

### Educational Dynamix (EDDY) 2011-2012 School Year Wrap Up

The EDDY team wishes you a prosperous New Year!!!! A lot has happened since our last newsletter and this update is to keep you informed of our activities. Some were one-time events and others continue this school year.

### Elementary School Round Up

#### EDDY Evaluates Ed S. Cook Elementary School Afterschool Program

The EAGLES (Enriching Achievement Goals, Learning Enduring Skills) Academy after-school program provided the students and families of Ed S. Cook Elementary School with an after-school environment with the intent to allow both students and parents to grow academically and socially. The EAGLES Academy was created to support the needs of students served by Cook Elementary and provided homework assistance and linked hands-on experiences to classroom learning taught during the regular school day. Students participated in curriculums in reading, mathematics, and science with a 12:1 student-teacher ratio. Academic activities supported hands-on learning that was not always available during the school day. Homework tutorials provided real life applications of specific academic disciplines. Enrichment activities focused on opportunities to practice leadership and decision-making with emphasis on teamwork, character building, and real-life applications.

Dr. Whatley was the evaluator for the EAGLES Academy. Cook Elementary School closed its doors after the 2011 - 2012 school years. If the school had stayed open the overall recommendation would be to continue the program with a few suggestions. Cook EAGLES afterschool program proved to be a very worthwhile experience for students, teachers, and parents.

#### EDDY Provides Professional Development For The Mini Grant at Mercer University

The Mini Grant Project (2011-2012 school year) focused on improving preparation and retention of special education teachers by providing professional development on best practices for teaching math and science to students with disabilities. Sessions complemented math and science content courses offered through the Mercer University Math and Science Endorsement programs with an emphasis on strategies for teaching math and science content to students with disabilities. Participants were given two Saturday sessions on learning and instructional strategies that facilitated the acquisition, manipulation, and integration of math with other content areas along with strategies to support students with learning disabilities in mathematics. The objective was to prepare teachers to provide better instruction of mathematics content to students with the intent of retaining special education teachers in their field of study.

### Fundraising

#### Are You GoodSearch-ing?

Are you looking for new and creative ways to donate to one of your favorite charities without having to stroke a check? Look no further than GoodSearch. GoodSearch, powered by Yahoo!, is a search engine that you use when you are searching or shopping online. Each search or purchase you make helps raise funds for the charity. Simply [download the GoodSearch toolbar](#), specifying Educational Dynamix as your preferred charity, and start searching. It's that easy. Also check out the app for your phone.

### Online Sales

The Musical Mathematics CD continues to reach expanded audiences nationally and internationally via CD Baby, a company run by artists for artists that has grown to become the world's largest online distributor of independent music. Listen to a sample of the CD -

**Liz Robinson & Musical Mathematic featuring Skip Counting (multiplication facts)** - at CDBaby.com, or our website [edynamix.org](http://edynamix.org).

### EDDY Staff

- Clemmie Whatley, President
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- Shirley Robinson, Production Manager
- Vesta Zubber, Project Manager

## Elementary School Round Up - continued

### Professional Development For Riverside Intermediate School

During the 2011 school year EDDY provided professional development to Riverside Intermediate School designed with students at the forefront. The mission was to enhance the performance of students through teachers such that they are successful as they move through their educational process. Professional learning based on research-based strategies and the use of manipulatives were provided to teachers for Grades 4 and 5.

### Private School Agreement with Educational Dynamix

After five years of working with the instructors at Dar Un Noor Academy, Eddy continues to provide professional development for the K - 8 teachers. The Atlanta-based private school serves students in grades PreK-8. Teachers participating in the program appreciate the current review of research in the area of mathematics and English Language Arts and always find something they can apply in classes with students.

### EDDY Evaluated Clayton County Schools Local Education Agency (LEA) Plan

EDDY partnered with Clayton County Schools on the Research, Design, and Develop Outline and Descriptions of Content of the LEA Plan for the 2011 - 2012 school year. Title I, Part A provides federal funds to local educational agencies and public schools with high percentages of poor children to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic content and student academic achievement standards. Title I is designed to support state and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards in order to reinforce and enhance efforts to improve teaching and learning for students. Programs are based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parental involvement.

### EDDY Evaluates Clayton County Schools Flexible Learning Program (FLP)

The Flexible Learning Program is an alternative supplemental academic intervention that allows for additional academic support, particularly in the areas of Language Arts and Mathematics. During the 2012 - 2013 school year, Clayton County Public Schools Focus and Alert Schools will implement the FLP with a focus on mathematics. The program will be tailored to the needs of the academically at-risk students in fifteen schools in order to provide assistance for students to achieve proficiency in relation to the state academic content standards. Flexible Learning Programs include innovative approaches to teaching students, which are not repetitive of the teaching strategies that are utilized with the students during regular instructional/ classroom time.

## Presentations & Conferences

Educational Dynamix continues to remain active in the area of research and presented at the following conferences during the 2011-2012 school year:

### National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI) in October 2011.

#### Its mission -

*"To improve and advance the lives of black children and their families through education and advocacy."* With a focus on early childhood education, child welfare, elementary and secondary education, and health.

### National Alliance of Black School Educators (NABSE) in November 2011.

Founded in 1970, NABSE is dedicated to improving both the educational experiences and accomplishments of African American youth through the development and use of instructional and motivational methods that increase levels of inspiration, attendance and overall achievement.

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## Elementary School Round Up - continued

### **EDDY Transitions Musical Mathematics® at The Villages At Carver Family YMCA**

EDDY began delivering the Musical Mathematics to children in the after school program at The Villages at Carver Family YMCA in 2007. During the 2011- 2012 school year the team provided additional professional development to the staff to allow them to take on the sessions based on the schedule of the many activities offered to the students. Through donations, EDDY provided the activity books, instructional guides, CDs, and all supplies required to conduct the Musical Mathematics sessions.

## Other School News

### **EDDY Partners With The National Urban Alliance (NUA) to evaluate The Greene County Initiative**

The NUA Greene County Initiative was a collaborative effort of NUA and Greene County School District to design an effective program of professional development during the 2011 school year. The plan engaged Greene County educators in a collaborative examination of the process of learning in order to guide students to high levels of achievement; and enhanced opportunities for collaboration among schools and the Green County Schools central office as they worked to refine their instructional programs.

### **Professional Development For Douglas County Complementary Teaching (Co-Teaching) Initiative**

Co-teaching, or having two teachers in the classroom, has become a popular teaching structure to provide an inclusive setting for special education students. It is an instructional delivery approach in which general and special educators share responsibility for planning, delivery and evaluation of instructional techniques for a group of students; general and special educators work in a coactive and coordinated fashion, which involves the joint teaching of academically and behaviorally heterogeneous groups of students in integrated settings.

The professional development assisted teachers to identify skills and strategies needed for groups and individual students to complete the task of the lesson.

## Presentations & Conferences

**Region IV Head Start Conference in February, 2012.** Math, Music, and Science: Exploring Connections for Pre K and Kindergarten. Region IV Head Start Association is a professional organization that serves as an advocate for Head Start children, parents, and staff in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

*The mission is to serve as a clearinghouse to our grantees and affiliate groups by providing resources, technical assistance, and training to promote the delivery of quality services.*

Topics were related to Musical Mathematics, professional learning in mathematics, and the integration of mathematics and science.

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