

Connections

The EESLPD West Office Newsletter

October 2017

Volume 1: Issue 1

IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ Welcome Back Message from Amanda Vestal (p. 1)
- ▶ New Staff Introductions (p. 2)
- ▶ Supporting Teachers: Implementing E/S Skills (p.3)
- ▶ Staff Spotlight: Kyle Worley (p. 4)
- ▶ Collaborator Corner: Gloria Jackson (p. 4)
- ▶ Did You Know? (p. 5)
- ▶ Mark Your Calendar (p. 6)

We are excited to share with you the inaugural issue of *Connections*, the monthly newsletter from the EESLPD West Office. Each *Connections* issue will:

- enhance team communication and outreach
- highlight team members and their contributions
- offer collegial support through the sharing of resources, articles, insights, and experiences
- provide a common portal for all upcoming events and important dates

Be sure to check back each month to explore the newest issue!

WELCOME BACK!



We would like to welcome the following new staff members to our team:



Rhonda Hamby, Mentor/Evaluator



Brooke Hough, Mentor/Evaluator



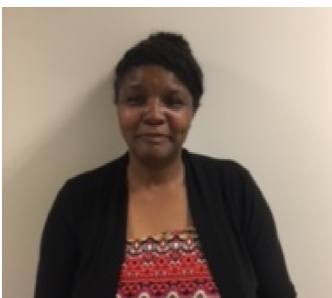
Kawanna Jackson, Mentor/Evaluator



Pheobe Seilers, Mentor/Evaluator



Heather Taylor, Quality Assurance Lead



Sandy Thompson, Mentor/Evaluator

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Supporting Teachers

Encouraging teachers to promote emotional and social skill building from the beginning of each school year

Why:

Early childhood suspension and expulsion rates are on the rise. According to an article published on the Vanderbilt University website, "National studies show that preschool-age children are expelled for behavior problems at three times the rate of school-age children" (Brasher, 2016). In fact, the preschool suspension and expulsion rate has become so prevalent nationwide that in December of 2014, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Department of Education issued a joint policy statement called *Expulsion and Suspension Policies in Early Childhood Settings*. According to the Joint Policy Statement, "Suspension and expulsion can influence a number of adverse outcomes across development, health, and education."

Although these numbers and negative impacts can feel overwhelming at times, there are steps that can be taken to reduce these rates. A joint statement, published on the NAEYC website, entitled *Standing Together Against Suspension & Expulsion in Early Childhood* states, "We know that young children thrive in the context of stable, supportive relationships with adults who love, teach, and care for them." One way to establish early childhood environments which support the social and emotional competency of young children is supporting teachers as they implement the Pyramid Model.

What to look for:

- Child-generated classroom rules/expectations/commitments
- Solution tool kit (an example can be found [here](#))
- Books about emotional/social situations (for a book-list click [here](#))

Guidance:

- Support teachers as they create the first level of the Pyramid (If needed, a teacher checklist can be found [here](#)).
- Visit/Revisit NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development Modules as needed depending on what area the teacher may need to focus.

For more information about supporting teachers through the Pyramid Model implementation, please contact your Regional Lead.

Resource Links:

- *Promoting Healthy Social Behaviors* Website
- *Center for Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning* Website
- *The Pyramid Model/EC-PBIS: Preventing Bias, Suspensions and Expulsions in Early Childhood Settings* Webinar

Reference Links:

- NAEYC Joint Statement: *Standing Together*
- U.S. DHHS & U.S DOE Joint Policy Statement: *Expulsion and Suspension Policies in Early Childhood Settings*
- Vanderbilt University Article: *Pyramid Model Could Reduce Preschool Expulsion Rate*



Kyle Worley is the Regional Lead for the far western counties . She has worked with the EESLPD since 2009. The number one reason she enjoys this work is seeing the impact she has on teachers and then seeing the teachers having the same impact with children and families. Her favorite children's book is *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein .

Kyle has been married for 10 years and has four beautiful children (Addison-9, Brody-6, Riley-2 & Kamdyn-10 months). She enjoys being outdoors and while the mountains are her home, she loves the beach. She also enjoys watching her kids play sports and working in her garden.

COLLABORATOR CORNER



Gloria Jackson is the Lead Teacher at Triad Community Development Center which serves as an EESLPD Demonstration Classroom. She has served as a partnering Mentor for 6 years. What she enjoys best about partnering with the EESLPD is working with other colleagues and encouraging "Best Practice." She also enjoys that the EESLPD affords her the opportunity to encourage, inspire, and motivate other teachers. Her favorite quote is "Education is the powerful weapon which you can use to change the world" by Nelson Mandela.

In her spare time, Gloria loves photography especially taking pictures of nature and she loves to travel.





DID YOU KNOW?

NEW REGIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED

Please see the map below. For additional information, please click [here](#).

DIVISION OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY EDUCATION

EARLY EDUCATION BRANCH - NC PRE-K PROGRAM

EARLY EDUCATOR SUPPORT, LICENSURE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Heather Marler, Manager, EESLPD / Workforce Education Units - Heather.Marler@dhhs.nc.gov

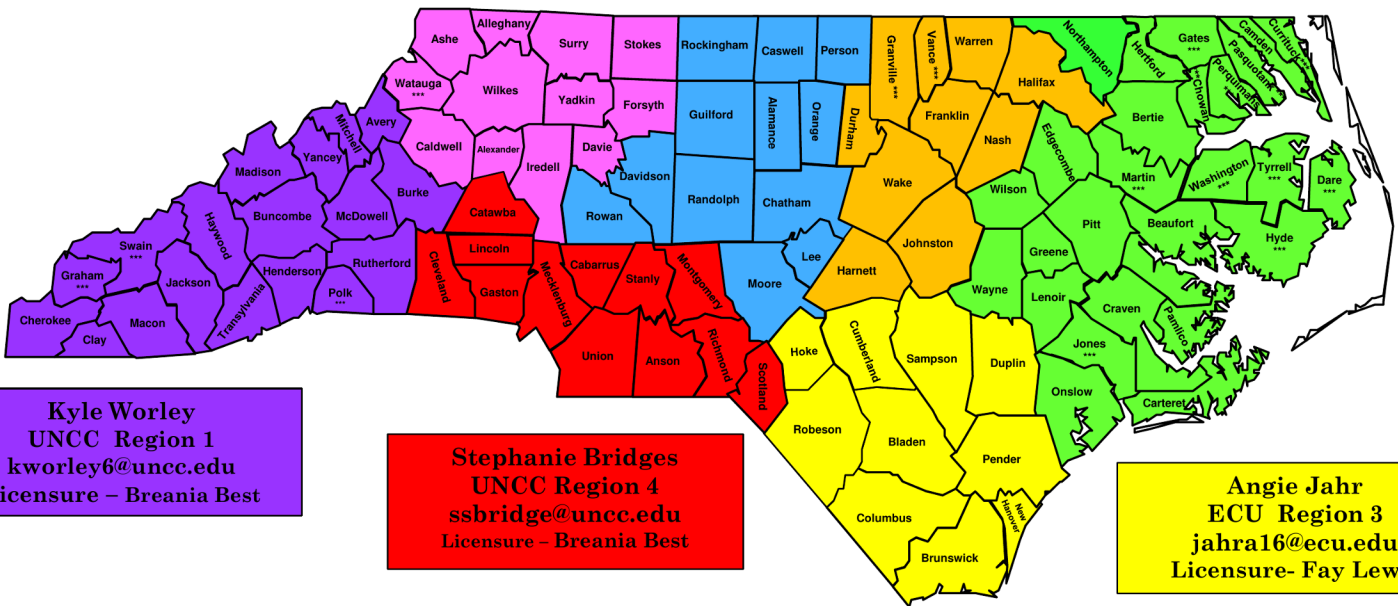
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EESLPD Office at UNC Charlotte

Lead Investigator - Dr. Richard Lambert
Project Lead Coordinator – Amanda Vestal
Administrative Support - Jessica Ward

EESLPD Office at East Carolina University

Lead Investigator - Ms. Barbara Brehm
Project Lead Coordinator - Deborah Saperstein
Administrative Support - Lisa Phelps

*** = counties that do not have NC Pre-K non-public class rooms, public only
SEPT 2017

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 2017

Region 3 Team Meeting (Face-to-Face)

October 17th-3:00pm-5:00pm

Observation 1 completed (Initial-SPI / LE licensed)

October 31st

November 2017

Full Team Meeting (WebEx link to join below)

November 6th -2:00pm-3:00pm UNC Charlotte Staff

-30 minute break

-3:30pm-4:30pm Staff and Partners

<https://uncc.webex.com/uncc/j.php?MTID=mdc995b6a73e4b865930854fd849391d9>

Observation 1 locked in NCEES/Home Base (Initial-SPI /LE licensed)

November 8th

Part 2 of NC TEP Training

November 9th from 9:00am-4:00pm at Burke County Smart Start in Morganton

November 13th from 9:00am-4:00pm at Guilford Child Development in Greensboro

November 17th from 9:00am-4:00pm at UNC Charlotte in Charlotte

Thanksgiving Break (UNC Charlotte Staff)

November 23rd and 24th

Initial PDP locked in NCEES/Home Base (All teachers)

November 30th

For more information about the EESLPD West Office at UNC Charlotte, please follow this link:

<https://ceme.uncc.edu/early-educator-support-lincensure-and-professional-development-eeslpd-office>