Reithaug | Conducting FBAs |
| Michael Ungar | Promoting Resilience |
| Faye Brownlie | Collaboration Counts! |
| Colleen Politano | Self-Regulation |
| Carole Fullerton | Numeracy Assessment (K-1) |
| Sharon Jeske & Deb Buchan | Sexuality Education |
| Paul Hamilton | Digital Tools for UDL |
| Wendi Macintosh | Parents and Professionals |
| Dr. B. Wicholas & Diane Mogensen | Understanding Eating Disorders |

Two Day Registration Rate Early Bird rate is \$225.00



**REGISTRATION BEGAN NOVEMBER 1ST ONLINE AT
www.bctf.ca/SEA**

Over 60 exhibitors sharing and selling the newest and greatest supports for student success!!!



Websites of Interest for your students



Having trouble finding what you need for school, on the Internet?



Ask Homework Helper!

One of the expert homework helpers will help find great information in a variety of subject area, online.

OR your question may already have an answer!

Take a look below for your subject, or search a keyword.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
|  <u><i>Canada fact</i></u> |  <u><i>Physical geography</i></u> |  <u><i>Math</i></u> |  <u><i>Science</i></u> |
|  <u><i>Language</i></u> |  <u><i>World</i></u> |  <u><i>Current Aff</i></u> |  <u><i>Health & the l</i></u> |
|  <u><i>History</i></u> |  <u><i>Sports & exer</i></u> |  <u><i>The arts</i></u> |  <u><i>General quest</i></u> |

This website can be found at: <http://www.homeworkhelper.ca/>



Check out the following website: <http://www.telescopictext.com/>

Click on any of the ***shaded words***, then re-read.

Repeat.

Keep clicking and reading until there are no more shaded words.

This might be a fun way to help students include detail in their writing. You can use the link at the bottom right corner of the screen to create your own telescopic text, or have students make their own.



Websites of Interest for Educators

Websites that educators may find useful if a student has a history of struggling with specific components of school and/or is begins to demonstrate behavioral difficulties are:

| Web | |
|---|---|
| <p>American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: <i>Facts for Families</i> provides concise and up-to-date information on issues that affect children, teenagers and their families.</p> | <p>http://www.aacap.org/</p> |
| <p>Anxiety BC The purpose of this website is to inform you of the features of the various ways excess anxiety can express itself and also to provide you with effective strategies to begin to address your anxiety.</p> | <p>www.anxietybc.com</p> |
| <p>BC Children’s Hospital Mood Disorders Clinic The Mood and Anxiety Disorders Clinic provides outpatient consultation, diagnosis & treatment recommendations for children and adolescents, ages 6 to 18 years, who have symptoms suggestive of a mood and/or anxiety disorder, including major depressive disorder, dysthymia, bipolar disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, panic disorder, and generalized anxiety disorder.</p> | <p>www.bcchildrens.ca/Services/ChildYouthMentalHlth/ProgramsAndServices/MoodAnxietyDisorderClinic/default.htm</p> |
| <p>BC Ministry of Children and Family Development - Children and Youth with Special Needs In order to assist and support families and children and youth with special needs from birth up to age 19, the Ministry of Children and Family Development offers a range of services. These services are provided through various organizations, including MCFD offices, health authorities, contracted agencies and other ministries.</p> | <p>http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec_needs/</p> |



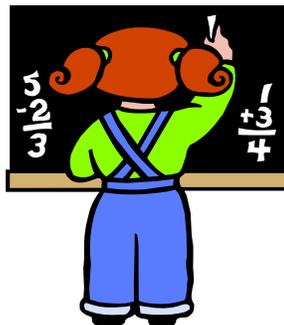
Websites for Educators continued:

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>BC Positive Behavior Support Website</p> <p>This site is dedicated to supporting, sustaining and celebrating the efforts of British Columbia schools and districts in their School-wide Positive Behaviour Support efforts.</p> | <p>www.bcpbs.wordpress.com</p> |
| <p><i>Caring for Kids</i>. Canadian Paediatric Society</p> <p>Caring for Kids is designed to provide information about children’s health and well-being. Because the site is developed by the <u>Canadian Paediatric Society</u> — the voice of nearly 3,000 Canadian paediatricians—you can be sure the information is reliable.</p> | <p>www.caringforkids.cps.ca</p> |
| <p><i>Collaborative Mental Health Care in Canada</i></p> <p>This website hopes to increase awareness and understanding of the epidemiology, symptoms and identification of some common mental health conditions as well as provide examples of some recommended treatments.</p> | <p>www.shared-care.ca/toolkits</p> |
| <p>Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)</p> <p>The Council for Exceptional Children (CES) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities, and/or the gifted. Of specific interest is the Resource Catalog with many books and media for the educator.</p> | <p>http://www.cec.sped.org/am/template.cfm?section=Home</p> |



Website for Educators continued:

| | |
|---|---|
| <p><i>FRL: Family Resource Library at BC Children's Hospital</i></p> <p>The Family Support & Resource Centre (FSRC) provides support, information and connections to educators, patients and families throughout British Columbia. They provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to a lending library, bookstore, health information, internet, fax, email; • Referrals to intra and inter hospital and community programs and support services; • A comfortable and welcoming family space; • Orientation, navigation and connections within the hospital and community. | <p>www.bcchildrens.ca/frl</p> |
| <p>LDOnline</p> <p>is the interactive guide to learning disabilities for parents, teachers and children. Features include the ABCs of LD/ADD, the LD Store, and LD In-Depth, and more.</p> | <p>http://www.ldonline.org/</p> |
| <p><i>Teaching Students with Learning and Behavioral Differences</i></p> <p>This manual is designed to support teachers as they strive to help students with learning and behavioural difficulties succeed in the classroom. This guide is not intended to be a detailed text of in-depth technical information for students with severe learning disabilities.</p> | <p>www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/landbdif/toc.htm</p> |





The Special Education Association of British Columbia's Website

Check out

<http://www.seaofbc.ca/>

The Special Education Association is dedicated to supporting teachers in their efforts to provide a quality education experience for students with diverse learning needs.

On this website you will find:

1. The Special Education Association - Special Education Teacher Caseload Recommendation (this recommendation received unanimous support at the BCTF AGM, March, 2011).
2. The *Crosscurrents* page for conference dates and information.
3. Information on how **New Teachers** can receive a **FREE ONE YEAR PSA MEMBERSHIP**. ☺
4. *The new Special Education Association blog!* To join our Blog, click on in Blog info. Anyone wishing to make a comment on our Blog must register to receive a login and password. Email: seabcpresident@gmail.com to register.



As Special Educators we encourage all teachers to adapt material to help students. A useful document **A Guide to Adaptations and Modifications** was developed in consultation with representation from the following educational associations; BC Council of Special Educators (BCCASE), Learning Assistance Teachers’ Association (LATA), Special Educators’ Association (SEA), Office of the Inspector of Independent Schools, and British Columbia Teacher’s Federation (BCTF) says that “Adaptations are “best practice” in teaching. A student working on learning outcomes of any grade or course level may be supported through use of adaptations. Adaptations do not represent unfair advantages to students. In fact, the opposite could be true. If appropriate adaptations are not used, students could be unfairly penalized for having learning differences, creating serious negative impacts to their achievement and self-concept.”

(http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/docs/adaptations_and_modifications_guide.pdf)

| Chart of Potential Adaptations | | |
|--|---|---|
| Learning Environment | Instructional Methods | Response Formats/ Assessment Procedures |
| Alternate space in classroom (could be a table or special desk) | Visual aids to supplement verbal presentations | Oral, dramatic or video presentations |
| Alternative setting (e.g. resource room or another classroom) | Verbal explanations of visual aids | Visual formats (pictures, charts, graphs, diagrams) |
| Reduced distractions (study station) | Break tasks into small steps | Word processing |
| Adapted desk/table | Advanced organizers | Spell check |
| Cushions to sit on | Peer tutors | Voice-to-text technology |
| Acoustic equipment (FM system) | Cooperative learning | |
| | Maintain consistent routines | |
| Time Frames and Organizational Support | Learning Materials/Resources | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional time • Reduced length of assignments (fewer questions) • Regular breaks • Chunking assignments into modules • Daily schedules • Agenda books | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manipulatives • Large Print • Text readers • Books on tape • Graph paper for math calculations • Raised-line paper | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erasable markers • Headsets • Calculators • Talking calculators • Duplicate notes • Computer |



Adaptations

Adaptation Log

Use this list to record the adaptations that have been tried, or are currently being used for a student. Include additional adaptations in the blanks at the end of each section or observations about which adaptations are successful and which are not.

Student's Name _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

Assignments

- Give extra time to complete tasks.
- Simplify complex directions.
- Lower the reading level of assignments.
- Provide text-reading technology for reading assignments.
- Provide word-prediction and other software for written assignments.
- Require fewer correct responses to achieve completion (quality vs. quantity).
- Provide study skills training and personalized learning strategies.
- Shorten assignments, breaking the work into smaller segments.
- Allow computer-printed assignments prepared by the student or dictated by the student.
- Use self-monitoring checklists, charts, cue cards, etc.
- Allow printing instead of cursive handwriting on assignments.
- Monitor student's self-paced assignments (daily, weekly, bi-weekly).
- Arrange for homework tasks to make it home with clear concise directions.
- Recognize and give credit for oral participation in class.

Physical Arrangements

- Seat student near the teacher.
- Seat student near a positive role model.
- Stand near the student when giving directions or presenting lessons.
- Avoid distracting stimuli (e.g. air conditioner, high traffic areas).
- Arrange different work areas in the room.

Behaviours

- Keep rules simple, clear and available for reference.
- Use timers to facilitate task completion.
- Structure transitional/unstructured times (e.g. recess, hallways, lunchroom).
- Praise specific behaviours.
- Teach self-monitoring strategies.
- Give special privileges/positive reinforcements, and increase their immediacy.
- Make prudent use of negative consequences.
- Allow for short breaks between assignments.
- Use non-verbal signals to cue students to stay on task.
- Mark students' correct answers, not their mistakes.
- Implement a behaviour-management system.
- Allow legitimate movement and student time-out-of-seat activities.
- Ignore inappropriate behaviours that are not drastically outside classroom limits.
- Contract with the student.
- Implement reasonable time-out procedures.

Test Taking

- Allow open book exams.
- Give exams orally.
- Give take-home tests.
- Allow student to give recorded test answers.
- Provide text-reading technology for reading assignments.
- Give frequent short quizzes, not long exams.
- Allow extra time for exams.
- Provide text-reading technology for exams
- Provide word-prediction and other software to assist with writing.
- Avoid placing student under pressure of time or for completion.

**Organization**

- Provide peer assistance with organizational skills.
- Set up one-binder system for notes and assignments.
- Assign a volunteer homework buddy.
- Allow student to have an extra set of books at home.
- Prepare advance study/assignment schedules with students.
- Send daily/weekly progress reports home.
- Develop a reward system for in-school work and homework completion.
- Provide student with a homework assignment book or develop a homework website.

Lesson Presentation

- Provide peer tutoring.
- Write key points on board.
- Provide visual aids such as large print, films, charts, graphics, advanced organizers or notes.
- Use text-reading technology to provide access to written work.
- Teach through multisensory modes: visual, kinesthetic, auditory.
- Repeat directions to the student after they are given to the class, then have him or her re-state and explain the directions to the teacher.
- Provide written outlines of lessons, with main ideas.
- Allow student to record lessons to review later.
- Have student review key points orally.
- Accompany oral directions with written directions to refer to later.
- Provide and post a work sample, and refer to it often.
- Use underlining or highlighting to help student find main ideas and details in text.
- Break longer presentations into shorter segments.
- Use technology to augment presentations and provide opportunities for interaction (e.g. SMART board).



British Columbia Teachers' Federation

100-550 West 6th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2 • 604-871-2283, 1-800-663-9163 • www.bctf.ca
A Union of Professionals

SPECIAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Y600

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS (Note 1)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED June 30, 2011

Balance, July 1, 2010 \$ 95,624.28

Receipts

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| BCTF grant | 10,082.50 | |
| Membership/subscription fees | 25,251.74 | |
| Interest | 1,001.31 | |
| Other | 315.00 | |
| Conference fees | 76,338.22 | |
| Conference exhibits/sponsorships | 17,570.00 | |
| | 130,558.77 | 130,558.77 |

Disbursements

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Meeting-executive | 7,734.59 | |
| Meeting-annual general meeting | 910.41 | |
| Meeting-TOC costs | 23,457.59 | |
| Publications-journal | 6,366.20 | |
| Operating | 1,381.97 | |
| Chapter support | 22,835.50 | |
| Curriculum Development | 589.19 | |
| Scholarships | 2,581.70 | |
| Miscellaneous | 533.94 | |
| Conference-operating | 15,061.71 | |
| Conference-facilities | 15,069.60 | |
| Conference-catering | 28,284.98 | |
| Conference-printing | 3,821.44 | |
| Conference-promotions | 2,997.19 | |
| Conference-committee costs | 10,234.02 | |
| Conference-entertainment | 6,918.92 | |
| Conference-equipment rental | 5,432.00 | |
| Conference-speakers | 26,612.17 | |
| | 180,823.12 | -180,823.12 |

Balance, June 30, 2011 \$ 45,359.93

Notes:

1. This statement reflects only funds held by the BC Teachers' Federation on behalf of the Special Education Association.

23/03/2011
PSA FIN STMTS JUNE2011
msh/ai





Awards and Scholarships

Please submit all award and scholarship applications to: BJ Foulds, SEA President
3290 McGill Crescent
Prince George, BC, V2N 4E2
fax: 250-964-8265



Special Education Professional Development Scholarship

The Special Education Professional Scholarship was developed to promote the specialist training of practicing teachers currently working in the BC Education system. A minimum of one \$500 scholarship will be available each year for someone enrolled in special education coursework. The award will be for attendance in a course(s) taken in a semester, summer session, or intercession during the year dated from July 1st to June 30th.

Rationale:

To support teachers who wish to increase their qualifications in the field of special education
To provide financial assistance to practicing teachers who are returning to post-secondary special education coursework

Criteria for Selection:

The applicant must:

1. be currently enrolled in diploma or certificate courses in special education at a post-secondary institution.
2. be a member of BCTF, preference will be given to a member of the SEA
3. be a practicing teacher in a B.C. public school
4. submit a letter detailing:
 - program of study
 - current teaching position
 - personal experience which demonstrates interest in and commitment to working with children with special needs.
 - future goals related to working in the field of special education.
 - relevance of course work to achieving future goals.submit a letter of support from an instructor of special education course.
submit all documents to the SEA President by January 15th of the year in which the scholarship is to be awarded.

Nominations must be received by e-mail by the January 15th closure date. Late nominations will not be considered.

Contact: SEA President – BJ Foulds Email: seabcpresident@gmail.com

SEA Executive Committee members are not eligible for this award during their term of office.

FALL 2011

The Special Education Association of British Columbia Student Scholarships

The goal of these scholarships is to help BC public school students with Ministry designations that can impede academic success, achieve their dreams of higher education.

Value: \$500 Number of awards: minimum of 1

Application Deadline: June 1st of the year the scholarship is presented

The successful applicant:

- Attended a BC public school.
- Has a Ministry of Education designation that can impede academic success. English Second Language/English Second Dialect or Gifted not considered unless in conjunction with another designation.
- Entering or is enrolled in a full-time post-secondary program at a recognized Canadian institution



The scholarships will be chosen by committee and will be granted based on a combination of factors such as challenges faced, financial need, community involvement, academic excellence and/or career objectives.

To apply for the scholarship

- provide a letter from the high school case manager (Special Education teacher) confirming the Ministry designation including the email address of the case manager
- prepare a short essay outlining academic and/or financial challenges and post-secondary goals
- provide a copy of the letter of acceptance from the post-secondary institution.

Submit via email all documentation required to seabcpresident@gmail.com

Contact: SEA President jV BJ Foulds Email: seabcpresident@gmail.com

Marg Csapo Student Scholarship

The Marg Csapo Student Scholarship was established to honour Marg Csapo, a long-standing Special Education Association (SEA) executive member, to recognize her accomplishments in special education as a faculty member with the University of British Columbia and as editor of the BC Journal of Special Education. The \$1000 scholarship may be presented at the annual SEA Crosscurrents Conference to a student or teacher taking training at a senior level in special education at a university in British Columbia.

Criteria for Selection:

The applicant must:

1. Be currently enrolled in 4th year, 5th year, or graduate level courses in special education at a university in British Columbia.
2. Submit a letter detailing:
 - Personal experience which demonstrates interest in and commitment to working with children with special needs.
 - Future goals related to working in the field of special education.
 - Relevance of course work to achieving future goals.
3. Submit letter(s) of support verifying exceptional performance from one or more of the following:
 - a school-based sponsor teacher
 - school district administrator of special education
 - a professor of special education
4. Submit all documents to the SEA President by January 15 of the year in which the scholarship is to be awarded.

Nominations must be received by e-mail by the January 15 closure date. Late nominations will not be considered.

Contact: SEA President – BJ Foulds Email: seabcpresident@gmail.com

SEA Executive Committee members are not eligible for this award during their term of office.



Hazel Davy Award

The Hazel Davy Award was established to honour Hazel Davy when she retired from the position of principal at Woodlands School and to recognize her accomplishments in special education. The award is presented at the annual SEA Crosscurrents Conference to recognize an individual's professional contribution to special education in the province of British Columbia. The award consists of plaque on which each year the winner's name is inscribed and an individualized plaque given to the recipient.

Criteria for Selection:

The nominee must be a BC resident:

- Who is (or was) professionally employed in the field of special education
- Who is (or was) a member of the SEA.
- Whose professional contribution has affected the practices of other special educators.
- Whose professional contribution has resulted in improvement of services.
- Who is aware of the nomination and is willing to accept the award.

Nomination Procedure

Nominations are invited through the Crosscurrents newsmagazine and through letters to District Teachers' Association Presidents, and district Special Services Administrators. Letters of nomination should be sent to the SEA President and must be received by January 15th of the year the award will be presented.

The nomination must include:

- Name, official position and address of the nominator
- Name, official position and address of the nominee
- A description of the most outstanding professional contributions of the nominee
- The nominee's curriculum vitae.

Nominations must be received email by the January 15 closure date. Late nominations will not be considered.

Please submit applications to: BJ Foulds President Special Education Association

SEA Executive Committee members are not eligible for this award during their term of office.

Last year's winners were:

| <i>Award</i> | <i>Winner</i> |
|--|----------------------|
| Hazel Davy | Janice Clary |
| Marg Csapo Student Scholarship | Kimberly Larose |
| Special Education Professional Development Scholarship | Mandy Thirlwell |
| Special Education Professional Development Scholarship | Kathleen Pelchat |

Student Scholarship winners were:

- Helen Ang
- Jacob Berg
- Dane Pritchard
- Lavon Paquet

British Columbia Special Education Executive 2011- 2012

President/Webmaster

Bonnie-Jean (BJ) Foulds
SD # 57 – Prince George
Email: seabcpresident@gmail.com

Vice President/Conference Chair

Alison Ogden
SD # 39 – Vancouver
Email: seabcvicepresident@gmail.com
Conference email: seaconferencechair@gmail.com

Secretary/Mail-Out

Stephanie Koropatnick
SD # 39 – Vancouver
Email: seasecretaryandmailout@gmail.com

Treasurer

Lorna Foster
SD # 67 – Okanagan Skaha
Email: treasurersea@gmail.com

Member at Large/Conference Speaker Co-Chair

Mary Berg
SD # 23 - Kelowna
Email: seaspeakers@gmail.com

Member at Large/Conference Speaker Co-Chair

Karen Hynd
SD # 57 – Prince George
Email: seabcspeakers@gmail.com

Member at Large/Registrar

Carol McAndrew
SD # 83 – Shuswap
Email: searegistrar@gmail.com

Member at Large/Chapters & Membership

Denise Chow
SD #61 – Greater Victoria
Email: seamemberscoordinator@gmail.com

Member at Large/ Exhibitors & Sponsorship

Cindy Blackmore
SD # 71 – Comox Valley
Email: seaexhibitors@gmail.com

Member at Large/Publications & Professional Learning

Linda Harris
SD # 84 – Vancouver Island West
Email: seaprofessionallearning@gmail.com

Please welcome the newest members to our executive – Karen Hynd (Member at Large/Conference Speaker Co-Chair), Cindy Blackmore (Member at Large/ Exhibitors & Sponsorship), and Linda Harris (Member at Large/Publications & Professional Learning)



GOALS OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
PSA 60
For 2011-2012

Goal

To promote awareness, acceptance, and personal excellence for students with special learning needs through our communications and activities with members in the educational field and the broader community.

Objectives**Activities**

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Communicate with SEA members | 1.1 Publish 1 <i>Crosscurrents</i> Magazine and 2 online newsletters over the year 1.2 Provide information to chapters on hosting regional conferences 1.3 Hold an annual <i>Crosscurrents</i> Conference 1.4 Use email contact list for SEA Chapter Presidents 1.5 Use electronic membership list-serve for SEA general membership 1.6 Promote use of BCTF Teaching to Diversity mail list 1.7 Improve and maintain currency of SEA web site 1.8 Publish SEA Goals and Objectives, and Financial Report in <i>Crosscurrents</i> Magazine 1.9 Publish SEA Executive roles and general duties in the <i>Crosscurrents</i> Magazine and on the website |
| 2. Communicate with: a) teachers and other educators b) parents, and other groups | 2.1 Maintain active communication with other professional education associations 2.2 Invite participants to <i>Crosscurrents</i> conference from B.C. School Trustees Association, District Teacher Associations across Canada and the Pacific Northwest, parent advisory and advocacy groups, paraprofessional groups, colleges, universities, independent schools and other educational associations 2.3 Invite representatives from the BCTF and the Ministry of Education to <i>Crosscurrents</i> Conference 2.4 Promote attendance of executive members at relevant outside agency sponsored events to represent SEA 2.5 Maintain and use SEA web-site to post information 2.6 Promote access to resources through the BCTF Teaching to Diversity website 2.7 Share SEA information and resources with partner groups, including local PD chairs |
| 3. Communicate with other PSAs | 3.1 Liaise with PSAC and other specific PSAs on common issues |

- 3.2 Send copies of *Crosscurrents* Magazine to other PSAs and the BCTF (hard-copy or electronic)
 - 3.3 Collaborate on the Teaching to Diversity project
 - 3.4 Participate in reciprocal sharing of published articles with other PSAs
 - 3.5 Provide complimentary registration for PSA presidents or delegate to attend *Crosscurrents* Conference
- 4. Take informed action on special educational issues and changes
 - 4.1 Examine and respond to legislated educational changes related to special education service delivery
 - 4.2 Communicate with BCTF regarding special education issues and service delivery
 - 4.3 Participate on and/or communicate with BCTF, Ministry, districts, and other relevant committees
 - 4.4 Provide input to the ministry, BCTF, and local teacher unions on special education and related issues
 - 4.5 Continue to promote the importance and value of specialist teachers
 - 4.6 Provide input on skills & knowledge training for teachers supporting students with special learning needs
 - 4.7 Communicate with universities about special education teacher training issues
 - 4.8 Develop a contact list of university Deans/Dept Chairs responsible for Special Education programs
 - 4.9 Promote post-degree special education programs
 - 4.10 Provide input to BCTF Bargaining on class size and composition and caseload ratio issues
- 5. Offer a variety of professional learning opportunities
 - 5.1 Provide access to resources and sessions of interest at our annual *Crosscurrents* Conference
 - 5.2 Offer to provide the workshop “Meeting the needs of Diverse Learners’ and an information table at the New Teachers Conference
 - 5.3 Offer to send an SEA rep to participate at the BCTF Summer Conference and BCTF Days on Campus
 - 5.4 Subsidize executive members to attend and/or represent the SEA at educational conferences
 - 5.5 Provide sponsorship for regional conferences
 - 5.6 Offer alternative professional development activities such as teacher inquiry, action research, book studies, teacher mentorship, etc



- 5.7 Maintain the link to Differentiating Instruction wiki on website
 - 5.8 Schedule sharing of ideas/resources and discussion of local issues at executive committee meetings
 - 5.9 Continue to develop in-service opportunities related to special education issues
 - 5.10 Offer book club grants to chapters and individual SEA members
 - 5.11 Solicit proposals and provide funding support for innovative special education projects in BC
 - 5.12 Participate in appropriate action research and/or inquiry projects
6. Communicate with local chapters and encourage formation of new chapters
- 6.1 Disseminate information regarding chapter formation.
 - 6.2 Share strategies with chapters on how to strengthen chapter effectiveness
 - 6.3 Provide start-up grants and annual chapter grants
 - 6.4 Provide assistance to qualifying chapters to conduct regional SEA conferences
 - 6.5 Provide assistance to chapter delegates to attend the annual *Crosscurrents* Conference/AGM
 - 6.6 Encourage communication of local activities through *Crosscurrents* Magazine and chapters mail list
 - 6.7 Hold a meeting for chapter delegates at annual *Crosscurrents* conference
 - 6.8 Investigate holding a half-day electronic meeting with chapter presidents, possibly in conjunction with an executive meeting.
7. Maintain an active SEA membership
- 7.1 Provide complimentary SEA membership to eligible Crosscurrents conference delegates
 - 7.2 Offer SEA memberships to participants of SEA-organized professional learning activities
 - 7.3 Provide membership information and offer complimentary memberships at regional conferences and New Teachers' Conference
 - 7.4 Provide membership information and recruitment brochures to chapters and to other potential members
 - 7.5 Send membership information to education department contacts at SFU, UVic, UBC, TRU and UNBC.
 - 7.6 Provide membership applications to universities for distribution in special education certification programs
 - 7.7 Promote the choice of SEA to new BCTF members

- 8. Recognize exceptional leadership and achievement
 - 8.1 Solicit nominations for SEA awards and scholarships; publicize through the website, membership list-serve, LSAs and request LSAs forward to relevant district staff
 - 8.2 Confer the Hazel Davy Award
 - 8.3 Confer the Marg Csapo Student Scholarship
 - 8.4 Confer Outstanding Achievement awards
 - 8.5 Confer Professional scholarships for practicing teachers to support Special Education coursework
 - 8.6 Confer scholarships to designated special education students attending post secondary education
 - 8.7 Provide complimentary conference registration to all eligible professional scholarship applicants
 - 8.8 Publish award winners in *Crosscurrents Magazine*
 - 8.9 Publish articles describing the awards and scholarships in the *Crosscurrents Magazine* and on SEA Website
 - 8.10 President to write letter regarding award presentations to recipients' District Teacher Association and District Superintendent

Methods the SEA will use to determine the extent to which our activities have met our objectives:

1. Publication of the SEA *Crosscurrents Magazine* in paper and/or electronically
2. Attendance at SEA-sponsored events, including Crosscurrents conference
3. Participant evaluations for *Crosscurrents Conference* sessions, individual speakers' presentations, other SEA-sponsored events
4. Record of SEA involvement with BCTF, Ministry of Education committees, outside representatives and other SEA contacts on PSA Activities outline
5. Numbers of SEA members
6. Numbers of chapters within our organization
7. Feedback from chapter response requests
8. Record of direct contact with partner groups
9. Delivery of professional learning opportunities and participant feedback
10. Active participation in Teaching to Diversity projects

At the final executive meeting of the 2011-2012 school year, the SEA executive will review how well the association did following the goals outlined above and examine information collected through the evaluation methods used. At that time, the goals and objectives for 2012-2013 will be determined.



Chapter



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Denise Chow, Membership and Chapters Coordinator

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As of September 30th, 2011 our organization has 663 members. I expect you would be amazed, if this article had a link to a lively jingle rolling off a list from “A – Z” naming the regions where our members call home. The BC list includes members from 57 regions from Abbotsford to Zeballos. We also have members from other provinces such as the Northwest Territories, Nunavik, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario. Together with our Executive, we are the strength of the Special Education Association (SEA) of BC - Provincial Specialist Association. So far, this year, we have 20 active chapters spread across the province from Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland, Southern BC, South-Eastern BC, the Okanagan and Interior BC, and Northern BC. If you are a Learning Support Teacher, Special Education Teacher, or allied professional, I encourage you to connect with the SEA contact person in your school district or a nearby SEA Chapter. One common goal of many SEA Chapters is to network and support our peers in the field.

We all recognize the value of collaboration and support: “Aside from teachers’ typical obligations to plan curriculum and grade papers, more and more teachers are understanding an equal need to collaborate with peers, engage in intellectual inquiry, and keep abreast of the latest research and trends” (Sonia Nieto, 2003).

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Active Local Chapters of the Special Education Association

Special Education Association (SEA) Chapters

Reference Map: www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/pop/maps/sd96.pdf

| Vancouver Island: | SD # | Contact: | e-mail: |
|--|-------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Comox Valley Special Education LSA SD #71 | 71 | Bridget Mawhinney Morgan McDonald | Bridget.mawhinney@sd71.bc.ca Morgan.mcdonald@sd71.bc.ca |
| Greater Victoria Special Education LSA | 61 | Denise Chow | dc.denisechow@gmail.com |
| Nanaimo SEA | 68 | Maureen Hancock | mhancock@sd68.bc.ca |
| SEA Saanich | 63 | Theodora Saddlemyer | tsaddlemyer@sd63.bc.ca |
| SEA Sooke Teachers' Association | 62 | Liz Postle | e_postle@hotmail.com |
| Vancouver Island North SEA | 85 | Sarah Brooks | sbrooks@sd85.bc.ca |
| Vancouver Island West SD #84 SEA | 84 | Linda Harris | lharris@viw.sd84.bc.ca |
| Lower Mainland: | | | |
| SEA Langley Support Network | 35 | Debbie Maloway | dmaloway@sd35.bc.ca |
| Association of Surrey Special Education Teachers | 36 | Melanie Miki | Miki_m@sd36.bc.ca |
| Sunshine Coast Teacher's Association Special Education LSA | 46 | Christa Rive | crive@sd46.bc.ca |
| Southern BC | | | |
| Boundary SEA | 51 | Joanne Gidney | Joanne.gidney@sd51.bc.ca |
| South Eastern BC | | | |
| Revelstoke SEA | 19 | Allison Just | ajust@sd19.bc.ca |
| Okanagan and Interior BC | | | |
| North Okanagan Shuswap SEA | 83 | Sharon Mitchell | smitchell@sd83.bc.ca |
| Okanagan –Skaha SEA | 67 | Thora Delaquis | tdelaquis@summer.com |
| South Okanagan Similkameen SEA | 53 | Shendah Benoit | sbenoit@sd53.bc.ca |
| Vernon SEA | 22 | Wendy Goodall | wgoodall@sd22.bc.ca |
| Northern BC | | | |
| Bulkley Valley SEA | 54 | Catherine Hewgill | chewgill@sd54.bc.ca |
| LATA/SEA Fort St. John | 60 | Mary Tremain | mtremain@prn.bc.ca |
| Nechako Lakes SEA | 91 | Barb Zang | bzang@mail.sd91.bc.ca |
| Prince George SEA | 57 | Karen Hynd | khynd@sd57.bc.ca |



Do you have a favorite book or resource?

Please tell us about it. Send us the following information the title, author, publisher and ISBN. If possible also include a brief description about the resource.

Email this information to Linda at: publicationssea@gmail.com



Wanted: Your Ideas and Articles

We know that everyone teaching in special education has great ideas and teaching strategies and we want to hear about them! This publication depends on your contributions. We are looking for the following:



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|--|---|---|
|  Tips and tricks |  School Profiles |  Special Events |
|  Lesson Plans/Ideas |  Book Reviews |  Other Articles |

Please send your articles and ideas to **Linda Harris** at publicationssea@gmail.com

Crosscurrents Magazine is the official publication of the B.C. Special Education Association, a PSA of the BC Teachers' Federation.

Crosscurrents Magazine publishes original articles concerning issues related to special education. Practical and theoretical articles are sought. Potential contributors are encouraged to submit reviews of strategies, methodologies, publications, research, and historical and philosophical studies as well as reports of the effectiveness of innovative programs. The opinions expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, the SEA, or the BCTF. For information regarding this magazine or to submit articles, letters, etc., please contact **Linda Harris**, Editor for the Special Education Association of BC at: publicationssea@gmail.com

Please submit items as Microsoft Office (Word) documents. Please submit articles for the Winter 2012 issue to Linda @ publicationssea@gmail.com, by January 15, 2012.