

# Vermont Department of Education Linking Health & Learning e-Bulletin

**January 2012**

## **News and General Announcements**

### **2012 Vermont Fit and Healthy School Wellness Awards**

**Deadline: January 20, 2012**

The Fit and Healthy Kids School Wellness Awards recognize schools whose policies and practices reflect a high priority on healthy outcomes for children and staff. New for 2012: easier application and a \$5,000.00 "most improved" award for those who applied last year. Apply to be recognized for great school wellness work, be a role model for other schools, receive a recognition banner, be eligible to win one of nine monetary awards to support school wellness efforts. The electronic application is available [here](#). This award program is sponsored by The Vermont Departments of Health and Education, New England Dairy & Food Council, and the Vermont Education Health Initiative. To learn more contact Suzanne Kelley at [Suzanne.Kelley@state.vt.us](mailto:Suzanne.Kelley@state.vt.us) or 802-657-4202.

### **Free for Vermont Classrooms: CILC Programs for Health Education**

CILC – the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration – provides video conferencing services for classrooms worldwide. CILC partners with nearly 200 national and international content providers offering over 1,300 teacher-evaluated, standards-based K-12 programs. The Vermont Department of Education is making available to the field, at no cost, CILCs online health education resources. To view CILCs database of programs, visit [www.cilc.org](http://www.cilc.org) and click on the "content provider programs" icon. For more information and to order, click [here](#).

### **New Parents' Guide to Safe Bicycling Essentials**

Local Motion is distributing a new resource. This booklet is a concise and practical guide for parents to help their kids become safe, competent bicyclists; click [here](#). To order hard copies, click [here](#) or contact Jason Van Driesche at [jason@localmotion.org](mailto:jason@localmotion.org) if you are interested in distributing the guide to your members/clients/constituents.

### **Sight for Students**

Sight for Students is a charity that provides free vision exams and glasses to low-income, uninsured children. The program operates nationally through a network of community partners who identify children in need and network doctors who provide the eyecare services. To learn more, click [here](#).

### **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Jr. Iron Chef Vermont: Celebrating Local Food for Healthy Communities March 24, 2012**

Jr. Iron Chef Vermont, hosted by the Burlington School Food Project and VT FEED, is a statewide competition that gives middle and high school students an opportunity to gain hands-on experience preparing and cooking nutritious, farm-fresh foods. To register your team and learn more click [here](#). Space is limited, sign up early!

## **Professional Development Opportunities**

Click [here](#) for a calendar of Vermont Department of Education-sponsored events.

### **Health Education and Driver Education Courses for Licensure**

**Spring 2012**

**Locations Vary**

Spring 2012 courses from the Vermont Higher Education Collaborative are now open. Course titles include: Creating Change Through Coordinated School Health, Injury and Violence Prevention, Extraordinary Zone Control, and In-Vehicle Teaching Techniques. Click [here](#) to learn more and register.

### **Grant Writing: How to Develop Your Needs Assessment**

**January 10, 2012**

**Online**

During this webinar participants will learn how a needs assessment highlights assets, gaps, and needs; plus helps to clearly and identify a problem area. For more information about this webinar contact Casey Boyle-Eldridge at [boyleeldridge@vtlink.net](mailto:boyleeldridge@vtlink.net) or (802) 754-2611. To register, click [here](#).

### **Summer Food Program Webinars**

**January 11, 2012**

**Online**

Vermont Child Nutrition, in partnership with Hunger Free Vermont, is hosting a series of Summer Food planning webinars. The first of these webinars will be offered January 11, from 2-3 p.m., and is open to anyone interested in learning about Summer Food (potential sponsors, potential feeding sites, as well as seasoned Summer Food providers). Attendees will learn basic Summer Food concepts and build next steps for planning. To register, click [here](#). For more information about USDA Summer Food programs in Vermont, contact Nancy Lewis at (802) 828-5155 or [nancy.lewis@state.vt.us](mailto:nancy.lewis@state.vt.us)

### **Not On Tobacco (N-O-T) from the American Lung Association**

**January 19, 2012**

**Rutland, VT**

N-O-T is a voluntary program for teens who want to quit smoking. The program is research-based, effective, easy to use, and well received by teens. N-O-T teaches techniques for managing nicotine withdrawal, stress management, social skills, relapse prevention, plus other skills to help kids stay off tobacco. The curriculum can be taught in ten sessions. Training is required before N-O-T can be offered in a school or community setting. To learn more and register, click [here](#).

### **Making SafeArt**

**January 23, 2012**

**Plainfield, VT**

Participants in this workshop will learn how to address human relationship issues including domestic/sexual violence, harassment, teen dating and substance abuse through drama, dance, poetry, drawing, music and more. Call (802) 685-3138 for more information or to register.

### **School Connectedness Online Training Event**

**February 9, 2012**

**Online**

The first session of this 4-part, online training event will guide school teams through an exploration of CDC's [School Connectedness Strategies](#). By the end of the session, participating teams will have identified at least one strategy and supporting action step their school can employ to increase students' behavioral and academic outcomes. For information about the entire series, download the flyer from the [DOE Calendar](#). To register, click [here](#). If you have questions e-mail [kate.larose@state.vt.us](mailto:kate.larose@state.vt.us) or call (802) 828-0565.

## **Grant and Funding Opportunities**

### **Vermont Tobacco Use Prevention Funding for 2010-2012**

In an effort to reduce and prevent the dangerous impacts that tobacco has on youth, formula grant funding is available through the Vermont Department of Education—appropriated annually by the Vermont Legislature—to support local education agencies in coordinating programs and implementing tobacco prevention strategies. For more information click [here](#) or e-mail Kate Larose at [kate.larose@state.vt.us](mailto:kate.larose@state.vt.us).

### **Healthy Playground Makeover Sweepstakes**

Click [here](#) to enter for a chance to win one of two grand prizes that include a \$30,000 grant from Sports Authority and a Playworld Systems playground. One of the grand prizes will be awarded in a special drawing for Title 1 schools.

### **School Indoor Air Quality Grants**

**Deadline: January 30, 2012**

The Vermont Department of Health's "Envision - Promoting Healthy School Environments"

program is pleased to announce the availability of grants to fund improvements in indoor air quality and environmental health in schools. Please contact the Envision Coordinator, Chris Zuidema at [Christopher.Zuidema@state.vt.us](mailto:Christopher.Zuidema@state.vt.us) or (802) 865-7762), for more information. To learn more about Envision, click [here](#).

#### **Find Your Balance Challenge**

**Deadline: January 31, 2012**

Calling all K-5 Teachers and Students! Discovery Education, the Healthy Weight Commitment Foundation and NASPE/AAHPERD challenge you to be involved to help win the fight against childhood obesity. Win \$15,000 in cash and \$15,000 in equipment from the Sports Authority! Find Your Balance Challenge brings K-5 teachers and students together to create an action plan that addresses energy balance needs in their school community. Click [here](#) for information, resources and to register.

#### **National School Employee Wellness Awards**

**Deadline: February 15, 2012**

The Directors of Health Promotion and Education (DHPE) is now accepting applications for the 2011-2012 School Employee Wellness Awards Program which recognizes schools and school districts that demonstrate commitment to the health of their employees. Awardees will receive special recognition for their efforts that include grants (Bronze \$250, Silver \$500, Gold \$1000) to be reinvested in their employee wellness programs. On January 4, 2012 at 3pm EDST DHPE will host a webinar to review the award program and application. To apply, or to learn more about school employee wellness programs, click [here](#).

#### **Lowes Toolbox for Education Grants**

**Deadline: February 17, 2012**

Lowes Charitable and Educational Foundation is dedicated to helping parent-teacher groups achieve even more for schools. To learn more and apply, click [here](#).

#### **Richard Davoud Donchian Foundation Education Grants**

**Deadline: Rolling**

With an interest in rethinking and reconfiguring curriculum, pedagogy, and the other academic resources in schools and communities, the Foundation focuses on programs that work toward long-term improvement in all aspects of education, with an emphasis on literacy. The Foundation's grantmaking is focused in the northeastern United States. To learn more and apply, click [here](#).

#### **2012 Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) Grants**

PEP has been funded at \$78.8 million for FY 2012. This is equal to the funding provided in FY 2011. As it is available, the US Department of Education will release more information [here](#) about submitting grant applications for FY 2012 grants.

**To unsubscribe, or subscribe, to the Linking Health & Learning Bulletin, contact Lindsay Simpson (802) 828-1461 or [lindsay.simpson@state.vt.us](mailto:lindsay.simpson@state.vt.us)**