



Title I News

January 2006

In this issue...

- Federal Funding for 2006-2007
- Reading Month Packet is Available Online
- Title I Reminders
- Update on Administrative Rules Hearing
- Response to Intervention
- Rural Flexibility Endorsement
- Congratulations North Central Elementary School!
- Director's Report
- Courses for Reading and Math Credential Renewal
- Schoolwide Planning Meeting #1 – April 7, 2006
- Monthly Featured Articles
 - ✦ Research Corner – Helping All Students
 - ✦ Math Corner – Celebrating the 100th Day of the School Year
- Title I Staff
- Upcoming Events

Federal Funding for 2006-2007

Congress passed the appropriations bill for federal funding for 2006-2007 in December 2005. The spending measure includes a one percent across-the-board cut to all federal programs except veteran's affairs and funds for designated emergencies. Some programs received drastic reductions, including Even Start, Comprehensive School Reform, Educational Technology grants, and Safe and Drug-Free Schools. The Title I program will also be affected by the one percent across-the-board cut.

We have verbally been informed that we probably will not receive an estimated state allocation until mid-February. However, we have received updated 2003 census data. Therefore, our department can begin the process of determining which school districts are eligible for Title I funding for the 2006-2007 school year. I will keep you posted as we receive additional information.

Reading Month Packet is Available Online

By now, all schools in North Dakota should have received the 2006 Reading Month Packet entitled *Reading Olympics 2006 – Passing the Torch of Literacy!* Envelopes containing the printed Reading Month Packet were sent via postal mail on December 20, 2005. In addition to mailing this document, the State Title I office has posted the packet on the Title I website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/resource/read/index.shtm. If you have not received a print copy of the Reading Month Packet, please take a moment and download the information from our website.

Title I Reminders

This article serves as a reminder that several documents were due to the State Title I office in December 2005/January 2006. These include:

- Parental Involvement Documents – Due January 13, 2006
www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/require/parent/index.shtm
- Dispute Resolution Policy – Due January 13, 2006
www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/followup.pdf
- Title I Mid-Year Financial Report – Due January 10, 2006
www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sfn7822.pdf

Several schools were selected for various monitoring projects as well. Schools that must submit this monitoring information were contacted individually. These random monitoring submissions include:

- Title I Self-Monitoring – Due December 7, 2005
- “Parents’ Right To Know” Clause Monitoring – Due January 2, 2006
- AYP Monitoring – Due January 24, 2006
- Program Improvement AYP Monitoring – Due February 3, 2006



Update on Administrative Rules Hearing

As stated in the December 2005 issue of *Title I News*, a public hearing was held on January 4, 2006, in the Brynhild Haugland Room at the State Capitol. The purpose of this hearing was to take public comments on proposed new, amended, and repealed sections of the North Dakota administrative code.



On January 4, 2006 there were multiple administrative rules addressed. The new proposed rule for Title I included the three Title I coordinator credentials. The purpose of this new rule is to recognize duties of individuals who coordinate a Title I program. This proposed rule will also provide a method for schools to be able to report MIS03 codes to the Department of Public Instruction for a Title I coordinator.

The Department of Public Instruction will now compile a complete collection of all comments received on January 4, 2006. The comments will be forwarded to the Legislative Council to show that the department has fully considered all written and oral submissions of comments in compliance with the requirements of NDCC sec. 28-32-11. For your information, there were no comments made at the hearing regarding the three Title I coordinator credentials.

The department will then review all comments and prepare a written response indicating to what extent the department has changed our proposed rules to reflect all comments. The rules will then be sent to the Attorney General's office for review of legality issues.

Once the above process is completed and the coordinator credentials are approved the, Title I office will feature an article in the *Title I News*. At that time, interested individuals may apply for the coordinator credentials.

Response to Intervention

The State Title I office has had numerous inquiries on how Title I personnel can participate in Response to Intervention (RTI) initiatives. For this reason, the State Title I office, in cooperation with the State Special Education office, has generated guidance to help address questions and concerns with this issue. This guidance is available online at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/mailings/guidance010606.pdf.

Rural Flexibility Endorsement

The State Title I office has had numerous inquires as to whether the rural flexibility endorsement would grant Title I teachers additional time to meet the *No Child Left Behind* highly qualified requirements.

The rural flexibility endorsement is **not an option for elementary teachers**. Elementary education is not considered a "core subject area". The rural flexibility endorsement is for teachers who are highly qualified in one core subject, but also need to become highly qualified in the additional core subjects that they teach.

If you would like more information on the rural flexibility endorsement, please contact:

Janet Welk, Executive Director
 Education Standards and Practice Board
 2718 Gateway Avenue, Suite 303
 Bismarck, ND 58503-0585

Phone: (701) 328-9646
 E-mail: jwelk@state.nd.us
 Website: www.nd.gov/espb

Congratulations North Central Elementary School!

The North Central Elementary School in Rock Lake, North Dakota was recently selected by the International Reading Association as the Exemplary Reading Program in the state of North Dakota for 2006. Their hard work with the Reading First program, professional development, and promotion of literacy were all factors taken into consideration. Congratulations to the staff at North Central Elementary School in Rock Lake for all their hard work to improve student literacy. Job well done!

Director's Report

There is a national organization established to allow State Title I directors an opportunity to discuss educational issues amongst themselves as well as with United States Department of Education (USDE) personnel. This organization is called NASTID – National Association of State Title I Directors. This organization meets twice a year. It convenes at the National Title I Convention in January or February of each year and again in the summer. These meetings provide an excellent opportunity for state directors to get updated information on issues pertaining to Title I and NCLB. I will be attending the National Title I Conference on January 27-30, 2006. I anticipate receiving updates on the following issues:

■ Federal Funding for 2006-2007

I hope to receive information on the federal appropriations that have been passed for the 2006-2007 school year. As soon as we receive our state allocation, Beverly Fischer, our grants manager, will then begin the process of calculating estimated district allocations for the federal Title programs.

■ Updates on Key NCLB Issues

USDE personnel will attend our meeting and provide updated information on key issues pertaining to NCLB. Specifically, I anticipate receiving information on the new teacher quality flexibility offered by Secretary Margaret Spellings, an update on the status of allowing growth models, and an update on AYP and program improvement issues.

■ Reauthorization of IDEA

We will probably receive an update from a USDE staff member who works with Special Education on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which was reauthorized last year. There has been verbal discussion on the Response to Intervention (RTI) provision in the IDEA reauthorization, but no guidance has been distributed. I am hoping to get more information on this topic.

■ Future Initiatives

There continues to be a national focus on helping high school students achieve high standards. The president is proposing to fund a number of new high school initiatives. I hope to get more specifics on these new initiatives.

■ Federal Programs Reauthorization

The federal programs included in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are slated to be reauthorized again sometime between 2006-2009. The national Title I directors association has put together a document focusing on key points for changes that need to be addressed in the reauthorization. I expect to have an update on the progress of this document.

I will provide a summary of the information shared at the National Title I Conference in the February issue of *Title I News*.

Courses for Reading and Math Credential Renewal

The Otter Creek Institute is offering several courses in North Dakota, as well as in Minnesota and South Dakota, that could be used for the renewal of reading and math credentials.

In North Dakota, the company will be offering:

- Teaching Word Problems Made Easy (Grades 1-6): Strategies All Students Can Learn in Just 10 Minutes a Day – Bismarck, ND – February 28, 2006
- Reading in the Content Areas: Helping Secondary Students Read to Learn – Fargo, ND – March 1, 2006

For more information on the courses offered, please visit www.oci-sems.com/seminfo/sem_search.asp.

Schoolwide Planning Workshop #1 – April 7, 2006

In years past, the State Title I office held its Schoolwide Planning Workshop #1 in the fall of the school year. Our last round of schools participating in the planning year highly recommended that it be moved to the spring of the year due to the demand placed on schools during the planning year. We have seriously considered this recommendation and will be offering the Schoolwide Planning Workshop #1 – *An Introduction to Schoolwide Planning* in Bismarck on **Friday, April 7, 2006**. The workshop is being held at the Comfort Inn and will run from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm CDT. Registration will begin at 8:30 am CDT.

This workshop is intended for schools that are interested in operating a schoolwide Title I program. (Please note: This meeting is not intended for schools that are currently schoolwide, unless the school is interested in refreshing their knowledge regarding schoolwide programming.)

It is only mandatory for you to attend this workshop if you plan to begin operating a schoolwide Title I program in the 2007-2008 school year. In addition, if you have any questions about Title I schoolwide planning or are considering becoming a schoolwide school, you are more than welcome to attend this workshop. Please note: Attendance at the workshop does not commit your school to becoming a schoolwide program.

If you are interested in attending the workshop, please contact the State Title I office at (701) 328-3264 by **March 24, 2006**. Registration forms and more information are available online at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm.

Monthly Featured Articles

Research Corner

By: Ann Ellefson

Helping All Students

The Education Digest recently published an article by Jim Wright entitled, “Learning Interventions for Struggling Students.” This easy to read article outlines several strategies that classroom teachers can use to help meet the needs of struggling students. I have highlighted and summarized a few of the suggestions:

- Root Cause. It is imperative for teachers to determine the root cause for students that struggle to learn. Is it a learning issue? An ambition issue? A skill issue? By determining the root cause, teachers can focus on strategies that target the particular area of need. The article provides suggestions to help determine if it is a motivation problem or an academic problem.
- Appropriate Level of Instruction. Nothing is more frustrating than being inundated with information and assignments that are not understandable to you. Teachers are to keep a balance between the ratios of familiar to unfamiliar material to help promote student success. Keep in mind, success produces success. Students that experience success are more likely to take the risk of learning new material.
- Evidence Based Strategies. Instructional strategies and reform programs that are used should be based on evidence. Gone are the days of trial and error, we need to use approaches that have been proven to work.
- Continual Review of Progress. Teachers should frequently assess students and gather information to inform instruction accordingly. Regular monitoring of student achievement allows for teachers and schools to determine if the appropriate intervention strategies are being implemented to meet individual student needs.
- Allow for Student Choice. Often, when students are given options regarding their learning, motivation increases as behavioral issues decrease. Students take ownership in their learning and are able to develop educational skills that may impact their life-long learning choices.

The suggestions listed above are ones that individual teachers could take on to help all students in their classroom. For additional suggestions not outlined in this summary, please read the January 2006 issue of *The Education Digest*.

Information in this article was adapted from the following article:

Wright, J. (January 2006) *Learning Interventions for Struggling Students*. The Education Digest. Vol. 71, N. 5.

Math Corner

By: Flo Hilzendeger

Celebrating the 100th Day of the School Year

The 100th day of school comes sometime in February, depending on the day school began and the number of storm days a school/district has taken. The 100th day of school provides an excellent opportunity to incorporate math activities into other areas of the curriculum. Integrate one or more of the following activities into your 100 day celebration:

- ❖ Write a 100 day book using one of the following or one of your own:
 - I would never want a 100 _____ because
 - I would like 100 _____ because
 - I would like to eat 100 _____ because
 - I would not like to eat 100 _____ because
 - I could do 100 _____ because
 - I wish I had 100 _____ (repeat three times)
 - But I'd never want 100 _____ because
- ❖ Middle School Activities:
 - Find the sum of the first one hundred numbers
 - Find all the factors of 100
 - Write 100 in a scientific notation
 - Make a list of the first 100 prime numbers
 - Find the 100th day of the year and research what happened in history on the 100th day of the year
 - Find the prime factorization of 100
- ❖ Estimate, then measure, the length of 100 paper clips, 100 new pencils, 100 new crayons, 100 markers, 100 pennies side by side
- ❖ Weigh and compare 100 pretzels, 100 jelly beans, 100 mini marshmallows, 100 peanuts, 100 popcorn seeds
- ❖ Displays of 100 signatures, 100 thumbprints, 100 different stamps, 100 most used words in the English language
- ❖ Rewards using special recognition for 100 accomplishments:
 - Perfect attendance for 100 days
 - 100 minutes of community service
 - 100 minutes of peer or cross-age tutoring
 - 100 minutes of reading within the week
- ❖ Group Projects:
 - Blow up and release 100 helium balloons; place a note inside with your school's name and address and that you are celebrating the 100th day of school and would like a response from the individual who finds the balloon.
 - Bake a 100th day cake using the numerals 1 0 0. Have a cakewalk. The child winning the cake shares the cake with others at snack time. The winner also takes home a book.
- ❖ Books to read on the 100th day include:
 - *The Wolf's Chicken Stew* by Keilo Kasza
 - *One Hundred Hungry Ants* by Elinor Pinczes
 - *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats
 - *One Hundred Dresses* by Eleanor Estes
 - *100th Day Worries* by Margery Cuyler
 - *I Can Count 100 Bunnies and So Can You* by Cyndy Szekeres
 - *The Hundredth Day of School* by Angela Shelf Medearis
 - *From One to One Hundred* by Teri Sloat

The Google search engine has a number of wonderful websites available with hundreds of activities for the 100th day. Simply go to Google and type in "100 Day Activities." Some include:

Holub, J. (2003). 300 Celebration Ideas. Joan Holub's 100th Day of School Website. Retrieved on November 28, 2005 from <http://users.aol.com/a100thday/ideas.html>.

Alphabet, Mrs. (1998) Math/100th Day, Mrs. Alphabet's Math/100th Day Website. Retrieved on November 28, 2005 from <http://mrsalphabet.com/100thday.html>.

Kinderhive (2005). Hip Hip Hooray! It's the 100th Day. Retrieved on November 28, 2005 www.kinderhive.net/100.html.

Starr, L. (2005). Celebrate the 100th Day in a 100 Ways, Linda Starr's Lesson Planning Article. Retrieved on November 28, 2005 from http://www.education-world.com/a_lesson/lesson149.shtml Education World® Copyright © 2005 Education World.

Title I Staff

Laurie Matzke

Director
E-mail: lmatzke@state.nd.us
Phone: (701) 328-2284

Gail Schauer

Assistant Director
Reading First Program
E-mail: gschauer@state.nd.us
Phone: (701) 328-2285

Nita Wirtz

Assistant Director
Neglected & Delinquent,
CSR Programs
E-mail: nwirtz@state.nd.us
Phone: (701) 328-1876

Ann Ellefson

Assistant Director
Schoolwide Programs
E-mail: aellefson@state.nd.us
Phone: (701) 328-2292

Florence Hilzendeger

Program Administrator
Homeless Program
E-mail: fhilzendeger@state.nd.us
Phone: (701) 328-4646

Sandy Peterson

Program Administrator
Migrant Education,
Math and Reading Credentials
E-mail: smpeterson@state.nd.us
Phone: (701) 328-2170

Mary Neigum

Fiscal Officer
E-mail: mneigum@state.nd.us
Phone: (701) 328-2281

Missy Schiller

Administrative Assistant
E-mail: mschiller@state.nd.us
Phone: (701) 328-2254

Patty Carmichael

Administrative Assistant
E-mail: pcarmichael@state.nd.us
Phone: (701) 328-3264

Lauri Nord

Administrative Assistant
E-mail: lnord@state.nd.us
Phone: (701) 328-2282

Office Fax: (701) 328-4770
Toll Free: (888) 605-1951



Upcoming Events

National Title I Conference – A Galaxy of Stars

The National Title I Conference is the premiere event for individuals working within the Title I program. With nationally recognized speakers and more than 3,000 colleagues with whom to compare notes, this is the ideal place to further your knowledge about programs, policies, and great ideas.

■ January 28-31, 2006 in Dallas, Texas

Information is available at www.titlei.org.

Title I Targeting Meeting

This meeting is required for each of the 11 large districts within North Dakota that are required to target their Title I funding to various Title I eligible buildings.

■ March 23, 2006 at the Days Inn in Bismarck, North Dakota

Information will be available spring 2006 at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm.

Non-Public Schools and Title I Meeting

This meeting is required for those districts that assign a portion of their Title I allocation to eligible non-public schools within the district.

■ March 23, 2006 at the Days Inn in Bismarck, North Dakota

Information will be available spring 2006 at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm.

North Dakota Teachers of Math Conference

■ March 30-April 1, 2006 in Bismarck, North Dakota

Information is available at www2.edutech.nodak.edu/ndctm.

Title I Cooperative (co-op) Schools Meeting

This meeting is mandatory for those districts that participate in a Title I Cooperative Agreement.

■ April 11, 2006 at the Best Western Seven Seas in Mandan, North Dakota

Information will be available spring 2006 at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm.

North Dakota Reading Association (NDRA) Conference

The 2006 NDRA Conference, *Lighting the Fire for Literacy*, will feature events such as guest authors, story telling, exhibitors, and more. The conference is geared toward educators with a particular interest in reading.

■ April 20-22, 2006 in Fargo, North Dakota

Information is available at www.valleyreadingcouncil.org.

Title I Program Improvement Workshop

This meeting is required for all schools and districts that have been identified for Program Improvement for the 2006-2007 school year.

■ April 25, 2006 at the Best Western Doublewood Inn in Bismarck, North Dakota

Information will be available spring 2006 at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm.

International Reading Association (IRA) Convention

The IRA's 51st annual convention, *Great Teachers Inspire the World*, will inspire you with hot topics and outstanding speakers. Some topics include teaching preschoolers and beginning readers, teaching reading to English language learners, using literature and providing access to books, developing teacher expertise for reading instruction, and preventing and overcoming reading difficulties, as well as many more. This convention is for teachers, administrators, and life long learners with a particular interest in reading instruction.

■ April 30–May 4, 2006 in Chicago, Illinois

Information is available at www.reading.org/association/meeetings/annual.html.