



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

TOM LUNA
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

August 27, 2009

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Business Managers, Charter School Administrators, Title I Directors, Special Education Directors, Testing Coordinators, Technology Coordinators and Public Information Officers

FROM: Tom Luna, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Weekly E-Newsletter

IN THIS REPORT:

- **Online professional development available for Idaho educators**
- **Update contact information with the Department**
- **Department hosts Title II-A webinar series**
- **Superintendent's Schedule**
- **What's New**
- **What's Happening in Our Schools?**
- **Reminders**
- **Upcoming Deadlines**

ONLINE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AVAILABLE FOR IDAHO EDUCATORS (GO TO TOP)

The Idaho State Department of Education has teamed up with Idaho Digital Learning Academy to provide ongoing, high-quality, professional development to all Idaho educators through IdahoLive. Idaho Online Professional Development will provide your local school or district with:

- Variety of workshop offerings
- Workshops that are 100% online
- College credit from NNU, U of I, ISU or BSU
- Anywhere, anytime access to engaging and informative content
- Highly qualified online facilitators
- No travel or lost instructional time
- Cost effective way to bring professional development to your teachers
- Workshops cost \$125.00 per participant, plus continuing education credit fees

Idaho Online Professional Development will offer workshops for all grade levels and content areas as well as workshops specifically designed for administrators, secondary teachers, and elementary teachers.

The Fall 2009 Term is scheduled for September 28 to November 15. There is a 25-participant maximum per workshop so please register as soon as possible.

To learn more or to register, please visit www.idahopd.org.



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

TOM LUNA
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION WITH DEPARTMENT (GO TO TOP)

As you begin school this year, remember to update the district and school contact information in the Idaho District Contact Information (IDCI) database. The State Department of Education uses the contact information listed in IDCI for all communications with school and district personnel.

To update information, visit http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/data_collection.htm and click on the "Idaho District Contact Information" link. Instructions for using IDCI are posted at the top of the web page.

DEPARTMENT HOSTS TITLE II-A WEBINAR SERIES (GO TO TOP)

The State Department of Education is hosting a series of IdahoLive webinars focused on Title II-A funds. Joe Burris, Title II-A Coordinator, will host each webinar. The following is a list of webinar titles and dates:

- "Guidelines for Allowable Activities for Title II-A Funds" was hosted on August 25, 2009
- "Guidance on Section 2141 of Title II Accountability" on Sept. 15, 2009
- "Conducting a Needs Assessment for Title II-A" on Oct. 27, 2009
- "Professional Development Planning" on Nov. 17, 2009
- "Equitable Distribution of Teachers" on Jan. 26, 2010

For more information, please visit www.idahodigitallearning.org, click on the "IdahoLive" tab and then click the "Future Webinars" link. If you miss a webinar, the entire series will be archived online at:

http://www.idahopd.org/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab_group_id=2041.

SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHEDULE (GO TO TOP)

- Superintendent Luna will join Governor Otter and Office of Energy Resources Administrator Paul Kjellander at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, August 28 to introduce a K-12 school energy efficiency program at Homedale High School, 203 E. Idaho Ave., in Homedale.
- Superintendent Luna will appear on KTVB Channel 7's "Viewpoint" at 9 a.m. MT on Sunday, August 30.
- Superintendent Luna will tentatively visit schools in the Plummer-Worley School District at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 3 in Plummer.
- Superintendent Luna will speak to the Coeur d'Alene Rotary Club at noon on Friday, September 4 in Coeur d'Alene.

WHAT'S NEW (GO TO TOP)

Office Location
650 West State Street

Telephone
208-332-6800

Speech/Hearing Impaired
1-800-377-3529

Fax
208-334-2228



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

TOM LUNA
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

- **H1N1 information for schools** -- The State Department of Education is working with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to update the H1N1 information webpage online at <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/flu/>. Please check this page regularly for the most up-to-date information to help you prepare for potential Pandemic H1N1 2009 influenza cases in schools. If you have any questions, please contact the local health district in your area. For a full list of contacts, please visit <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Health/HealthDistricts/tabid/97/default.aspx>.
- **ASVAB** -- The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) program is one way to help students identify a future career path. The ASVAB program is a comprehensive career exploration and planning program that includes a multiple-aptitude test battery, interest inventory and various career planning tools designed to help the student explore the world of work. The program is free of charge. Please consider using ASVAB in your school or school district. For more information, you can contact: David Hodson, at (208) 334-1450 ext. 213 or david.a.hodson@mepcom.army.mil or Colleen Owen at (208) 334-1450 ext.214 or colleen.owen@mepcom.army.mil. Schools in Northern Idaho, north of New Meadows should call Fred Bernize at (509) 353 3105 ext. 242 or fred.bernize@mepcom.army.mil.
- **Apply now for the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program** -- The Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program provides opportunities for K-12 teachers to participate in direct one-to-one exchanges of positions with colleagues from other countries for a semester or academic year. Participating countries for 2010-2011 are the Czech Republic, France, Ghana, Hungary, India, Mexico, South Africa, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom. By living and working in the cultures of their host countries, exchange teachers gain an understanding and appreciation of the similarities and differences in national cultures and education systems. The deadline to apply is **October 15, 2009**. For questions, please contact fulbrightcte@aed.org. Visit www.fulbrightteacherexchange.org for application forms.
- **Apply now for the Fulbright Distinguished Awards program** -- The Distinguished Awards program offers fellowships to highly accomplished U.S. and international teachers to conduct research, take courses for professional development, lead master-level seminars, and engage in other activities such as in-service training for local teachers. During the program Distinguished Teachers will work towards the completion of a capstone project of their own design. Upon returning home, teachers are expected to share the knowledge and experience gained on the program with teachers and students in their home schools and with their communities. Participating countries for 2010-2011 include: Argentina, Finland, India, Israel, Singapore, South Africa, and the United States. The deadline to apply is **January 15, 2010**. For questions, please contact fulbrightdat@aed.org. Visit www.fulbrightteacherexchange.org for application forms.
- **Criminal History Check policy for student teachers** -- The State Department of Education has posted new information on the policy for Criminal History Checks of student teachers. Please visit http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/teacher_certification/criminal_history.htm to download the policy. If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Haas at (208) 332-6888 or SHHaas@sde.idaho.gov.
- **Alternate Authorization deadline is September 17** -- The Professional Standards Commission Authorization Committee will meet to review Alternative Authorization – Teacher to New Certificate requests on **September 17, 2009**. Please submit complete application packets to Cina Lackey, Alternative Authorization Coordinator, prior to that date. If you have questions, please contact Cina Lackey at (208) 332-6936 or CLackey@sde.idaho.gov. You can mail applications to:

State Department of Education



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

TOM LUNA
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

ATTN: Cina Lackey
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0027
Boise, ID 83720-0027

- **Upcoming grant writing workshop** -- The Idaho POST Academy and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grant writing workshop in Meridian on October 26-27, 2009. Beginning and experienced grant writers from city, county and state agencies as well as nonprofits, K-12, colleges and universities are encouraged to attend. Multi-enrollment discounts are available. Tuition is \$425 and includes class workbook and accompanying resource CD. Seating is limited, online reservations are necessary. For more information, please visit <http://www.grantwritingusa.com/events/write/boid1009.html>.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOLS? (GO TO TOP)

The highlight this week is ... Caldwell School District

The Caldwell School District was one of 73 institutions nationwide and the only district in Idaho to receive the Physical Education for Progress (PEP) grant. This is a three-year grant worth more than \$600,000.

"This is a very rare opportunity that we are so fortunate to have," said Syringa Middle School principal Monica White.

With this grant, the district will purchase climbing walls for Caldwell's elementary schools and new physical education equipment for the secondary schools. Teachers will benefit from grant money devoted to professional development that will go along with the new equipment.

Congratulations to the Caldwell School District!

"What's Happening in Our Schools?" is a feature that appears occasionally in the Weekly E-Newsletter. It is an opportunity for us to share the great things that are happening in Idaho's public schools on a statewide level. If you have something great happening in your school, please e-mail it to Melissa McGrath at MRMcGrath@sde.idaho.gov with "What's Happening in Our Schools" in the subject line.

REMINDERS (GO TO TOP)

- **Upcoming IBEDS/HQT/ARRA training opportunities** -- Based on the request of local school districts, the State Department of Education has expanded the 2010 IBEDS/HQT Data Collection workshops to include training sessions on the ARRA funding and reporting requirements. The workshops begin September 2 in Coeur d'Alene and are scheduled throughout the state until September 15. To register, please visit <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/forms/IBEDSTraining.htm>.
- **Register now for Federal Program Directors' Meeting** -- The 2009 Federal Programs Director's Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 22, 2009 at the Doubletree Riverside in Boise. To learn more about the meeting and to register, please visit http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/title_one/. The deadline to register is **September 8, 2009**.

Office Location
650 West State Street

Telephone
208-332-6800

Speech/Hearing Impaired
1-800-377-3529

Fax
208-334-2228



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

TOM LUNA
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

- **Apply for Training for Idaho Instructional Leaders** -- The Training for Idaho Instructional is a professional development opportunity focused on improving instruction and open to administrators and staff from schools and districts requesting assistance with their school improvement efforts. Districts and schools in Needs Improvement status are invited to apply for participation in this training, which spans four training days during the 2009-10 school year and provides on-site support from an implementation coach. Participating sites will send a team of four to five exemplary educational leaders to attend this series of trainings. These trainings will focus on: Effective Teaming, Instructional Planning & Delivery, Classroom Culture, Collegial Learning. To learn more or to apply, please visit <http://csi.boisestate.edu/Improvement/ILT.html>. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on **September 10, 2009**. If you have questions, please contact Katherine Weatherspoon at (208) 426-4852 or katherineweatherspoon@boisestate.edu.
- **Constitution Day is September 17** -- In 2004, the United States Congress enacted Public Law 108-447, Section 111(b) requiring that "each educational institution that receives federal funds for a fiscal year shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on September 17 of such year for the students served by the educational institution." Idaho's legislators throughout the years have recognized the importance of understanding the United States Constitution as a living document and its impact on our everyday lives by adopting Idaho Code 33-1602, "instruction in the Constitution of the United States shall be given in all elementary and secondary schools". Additionally, Idaho Code 73-108B identifies that, "September 17 shall be designated as constitutional commemorative day." As a result, all local education agencies receiving federal funds must teach about the U.S. Constitution on September 17th of each year. A list of available resources to help you design an instructional program for Constitution Day is available at http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/social_studies/.
- **Educator Training for alternative school staff** -- *Making Proud Choices!* is a curriculum that integrates teen pregnancy prevention along with HIV/STD prevention. *Making Proud Choices A Safer Sex Approach to STDs Teen Pregnancy and HIV/Prevention Curriculum* is a curriculum that provides young adolescents with the knowledge, confidence and skills necessary to reduce their risk of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), HIV and pregnancy. A training session will be held October 7-8, 2009. To learn more or to register, please visit www.sde.idaho.gov/site/csh/. If you have questions, contact Lisa Kramer, HIV/Health Education Coordinator, at (208) 332-6947 or lkramer@sde.idaho.gov.
- **Child Nutrition Direct Certification webinar** -- The State Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs is hosting a webinar on Direct Certification from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. MT on Thursday, August 27, 2009. The new electronic process will take the place of the traditional Direct Certification letter received in past years. The great news is that because the state agency created the database with Food Stamp and TAFI recipients, sponsors have a very good chance of making a match. It is extremely important you learn the process for getting a user name and password to this highly confidential program. The webinar will cover this process. This is an open webinar, and we encourage you to invite anyone that may benefit from this training. To access your Idaho Live session, go to the IdahoLive tab of the IDLA website at www.idahodigitallearning.org and click on "Aspen Room" on the left hand side of the page.
- **Annual Superintendents' Meeting presentations now posted** -- All presentations and handouts from the 2009 Annual Superintendents' Meeting are now posted on the State Department of Education web site at http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/meetings_events/. To access archived sessions of the IdahoLive webinars, please



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

TOM LUNA
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

visit www.idahodigitallearning.org, click on the "IdahoLive" tab, and click on the "2009 Annual Superintendents' Meeting" link under the Archived Categories section on the left side of the page.

- **IRI testing window** -- The Fall IRI testing window begins August 24 and ends September 30. The reporting window closes on October 15. If you have any questions, please contact Jenny Fisk, Reading Coordinator, at JFisk@sde.idaho.gov.
- **Attendance and Enrollment Training Workshops** -- Here are the dates and locations of the 2009 Attendance and Enrollment Training Workshops:
 - Boise: Friday, September 18, State Department of Education offices, Barbara Morgan Conference Room
 - Coeur d'Alene: Wednesday, September 23, Midtown Meeting Room, 1505 N 5th Street
 - Lewiston: Thursday, September 24, Lewiston District Office Board Room, 3317 12th Street
 - Blackfoot: Tuesday, September 29, Performing Arts Center, Blackfoot High School, 870 S Fisher Ave
 - Jerome: Wednesday, September 30, Jerome Middle School, 520 10th Ave. WestRegistration forms and other materials for the workshops are posted online at: http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/finance_tech/training.htm. If you need additional information or have questions, please contact Greg Berg at GDBerg@sde.idaho.gov.
- **Conference for Hispanic students and parents** -- The Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs is hosting the "Emerging Hispanic Students and Parents in Education" conference from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on October 20-21, 2009 at the Best Western Caldwell Inn & Suites. The conference will focus on academic transitions, cultural awareness, cultural sensitivity, cultural competency and parental involvement. The conference is open to counselors, administrators, paraprofessionals, superintendents and anyone working directly with Hispanic students who would benefit from this training. For more information, contact Juan Saldana at (208) 334-2147 or juan.saldana@icah.idaho.gov.

UPCOMING DEADLINES (GO TO TOP)

- **September 8, 2009** -- The deadline to register for the 2009 Federal Programs Director's Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, September 22, 2009 at the Doubletree Riverside in Boise. To register, please visit http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/title_one/.
- **October 30, 2009** -- The deadline to submit your application for the 2010 United States Senate Youth Program funded by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. Principals in every high school were mailed a packet of information in August explaining the scholarship process, timelines for completion, and student eligibility requirements. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Salazar at (208) 332-6974.
- **October 31, 2009** -- The deadline to apply for awards up to \$500 for Teacher Scholarships and Classroom Mini-Grants from Northwest Professional Educators. All educators are eligible for the awards. Each teacher must submit a short application describing the continuing education opportunity or class project, an itemized budget, and the academic benefit for students. Teachers may obtain applications by filling out a contact form on the NWPE website at www.nwpe.org. All awards are competitive.



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

TOM LUNA
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

- **December 31, 2009** -- The deadline to apply for \$250 New Classroom Start-Up Grants from Northwest Professional Educators. Teachers new to their district or grade level are eligible for the awards. Each teacher submits a short application describing their needs for setting up their classroom. Teachers may obtain applications by filling out a contact form on the NWPE website at www.nwpe.org. All awards are competitive.
- **September 30, 2009** -- The deadline to apply for the American Association of School Administrators National Superintendent of the Year Program, which pays tribute to the talent and vision of the men and women who lead the nation's public schools. The maximum award is \$10,000. For more information, please visit <http://www.aasa.org/awards/content1.cfm?ItemNumber=890>.
- **November 20, 2009** -- The deadline to postmark an application for the 2009 Qwest Foundation for Education Grant, which is awarded to Idaho K-12 public school classroom educators who demonstrate innovative uses of technology in the classroom. Visit http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/tech_services/grants_contracts.htm to download the application form. If you have questions, please contact Jimmy Takata at (208) 332-6937 or JTakata@sde.idaho.gov.