



North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

Title I News

August 2008

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Clarification of AYP Report Dissemination

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. The notice to parents should be written in an understandable format and, when applicable, in a language that parents can understand. Federal law mandates that this notification take place in a timely manner.

- *For schools/districts identified for program improvement, this notice must take place prior to the first day of school.*
- *For schools/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).*

This requirement was misinterpreted at our exit conference with the USDE staff in May 2008. The issue was clarified when we received our formal monitoring report. Therefore, for the 2008-2009 school year, we would like to clarify that schools and districts will be held accountable for the dissemination requirements outlined above.

Consolidated Applications Due Soon

School personnel are reminded of the following:

- The STARS consolidated application report is due on **August 29, 2008**. The report must be completed and submitted by this date. Applications not completed and submitted will forfeit their federal Title funding.
 - Districts are reminded that board approval must be documented in board minutes prior to the submission date.
- The state Title I office has assigned a Title I contact person to each school district in the state. This listing is available at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/conapp.shtm. Please ensure that your district has communicated with your Title I contact person to conduct an initial review of your application.
 - The state Title I office has prepared a guidance document to assist school personnel in completing the Title I portions of the consolidated application. This document is available at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/conapp.shtm.

If you have specific questions regarding the consolidated application process, please contact Juliann Vetter at (701) 328-3265 or Stephanie Gullickson at (701) 328-2176. If you have questions specific to Title I, contact Laurie Matzke at (701) 328-2284 or your assigned Title I contact person.

Once the application is approved, an electronic grant award will be generated. This grant award will display the district's final allocation amount, official carryover amount, the amount available to spend for the 2008-2009 school year, and the amount that has been approved by the state Title I office.

Title I Fall Mailing

Title I personnel and authorized representatives will soon be receiving the annual Title I fall mailing. This mailing will contain a wealth of information on issues concerning Title I. A few items we would like to highlight are listed below.

- Registration information for the Title I Fall Conference in October 2008.
- Dissemination requirements for Title I.
- Parental involvement clarification.

Once distributed, the fall mailing will also be posted online at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/mailings/index.shtm. We encourage you to review this information, as it is pertinent to Title I programming.

North Dakota Receives Early Reading First Grant

The state Title I office is pleased to announce that North Dakota is the recipient of a 2008 Early Reading First grant. North Dakota is one of thirty-one entities to receive this grant. In total, North Dakota will be receiving \$5,601,665 in Early Reading First funds.

The Early Reading First program supports the development of early childhood centers of excellence that focuses on all areas of development, especially on the early language, cognitive, and pre-reading skills that prepare children for continued school success and also serve primarily children from low-income families.

MiND PLACE, or Minot, North Dakota Preschool Literacy Acquisition Collaborative for Education, is the name of the Early Reading First program in North Dakota. MiND PLACE aims to improve the school readiness of children attending three regional Head Start preschools, including:

- Minot Public Schools Head Start,
- Early Explorers Head Start, whose office is located in Towner, and
- Three Affiliated Tribes Head Start, whose office is located in New Town.

MiND PLACE Early Reading First plans to feature eight strategies:

1. increased time for learning,
2. research-based literacy curriculum, *Pearson's Opening the World of Learning*,
3. print-rich and language-rich classrooms,
4. research-based instructional practices that support individual learning needs,
5. ongoing assessment and progress monitoring,
6. *Scaffolding Early Literacy*, a research-based professional development,
7. home-school linkages, and
8. a comprehensive preschool to kindergarten transition program.

Preparation to implement the MiND PLACE Early Reading First program has already begun and full implementation is scheduled for next spring. Further details will be outlined in future issues of the *Title I News*. Gail Schauer will be the coordinator for Early Reading First and can be reached at gschauer@nd.gov or (701) 328-2285.

The State Title I Office is Looking for Consultants!

As a part of this year's expansion of the Title I School Support Team into a more comprehensive statewide system of support for schools identified in need of improvement (program improvement), it is the intent of the state Title I office to create a new team, known as the Statewide System of Support (SSOS) Consultant Team.

It is evident that many schools and districts identified for program improvement, need additional assistance from individuals who can provide consulting in a variety of areas, related to program improvement identification.

For the 2008-2009 school year, the state Title I office would like to do a better job of compiling a list of individuals who can provide consulting to districts and schools on program improvement issues. In order to obtain a list of qualified individuals that will be able to offer consulting services under contract with North Dakota schools, an official Request for Proposal (RFP) is being developed by the state Title I office and is anticipated to be issued by the end of August 2008. The official RFP will be announced through the *Title I News*, on the Title I website at, and www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/resource/support/SSOS.shtm for interested parties. Districts and schools interested in obtaining services from this team, those with questions, or individuals that are interested in applying to be a part of this team should contact Nita Wirtz, Title I Assistant Director, at (701) 328-1876 or nwirtz@nd.gov.

Bright Ideas for Back-to-School Night...and Beyond (by Reading Rockets 2008)

It's time to head back to school. And while kids are stuffing their backpacks with new school supplies, we're packing a different sort of bag here at Reading Rockets — one filled with resources to help make one of the most important evening events of the school year really sparkle — Back-to-School Night. Typically, back-to-school night is a big event on the school calendar. This opportunity for parents and teachers to meet and connect deserves special attention. We've gathered ideas and materials to help plan the evening, ideas to encourage attendance and participation, resources to share with parents, as well as materials to help parents make the most of back-to-school night and set the tone for a successful school year. This information can be found online at www.readingrockets.org/article/25997.

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

It is a common misconception that credentials are renewed automatically when a teaching license is renewed. 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.

Teachers renewing their teaching license should 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. Teachers renewing their Title I reading and/or math credential(s) should 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.

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.

Outstanding Title I Educator Nominations

In the upcoming fall mailing, Title I personnel will receive information regarding the 2008-2009 North Dakota Outstanding Title I Educator Award. Please consider nominating an Outstanding Title I Educator in your school or district for this award. Please keep in mind, this individual can be an authorized representative, coordinator, teacher, paraprofessional, or anyone who works in a Title I program. The individual chosen for this award will receive recognition at the 2008 Title I Fall Conference in October 2008. You can find more information regarding the Outstanding Title I Educator online at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/awards/educator.shtm.

N&D Program News Corner

This Month's N&D Notifications

N&D Program Applications 2008-2009 – The state Title I office is finalizing all N&D grant awards for the 2008-2009 school year. LEAs should be receiving their official grant notification in the first two weeks of September 2008.

Upcoming N&D Professional Development

The following conference relating to neglected and delinquent programs are coming up for registration.

- **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).*
- **36th National Conference on Juvenile Justice, March 11-14, 2009, Orlando, Florida** – *This conference offers juvenile justice professionals a national perspective on the issues they face in their day-to-day efforts to make a difference in the lives of children and families. The sessions at the conference will highlight effective practice and programs, offer tips and tools, provide an opportunity for networking, and inspire and invigorate participants. With breakout sessions on a wide variety of topics, from truancy and safe schools, gangs, family violence, child abuse and neglect, juvenile sex offenders, and substance abuse. There is sure to be something for everyone! For more information visit, www.ncjfcj.org/content/view/1147/315.*

N&D Technical Assistance Focus of the Month

The National Evaluation and Technical Assistance Center for the Education of Children and Youth Who are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk has developed a brand new toolkit which has been recently released on their website. The Transition Toolkit 2.0 is organized into seven sections and includes an appendix. Information on what is transition, entry into the juvenile justice system, residence, exiting incarceration, aftercare issues, and appendices on self-study and planning tools are included. The appendices section is to assist facilities to “assess the current level of implementation of each strategy, and then make a plan for revising current processes” (NDTAC, 2008, para. 10). This second addition toolkit can be accessed at the NDTAC website at

www.neglected-delinquent.org/nd/resources/toolkits/transition_200808.asp.

Reference:

National Evaluation and Technical Assistance Center for the Education of Children and Youth Who are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk (NDTAC). (2008). Meeting the educational needs of youth exposed to the juvenile justice system. Retrieved on August 14, 2008 from www.neglected-delinquent.org/nd/resources/toolkits/transition_200808.asp

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August To Do List

<u>Administrators</u>	<u>Teachers</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Submit consolidated application – DUE August 29, 2008	<input type="checkbox"/> Determine caseload, instructional practices, student eligibility
<input type="checkbox"/> Disseminate AYP Reports and correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/> Finalize student selection
<input type="checkbox"/> Disseminate Parents' Right to Know and Dispute Resolution information	<input type="checkbox"/> Conduct Annual Parent Meeting

Upcoming Events

NDALL Fall Conference

This conference is a joint conference between Adult Education, Even Start, and the 21st Century Learning Communities.

■ September 17-19, 2008 in Bismarck, ND

Information is available at

www.ndlifelonglearningresourcecenter.com/conference.htm.

2008 Title I Fall Conference

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

■ October 8-10, 2008 in Bismarck, ND

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

2008 NDEA Instructional Conference

■ October 22-24, 2008 in Fargo, ND

Information is available at <http://nd.nea.org/events/home.html>.

Schoolwide Planning Meeting #2

This meeting is for those schools participating in the 2008-2009 schoolwide planning year. Attendance at this meeting is required for schools planning to become schoolwide for the 2009-2010 school year.

■ November 13, 2008 in Bismarck, ND

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

2009 North Dakota State Reading Conference

■ April 16-18, 2009 in Minot, ND

Information is available at <http://nd.nea.org/events/home.html>.

2009 IRA Conference

■ May 3-7, 2009 in Minneapolis, MN

Information is available at <http://www.reading.org>.

Welcome

—Author unknown—

August is here and so is fall.
So welcome children, welcome all.
I hope vacation was real fun.
And that you're glad school has begun.