

**About the Keynote Presenter
Ramel L. Smith, Ph.D.**

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Doctorate of Psychology-Urban Education: School Psychology,
December 2003

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

Bachelor of Science Degree-Psychology, December 1994

EXPERIENCE

Milwaukee Public Schools

- 1977-1990 K-12 Student (Green Bay Avenue, Samuel Morse, Rufus King)
- 1995-1999 (Para-paraprofessional, Spec. Ed. Teacher, Substitute Teacher)
- 1997-2000 (Researcher in affiliation with UW-Milwaukee)

Department of Corrections: 2002-2007

- Psychologist (Ethan Allen School, Southern Oaks Girls School, Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility, Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility)

Children's Hospital Wisconsin: 2007-Present

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- **Smith, R.** (September 23, 2006). "The Responsibilities That Come With Your Degree." Keynote Speaker at the Wisconsin Association of Education Opportunity Program Personnel McNair and SSS Senior Retreat. Delavan, WI
- **Smith R.** (September 2006). "Violence and Hip Hop." Invited Guest on Black Nouveau. Episode aired September 27, 2006.
- **Smith, R. & Sapp, M.** (2005). "Insights Into Educational Psychology: What Urban School Practitioners Must Know." In F.E. Obiakor & F.D. Beachum, Urban Education for the 21st century: Research, Issues, and Perspectives. (pp. 100-113). Illinois: Thomas

TESTIMONIAL

"As a principal, I had the privilege of working with Dr. Ramel Smith at Milwaukee Education Center Accelerated Middle School. He demonstrated an in-depth knowledge of the physical, developmental and emotional needs of young teenage students, 11-15 years of age. That knowledge base, coupled with his humble spirit and sincere concern for the well being of each student he encountered, earned him the highest respect from his students, parents and colleagues alike."

-Jacqueline Patterson

Name _____

School Name _____

E-Mail Address _____

Phone _____

Please write in the number of the sessions that are of interest to you.

Choice 1 _____ Choice 2 _____ Choice 3 _____

Choice 4 _____ Choice 5 _____ Choice 6 _____

Registration Forms due to DCS by March 7, 2008

Register on the MPS Online Enrollment at:

<http://enroll.milwaukee.k12.wi.us>

OR

Mail to: The Division of Diversified Community Schools
5225 West Vliet Street, Room 251
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

OR

Fax to: 414.475.8471

Registration and meals for conference participants will be provided by DCS. Two representatives per school. Conference attendees are responsible for their own substitute teachers, if needed.

If you have questions or need additional information regarding the conference, please contact :

Diversified Community Schools

Phone: 414.475.8140

Thank you in advance for registering to attend the:
Innovative Schools on the Move

A Day of Refinement



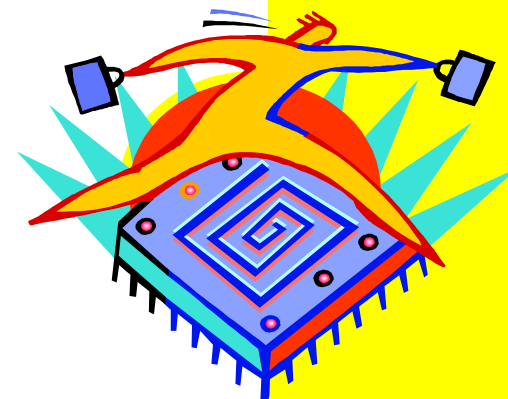
Milwaukee Public Schools

Diversified Community Schools
5225 W. Vliet Street
P.O. Box 2181
Milwaukee, WI 53201-2181

Phone: 414.475.8140

Fax: 414.475.8471

**Innovative Schools
on the Move**



**DIVERSIFIED COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
PRESENTS**

A Day of Refinement

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Alternative, Charter, Partnership Schools
and
District Administration

WEDNESDAY,

MARCH 19, 2008

Time: 8:00 A.M. — 4:00 P.M.

AT

**Cardinal Stritch University
The Sister Camille Kliebahn Conference Center
6801 N. Yates Road
Milwaukee, WI**

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The purpose of this conference is to enable the individuals who work directly with schools the opportunity to network, exchange ideas, and learn from one another with the goal of making our programs even more successful.

Schedule

8:00—8:30 a.m.
Check-in and Continental Breakfast

8:30—9:00 a.m.
Opening Remarks and Logistics

9:15—10:25 a.m.
Break Out Sessions

10:30—11:40 a.m.
Break Out Sessions

11:45—1:15 p.m.
Lunch, Keynote Address, and Announcements

1:20—2:30 p.m.
Break Out Sessions

2:35—3:50 p.m.
Break Out Sessions and Evaluations

SESSIONS ARE DESIGNED TO:

- Ensure that everyone understands the innovative direction of Milwaukee Public Schools.
- Share successes, tips, and strategies.
- Strengthen collaboration.

1. Data Wise

Gitanjali Chawla (Honey Creek Continuous Progress School)

Participants will learn about effective data analysis, record keeping, and monitoring of goals and instructional practices. Program monitoring and data will be discussed as well as scale score study.

2. Efficacy

Barbara M. Logan (The Efficacy Institute)

Educators engage in learning to equip their students with learning tools. They learn to teach Efficacy content through lessons that impact thoughts, feelings, and actions, to maximize the mobilization of Effective Effort, to use the SDIS to monitor student engagement and motivation, and integrate Efficacy lessons into standard instruction.

3. How to Build Self-Esteem

Ramel L. Smith, Ph.D.

Far too many people in this society, especially our youth, suffer from low self-esteem based on comments from family and friends, pressure from the media, and unfair internal expectations. The purpose of this session is designed to help identify the genesis of this problem, determine the specific factors that create and perpetuate low self-esteem, and finally determine ways to deal with raising our self-esteem in a healthy manner.

This session will include an activity and interaction with the speaker throughout the presentation. This will be followed with a question and answer period.

4. Creating Successful School Cultures

NeBritt Herring (WORK Institute)

This session will provide tips on creating successful school cultures. Participants will receive strategies on developing programs that help to lay a foundation for building school cultures. They will also receive strategies on how to maintain newly developed programs as well as a template for reviewing programs for improvement. These programs address staff, students, parents, and the community as stakeholders in the key for success.

5. Future Problem Solving Program

Barbara Ernest (I.D.E.A.L.)

The Future Problem Solving Program (FPS) is an international academic competitive program in which students learn to think creatively and critically as they work in teams to solve real world problems. FPS increases student awareness of the future, teachers communication skills and uses an effective problem solving model that encourages students to think analytically.

6. Using Data to Drive Improvement

Nancy Bonesho (Research and Assessment)

This session will provide participants with an understanding of how to use data to drive improvement in the school. Participants will learn where to look for data as well as the process for looking at data: from asking questions to discovery and decision making.

7. Appreciation for Culture

The Afro-Centric Curriculum

Carlotta Pritchett, Principal, Jodi Hennes, Educational Coordinator (Assata High School)

This presentation will detail specifics about the appreciation for and the implementation of an African-American centered curriculum on a daily basis. We will present the meaning of the colors of the African Flag and how those meanings are embedded into the culture of the school. Throughout the school year, various celebrations such as graduation are also given an Afro-Centric flair.

8. Using Instructional Support Tools to Inform Instruction

Peggie Swift & Janie Hatton, Principal Coaches

Peggie and Janie will engage the participants to reflect on practices that are used by teachers to engage students and by administrators/teacher leaders to reference best practices observed and how to engage in courageous conversations that are guided by questions to build capacity for improved instruction that will lead to improved student achievement. As we walk—as we talk—let us shift into 2nd order change. Create successful and effective teaching cultures and assess for continuous improvement.

9. Exploring Competency Based Learning and Instruction

Gwendolyn Spencer (Shalom High School)

Anthony Bradford (Shalom High School, Science Dept.)

This presentation will provide an overview and discussion of Shalom High School's Competency—based learning model. Students at Shalom earn credit toward a high school diploma in traditional subject areas and through demonstrating mastery of 300 required competencies in six categories (communication, critical thinking and analysis, problem solving, valuing, environmental responsibility and social interaction). In addition to these competencies students are also assessed through project-based and classroom work, standardized competency tests, and defense of graduation portfolios.

10. Collaboration Pays Off...Writing Effective Grant Proposals

Kathleen Kirchhoff (Grant Development Services)

The grant writing process is valuable for funding and for building collaboration between staff, parents, students, and community-based organizations. This presentation will outline steps to facilitate grant writing including: forming a team, assessing needs, locating funding sources, identifying potential partners, and examining the basic elements of proposal writing.

11. "Which Hat Are You Wearing Today?"

Alisia Moutry, (MPS-Director of Diversified Community Schools)

Our identity, who we believe we are, drives our perceptions of our world, our interactions with others, our construction of meaning, our choices and behaviors, and the way we fulfill the responsibilities of our many roles. The hat we choose to wear influences the identity we have developed for ourselves.

12. Proper Documentation Now To Avoid Regrets Later

Anita K. Sparks, Ed.D (MPS-Administrative Specialist)

Proper documentation is a tool that may assist in making an informed decision. It may also be the deciding factor in an individual's guilt or innocence. As administrators and school leaders, one of your most important responsibilities is to promote truth. Proper documentation is one tool that could assist in your success.