

SPALS SPEAKS

Special points of interest:

- October 20 and 21 Conference in Baton Rouge Preview
- Regional News
- Deadlines for Grants, Scholarships, and Liz Borel Award

SPEAKERS for 2011 CONFERENCE

Back by popular demand:

STEVE GRIFFIN and DAVID HAMMER

Joining them will be: Marilee Fini discussing Stuttering, Bridget Seals Rush discussing Autism Communication, Celeste McKibbin

discussing ESL, John Pagano discussing Challenging Behaviors, Janet Norris discussing SALSA, Wendy Jumonville discussing Early Hearing Detection and Intervention, Karen Nelson discussing Literacy and a few more.

So make plans now to attend this wonderful conference.



The SPALS Nomination Committee met on May 7, 2011. A list was prepared to be voted on at the annual meeting for executive board positions for the 2011-2012 term. All nominees gave their consent to the chairperson, Cheryl McDaniel, Parliamentarian.

PRESIDENT-ELECT:

SECRETARY:

TREASURER:

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

HISTORIAN/NEWSLETTER:

REGION 1 REPRESENTATIVE:

REGION 2 REPRESENTATIVE:

REGION 3 REPRESENTATIVE:

REGION 4 REPRESENTATIVE:

REGION 5 REPRESENTATIVE:

REGION 6 REPRESENTATIVE:

REGION 7 REPRESENTATIVE:

REGION 8 REPRESENTATIVE:

WILLIE GLAZE

JUDI WASHINGTON

JUDY NEWMAN

CHERYL MCDANIEL

CELESTE MAURO

CHRISTY GARDES

MONA KEEL

MONIKA MARCEL

JAQUELINE GRADNIGO

ALOSIA STERLING

ALTHA JORDAN GREEN

OPEN

OPEN

OPEN

* Please see the website for a full list of guidelines to serve on the SPALS Board*



Deadlines for Grants, Scholarships and Liz Borel Award

SPALS is offering 3 grants up to \$1000. The deadline for application is August 1, 2011.

SPALS is offering 2 Scholarships up to \$1500. The deadline is August 1, 2011

Liz Borel Award nominees are due by July 1, 2011

Please see Website and Feb. newsletter for more information. Do not let these valuable opportunities pass by.

Mail To:

SPALS

PO Box 12177

Lake Charles, LA 70612

SPALS CONFERENCE HOTEL INFORMATION

The SPALS 2011 conference will be in Downtown Baton Rouge at the River Center on October 20-21, 2011.

A block of rooms at The Belle of Baton Rouge Hotel will be held until 9/21/11 therefore register early.



Belle of Baton Rouge
102 France Street
Baton Rouge, LA
70802

Room Rate \$119 a night plus 13% Tax per night. There will be an additional charge of \$10 per person per room per night over double occupancy. Guest are subject to \$3 luggage fee per request for bellman services.



Legislative News...Buddies

LSHA hosted a successful in-service Advocating for your Profession on March 11, 2011 at Xavier University in New Orleans. There are still opportunities to serve your profession as a Legislative "Buddies"

Liaison to our State Representatives. For more details, PLEASE CONTACT
STEPHEN MIRE

Attached is an updated summary of bills of interest to LSHA for the current legislative session from Stephen Mire.

Audiology

HB 134 which mandated a trial period for hearing aids purchased from hearing aid dealers was removed. This bill was defeated by the commerce committee this past week. LSHA will continue to support HB 276

which revises the Louisiana Hearing Aid Dealer Licensing Act and also includes a mandated trial period.

HB 276 is scheduled to be heard by the House Health and Welfare Committee on Wednesday, May 4. Our lobbyist will be monitoring the hearing.

Universities

HB 25 which was one of three bills that would have allowed for tuition increases at universities was deleted. HB 25 was withdrawn by the author. LSHA continues to support the other two bills.

Retirement

SB 8 which was one of several bills to amend the "return to work" provisions was deleted. It was withdrawn by the author. LSHA continues to support the other return to work bills.

Those are the changes. Here again is a brief summary:

LSHA will monitor for and support:

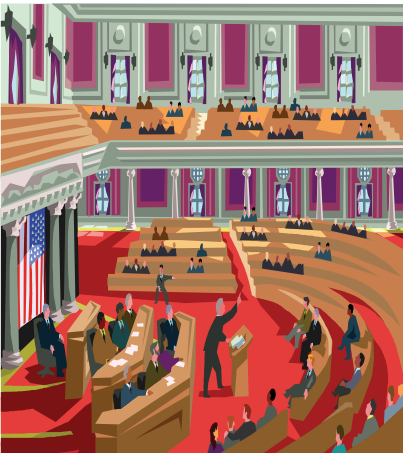
Adequate funding for Universities, Salary Supplement for SLP/AUDs with national certification in public school settings

Trial period for hearing aid purchases from hearing aid dealers

Retirement: Return to Work bills, COLA for retirees

LSHA will oppose SB 12 and HB 530 which would result in significant reductions

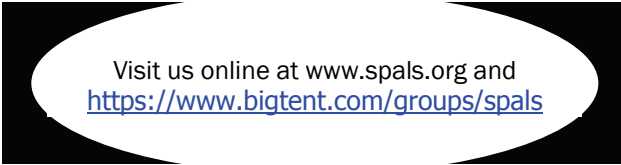
in retirement benefits for all state retirement systems.



REGIONAL UPDATES

Region	News	Parishes
Region I	<p>SLP's of Region I are actively working toward the necessary legislation for pay supplements to be reinstated. There is an overreaching expression of concern about the impact of state and local finances on the staffing decisions being discussed. While some vacancies are anticipated, there appear to be realignment and reassignment issues that are resulting in the threat of position losses. The parishes are engaged in creative assignment considerations to reduce the likelihood of specific personnel cuts</p> <p>The parishes are all in the process of implementing features described in of the SALSA document for the 2011-2012 school year. Jefferson and St Charles report a lot of activity in implementation. Plaquemines, Orleans and St. Bernard also report movement and a focus on implementation. All parishes will be represented at the SALSA Leadership Training scheduled in Baton Rouge in June.</p> <p>The Speech/Language Therapy Dept. in Jefferson Parish hosted an in service with Dr. Shari Roberson on the topic of Literacy and Language. This in service was held Saturday, April 16th.</p>	Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles
Region II	<p>SLP's in Livingston Parish will be attending a 2 day training for the STAR Program for teaching students with Autism. The content of the lessons are in the areas of expressive language, receptive language, spontaneous language, functional routines, pre-academic skills, play/social interaction skills.</p>	Bogalouosa City, E. Baton Rouge, E. Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington, W. Baton Rouge, W. Feliciana
Region III	<p>St. Mary Parish has created an Assistive Technology Newsletter that is creatively informing their Speech Therapists and parish about new technology to assist in delivery of services and to improve communication with and by students.</p> <p>Terrebonne Parish School District underwent another La State Department Monitoring this year and is working on disproportionality issues, Response to Intervention data collecting and improving literacy.</p>	Ascension, Assumption, St. Mary, Lafourche, St. James, St. John, Terrebonne
Region IV	<p>SLP's in St. Landry Parish have numerous activities planned for Better Hearing and Speech Month. Some of the activities include a coloring contest at the local elementary schools, meetings with school board members and city officials and radio advertisements.</p> <p>The parish would also like to congratulate Jacqueline Shilo-Gradnigo and Emily Pitre for being accepted into the 2011 Speech-Language Pathologist Cadre (SLPC) Leadership Academy.</p>	Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, Vermillion
Region V	<p>Speech Therapists from Calcasieu Parish received 6 iPADS through grant funds. This technology will be used to aid in the development of appropriate communication skills. Therapists received training and software to enhance their personal skills. These therapists are hoping to present at a future SPALS conference.</p>	Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis
Region VI	No info	Avoyelles, Grant, Lasalle, Natchitoches, Rapides, Sabine, Vernon, Winn
Region VII	No info	Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Red River, Webster
Region VIII	<p>Therapists in Lincoln Parish, are using I-pads to supplement therapy. Therapists are going into class rooms on a regular basis to assist with phonemic awareness centers, language and code variation activities, intensive reading remediation groups, and RIGOR.</p>	Caldwell, Catahoula, Concordia, E. Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Monroe City, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, W. Carroll

SPALS
PO Box 12177
Lake Charles, LA 70612



What is the purpose of SPALS?

- ❑ To promote the professions of speech pathology and audiology
- ❑ To help speech pathologists and audiologists stay current on the latest professional practices and legal issues relating to student performance
- ❑ To enhance the professional image of speech pathologists and audiologists
- ❑ To provide opportunity for professional relationships with other organizations associated with education and speech pathology and audiology
- ❑ To participate with other educationally oriented groups in organizing, developing, and promoting activities important to the educational programs of Louisiana and the nation



SPALS Speaks will be changingThis newsletter will be published quarterly thru 2011... Then will become a Monthly News Bulletin in January of 2012.. Featuring monthly therapy tips, websites, and guest authors. Make sure you check the website frequently to see what's new!

iSLP Initiative

The Calcasieu Parish Speech and Hearing Department is excited to announce the formation of *iSLP Initiative* for the use of iPads in the speech therapy setting.

Five Calcasieu Parish Speech Pathologists, one Special Education Technology Facilitator, and one clerk for the Speech Therapy Department are the *iSLP Initiative*, a group formed to integrate cutting-edge technology into the speech therapy setting in schools.

With the support of the Supervisor of Speech and Hearing Therapy, Special Education, Special

Education Technology, and Principals, the *iSLP Initiative* downloads, organizes, and evaluates iPad Apps for speech therapy. *iSLP Initiative* created a Sync Station for iPad app purchase and distribution to all Speech

Therapy iPads, subject to iTunes terms and conditions. A wiki is used to continually update and document iPad apps.

Integrating iPads with Promethean Boards for use in speech therapy and using iPad's in a paperless data system for data collection, Medicaid, RTI, and parent contact is another primary focus of *iSLP Initiative*. The *iSLP Initiative* will be presenting and providing training sessions at CPSB In-services, plans to present at the upcoming SPALS Conference in October, 2011, and wants to network with SLP's using iPads in Louisiana schools, other states, and countries.



By Pam Grueber