



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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

TOM LUNA
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

June 11, 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:

- **Idaho student speaks out on teen dating violence**
- **Superintendent's Schedule**
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IDAHO STUDENT SPEAKS OUT ON TEEN DATING VIOLENCE (GO TO TOP)

Monique Betty, a 19-year-old from Pocatello, spoke at the National Press Club and appeared on Good Morning America on Wednesday, June 10 to help educate teens and parents on the warning signs of abuse and show there is hope after an abusive relationship.

Monique is a former member of the Idaho Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Project Teen Advisory Council and now serves as an advisor to Start Strong Idaho, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation four-year initiative focused on building healthy teen relationships for 11-14 year olds. Start Strong Idaho is a collaboration of the Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence, St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, the Idaho State Department of Education and 10 other allied organizations.

Monique knows first-hand the importance of educating teens in middle school and junior high. She was in an abusive relationship that began when she was in the 8th grade.

In the most recent Idaho Youth Risk Behavior survey, 13 percent of high school students report being hit, slapped, or punched by their dating partners within the past 12 months, and 11 percent of high schools girls were forced to engage in unwanted sexual contact.

In addition to the Start Strong Idaho project, the Idaho Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Project has developed an education and prevention strategy for high school students to eliminate the prevalence and cultural acceptance of teen dating violence.

To learn more about healthy relationships or teen dating violence, you can request a free presentation in your school or community group. Visit www.nomeansknow.com or contact the Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence at (208) 384-0419.



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SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHEDULE (GO TO TOP)

- Superintendent Luna will attend the State Board of Land Commissioners meeting at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16 in McCall.
- Superintendent Luna will attend the State Board of Education meeting Thursday, June 18 and Friday, June 19 in Hailey.

WHAT'S NEW (GO TO TOP)

- **Free Person-Centered Planning (PCP) Services** - The Council on Developmental Disabilities is pleased to announce the availability of expert person-centered planning facilitators around Idaho. Thirteen people have just completed intensive training to become Person-Centered Planning (PCP) Specialists and will work with adults and transition-age youth (14-18) with developmental disabilities who live in Idaho communities. Person-centered planning is a valuable tool used to help individuals with developmental disabilities create a plan for support and services that is focused on their life goals and dreams. This service is free to individuals and their families. Contact information for PCP Specialists can be found at <http://www.idahocdh.org/dnn/personcenteredplanning>.

REMINDERS (GO TO TOP)

- **Apply for Idaho Superintendents Network** -- The State Department of Education has introduced the Idaho Superintendents Network, which will support the work of district leaders in improving outcomes for all Idaho students. The goal is to create a network of 25 committed superintendents who will work together to develop a cohesive and dedicated leadership community focused on excellence in teaching. The Department is collaborating with Boise State University's Center for School Improvement and the University of Washington's Center for Educational Leadership on this Network. To download an application, visit www.sde.idaho.gov and click on the "Administrators" link. Applications are due **July 1, 2009**. Applications can be submitted via e-mail to MBFlachbart@sde.idaho.gov or by mail to the following address: Marybeth Flachbart, Idaho State Department of Education, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0027.
- **New application for ARRA funds** -- The State Department of Education has created a new application to streamline the reporting and other requirements related to the new federal stimulus funds being distributed to Idaho schools and districts. The new application will replace the previous Quarterly Cash Balance Report. Under this new application, schools and districts will have one location to submit requests for ARRA funds as well as all grants previously submitted in the Quarterly Cash Balance Report. Due to changes at the federal level, the Department is moving from sending funds in advance to a strictly reimbursement format. Each person planning to use the new application must be set up with a login. To obtain a login, visit <https://www.sde.idaho.gov/portal/register/create>. Please use your official e-mail address from your school or district as your username. If you have any questions, please contact Brandon Phillips in the Accounting office at (208) 332-6867 or BCPhillips@sde.idaho.gov.



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- **Comment on proposed rule changes** -- The official public comment period for proposed changes to Administrative Rules is June 3-June 24, 2009. During this time, you can submit comments online on proposed changes to rules related to content standard, certification and teacher performance evaluations. To submit comments, please visit the State Department of Education's Public Comment page online at <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/publicComments/>.
- **Register for Edufest** -- Edufest will be held July 26-July 31 at Boise State University. The conference, which focuses on advanced and gifted/talented education, is open to classroom teachers, gifted and talented coordinators, administrators, parents and counselors. Edufest Parent Day is Saturday, July 26. The Administrator, Counselor, Special Education and Gifted Specialist Institute will be held Monday, July 27. For more information or to register, please visit www.edufest.org.
- **Upcoming Transportation Workshops** -- The State Department of Education, School Transportation Division will be holding the following trainings and workshops this summer. Pre-registration is required. Visit <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/transportation/> and select a workshop below the Summer Workshop Registration heading. If you have questions, please contact Angela Tracy at atracy@sde.idaho.gov or (208) 332-6851.
 - School Bus Technician Workshop: July 14-16, 2009 in Boise. Cost is \$125. Training topics include Ricon repair and maintenance, 2010 emissions, open recalls, IC field changes, IC warranty policy, annual and 60-day inspections, air brake repair and maintenance, On-Spot chain repair and maintenance, Blue Bird current products, Allison transmissions, Webasto heaters, basic bus bidding and reimbursement, Western Mountain Bus Sales electrical trouble shooting and field changes, and fiberglass repair.
 - Bus Driver Training Workshops: August 3 in Blackfoot, August 5 in Marsh Valley, August 7 in Burley, August 10 in Boise, August 12 in Coeur d'Alene, and August 14 in Moscow. Cost is \$40 for trainers and \$30 for bus drivers. Training topics include loading/unloading procedures and driver/student relationships.
 - Reimbursement Workshops: August 4 in Blackfoot, August 6 in Burley, August 11 in Coeur d'Alene, August 13 in Moscow, and August 18 in Boise. Training topics include transportation supervisor training, reimbursement formula changes, block grant, and new Reimbursement Claim form.
- **Register now for IDLA Summer program** -- Idaho Digital Learning Academy's (IDLA) summer courses begin June 19. Students register for the courses through their local high schools or by contacting the IDLA at (208) 342-0207. Classes are \$50. Scholarships are available for IDLA fees. For more information about the program and a full course catalog, visit www.idahodigitallearning.org. If you have any questions, please contact IDLA at (208) 342-0207 or office@idahodigitallearning.org.
- **IDLA Summer Conference** -- Idaho Digital Learning Academy is hosting its annual summer conference for Idaho educators on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 in Nampa. Dr. Mark Milliron, President and CEO of Catalyze Learning International, will be the keynote speaker, presenting on "A New Generation of Learning: Diverse Students, Emerging Technologies, and a Sustainability Challenge." The public is welcome to attend from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 at The Brandt Center, Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa. For more information about IDLA, visit www.IdahoDigitalLearning.org.



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- **Register for JASON workshops** -- The State Department of Education is hosting JASON summer teacher workshops around the state. Each location will hold a one-day workshop from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Graduate credit through Idaho State University is available. Through the JASON project, students are exposed to an endless supply of great explorers and real-time events, systematically and on-demand. JASON curriculum is aligned with the state and national standards. This summer, the curriculum is the *Operations - Monster Storms* with introduction to *Operation - Resilient Plant and Operation - Infinite Potential*. Register at www.arconnections.org. Here is a list of workshop dates and locations:
 - Monday, July 20: State Department of Education offices, Boise
 - Thursday, July 23: Shelley High School, Shelley
 - Friday, July 24: TBD, Twin Falls or Burley
 - Tuesday, July 28: Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy, Coeur d'Alene
- **Digital workshops for teachers of American Indian students** -- The Digital Teacher Workshops are produced by the U.S. Department of Education's Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative in collaboration with the Office of Indian Education. You can access the workshops online at <http://www.t2tweb.us/NativeAmerican/home.asp>. They are intended to be useful to teachers who are teaching in remote villages, large urban districts or suburban areas whether they are new to teaching or veteran teachers who are curious to find new perspectives and resources. If you have any ideas, questions or suggestions, please contact OIE at Indianeducation@ed.gov or (202) 260-7485.
- **Attendance, enrollment and graduation reports due** -- The third period attendance and enrollment reports are due one week after your last regular day of school for this year. Graduation reports for high schools are also due at this time. If you have any questions or need help submitting reports, please contact Greg Berg at GDBerg@sde.idaho.gov.
- **RTI Lending Library now open** -- The Response-to-Intervention Lending Library is now open. The Lending Library provides RTI-related research and resources for educators and school personnel to check out. The State Department of Education does not support or advocate any particular author or publisher and offers these materials as resources only. Please visit <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/rti/library.htm> to learn more.
- **Mathematics of Personal Finance Professional Development** -- Mathematics teachers wishing to use the new Mathematics of Personal Finance content standards can attend a free professional development opportunity in Boise on August 18, 2009. These math content standards can be used as the basis for a district developed math course that will satisfy the new high school graduation requirement in mathematics for ninth graders entering school in the fall of 2009. For more information and online registration, please visit <http://www.sde.state.id.us/site/math/> or contact Amanda Salazar at adsalazar@sde.idaho.gov or (208) 332-6974.
- **IEA Teacher Awards** -- Every month, September through June, the Idaho Education Association offers eight (8) \$50 awards to teacher members who are new to the profession (5 years or less). Applying is easy. Just e-mail your name and a statement of how you plan to use your Cold Hard Cash for your Classroom to ecurrie@idahoea.org. If your name is not selected this month, your entry is rolled over to the next month. Visit www.idahoea.org for more information.



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UPCOMING DEADLINES (GO TO TOP)

- **June 15, 2009** -- The date the Professional Standards Commission Authorization Committee will meet to review Alternative Authorization – Teacher to New Certificate requests. Please submit complete application packets to Cina Oravez, Alternative Authorization Coordinator, prior to that date. If you have questions, please contact Cina Oravez at (208) 332-6936 or CLackey@sde.idaho.gov. You can mail applications to:
State Department of Education
ATTN: Cina Oravez
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0027
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- **June 15, 2009** -- The deadline for students to apply for the Writers @ Harriman writing workshop. Thirty Idaho high school students are invited to participate in this one-week residential workshop that will be held August 2-8. Writers Chris Dempsey, Catherine Jones and Nicole LeFavour will be teaching. Students will submit a writing sample with their application. Scholarships are available. For an application and more details, visit <http://writersatharriman.org>.
- **June 30, 2009** -- The deadline to apply for Title I, Part D, Subpart 1, State Agency and Title I, Part D, Subpart 2, Local Educational Agency grants per requirements of Section 1414 and Section 1423 of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Applications and instructions are available online through the Neglected or Delinquent website. <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/neglected/>. Please contact Tyrel Trainor at (208) 332-6942 or tstrainor@sde.idaho.gov if you have questions.
- **July 1, 2009** -- The deadline to register for the State Department of Education and the Idaho National Laboratory's upcoming Idaho Energy Workshop for Teachers. The workshop will be held August 3-6, 2009 at Skyline High School in Idaho Falls. To learn more or to register, visit <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/science/>.
- **July 1, 2009** -- The deadline to register for the Idaho Summer Institute of Best Practices, sponsored by the State Department of Education. The Institute will be held on July 27-28 at Rocky Mountain Middle School in Idaho Falls and on July 29-30 at Wendell High School in Wendell. Visit <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/registration/idahosummer/> to register or apply for a scholarship.
- **July 1, 2009** -- The deadline to apply for the Idaho Superintendents Network, which will support the work of district leaders in improving outcomes for all Idaho students. To download an application, visit www.sde.idaho.gov and click on the "Administrators" link at the top of the page. Applications can be submitted via e-mail to MBFlachbart@sde.idaho.gov or by mail to the following address: Marybeth Flachbart, Idaho State Department of Education, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0027.
- **July 1, 2009** -- The deadline to postmark nominations for the Newspaper Fund's National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year. For more information, visit <https://www.newspaperfund.org/>.
- **July 8, 2009** -- The deadline to apply for Sharing the Dream grants. This program supports elementary and middle school principals in their work to foster and encourage strong school-community relationships. Principals can vie



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for \$3,000 grants to initiate a project designed to actively engage their communities. For more on the program, please visit www.naesp.org/resources/1/Pdfs/09SharingtheDreamApp.pdf.

- **August 13, 2009** -- The date of the 2009 Annual Superintendents' Meeting. Mark your calendars! More details to come.
- **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.
- **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.