



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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

TOM LUNA
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

September 23, 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:

- **Common Core State Standards available for comment**
- **Register now for Fall Conferences**
- **Superintendent's Schedule**
- **What's New**
- **Reminders**
- **Upcoming Deadlines**

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT (GO TO TOP)

The National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) released the first official public draft of the college- and career-readiness standards in English-language arts and mathematics as part of the Common Core State Standards Initiative, a process being led by governors and chief state school officers in 51 states and territories. Idaho Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna and Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter signed on to participate in this process.

These standards define the knowledge and skills students should have to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing, academic college courses and in workforce training programs.

The Idaho State Department of Education along with NGA and CCSSO are encouraging those interested in the standards to provide feedback, which must be supported by research and evidence, by October 21 at www.corestandards.org.

The college- and career-readiness standards have been informed by input from education and content experts and feedback from participating states. They were developed based on the following guiding considerations:

- **Fewer, clearer, higher:** It is critical that any standards document be translatable to and teachable in the classroom. As such, the standards must cover only those areas that are critical for student success.
- **Evidence:** Each document includes sources of evidence for the standards. Evidence informed what was included in the standards.
- **Internationally benchmarked:** These standards are informed by the content, rigor and organization of standards of high-performing countries and states.
- **Special populations:** In the development of these standards, the inclusion of all types of learners was a priority.
- **Assessment:** The standards will ultimately be the basis for a system of high quality assessments.



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- **Standards and curriculum:** Standards are not curriculum. The curriculum that follows will continue to be a local responsibility (or state-led, where appropriate).
- **21st century skills:** The draft English-language arts and mathematics standards have incorporated 21st century skills.

After the feedback period, the standards are subject to review by an expert Validation Committee. The Validation Committee is composed of national and international experts on standards. This group will review the standards development process and the substance of the standards to ensure they are research- and evidence-based. Members of the committee are being selected by governors and chiefs and will be formally announced in the coming weeks.

For more information, please visit www.corestandards.org.

REGISTER NOW FOR FALL CONFERENCES (GO TO TOP)

The following is a list of many of the 2009 fall in-service conferences scheduled across Idaho. Please let us know about other upcoming fall in-service conferences. We will update this list in future newsletters. If you or your organization is hosting a conference during the fall in-service days, please e-mail the information to Melissa McGrath at mrmcgrath@sde.idaho.gov. Please include the title of the conference, dates, times, locations, cost, information on how to register, and contact information in case people have questions. We will post all fall in-service conferences on our web site and in upcoming newsletters.

Idaho School Psychologist Association (ISPA)

Title: "Psychological Processing" and the New LD Eligibility Process in Idaho

Date/Location: September 29 to October 2 in Sun Valley

Contact: Jayetta Rasmussen, jrasmussen@sd251.org, 208-716-7260

Idaho Council of Teachers of English (ICTE) and Idaho Council of the International Reading Association (ICIRA)

Title: "A Change of Season: The Art of Literacy"

Date/Location: Mountain View High School, Meridian, ID on October 1-2, 2009.

Contact: Maggie Chase, maggiechase@boisestate.edu

Idaho Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) and Idaho Science Teachers Association (ISTA)

Title: "Technology in Math and Science for a Changing World"

Dates/Location: Borah High School, Boise, ID on October 1-2, 2009.

Contact: Kim Zeydel, kzeydel@idahoctm.org or <http://www.idahoctm.org/FallConference.html>

Idaho Council for History Education (ICHE)

Title: "Empires Gained, Empires Lost"

Date/Location: Boise High School, Boise, ID on October 1-2, 2009

Contact: Russ Heller, russ.heller@boiseschools.org

Boise School District, Boise State University, Serve Idaho, and community members (open to all educators)



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Title: "The Complete Guide to Service Learning"
Date/Location: October 1, 2009 at the Boise School District
Contact: Gayl Loutzenheiser, gayl@cablone.net

Idaho Falls School District (open to all educators)

Title: "2009 Whole Child, Whole Teacher"
Date/Location: Thursday, Oct. 1 at Skyline High School.
Contact: For more information, go to www.d91.k12.id.us

Speech and Theatre Teachers

Date/Location: October 1-2, 2009 at Hemingway Elementary in Ketchum
Contact: For more information, contact Harrison.TracyJ@meridianschools.org

Idaho Art Educator's Association

Title: "Art is Essential"
Date/Location: Oct 1-2 at Wood River Middle School, Hailey
Contact: http://www.idahoarted.org/files/IAEA_2009_April_Newsletter.doc or
Karen Fothergill, karen.fothergill@filer.k12.id.us

Idaho Orff-Schulwerk Association

Title: 2009 Fall Mini-Conference
Date/Location: Oct 1-2, 2009 at Fremont H. Teed Elementary, Kuna
Contact: Anita Edwards, aedward@kunaschools.org or visit
<http://www.idahoorff.org/Documents/IdahoOrffConferenceNewsletter2009.pdf>.

Idaho Association Teachers of Language and Culture

Title: "50 Golden Years and Moving Forward"
Date/Location: Oct 1-2, 2009 at South Junior High School, Boise
Contact: Dennis Ohrtman, dwohrtman@aol.com or visit www.iatlc.org

American Choral Director's Association of Idaho

Date/Location: Oct 1-2, 2009 at Church of the Big Wood, Ketchum
Contact: President Quinn Van Paepeguem at vanpaepeguem.quinn@meridianschools.org or visit
<http://idacda.org/>

Idaho Library Association

Date/Location: September 30-October 30, 2009 at Best Western in Burley
Contact: Rena Ferguson at rferguson@ifpl.org or visit <http://www.2009ila.blogspot.com/>

Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) Orientation and Refresher Training

Date/Location: Regional trainings starting September 16 through September 25, 2009.
To see a full schedule or to register, visit <http://itcnew.idahotc.com>

Rachel's Challenge



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Title: "Touch the Heart, Change the Student"

Date/Location: October 1-2, 2009 in Boise and Pocatello

Contact: Visit www.rachelschallenge.org/PD/ or call (877) 895-7060

Idaho Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (IAHPERD)

Title: "Breaking Loose on the Palouse"

Date/Location: October 1-2, 2009 at University of Idaho, Moscow

Contact: Karla Harmon, 208-883-1465 or harmank@sd281.k12.id.us or visit <http://www.idaho-ahperd.org/>

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

Title: "Professionals: Working for Kids Today and Education Tomorrow!!"

Date/Location: October 1-3, 2009 in Sun Valley

Contact: Visit <http://www.idahocec.org/>

Idaho School Counselor Association

Title: "Bridging the Achievement Gap"

Date/Location: October 1-2, 2009 at the Nampa Civic Center, Nampa

Contact: Chris McNaught, mcnaught.chris@gmail.com

Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs

Title: 4th Annual Hispanic Youth Summit

Date/Location: October 30, 2009 at the Nampa Civic Center, Nampa

Contact: Register at visit www2.state.id.us/icha or contact Juan Saldaña at juan.saldana@icha.idaho.gov or at (208) 334-3776

Idaho State Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs

Child Nutrition Programs is hosting a series of workshops throughout September and October, including the following:

- CACFP New Center
- Cooking with Whole Grains
- Healthy Edge
- Menu Planning for New Nutrition Standards
- Personal Management
- Serving It Safe

Contact: Visit <http://www.databasesdoneright.com/nutrition/> for full details

SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHEDULE (GO TO TOP)

- Superintendent Luna will appear on "Idaho Up Close with Mike Adams" show on 590 KID at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 24 in Idaho Falls.
- Superintendent Luna will visit Firth High School at 10 a.m. on Thursday, September 24 in Firth.



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- Superintendent Luna will appear on the Neal Larson Show on 690/1260 AM at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 24 in Blackfoot.
- Superintendent Luna will attend the Idaho Bureau of Educational Services the Deaf and the Blind at 9 a.m. on Friday, September 25 in Gooding.
- Superintendent Luna will speak at the State Indian Education Committee and the Partnerships in Education conference at 9 a.m. on Thursday, October 1 in Lewiston.

WHAT'S NEW (GO TO TOP)

- **Register now for Curricular Materials Caravan** -- The Curricular Materials Caravan will travel across Idaho throughout October. Here is the schedule:
 - Oct. 15: University Inn, Best Western Conference Center, Moscow
 - Oct. 27: Holiday Inn, Boise Airport Conference Center, Boise
 - Oct. 28: Best Western Burley Inn Convention Center, Burley
 - Oct. 29: Shilo Inn, Convention Center, Idaho FallsAll meetings will be held from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The deadline to register for Moscow is October 2, 2009. The deadline to register for all other meetings is October 16, 2009. Visit http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/curricular_materials/cm_docs/2009TextbookCaravanFlier.pdf for more information or contact Val Fenske at vafenske@sde.idaho.gov.
- **IEA Cold Hard Cash Awards** -- The Idaho Education Association is offering Cold Hard Cash awards for Idaho classrooms. The IEA will draw eight winners each month from September through May. Each winner will receive \$50 to be used to upgrade his/her classroom. The entry form is available at idahoea.org/explore-iea/awards/cold-hard-cash. Just click on the "Cold Hard Cash" icon and submit your completed form. If your name is drawn, you will receive a check from IEA to use in your classroom. If you don't win, your name will be placed in the drawing for the next month. Please note: Only "New Teachers" (those in their first through fifth year of teaching) are eligible to win.
- **Forest Products Week Essay Contest for Idaho students** -- The Idaho Forest Products Commission is sponsoring its 15th annual Essay Contest this October in observance of National Forest Products Week, October 18-24. The contest is open to all K-12 students in Idaho. Visit www.idahoforests.org/essay_contest.htm for contest guidelines, writing prompts, scoring criteria and prize information. All who write an essay receive a Certificate of Participation. Postmark submissions by **October 30, 2009**. Contact IFPC at plt@idahoforests.org with any questions.
- **EarthTracks newsletter fall issue** -- *EarthTracks*, Idaho's environmental education newsletter, is now available at www.idahoforests.org/news.htm. Check it out for professional development opportunities and teaching resources.
- **Project Learning Tree professional development** -- Project Learning Tree now offers online registration and payment for its professional development workshops. Visit www.idahoforests.org/plt1.htm for the class schedule and more information.



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REMINDERS (GO TO TOP)

- **Family Math Night kits available** -- The State Department of Education has partnered with Micron Technology Foundation as part of the Idaho Math Initiative to offer Family Math Night kits to local schools and districts so they can further engage parents in their child's math education. With this kit, your local school can host a Family Math Night and invite parents and students for a night of fun with games and activities that build critical math skills. To get a free Family Math Night kit for your local school district, please download a request form online at http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/math/math_initiative.htm. For more information, contact Katie Walker at (208) 332-6933 or kwalker@sde.idaho.gov.
- **Qwest Foundation for Education Grant** -- Apply now for the 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. The purposes of this grant are to recognize Idaho K-12 public school teachers who are using technology in innovative ways in the classroom to improve student performance and increase the use of technology in the classroom by sharing proven methods of how teachers are using technology to improve student performance. Grant proposals may be written for up to \$10,000. Visit http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/tech_services/grants_contracts.htm for more information. The deadline to apply is **November 20, 2009**. If you have questions, please contact Jimmy Takata at jtakata@sde.idaho.gov or (208) 332-6937.
- **INL 60th Celebration Student Video Contest** -- Idaho National laboratory will celebrate 60 years of energy innovation with a contest that includes several \$500 cash prizes for winning middle- and high-school classrooms. Idaho middle and high school students are encouraged to prepare a two- to five-minute video or podcast on the topic: What 60 Years of INL's Energy Innovation Means to a New Generation of Energy Consumers. The purpose of this contest is to enhance students' research and fact-finding skills and to educate them on the types of energy we use today and INL's contributions to the evolution of our national energy landscape. More information is available at https://inlportal.inl.gov/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_291_45875_0_0_18/60th%20Anniversary%20Contest.final.pdf.
- **Program to support children with parents in National Guard and Reserve** -- The Idaho National Guard Family Programs Office will sponsor a *Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Institute* in February 2010. The Institute is a two-day professional development program designed for school counselors, administrators, other school personnel, and family support personnel of the National Guard and Reserves. The purpose of the training institute is to prepare school personnel to recognize and address issues that children face when a parent is deployed by the National Guard or Reserves. Those interested in attending are encouraged to contact Michael Judah, Joint Family Support Assistance Program (JFSAP) MOS Consultant, at (208)570-3746 or michael.g.judah@militaryonesource.com, or contact Annie Henna Estvold, State Youth Coordinator, at (208) 272-4387 or annie.henna@id.ngb.army.mil.
- **Department receives grant to help implement new nutrition standards** -- The State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) was awarded the federal 2009 Team Nutrition Grant to expand and enhance training programs and resources that will support the implementation of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans in meals and help create an environment for children and students that is conducive to healthy eating. The grant totals



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\$240,214 over two years. Through this grant, CNP will focus on implementing programs to support Idaho's New Nutrition Standards for School Meals and healthy learning environments, including providing schools with healthy breakfast and lunch menus, training school foodservice on culinary techniques, expanding Farm-to-School technical assistance and resources, offering healthy school environment workshops for school leaders, identifying best practices and successes in school wellness.

- **NSBA to host webinar on H1N1** -- The National School Boards Association is hosting a webinar on H1N1 flu for school policymakers/decision makers. Experts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and US Department of Education will share guidance on how to prepare for what could be a challenging school year. The webinar will be held at 1 p.m. MT on Tuesday September 15, 2009. To register, visit <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/624304120>.
- **Register for RTI Leadership Summit** -- The first of three RTI District Leadership Summits will be held in Lewiston on Thursday, September 24, 2009. The deadline to register is September 11, 2009. The two additional Summits will be held in Nampa on October 23, 2009 (deadline to register is October 2, 2009) and in Idaho Falls on November 19, 2009 (deadline to register is October 30, 2009). For more information, please visit <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/rti/>.
- **Online teacher evaluation training now available** -- The State Department of Education is offering all Idaho educators free online training for the new statewide standards for teacher performance evaluations based on the Charlotte Danielson Teaching Framework. The online program is jointly produced by Charlotte Danielson and Educational Impact Inc. to allow teachers and evaluators to see what the Danielson Framework components look like in real classrooms. For more information on the statewide framework or the Teacher Performance Evaluation Task Force, please visit <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/teacherEval/>. To obtain IDs and passwords to the Educational Impact training:
 - 1) Designate one person from your school district to act as the point of contact.
 - 2) Be prepared to provide the exact number of teachers and administrators in your school district.
 - 3) Contact Educational Impact's fulfillment director, Lu Mack at: 215-672-2093 ext 254 or at lmack@educationalimpact.com
 - 4) Educational Impact will email you the appropriate number of IDs and passwords. Lu Mack will also include a one page "Getting Started" sheet that we recommend you distribute with the User IDs and passwords.If you have any questions, please contact Nick Smith at (208) 332-6959 or NWSmith@sde.idaho.gov.
- **Idaho Online Professional Development** -- The State Department of Education and Idaho Digital Learning Academy are partnering to provide ongoing, high-quality professional development to all Idaho educators. 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.
- **Title II-A webinar series** -- The State Department of Education is hosting a series of IdahoLive webinars focused on Title II-A funds through January. Joe Burris, Title II-A Coordinator, will host each webinar. For more information, 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_tab_group_id=204_1.



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- **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.
- **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>.
- **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.
- **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,



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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)

- **Sept. 25, 2009** -- The deadline to register for the Charter Start! 101 workshop, which will be held October 5, 2009 at the Doubletree Riverside Hotel in Boise. The workshop will provide hands-on technical assistance for all new charter developers and any individual or group interested in a public school conversion. To register, please complete the online registration form at http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/charter_schools/. If you have questions about registration, please contact Lori Howard at lahoward@sde.idaho.gov.
- **Sept. 25, 2009** -- The deadline to complete the Capitol Education Program Survey, which will help improve the statehouse education program once the newly renovated and remodeled Idaho State Capitol reopens in January 2010. Visit http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=krjIiKlFzmrSXMkchxvAA_3d_3d to complete the survey. For more information on the Capitol Education program please contact Robyn Lockett at (208) 334-4855 or capitol tours@lso.idaho.gov.
- **Sept. 30, 2009** -- The deadline to submit applications for Idaho Teacher of the Year Program. To learn more, visit http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/teacher_of_year/ and download the application. If you have questions, please contact Melissa McGrath at (208) 332-6818 or mrmcgrath@sde.idaho.gov.
- **Sept. 30, 2009** -- The deadline to complete and submit your FICA Match Report for the 2008-2009 school year. This covers July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. The cover letter and the report form can be accessed via the following link: <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/cnp/statisticsFinance/>. The completed report should be faxed to me at (208) 334-2228. If you wish to e-mail the report, be sure it includes the required signature. If you have questions, please contact Ken Lang at (208) 332-6858 or kplang@sde.idaho.gov.
- **October 9, 2009** -- The deadline to apply for one of 52 sets of student response system technology that the State Department of Education is donating to Idaho schools. More commonly referred to as "clicker" technology, the student response systems help raise student achievement in the classroom by keeping students engaged and collecting immediate, accurate data. Visit http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/tech_services/grants_contracts.htm to download the 2009 Project BRAIN Grant Application and apply. If you have questions, please contact Jimmy Takata at jtakata@sde.idaho.gov or (208) 332-6937.
- **Oct. 15, 2009** -- The deadline to submit the Required Title I-A Annual Comparability Assurance Form(s), which can be found under Title I-A Annual Reports at http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/title_one/. All LEAs receiving Title I-A funds must submit the Assurance either to show exemption or comparability with regard to state and local spending. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Hansen at (208) 332-6900 or SCHansen@sde.idaho.gov.
- **October 15, 2009** -- The deadline for all secondary public schools serving grades 9-12 and elementary schools wishing to seek accreditation to submit the NAAS Annual Report. The annual reports can be accessed online at



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<http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/accreditation/annualReports.htm> and submitted electronically to NAAS@sde.idaho.gov. If you have questions, please contact Vikki Reynolds, IDSAC Executive Secretary, at (208) 830-1777 or execsec@NorthwestAccreditation.org.

- **October 15, 2009** -- The deadline to apply for the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program, which 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. To learn more, visit www.fulbrightteacherexchange.org for application forms. For questions, please contact fulbrighttcte@aed.org.
- **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.
- **Oct. 31, 2009** – The deadline for school districts and charter schools to submit their 2008-2009 IFARMS Annual Financial Report as required by Idaho Code 33-701(7). The IFARMS Annual Financial Report forms and supporting documents can be found at www.sde.idaho.gov/site/finance_tech/ifarms_forms.htm. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Oberle at (208) 332-6840 or JAOberle@sde.idaho.gov.
- **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.
- **Nov. 2, 2009** -- The deadline for Idaho schools and districts to post a link on their websites to the state online School Report Cards, as required under No Child Left Behind. The Report Card provides an in-depth look at student achievement at the state, local and school levels with the click of a button. These reports are a great way for Idaho parents and citizens to see how Idaho schools are performing. The School Report Cards are available at www.sde.idaho.gov/reportcard.
- **Nov. 10, 2009** – The deadline for school districts and charter schools to submit their 2008-2009 Independent Audit Report. Idaho Code 33-701(6), which requires submission of the independent audit report, was modified during the 2008 Legislative Session. Not only was the due date changed from October 15 to November 10, but penalties for late submission were also added. If the SDE has not received your report on or before November 10, your November 15 foundation payment may be withheld until the audit report is received. Please work with your auditor and school board to ensure submission prior to November 10. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Oberle at (208) 332-6840 or JAOberle@sde.idaho.gov.
- **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.



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- **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.
- **January 15, 2010** -- The deadline to apply for the Fulbright Distinguished Awards Program, which 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. To learn more, visit www.fulbrightteacherexchange.org for application forms. For questions, please contact fulbrightdat@aed.org.