

Connecticut Education Association's NEW TEACHER CONFERENCE | MARCH 13, 2010

Schedule

8:00-8:45am | Registration

8:45-9:30am | Welcome
Phil Apruzzese, CEA President
Keynote, *Anthony J. Mullen*
2009 Connecticut Teacher of the Year, 2009 National Teacher of the Year

9:45 -11:15am | Workshops – Session I

11:15-11:30am | Break

11:30am-1:00pm | Workshops – Session II

1:00-2:00pm | Lunch

Keynote Address: Anthony J. Mullen

On April 28, 2009, before a White House audience, President Barack Obama presented to the American people the 2009 National Teacher of the Year, Anthony J. Mullen, a special education teacher at the ARCH School, an alternative education branch of Greenwich High School in Greenwich, Connecticut.

Mr. Mullen's path to teaching was truly a dream deferred. Due to family circumstances when he was young growing up in New York City, college attendance along with a desire to become a teacher were put on hold for full-time work, first in a factory assembly line then for 20 years as a New York City police officer, all the while saving money out of his salary to eventually go to college. At the time Mr. Mullen was ready for higher education, he chose Long Island University because its program accommodated the fluctuating schedule of police officers and fire fighters. He received a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University in 1990.

Continuing through the 1990s with the NYPD, Mr. Mullen had many opportunities to work with troubled teenagers—young people he describes as destined for prison unless they received the benefits of a quality education and positive adult role models. He wanted to be that role model so consequently he earned a master's degree in Elementary Education and Special Education from Mercy College in New York in 2001. He retired from the police department because he wanted to teach and mentor teenagers who needed a second chance. As Mullen says, "I actively sought teaching positions that included the job description 'working with students with severe behavioral or emotional problems.' I knew that my biography and work experience would provide me the empathy and skills necessary to help such young people."

During his first year of teaching in 2001-2002, Mullen taught special education in grades seven and eight at Northern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in Yorktown Heights, New York. He then went to the Arch Program, an alternative education program within the Greenwich Public Schools system, where he has taught for the past seven years. In his years as a teacher, Mr. Mullen has found a highly effective mix of passion, professionalism and perseverance—the three words that drive his teaching philosophy.

He was chosen National Teacher of the Year from among the 2009 State Teachers of the Year. Selected by the oldest and most prestigious awards program to focus public attention on excellence in teaching, Mr. Mullen began a year as a full-time educational spokesperson in June 2009. The National Teacher of the Year Program, sponsored by the ING Foundation, is a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers.

Deadline for registration is Friday, March 5, 2010

Limited capacity – register early!

Workshop Sessions

A | Bag O' Tricks For Making Classroom Discipline A Breeze

This workshop will help give teachers practical and easy to use tools for handling classroom management issues. Sally Ogden will include strategies from Jim Fay and Foster Cline's Love and Logic® and will emphasize how to build responsibility in students. Participants will learn powerful ways to handle bullying & power struggles while reducing their own stress and frustration in the classroom. The end goal is to create more peaceful and effective classrooms where both students and teachers flourish. If you like to laugh and learn at the same time while you're acquiring good, solid skills, this presentation is for you!

B | From Podcasting To The Web **THIS IS AN ALL-DAY SESSION**

Podcasts can be an effective way to present information such as lectures with a PowerPoint-like slide show. Participants will research, write, record and produce an enhanced podcast (multimedia format that allows images to be displayed in time with audio). Enhanced podcasts also are able to present chapter markers in an audio file much like a DVD movie can allow users to jump to predetermined spots in a presentation. Authoring is possible on a Macintosh computer using an application by Apple called GarageBand (part of their iLife suite). We will then share and publish the podcast to a Web page using Apple's iWeb (also part of their iLife suite) and burn the site onto a CD that can be viewed on any computer. **Twenty (20) laptops will be available to participants on a first-come, first served basis. In addition, participants with their own MAC laptops with either iLife 08 or iLife 09 installed, are welcome to attend this workshop.**

C | Making It Work: What Teachers Need To Know About SRBI In Connecticut

Feeling confused and overwhelmed by SRBI? This in-depth workshop will provide you with detailed information about what SRBI is and how it is designed to increase student outcomes. Hear from teachers who have been implementing SRBI over the past several years as they share specific tips about how to make it work from a staff perspective. Finally, you will gain insight into how SRBI may impact working conditions and how your local association can respond. This is a workshop you don't want to miss!

D | Mythbusters: Understanding Your Legal Rights And Responsibilities In The Special Education Process

This workshop focuses on the laws of special education with a particular emphasis on regular and special education teachers' rights and responsibilities when participating in the special education process. Participants will learn what the law requires of them as well as what they can and cannot do in such areas as PPT meetings, drafting IEPs and accommodating students in the regular education environment. The impact of special education laws on teachers' working conditions as well as changes to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) will be integrated into the workshop.

E | Parent/Teacher Conferences

Is it that time of year again? Parent/teacher conferences are sometimes dreaded by first year teachers and students. It can be another stressful routine if you are not organized and prepared. If you are prepared, your conference time will fly by. This session will give you many ideas to promote a working partnership among students, parents, and you. You will receive tips on how to make the short time you have for conferences effective and productive. Effective parent-teacher communication leads to greater success for everyone. Find out how to plan for successful conferences and get inside tips leading to a great conference.

F | School Reform in Connecticut...the real story behind CALI

The Connecticut Accountability for Learning Initiative (CALI) is a systemic approach to school reform. The Connecticut State Dept. of Education is leading this initiative by providing support to schools and districts to accelerate the closing of the achievement gap. Former Bristol Superintendent Dr. Michael Wasta, one of the key project leaders for the state, will provide an entertaining overview of CALI and describe the key role teachers and unions can and do play.

G | So What If You Sing Off Key! It's All About Connecting Anyway

What does Ernest Green, John Lewis, Thurgood Marshall, Jr., stamp collecting, small change, a glass eye, John Brown's body, noise, mega cookouts, Santa Claus and singing badly have to do with motivating middle school students to succeed? Everything! Peter Stred and Joe DePasqua, AKA Santa and the Elf on Steroids, have taught together for more than twenty-five years (there is a joke in that number, ask). They use their knowledge of the curriculum and personal experiences to connect with kids so they connect with learning. Come share their philosophy for success and they'll even sing for you.

H | Teachers and the Law

You will become familiar with many of the laws that impact your everyday teaching environment, that also protect the rights of the educator. Tenure, dispensing medications, proper computer use, and the interplay certain state agencies have with public school teachers are among some of the laws that will be discussed. The role of CEA in the development and maintenance of laws that enhance the professional status of teachers will also be explored.

I | The Smart Way to Learn: Integrating Smart Boards into Daily Instruction **THIS IS AN ALL-DAY SESSION**

This session will introduce the basic fundamentals of how to incorporate Smart Boards into daily instruction. It will include an overview of basic Smart Toolbar functions and Lesson Activity gallery content. You will learn how to use Smart Notebook 10 software to create dynamic and interactive lessons for the classroom. Using Smart technology for differentiation will also be discussed. Attendees will be allowed to experiment with the Smart Board during a hands-on tutorial and learn how to download Smart lessons already created by teachers from the Smart Exchange Website.

J | Top Tips from Terrific Teachers – Round Table Discussion

The purpose of this workshop is to give newer teachers a chance to talk about issues that have an impact on them ranging from time management and classroom management to getting involved with your union. We will discuss issues commonly faced by new teachers as well as the issues that may be unique to them. This is a facilitated discussion not a lecture. Participants are strongly encouraged to participate and bring issues that they wish to discuss.

K | True Colors – Creating A Classroom That Brings Out The Best In Everyone By Discovering Their Colorful Personality

Your classroom is a rainbow of colors that match a variety of behaviors and personality types. Find ways to identify and brighten your own colors while connecting with your students. We will discuss and brainstorm ways to open lines of communication and reduce conflict. Together we will look to validate your own spectrum of colors and bring out the best and brightest in your students.

L | What Does TEAM Mean For New Teachers?

The new Teacher Education And Mentoring program (TEAM) will be fully implemented in September 2010. As a newer teacher, whether or not you have completed the BEST program, there's a role for you in TEAM. This session will give an overview of the components of the TEAM program, what will be required of new teachers who go through it, and how other teachers can play a role in supporting TEAM and their newer colleagues..

M | Who is in Your Classroom?

This workshop offers a challenging and global look at the changing faces, needs, cultures, abilities, and living situations of Connecticut students. You will have an opportunity to review how these issues impact you in the classroom. You will explore you role and responsibilities related to the diversity experienced in the classroom.

N | You've Landed Your First Teaching Job, Now Learn How to Stay Employed

You love your assignment. Your students are fabulous. The teaching profession is more rewarding than you thought possible. Yes, it is the right choice. However, are you knowledgeable about employment-related matters and possible pitfalls that could compromise your career? Attend this informative session and walk away with a better understanding of employment rights and responsibilities facing you.

To register, go to www.cea.org and click on **2010 New Teacher Conference** under **Upcoming Events**

ANNOUNCING
Connecticut Education Association's

NEW TEACHER CONFERENCE

Saturday, March 13, 2010
Mohegan Sun Conference Center | Uncasville, CT



New Teacher
Conference
MARCH 13, 2010
MOHEGAN SUN
CONFERENCE CENTER
UNCASVILLE, CT

Non-profit org.
US postage
PAID
Permit No. 1754
Hartford CT

Capitol Place, Suite 500
21 Oak Street
Hartford, CT 06106-8001



Connecticut Education Association's NEW TEACHER CONFERENCE

March 13, 2010

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Mohegan Sun Convention Center | Uncasville, CT

- ❖ You must register online. Please go to www.cea.org and log in to register. The registration link (2010 New Teacher Conference) and related information can be found under "Upcoming Events" on the homepage.
- ❖ **The cost of the conference is \$20**, payable by credit card (non-refundable after March 2, 2010). Your local association may reimburse your cost. Attendance certificates will be available at the conference.
- ❖ Registrants are eligible to win one of two notebook computers.
- ❖ **DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS MARCH 5, 2010.**
- ❖ In case of inclement weather, call CEA at 1-800-842-4316 or 860-525-5641 for the status of this program.
- ❖ **Special registration note:** Sessions B and I are all-day sessions from 9:45 am to 1:00 pm. Participants who attend either B or I will not have the option to attend a second workshop.
- ❖ This conference is CEU-eligible. Forms will be available at the end of the conference to those teachers who qualify and require CEU credit.
- ❖ If you have questions, contact Mary Behrens at 1-800-842-4316 or 860-725-6320, or maryb@cea.org.

DIRECTIONS

From Southwest Connecticut

Follow I-95 through New York and into Connecticut. Stay Left on I-395 North towards Plainfield/Norwich. Exit 79A off I-395 in Uncasville, CT, onto CT-2A East toward Ledyard/Preston. Then take Exit 2/Mohegan Sun Boulevard in Uncasville, CT.

From Hartford Area

Take I-84 East to Route 2 East to I-395 South. Exit 79A off I-395 in Uncasville, CT, onto CT-2A East toward Ledyard/Preston. Then take Exit 2/Mohegan Sun Boulevard in Uncasville, CT.

From Eastern Connecticut

Take I-95 South to Exit 84N/Route 32. Follow Route 32 North to I-395. Exit 79A off I-395 in Uncasville, CT, onto CT-2A East toward Ledyard/Preston. Then take Exit 2/Mohegan Sun Boulevard in Uncasville, CT.