



## Joint Production

The CASS Department is working again this year with educational interpreters in both Catawba and Burke County Public Schools. These groups are finding it a rewarding and oft time entertaining experience. One new venture that the group has undertaken to further support educational interpreters in the area is to offer an ASL Grammar workshop. On October 26, 2009, Burke County and CASS will host a four-hour workshop for K-12 educational interpreters in North Carolina. Our own Sharon Hurley will present and Burke County Public Schools will provide the meeting place. All of us are looking forward to meeting with our colleagues.



## Free For All...

**Who doesn't like free things?** The CASS department decided to give back to the community by offering a free sign language class. The first classes were offered on September 29th for babies and toddlers. Classes for adults and children had classes on September 30th; all classes were in the NCSD chapel.



The goal of the baby/toddler class was to introduce parents to another communication option for their very young children. Emphasis will be on signing in a manner that is appropriate for young children; i.e. shorter sentences, easier vocabulary and facial expression. Finally signs were shared with the parents that their children can sign with them.



The focus of the children's class, ages 6-15, was to learn to "talk" in sign language. Some of the topics addressed were gestures, facial expressions and fingerspelling.

The adults were offered a general overview of American Sign Language (ASL) designed to introduce them to conversational/functional communication.



Response from the community has been overwhelming and enthusiastic! The CASS department wants to recognize several important people, without whose help we could not have provided this free class. Mrs. Terri Crump and Ms. Irlanda Mayo, NCSD staff members, along with several NCSD high school students were there to assist and interact with the children's class. It's not clear who had the most fun, the NCSD staff and

NCSD students or the kids!

## Coming Soon:



- > MORE Free sign language classes for our community.
    - October 20:** Adults and Children
    - October 27:** Infant & toddlers
  - > NWRESA
    - October 8:** Developing Receptive Skills
    - November 6:** Interpreting 101
    - December 3rd:** Spanish Culture
  - > **October 26:** Free workshop for educational interpreters co-hosted with Burke County Educational Interpreters
  - > ASLTA: The process to become ASLTA certified
  - > Mini Classes in Vocabulary and Grammar
  - > Advanced Linguistic Workshop
- Currently Underway:
- > Expansion Techniques in American Sign Language
  - > Interpreting 101

## ◆◆So YOU Want to Be An Interpreter?◆◆

Ashleigh Lassiter is currently teaching a class titled “**Interpreting 101-What You Need to Know**” She will cover the complex requirements to become a credentialed/licensed interpreter in North Carolina and explain how to satisfy those requirements. Ashleigh also will address the various settings, expectations and opportunities available to potential interpreters (i.e. educational, community, religious, etc.). This training is not intended to teach persons **how** to interpret information, but rather how to take the information and needed skills to become a professional. Topics discussed will include, but are not limited to: state requirements, national certification, roles and responsibilities, ethical dilemmas, and the Registry of Interpreters (RID) Code of Professional Conduct. Also addressed will be the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) and National Interpreter Certification (NIC) certifications. The course will benefit persons who want to become an interpreter, interpreter supervisors/coordinators, teachers working with interpreters and all those who desire to increase their awareness of the role and responsibilities of interpreters. Upon completion, participants will have the knowledge needed to begin or further their professional development as an interpreter.

*This class will be offered again next spring if you are interested.*

**EXPANSION TECHNIQUES IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE**-Bill Ross is currently teaching this class and, because of the interest, will offer the class in the spring. This additional class will be taught at an intermediate level in spoken English. Watch for the announcement of dates, time and location.

**William F. Ross**

Director of CASS

**Ashleigh Lassiter**

Mentorship Coordinator

**Peggy Sanders**

Interpreter Coordinator

**Ramon Perez**

Foreign Language Specialist

**Sharon Hurley**

Professional Development  
Specialist

We can do anything  
we want if we stick to  
it long enough.  
Helen Keller

## Local NWRESA Trainings

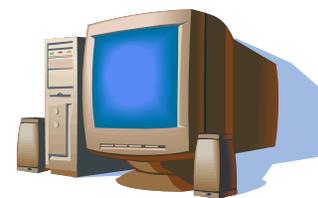
**October 8: Developing Receptive Skills**-Gain tips and tools on improving your ability to “read” American Sign Language

**November 6: Interpreting 101**-What do you need to be an interpreter? Find out here!

**December 3rd: Spanish Interpreter**-The role of an interpreter and an advocate; their similarities and differences

Please check out the NWRESA website: <http://www.nwresa.org/>

NWRESA has added a **Sign Language** link listing all the trainings and classes that NCS D is providing.



## Future NCS D Trainings

COMING SOON!

**ASLTA: Becoming ASLTA certified**-The CASS department will help you prepare for ASLTA certification. The amount of support you want is up to you. From a two-hour training to on-going support to prepare your submission materials.

**Mini-Classes in Vocabulary and Grammar**-five 75-minute classes will be coming to you soon.

**Advanced Linguistic Workshop**-Phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics. Does it all sound like GREEK to you? In this class we will see how the linguistic features of English and ASL are similar and different.

## Team Work...

Bill Ross is working with Krista Heavner, Coordinator of the Resource Support Program, Office of Education Services and Dr. Rachael Ragin, from the Exceptional Children's Division of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Together the three are working to determine the role, function and responsibilities of spoken language facilitators in school settings. These three people will continue to meet throughout the school year.



## We're on the Tube!

The CASS department posted its first video clip on YouTube and Teacher Tube, with NCS D's own Ms. Melissa Shumate. Take a moment to check out the sign language instruction related to the H1N1 Flu; voiced in both Spanish and English. Search under WNCSD and/or H1N1. We plan on put up more educational materials in the future.

