

YOUNG EDUCATORS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2003

LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS PROVIDE FUNDS FOR 2003 YES ADVISORS CONFERENCE

The Young Educators Society of Michigan will collaborate with local school districts of Macomb County to provide professional development for teachers and advisors from across the State during the 2003 YES Advisors Conference. The conference will be held on Thursday, October 16, at the University Center of Macomb Community College.

“Our goal is to provide professional development for new and veteran advisors,” said Chris Timberlake, YES Executive Board Member. “We are honored that Chippewa Valley Community Schools, Clintondale Community Schools, Mount Clemens Community Schools, Roseville Community Schools and Macomb Community College have endorsed our efforts.”

The day’s activities will reflect the conference theme, “Building Rapport in a Diverse Society.” Workshops will



Valerie Merriwether of Macomb Community College discuss plans for the 2003 YES Advisors Conference with members of the YES Executive Board. Seated (left) Dr. Barbara Jones, Saginaw Valley State University, (right) Dr. Henry O. Meares, University of Michigan.

include web site development, rapport building activities and compiling a resource catalogue for YES advisors. Dr. Noreen Thomas, provost at Macomb Community College will provide the keynote address.

Registration information may be obtained online at www.wmich.edu/yes.

SVSU TO HOST ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

The Young Educator Society Executive Board is pleased to announce the date of the 2004 Annual Spring Conference. The Conference will be held on the campus of Saginaw Valley State University on March 26, 2004. For registration information and work-

shop descriptions please contact Dr. Barbara Jones at (989) 964-4666.

Please share this information with students in your school who wish to attend college and pursue a profession as a teacher. We also welcome new chapters from diverse communities.

FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Colleagues,

Each year we begin our school year with great anticipation. We anticipate some students will want to learn everything possible, while others are there because they have to be in school. In light of the recent budget crisis, we are delegated more responsibility with fewer resources to work with. In the true spirit of cooperation we must press onward to motivate our students to become teachers.

Great teachers are always in demand. We know regardless of one’s chosen field or occupation everyone is taught by a teacher. Often times, students do not see the rewards and the benefits of becoming a teacher. As advisors, this is our golden opportunity to inspire others to make a difference in the world by becoming a teacher.

Please know that you can take pride in the development of this rich heritage of service that encourages our students to become future teachers. The strength of our nation’s classrooms rest in the hands of dedicated teachers and leaders such as yourself who inspire students to become their best. As a teacher and advisor, you are making your own contribution to our mission of service, which is the hallmark of the Young Educators Society.

Thank you for all that you do to make a positive impact upon those who call upon us for assistance. I applaud your commitment to the teaching profession. It is a worth while profession and one in which our students can be proud they have chosen to pursue.

I look forward to meeting each of you during the 2003 YES Advisors Conference at Macomb Community College.

Best wishes for a memorable year.

Janice W. Green Ph.D.
Chairperson





THE YOUNG EDUCATORS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Executive Board*

Publication Schedule

Issue	Deadline
Fall	October 1
Spring	March 15

Send your future articles to:

Chris Timberlake

YES Newsletter Editor
Roseville High School
17855 Common Road
Roseville, Michigan 48066
ctimberlake@rcs.misd.net
(586) 445-5580

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2003-2004 YES EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING DATES

November
Western Michigan University

January

Michigan State University /
Sexton High School

February

Wayne County
Community College

March

Eastern Michigan University

April

University of Michigan

May

Wayne State University

MIDDLE SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT INCREASE AT ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE



While Whitney Green and Tasha Hall of Lansing, Sexton High School reviewed the scrapbook entries, they observed a large variety of entries in the scrapbook, video and poster competitions on display. The conference was hosted

by Central Michigan University during March. Entries were received from participating high schools and middle schools YES Clubs from throughout the State of Michigan.

“We have noticed an increased in student participation in the competitions, especially among our middle school participants stated, Dr. Barbara Jones, Executive Board Chairperson. The first, second and third placed winners received monetary awards and recognition by Central Michigan University and the YES Executive Board.



The following are the final result of the competitions:

High School Division

Scrapbook Competition

First Place - Sexton High School

Second Place - Roseville High School

Third Place - Mount Clemens High School

Video/Technology

First Place - Roseville High School

Poster/ Displays

First Place - Mount Clemens High School

Second Place - Lansing Sexton High School

Third Place - Saginaw High School

Middle School Division

Scrapbook

First Place - Dwight Rich Middle School

Second Place - Riddle Middle School

Poster/Displays

First Place

Pattengill Middle School

Second Place

Riddle Middle School

YES chapters provide a variety of activities and competitions for both middle school and high school students. Guidelines are posted on the web-site www.wmich.edu/yes

ESSAY WRITING SCHOLARSHIP FOR YES GRADUATES TO BE OFFERED IN 2004

Each year the Young Educators Society Executive Board recognize outstanding graduating seniors and college students enrolled in participating teacher education programs with a \$1000 scholarship award. The YES Teacher Preparation Scholarship Award is competitive and may cover the cost of tuition, room and board, school supplies and living expenses.

During the 2003-04 academic year, the Executive Board will offer an additional award in the amount of \$500 for graduating high school seniors participating in an essay contest. The scholarship was introduced by Dr.

Henry O. Meares, YES Executive Board member and funded by the University of Michigan. Interested candidates may submit applications for scholarships beginning December 1. **The deadline for all scholarship applications is March 1, 2004.**

To learn more about the YES Teacher Preparation Scholarship program, how to apply for scholarships or where to make tax deductible contributions please contact Chris Timberlake at (586) 445-5580 or access our web site at www.wmich.edu/yes.

MOST U.S. TEACHERS WHITE, FEMALE **According to The Detroit News and wire reports**



Nine out of 10 public school teachers are white, both in Michigan and nationally, according to figures released during August, 2003, and the vast majority of those teachers are increasingly female, indicating teachers are even more segregated than the children they educate.

By comparison, about half of students are male and about 40 percent are under represented minorities, according to the National Education Association (NEA) survey, but diversity can vary dramatically by school building.

Male teachers made up about one third of the teaching force in the 1960's, 1970's, and 1980's, but their numbers slid to a low of 21 percent in 2001.

Whites have accounted for about 90 percent of all teachers for the past three decades.

So what makes teaching less attractive to men and minorities? A mix of factors, but mainly the fact that it's easier to earn more money with less stress in other fields, says the NEA, the nation's largest union with more than 2.7 million teachers and other members.

"It takes so many years to finally get a salary that is high enough to support a family," said Edward Kelley, a teacher at A.B. Combs Elementary in Raleigh, N.C. A nationally board certified teacher with

a masters degree, Kelley makes a salary of \$65,000 in his 30th year.

"Young people are going to look at that and say 'I want a house and a car, what's the fastest way to do it?' Teaching is not the way to do it, unfortunately," Kelley said.

The NEA and others are pursuing ways to improve diversity, such as trying to improve college access for under represented minorities and encouraging classroom aides to get teacher certifications.

But it isn't just getting men and minorities into education programs. Keeping new teachers is critical, said Cheryl Gambrell, associate superintendent at Wayne County's Regional Education Services Agency.

" We have to look at why so many teachers leave in the first three years. We've had success with mentoring," Gambrell said. "When you get into teaching, you have to have a passion for it."

Spreading teachers out among districts is important, too. While most counties don't keep track of teacher ethnicity, it's clear many of the state's minority teachers are in southeast Michigan, while other counties such as Macomb are 96 percent white or higher.

The survey also found teachers are generous with their time and money too. On average teachers work 50-hour workweek and spend \$443 of their own money for school supplies.

Debbie Devlin, a first grade teacher at Bentley Elementary in Plymouth-Canton works about 55 hours a week, but figures she's lucky when it comes to supplies. Between the district and the Parent-Teacher Organization, she gets nearly \$550 to spend on her kids. Still, she spends between \$100 and \$500 of her own money on extras.

"We don't get a lot of support... but there are always incidentals," Devlin said. "And there are always conferences, classes, workshops and books to buy on top of that."

IT'S ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS



"I believe if we get better, we help you get better, and in the end we build a stronger foundation for our youth and schools of tomorrow."

Chris Timberlake

As educators, we are all familiar with the saying "It's all about relationships," and the best way to build rapport is to establish and nurture relationships. The best relationships we have are the ones that help us upgrade our own lives. One in which our partner helps us grow and develop a new vision. Therefore, helping us to change for the better, our attitudes, and our outlooks, and yes even old paradigms.

A good business collaboration is like that, too. You know you've found a new way to bring in thoughts, voices, and point of views that are different from yours, that take your essential strengths and add to and illuminate them in a way you never thought of. That's why I'm so excited and thankful for the relationship – I mean collaboration with our partners at Chippewa Valley Community Schools, Clintondale Community Schools, Macomb Community College, Mount Clemens Community Schools and Roseville Community Schools for providing the funding for the 2003 YES Advisors Conference.

I believe if we get better, we help you get better, and in the end we build a stronger foundation for our youth and schools of tomorrow.

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YOUNG EDUCATORS SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN 2003 ADVISORS CONFERENCE

Supporting Sponsors:

Chippewa Valley Community Schools

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Macomb Community College

Mount Clemens Community Schools

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Register on line at www.wmich.edu/yes or call (586) 201-7745

“Building Rapport in a Diverse Society”

Thursday, October 16, 2003

**University Center, Macomb Community College
44575 Garfield, Clinton Twp.**