

Early Childhood Education News

Special points of interest:

- **Back to School Night:** Meet representatives from area 4 yr programs for EDU/ECE students that want to pursue a bachelor's degree with teaching certification. **Feb. 22, 6:00-7:45 pm, Community Room.**
- **Webinar: Using Social Media to Promote the Work of Learning Communities.**
Directors, participate in a 1 hr webinar that explores using social media to create learning communities between educators and families. Feb. 21 1:30-2:30 pm (Eastern) Presented by MindintheMaking.org [Register Here.](#)
- **RRCC/ECE Week of the Young Child (WOYC) celebration** is coming in April. Stay tuned for more information.



No matter how long the winter, spring is sure to follow!

~Proverb

Dear Colleagues,

In a recent class I teach on Monday evenings, I had a student bring in a copy of an article from the [Wall Street Journal](#) on the perspective of parenting as practiced by the French. Needless to say, this article provoked some commentary by students about parenting in general and about parent's use of guidance strategies that work and don't work as the students see it.

In my online Infant/Toddler course, I offer a discussion forum around the parent/teacher/child triad. How do we as teachers promote this collaboration?

Our NAEYC self study process has revealed to Kathleen and I how we need to promote more learning opportunities for students to engage in about building positive parent

relationships.

In my email, I have received an invitation to participate in a webinar about using social media (facebook, twitter, etc.) to create learning communities between teachers and parents of children in their classrooms.

My step-son's fourth grade teacher pursued my husband to set up a parent/teacher conference time with a phone call when Ron didn't turn in the paper sign up for conferences. (Thanks Mr. Alex for your persistence and diligence to create an on-going communication between the classroom and the family!!)

Even our own Dr. Wardle is involved in writing a book regarding the building of parent relationships.

It doesn't take a rocket scien-

tist to figure out that an important theme is emerging here!

As teachers and directors, we understand that parent relationships are important. What we don't necessarily do is think intentionally about how we want to build those relationships and invest the time pursuing them. Would you agree or disagree with that comment? Let me know! I would be interested in hearing from you what you value about parent relationships and what kinds of things you do to promote parent relationships. Drop me an [email](#) (be sure to include a subject line of *parent relationships!*) I will share the information in a future newsletter!

Happy February all!

Janiece & Kathleen

Speed Dating for Teacher Education programs

Once again the EDU and ECE departments are hosting an open house event for RRCC students who are interested in pursuing a four year degree that leads to teacher certification in K-12 education or K-3/ Early Childhood education.

The date for this event is Wednesday evening, February 22nd from 6:00—7:45 pm in

the Community Room (lower level-West building).

Sharon Lantz, Kathleen DeVries and Janiece Knepp invite all current and former students to participate.

Several representatives from the area 4 yr universities will be on hand to give brief presentations of their teacher education programs. After-

wards, students will have the opportunity to visit with the representatives of the colleges they are most interested in.

Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity!

For questions, contact Sharon Lantz at 303-914-6541 or sharon.lantz@rrcc.edu

