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*KMUC is affiliated with  
WEAC and NEA*

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Enjoy the snow!!  
Winter won't be much longer.

*This is an 11.29  
communication with  
WEAC members, Federal  
Statute CFR 100.8 (b) (4)*

Representing Teachers and Support Professionals in Chilton, Elkhart Lake, Howards Grove, Kiel, Kohler, Lakeshore Technical College, Manitowoc, New Holstein, Plymouth, Sheboygan, Sheboygan Falls, Two Rivers, and KMUC Retired

# THE KMUC

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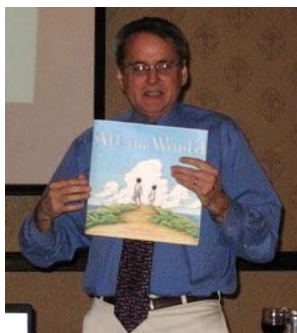
## **Do-Able Differentiation – A KMUC IPD Conference**

Whoever believes the adage “You can’t go home again” has not heard a presentation by Dr. Michael Ford. When Dr. Ford did his differentiation conference in Elkhart Lake on February 11, he was literally coming home to Elkhart Lake where he started his teaching career as a Title I teacher and figuratively coming home to the perspective of a classroom teacher facing the many levels of students within a classroom.

The first part of the presentation was about perspectives on reading – the reading that is done by students that leads to success. Dr. Ford reminded participants that there is an effective element to reading as well as a cognitive one. The effective element deals with motivation of students to be readers and the access they have to books that allows them to read as much as they can. Without doing reading outside of school, the differences between students intensify as they come to the

classroom.

The second part of the presentation was about instruction – practical, possible differentiation models that would work in any classroom. Simply put, there are three ways to differentiate within any classroom structure – by varying texts used, by varying the grouping patterns of students, and by varying the support given to students by the teacher. Practical strategies and activities were provided for differentiated instruction.



One thing you can count on with Dr. Ford is humor about the topic – through the use of songs, cartoons, and read-alouds. Another thing you can count on is some research that invites reflection. Two reflective questions that came from the presentation were “What if some of the stimulus money had been spent to put books into the hands of students outside of school who might not otherwise have such access?” and “How do we move from providing instruction that reaches many students with most of what they need to reaching all students with everything they need?”.

## KMUC Board Report, January 11, 2010

Stacy Gloede, Vice President

The KMUC Board met Monday, January 11. There were 24 board members present. Currently Elkhart Lake ESP and Kohler ESP have seats open on the Board.

WEAC Vice President, Guy Costello attended the meeting and addressed the board about current WEAC issues. He also commended the KMUC Board and staff for their great leadership given at the state level and how organized we are.

A new board policy was approved to implement procedures for the UniServ Directors to follow when they are out of the office.

At the December board meeting, board members completed a survey on the Emerging Voices training. From this information more discussion was held such as when to have it and where. The Executive Committee will work on the details.

The NEA ESP Conference will be held in Las Vegas, March 12–14, 2010. KMUC’s conference budget is designed to fund 40% towards this conference. Preliminary costs were prepared and the board approved sending three members to the conference. Notification will be sent to

the four local ESP presidents encouraging members to sign-up.

**Emerging Voices  
Training  
Wednesday,  
April 21, 2010  
KMUC Office**

**Those recommended for  
this training will receive an  
invitation letter the week  
of March 15.**

**Please mark your calendar  
and plan on attending!!**

## WEAC Board Report, January 8 & 9, 2010

Lei Lund, Phil Knier, Tara Leithold

The WEAC Board met on January 8 and 9. Here are the highlights:

### 1. Race to the Top Grant Applications

Over the past few weeks, district administrators, school boards, and local presidents have been asked to sign a “Memorandum of Understanding” (MOU) for the state’s RTTT grant plan. Most administrators and board did; most local presidents did not because of the lack of specifics in the plan. When conversations about this come up in your district, here are some things you need to know and to discuss.

- A. The RTTT grant is competitive: only 10 states will receive money.
- B. If Wisconsin is one of the 10,

each district will get \$60,000 or more, divided over four years — but there are strings attached, of course. The strings were not entirely clear in the MOU.

- C. Assuming the money comes, each district will need to ask itself these questions:

- 1. Do we have the capacity to implement the reforms?
- 2. Can we maintain the focus needed to carry through with reforms?
- 3. Can we sustain the reform once the money is gone?

### 2. Health Care Reform

As the Senate and House try to forge a joint Health Care Reform bill over the next weeks, we are urged to contact Senators

Kohl and Feingold and our representative to urge them NOT to support the “excise tax” on health care plans that was part of the Senate plan and to support the public option that was part of the Assembly plan. More specifics about this issue and legislator contact information are available on the WEAC website: [www.weac.org](http://www.weac.org).

### 3. Virtual Schools and On-line Education

This issue is proving to be “thornier” than originally supposed. WEAC Board members spent about two hours at the January meeting discussing aspects of the proposed WEAC policy and raising concerns. No action was taken on a policy yet; work will continue on this important policy.

## KMUC Calendar

March 1	March 8	March 10	March 15	March 23
Executive Committee Meeting 4:30 p.m.	KMUC Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.	CBC/President’s Meeting 6:00 p.m.	Legislative Dinner 5:30 p.m.	ESP Training “Real Colors” 5:00–7:30 p.m.
KMUC Office	KMUC Office	KMUC Office	Millhome Supper Club	KMUC Office