



## North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

# Title I News

March 2008

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### U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education Visits North Dakota

On March 13, 2008, the U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education Ray Simon visited Bismarck to highlight the state's progress toward *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) goals. Deputy Secretary Simon first met with the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (DPI) staff. The staff shared their thoughts on the current NCLB legislation, including the aspects that are working well for North Dakota, those things they would like to see changed and recommendations to implement changes.

During the second part of his visit, Deputy Secretary Simon met with a panel of North Dakota educational leaders and legislators. The panel voiced their concerns, questions, and proposed solutions to educational issues in North Dakota.

North Dakota is appreciative of the time spent with the deputy secretary. The comments, questions, and concerns articulated will be included in the U.S. Department of Education's conversations regarding future reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

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### Summary of RTI Audio Conference

On February 27, 2008, the state Title I and Special Education offices sponsored an audio conference on Response to Intervention (RTI). The handouts for the conference, which include a PowerPoint presentation and Question and Answer document, are available at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/response.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/response.shtm) on the department's website. The audio conference gave the department an opportunity to provide some updated guidance on RTI that was distributed at the National Title I Conference. The presentation also clarified some myths on RTI.

At the conclusion of the audio conference, participants were asked to complete a feedback form and address the following three topics:

- **Was this training beneficial and is the audio conference an effective method for providing technical assistance?** The evaluations were very positive and most participants preferred the audio conference rather than to be away from their building to attend a meeting. We obviously need to fix the "mute" issue so that there are not constant interruptions. We are working with Information Technology Department (ITD) to solve this problem.

Summary of RTI Audio Conference (continued on page 2).



## Summary of RTI Audio Conference (continued).

- **List specific areas of RTI that need further guidance and clarification.** The department has compiled the responses and in the future will be releasing more guidance on the following topics:
  - ✓ Accessing the EIS (15%) Funds
  - ✓ More information on the PBS Model
  - ✓ More guidance on the Title I personnel going into the classroom
  - ✓ The various models/samples in narrative format (triangles)
  - ✓ More information on the exclusion (waiver) provision
  - ✓ A RTI pamphlet
- **Identify questions on RTI that you would like answered by department personnel.** The department is in the process of answering the questions that were submitted. The questions and answers will be added to the Question and Answer document distributed at the audio conference and posted on our Title I website.

We would like to sincerely thank all participants who took the time to complete the feedback form. We exceeded the record on the percentage of forms returned which means more resources and guidance for school personnel.

## Title I Initiatives Survey Results

In January 2008, school personnel were invited to provide feedback to the North Dakota Title I office regarding the projects and initiatives done throughout the year. Thank you to all those who replied to the survey and provided insight on the projects deemed most valuable. Below is a summary of the changes that will be made.

- *Reading and Math Month* – During the 2008-2009 school year, the state Title I office will not be contracting with North Dakota educators to produce the reading and math month packets. The survey responses indicated that these packets are often difficult to implement as schools are focusing on teaching North Dakota state standards.
- *Monthly Featured Articles* – A web trends report indicated that both June and July are months with significantly less frequent visits to the *Title I News*; therefore, Title I staff will not be writing designated Monthly Featured Articles (Reading Corner, Math Corner, Research Corner, and Reading First Corner) during these months. This will allow staff additional time to review consolidated applications and focus on other summer projects.
- *Audio Conference Trainings* – The most recent audio conference on Response to Intervention proved to be a success. Responses indicated that personnel in the field appreciated the training with its ease of use and lack of travel. The state Title I office will continue to utilize this vehicle of professional development and technical assistance in the future.
- *Idea Exchange* – The concept of the Title I Idea Exchange is going to be overhauled. Teachers can expect to receive more information regarding this project as the Title I Fall Workshop nears.
- *Parental Involvement* – In our February 2008 issue of *Title I News*, it was mentioned that additional parental involvement resources will be forthcoming. Schools can expect to see these resources beginning in the 2008-2009 school year.

## Preliminary AYP Report Update

All North Dakota school districts should have received their 2007-2008 North Dakota State Assessment data from CTB. The department will again create an official Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) report for every school and district in the state for the 2007-2008 state assessment data. The information will be shared with school personnel, confidentially, through the State Automated Reporting System (STARS). **We anticipate that the building level preliminary AYP reports will be available on the STARS the first part of April 2008.** It is imperative that school personnel review the information on the AYP report for accuracy. After school personnel have been given an opportunity to review and provide input on the AYP reports, they will be publicly released and made available on the department's website. The department will then release the preliminary district AYP reports for review.



## Title I Eligibility Charts and 2008-2009 Estimated Allocations

Title I authorized representatives should have received a letter from the state Title I office comparing your district's aggregate units from last year to those from this year. The aggregate units are used to determine federal Title I allocation amounts each year. A formula using an updated census count, foster child count, and free and reduced meals count determines your allocation. If your aggregate units increased from the prior year, your allocation will probably increase. If your aggregate units decreased in numbers, your allocation will most likely decrease. If the numbers show little to no change, your allocation will most likely remain steady.

After the department determines which district's are eligible to receive Title I funding, DPI's Grants Manager Stephanie Gullickson, will calculate preliminary allocations for all federal Title programs for the 2008-2009 school year. It was reported earlier this year that estimated allocations would be released around the first part of April 2008. At the time of this newsletter release, the department has yet to receive the estimated state allocation from the U.S. Department of Education. After we receive the estimated state allocation, it will take the department at least two weeks to generate estimated district level allocations. We apologize for this unforeseen delay and appreciate your patience while district level allocations are generated. The estimated federal Title allocations will be made available online at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/grants/NCLB.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/grants/NCLB.shtm).

An email will be sent to school district administrators when the preliminary allocations have been calculated and posted on the department's website. School personnel will need to check the web for their allocations, as letters will not be mailed indicating allocation amounts.

## April is Math Month

April is Math Month in North Dakota. The state Title I office is asking educators to take part in 2008 Math Month. The Math Month packet was distributed to schools in mid-February and is also available online at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/resource/month.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/resource/month.shtm). Participants are asked to share their photos and experiences with our office.

Please direct any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the 2008 Math Month packet to Flo Hilzendeger at [fhilzendeger@nd.gov](mailto:fhilzendeger@nd.gov) or (701) 328-4646.

## NDPIRC

North Dakota Parent Assistance and Supportive Schools (NDPASS), a state-wide parental resource center for parents and professionals working with children, has changed its name to North Dakota State Parental Information Resource Center (NDPIRC).

The NDPIRC is founded on the premise that parents are a child's first, and most important, teachers. NDPIRC offers a variety of services to parents and professionals working with children, including:

- An established resource library consisting of a multitude of books and videos on a variety of topics ranging from child development, activities for all children, to materials on the teen years.
- PAT (Parents As Teachers) program focusing on families with children ages birth to five years.
- Free workshops promoting effective and meaningful family involvement in schools.

Please visit <http://ndstatepirc.org> to access more information and useful links.

Feel free to stop by the NDPIRC. NDPIRC is located at 1600-2nd Ave SW, Ste. 29 in Minot, ND 58701 in the Arrowhead Shopping Center. You can also reach NDPIRC at [ndpirc@ndstatepirc.org](mailto:ndpirc@ndstatepirc.org), (701) 837-7510 or (888) 763-7277.



## Director's Report

What is happening in the state Title I office? Springtime is usually pretty chaotic time. Listed below are some of the initiatives that we are working on this spring.

### Title I Sponsored Trainings

The Title I unit is busy planning several in-services to be held over the next couple of months. Information and registration forms will be available on our Title I website. Look for information on the following upcoming events.

- Title I Private School Audio Conference – April 8, 2008
- Title I Program Improvement Workshop – April 21, 2008
- Schoolwide Planning Workshop #1 – April 24, 2008
- May 2008 IVN Update – TBA

### Monitoring

There are many Title I monitoring responsibilities due to the requirements specified in the NCLB Act. The Title I office is currently monitoring schools in the following areas:

- Title I Self-Monitoring
- Parents' Right to Know Dissemination Requirements
- Aide/Paraprofessional Certification
- Program Improvement
- AYP Dissemination Requirements

### Program Improvement Identifications

As soon as the 2007-2008 AYP report information is released, which should be within the next several weeks, the state Title I office will be corresponding with schools and districts that are identified for program improvement for the 2008-2009 school year.

### 2008-2009 Consolidated Application

The state Title I office is working on an updated guidance document that will assist school personnel in completing the Title I portions of the consolidated application. There are a number of significant changes for the 2008-2009 school year.

### 2008 Reading Summer Symposium

The department is busy preparing for the 2008 Reading Summer Symposium. This professional development opportunity combines the efforts of Title I, Reading First, and Special Education into one event. A combination of eleven different training sessions will be offered to North Dakota educators during the Summer Symposium. Please refer to pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter for further information.

### U.S. Department of Education Title I Monitoring

North Dakota will be monitored in May 2008 by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) on our implementation of NCLB. In addition to visiting the Department of Public Instruction staff, the USDE team will also select three to five school districts to visit. We will let those districts know as soon as the USDE notifies us of their selections.

## Parental Involvement Update

The state Title I office has shared its intentions to increase parental involvement resources for school personnel. Below is an update on two initiatives:

- *Parental Involvement Bulletin* – During the past few months, the *Title I News* articles indicated that the state Title I office is developing a new monthly *Parental Involvement Bulletin* with resources and ideas for parental involvement. It was anticipated that the first issue would be available the spring of 2008. The state Title I office has decided to postpone the release of this new resource until the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year. School personnel can expect to receive the first edition of this resource in the fall of 2008.
- *Contracted Project* – School personnel can expect to receive an electronic mailing seeking North Dakota educators to contract with the NDPIRC (North Dakota Parent Information Resource Center) to assist in creating a parental involvement toolkit for Title I personnel. It is anticipated that this mailing will be distributed the end of March 2008.



## PBS TeacherLine Courses

Prairie Public's spring PBS TeacherLine courses, with optional graduate credit from NDSU, begin April 2, 2008. PBS TeacherLine offers PreK-12 educators the opportunity to advance their careers and enhance their skills with high-quality, standards-based, and research-based graduate level courses. PBS TeacherLine courses are six-week facilitated, online professional development courses that are customized to meet state standards, professional development goals, and recertification needs.

### RDLA125.347 - Children's Authors on the Web: Online Sites that Motivate Students to Write

Facilitator: Leah Tierney

Subject Area: Reading/Language Arts, Instructional Technology, Instructional Strategies

Grade Level: Kindergarten-6

Hours: 30 (2 credits)

*This course has been approved for North Dakota Title I reading credential renewal.*

Discover the power of author studies to motivate students to read and write. This course uses a problem-based approach to teach the techniques of conducting an author study integrating technology and the Internet. Explore author and other websites to collect resources that will introduce your students to many genres while encouraging them to experiment by communicating with others in different forms. You'll create an individual author study you can use as the basis of an ongoing plan to inspire your students to read, write, and use technology effectively.

### RDLA135.53 - Teaching Reading in Mathematics

Facilitator: Linda Stevens

Subject Area: Mathematics, Reading/Language Arts

Grade Level: 3-10

Hours: 30 (2 credits)

*This course has been approved for North Dakota Title I math credential renewal.*

Effective reading skills are critical for student achievement in mathematics. Learn and share strategies to help struggling students sort ideas, understand text organization, connect text to mathematical concepts and operations, and tackle challenging reading content. You'll also learn to assess the effectiveness of different teaching strategies. This course aligns with the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Communication Standards.

Classroom Link - Access to students recommended. PBS Classroom Link courses ask learners to implement lessons with their class or with a small group of students (options for learners without access to students are available).

Sign up for Prairie Public's PBS TeacherLine courses at a reduced local grant rate of \$75. Graduate professional development credits are available through North Dakota State University Distance and Continuing Education for an additional \$100 for two credits.

To view the course syllabus and to register, visit [www.prairiepublic.org/education/pstv/teacherline.html](http://www.prairiepublic.org/education/pstv/teacherline.html).

If you have any questions, contact Beth Schildroth at (701) 239-7537 or [bschildroth@prairiepublic.org](mailto:bschildroth@prairiepublic.org).

## 2008 Reading Summer Symposium

The 2008 Reading Summer Symposium is coming together nicely. We have a wonderful place to meet at Bismarck State College, a plethora of topics, and fabulous presenters. There will be a \$30 registration fee for each training. More information as well as the registration form will be posted on the Department of Public Instruction's website at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/events.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/events.shtm) as it becomes available.

**2008 Reading Summer Symposium (continued on page 6).**



## 2008 Reading Summer Symposium (continued).

College credit will be available for each of the trainings; one credit for the two-day trainings and two credits for the four-day trainings. University credit is generally about \$50 per credit, in addition to the registration fee of attending.

The chart below outlines the list of presenters and topics for each day.

Thursday, June 19	Friday, June 20	Monday, June 23	Tuesday, June 24	Wednesday, June 25	Thursday, June 26
Vocabulary and Comprehension Training Presenters: TBA		ND Kindergarten Teacher Reading Academy Presenters: Margaret Mahoney, Tina Pletan, and Paula Rogers			
Literacy Centers: The Guided Reading Solution Presenter: Adrienne Roggenbuck		ND First Grade Teacher Reading Academy Presenters: Maria Elena Arguelles, Susie Atkinson, and Renae Orstad			
Leveled Readers Presenter: Donna Gordon		ND Second Grade Teacher Reading Academy Presenters: Marie Tejero Hughes, Dawn Johnson, and Kim Krogfoss			
More Than Words on a Page: Helping Students Actively Engage in the Reading Process Presenter: Martha Smith		Response To Intervention Presenters: Martha Smith and Marsha Lloyd		Classroom Management Presenter: Annemieke Golly	
		Using Assessment Results Presenter: Jill Jackson		Differentiated Instruction Presenter: Jill Jackson	

## Monthly Featured Articles

### Math Corner

By: Flo Hilzendeger

### Math Month in the Library

Much of the information for this Math Corner article is taken from an article printed in "Teaching PreK-8 Magazine" by Carol Hurst. Permission has been granted to summarize the article.

- Begin with a contest by asking students to estimate the number of books in your school library. You may know precisely because of the inventory taken by the school librarian. Give the student with the number closest to the actual count a free book. A book with a number theme would even be better.
- Place stars around a bulletin board with a caption that says, "If this bulletin board had a million stars around the outside of it, it would be \_\_\_\_ feet long and \_\_\_\_ feet wide.
- For a fund raiser make an attempt to collect a million pennies, be sure it goes for a good use. You may not be able to collect a million; however, set a timeline for the time the pennies will be collected. It will be interesting for the children to see how much space 10,000 pennies or 100,000 pennies take up. This should give the children some idea of what you are talking about when you refer to millions.
- Here is a fun game for students to play in the library or in your regular classroom. Hand out a worksheet with the following literature math game:
  - Take the number of *Little Pigs* in that story.
  - Multiply it by the number of goats in *Billy Goats Gruff*.
  - Divide by the number of people going to *St. Ives*.
  - Add the number of people in the bed at the beginning of Ahlsburg's book.
  - Add the number against the tide in the book by Bruce Clements.
  - Add the number of reindeer Santa had in a *Visit from St. Nicholas*.
  - Subtract the number of bad ants in Chris Van Allsburg's book.
  - Divide by the number of planets going around our sun.
  - Divide by the number of wishes we usually get in a fairy tale and you should get the age Johnny was in the book by Maurice Sendak.

Have the children work in teams to make up their own literature book puzzles like the one above.

Enjoy Math Month in your school's library.



## Reading Corner

By: Nita Wirtz

## Note-Taking

Are your Title I students having difficulties organizing their notes? Note-taking abilities are a crucial skill that must be grasped by students in order to make progress in high school and succeed at collegiate level courses. Unfortunately, many students struggle with the aspects of note-taking and also organizing their notes into a logical format.

We know that students have a variety of learning abilities. Some are verbal learners; however, many others are stimulated by visual resources. The National Literacy Trust in their 2007 publication provided an overview of a 2001 article first published in *Literacy Today* entitled “Skeletons for Writing” by Sue Palmer. This article provided an overview of ‘skeletons’ that can be used for note-taking frameworks in non-fictional writing. The conceptual idea behind these frameworks is to “act as a bridge between children’s cross-curricular learning and literacy” and they are used to provide a basis for “the class to create skeleton notes including a mixture of diagram and key words” (National Literacy Trust, 2007, para 2 and 3).

As the National Literacy Trust states, skeleton techniques provide advantages in:

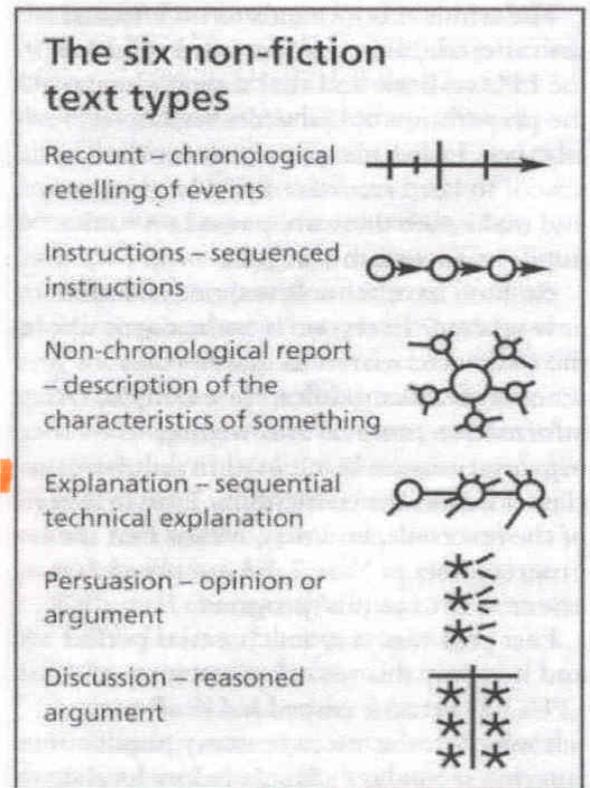
- Guiding the layout for categories to be converted into subheadings for reports.
- Developing and splitting the writing of paragraphs.
- Assisting with organizing and content sorting.
- Providing a big picture to plan and overall writing of reports.
- Serving as an overall learning record.

Techniques listed above provide a wonderful basis for students to think about when taking notes during lectures or from reading material. These techniques are especially useful to students that need to use the information from note-taking to later report in written format on the topic.

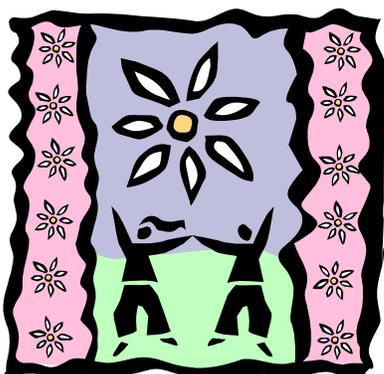
Try these techniques with struggling students to give them a basis for organization or for a new way of providing stimulation to thought. Let’s assist each student to greatness, in honor of St. Patrick’s Day as the old Irish proverb says, “Every man’s mind is his kingdom” (Island Ireland, 2008, p. 1).

References:

- Island Ireland. (2008). Irish proverbs. Retrieved on March 17, 2008 from <http://islandireland.com/Pages/folk/sets/proverb.html>
- National Literacy Trust (NLT). (2007). Skeletons for Writing. Retrieved on March 6, 2008 from [www.literacytrust.org/uk/Pubs/palmer2.html](http://www.literacytrust.org/uk/Pubs/palmer2.html)



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National Literacy Trust (NLT) 2007.



Think Spring!

## Are You Renewing Your Title I Credential(s) and Teaching License?

To be eligible to work in a Title I classroom, your math and/or reading credential must be renewed on or before the expiration date. Your school's Title I funds will be in jeopardy if you teach in a Title I classroom with expired credentials. It is a common misconception that credentials are renewed automatically when a teaching license is renewed.

Teachers renewing their teaching license are to direct all questions and correspondence to the Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB). You can contact their office at (701) 328-9642 or [espbinfo@nd.gov](mailto:espbinfo@nd.gov). Teachers renewing their Title I reading and/or math credential(s) are to direct all questions and correspondence to the Department of Public Instruction's Title I office. Please contact Sandy Peterson in the North Dakota Title I office at (701) 328-2170 or [smpeterson@nd.gov](mailto:smpeterson@nd.gov).

Please note: In most cases, when your teaching license is due for renewal, so is your Title I reading and/or math credential. The Title I office does not send out renewal notices; therefore, it is your responsibility to contact the state Title I office to ensure your credential(s) remains current.

## Neglected and Delinquent Program News Corner

### This Month's N&D Notifications

*N&D Program Applications 2008-2009* – The state Title I office announced the official application process for N&D funding which opened March 1, 2008. All districts with N&D facilities within their district are able to apply. The deadline to submit an N&D application is May 15, 2008.

### Upcoming N&D Professional Development

The following conference relating to neglected and delinquent programs is coming up for registration. Please refer to the bullet below for more information:

- **14th National Symposium on Juvenile Services October 5–8, 2008 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania** – *National Symposium training, focus groups and policy discussions will be led by nationally recognized individuals at the federal, state, local, organizational and private sector level(s). Workshop training will address topics related to: Juvenile Detention Services Juvenile Corrections/Institutions Education of Youth in Confinement, Community Based/Residential Care Presentation Skills & Training Techniques, Critical Management Issues, Mental Health Issues in Juvenile Justice, and Health Care Issues in Managing Juvenile Populations. Workshops will vary in length and participants may select presentations from any of the above topics. Attendees will also have the opportunity to network and share ideas with other professionals that work with at-risk youth and families (NPJS, 2008).*

This information is not available on the website at this time; however, for questions on this national symposium contact [npjs@eku.edu](mailto:npjs@eku.edu) or (859) 622-6259.

### N&D Technical Assistance Focus of the Month

This month's focus on resources is from the state Title I office, Title I, Part D website that will assist your district in completing the N&D application.

- **N&D Application** – The application for 2008-2009 N&D funding must be postmarked no later than **May 15, 2008**. Those districts that are eligible to apply for N&D program funding received an official packet in the mail. If further copies are needed, they are available at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/neglect/index.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/neglect/index.shtm).
- **N&D Eligibility Information** – A listing of all eligible sites that may apply for N&D program funding is available at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/neglect/general.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/neglect/general.shtm).
- **N&D Guidance** – The Title I, Part D website contains a wealth of program guidance which can be accessed at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/neglect/guidance.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/neglect/guidance.shtm).
- **Other N&D Resources** – A section containing information on technical assistance workshops and providers of information for neglected, delinquent, and at-risk youth under this program can be accessed at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/neglect/resources.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/neglect/resources.shtm).



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## Upcoming Events

### National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Annual Conference

- April 9-12, 2008 in Salt Lake City, UT  
Information is available at [www.nctm.org](http://www.nctm.org).

### North Dakota Reading Association (NDRA) Spring Conference

The 2008 NDRA Conference, *Hit a Homerun 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 10-12, 2008 in Jamestown, ND  
Information is available at [www.homerunforliteracy.org](http://www.homerunforliteracy.org).

### North Dakota Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NDCTM) Annual Conference

- April 18-19, 2008 in Grand Forks, ND  
Information is available at [www2.edutech.nodak.edu/ndctm/conference.htm](http://www2.edutech.nodak.edu/ndctm/conference.htm).

### 2008 Title I Program Improvement Workshop

- April 21, 2008 in Bismarck, ND  
Information will be available spring of 2008 at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm).

### Schoolwide Planning Workshop #1

The state Title I office is hosting its annual *Introduction to Schoolwide Programming Workshop #1*. This workshop is applicable to all targeted assistance Title I schools who want to learn more about schoolwide programming and possibly begin schoolwide programming during the 2009-2010 school year.

- April 24, 2008 at the Kelly Inn in Bismarck, North Dakota  
Information is available at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm).

### 2008 IRA Convention

- May 4-8, 2008 in Atlanta, GA  
Information is available at [www.reading.org/association/meetings/annual.html](http://www.reading.org/association/meetings/annual.html).

### North Dakota Geographic Alliance Summer Institute

The ND Geographic Alliance Summer Institute is featuring special segments entitled GeoMathematics and GeoLiteracy on June 12-13, 2008. The North Dakota Geographic Alliance Summer Institute can be taken for graduate credit and used to renew Title I reading or math credentials.

- June 9-13, 2008 in Bismarck, ND  
Information is available at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/events.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/events.shtm).

### 2008 Reading Summer Symposium

- June 19 – 20, 2008 and June 23 – 26, 2008 in Bismarck, ND  
Information will be available spring of 2008 at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm).

### 2008 Title I Fall Workshop

The state Title I office is sponsoring a fall workshop for Title I personnel.

- October 8-10, 2008 in Bismarck, ND  
Information will be available in the fall of 2008 at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm).

The Title I office has compiled a list of upcoming events that can be taken for credit and used for credential renewal. This list can be found at [www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/graduateOpp.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/graduateOpp.shtm) on the Title I website.

