

***Join Us For a Day of:
Fun, Inspiration, Support, & Humor!
at the Annual Para Conference 2009***

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

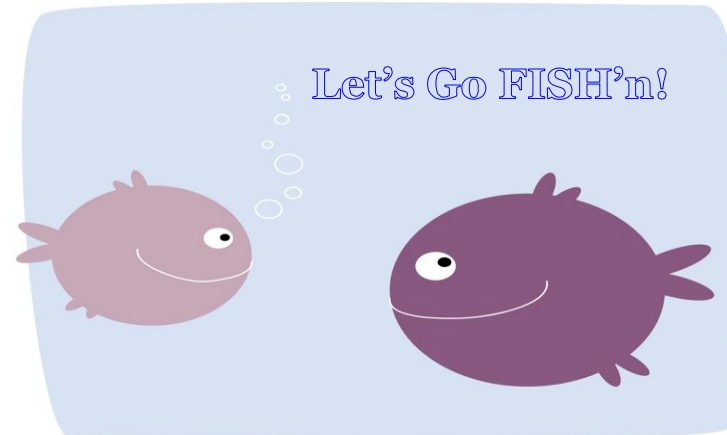
7:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Professional Development Center
6501 N 23rd Street, Tacoma, WA

253.571.3500

Parking behind conference center

Car Pooling Recommended



Our Conference theme is based on the **FISH** philosophy of making work and life **FUN** and enjoyable by creating and maintaining positive attitudes and positive work cultures. FISH for schools expands on this philosophy by providing tools to help educators nurture productive, joyful learning environments, build effective relationships with students and staff, develop clear behavioral expectations, and create a safe, caring, respectful and fun environment for both students and staff. Cyndi and Kelly Evans, TPS Principals, will provide an overview of this comprehensive and powerful curriculum at our morning General opening session!

We will continue our theme of **Fun, Inspiration, Support & Humor** with our luncheon Keynote presenter, Dave Weber, international speaker and author, who will motivate, inspire and make us laugh as he discusses overcoming our "Goliaths" - the barriers, obstacles, and challenges we face in education and in life.

Para Conference Schedule Overview

Time	Events	Special Comments
7:30-8:00 AM	Sign-in Registration Continental Breakfast Vendor Information Tables	Check in at the registration table and pick up your confirmation schedule for the break out sessions. We will have class locations, a map and information in the registration packet for each participant. Refreshments will be in the Quad. Visit Vendor Tables!
8:00-8:15 AM	Welcome and Introductions	PDC Quad Room – Inspiration & Welcome Message from Kathy Brands – 2008 Para of The Year recipient.
8:15-9:15 AM	General Session: FISH for Schools Cyndi & Kelly Evans	FISH Philosophy: “Your job – your calling- is to help kids learn. But, a lot of things can get in the way.” This workshop is all about re-energizing you and giving you some tools to help nurture a productive, joyful learning (and working) environment.
Break Out Session Times (see descriptions below)		
9:30 -10:40 AM	SESSION A	See breakout description on following pages
10:50-12:00 Noon	SESSION B	See breakout description on following pages
LUNCH PROGRAM 12:00 -1:15 PM	KEYNOTE: Dave Weber Superintendent’s Message: Dr. Jarvis	Enjoy a delicious box lunch prepared by Tower Coffee & Deli (located across from Bates TC on Yakima) while you listen and laugh with our motivational and engaging keynote speaker, Dave Weber. We will wrap up our lunch program with a message from Superintendent Jarvis; and of course – a few door prizes before you head off to your afternoon session! Don’t miss out!
1:30 - 3:00 PM	SESSION C	See breakout description on following pages
3:05-3:30 PM	CLOSING SESSION	Wrap up housekeeping details, evaluations and drawings for DOOR PRIZES in the Quad Room (must be present to win!)

TO REGISTER: Fill out the registration form (see separate document also posted on website) and send to CPD, CAB 6th Floor with your \$5 lunch fee if you are requesting a lunch. Due to time restrictions and our lunch program, off-site lunch is not an option if you are staying for the PM sessions. However, you may bring your own lunch if you choose not to purchase the value priced box lunch.

Break Out Session A 9:30 – 10:40 AM

<p>A1: Swimming Upstream</p>	<p>Dr. Kent Gerlach</p>	<p>This session will provide an understanding of the current legal and ethical issues concerning paraeducators who assist with instruction. It will provide an understanding of the important roles paraeducators play on the educational team. Topics will include role clarification, tips for effective communication, and an understanding of the current national issues affecting paraeducators and their supervisors.</p>
<p>A2: FISH School Rules for Creating a Respectful & Caring Work & Learning Environment</p>	<p>Marilyn McCabe Love</p>	<p>You close your eyes as you feel the sun on your face and the roll of the waves under your row boat. Ah, a day fishing is better than work. And then you get hit with the tsunami of reality. You're not in a boat; there is no sun on your face; you are at work – surrounded by a sea of screaming tadpoles or scaly big fish – some of them stinky! Sound all too familiar? We've all been impacted by behaviors at work that create a less than nurturing environment. This class will focus on creating a respectful workplace and a nurturing and caring environment by understanding the impact that thoughts, attitudes, values and self-esteem have on ourselves and others.</p>
<p>A3: Fish'n For Nutrition!</p>	<p>Will Saultes, Wellness Specialist</p>	<p>How do the food choices we make affect our mind and body? We will explore many of today's popular diets, provide insight into the hyperbole of nutritional information and help you make better decisions when options are limited. We will also discuss the obstacles we face in our society, and focus on what we can do to improve our health and happiness by improving our diet.</p>
<p>A4: Hooked on Numbers!</p>	<p>Lee Williams, Bates TC</p>	<p>This class is designed to put you in command of the ship so you will never again have to sink when dealing with numbers. Learn how to tackle common (and some not so common) math problems without a calculator. In fact, with these fun, easy-to-learn techniques, you'll be able to master difficult problems in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division - often in less time than it takes to use a calculator. Most of all, you will find this session motivating, fascinating and fun!</p>
<p>A5: Cast Your Net: Data Collection for Great Decision Making (Continues to B8)</p>	<p>Vanessa Tucker</p>	<p>In this seminar style class, you will learn the basics of data, what types we commonly use, why we use them, and how. We will discuss the benefits and drawbacks of each, the roles each team member plays, and how data collection works in the classroom.</p>
<p>A6: Navigating the Stream District Web Resources</p>	<p>Kevin Humphrey</p>	<p>Take a tour of the Tacoma Public Schools Website. Check out "classroom" websites. Learn how to access Subfinder, benefits information, professional development, district calendars and other Internet tips and tricks. This will be a fun and informative session.</p>
<p>A7: Beyond the Fish Bowl: School, Family & Community Partnerships</p>	<p>Kallen Hoekstra & Kate Frazier</p>	<p>Come to this session and learn about the district's work with partnerships and grants. The focus will be on our work with community and family partnerships. We will examine the six types of involvement and how you can support connections in your school or department.</p>

Break Out Session B 10:50 -12:00 Noon AM

B1: Swimming Upstream (REPEAT of A1)	Dr. Kent Gerlach	Repeat of Session A1 (see description above)
B2: FISH School Rules ... (REPEAT of A2)	Marilyn McCabe Love	Repeat of Session A2 (see description above)
B3: Fish'n For Nutrition! (REPEAT of A3)	Will Saultes	Repeat of Session A3 (see description above)
B4: Organizing Your Tackle Box	Lee Williams	In this workshop we will explore systems, processes and tools for getting more out of your work or school day. Topics to be discussed will include: analyzing workflow, eliminating interference, improving classroom layout, efficient use of technology, effective delegation and managing your time. This workshop promises to be informative and fun!
B5: Cast Your Net: Data Collection ... (Continuation A5)	Vanessa Tucker	(See description above for A5) – Participants from A5 continue in B5 - must attend both sessions A&B
B6: Navigating the District Web (Repeat)	Kevin Humphrey	Repeat of Session A6 (see description above)
B7: Fishing Along Different Shores: Effective Interactions with Families From Different Language & Cultures	Mihn-Anh Hodge, Dir Elem. Ed & Second Lang. Acquisitions	This interactive workshop will discuss a) the barriers and challenges facing families who come from different languages and cultures, b) patterns of involvement among these parents, c) their cultural expectations toward schools, and d) some effective strategies in working with this population.

LUNCH PROGRAM & BREAK –12:00 to 1:15 - (Keynote & Superintendent’s Message)

Pick up box lunch in Quad Room –Tickets will be in Registration Packets

Program starts at 12:15 Sharp!

Dave Weber: *“Overcoming Life’s Goliaths”: (or in FISH terms – Sea Monsters!)* We all have “Goliaths” – barriers, obstacles and challenges that try to hold us down or keep us from reaching our goals. Fasten your seat belts to enjoy this motivational and inspiring presentation of historical and modern day “David’s”, and learn the secret to overcoming those barriers that sabotage our home, work and learning communities. Expect to identify with the examples and experience the full range of emotions throughout this presentation. You have never heard a story teller like Dave Weber before. You won’t forget him!

Break Out Session C 1:30 to 3:00 PM

(short 5 minute break included at 2:15)

C1: Sounds too Fishy to Be True: Boundary Invasion Training and How It Impacts Students & You (Required Attendance)	Cathy Martin	This session will increase your awareness of boundary invasion and grooming behaviors and ultimately keep our students safe. <u>This training is required attendance for all paras who have not attended the training this year.</u> This is in addition to the Jerry Painter and/or Sexual Harassment training you may have already attended. If you are not sure whether you attended check with your principal.
C2: No More Swimming With SHARKS!	Marilyn McCabe Love	Swimming with dolphins can make life exciting and interesting. Swimming with sharks can make life scary and deadly. The same is true in organizations: one offers an environment of creativity and problem-solving while the other creates conflict while blocking team effectiveness. Learn how to make the most of team differences and survive unexpected or anticipated attacks by building a safety cage around you prior to entering the water. Only then can you safely remain cool, calm and collected no matter what fish swim directly at you.
C3: Dangerous Waters: Gang Awareness	Detective Barry McColeman	In this session, participants will explore the basics of gang involvement in Tacoma, learn how this affects our schools, and discuss the role support staff can play in intervention. Detective McColeman is with Pierce County Police Department and works with community-based gang intervention organizations and Tacoma Public Schools gang task force personnel.
C4: Stop the Snail Mail: Outlook Basics	Janet Caldon	Those who attend this workshop will discover the new views in Outlook email using the Web Access version (not Client.) Learn about messaging options, formatting options and how to organize your email using folders plus more. Bring your district email login and password information with you.
C5: Instructional Tools for Fish Schools	Vanessa Tucker	Learn to identify what an FBA or Functional Behavior Assessment is, as well as a BIP or Behavior Intervention Plan. These important documents are part of the IEP and an integral part of programming for students who experience problems with behavior. You will learn the reasons why children may need these documents, how to read them, and the roles you may play with implementing them.
GENERAL CLOSING SESSION	3:05-3:30	Meet back in the Quad room all together for a wrap up and evaluation of the day and distribution of the remainder of the door prize goodies!! Must be present to win! Remember to sign out for PEP credit.

Participants must sign in and sign out to receive PEP credit.

PEP credit: There are 5 Hours of PEP Credit available to those who attend the full-day conference and complete the optional competency assignment. Those who attend AM only may receive 3 PEP credits.