



## Oct./Nov. Dates

**Mon., Oct. 27**

Academic Rigor School Visits  
80 and 244

**Mon., Oct. 27, 3:30-5:30**

Academic Rigor Leadership  
Team Meeting at 244

**Mon., Oct. 27, 4:00-6:30**

Teacher Workshop on College  
Readiness @ AED

**Tue., Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> 8:30-10:30**

Visit to Brooklyn Generation  
School (6565 Flatlands Ave.  
Brooklyn, NY 11236)

**Fri., Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>**

Register closes

**Wed., Nov. 5**

Academic Rigor School Visits  
254 and 390

**Fri.-Sat, Nov. 7-8, 9:00-3:30**

Young Adolescent Dev.  
Leadership Institute (MS 390)

**Mon, Nov. 10**

Academic Rigor School Visits  
229

**Mon, Nov. 10**

New Teacher Workshop on  
Effective Instruction at 244

**Wed., Nov. 12, 11:00-4:00**

Network Meeting (Principals)  
IS 254

**Mon-Tue Nov. 17-18, 8:30-3:00**

Lesson Study

**Fri.-Sun., Nov. 21-23**

Learning & the Brain  
Conference  
Marriott Boston Cambridge Hotel

**AED**

100 Fifth Ave.  
New York, NY 10011

Phone: 212-367-4594

E-mail: [info@middlestart.org](mailto:info@middlestart.org)

[www.middlestart.org](http://www.middlestart.org)

## From the Network Leader

Colleagues,

The AED is thrilled to see the progress our network is making this year. The improvement in weekly attendance, increased focus on academic rigor and differentiated instruction, use of data and attention to young adolescent development is impressive. Over the next months our team will be working hard to support schools in applying what has been learned from the Effective Professional Teams and Academic Rigor Institutes into school practice. An important part of this work will be aiding our network in using data from the ITT tool sent to schools this weekend and the ELA predictive to support further improvements. We plan to meet with each of you individually to review these tools and explore how the data can inform your planning and instructional supports.

Please review the AED Professional Development Calendar on the last page and help us have maximum participation in upcoming events including the November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Young Adolescent Development Leadership Institute and the follow-up activities associated with the Academic Rigor Institute.

Remember, our shared goal in this work is to provide teachers, and those of us who support teachers, with a vision of classrooms where students and teachers are engaged in a passionate pursuit of knowledge and provide strategies for creating an environment where inquiry drives instruction – and students want to learn because what they are learning is relevant and interesting. As Alfie Kohn writes in *The Schools our Children Deserve*, “The questions that drive learning come in many varieties. Some can be answered fairly quickly; others will take a long time and, in fact, may never be completely resolved....The learning inheres not so much in the answers but in the process of figuring out how to ask the questions better – and how to track down the answers.”

We are here to support your journey and we hope to learn and grow with you with each of these shared professional experiences. Naguib Mahfouz wisely said, “You can tell whether a man is clever by his answers. You can tell whether a man is wise by his questions.” Let’s strive for wisdom!

In partnership, *Calvin, Risa, and the PSO Team*

## Periodic Assessments

### Accessing Periodic Assessment Results

You can access your periodic assessment results directly at the program sites below or from the periodic assessment Web site. Please bookmark these pages rather than <http://schools.nyc.gov/beta>.

- Periodic assessment Web site: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Accountability/ResourcesforEducators/PeriodicAssessments>
- Acuity (from DOE computer): <http://mcgraw.nycenet.edu/index.jsp>
- Acuity (from home): <https://nyc-acuity.mcgraw-hill.com/index.jsp>
- Performance Series: <http://www.edperformance.com/>

## SAF News

### Confirm Registration for ARIS Training All schools / Deadline: October 28

At this point you should have all received an e-mail invitation from “Aris Training” on October 14 with the subject “ARIS Training Scheduling Tool – Quickbase Invitation.”

To date, the following principals have not yet confirmed their training:

- Ezra Matthias
- Lovey Mazique-Rivera
- Ingrid Thomas-Clark
- Robert Mercedes
- Wilford Hemans

Please either confirm your attendance at your scheduled session or register for an alternative session date/time. If you go back to this email that was sent to you, follow the link in the email to log into the scheduling tool. If you have misplaced the email or have questions, contact [ARIStraining@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:ARIStraining@schools.nyc.gov). Please use the link in the e-mail you received to view and confirm your training session before the registration deadline, **October 28**.

Please note that sessions were scheduled according to levels/types of schools (i.e. ES, HS, D75, etc.), SSO networks, and geography. If you change sessions, you may no longer be with other principals from our network.

### Verify Teacher Course Assignment Data Deadline: October 31

Principals of all schools with grades 3-8 that administered state tests in 2007-08 received a spreadsheet via e-mail with teacher course assignment data that they need to verify. The deadline to submit your completed spreadsheet with verified and updated information is **October 31**. This updated data will be reflected in the Teacher Data Reports for your school.

Please begin verifying your data as soon as possible. The earlier that you begin this process, the sooner we can respond to any questions you may have and help ensure that you complete your verification by the October 24 deadline. The Teacher Data Reports Verification Guide, which is available in the Teacher Data Reports section of the Principals’ Portal (<http://intranet.nycboe.net/DOEPortal/Principals/>)

[HiringAndStaffDev/StaffDevelopment/PD/TDI.htm](http://pd.nycboe.net/HiringAndStaffDev/StaffDevelopment/PD/TDI.htm)), can help you get started.

Though updates you make will be reflected in the Teacher Data reports, they won’t be reflected in ATS, MSPA, or HSST this fall.

If you have any questions about teacher course assignment data verification or need technical assistance, please contact the Teacher Data Reports data verification help desk at (212) 374-2520 or [TeacherDataReports@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:TeacherDataReports@schools.nyc.gov).

### Inquiry Team Chairperson Meeting November 19

**Please contact Kim Outerbridge for more information.**

## Other

### Middle School Principals’ Association Meeting October 29

The New York City Middle School Principal's Association will hold its next meeting on **October 29** at Gargiulos Restaurant in Coney Island. The executive board will meet at 11:30 a.m., followed by the general meeting at 12:30 p.m. Space is limited, so please RSVP to William Moore at [wmoore@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:wmoore@schools.nyc.gov).

### Annual Fall Professional Development Conference for NYC School Librarians November 4, 8:00-3:00

The Annual Fall Professional Development Conference for NYC School Librarians will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 4, from 8:00 to 3:00 at Brooklyn Technical High School (29 Fort Greene Place, Brooklyn, NY 11217). *(See flyer attached at the end of bulletin.)* The day promises to be exciting with a keynote speaker on media literacy; special guest appearances by authors, including Art Spiegelman (Pulitzer Prize winning author of Maus); wonderful concurrent sessions on a broad range of topics; vendor displays and presentations. There will be lots of goodies handed out and an unparalleled opportunity for networking and learning.

Please ask your librarians to go to <http://pd.nycboe.net> to register in ProTraxx. For detailed information about the conference,

suggest that they visit the conference wiki at:  
<http://08schoollibraryfallconference.wikispaces.com/>

## AED PSO Professional Development

### **Academic Rigor Leadership Team Meeting (Follow up to the Academic Rigor Institute) -- Monday, October 27**

A 2 hour meeting / workshop with the team of people that attended the academic rigor institute. This is a follow up to the institute and will serve as preparation for the Lesson Study later in November. The meeting will take place at 244.

### **College Readiness in the Middle Grades Workshop -- Monday, October 27**

The focus of this interactive professional development workshop will be an introduction to understanding and defining in concrete terms what it means to address college readiness in the middle grades in order to further enhance students' engagement in school and motivation to learn. This workshop will take place in the AED conference room from 4:00 - 6:30. Please contact Maud Abeel ([mabeel@aed.org](mailto:mabeel@aed.org)) if you plan on sending some people to AED for this workshop.

### **Site Visit to Brooklyn Generation School -- Tuesday, October 2**

Principals are invited to do a site visit of Brooklyn Generation School on Tuesday, October 2. The visit will take place from 8:30-10:30. We will have a chance to meet with the principal and learn about the vision and unique features of the school, and then have a tour and observe classes and or the studio sessions. Here is a link with more information about the school:

<http://generationschools.editme.com/brooklyn>  
 If you haven't already contacted Calvin and plan on attending this visit, please contact him by end of day Monday.

### **Making the Connections: Young Adolescent Development Institute -- November 7 and 8 (Friday and Saturday)**

Participants to this institute will lead the charge on the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical needs and characteristics of young adolescent learners in your buildings.

### **New Teacher Workshop: Effective Instruction -- Monday, November 10**

This workshop, which will focus on effective instruction, will take place on Monday,

November 10 from 3:30 - 5:30 at 244. Please email Aurelia Enache ([aenache@aed.org](mailto:aenache@aed.org)) if you plan to send some of your new teachers to this workshop.

### **Lesson Study with Lucy West: November 17 and 18**

Dolores emailed that the 18th does not work for her because she is having Parent/Teacher Conferences and is a half-day for students. Please let me know ASAP if the 18th works for your school for the Lesson Study. If there is a conflict with the 18th, we can reschedule that day and keep the 17th as is. As mentioned in an earlier email, we are expecting that you will send APs and coaches to both days, but you can send teachers to only one day.

### **Middle Grades Forum--Mathematics Teacher Transformation Institutes (Applications Due December 3rd)**

The Institute for Literacy Studies, in collaboration with Lehman College's mathematics and math-education faculty, recently received an NSF grant to develop mathematics teacher-leaders in Bronx middle and high schools. They're ready to recruit teachers and coaches for the program and are looking for 40 Bronx middle or high school math teachers who have been teaching for three years or more, are already certified in math, and have the potential to become instructional leaders. Participants will participate in a three-year program involving courses taught by research mathematicians, support for classroom-based inquiry, and leadership development. The mathematics content focus is algebra and geometry. Teachers will receive 24 post-masters credits (tuition, fees, and books all covered by the grant) and stipends for the three years totalling \$12,000. Schools will need to commit to providing the time and resources in Years 2 & 3 for participants to enact their leadership through coaching, workshops, and participation on inquiry teams. The program starts in February 2009; applications are due on December 3, 2008. Attached is a packet about the program. It consists of a flyer, an application, and a principal's commitment sheet. If you have any questions about the grant or need any further information, please contact Marcie Wolfe, Director of the Institute for Literacy Studies at Lehman College at 718-960-8758. Please let us know if you are interested and if you need support in any part of this process.



## **AED PSO Support Services – October/November 2008**

### **Teacher Workshop on Academic Rigor**

**Monday, October 27, 3:30-5:30**

**MS 244 (120 West 231<sup>st</sup> St., Bronx, NY 10463)**

### **College Readiness**

**Tuesday, November 4, 4:00 – 6:30**

**AED**

### **Young Adolescent Development Leadership Institute (2 day)**

**Friday and Saturday, November 7 and 8, 9:00-3:30**

**MS 390 (1930 Andrews Ave., Bronx, NY 10453)**

### **New Teacher Workshop: Effective Instruction**

**November 10, 3:30 – 5:30**

**MS 244**

### **Network Meeting (Principals)**

**Wednesday, November 12, 11:00-4:00**

**IS 254 (2452 Washington Ave., Bronx, NY 10458)**

### **The Lesson Study – Lucy West**

**Monday and Tuesday, November 17 and 18**

**Location TBD**

### **ITC Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 19**

### **Learning & the Brain Conference**

**Friday-Sunday, November 21-23**

**Marriott Boston Cambridge Hotel (Two Cambridge Center, 50 Broadway, Cambridge, MA, 02142)**



Please register the names of the participants you will be sending to each workshop with Aurelia Enache at: [aenache@aed.org](mailto:aenache@aed.org). Questions? Call 212.367.4575