



June 2012 Newsletter

Good morning middle school professors. I hope this finds you well. I only have a few thoughts..... The first is a request to complete a survey.

1. A request from **The Endeavor** to complete a survey <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Z58J3RN> and an upcoming announcement of a Foundations Grant to support CMLA
2. Deadline for NaPOMLE nominations... August 1
3. Outline of presenters at AMLE Best Practice Session and Poster Session 2012 (we are staying at the Marriott)
4. Other activities and a note about May 2013

**Part I:** Good morning. Happy 'first day of summer'. I hope this finds you well. Endeavor and AMLE news.

The Endeavor committee is asking for our feedback on specific activities we have engaged in that relate to the five themes identified in Milledgeville last year. Please follow this link to spend about 20 minutes looking at the themes and sharing your "endeavors." The five themes are leadership in schools, certification, teacher education, outreach, and democratic schools. We would like to share this information in September.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Z58J3RN>

The Association of Middle Level Education has a Foundation Board. For the first time there is enough money to begin to distribute grants. John Swaim is on the Board along with Rebecca Lawson, Monty Shelby and John Lounsbury. The first grant is for CMLA groups. The following is part of the letter...

*In recognition of the importance of future teachers to middle school education the Association of Middle Level Education Foundation Funding Committee is money to a CMLA chapter to help defray the coast of attending the AMLE National Conference in Portland, Oregon.*

*John shared, "The amount of the grant will not be finalized until after the first of July. The announcements should go out shortly after that... The grant will be sent to all CAMLA Chapters in July.*

Both of these initiatives indicate the importance of NaPOMLE in promoting middle level education.

**Part II:** Deadline for nominations. The nominations committee is busy seeking recognition of colleagues, programs, and CMLA groups. These recognitions will be shared in Portland in November.

**Part III:** This fall we have [nine](#) presentations and 18 poster session set up for the November NaPOMLE meeting. **If you have had a session accepted please let me know so we can let others know your interests.** [This](#) is a wonderful conference to share research, ideas, and strategies.

Round Tables		
Name	University/College	Title
Kim Shibinski and Angela Miller	College of Mount St. Joseph	Defining “Reflective Practice” in Teacher Preparation and Performance Assessments
Betty Dore	Radford University	Middle school student teachers and special education student teachers working together
Deborah McCurtrie, Bridget Coleman, and Gary Senn; Nancy Ruppert	USC Aiken  UNC Asheville	The Value of Service-Learning in a Middle Grades Licensure Program
Nicole Miller and Nicole Thompson	Mississippi State University of Memphis	Preparing Middle Level Teacher Candidates to Better Engage Young Adolescents with Technology
Al Seed	University of Memphis	Book Review: Teaching as a Subversive Activity
Cherry Watts	University Tennessee – Martin	Book Review: What’s happening with boys? A look at the disengagement of young men from the classroom
Nicole Miller and Manya Chappell	Mississippi State University	Preparing Pre-service Teachers to Implement Formative Assessment
Brent Cooper, Dan Saurino, Dustin Johnson	UNC Chapel Hill UNC Charlotte High Point University	A Quantitative Analysis of Middle Grades Student Academic Achievement in Two Similar School Districts Consisting of Middle and K-8 Schools
Joanne Previts and Dan Bauer	Georgia College and State University	Diary of Nascent Teacher Educators: Analyzing Critical Incidents to Enhance Pedagogy Diary of Nascent Teacher Educators: Analyzing Critical Incidents to Enhance Pedagogy Diary of Nascent Teacher Educators: Analyzing Critical Incidents to Enhance Pedagogy

### Poster Sessions:

We have 18 poster sessions that will also be presented at AMLE in Portland. (We are booking rooms at the Courtyard Marriott.) If you are conducting research in any of these areas you may want to contact the participants. (: Either way it is good to see and be inspired by what others are doing. I have included the title of each presentation along with the author.

1. Got Published? [greenemw@appstate.edu](mailto:greenemw@appstate.edu)
2. Communicating needs of adolescents in an introductory middle school course. [nruppert@unca.edu](mailto:nruppert@unca.edu)
3. The Center of Education for the Young Adolescent: A Quarter of a Century of Promoting Best Practices [loguidit@uwplatt.edu](mailto:loguidit@uwplatt.edu)
4. Single Gender Instruction in Rural Texas Middle Schools  
[whitleyc@sfasu.edu](mailto:whitleyc@sfasu.edu) Claudia Whitley and Michelle Williams
5. The Role of Middle Level Education in a Sustainable Future  
[williamsdm@sfasu.edu](mailto:williamsdm@sfasu.edu) D. Michelle Williams and Jerry L. Williams
6. The Center of Education for the Young Adolescent:A Quarter of a Century of Promoting Best Practices [loguidit@uwplatt.edu](mailto:loguidit@uwplatt.edu)
7. What's Happening with Boys? A look at the disengagement of young men from the classroom [cwatts@utm.edu](mailto:cwatts@utm.edu)
8. Focused PD: Teaching Content Area Teachers to become Literacy Educators [j.fernandez@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:j.fernandez@moreheadstate.edu)
9. The Effect of Principal Leadership on Student Academic Achievement and Teachers' Perceptions of Working Conditions [dsaurino@uncc.edu](mailto:dsaurino@uncc.edu)
10. A Field-based Methods Course: Experiencing an Authentic Middle School Learning Environment [gail.ingwalson@email.und.edu](mailto:gail.ingwalson@email.und.edu)
11. Uses of "Reading to Learn" to Develop Exemplary Middle Level Educators  
[karynne.kleine@gcsu.edu](mailto:karynne.kleine@gcsu.edu)
12. Connecting the Continuum: A University-Based Induction Program to Promote Teacher Quality [lallen@trinity.edu](mailto:lallen@trinity.edu)
13. Future Teachers Day [mmcjunkin@astate.edu](mailto:mmcjunkin@astate.edu)
14. RTI, PDS, and the PST: Vanna, can I have an "A" [ktilfor@ilstu.edu](mailto:ktilfor@ilstu.edu)

15. Socratic Method is out the door! [tfillippino@astate.edu](mailto:tfillippino@astate.edu)
16. Instructor/Student Collaboration in Assessing Teaching Performance  
[rtowery@astate.edu](mailto:rtowery@astate.edu)
17. Service -Learning in Urban Middle Schools: A University/School District Partnership [vjagla@nl.edu](mailto:vjagla@nl.edu)
18. Flexible Scheduling Simulation [gmeeks@astate.edu](mailto:gmeeks@astate.edu)
19. Through the Eyes of the Observer: Middle Level Students Analyzing Primary Source Documents [briankah@uis.edu](mailto:briankah@uis.edu)

#### **Part IV:** Educational Activities and Opportunities

John Swaim contacted me today to share



[Mary Beth Schaefer](#), and St Johns University, shared that she is co-editing Volume 10 with Kathleen Malu in the Handbook of Research in Middle Level Education Research. The working title of this book is "Teaching and Learning with the Literacies of Young Adolescents." The deadline for submission is September 1, 2012. If you are interested

in contributing, contact [Mary Beth](#).

We hope you will join us at the AMLE conference. Next May, Bob Ziegenfuss, president-elect and professors in the northeast will be hosting a spring conference for NaPOMLE and CMLA in Pennsylvania. The following is a note from Bob...

Traditionally, the south regions have hosted a National Professors of Middle Level Education Symposium in May. Last year the Legends of Middle School was sponsored in Georgia. This year the symposium was to be offered in Tennessee but was cancelled due to tight budgets and lack of enrollment. When elected as a future president, the hope was that the northern and eastern regions of the National Professors of Middle Level Education would become more involved. I thought this was the perfect opportunity to combine a number of organizations involved in middle level education and get the northern and eastern regions more engaged in NaPOMLE.

Next spring, the National Professors of Middle Level Education in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Professors of Middle Level education, the Shippensburg University School Study Council, and the Shippensburg Middle Level Collegiate Association will co-sponsor a symposium at Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania. The scheduled dates are May 20 and May 21.

Each co-sponsoring organization will have a contribution: The Pennsylvania Professors of Middle Level Education will combine their annual symposium with the National and hold it at Shippensburg University; Brian Small and the Shippensburg University School Study Council will offer it's exemplary program display; the National and Pennsylvania Professors of Middle Level Education will offer a strand on the middle level research and best practice; and the Shippensburg University Collegiate Association will sponsor a strand on how to get a collegiate program started at colleges across our state and surrounding regional states.

Mark your calendars for May 20 and May 21. Come find out what local middle level school districts think is exemplary programs; take the opportunity to present best practice or research; learn how to set up a middle level collegiate association at your university; meet and talk with professors, teachers, school administrators, teaching interns and others associated with middle level instruction and curriculum.

Shippensburg University is located in the southern tip of central Pennsylvania situated right along route 81 which runs north and south. If you wish to extend your professional experience to a longer personal stay, Gettysburg Pa is only a half hour away; Washington D.C. and Baltimore are 2 hours away; Philadelphia is 3 hours and Pittsburg is 3.5 hours away.

Please share your activities with us!!!

Happy Summer to All of You,  
Nancy

June 20, 2012... The first day of summer. Atlantic Beach, FL, nbr

