

February 2011

SC TAP Newsletter

February:

- On-Site Annual Review visits
- February 18: 50% obs. submitted (schools with 4)

March:

- On-Site Annual Review Visits
- Friday, March 11- Sunday, March 13: TAP National Conf. in Los Angeles
- March 28: NEW TAP (TIF 3) Schools Administrator Meeting in Cola.

April:

- On-Site Annual Review Visits
- April 8: 50% obs. (schools with 2) and 75% observations submitted (schools with 4)

May:

- May 1: Cluster and Leadership Team DVD/CDs due for NEW TAP schools
- May 13: Registration for TAP Univ. ends
- May 15: 100% observations submitted, CODE check

June:

- June 21- June 23: CORE Training

July:

- July 19- July 21: TAP University
- July 18- July 22: CORE Training

A Letter from the Director

Dear TAP Leaders,

Although the 2010-2011 school year nears conclusion, there continues to be ample time to increase student achievement and improve teacher quality. The SC TAP Team has been training many new schools for TAP implementation and we are excited to announce that there are currently **73 SC TAP schools** across South Carolina! These school additions have allowed the SC TAP Team to grow in staff. Jessica Patterson, Ann Shaw, Regina Urueta have joined the SC TAP Team. Each new addition brings valuable backgrounds in education to our team,. Please reference pages 2-3 of this newsletter for more information and contact information for each of the Team members.

Not only is SC TAP growing in size, but we are also continuing significant growth in the area of student achievement. **SC TAP schools once again outperformed similar schools** with over 80% growing at least one year's growth and 45% growing more than expected. The results show that successful implementation of the TAP System equals significant growth in student achievement.

The hectic upcoming spring semester includes the National TAP Conference in Los Angeles in March, registration for SC TAP University, and training on the linkage process, which ties students to their assigned teachers. More information regarding each of these topics is included in the newsletter.

Please let our Team know if we can provide any specific assistance to your school. Enjoy the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year and I look forward to seeing each of you in Los Angeles and/or Beaufort!

Dennis Dotterer

TAP National Conference

The National Institute for Excellence in Teaching is hosting the **11th National TAP Conference in Los Angeles March 11-13, 2011**, at the **Hyatt Regency Century Plaza**. The National TAP Conference is a dynamic gathering of TAP practitioners, policymakers and members of districts, states, organizations, foundations and businesses involved with TAP implementation across the country. The Conference is a powerful venue, both for those new to and experienced in TAP, to learn more about TAP in practice and its role on the national pulse of innovative education reform.

Attendees will enjoy a range of opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of TAP's elements of success, and network with other TAP participants. In addition to practitioner-focused breakout sessions, trainings and hands-on workshops, the TAP Conference will include national plenary panels tying TAP's proven reforms to critical issues facing America's K-12 system today.

Meet the SC TAP Team!



Dennis Dotterer, Executive Director
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As Executive Director Dennis oversees 73 schools implementing TAP as well as expansion efforts through grant opportunities and school, district and state initiatives. Prior to this role, Dennis was the associate state TAP director and has been involved with TAP since its inception in South Carolina in 2001. Throughout his career, Dennis has served as a teacher, assistant principal and principal at both the elementary and middle school levels. He holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Clemson University, a master's degree in gifted and talented education and an educational specialist degree in administration and supervision from Converse College. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his wife and children.



Suzannah McEntire: Administrative Assistant
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Suzannah grew up in Columbia and has studied art in Italy, New York, Chicago, Asheville and finally Savannah receiving Bachelors Degree of Fine Arts in Painting. She is certified by the City and Guilds of London Institute in Decorative Painting and Interior Restoration. A short term goal, outside of TAP, is to paint and participate in at least 3 exhibitions this spring. Suzannah has worked with the Department of Education since October 2007, specifically with SC TAP since March 2008. While contemplating teaching as a career, she finds working with the SC TAP team to be educational and enjoyable.



Jessica Patterson, Regional Master Teacher
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Prior to being a Regional Master Teacher, Jessica was an assistant principal and TAP master teacher in Pickens, South Carolina. She also has experience in teaching seventh grade language arts, second grade, and fourth grade. Jessica received her Bachelor's degree in elementary education from Clemson University and a Masters in Education in School Leadership from Furman University. In her spare time, Jessica enjoys attending any of the Clemson sporting events, playing with her two labs, and spending time with her husband.



Elizabeth Poda, Program Specialist
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As Program Specialist, Elizabeth works directly with schools on their implementation of the TAP System and serves as the team's liaison for the teacher linkage process, value added analysis, payout calculations, and data storage using CODE. Prior to joining the SC TAP Team in 2006, she taught middle school in the Columbia area and served on the district Leadership Team, working with pre-service and beginning teachers and planning and executing district staff development opportunities. Elizabeth holds Bachelors of Arts, Masters in Teaching, Masters of Arts in Administration, and Education Specialist in Administration degrees from the University of South Carolina. In her spare time Elizabeth enjoys visiting the beautiful beaches in South Carolina and cheering for her alma mater.

Meet the SC TAP Team! (Continued)

Arneice Renwick, Regional Master Teacher
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Arneice has served as a Regional Master Teacher for five years. Prior to this role, Arneice worked as a mentor teacher and has been involved in TAP since 2001. Throughout her career, she has served as a teacher, Curriculum Facilitator, and assistant principal. She holds a Bachelor's degree in elementary education from Francis Marion University and a Master's degree in administration and supervision from Clemson University. During her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her baby girl.



Ann Shaw, Regional Master Teacher
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Ann joins the SC TAP Team as a Regional Master Teacher, formerly serving as a Master Teacher in a TAP Elementary School. She has 25 years in education as a teacher, reading specialist, reading recovery teacher, instructional coach, master teacher, software developer, and consultant for the National Professional Development. Ann holds degrees in early childhood, elementary, reading specialist, and curriculum/development. She has been recognized as a SC State Department of Education Teacher of Excellence and Milken Educator (2000). In her spare time, she loves spending time with her husband and three children, enjoys visiting major league baseball fields, following the Gamecocks in all sports, exercising, and is addicted to Dunkin Donuts coffee.



Trish Shealy, Regional Master Teacher
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Trish joined the SC TAP Team in 2007 as a Regional Master Teacher. Prior to this role she served as a high school teacher in Lexington County. Trish has been recognized as a National Board Certified Teacher and has worked with PACE teachers. She holds a Bachelor's degree in secondary education and Masters' degrees in secondary education and administration and supervision from the University of South Carolina. In her spare time, Trish enjoys spending time with her family and traveling.



Regina Urueta, Regional Master Teacher
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Regina joins the SC TAP Team as a Regional Master Teacher. Prior to this role she has been involved with all aspects of TAP through the Milken Family Foundation since 2002. Regina has 20 years in education as a teacher, assistant principal, principal, and consultant for the National Professional Development. She holds degrees in elementary education and administration/supervision. Regina has been recognized as a Teacher of Excellence for SC State Dept of Education and Milken Educator (2006). She enjoys traveling with her husband and two boys, working crossword and sudoku puzzles, riding her Harley, and attending all sporting events from those of her children to the Gamecocks.



**Congratulations Palmetto
Gold and Silver Award
Schools for attaining high
levels of absolute
performance and high
rates of improvement!**

General Performance Gold:

- ✓ *Eastside Elem,
Laurens 56*
- ✓ *Clio Elem./Middle,
Marlboro*
- ✓ *School of Discovery,
Marlboro*
- ✓ *Wallace Elem./ Middle,
Marlboro*
- ✓ *AR Lewis Elem.,
Pickens*
- ✓ *Crosswell Elem.,
Pickens*
- ✓ *Holly Springs Elem.,
Pickens*
- ✓ *Six Mile Elem.,
Pickens*

General Performance Silver:

- ✓ *Beaufort Middle,
Beaufort*
- ✓ *Greenwood Elem.,
Florence 1*
- ✓ *McCull Elem./Middle,
Marlboro*
- ✓ *Dacusville Middle,
Pickens*

Achievement Gap Gold:

- ✓ *Holly Springs Elem.,
Pickens*

Achievement Gap Silver:

- ✓ *Robert Smalls Middle,
Beaufort*
- ✓ *Douglas Elem.,
Edgefield*
- ✓ *Eastside Elem.,
Laurens 56*
- ✓ *AR Lewis Elem.,
Pickens*
- ✓ *Six Mile Elem.. Pickens*

SC TAP University – Beaufort, SC

SC TAP is hosting the **4th SC TAP University** in **Beaufort, SC** on **July 21-23, 2011**. A local hotel will provide a discounted rate for participants and the training sessions will be held locally at Beaufort High School. The goal of SC TAP University is to bring together Administrators,

Master Teachers, and Mentor Teachers from TAP schools across South Carolina to engage in meaningful training sessions and workshops. Sessions will be offered for all levels of implementation of the TAP System and meet the needs of all Leadership Team members.

Online registration information will be sent to all Leadership Team members in early April and participants are asked to register for both the conference and, if needed, hotel accommodations by Friday, May 13.

TAP System Training Portal

The TAP System Training Portal provides a web-based, state-of-the-art delivery vehicle of interactive, individual TAP trainings and support. The portal is designed to provide tiered access to users, based on role, and contains the most updated training, resources,

videos, and materials for TAP leaders to download, review and deliver to their target audiences in order to improve instruction. Most importantly, real-time access to information linked to TAP models of instructional growth will be available to all schools implementing the TAP

System. To see what is included in the portal, visit www.tapsystemtraining.com Your CODE username (email address) and password also serve as your log-in for the portal.

Linkage Process – Linking Students to Teachers

The South Carolina System for Teacher and Student Advancement (SC TAP™) & Battelle for Kids are committed to ensuring that all students make strong academic progress and achievement. This fall, South Carolina TAP schools will receive their value-added reports, which will offer critical information about the academic progress that TAP schools and teachers

are helping students to make.

The first step to ensure that SC TAP can develop the most accurate value-added reports to inform instructional practice is to complete the linkage process. During the linkage process, SC TAP school staff members will review and correct data to ensure that all students taught are claimed for all subjects; account for

student mobility; account for shared instruction/co-teaching; and make the students considered in a teacher's analysis transparent.

A Webinar will be scheduled in early May as training for Administrators and Master Teachers. During the Webinar, Battelle for Kids will walk you through the entire linkage process.