

**ASSOCIATION FOR
DIRECT INSTRUCTION-
WISCONSIN CHAPTER**

**Vol. 12, No. 3
November 2009**

From the President

By: Gwen Sachse

Our 2009 Annual meeting was held on August 12 at Cool Beans Coffee House and Café in Madison. ADI-WI is pleased to announce that Allie Totsky was reelected to another term as secretary and Betsy Frisch is our newly elected vice-president. We have a vacant director position. Don't hesitate to contact ADI-WI if you're interested.

As part of our annual meeting, the board discussed annual goals. We plan to continue our efforts to connect with organizations around the state to collaboratively reach more educators and parents. As part of our annual goals, we are also looking into developing a website and exploring conference options for 2010.

We appreciate the emails we've received at adiwiboard@gmail.com. ADI-WI would like to share updates and newsletters via email with more members. Please send us an email with your current contact information so we can keep you updated and save a little paper!

Attached to this newsletter is a membership renewal form. Don't forget to renew your membership! Your membership renewal date is below your name on the mailing label.

DI Around the State

Genesee Lake School: The Oconomowoc Developmental Training Center

The Oconomowoc Developmental Training Center (ODTC) was established in 1975 as a facility for the care of children and young adults with special needs. Services include residential and day treatment facilities. The school specializes in working with persons with developmental disabilities and emotional disturbances. The average length of stay for students is 12 to 18 months. Historically, 90 percent of the children served at ODTC graduate and are placed in less restrictive environments.

The Genesee Lake School is located on the ODTC campus. It includes the Day School, with current enrollment of 26 day school students from Southeastern Wisconsin. The Day School utilizes several classroom models and various educational programs. The SOUL classrooms (Student Options for Unlimited Learning) seek to maximize learning while students are at the Genesee school by placing them, upon entry, where they are academically.

Just over two years ago, the staff chose to explore Direct Instruction. They asked a DI trainer to assist them with testing and placement of their students. The staff also received training in Direct Instruction curriculum and delivery methods. There was initial

difficulty in terms of placement of all students, as well as low expectations of students with more severe disabilities. The school has been using Direct Instruction with great success. There are a number of students in their mid teens that have been able to learn to read for the first time. A portion of the students are beyond the basic DI curriculum and have been using the US History program, novel studies, and the Saxon Algebra and Geometry curriculum.

You can learn more by calling Sue Owens at (262) 569-5515 or by visiting www.odtc.com.

Chapter Information

Members of ADI-WI adopted the mission of the National ADI in promoting the improvement of educational methods.

The philosophy includes:

- 1) Teachers are responsible for student learning.
- 2) The curriculum is a critical variable for instructional effectiveness.
- 3) Effective teaching practices are identified by instructional research that compares the results of a new practice with the results of a viable alternative.
- 4) Experiments should not be conducted using an entire generation of Americans. The initial experimentation with a new practice should be small in scale and carefully controlled so that negative outcomes are minimized.
- 5) A powerful technology for teaching exists that is not being utilized in most American schools.

ADI-WI Officers and Executive Board Members

(Term expiration in parentheses)

President: Gwen Sachse (2010)
gmsachse@yahoo.com

Vice-President: Betsy Frisch (2011)
btfrisch@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Allison Warner (2011)
atotsky@gmail.com

Treasurer: Tami McGrattan (2010)
tamimcg@aol.com

Directors:
SuAnn Pagel-Rast (2010)
spagelrast@abschools.k12.wi.us

Vacant (2010)

Lifetime Honorary Member:
Dr. Sara Tarver
tarver@soemadison.wisc.edu

ADI-WI Email Address:
adiwiboard@gmail.com

**ASSOCIATION FOR DIRECT INSTRUCTION
WISCONSIN CHAPTER
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Please print legibly

Name _____ Phone () _____

Email Address _____

Home Address

Employer/Affiliation _____ Phone () _____

Address _____

Are you already a member of the National Association for Direct Instruction? Yes No

If not, we encourage you to become a member of the Association for Direct Instruction - National Level.

Membership fee

ADI-WI \$10

Please make checks payable to ADI-WI

Submit to: Tami McGrattan, 794 Highway MM, Oregon, WI 53575

Do you have a success story about the use of DI in your school? May we contact you about including that information in an upcoming newsletter?

Yes, I have had success with: _____

Return to:
ADI- WI
794 Hwy. MM
Oregon, WI 53575