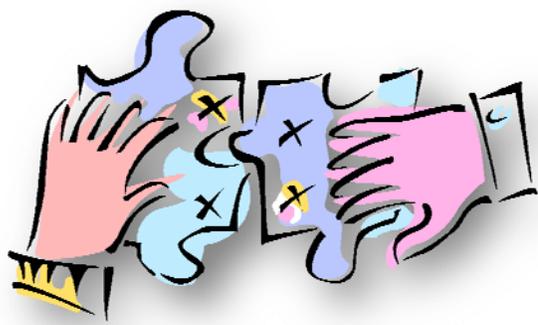


TEAM NEWS

(Together Everyone Achieves More)

June 2010

Dr. Wayne G. Sanstead, State Superintendent, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 201, Bismarck, ND 58505-0440



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ARRA Quarterly Reports and Jobs Funded Calculations

The next ARRA Quarterly report for Title I is due on Tuesday, June 29, 2010. Since many of you are currently working on the report, an email was disseminated on June 16, 2010 by Stephanie Gullickson to provide a reminder on how to calculate the job funded portion. A worksheet explaining the steps to follow when you are calculating the FTE percentage for any job funded by ARRA dollars was also disseminated and can be accessed at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/jobs.pdf on the department's website. Remember that the job funded portion must be calculated **each quarter independently** since the number of hours worked that quarter may vary with different positions, i.e., summer school staff.

We have found that the reports coming into the Department thus far have had the vast majority of errors in the job funded section. *We highly recommend reviewing the worksheet if you will be reporting jobs funded.* If the report comes in with errors, the processing and final acceptance of the data on the report will be delayed.

Please communicate with your Title I contact person with questions on ARRA reporting.

Fate of Jobs Bill

It is becoming increasingly unlikely that Congress will pass legislation to fund educational jobs for the upcoming school year. President Obama continues to urge congressional leaders to provide funding to avoid massive teacher layoffs.

The House passed their legislation without the education jobs bill included. However, the Senate has yet to act on a supplemental bill that could possibly include funds for the jobs bill. It is unknown when they may act on this legislation.



Title I ARRA Process for 2010 – 2011

If you are a Title I authorized representative, coordinator, or business manager and were not able to participate in the Title I WebEx Training session held on May 12, 2010, it is imperative that you review the new information shared and contact the state Title I office if you have any questions, as this training focused on the application process to receive regular and stimulus funds for the 2010-2011 school year. The WebEx handouts can be accessed at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/present.shtm on the Title I website.

In particular, during the Title I WebEx training, a document that outlines the Title I ARRA process for the 2010-2011 school year was discussed. It is imperative that you review this document to ensure that you understand the process to both close out year one of Title I ARRA funding and the process to apply for the Title I ARRA carryover funds.

The state Title I office continually stresses the importance of local school district accounting ledgers matching records on file in the state Title I office in terms of the approved Title I ARRA budgets and Title I ARRA expenditures in the district.

Staff in the Title I office have recently conferred with Jerry Coleman, who is the department's school finance director. During this conversation, the Title I office learned that it will be nearly impossible for a district's local accounting ledger to match its Title I ARRA grant award as the Title I ARRA grant expands across multiple fiscal years. Ideally, to have accurate Title I ARRA fiscal documentation matching a district's accounting records, a district would have to forego closing out the district's accounting records until after the close of year one of Title I ARRA funding. Unfortunately, this scenario is not possible. Jerry confirmed that all North Dakota school districts must close out their 2009-2010 local school district accounting ledger by June 30, 2010.

For school districts that are closing out year one Title I ARRA funding on or before June 30, 2010, there is no issue as there will be alignment between the Title I ARRA records and local school district accounting records. However, for districts that are choosing to use the flexibility under the federal law and are closing out year one Title I ARRA funding sometime between June 30, 2010 and September 30, 2010, it may be more challenging to have accurate documentation on file.

In order to track a district's Title I ARRA funds over the 27 months of availability, we can certainly look at the 2009-2010 and the 2010-2011 school district accounting ledgers together to document the amount of funds spent. Another option could be for the business manager to create a spreadsheet, separate from your local accounting records that would track your approved year two Title I ARRA budget. This may be advantageous for some districts considering that the year two Title I ARRA budget may potentially extend over two North Dakota fiscal years (i.e., August 2010 through September 30, 2011).

For those districts that will be closing out year two Title I ARRA funding after June 30, 2010, it is imperative that a decision be made regarding how the district will track its year two Title I ARRA funds. All districts will be held accountable for having local accounting ledgers (or another medium) in place that matches the records on file in the state Title I office regarding year two Title I ARRA funds.



Directors' Report

By: Laurie Matzke, North Dakota Director of Title I

In February 2010, the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction established an advisory committee to review the criteria for the federal Race to the Top (RTTT) grant and ultimately decide whether North Dakota should pursue applying for the funds. Although the committee decided not to apply for RTTT funds because of the limited amount of time available to write the grant and concerns regarding North Dakota's ability to meet the federal requirements, the committee decided to continue meeting periodically to advance efforts in the State to meet the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) application requirements, SIG application requirements, and ultimately the new provisions that we've all been told will be a part of the reauthorization of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The committee has established five categories that reflect the issues that need to be addressed.

- Great Teachers and Leaders
- Data Systems to Support Instruction
- Standards and Assessments
- Turning Around the Lowest-Achieving Schools
- State Success Factors

The committee met on June 15, 2010. Each of the five sub committees reported on work that has been done and issues that need to be addressed in the future. After discussion, there was consensus to proceed with tasks under each category.

- Great Teachers and Leaders
 1. Research and study what makes an effective evaluation model
 2. Determine multiple measures of student performance to include in an evaluation system.
 3. Professional development for teachers and administrators
- Data Systems to Support Instruction
 1. Provide training to districts
 2. Improve data quality
 3. Inclusion of non public in NDSLEDs
 4. Grant the Department of Public Instruction authority to mandate data standards
- Standards and Assessments
 1. Adopt new ELA/math content standards
 2. Update other subject content standards
 3. Adopt new state assessments
 4. State support for transition
- Turning Around the Lowest-Achieving Schools
 1. Approve SIG applications to North Dakota schools
 2. Provide ongoing support and technology assistance
 3. Pursue North Dakota legislative action to obtain a waiver for Tier I schools to implement SIG requirements
- State Success Factors
 1. Prioritize schools that need improvement
 2. Provide additional resources to priority schools
 3. Establish demonstration projects
 4. Possibly pursue North Dakota legislative action and/or possibility of a waiver

The committee will meet again in September 2010. Subcommittees work will continue in June through September 2010 to address tasks under each of the five established categories.

Prairie Public to Offer TWO Local PBS TeacherLine Courses This Summer

PBS TeacherLine offers PreK-12 educators with the opportunity to advance their careers and enhance their skills with high-quality, standards-and research-based courses. PBS TeacherLine provides a supportive online environment that makes learning flexible and accessible for everyone. Take advantage of Prairie Public's courses at a **reduced local grant rate**.

Math in Everyday Life for Grades K-5

Facilitator: Linda Stevens

Subject Area: Mathematics, Instructional Strategies

Grade Levels: Kindergarten - 5th Grade

Hours: 15 (1 credit)

Course Fee: ~~\$169.00~~ **\$50.00**

Enrollment Code: MATH181.59



**ND Title I
credential
renewal**

Make mathematics “real” for your young students with a fresh look at problem solving, calculators, and the Internet in the classroom. Review the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Calculator-Usage and Problem-Solving Standards for a framework to design lesson plans, address content, and meet state standards. Then, develop a “walking field trip” through tasks found in students’ daily lives. **This is a CLASSROOM LINK course:** learners will be asked to implement lessons with their class or with a small group of students. (Options for learners without access to students are available.)

This course has been approved for North Dakota Title I math credential renewal when taken for graduate credit through NDSU, Adams State College, or Indiana University.

One graduate professional development credit is available through NDSU for an additional \$50.

Teaching Phonemic Awareness and Phonics

Facilitator: Judy Kvalle

Subject Area: Reading/Language Arts

Grade Levels: Preschool - 3rd Grade

Hours: 30 (2 credits)

Course Fee: ~~\$199.00~~ **\$75.00**

Enrollment Code: RDLA155.97



**ND Title I
credential
renewal**

Bring the ideal balance of oral language, phonological awareness, phonemic awareness, phonics, and written language to your language arts instruction. Study the stages of literacy development and practice assessing the performance of budding young readers. Learn to design instructional activities that strengthen students’ skills in phonemic and phonological awareness.

This course has been approved for North Dakota Title I reading credential renewal when taken for graduate credit through NDSU, Adams State College, or Indiana University.

Two graduate professional development credits are available through NDSU for an additional \$100.

Register today at

www.prairiepublic.org/education/educators/teacherline/sessions/

If you have any questions, call or email Education Services
701-239-7574 or education@prairiepublic.org.

Final Title I Allocations Posted

The final allocations for the Title I program **only** have been posted on the Department of Public Instruction's website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/grants/final_allocations_10-11.pdf. These final Title I allocations have also been populated in the consolidated applications on STARS. ***These allocations are only for Title I and do not include Title IIA or Title IID.*** The Title I allocations have been released separately since we were advised by the US Department of Education that the final allocations for the other two programs (Title IIA and Title IID) may not be available until after July 1, 2010. Since these allocations are only final for Title I, please do not submit your application, yet. After you have completed the Title I portion of the consolidated application, you may notify your DPI Title I contact person to review the application but it still should not be submitted until Title II A and Title II D allocations have been finalized. If you have inadvertently submitted the application, please contact Steph Gullickson or Julie Vetter to unsubmit it for you.

The electronic consolidated application is available on STARS at <https://secure.apps.state.nd.us/dpi/stars/Login.aspx>. The application is ***due Friday, August 27, 2010 and no applications will be accepted after that date.*** Please read the Electronic Consolidated Application Help Screen document carefully. There is also a training module available. Both are located on DPI's website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/grants/NCLB.shtm under Resources and Forms.

If you have any questions, please call or email your Title I contact person.

IDEA Update

The release of the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy and Mathematics by the Council of Chief State School Officers and the National Governor's Association present the new general education curriculum for all students, including those with disabilities. These standards define a general education curriculum that seeks to increase the skills and knowledge of all students, including those with students with disabilities. The new standards incorporate the best national and international practices and research findings. In addition, these standards recognize that the application of these standards to English Language Learners and Students with Disabilities will require additional support and accommodations.

The developers of the Common Core Standards for English provide three appendices containing the supporting research that underlie the development of the standards as well as text and writing exemplars to support curriculum development and instruction. These standards recognize the importance of applying Universal Design principles to the design of instruction and assessment to ensure that all students have access to the curriculum. The challenging curriculum presented in these standards will require special and regular educators to have a high level of content expertise. The standards' emphasis on literacy in history/social sciences, science and technical subjects is not intended to replace state determined content standards in those areas; they are meant to supplement them.

Next month, a review of the Mathematics standards will be provided.

To review these standards and the accompanying documents visit www.corestandards.org/the-standards.

Dreams are today's answers to
tomorrow's questions.
Edgar Cayce

Adequate Yearly Progress/Program Improvement Update

On May 28, 2010, the ND Department of Public Instruction released the official statewide Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) results for all public schools and districts in North Dakota based on the 2009-2010 State Assessment data. On June 1, 2010, the department released the list of the Title I schools and districts that have been identified for program improvement for the 2010-2011 school year.

The statewide press release and the list of the Title I schools and districts that have been identified for program improvement for the 2010-2011 school year are available on the department's website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/progress/current.shtm.

Under the *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) Act, all districts and schools are required to send correspondence to the parents of each child enrolled in the district and/or school regarding its Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status. It is imperative that correspondence be included with the AYP reports to explain them to parents.

Federal law mandates that this notification take place in a timely manner. For schools and districts identified for program improvement, this notice must take place prior to the first day of school. For schools that are required to offer school choice, the notice must be sent 14 calendar days before the first day of school. For schools and districts NOT identified for program improvement, this notice must take place at the start of the school year (i.e., as part of welcome back letter or August newsletter).

There are various samples of parent notification letters for schools and districts available on our website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/notification.shtm. The state Title I office has created communication toolkits for both schools and districts that are identified for improvement.

School Program Improvement	
Number of public schools in North Dakota	460
Number of Title I public schools in North Dakota (approximate)	312
✓ Number of schools that did not make AYP on the 2009-2010 NDSA	122
✓ New schools identified for program improvement for 2010-2011	11
✓ Number of schools removed from program improvement status for 2010-2011	4
✓ Total number of schools in program improvement for 2010-2011	67

District Program Improvement	
Number of public districts in North Dakota	181
Number of Title I public districts in North Dakota (approximate)	158
✓ Number of districts that did not make AYP on the 2009-2010 NDSA	50
✓ New districts identified for program improvement for 2010-2011	3
✓ Number of districts removed from program improvement status for 2010-2011	3
✓ Total number of districts in program improvement for 2010-2011	33

Monthly Featured Articles

DPI Presents: Dr. Arthur Benjamin Performing “Mathemagics” July 13-14, 2010



Dr. Benjamin is one of the world's fastest lightning calculators, and he can demonstrate and explain his abilities to any audience. Included among his many feats of mind are: how to mentally multiply enormous numbers (faster than a calculator); how to memorize a 100 digit number; how to figure the day of the week of anyone's birthday, and more! In this two-day training, participants will receive a variety of resources geared toward improving number sense and mental mathematics. Dr. Benjamin will present concepts from his Joy of Mathematics course, with topics ranging from the Joy of Numbers, Joy of Algebra, Joy of Pi, Joy of Trigonometry, Joy of Infinity, and much more.

One semester hour of graduate credit is available through the University of Mary. Registration and the fee for graduate credit will be collected on July 13-14.

To register for the training, go to www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm to download the registration form. Fax your completed registration form to 701-328-4770 by June 21, 2010. There is **no charge** for this training.

Inclusion in Preschool

Inclusion in preschool refers to the active participation of young children with disabilities alongside children who do not have disabilities. Young children, ages 3 through 5 are placed in the same classroom such as in Head Start, public or private preschool, and other childcare programs. The goal of inclusion is to help all children with and without disabilities to learn to the best of their abilities in the least restrictive educational settings.

Inclusion means teaching all children together. Children with special needs take part in the general education curriculum based on their ages and grades. They are not put in separate classrooms, rather the curriculum and the classroom is adjusted to meet the children's needs and interests.

Parents, teachers, and other team members (special education teacher, speech pathologist, occupational therapist) of the child's Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) determine how to make the curriculum, physical space, and other services to fit the child's needs. An inclusive classroom might consider the following: widening aisles so that children with physical disabilities can move around easily, provide adaptive materials such as crayons and scissors to foster independence, provide picture schedules so children with speech or language delays can follow the daily routine; have technology to aid children who have vision or hearing problems. Services are provided to support all children in reaching their goals established for them by the collaborative efforts of their parents and team members.

Early Childhood Education: Special Education
www.isbe.state.il.us/earlychi/html/spec-ed.htm

Including Young Children with Special Needs
www.newhorizons.org/spneeds/inclusion/information/schwartz3.htm

NECTAC: National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center
www.nectac.org

Upcoming Events

× 2010 Summer Instructional Training

• July 13-14, 2010: Mathemagics with Dr. Arthur Benjamin

In this two-day training, participants will receive a variety of resources geared toward improving number sense and mental mathematics. Dr. Benjamin will present concepts from his Joy of Mathematics Course, with topics ranging from the Joy of Numbers, Joy of Algebra, Joy of Pi, Joy of Trigonometry, Joy of Infinity, and much more.

× Title I Schoolwide Planning Workshop #1

August 3, 2010 in Bismarck, ND

Information is coming soon at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm.

× 2010 Title I/Special Education Fall Conference

Dates have been set for October 6-8, 2010 for the 2010 Title I/Special Education Fall Conference at the Bismarck Civic Center. Please save the date for this conference as we are planning outstanding professional development opportunities for participants. Information will be available in the fall of 2010 at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm.

Title I To Do List

Administrators

- Ensure the Title I Personnel Report (SFN 7357) is submitted to state Title I office
- Submit ARRA 4th Quarter Report by June 29, 2010
- Submit Title I Final Financial Report

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