



Tennessee School Counselor Association

TSCA NEWSLETTER

Fall 2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Upcoming Conferences
- 2 Letter from TSCA's President
- 3 News and Opportunities and Requests
- 4 Scholarship Opportunities
Achievements
Chapter News
- 5 Chapter News
- 6 School Counselor's Resources
- 7-8 Daily School Counseling Adventures
- 9-10 Governing Board 2009-2010

JOIN TCA NOW!

Free membership for new professionals

<http://www.tncounselors.org>

Upcoming Conferences

Tennessee Counseling Association Conference

- November 20-23, 2009
- Chattanooga, Tennessee

Tennessee Department of Education School Counseling Institute

- For information, contact the State Department Liaison, Director of School Counseling:
Nicole Cobb
- Cell: 931-261-5994 Work: 615-741-5113
- E-mail: nicole.cobb@state.tn.us

SMCA One Day Conference

- February 27, 2010
- Carson Newman College, Jefferson City, TN

American Counseling Association Conference

- March 18-22, 2010
- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

ASCA: "Celebrate School Counseling"

- July 3-6, 2010
- Boston, Massachusetts

LETTER FROM TSCA'S PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

TSCA is off to a great start. The year started with a planning meeting in Cookeville in July with the president (Nita Jones), president-elect (Sonja Culler), and treasurer (Traci Tate). This was a little different than previous years but we wanted to know just what the leadership team needed to do this year in order to make TSCA the great Association that all counselors deserve.

The main focus was membership. Even though our membership is 76% of TCA's membership, it is the lowest we have been in several years. What could be the cause? The number one thing we discussed was the issue of money and the economy. We do think that maybe this is a factor but not a strong factor. In order to join TSCA and TCA, the cost is \$65.00. I really don't think this amount would keep anyone from joining if they thought it was something that would help them in some way. Our concern was "what do they get as a member?". This was a hard one. Are we doing enough for our members and are we doing anything that would entice counselors to join? We came up with many ideas that TSCA could do this year. One thing is our TCA Conference. The conference will be in Chattanooga in November. All information is on the TCA website. This is a chance to get Professional Development that will help in your work setting. Many interest sessions are geared to school counselors and presented by school counselors.

TSCA is sponsoring a workshop on Saturday from 2:00 until 5:00. Dr. Tammy Davis (back by popular demand) is presenting BE TRUE TO YOU: PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY AND SELF-CARE STRATEGIES FOR THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR. Tammy presented last year in Memphis and got an overwhelming response. The cost is \$45.00.

TSCA's Award Luncheon will be Monday. This is our chance to spotlight all of the wonderful counselors who work tirelessly everyday. Send all nominations to Gayle Gragg at longbasket@aol.com. TSCA will have a general membership meeting on Monday afternoon, which all counselors are invited and encouraged to attend to give feedback to the leadership team and discuss concerns across the state. Time and place will be announced at the luncheon and in your program.. TSCA will also have a table at conference where we will be selling TSCA pins and "cool" ASCA bags. Please come by and visit us. Another event that TSCA will be involved with this year is the Counselor's Institute in Murfreesboro in February. Nicole Cobb is giving TSCA a table for information and a meeting room. More information will be provided at a later date.

One of my commitments this year as TSCA's president is to visit all Chapters during this year. I have attended three meetings, MTCA, SMCA, and WTCA. All of the meetings were well attended and very informative. I appreciate all who made my visits so inviting. I hope to visit the remaining chapters in the future.

I meet with Nicole Cobb in September to discuss TSCA's needs. One thing that came from the meeting was the need for a survey to see where we are and where we need to go in the future. I will be meeting with Nicole at conference to finalize our plans for the survey. I also attended the Coordinated School Health Institute Award luncheon with Nicole. It was exciting to hear about what is being done in schools for the health of children and how the counselors are involved with this effort.

Thank you so much for the incredible honor to serve you as president this year. Please contact me about any issue and I will do my best to help you.

Sincerely,

Nita Jones
3706 Hwy 78
Dyersburg, TN 38024

731-285-4142 (home)
731-445-9556 (cell)
nitaj5555@att.net

News and Opportunities and Requests

TCA Newsletter Submissions

The deadline for submissions for the TCA Newsletter has been set for October 21st. If you have reports you would like in the newsletter please get that information to the TCA Newsletter Committee by the deadline. Please send your reports to carmstrong@girlsincmemphis.org. We would really appreciate a speedy response.

Candice Armstrong

TCA Conference UTK Open House

What: UT Knoxville Counselor Education is Hosting an Open House at TCA

Who: Prospective Students (master's, Ed.S., & doctoral), Current Student and Alumni are all Welcome

When: Monday, November 23 at 6:00

Where: Sheraton Read House, 827 Broad Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402: Dr. Kitty Pruett's second floor Presidential Suite in the "manor" side of hotel: 1 800 325-3535

Why: To investigate UTK counseling programs, fellowship, and/or reconnect

Food: Hors d'oeuvre and drinks provided

Cost: Free

For more information, contact:

Julie Harden

The University of Tennessee : Educational Psychology and Counseling : Administrative Specialist I

jharden@utk.edu (865) 974-1319 (865) 974-5629 fax

Newsletter Requests

For the Spring 2010 TSCA Newsletter, we are requesting:

- Articles
- Reports
- Resources
- Meetings and conferences
- Recognitions and achievements of TN school counselors
- Noteworthy information from and for school counselors
- Questions that would like a response from other professionals.

Please submit all information to Dr. Hebert. NCC (lhebert3@comcast.net). Thank you.

Scholarship Opportunities

Each year the American Cancer Society awards college scholarships to childhood cancer survivors. Since 2001 the American Cancer Society, Mid-South Division has provided more than 1,300 scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. This equals an investment of more than \$1.3 million dollars in young cancer survivors in our communities.

The American Cancer Society's College Scholarship Program gives young cancer survivors the opportunity to pursue an undergraduate degree from an accredited university, community college or vocational/technical school. It is our distinct honor to be a part of these special individuals reaching their educational goals. Further qualifications for the scholarship are detailed in the enclosed fact sheet.

Thank you for your assistance!

Sincerely,

Jessica Neefe
Health Initiatives Representative
American Cancer Society
871 N. Weisgarber Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37909
Work: 865.558.4057
Cell: 865.617.9436

ACHIEVEMENTS

Amanda Clough recently became a published author with Youth Light Inc. of a lesson plan book titled *The Career Connection*. The book contains many lessons, games, and activities to teach career exploration for students in grades K-6. For more information or to purchase the book, go to the website www.youthlightbooks.com. Amanda Clough is the School Counselor for Akard Elementary and Central Heights Elementary in Sullivan County.

Congratulations to Amanda Clough!

Chapter News

STCA
South Tennessee Counseling Association

It is time to get ready for a new year!

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

- Sept. 28, 2009
- Oct. 26, 2009
- Feb. 22, 2010
- April 26, 2010

Chapter News

Smoky Mountain Counseling Association (SMCA)

Counselor Recognition: Annual Awards were received at the May Awards Banquet. SMCA is proud to announce the following award winners:

- Cathy Eddington – Elementary School Counselor of the Year
- Jen Beckler – Middle School Counselor of the Year
- Kat Coy – High School Counselor of the Year
- Dr. Carolyn Brewer – Counselor Educator of the Year

Retiree Acknowledgements

Sue Clapp, School Counselor - Sue is a native Hoosier who has lived in TN since the early 70's when she went to UT for graduate school (in school counseling!) along with her husband (MBA). Then she worked for over 20 years as a school psychologist in Knox County and Knoxville City Schools. In 2001 she made the transfer to school counseling and until this spring has been one of two school counselors at Halls Middle School. Her advice: Keep your finger in several diverse pies outside of your profession to keep a perspective on life and place your spiritual life and relationship with God in first place. Laugh, love, and enjoy friends and family!! (First grandchild is due in Oct. 2009!!)

SMCA One Day Conference

We are very excited about some changes happening with the annual One Day Conference. SAVE THE DATE – February 27th, 2009 at Carson Newman College. We will have some more exciting announcements regarding theme, Key note, and price changes – so stay tuned for more details!

2009-2010 Dates of Importance

- September 10, 2009 – SMCA Meeting
- September 30, 2009 – SMCA College and Career Fair held at Central High School
- November 5, 2009 – SMCA Meeting
- January 14, 2010 – SMCA Meeting
- SMCA One Day Conference – February 27, 2010 held at Carson Newman
- March 4, 2010 – SMCA Meeting
- May 6, 2010 – SMCA Meeting – Awards Banquet

2009 – 2010 Governing Council

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| * President: Amy Kroninger | kroningera@k12tn.net |
| * President-Elect: Kat Coy | kcoy@knoxvillecatholic.com |
| * Immediate Past President: Jen Beckler | becklerj@k12tn.net |
| * Secretary: MK Roberts | robertsm3@k12.tn.net |
| * Treasurer: Beverly Anderson | andersonb4@k12.tn.net |

School Counselor's Resources

American School Counselor Association

<http://www.schoolcounselor.org>

Tennessee Counseling Association: TCA is now on Facebook!!

<http://www.tncounselors.org>

TN School Counselors Association

<http://www.tnschoolcounselor.org/>

TN Model for Comprehensive School Counseling

<http://state.tn.us/education/ci/doc/tncomschconsmdl.doc>

School Counseling Curriculum Standards:

<http://state.tn.us/education/ci/doc/tncomschconsmdl.doc>

Tennessee Honors

<http://tennessee.gov/education/ci/cihonorsprog/>

Service Learning

<http://tennessee.gov/education/ci/service/index.shtml>

MEASURE Accountability Tools

http://www.tnelc.org/DownloadFiles/ELC_Counselor_MEASURE_Downloads.zip

MEASURE training by Dr. Carol Dahir

<https://deimos.apple.com/WebObjects/Core.woa/BrowsePrivately/tbr.k12.edu.1748386248.01748386250>

Tennessee Schools PREPARE: What to do after a school crisis

http://www.tnelc.org/DownloadFiles/ELC_Counselor_TN%20Schools%20PREPARE_Downloads.zip

Graduation Requirements

<http://state.tn.us/education/gradreq.shtml>

Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation (TSAC)

<http://www.state.tn.us/tsac>

TN Governor's School Information

<http://state.tn.us/education/govschools/index.shtml>

Coordinated School Health, School counseling component

<http://state.tn.us/education/schoolhealth/counseling/index.shtml>

The Jason Foundation

<http://www.jasonfoundation.org/>

Daily School Counseling Adventures

Jill Lloyd-Crucini

School counseling with adolescent students requires patience, integrity, humor, flexibility, enthusiasm, and an ability to feel comfortable with and laugh at one-self.

My role as a school counselor is to assist each student to reach his/her full potential and to follow his or her dreams. Each student is like a sculpt art form or painting at a different stage of development, evolving and creating their own original self-masterpiece as they navigate through life. They are asynchronous in cognitive, physical, emotional, and social development. I help my students to grow academically, socially, and emotionally when I build a relationship that shows I care, respect, trust, support and am concerned for each of them as an individual. When I maintain consistent, positive standards for behavior, practice tolerance, and embrace our differences, I have empowered each individual with the skills to succeed and reach her/his own potential. I have three-foot gold-painted letters on my wall: D -R- E-A- M. My philosophical mission is encapsulated in the elegant words of Eleanor Roosevelt: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

My adventure begins at 6:30 a.m.; about the same time my students are scrambling to finish breakfast or rushing off to the school bus stop. At this early hour, I read e-mail messages from my students' parents, colleagues, and administrators. Next, I prepare my handouts, parent letters, and classroom poster about the EXPLORE Test. At 7:05 a.m., I head outside to the back of the building for car-rider duty until 7:30 a.m. Two teachers and two school counselors direct traffic each morning as students safely disembark from their parent's car to the sidewalk and enter the school building before the 7:30 a.m. tardy-bell. Whether is it a clear crisp morning with the bright sunshine or a torrential rainfall, we greet the students and parents with a resounding 'Good Morning' and 'So glad you are here!'

Next, I scurry to an eighth-grade homeroom from 7:31-7:40 a.m. to discuss the forthcoming EXPLORE Test for all eighth-grade students. I explain that the results of the EXPLORE test predict college readiness and the results will be used to help each student plan for high-school coursework. Also, the EXPLORE results provide information on career interests, which will be used to plan for the district career fair to be held later this year. I emphasize test-taking strategies, the test is important and students may prepare for the test by ensuring a good night's rest and breakfast the morning of the test to perform their best.

Following the meeting with students, I meet with parents, academic-teachers, and school psychologist of a particular student for a General Education Intervention Team (GEIT) meeting. We discuss the student's strengths, accomplishments, specific concerns, and create an action plan to include strategies, accommodations, and interventions to meet their unique needs and to ensure academic progress and success. An open discourse of communication prevails and a plan is designed. The meeting is adjourned with all parties receiving a copy of the action plan.

I meet with an individual student with behavior concerns. The student works through decision-making strategies and talks about precipitating events leading to the behavior. We brainstorm together alternatives to release anger in healthy ways, relaxation activities if necessary, and how to make good choices, even in the most difficult of circumstances. Finally, the student writes behavior goals to strive for during the next few weeks. I try to tailor my personal interactions with my students to take into account their backgrounds experiences, strengths, and challenges.

Next, a student comes to me with an inquiry about a schedule change. He desires to take a different special class. Together, we telephone his parent about the change in the schedule. Then, I inquiry with the principal about the request and provide the student a copy of the new schedule.

A six-step accountability process for school counselors, the MEASURE Project (Mission, Element, Analyze, Stakeholders Unite, Results, and Educate) is on my schedule. I have selected ten at-risk students to improve or maintain passing grades in all academic core- subjects: language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. I meet with one of the selected students to discuss his/her grades to date. We review the student's planner to record assignments. We identify upcoming tests or projects and any missing assignments. We set and review goals at each meeting. An e-mail correspondence is sent to teachers and parent(s) about the student's progress, goals, and missing work.

For the remainder of the day, I field telephone calls regarding teacher and parent requests, plan for classroom activities (such as utilizing *Kuder* computerized-career assessment, career fair, testing, or counseling topics, such as cyber-bullying), and of, course meet any immediate needs that may arise.

When my students depart, I complete future meeting preparations and check my e-mail and office communications. I prepare and send announcements, information, enriching academic opportunities for the weekly school newsletter and for the Every School Every Day county education section of the newspaper. I talk with the principal, assistant principal, my counseling colleague, teachers, gifted specialist, Students Taking A Right Stand (STARS) Specialist, school psychologist, social worker, or school nurse about concerns relating to particular students. I believe high learning standards and expectations are achieved by encouraging students, parents, counselors, and teachers to stay involved and informed through an ongoing exchange of communication.

In the evening, I reflect on the day's interactions with students and parents, plan further communications, telephone parents, and analyze my students' progress. I desire to continue the tradition of sharing my passion for learning with my students. Learning is contagious and a reciprocated gift among students, parents, and educators while on our journey of life-long learning. In the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, "It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no one can sincerely try to help another without helping himself/herself." This is my day as a middle school counselor who has a passion for working with adolescent students!

Jill Lloyd-Crucini, completed narrative-therapy training in 2009 at the Dulwich Centre, Adelaide, Australia.

Jill Lloyd-Crucini, NBCT, NCC, NCSC

Sunset Middle School

200 Sunset Trail

Brentwood, TN 37027

615-472-5054 Phone

615-472-5050 Fax

GOVERNING BOARD 2009-2010

PRESIDENT

Nita Jones
3708 Hwy. 78
Dyersburg, TN 38024
731-285-4152 (home)
731-445-9556 (cell)
nitaj5555@att.net

SECRETARY

Aleeta Shaw
PO Box 70632
Johnson City, TN 37614
423-439-6939
shawa@etsu.edu

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Sonja Culler
113 Marsh Lane
Elizabethton, TN 37643
423-542-8020 (home)
423-534-1632 (cell)
775-542-1086 (fax)
sculler@embarqmail.com

TREASURER

Traci Tate
4505 Main
Humboldt, TN 38343
731-420-0571 (cell)
Medina Elementary School
227North Second Street
Medina, TN 38355
731-783-3660

PAST- PRESIDENT

Gayle Gragg
Community High School
PO Box 30
Unionville, TN 37180
931-685-1418 (school)
931-294-2107 (fax)
931-684-6699 (home)
longbasket@aol.com

GOV. RELATIONS/ADVOCACY/STRATEGIC PLANNING

Randy McPherrson, EdD,LPC, NBCT, NCSC
1704 Bryn Mawr Circle
Germantown, TN 38138
Trezevant Career & Technology Center
3224 Rangeline Rd
Memphis, TN 38127
901-416-0196
randy0921@aol.com

NEWSLETTER CHAIR

Dr. Laura Hebert, NCC
Seymour Primary School School Counselor
865-577-5970
lhebert3@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP

Debra Watson

1202 Overton Street
Old Hickory, TN 37138
615-847-4081 (home)
615-804-3861 (cell)
Hull-Jackson Montessori
1015 Kellow Street
Nashville, TN 37208
615-291-6432
615-291-6065 (fax)
watson1@k12tn.net
debra.watson@mnps.org

TECHNOLOGY

Jeffrey Freiden, ED.D.
P.O. Box 771139
Memphis, TN 38177
901-289-8294
qwerty613@aol.com

STATE DEPARTMENT LIAISON

Nicole Cobb
931-261-5994 cell : nicole.cobb@state.tn.us

ETHICS/HUMAN RIGHTS

Susan Brown, Education Consultant
TN Department of Children's Services
Southeast Region
423-296-1234--ext. 2124 office
423-296-8937 Fax
423-827-4442 cell
Susan.E.Brown@tn.gov

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Carolyn Brewer, ED.D
Director of School Counseling
Carson-Newman College
Jefferson City, TN 37760
865-471-2087 office
865-560-1941 home
865-803-8287 cell
cbrewer@cn.edu

VICE PRESIDENTS

(PENDING)

BY-LAWS

Judy Steele
3310 Ogden Road
Dayton, TN 37321
423-775-3446 home
423-240-8984 cell
majorsteele@bellsouth.net
ltcolsteele@bellsouth.net