

# NEVADA

# Connections



*Bringing Resources to Nevada's Adult Education Community*

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## Nevada Adult Education launches new Web site

Nevada Adult Education's new Web site is live, at [www.NevadaAdultEducation.org](http://www.NevadaAdultEducation.org)! Its purpose is to be a resource and information source for the state's adult educators, program administrators, students, and stakeholders. A big shout-out to Lynda Carrasquel, Mike Cronmiller, Holly Schoch, Cynthia Pierrott, Claudia Bianca, and Brad Deeds for guidance on site design and navigation. Key contacts for the site are [Ken Zutter](#) (technical) and [Sharyn Yanoshak](#) (content). Check it out ... let us know what you think!

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Nevada Adult Education website. At the top left is the logo for 'NEVADA ADULT EDUCATION'. To the right is a 'Stay Connected' section with Facebook and Twitter icons. Below the logo is a search bar with the text 'search here' and a 'Search' button. A red navigation bar contains links for 'Home', 'Educators', 'Administrators', 'Students & Supporters', 'About Us', and 'Contact Us'. The main content area features a large photo of a group of people looking at a computer screen. To the right of the photo is a 'Featured Articles' section with a list of links: 'Call for Proposals - 2011 SNV GATESOL Conference', 'How to Earn Credit for Presenting a Workshop', 'National Policy and Resources', 'ABE Administrators Handbook', and 'Professional Development for Nevada's Federally Funded Educators - Summary'. Below this is a 'GED INFO' section. The bottom of the page is divided into three columns: 'Educators', 'Administrators', and 'Students and Supporters', each with a photo and a 'Learn more' button. At the very bottom, there are logos for the Nevada Dept. of Education, Nevada Connections, NVAEC Adult Education Forum, NTUG Wiki, Nevada Adult Educators, and Mountain Plains Adult Education Association.



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Back issues archived at: <http://nvae.us/nc-previous>

# Call for Proposals: Southern NV CATESOL Conference

**“The Promise of English” November 4 & 5, 2011 CSN West Charleston Campus**

SNV CATESOL invites everyone working in K–12, Adult Education, Intensive English Programs, university or community college academic English programs, teacher training, public or private school ESL, authoring of textbooks and teaching materials, or ESL research to share ideas, experiences, materials, and findings with others. Download the Proposal from [www.nvadulted.org](http://www.nvadulted.org); deadline is July 22.

For more information on the Call or the conference, contact the conference committee at [snvcatesol@gmail.com](mailto:snvcatesol@gmail.com) or Dr. Steve Henick at 702/292-9835.

## TMCC launches newsletter



TMCC’s ABE/ESL program published the first issue of “The What’s Up, Doc.” in June. Produced by Instructor Sheramy Barry and enhanced with Mariana Meyer’s photos, the publication is full of program doings, conference reflections, and student successes. The plan is to publish about six issues each year. To request an electronic copy, contact ESL Coordinator Tünde Csepelyi, [tcsepelyi@tmcc.edu](mailto:tcsepelyi@tmcc.edu).

## Learn how to use 26 tech tools — all free!

TMCC Instructor, State Trainer, and Digital Excavator Dawnne Ernette ([dernette@tmcc.edu](mailto:dernette@tmcc.edu)) found a site offering guidance to teachers on “using the best of the web’s free tools for educators” at <http://teacherchallenge.edublogs.org/>.

The Teacher Challenge is made up of free 30-day professional development challenges where participants are stepped through weekly tasks that increase their skills while working together as part of a global community. Topics include Skype, PhotoFiltre, Wordle, creating a self-grading quiz using google docs, etc.

“It’s engaging, helpful, and easy to use,” said Dawnne. “You can just scroll down though the pages to explore the explanations and lesson/activity ideas for each one, or use the list of links on the left side of the page.”

## Joan Graham gives Kathy Schrock’s Web site an A!

Joan Graham ([graham2000@charter.net](mailto:graham2000@charter.net)), GED Instructor at Western Nevada College, recently wrote glowingly about Kathy Schrock’s Guide for Educators (<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/schrockguide/index.html>). Her comments on specific resources:

Under Teacher Helpers, click on Critical Evaluation Tools to access the link to Separating the Wheat from the Chaff. This is an excellent website for evaluating other websites.

Also categorized under Information by the author, the Teacher Web Evaluation Rating Sheet has a very helpful Internet Lesson Guide.

Under Critical Evaluation Information by Others, there are several evaluation tools that I used to evaluate the New Readers Press GED Teacher

Resource Center Web site. I also found the Critical Evaluation Survey: Teacher Sites (under the Critical Evaluation Surveys category) useful.

Kathy provides a great list of other Web sites to use during the school year. Click on the tab near the top titled Sites of the School Days for a list of sites that can to help you seamlessly infuse technology into the teaching and learning process for each month of the year. And the Alpha Index tab links to an amazing list of websites for teachers!

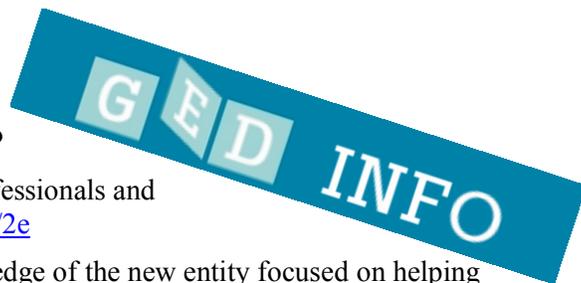
“I was fascinated by all the information that is out there,” summarized Joan, “and Kathy Schrock has gathered a lot of it for educators in this one website. Check it out!”

## Pedestrian and bicycle safety for ESL students

The Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL) developed curriculum modules on pedestrian and bicycle safety for use with adult English language learners. The materials help teachers and volunteers convey key messages about safety to new immigrants learning English and encourage the adults to pass the safety messages to their children and other family members. Modules are available for both beginning and intermediate levels and include instructor manuals, student workbooks, and audio clips. Visit <http://goo.gl/KjBIH>.



## What do you know about the new GED Testing Service?



Reprinted from *The Community*, a newsletter for GED testing professionals and adult educators, April/May 2011 issue. Subscribe at <http://nvae.us/2e>

Think you know the GED Testing Service®? Test your knowledge of the new entity focused on helping more adults become career- and college-ready with this "Fact or Fiction" pop quiz.

1. The new GED Testing Service is a for-profit entity.  
**FACT.** As a result of the joint venture with the American Council on Education and Pearson, GED Testing Service is now a for-profit entity with a Board of Directors appointed equally by ACE and Pearson. That being said, the Board of Directors and the GED Testing Service staff are dedicated to improving services for adult education, GED testing and the adult learner.
2. The new GED Testing Service will be doing all the work in adult education and GED testing from now on.  
**FICTION.** The work of increasing adult learner success has always been the work of many and GED Testing Service recognizes that partners are critical to realizing effective, large-scale change. In a program trying to serve 10.5 million adults between the ages of 18 and 34, everyone has a role. That includes many of the current partners working in the field of adult education and GED testing, and many more partners to come.
3. The new GED Testing Service is just Pearson getting into GED testing.  
**FICTION.** This is not Pearson, Pearson VUE or ACE. This is GED Testing Service, the only company dedicated to improving preparation, performance and progression beyond the GED test so that more adults can achieve their dreams.
4. The new GED Testing Service will still have Nicole Chestang in a leadership role.  
**FACT.** Nicole Chestang is the new Executive Vice President for GED Testing Service and works hand-in-hand with CEO Randy Trask. Specifically, Nicole is focused on reaching out to partners across the country to build a GED program that serves the needs of adult learners and test-takers. You will continue to see Nicole at conferences and events and to hear from Nicole on the Web site and by email. View Nicole's video about the new GED Testing Service at [www.gedtestingservice.com/newged.html](http://www.gedtestingservice.com/newged.html).

## National library of GED success stories now online

Seeing is believing for the millions of Americans who are afraid of not passing the GED® Tests. According to C.T. Turner, associate marketing director at GED Testing Service, "Our research showed that sometimes it's not money or preparation, but fear that holds people back most (from testing)."

To address that barrier, GED Testing Service recently launched "GED Profiles of Success: GED Graduates in their Own Words," an online video library of GED testing success stories. Each video and text profile shows the fear that holds many adults back from testing and the power and hope resulting from passing the GED Tests. "If adults see someone like them succeed — someone in a similar life circumstance — they begin to believe that they too can succeed," said Turner.

The GED Profiles of Success program allows test-takers to tell their story, their way. [Mildred from Texas](#)

talks about dropping out at age 15 and realizing later that she could not get a job to help support her newborn son. [Roger from Arkansas](#) had to drop out to take care of his younger sisters and experienced the barrier of not qualifying for jobs without a high school diploma. [Mary from Tennessee](#) was a mother of three when she applied for a position at her job and found out she lacked only one qualification — a high school diploma.

Anyone can create and submit a GED Profile of Success by following three simple steps at [www.GEDtest.org/profiles](http://www.GEDtest.org/profiles). Users can also reference a helpful set of guidelines with [tips on recording a video](#) and what [questions to answer in the video](#).

The Web site provides access to more than 50 video profiles and several text profiles. Turner hopes the library will continue to grow and provide many different definitions of success after the GED Tests.

★ "Getting my GED was a life-changing experience! It opened my eyes to a whole new world of what I can be!" —April Perkins, TMCC

★ "The GED made a world of difference to me! A lot of people have helped me to get my GED and Scholarship. I want to get a degree in a profession so that I can help other people now!" —Barbara Callahan, Community Multicultural Center

This professional development project is a leadership activity funded by a grant from the Nevada State Department of Education, Workforce Investment Act, Title II (Adult Education and Family Literacy). There is no discrimination or denial of participation on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion or religious creed, national origin, sexual orientation, ancestry, or disability.

## Adult educators recognized for classroom performance

Congratulations to the 19 adult educators who recently earned Nevada's outcome-based ABE Certificate of Performance:

- ★ CALL: Sarah Estrago
- ★ CMC: Toni Jackson, Elyce Holly Schoch, Laura Solis
- ★ CSN: April Cramer, Angelica Crisp, Joseph J. Garcia, Nancy Holman, Mary Louise Jordan, Joel Lawrence, Isaiah Mejia, Phillip S. Paulucci, Patricia Tofano, Jennifer Turski
- ★ GBC: Viola Lee Foy
- ★ TMCC: Sheramy Barry, Diana McIntyre, Jeanine VanDeVort, Somi Yun

Additional kudos to the eight instructors who renewed their Certificates, continuing to show exemplary student outcomes and participation in meaningful professional development during the preceding three years:

- ★ CMC: John Kunkle
- ★ CSN: Kathleen Miller, Pamala Woicicki
- ★ GBC: Emily Huerta, Sally Schumacher
- ★ TMCC: Tünde Csepelyi, Joan Howard
- ★ WNC: Jennifer Hicks-Ferris

### Many ways to renew

Adult educators now have many ways to earn the two professional development credits required for renewing the ABE Certificate of Performance, including workshops, learning communities, continuing education and college/university coursework, online/Web-based courses with significant facilitator support, and development and presentation of a high quality, meaningful workshop to a local program.

For a complete list and more information on the nation's only outcome-based recognition program, visit <http://nvae.us/abecp> or contact Ken Zutter, 775/687-7291, [kzutter@doe.nv.gov](mailto:kzutter@doe.nv.gov).