

# i

the  
informational  
newsletter

# • m a i l

## Fired Up...Ready to Go!

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50 **CHILD**® educators spent a productive weekend in Vero Beach, FL on February 9-10. They came together to learn to become effective training consultants. They are fired up and ready to train and mentor new CHILD educators for the upcoming school year.

Veteran consultants participated in the Saturday events to review the updated training manual and learn about new and revised CHILD materials for 2008-2009. First-timers stayed over on Sunday to practice their presentation skills and get feedback from the ISI staff.

Congratulations and thank you to the following attendees:

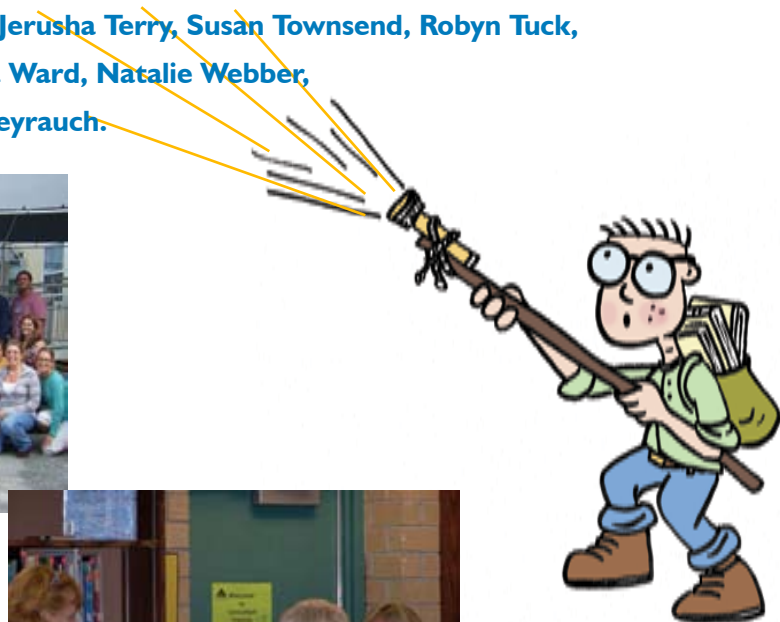
- Stephanie Adams, Allison Bailey, Beth Barnard, Barbara Chamberlain,**
- Amy Christopher, Chandler Crosby, Shelly Docherty, Teri Dugan, Laura Dyer,**
- Elaine Ealy, Christina Etts, Sherry Haffield, Kathleen Hairston, Keely Hancock,**
- Colleen Henderson, Jami Hercamp, Fay Hinkson, Kimberly Howes,**
- Trish Hunsecker, Cheryl Johnson, Dawn Jones, Courtney Lewis, Bethany Loomis,**
- Claudine Maliglowka, Yatrawati Mastapha, Rebecca McPherson, Erin Miller,**
- Gina Morrison, Sean O'Brien, Barbara Preziosi, Gene Robbins,**
- Rachel Rosenbaum, Paula Rovnak, Rebecca Ann Sayers, Christina Sayers,**
- Alyssa SeEVERS, Anna Sforza, Susan Slanker, Debbie Smith, Claudia Staples,**
- Mary Strickler, Julie Switzer, Jerusha Terry, Susan Townsend, Robyn Tuck,**
- JoAnn WalleSHAUSER, Amanda Ward, Natalie Webber,**
- Kimberly Weese, Barbara Weyrauch.**



2008 CHILD Consultant  
Training Class



Beth Barnard (center) receives the  
Outstanding Consultant Award from Winky  
Jenkins-Rice as Jan Gabhart looks on.





# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I am so excited about our conference in West Palm Beach this year. I had a chance to preview one of the schools that will be on the bus tour when I visited Cypress Trails Elementary a few weeks ago. I was blown away by the vibrant

and engaging classrooms that I saw throughout all the CHILD clusters. Some of my photos are on the back page of this newsletter. I am sure that the other visitation school (Panther Run Elementary) will be just as amazing. You are in for a treat if you sign up for the bus tour on Friday.

The Saturday main events are shaping up nicely with better-than-ever breakout sessions and new vendors signing up for the Market Place. I'm especially excited to meet and hear our keynote speaker, **Gary Stager**. Be sure to read his "Speaking Out" columns in the *District Administration Magazine*.

Gary's February column, "Teach the Kids You Have," was music to my ears. He talks about alternatives to the failed "sit-down-and-shut-up" method of instruction, advocating instead to "collaborate with students in meaningful learning adventures." He goes on to say that "a teacher who reads, engages in professional activities outside of class, and knows each student will help them progress forward." Sounds like Project CHILD to me!

I hope you will take his advice and participate in the CHILD conference to sharpen your skills, interact with other innovative educators, and celebrate **CHILD**ren. See you at the beach.

—Sally Butzin

## Register Soon for the Annual CHILD Conference

The 2008 CHILD Conference will be held at the beautiful **Marriott West Palm Beach Hotel**, 1001 Okeechobee Boulevard, located only 2 miles from the Palm Beach International Airport. (The Ft. Lauderdale International Airport is another close-by option.) Make your hotel reservations by April 7 to obtain the special conference rate of \$145.00 per night. The conference is capped at 350, so don't delay.

**Keynote Speaker:** For 25 years, **Gary Stager**, an internationally recognized educator, speaker and consultant, has helped learners of all ages on six continents embrace the power of computers as intellectual laboratories and vehicles for self-expression. He led professional development in the world's first laptop schools (1990), has designed online graduate school programs since the mid-90s and is a collaborator in the MIT Media Lab's Future of Learning Group. Dr. Stager's doctoral research involved the creation of a high-tech alternative learning environment for incarcerated at-risk teens.



Recent work includes teaching and mentoring some of Australia's "most troubled" public schools. Gary is Senior Editor of *District Administration Magazine*,

Editor of *The Pulse: Education's Place for Debate*, Adjunct Professor at Pepperdine University and an Associate of the Thornburg Center for Professional Development. Dr. Stager is also the Executive Director of The Constructivist Consortium. In 1999, *Converge Magazine* named Gary a "shaper of our future and inventor of our destiny." The National School Boards Association recognized Dr. Stager with the distinction of "20 Leaders to Watch" in 2007.



The CHILD team from Vero Beach Elementary showing their school pride at last year's conference.

# Celebrate CHILDren



# 18<sup>th</sup> Annual CHILD Conference

May 2-3, 2008

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_

School/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address / City / State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code / Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

## To Register

**1** Mail Registration Form to:  
Institute for School Innovation  
PO Box 13296 • Tallahassee, FL 32317

or

**2** Fax Registration Form to:  
Institute for School Innovation • 850/671-5390  
(District purchase order or credit card info must accompany fax)

*Telephone registrations will not be accepted.*

**Registration Deadline is April 4, 2008**

Make your hotel reservations at the Marriott West Palm Beach by calling 800-228-9290 and asking for the Institute for School Innovation Special Rate of \$145.00.

## Registration Fees

Early Bird before March 7, 2008 • Regular Registration March 8 - April 4, 2008

### Accredited CHILD Schools

**Friday:**

Bus tour only  
Early Bird \$35 • Regular \$45

Make & Take or  
Administrator Roundtables only  
Early Bird \$35 • Regular \$45

All day with lunch  
Early Bird \$75 • Regular \$85

**Saturday:**

All day conference, breakfast,  
awards luncheon & breaks  
Early Bird \$85 • Regular \$95

**Friday & Saturday:**

Early Bird \$150 • Regular \$170

**Add Total Fees:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Other Schools & Guests

**Friday:**

Bus tour only  
Early Bird \$45 • Regular \$55

Make & Take or  
Administrator Roundtables only  
Early Bird \$45 • Regular \$55

All day with lunch  
Early Bird \$85 • Regular \$95

**Saturday:**

All day conference, breakfast,  
awards luncheon & breaks  
Early Bird \$100 • Regular \$110

**Friday & Saturday:**

Early Bird \$170 • Regular \$190

**Add Total Fees:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Don't delay!* Limited availability for conference attendees (max 350)

## Payment Information *Payment must accompany Registration Form!*

District Purchase Order # \_\_\_\_\_

School Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Check # \_\_\_\_\_

VISA  Mastercard  Discover  AmEx

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

If you require any special accommodations to participate in the CHILD Conference, please contact us at 850/671-3706 by March 24<sup>th</sup>.

Cancellation requests must be received in writing by April 14. A \$10 processing fee will be assessed.

# MAT21 - Mastering the Art of Teaching in the 21st Century

## Announcing ISI's New Professional Development Program

Mastering the Art of Teaching in the 21st Century (MAT21) is a complete staff development program that not only teaches the techniques to improve instruction, but also provides the tools to make it happen. MAT21 teachers learn to use the research-based CHILD materials that have helped innovative teachers around the country create highly engaging classrooms where students are learning more, and are too busy to get into trouble.

MAT21 clarifies the fact that Project CHILD is all about effective teaching and using best practices. Title I schools can use professional development funds for MAT21. This comprehensive professional development program prepares teachers to:

### Increase Time-on-Task

Students who are engaged are students who are learning. MAT21 teachers learn to create vibrant and exciting classrooms with differentiated learning activities that go beyond skill and drill.

### Provide Purposeful Practice

Students learn more when engaged in purposeful practice, not busy work. MAT21 teachers learn to plan and set up engaging activities at six small-group learning stations.

### Integrate Technology into Instruction

Computers, podcasts, and text messaging rule the world for today's child. MAT21 teachers learn how to capture this natural curiosity by using technology as an integral part of daily work.

### Empower Students to Take Responsibility

In some standard classrooms the teacher is working very hard, but the students are hardly working. MAT21 reverses this, using various techniques to make the students take responsibility for their own learning.

### Differentiate Instruction through Small Group Learning Stations

MAT21 teachers learn to differentiate practice activities; not only by skill level, but also by learning style.

### Use Standards to Drive Instruction

When teachers teach to standards, the students are well-prepared for their state tests. MAT21 teachers move beyond textbook teaching to let the state standards drive instruction.

### Use Authentic Assessments to Monitor Station Work

MAT21 teachers learn to assess station work to assure that standards are being met. They also learn how to monitor student progress and effort, as well as to measure academic skills and concepts.

### Grow Professionally through Teamwork and Collaboration

Teachers who progress to the MAT21 Transitional and Transformational levels also learn to work collaboratively as part of a learning community. Through specialization they can plan together as subject experts, as well as plan vertically with their cross-grade cluster team.

There are three implementation options for MAT21. Schools will choose the option that best fits their curriculum and staff development needs.

#### OPTION 1: TRADITIONAL ★

Self Contained

Teachers will choose one of the core subjects (reading, writing, mathematics) as a first step to creating a transformational classroom. They will implement the CHILD system for that one subject within their self-contained classroom.

#### OPTION 2: TRANSITIONAL ★★

Grade Level Teams

Teachers will form grade level teams of two or three members, depending upon which of the core subjects they wish to cover. They will implement the CHILD system for their chosen subject specialty with students rotating between the team's classrooms.

#### OPTION 3: TRANSFORMATIONAL ★★★

Cross Grade Triangulated Clusters

Teachers will implement the full CHILD triangulated model with cross grade cluster teams (K-2 and 3-5) for reading, writing, and mathematics. This model is especially appropriate for charter schools, magnet schools, and schools in restructuring who have the flexibility to be creative and innovative. This model has been carefully evaluated and researched showing outstanding results for a wide range of students, especially those with special needs – from gifted to learning disabled.



Contact ISI for more information on how to develop a plan for your school. Various fee schedules apply, depending upon how many teachers will be participating within a school or district and whether there is a long-term commitment to progress through the full three-year transformational process.

ISI is very interested in working with schools willing to invest the time and hard work it takes for meaningful change. Visionary leadership is critical to success. We're here to help. Grants are available to fund a coordinator for district-wide implementations seeking the Transformational level. Let's be sure that no teacher is left behind as a new age dawns in public education.

# INNOVATION SHOWCASE

## OKALOOSA SCHOOLS PREPARE TO IMPLEMENT A UNIQUE CHILD DESIGN NEXT YEAR

ISI has been meeting with **Dr. Alexis Tibbetts**, Superintendent of the Okaloosa County, FL school district, and **Dolores Noechel**, the district's instructional technology coordinator, to design an innovative intervention model for struggling students in grades 3-5. Each of eight schools will implement a special CHILD intermediate cluster for students who scored Level 1 or 2 on the state FCAT test.

The principals and select teachers have been fully involved in preliminary activities to showcase this opportunity for parents and potential students. The message is that some children learn differently and need a different learning environment. The children have not failed, but perhaps the traditional classroom has failed them. Project CHILD provides a new opportunity for success.

"I am so impressed with the dynamic leadership and vision in this district," said **Dr. Sally Butzin**, ISI Executive Director. "The district is giving extra support to teachers to pave the way for their challenging mission by sending each school's entire team to the CHILD Annual Conference. What a strong message this sends of the importance of professional development and building strong bonds within each cluster team."

## PROJECT TEAMS MAKES A COMEBACK: NEW NETWORK OF K-8 IMAGINE CHARTER SCHOOLS BRINGING INNOVATION TO MIDDLE SCHOOL.

Years ago **Dr. Sally Butzin** collaborated with **Dr. Bob Reiser**, acclaimed Florida State University professor of instructional design, to develop a middle school version of Project CHILD called Project TEAMS (Technology Enhancing Achievement in Middle School). While the research at three TEAMS pilot schools was very promising, there was little interest from the middle school community to adopt the model. So the manuals have been sitting on shelves in the ISI archives.

But now an exciting network of CHILD charter schools is being established through the Imagine Schools Company that will use the TEAMS model in their upper grades. These K-8 Imagine schools want all classrooms to be fully involved with innovation, so ISI



is dusting off the TEAMS materials to refresh and update them. We plan to work first on the 6th grade materials for implementation next school year at several of the schools. 7th and 8th grade will follow in subsequent years.

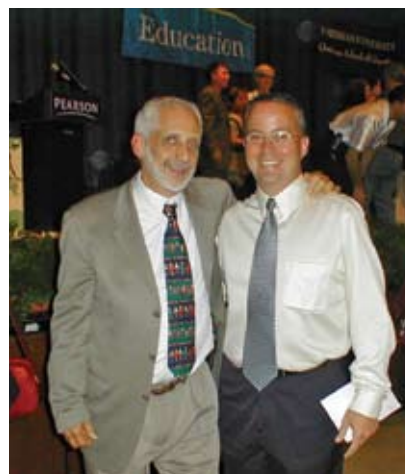
ISI Senior Program Specialist **Diana Paulson** will be spearheading the resurgent TEAMS development. Similar to Project CHILD, the middle school version gets students actively involved at learning stations and taking responsibility for their own learning. For more information about Project TEAMS, go to the ISI website at [www.ifsi.org](http://www.ifsi.org).

Imagine/CHILD schools are opening next year in the following Florida districts: Broward, Lake, Pasco, Pinellas, St. Lucie, Sarasota, and... *drumroll*... Leon (Tallahassee). Principals have been hired and student enrollment is underway. For more information and to enroll your child, go to [www.imagineschools.com](http://www.imagineschools.com).

## CHILD NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION SCHOOL FEATURED IN NEW BOOK ON SCHOOL CHANGE

*Schools That Change: Evidence-Based Improvement and Effective Change Leadership*, a new book by **Lew Smith**, highlights eight schools across the nation that won National School Change Awards. One chapter features **South Heights Elementary** in Henderson, Kentucky, along with its remarkable principal, **Rob Carroll**.

The book chronicles many of the successful innovations that the school has initiated over the years, including choosing Project CHILD as their instructional model. "The (pilot) program was successful at South Heights, with the Project CHILD cluster students outperforming their peers in terms of attendance, behavior, and academic achievement. It ultimately became the instructional model for all South Heights students." (p. 98)



Author Lew Smith (left) with Rob Carroll at the National School Change Award presentation in New York City.

To learn more about this exciting school go to [www.southheights.henderson.k12.ky.us](http://www.southheights.henderson.k12.ky.us). The book can be purchased from Corwin Press at [www.CorwinPress.com](http://www.CorwinPress.com).

## NEW PRODUCTS WILL ENHANCE CHILD CLASSROOMS NEXT YEAR

ISI continues to refresh and update the CHILD products in response to our teachers' suggestions and needs. **Winky Jenkins-Rice**, Director of Educational Programs at ISI, listens and responds each year with new classroom materials.

This year's updates include six laminated CHILD Procedures Posters, along with a set of rubber stamps with the CHILD station icons. Each current CHILD teacher will receive these new items with their renewal materials. And of course they will be included in the materials for all new clusters as well.



## upcoming events

- **2008 National Urban Alliance's Teaching for Intelligence Conference.** March 29, Albany, NY [www.believetoachieve.org/albany](http://www.believetoachieve.org/albany). Dr. Sally Butzin will present a breakout session titled "Beyond Sit 'N Git: Boys Need to Move!"
- **2008 CHILD Annual Conference.** May 2-3 at the Marriott Hotel in West Palm Beach, FL.
- **CHILD Consultant Training Workshop.** May 16-17 in Okaloosa County, FL.

**Website Reminder:** Password protected area — Current CHILD educators should remember to use their password to download hundreds of station activities and Task Cards from the ISI website, along with the monthly Training Table tips to enhance your classroom implementation.

Just posted — 243 LeapFrog Task Cards to use with various LeapFrog products and interactive books! Go to [www.ifsi.org/CHILD](http://www.ifsi.org/CHILD) and click on Technology Connections for a skills index for each LeapFrog set.

## accolades

Congratulations to these CHILD teachers for being selected as Teacher of the Year at their respective schools:

- Melissa Caudhill**, Dodgertown Elementary, Vero Beach, FL
- Julie Dean**, Citrus Elementary, Vero Beach, FL
- Fay Johnson**, Ft. McCoy Elementary, Fort McCoy, FL
- Jen Johnson**, Neptune Elementary, St. Cloud, FL
- Pamela Keels**, Ocala Springs Elementary, Ocala, FL
- Susan Teel**, Buck Lake Elementary, Tallahassee, FL
- Jessica Terrell**, Partin Settlement Elementary, Kissimmee, FL
- Donna Ulp**, Pleasant Hill Elementary, Kissimmee, FL

Osceola First Year Teachers of the Year:

- Rachel Barenie**, Reedy Creek Elementary, Kissimmee, FL
- Lydia Rodriguez**, Canoe Creek Charter Academy, St. Cloud, FL
- Tiffany Schooley**, Narcoossee Community School, St. Cloud, FL
- Alicia Waller**, Neptune Elementary, St. Cloud, FL

Distinguished Minority Educator of the Year: **Nafeeza Bacchus**, Neptune Elementary, St. Cloud, FL

CHILD Teachers Achieving National Board Certification:

- Liz Ballard**, Canoe Creek Charter Academy, St. Cloud, FL
- Keeley Hancock**, Reedy Creek Elementary, Kissimmee, FL
- Janet Moodey**, Central Avenue Elementary, Kissimmee, FL
- David Noyes**, Partin Settlement Elementary, Kissimmee, FL

**Sally Butzin**, ISI Executive Director, was selected as a Woman of Distinction Merit Honoree by the Girl Scout Council of the Apalachee Bend.

# CHILD Photo Gallery

Cypress Trails Elementary School  
 Royal Palm Beach Gardens, FL  
 Gale Fulford, Principal  
 Katy Thomas, Assistant Principal  
 Photos by Sally Butzin



Redefining classroom instruction through technology and active learning.

Changing How Instruction  
 for Learning is Delivered™



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