

News Brief

ICL Harvests the Wins for Two Recent Events

New Teachers Teach, Students Learn Academy (June 16 - 20, 2008)



ICL hosted a summer institute for designated teams of early career teachers from the Escambia County School District and their coaches the week of June 16 as part of the New Teachers Teach, Students Learn Academy (NTTSLA). Four elementary schools are represented in the NTTSLA: Warrington, O.J. Semmes, Spencer Bibbs, and Montclair. We had a great week together, and we all learned. During the five day summer institute, the theme was using student results in the classroom as an indicator of success. Participants learned about classroom rules and procedures, classroom assessment, and assessment of literacy skills of our students. With these three components, teachers worked on developing 30 day plans for the first 30 days of school. These plans are designed center on specific student results and focus on classroom rules and procedures and a specific literacy skill. The three major themes that came from the work of the teachers in those five days were "what we permit, we promote; what we measure, we improve; and focus on student results every day, every week, every month, every year." The teachers and coaches were eager to learn and improve their practices.

At ICL, we judge our success by the percentage of 5s we receive on evaluations that use a five point scale. The success of the teachers' work and our institute is reflected in the day to day evaluations as well as the final evaluation for the week. At the end of the week, 100% of the teachers scored the summer institute a '5.'

The 30 teachers are ready to make their first 30 days of school a time when students learn, and teachers enjoy teaching. Stay tuned for more on the successes of the teachers in the New Teachers Teach, Students Learn Academy!

Harry Wong Presentation (July 25, 2008)

On July 25, 2008, ICL was proud to host a presentation by Dr. Harry K. Wong, an individual who has been hailed as one of the individuals who has had the most significant influence on teachers. This was the second year that ICL hosted Dr. Wong because teachers in the Pensacola and surrounding areas requested an encore presentation by Dr. Wong, and we were proud to bring him back!

Over 600 educators from the Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi convened at The Pensacola Civic Center and listened, laughed, and learned with Dr. Harry Wong. Dr. Wong was quick to praise the teachers for what they do in the classroom and the impact that they have on students each day, beginning with the first day of school.



Chelonnda Seroyer, a fourth year teacher from Madison, Alabama, joined Dr. Wong on stage. Ms. Seroyer is a highly successful and effective teacher who practices Dr. Wong's techniques. She offered personal examples of how to create effective classroom procedures, and she shared stories of the impact that classroom procedures have had in making her classroom successful.

ICL thanks Dr. Harry Wong and Ms. Chelonnda Seroyer for their contributions to education and for sharing these contributions with the Pensacola community and surrounding communities. The results of the evaluation of the event are evidence of Dr. Wong's and Ms. Seroyer's dedication. 96% of the participants who completed the evaluation scored the event a '5' overall.

To see pictures of the event, visit icl.uwf.edu and click on "Photo Gallery."