

MAACCE MATTERS

SUMMER 2011
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Notes from the President

CHALLENGE! OPPORTUNITY!

These words come to mind as I assume the office of president of MAACCE.

Challenge (def. Webster's Collegiate, 11th ed.) a stimulating task or problem

Opportunity (def. Webster's Collegiate, 11th ed.) a favorable or advantageous combination of circumstances

Being president of MAACCE is indeed both a challenge and an opportunity. I look forward to both of these aspects of the office. But more so, I consider being president of MAACCE an honor and a pleasure—an honor to have been selected to serve and a pleasure to work with such a wonderful and vital organization and its membership.

My first task in this new position is to thank those who have gone before me. I want to express my gratitude and appreciation for the work that Todd Elliott did as president. I think I can speak for all when I say Todd moved MAACCE forward and made it a better organization in his two years as president. The second component to that progress was the board. In the past year I was very impressed by the dedication and hard work of the members in carrying out the mission of MAACCE. Thank you for your commitment.

In my first months and throughout my term I want to get to know you, the MAACCE membership, in order to gain a better understanding of the issues, concerns and yes, the challenges and opportunities that are current in the world of adult and correctional education. To that end I will endeavor to visit you in your workplace and encourage you to communicate your ideas and concerns to me.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Randy

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Comments from the Past - President

A few weeks ago I had the distinct privilege of passing the President's proverbial baton over to Randy Shipe, and I realized I haven't had much time to reflect on the last two years. It's been quite a blur!

First and foremost, I have to thank and acknowledge my colleagues on the MAACCE Board. I was recently asked about how my style of leadership, and the first word that came to my mind was "facilitative" – your Board is an extraordinarily dedicated and active group, and it was (dare I say it?) easy to help guide our activities together. *Muchas gracias, mi amigos!*

And it has, of course, been a pleasure getting to know so many of you, our members. Through all the various phone calls, emails, and meeting up with you at the conference, I have really enjoyed putting names to faces and hearing your joys and concerns about the state of our work.

There's still tons MAACCE is going to be doing, and I look forward to continued connections with you in the Maryland adult education community.

Thank you – as always – for the incredible work you do on a daily basis – Maryland is lucky to have you!

Teach well!



Todd Elliott
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Workforce Investment Act

We had thought that work on the reauthorization of the legislation for WIA had stopped for the moment—and then all of a sudden movement appeared again—not only on the Senate side but also on the House side. This activity took place during the time period between Congresses finishing up on the current year federal budget up until they revved up their time on the current budget negotiations.

Draft legislation came out from the Senate Committee which gave the field a “flavor” for where things are heading. The State Directors of Adult Education as well as adult education state associations and leaders were asked and encouraged to comment on the proposed Senate legislation—what’s good, what’s not so good, what is missing, and general suggestions. It was expected that a mark up on the

Senate bill would occur by early August.

Art Ellison (State Adult Education Director, New Hampshire and our national network contact for updates) recently sent out the following update:

“The markup of the Workforce Investment Act reauthorization bill by the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee scheduled for August 3, 2011 has been postponed. No new date has been set; however the earliest that it could occur would be in September after the August recess.

The continued postponements of the markup session appear to be related to the issues raised by the Title I and Vocational Rehabilitation communities with the draft version of the bill that was circulated for comment.”

MAACCE did send feedback/input on some of the items affecting adult education delivery. One primary point was that the legislation did not speak to measuring educational outcomes—something that everyone from across the country responded to—and it is my understanding this has now been included in a re-draft. I would encourage you to follow the activity on this legislation through the COABE or Pro Literacy, and the MAACCE website (although we may not always be as current as the national organization websites).

The Public Policy Committee is keeping the Maryland congressional delegation informed of things as we hear they are occurring. In particular, we are communicating with Senator Barbara Mikulski’s office—since she is on the Senate Committee which is working on the draft legislation. We plan to meet with her educational aide on the hill in the near future (as we did last year).

The Workforce Investment Act has not been re-authorized for well over ten years. The process that is currently taking place is important (collecting and giving input and feedback). The new Act will set the stage, the focus, and the funding for all the areas involved in the bill—including adult education—for the next ten years or more. Please know that the State Adult Education Directors from across the country are very involved with what is taking place with the legislation. With the leadership of Lennox McLendon/National Council of Adult Education State Directors in Washington DC, the directors are providing guidance, input and feedback as the process is evolving.

FY 11 Federal Budget and Adult Education

The good news is: the Adult Education State grant program received more funding in FY 11—and therefore, Maryland received more federal funding by about \$200,000!! The additional funding will not go very far in our 26 jurisdictions coupled with the various needs the division also has. But, it does mean that Maryland did not receive less funding—or even level funding—and every dollar counts in this economy.

We know that advocacy on the national and local basis has had an effect—from all the many statewide efforts, and the advocacy of national literacy organizations as well as NCSDAE—everyone’s efforts have

contributed to adult education not being on the Congressional chopping block! Many other programs were on that chopping block—such as *Even Start*—this program did not do well.

Now for FY 12: we are going to have to work VERY HARD to keep our funding. I do not have to say much more than that, after this past week's "outcome" in Congress. No one really knows where all of those cuts will be coming from! We are going to have to be sure it is not adult education and literacy!

MAACCE will keep you posted as we know what our next steps will be—please plan to work hard and do your part as members. Invite your congressional staff to your events NOW—if the Senator or Congressperson cannot attend—invite a staffer. AND—send them press articles about your programs, send informational e-mails and learner thank you letters, and put their picture from an event in the newspaper/newsletter/website—do anything and everything to keep adult education in front of them and the voters who elect them. Particularly important in the process will be our two Republican Congressmen—please engage them in a discussion about the importance of federal funding for your programs if you are in their district.

We can do it—it will just take work—thank you for everyone's past work and let's keep it up!

New Board Members

Danielle Copeland: SEIU 1199e-dc

Danielle Copeland has been involved in adult education, training and development for over 13 years. She started working in the industry in 1998 at the Greater Homewood Adult Literacy and ESOL Program. She has operated the volunteer component of literacy programs, taught classes, and has served as an instructional specialist.

She joined the labor movement when she was hired by SEIU 1199e-dc in 2000. Ms. Copeland was promoted to the director of the Healthcare Workers Training Institute and the Education Director for SEIU 1199e-dc. In these roles she was responsible for the educational and occupational training of unionized healthcare workers in Maryland and the District of Columbia while providing leadership development for the leaders, members, and staff of the union. In 2005 SEIU 1199e-dc merged with 1199 SEIU NY forming 1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East.

In 2008, Ms. Copeland transitioned to becoming the Regional Director of 1199 SEIU Training and Upgrading (TUF) in MD/DC. In her current position, she operates the joint labor/management training program with over 31 participating healthcare institutions. Ms. Copeland is member of the Baltimore Workforce Investment Board and on the Board of Directors for the Maryland Workforce Corporation.

Michelle Jackson: Baltimore City Community College – Instructional Specialist

Michelle Jackson is the instructional Specialist for Adult Basic Education at Baltimore City Community College. Michelle began with the College as an ABE Adjunct Instructor in Adult Basic Education at the Baltimore City Community College. Michelle has over 19 years experience in adult education, having taught Pre-GED and GED courses. Michelle holds a BS in Psychology and is currently working towards a M.Ed. at Goucher College.

News Just In



National Coalition For Literacy

The National Coalition for Literacy has some terrific news for you! On Monday, August 1st, Representative Jared Polis (D-CO) introduced, for the third year in a row, a House resolution ([H. Res. 385](#)) designating the week of September 12th as [National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week 2011](#)! Despite the fact that new rules in the House prohibit votes on such commemorative legislation, Representative Polis is so committed to this issue that he introduced this legislation anyway, because this type of recognition is so important to us.

States and local entities have followed this national leadership in previous years to establish state and local resolutions for our cause. It ultimately serves to leverage local partnerships, resources, and funding for adult education and family literacy nationwide.

In addition, for the very first time a similar bipartisan resolution recognizing the week of September 12th as *National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week* will be introduced in the Senate by Senators Patty Murray (D-WA) and Lamar Alexander (R-TN). They plan to introduce it the week of September 5, 2011. We are very appreciative of the leadership in both the House and Senate to raise awareness of the critical role adult education and family literacy plays in our country, in our economy, and for the nation's well being.

Action Request

The good news is that we will **not** need a minimum number of co-sponsors to move either piece of legislation forward. However, it will be important to show strong, bipartisan support for our issue by having Representatives and Senators stand behind the commemoration of this week.





Action: Call or email Members of Congress

Message: Support the resolution for *National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week 2011*.

House Member offices should contact Scott Groginsky with Representative Polis to sign on in support of H. Res. 385. Cosponsors thus far include Representative John Sarbanes (D-MD), Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), and Representative Mike McIntyre (D-NC).

Senator offices should contact either Jordan Smith with Senator Murray's office or Peter Oppenheim with Senator Alexander's office to sign on in support of *National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week 2011*.

Thank yous should go to Representative Polis for sponsoring H.Res. 385 and to Representative Sarbanes, Representative Holmes Norton, and Representative McIntyre for cosponsoring it. Thank yous should also go to Senator Murray and Senator Alexander for their work to introduce the first ever Senate resolution dedicating *National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week*.

In the meantime, watch for resources and updates from the National Coalition for Literacy that will help you celebrate this commemorative event. At a time when education is facing budgetary and political challenges, it's critical we lift *every voice* for adult education and family literacy. Our nation's economy and well-being depend on it.

If you have questions, contact the [National Coalition for Literacy](#)



Save The Dates



Your MAACCE Board of Directors is putting together an exciting schedule of professional development events for Fall 2011! These workshops are designed to offer an additional opportunity for our members to participate in high-quality, accessible professional development opportunities.

An ESL/ESOL workshop is planned for Saturday, September 17, 2011 at the Episcopal Diocese in north-central Baltimore City



Watch this space for more information on our 2012 Fall Workshops!

A workshop on functional context education and workplace literacy with Dr. Tom Sticht is planned for Friday Oct. 28 at HCC, Columbia Gateway.



The “NEW” GED Test

Contributed by Barbara Denman – Prince Georges Community College

GED 21st Century Initiative

The GED Tests are changing! The projected date for the release of the next-generation GED exam is set for sometime in 2014. While much of the new system is under development, the GED Testing Service has posted an introduction to the changes on its website (<http://gedtestingservice.com>). Here is a sample:



The GED 21st Century Initiative will transform the GED test into a comprehensive program that will prepare more adult learners for postsecondary education, training, and careers. The program’s structure includes three major components:

1. Nationally accessible preparation programs designed to prepare more adults more quickly to perform on the new GED exam;
2. A GED assessment system based on 21st century skill requirements including alignment with emerging Common Core state standards and certifying not just high school equivalence but also college- and career-readiness;
3. A transition network that supports and links adults with postsecondary education, training and career opportunities - providing them a chance to earn a sustainable living wage.

The Initiative will contribute to the nation's vital goal to build a globally competitive workforce by ensuring more adults who previously dropped out of high school become college- and career-ready. The Initiative will have three components: a national preparation program, a new GED assessment, and a post-credential transition network.

A big change: the new assessment will be administered through computer-based testing (CBT), although paper-based testing (PBT) will still be available under certain circumstances or as an accommodation. The computer-based version of the GED Tests will only be offered at Official GED Testing Centers. The test will not be administered online outside of those official centers. As always, it’s important for adult education program staff to be sure that test-takers are aware of this.

The GED 21st Century Initiative is not a single event or product launch. It is a new way of thinking about the GED testing program. The Initiative represents a commitment to helping more adults become career- and college-ready by transforming the GED test into a comprehensive program. By building a more robust assessment, complete with preparation tools and transitions to college and careers, GED Testing Service and ACE hope to increase the number of adults who can enter and succeed in college and the workforce.

For more information as it develops, try the Frequently Asked Questions list at <http://gedtestingservice.com/>

FAQ's

- **Will test scores expire? Will spelling be given more weight in the Essay scoring guide?**

Test scores on the current 2002 Series GED Tests will expire when the next-generation exam is released sometime in 2014. Although it is much too early for guidelines for scoring of essays and other possible constructed response items on the new GED assessment to have been developed, it is highly unlikely that spelling will be evaluated in these types of items. Adults in the 21st Century generally have access to spelling tools, and so evaluation of responses to assessment items would likely take that fact into account. As the new GED assessment continues in development, GED Testing Service will share the expectations and scoring guidelines with the field.

- **I have heard the new test will be on-line.**

The next-generation GED assessment, to be launched sometime in 2014, will be administered through computer-based testing (CBT), although paper-based testing (PBT) will still be available under certain circumstances or as an accommodation. The computer-based version of the GED Tests will only be offered at Official GED Testing Centers. The test will not be administered via the Internet ("online testing") outside of those official centers. This is crucial for GED Administrators and examiners to understand in promoting security for test-takers who may fall victim to online diploma mills or frauds. It is important to note that until the next-generation test is launched, the 2002 Series GED Test will be administered in both PBT and CBT formats.

- **What will be the role of instructors in this National Preparation Program?**

Instructors will play a key role in preparing candidates to take the next-generation GED exam. Although materials will be available to help individuals engage in self-study to prepare themselves for the test, many test-takers will still want and need to participate in classroom-based, distance learning, or blended learning programs in which instructors will assist test-takers along their learning journey in both academic and motivational terms.

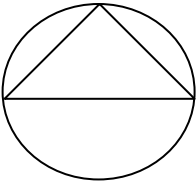



MAACCE MATH MATTERS

Summer Fun Math Brain Teasers by Mr. J



As you relax this summer and think about the start of fall classes, keep your mind mathematically sharp by working on these brain teasers. All questions pertain to math concepts needed for the GED test. Answers are provided somewhere in this newsletter – you just have to find them. Let me know when you do. ☺

August 2011	1 $0^6 + a^0$	2 $3\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}x = 4\frac{1}{2}$ Find x	3 $y = 2x - 22$ $3x - 4y - 73 = 0$ Find x	4 0.000819 written in scientific notation is $8.19 \times 10^{-?}$	5 $3\frac{1}{4}$ $-1\frac{?}{6}$ $\frac{5}{12}$	6 $(2)^3(-1)^8 \times (\frac{3}{2^2})$
	7 $3(x - 6) + 1 = 4(8 - x)$	8 A \$480 CD grows to \$518.40 after the 1 st year. What is the interest rate?	10 $(3)(-5) + 2^2 + 9 \div 3 + 3 \times 6$	11 A product of 15 and a number is 12 less than the sum of twice the number and 155. # = ?	12 What is the smallest common denominator for these fractions? $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6}$	13 $a=6, b=3, c=8$ $\frac{ab+c}{\sqrt[3]{c}}$
14 One-hundred trillion equals $10^?$	15 If you rode a bike 1320 feet in a minute, what is your speed in miles per hour?	16 Area $\triangle = ?$ Diameter = 8 	17 Pick a number between 50 & 70. Add 82. Remove the hundreds digit and add it to the number left. Subtract this from the original.	18 0.3 minutes = ? seconds	19 A \$28.75 tie was reduced to \$23.27. What was the % discount?	20 20 % of 35 % of 40 = $56/x$ $x = ?$
21 Jay makes \$9 an hour, which is $\frac{3}{5}$ what Bo makes. Bo's hourly wage is $\frac{5}{7}$ of Mary's. Mary ?	22 $(8\frac{1}{4} \times 2\frac{2}{5}) \div (0.9)$	23 $9 \times 6 \div (3 \times 2) + 14$	24 How many ways can 4 people be arranged in a row with 4 seats?	25  The sides of this triangle are consecutive odd integers and the perimeter is 81. What is the shortest length?	26 In a recent vote for a tax increase 182 or 87.5% voted. How many didn't vote?	27 $ -3 ^3$
28 4, 10, 18, ?, 40, 54, 70, ...	29 32° less than three times the complement of x° equals the supplement of x° . $x = ?$	30 If $9x^2 - ax + 25$ is a perfect square, $a = ?$	31 What is the complement of a 59° angle?	Jay Willetts 410-953252-6724 Adult Education Math Specialist jaywilletts@comcast.net mr.jgedrx@comcast.net		

This mathematics article was written by Jay Willetts and is a regular feature in the MAACCE newsletter. Jay is often called upon to present informative math workshops for instructors and students on all levels of GED math. He has presented at the local, state and national levels, and authored numerous math worksheets and a GED Math Workbook.

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We're on the web!
See us at:
www.maaccemd.org

About Our Organization...

The Maryland Association for Adult, Community and Continuing Education is a non-profit organization providing leadership in Maryland for those interested in advancing education as a lifelong process. MAACCE provides a central forum for a wide variety of adult, community and continuing education groups and encourages organizations and agencies in Maryland to cooperate in a broad spectrum of educational programs and activities in support of the lifelong learning concept.

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MAACCE Matters is published quarterly coordinating with the seasons. If you would like to furnish an article or supply information for MAACCE members, contact Jay Willetts at jaywilletts@comcast.net

