

THE MEDIATOR

A publication of the New Jersey Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.

NJRID, INC.

FEBRUARY, 2015



EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETERS: CREATING OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW

by
Grace Samis

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Interpreting in a school system can be lonely. No one really understands what you do – English “on-the-hands?” Lag time, what’s that? What do you mean send you the lesson plans? I’ve been lucky - these past couple years, my supervisor has been a CODA and throughout my career, I’ve always had a few other interpreters I could bounce ideas off of. But sometimes, I know one could feel alone.

Teachers within the system have mentors. They start the job already knowing someone is there with whom they can talk. They can sit down and discuss finding a better way to present the work... they have the backing of Department Heads, Administration and the support of Parent / Teacher groups. We have...well, very little.

Professional Development Days (geared toward us) are almost non-existent if you are in a school system that doesn’t have a Deaf program. Even the yearly NJEA Teacher Conference in Atlantic City doesn’t include us. (Well, one year they did – thank you Eileen and Cindy!) Why is that? Are we not in need of additional training, additional professional development? We are. Perhaps it will take awhile for the educational system to catch on, but I decided if we needed something – who better to create it than an Educational Interpreter? So on November 7th, 2014 (the same day that NJ teachers met together to collaborate) – approximately fifteen Educational Interpreters got together to have their own Professional Learning Day.

We met at the Plumsted Library in New Egypt and started our day with learning what resources libraries have to help prepare interpreters for their full day of different classes (amazingly... quite a few!)

This day was not a workshop in the sense of having one presenter and an audience. It was purposely set up to be interactive and collaborative. We asked questions of each other and discussed answers. Some of our topics included whether interpreters attend faculty meetings, why/why not? Had anyone found a way to request lesson plans without alienating the teacher...and...what was the success rate in getting them? How do you balance being a good school employee against being an advocate for the student? Did anyone get a prep time? And a big question - are there any solutions for those pesky morning announcements?

We spent some time discussing the different evaluation methods used for interpreters. There’s a relief when talking with fellow interpreters about something so stress-filled as an observation. The age-old question came up when we asked: How can we be observed and critiqued by someone who doesn’t know sign language? A solution was offered that outside contingents could be brought in to do observations – but will that happen? Probably not, but it was nice to actually offer a thought on the subject.

The day quickly became energized with the subjects of what to do with High School slang, Middle School drama and Elementary School cliques. We discussed how to sign TV shows that the students might be watching and discussing, what to do with last minute assemblies and how to deal with formal, technical, puritan and archaic language.

We discussed (as always happens with interpreters) resources available (including classes, workshops and internet skyping) AND new signs...we just love new signs!

I would like to think that Educational Interpreters will soon have their spot in the NJEA Teachers’ conference – but until they do ... a Professional Learning Day, that we put together ourselves, will have to show NJ that we are goal-oriented to become more skilled in our profession.



Please check
Our
Website
www.nj-rid.org



MISSION STATEMENT

NJRID is a non-profit organization designed to fulfill the functions of The Registry Of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. (RID) on a statewide basis. The principal purposes of this organization are to initiate, sponsor, promote, and execute activities that will further the profession of the Interpretation / Transliteration of American Sign Language and English.



THE MEDIATOR is published quarterly and is emailed/on-line to members of the New Jersey Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. THE MEDIATOR invites contributions of articles or news items. Views and opinions expressed are not those of NJRID unless so stated. NJRID Box 213, Eatontown NJ 07724 Copyright @ 2015 Printed in the USA

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SUBMISSIONS Submissions may be edited for space if published. Please include your name and contact information, such as e-mail address or phone number. Letters to the Editor regarding articles in THE MEDIATOR are welcome. Send articles, notices or news items by e-mail to: lynchinterpreting@charter.net



BACK TO THE 40'S WITH AA

Have you ever wanted to interpret in the 12 Step setting but have been too intimidated or afraid to try it? Do you currently work in this environment but want to gain a better understand of the Steps of AA? If so, this workshop is the ONE for you!

NJRID is sponsoring the workshop, Back to the 40's in AA, an intensive 5-week workshop series that will take the interpreter through the challenges of working in such a multidimensional, emotionally charged environment. Throughout this course, excerpts will be read from the Big Book of AA and a pamphlet put out in 1944 entitled, "Alcoholics Anonymous, An Interpretation of the 12 Steps" followed by a guided question and answer/discussion session regarding the multiple, complex layers of meaning that these excerpts carry. Interpreters will discuss how these multiple meaning passages should/could be interpreted and how these interpretations should evolve to match the growth and understanding as the consumer moves through the various phases of recovery. To earn CEU/ACET credits, participants must attend every session.

This workshop will be presented in spoken English. To request ASL Interpretation, please contact April Ritchie at AprilRitchie@comcast.net before February 1, 2015. Registration Deadline is February 1, 2015.

-----REGISTRATION FORM-----

BACK TO THE 40'S WITH AA

Hope Hose Humane Fire Company
150 West Burlington Street, Bordentown NJ
(Please park in the rear lot or on the side streets)

Tuesday Evenings from 7:00-9:00 pm on February 17, 24, March 3, 10 and 17, 2015

NJRID Member \$75.00 NJAD/NWJAD Member \$75.00 Non-Members \$100.00

Name: _____ Address: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

RID Certification: _____ Special Accommodations Required: _____

(Accommodations must be requested by February 1, 2015)

Please mail completed registration form and a check made out to NJRID to:
April Ritchie, 46 Arrowhead Court, Medford NJ 08055
Members can register online at NJ-RID.org
For refund or cancellation information, contact April at AprilRitchie@comcast.net

NJRID is an Approved RID CMP Sponsor for Continuing Education Activities.
This Professional Studies program is offered for 1.0 CEU/ACETs.



NJRID AND CAMDEN COUNTY COLLEGE ARE PROUD TO CO-SPONSER
MAXIMIZING YOUR VOICING SKILLS
PART I AND PART 2



By Pamela Whitney, CI/CT, SC:L

Part I: Saturday Feb 7, 2015 9:00-5:00

Part 2: Sat May 16, 2015, 9:00-5:00

Part I of this workshop presents an overview of concepts used in successful Sign to Voice Interpreting. Small group practice and application are provided, along with strategies to use for more successful practice and interpretation.

Part 2 of this workshop presents a continuation of concepts used in successful Sign to Voice Interpreting, as addressed in Part 1. Small group practice and application are emphasized, along with strategies to use for more successful practice and interpretation.

Participants MUST attend BOTH sessions in order to earn CEU/ACET Credits. The fees listed below are for BOTH sessions. This workshop is limited to the first 30 registrants. Requests for accommodations should be made by January 20 to AprilRitchie@comcast.net.

REGISTRATION FORM

MAXIMIZING YOUR VOICING SKILLS PART I AND PART 2

Saturday, February 7, 2015, 9:00-5:00 AND Saturday, May 16, 2015, 9:00-5:00
Camden County College, Blackwood Campus
Halpern Hall Room 118, 200 College Drive, Blackwood, NJ

NJRID Member \$150.00 NJAD/NWJAD Member \$150.00 Non-Members \$180.00

Name: Address:

Amount Enclosed: Email Address: Phone:

RID Certification: Special Accommodations Required:
(Accommodations must be requested by January 15, 2015)

Please mail completed registration form and a check made out to NJRID to:
April Ritchie, 46 Arrowhead Court, Medford NJ 08055
Members can register online at NJ-RID.org
For refund or cancellation information, contact April at AprilRitchie@comcast.net

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This Professional Studies program is offered for 1.0 CEU/ACETs.



Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) Video Conference Workshops - 2014-2015

Presented by
The EIPA Diagnostic Center Boys Town National Research Hospital

Dates: Saturday, February 7, 2015 - Saturday, April 11, 2015 Hours: 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

EIPA Diagnostic Center

The EIPA Diagnostic Center, Boys Town National Research Hospital, is offering video conference workshops for educational interpreters working in Kindergarten through Grade 12 educational settings. The Office of Special Education Programs is sponsoring two workshops in the 2014-2015 academic year.

RID Continuing Education Units

The EIPA Diagnostic Center is affiliated with the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing. The Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is an approved RID CMP sponsor for continuing education activities. The Nebraska Commission for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing will be pursuing CEU approval for each video conference. Participants in the EIPA video conferences will be eligible for .4 continuing education units for each workshop.

Professional Development Hours

The participants in each session will be eligible for four professional development hours from the NJ Department of Education.

February 7, 2015

“Language and Theory of Mind in Deaf Children: What Educational Interpreters Need To Know”

**Brenda Schick, Ph. D, Author of the EIPA,
Professor at University of Colorado at Boulder in the
Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences Department**

The acquisition of a Theory of Mind (ToM) is an important milestone in the development of cognitive skills, allowing children to understand that people can differ in their beliefs. ToM is important in literacy skills, socio-pragmatic skills, and academic success. This workshop will describe ToM and causes for its delayed acquisition in deaf children. We will review texts and work on interpreting ToM concepts, discuss how ToM is represented in sign language, and explore why representing classroom ToM talk is essential.

**Bergen County Special Services School District at Union Street School
334 Union Street, Hackensack NJ 07601
<http://bcss.bergen.org>**

**Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission
Raritan Valley Academy / PDA Media Center
1690 Stelton Road, Piscataway NJ 08854
<http://www.mresc.k12.nj.us>**

**Gloucester County Special Services School District at
Gloucester County Institute of Technology
1360 Tanyard Road, Sewell NJ 08080
<http://www.gcit.org>**

April 11, 2015

“Ethical Practices and Guiding Principles for Educational Interpreters”

**Barbara J. Woodhead, EIPA Rater, RID CI/CT,
B.A. English and Co-Presenter (TBD)**

As employees of an educational system and as members of an educational team, interpreters are expected to adhere to professional standards and guidelines. This training will address best practices for providing effective and appropriate services in the diverse demands of K-12 settings. The workshop will discuss communication strategies when working with various members of the educational team, the importance of understanding the teachers' goals, the role of the educational interpreter in IEP meetings, guidelines for maintaining professional boundaries with students, strategies for conflict resolution, and the interpreter's obligation to adhere to state and federal laws.

**Bergen County Special Services School District at Union Street School
334 Union Street, Hackensack NJ 07601
<http://bcss.bergen.org>**

**The Enterprise Center at BCC
Mt. Laurel Campus of Burlington Co. College
3331 Route 38 - 300 College Circle
Mount Laurel NJ 08054
<http://www.acc-theenterpriseconferencecenter.com>**

**Gloucester County Special Services School District at
Gloucester County Institute of Technology
1360 Tanyard Road, Sewell NJ 08080
<http://www.gcit.org>**

Space varies at each location. Participants are encouraged to register for one or both sessions by January 23, 2015.

In the event that the number of registrations exceeds the facility's capacity, the registrations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

There will be no on-site registrations.

TO REGISTER:
Please visit the
NJ Department of Education Calendar of Events
at <http://education.state.nj.us/events>
No Registration Fees Are Required.



We would like to thank and acknowledge those members who have contributed articles to *The Mediator* by issuing each writer a \$5.00 coupon towards an NJRID workshop. We hope that implementing this incentive will entice more members to participate in shaping the organization's newsletter.

FEBRUARY, 2015

GRACE SAMIS

Print this coupon & send it with your registration form for any NJRID workshop

LOOKING FOR A SAFE AND SECURE WAY TO HAVE YOUR IDENTIFICATION PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED?

We have your answer!

NJRID SPONSORED ID BADGES

The badge will be made with your name, photo, & credentials, and can identify you as a certified or associate interpreter, student intern, or whatever title you have.

You don't need to be a member of NJRID to order a badge. The badge can be customized to have your agency name, school name, etc. printed right on the badge.

Visit NJ-RID.org and fill out the order form to buy your ID online and print it out at your convenience.

You can access it from your member area on our website.

COST

\$18 for Interpreters and Other Professionals

The New Jersey Deaf Senior Housing is looking for volunteer interpreter for their 2015 Fashion Show and Gift Basket Auction May 16th - Red Bank, NJ Contact Cindy at cpiana.njrid@yahoo.com if interested

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The New Jersey Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (NJRID) is a non-profit membership-driven professional association. The members span the entire state and include professional American Sign Language (ASL) / English interpreters, transliterators, Deaf and hard-of-hearing consumers, students currently enrolled in interpreter training programs and others who have a personal interest in the field.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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Multiple Locations



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