



SAEYC NEWSLETTER

published by SAEYC

September-December 2011

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011 - 2012

CO-PRESIDENT

Nancy Gabriel
Onondaga Community College

CO-PRESIDENT

Patricia Martin
Onondaga Community College

PRESIDENT - ELECT

Darcy Barber
Cayuga Community College Preschool

SECRETARY

Michele Ferguson
Children's Learning Center

TREASURER

Jeff Martin
TIAA/CREF

BOARD MEMBERS

Ellen Barnes
Jowonio

Arlene Brouillette
Mid-York Childcare Coord Council

Kim Cuipylo
Erie Canal Kids

Mary Beth Curry
Early Childhood Advocate

Kathy DiCosimo
Family Child Care Provider

Patricia Gridley
Cayuga Community College

Kristin Hogan
Bernice M Wright Nursery School

Olga Kolva
Head Start

Peggy Liuzzi
Child Care Solutions

Shari Purcell
PEACE, Inc

Barbara Ridley
Enable

Deborah Snyder
Syracuse City School District

Jacqueline Goettel-Strecansky
Syracuse City School District

HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

Pam Borreggine, Child Care Solutions
Fran Dulcich, Onondaga Community College
Carmelita Lomeo-Smrtic, Mohawk
Community College
Phyllis Reicher, Syracuse City School - Ret

A Message From Your SAEYC Co-Presidents

September always brings new possibilities for SAEYC - new board members and new professional development opportunities. Over the summer, SAEYC welcomed three new board members, Kathy DiCosimo, Olga Kolva and Shari Purcell, who bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to our hard working Board of Directors. We would like to recognize our outgoing Board members: Fran Dulcich, Christina Hann and Brian Monica. Our heartfelt thanks for all that you have done on behalf of SAEYC.

At our annual retreat, the Board brainstormed and began planning the 2011-2012 year. This newsletter highlights our fall events - the trip to the Eric Carle Museum, the Stone Soup Supper and The Growing Together Conference. We hope that you will be able to attend one (or all) of the events.

One of our goals is to grow our membership this year. The benefits of belonging to SAEYC include one free to member SAEYC event each year as well as membership in both NYSAEYC and NAEYC. Since its founding in 1926, NAEYC has promoted high-quality standards in all programs for children, encouraged professional development, and created leadership opportunities at local, state, and national levels. To learn more go to www.SAEYC.org, www.NYSAEYC.org or www.NAEYC.org. You can also e-mail us directly at SAEYCsupport@gmail.com.

We look forward to working with all of you and the SAEYC Board as we strive to carry out our mission to "support the development of professionals to promote quality care and education for the well-being of all young children and their families." Please feel free to contact us at gabrieln@sunyocc.edu or martinp@sunyocc.edu. We would love to hear from you!

Nancy & Patricia

Upcoming Events - Save These Dates

**Field Trip to Eric Carle Museum of
Picture Book Art**
Date: October 1, 2011
Location: Amherst, MA
(registration form enclosed)

Stone Soup Supper
Date: October 4, 2011
Location: Onondaga Community
College
(registration form enclosed)

The Growing Together Conference
Date: October 16, 2011
Location: Cayuga Community College
(registration forms mailed)

NAEYC Annual Conference
Date: November 2-5, 2011
Location: Orlando, FL
(for additional information and
registration form go to
<http://www.naeyc.org/conference>)

www.saeyc.org

SAEYCsupport@gmail.com

Phone Contact: 498-2347, Nancy Gabriel

FEATURED ARTICLE

QUALITYstarsNY Update: Summer 2011

QUALITYstarsNY is New York State's new Quality Rating & Improvement System for early childhood programs. It is designed to recognize programs that demonstrate quality above and beyond New York's strong regulatory standards by providing them with a rating of one - five stars. Any program that is regulated by the State of New York or the City of New York will be eligible to apply for a star rating. QUALITYstarsNY will be designed to improve quality and provide supports such as technical assistance and professional development for participating programs. Participation in QUALITYstarsNY will be voluntary, but programs that do participate will gain access to support services and financial benefits.

A Field Test was conducted in 2010. Onondaga County was one of the Field Test Sites. Based on what was learned in this test, the standards for center-based and home-based programs are under revision. Quality standards for School Age Child Care programs are being drafted by a group of knowledgeable professionals. A complete draft will be ready for review by the end of 2011.

Although the field test ended in 2010, test programs are still participating in activities supported by QUALITYstarsNY. Approximately 100 field test programs and providers are currently working with 6 Quality Improvement Planning Specialists to move forward on their Quality Improvement Plans and are taking advantage of QUALITY Scholars resources for professional development and training.

QUALITYstarsNY is also partnering with the Child Care Resource Network of Buffalo, NY to engage 8 new center-based programs in Erie County in a QUALITYstarsNY preparation project. The new programs will do a self-assessment, participate in independent Environment Rating Scale (ERS) observations and create and implement Quality Improvement Plans with the assistance of a Quality Improvement Planning Specialist. The 8 new programs joined the 8 field-test centers in Buffalo to form a leadership learning community with opportunities for group and individual support, guidance and growth. The Buffalo BRIDGE Program will run from June 2011 to June 2012.

For more information on QUALITYstarsNY, visit www.qualitystarsny.org.

Peggy Liuzzi,
SAEYC Board Member



POLICY UPDATES

NAEYC is pleased that Representative Mazie Hirono (HI), joined by Walter Jones (NC), Don Young (AK), and Jared Polis (CO), introduced the bipartisan bill, the “**Continuum of Learning Act of 2011**,” that tracks NAEYC’s recommendations in our Call to Action for the reauthorization of the Elementary & Secondary Education Act (also known as No Child Left Behind). In addition, Senators Brown (OH) and Hagan (NC) introduced the **Ready Schools Act of 2011**, which is incorporated in the more expansive House bill.

Highlights of the **Hirono/Jones/Young/Polis bill (H.R. 2794) amending Title I and Title II of ESEA:**

- States review and revise K-3 standards as needed to ensure coverage of all areas of development and learning;
- Promote joint professional development between schools & community-based early childhood education programs; allow Title II funds to be used for scholarships tied to compensation rewards;
- Provide professional development for elementary school principals in child development and learning, developmentally appropriate teaching practices and collaborations with community early childhood setting;
- Require states to create teaching certificates that reflect specialized knowledge and skills of teaching young children for those teaching early grades and younger;
- Prevent inappropriate high-stakes use of child assessment for grades 2 and below;
- Help elementary schools evaluate their readiness to support all children’s learning success in early grades; and
- Strengthen collaborations between community-based early childhood programs and schools for more effective and supportive transitions for young children.

Under the **Ready Schools Act of 2011 (S. 1439)**, school districts would help elementary schools undergo a “ready schools” needs review to support children’s success particularly in the early grades by examining conditions such as the use of developmentally appropriate curricula and teaching practices, support for teachers to enhance their knowledge of child development and learning, strong collaborations with families and community early childhood education providers, and professional development for school principals.

NAEYC was also pleased to provide feedback to Senator Murkowski (AK) on her bill just introduced, “**Early Intervention for Graduation Success Act of 2011**” (S. 1495). The bill allows the current dropout prevention program in the Elementary & Secondary Education Act. Funds could be used for loan forgiveness for teachers earning a degree in early childhood education; support the state’s development of quality rating and improvement system; align learning standards and expand access to early childhood education programs.

Read more at: www.naeyc.org; click on Public Policy tab.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you have artistic skills?



We would like to announce an
“upcoming contest”
to those that think they do.

We are looking to re-design our SAEYC logo for the 21st Century. Would you like to try your hand at this re-design or do you know some one who might be able to?

For information follow us on Facebook at:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Syracuse-Association-for-the-Education-of-Young-Children-SAEYC/206112395129>

Committee Shout Out

Our Communications Committee is seeking input and contact information from Early Care and Learning leaders, providers, educators and advocates from all counties within our region (Onondaga, Cayuga, Oswego, Madison, Oneida and Rome) regarding the coordination of 2012 Week Of The Young Child Events. We are interested in a collaborative multi-county event.

Contact me for more information.

Darcy Barber
SAEYC Communications Committee Chair
E-mail: darcy.barber@cortland.edu

SAEYC Scholarships Available

Did you know that SAEYC offers two scholarships each year for \$150 to SAEYC members? For full details and an application go to: www.SAEYC.org and click the Student Member Scholarship link on the left sidebar.

Hurry, applications must be received by December 1, 2011.

BOOK REVIEW

Powerful Interactions: How to Connect with Children to Extend Their Learning

by Amy Laura Dombro, Judy Joblon, and Charlotte Stetson
published by National Association for the Education of Young Children

Are you a comprehensive member of NAEYC? If so, you have received your latest member benefit *Powerful Interactions: How to Connect with Children to Extend Their Learning*. This new book is a reflective guide to making everyday interactions with children purposeful and intentional powerful interactions! These types of interactions go hand-in-hand with nurturing positive relationships and helping children learn how to think, reason and communicate.

Research has shown the critical importance of the quality of interactions with children for all aspects of development. However, these interactions do not always happen. This book provides a three-step process to turn everyday interactions into powerful interactions. *“Whether you work in a childcare center or home, Early Head Start or Head Start program, preschool or early primary classroom, you make a difference in the lives of children and families - - and powerful interactions can make that difference even bigger.”*

If you are not a comprehensive member consider adding this book to your professional library! You can purchase this book from NAEYC at their web site at: <http://www.naeyc.org/store/node/17219>

Submitted by: Nancy Gabriel & Pat Martin, SAEYC Co-Presidents

Powerful Interactions

HOW TO CONNECT WITH CHILDREN
TO EXTEND THEIR LEARNING



Amy Laura Dombro, Judy Jablon, and Charlotte Stetson



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Syracuse, N. Y.
Permit No. 126

Syracuse Association for
The Education of Young Children
P.O. Box 6007
Syracuse, NY 13217
Web Site: www.saeyc.org
E-mail: SAEYCsupport@gmail.com

Current Resident or:

Welcome to Our New Members

Auburn

Jennifer Bodner
Danielle Dolson
Lesley Tillotson

Baldwinsville

Amanda Fenlon

Bridgeport

Brandie Marie Finger

Camillus

Cheryl Jean Leclerc

Clay

Nicole Crystal Outlaw

Dolgeville

Tammy Comstock

East Syracuse

Carol Feldmeier

Elbridge

Jessica Bulla

Fulton

Michele Garcia
Stephanie Anne Smith

Hamden

Jaime Michelle Callan

Jordan

Rachael Howanitz

Lacona

Karen Wheeler

Mahapac

Nicole Zaragoza

Marcy

Jessica Colenzo

Minoa

Diane Somros

Oneida

Peggy Southworth

Oriskany

Joan Gorton

Red Creek

Sherry Davis

Sauquoit

Carina DeSimone

Savannah

Kelli Decker

Skaneateles

Samantha Stillwell

Syracuse

Katherine DiCosimo
Kathy Garen
Laura Harrington
Teresa Lee Raughley
Deborah Rohe
Lisa Louise Rushlow

Watertown

Heidi Barker
Debra Ellis

SAEYC Mission Statement

The New York State and Syracuse Associations for the Education of Young Children support the development of professionals to promote quality care and education for the well-being of all young children and their families.

