



Title I News

June 2003

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Title I Credentials and Paraprofessional Certificates

Title I Credentials

The Title I credentials have been revised to comply with the *No Child Left Behind* Act. Regional Title I workshops were held in April to update Title I personnel on the proposed changes. The state Title I office took under advisement the many comments received at the regional workshops in regard to the new credentials. In response to the comments, the credentials have been revised since the workshops. For example, reading and math credentials have been created for Title I teachers working with students in grades five through eight.

It is imperative that all Title I staff take the time to download the new credential information so they become familiar with the changes that have been made since the regional workshops. Log onto the Title I website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/present.shtm to access the new credentials.

Please note:

- All newly hired Title I teachers for the 2003-2004 school year must meet the revised credential requirements for the 2003-2004 school year in order for the consolidated application to be approved.
- All current Title I teachers who hold credentials with the existing credential requirements must meet the revised credential requirements by July 1, 2006. Current Title I teachers may work under the old requirements, including renewing their credentials under the old requirements, until July 1, 2006.

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) updated administrators on the new teacher quality requirements at a meeting in Bismarck on May 28, 2003. The board is also sponsoring regional workshops in July to update teachers and other school personnel on the new teacher quality requirements. To access the handouts distributed at the May 28 meeting and/or review and register for the regional workshops schedule, log onto the ESPB website at www.state.nd.us/esp/meetings.htm.

Title I Aides/Paraprofessionals

As you know, aides/paraprofessionals working in a program supported with Title I funds must meet one of three requirements to be considered highly qualified under the *No Child Left Behind* Act. Existing aides/paraprofessionals have until July 1, 2005 to meet the requirements. Newly hired paraprofessionals must meet the requirements immediately.

Title I Credentials and Paraprofessional Certificates
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Title I Credentials and Paraprofessional Certificates (continued)

The Parapro Assessment is being implemented as a third assessment approved to meet the federal requirements. The Department will be conducting a study on this exam and will be setting the standards for a passing score. We have requested assistance from the field in doing the standards study. The study panel consists of aides/paraprofessionals in the field who presently meet one of the three requirements stated in the law. The standards study will take place in early July 2003. Therefore, the Parapro Assessment should be a third assessment available to Title I aides/paraprofessionals by the middle of August 2003.

The Department is working on a "Certificate of Completion" process for aides/paraprofessionals to document compliance with the *No Child Left Behind* regulations. Draft rules have been developed and are available for review on the Title I website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/present.shtm.

A hearing has been scheduled for July 9, 2003 in Bismarck for school personnel to voice concerns or suggestions on both the draft aide/paraprofessional rules and the revised Title I credentials. The hearing is scheduled for 10 am in the Fort Union room at the state Capitol in Bismarck. At this time, we anticipate the "Certificate of Completion" process will be finalized and ready to implement in the late fall of 2003. We will keep you updated on further developments regarding this issue.

Math and Reading Summer Institutes – Reminder

This is a reminder to all school personnel that the state Title I office is sponsoring summer institutes for both math and reading. Both institutes are being held at the Seven Seas in Mandan, ND.

The math summer institute, *Hands On Math Training Institute*, will be held on June 16-17, 2003. The reading summer institute, *Three R's for the 21st Century, Research Based Strategies for Reading, Writing, and Reasoning*, will be held on July 17-18, 2003.

Registration information for each of the summer institutes can be found online at: www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm or by contacting the Title I office at (888) 605-1951.



***No Child Left Behind* Update**

Issues regarding *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) continue to evolve regularly. All new information pertaining to NCLB can be accessed on the Title I website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/index.shtm

New issues of particular interest include:

- The official AYP reports for the 2001-2002 state assessment have been placed on the Department's website. Log on to www.dpi.state.nd.us/dpi/reports/profile/index.shtm to access your school's report.
 - The Department submitted our revised plan to the US Department of Education on May 1, 2003. Most of the information submitted in both plans pertains to assessment and adequate yearly progress provisions and how North Dakota plans to meet these requirements as specified in the NCLB Act. These plans can be accessed on the Title I website under the NCLB link.
 - Agendas and handouts for presentations made on the NCLB Act are also available on the Title I website and can be accessed at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/index.shtm.
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Title I Projects in the Works

The state Title I office has ambitiously undertaken several projects for the upcoming summer and school year. These projects consist of, but are not limited to, a student selection tool, our annual reading month packet, and our first annual math month packet.

⌘ Student Selection Tool

Based on a survey taken at the Title I regional workshops, Title I teachers expressed high interest in the need for a sample student selection tool that Title I teachers can use to assess students needs for Title I services. Due to this high response of interest, the state Title I office has decided to proceed.

This tool will consist of a one-page list of the grade level expectations and a sample assessment that aligns with the grade level expectations. With this tool a Title I teacher can assess to see where students are performing compared to the grade level expectations established.

Contacts have been made with seven North Dakota teachers to develop this document. These teachers include: Ahna Fixen, Carla Weber, Dawn Johnson, Mary Beth Becker, Mike Rowe, Lori Gibson, and Terri Jangula. Each teacher has been assigned a subject area and grade level to focus on. The final document is due to the state Title I office on August 1, 2003. We anticipate having the student selection tool on the Department's website by late August 2003.

⌘ Reading Month

Each year the state Title I office also contracts with area teachers to create the annual reading month packet for the North Dakota teachers and other educators. These reading packets are filled with a variety of ideas and activities for teachers to use with their students.

Judith Konerza, Sandy Sand, and Colette Gerzsewski of the Grand Forks Public School District will design this year's reading month packet. Judith, Sandy, and Colette will be working on this document throughout the school year. The final due date is October 1, 2003. As always, North Dakota's reading month is February 2004, however, expect the final reading month packet to be in your mailboxes sometime in December 2003.

⌘ Math Month

A new project that the state Title I office has decided to initiate is the North Dakota math month. Through a survey of those attending the Title I regional workshops this spring, it was decided that April would be known as North Dakota's math month.

The state Title I office has contracted with Pam Rettig, Junella Feickert, Darlene Bondley, and Kathy Fettig, all of the Bismarck Public School District, to develop the first math month packet. This packet will have ideas and activities to help incorporate math into your Title I classrooms. The final due date for this project is December 1, 2003. You can expect the final document to be printed and distributed to schools by early February 2004.

These, as well as most other documents produced by the Title I office, will be posted on the Department of Public Instruction's Title I website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/index.shtm.



Estimated Title I Allocations

The Department has posted estimated Title I allocations for the 2003-2004 school year. Administrators received notification of these allocations through an e-mail notice sent by Beverly Fischer. Official correspondence, other than e-mail, will not be sent.

To view your school's Title I allocation, refer to www.dpi.state.nd.us/grants/state.shtm.

Director's Corner

Summer is finally upon us and staff in the state Title I office are very busy closing out programs from last year and beginning to plan for the 2003-2004 school year. Please remember to complete and submit the Title I personnel report that summarizes the number of students you served for the 2002-2003 program year. This information needs to be inputted this summer for a report that we have to submit to the United States Department of Education (USDE). The consolidated application for the 2003-2004 school year is officially due in the Department by July 18, 2003. Please remember to provide your superintendent with copies of your student selection worksheet, parent involvement policy, and Title I report card so that these forms can be submitted with the consolidated application. We will review all three forms and provide feedback to each district with an approval letter and grant award for the consolidated application. Check with your superintendent in the fall to access a copy of our comments regarding the forms that you submitted.

The Department is currently in the negotiations stage with the USDE regarding our state plan submitted on January 31, 2003. The state plan outlines how North Dakota will implement key provisions in *No Child Left Behind*, especially adequate yearly progress (AYP). We are anxious to receive formal approval so that when we receive the state testing results from CTB for the March 2003 assessment, we will be ready to proceed in compiling AYP reports and report cards. Tentatively, the AYP reports for the March 2003 state assessment date are scheduled to be released by the end of July 2003. We will update you further in our July newsletter.

Please note that our Title I website has been revised. At our spring regional workshops we shared with school personnel our intent to revise our Title I website in a format that is easier to navigate. Log on to the Title I website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/index.shtm and check it out!

Title I Reminders

The end of the fiscal year is quickly approaching. Several reports and forms are due to the state Title I office from both targeted assistance and schoolwide Title I schools. These reports and forms include:

- **Final Financial Report** (SFN 53745) – www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sfn53745.pdf,
- **Request for Funds** (SFN 14660) – www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sfn14660.pdf, and
- **Personnel Report** (SFN 7357) – www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sfn7357.pdf.

In addition to the forms stated above, schoolwide Title I schools must also submit:

- **Revision to Schoolwide Plan** (SFN 52806) – www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sfn52806.pdf.

Please make certain that these forms are submitted in a timely manner to close out the 2002-2003 school year.

Program Improvement Reminders

Schools identified for Program Improvement need to submit the following forms to the state Title I office:

- **Follow Up Report** (SFN 52822) – www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sfn52822.pdf,
- **Request for Funds** (SFN 14660) – www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sfn14660.pdf, and
- **Annual Report for Schools Identified for School Improvement** (SFN 7357) – www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sfn52820.pdf.

It is recommended that these forms be submitted by June 30, 2003 or at the close of the program year.

Upcoming Events

Title I Math Summer Institute

☛ June 16-17, 2003 Mandan, ND Best Western Seven Seas

Conference and registration information: www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm

Title I Reading Summer Institute

☛ July 17-18, 2003 Mandan, ND Best Western Seven Seas

Conference and registration information: www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm

North Dakota Reading Academy

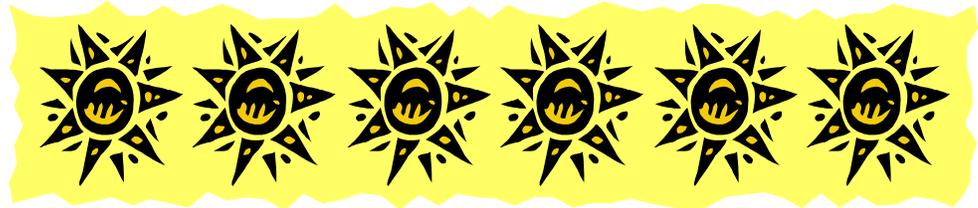
All K-3 staff from districts that receive Reading First funds are required to attend the North Dakota Reading First Academy. This academy was tentatively planned for the end of July. The Reading First team is now looking at a later date for the academy, perhaps in August or sometime next fall.

Watch for the updates to confirm the actual dates. Updates on the academy dates will be e-mailed to administrators and will be posted on the Reading First website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/reading/index.shtm.

Title I Fall Conference

☛ October 15-17, 2003 Bismarck, ND Best Western Ramkota Hotel

Conference and registration information will be posted soon on: www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/events.shtm



Web Resources

- ☛ **West Elementary Online Internet Projects**
www.siec.k12.in.us/~west/proj/
- ☛ **Twenty-Five Activities to Keep Kids' Brains Active in the Hot Summer Sun**
www.education-world.com/a_curr/profdev073.shtml
- ☛ **Creative Kids at Home**
www.creativekidsathome.com/summerkidsactivities.html
- ☛ **Summer Home Learning Recipes**
www.ed.gov/pubs/Recipes/reck-3.html
- ☛ **Cooking with Kids**
www.gardenandhearth.com/Cooking_With_Kids/cooking_with_kids.htm
- ☛ **Hot activities for Summer**
www.education-world.com/holidays/archives/summer.shtml

Have A Great



Summer !