



**Mt. Whitney  
Highest Summit  
in the Contiguous  
United States  
14,497 feet**

# The Inyo Insight

An Education Newsletter from the Inyo County Superintendent of Schools  
Volume 7, Issue 1 [www.inyo.k12.ca.us](http://www.inyo.k12.ca.us) Sep, 2014

## Inyo: Last Place to First in Four Short Years

Within a blink of a few years, Inyo County has gone from being the backwater of technology for students and staff to being the most technologically advanced county in the state. Five major events have occurred that have changed the nature of public education in Inyo for decades to come.

1. Digital 395—The most important step in this process from last to first was the finalization this summer of the Digital 395 connection. Bandwidth increased ten-fold for all of our schools. The ability to have all students and staff on the computer network at the same time is now possible thanks to our new, low-cost, fiber connection. Many thanks to the county of Inyo for their pursuit of funding for this high speed connection.

2. Wireless Schools—Throughout the past two years all of our schools have become completely wireless. This step forward allows all students and staff the ability to have access to a filtered internet network throughout the school day. This major advancement fosters the introduction of computers throughout all classrooms.

Kudos to our school tech staff for making this a reality.

3. Laptops for All Students—One year from now all students in all grades will have their own personal computing device for use at school and at home. Currently, all K-2 students have an iPod touch device to improve reading and math skills. Third thru 8th graders have their own laptops to improve writing, research and typing skills. Next year, all high school students will receive a laptop which will make Inyo the technological leader in the state. Great appreciation to our superb teaching staffs along with Lo Lyness, Ilissa Twomey and Pamela Jones from ICSOS for making this tech infusion a reality into the daily lives of our youth.

4. Updated Public Libraries—Parents, students and community members are also benefitted by this technological blossoming in our schools. Our public libraries, under the fine leadership of Librarian Nancy Masters, have also joined the digital 395 network becoming wireless and obtaining new and more computer work stations. Our libraries remain a wonderful asset in our community

for learning and assessing re-search tools.

5. Wi-Fi Downtowns—Within the next few months, through the leadership of the Chambers, Bishop and Lone Pine will have their downtown corridors become wi-fi hubs for use by residents, students, and tourists. These few wi-fi corridors will provide access to free internet 24/7. It will also provide visitors a reason to shop and shop in these 2 communities.

Due to these five events, Inyo will be the first county in the state to provide laptop computers for all K-12 students and staff. Inyo will be the first county in the state to have all schools wireless and connected to a high-speed internet connection. Inyo will be the first county in the state to have two of its largest business corridors with free wi-fi for residents, students and tourists.

Most importantly, these five technological changes are transforming the lives of our youth. They are providing our youth with the tools, the access and the instruction needed to be productive citizens of the 21st Century.

### Millpond Music Festival ICSOS/ICA Event Passes 7th Annual "Night for Educators" Friday, Sep. 19th

To get a free Friday night pass for you and a guest—call Brynn Norman by **Thursday Sep. 11th** at 873-3262 ext 406. Watch for an invitation to arrive in your mail box soon. We look forward to seeing you at the beer, wine, and hors d'oeuvres tent for educators — sponsored by LeeAnn Rasmuson & Associates, Coldwell Banker, McDonald's and Manor Market.

**Arts Council requests that wristbands be worn for admission at the gate!**

**Friday Night Performances:**  
6:30 — *The Trespassers*  
7:45 — *Tyler Matthew Smith*  
9:10 — *The Bills*



## Moving Forward With Science

Kerry Lozito joins the Inyo County Superintendent of Schools this fall as a teacher on assignment from Bishop Union High School. She will coordinate Dr. McAteer's new Science Initiative to support 6-12 science instruction, and also help implement the Laptops for Learning 1:1 Initiative. "This is an exciting time for science education," says Lozito. "I look forward to supporting teachers as they redesign instruction around the Common Core, Next Generation Science Standards, and new tools ICSOS can provide." In addition to teacher training and equipment needs, Lozito will develop programs to bring the science community more actively into classrooms. She comes to ICSOS with thirty years of experience teaching science, mathematics and AVID, and thirteen years of experience on the BUHS Foundation for Excellence.

## ICSOS Staff Extend A Warm Welcome to New Educators and Promotions!

Throughout Inyo County there have been a number of new hires, some within days of the opening of school! We congratulate the following educators on their new positions and promotions and wish them well.

*If we missed you, please call Brynn Norman at 873-3262x406 to have your name in the October Issue.*

**BPUSD:** Megan Frechette, Cheryl Obayashi, Joe Perez, Gina Munro and Jennifer Weston

**BUSD:** Kristen Carr, Nicole

Behrendt, Don Rowan, Alan Fischer, Greta Thompson, Amy Greve Dutton, Elizabeth Evans, Heidi Eldridge, Jemima Lamb, Walter Smith, Amy Conn, Richard Valadez, Lori Miller, Judy Rogers, Kit Niehans, Spring Braatan, Wendy McConachie, Eugenio Solorio, Rebecca Harlow, Jamie Miller, Robin Fisher, Kenneth Dutton, Matt Wilson,

**LPUSD:** Sean Cianfarano, Maria Werth, Kaitlin Hill, Joel Whitney, Heidi Torix, Sarah Fogarty, Adam Routt, Dusty Ricketts, Lidia Rubio

**OVUSD:** Amy Stephenson, Susan Haenni, Courtney Slider, Justin Bellville

**RVJESD:** Amber Popp, Lisa Vetter, Linda Poncet and Karen Marshall

**ICSOS:** Anna Bacock, Heather Barlow, Hillary Behr, Camille Cervantes, Elisabeth Gianopoulos, Mandy Kemp, Kim Linse, Kerry Lozito, Carrie McDivitt, Catherine Patrykus, Courtney Routt, Tanya Scott and Sharron Young

Congratulations to all and may the school year exceed your expectations!

## Laptops for Learning: 1:1 Technology for Middle Schoolers

Inyo middle school teachers are preparing for a minor revolution in teaching and learning this year when each of their students receives a laptop to use both in class and at home. The Inyo County Superintendent of Schools has **purchased 13” Acer notebook computers** for all middle school students, which will be distributed sometime during the first month of school.

Like the laptops the upper elementary students got last year, these small computers will run a free, innovative, Linux-based operating system called Ubermix that is very stable, easy to use, and incorporates a variety of educational software. ICSOS has also purchased subscriptions for My Access for all middle schoolers, a program which will give them feedback on their writing. Students will be able to access the internet wirelessly at school, at home if families have wi-fi, at libraries, and anywhere else wi-fi is available. ICSOS is

working with Schat.net and the Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce to provide free wireless internet at public places in Bishop and Lone Pine by sometime this fall.

In order to help insure that **students’ activities online** are safe and appropriate, students will participate in a series of lessons to get their **“Digital Driver’s Licenses” before the laptops** are issued. Lesson topics include responsible use of and caring for the equipment, digital etiquette, protecting online privacy, safe online communication, and identifying and preventing cyberbullying. As the year progresses, students will also learn a variety of information literacy skills such as advanced searching and evaluating website quality.

ICSOS staff members have been presenting introductory workshops for teachers to help them enhance their instruction with technology,

and will provide ongoing support throughout the year at after school **collaboration meetings and “Tech Cafes” that will be open to all teachers.** During some Tech Cafes ICSOS staff and/or mentor teachers will offer hands-on sessions with specific tools. Other sessions will be open - anyone can come for help using hardware, software, or web tools, or for help in planning how to use a given tool. The web has exploded with free tools for teachers that may revolutionize instruction, including some that allow students to collaborate and help teachers and students communicate; sites like goorulearning that allow teachers to create and annotate a collection of multimedia web resources; great video sites like TedEd; and many more. This should be an exciting year for learning with technology in the middle school community!

## 2014-15 Student Activities

The Inyo County Superintendent of Schools works closely with business and community members to present these events to our Districts for the 2014-2015 school year.

**College Day at Cerro Coso**  
November 7— Grade 8  
Bishop Cerro Coso Campus

**Altrusa Spelling Bee**  
December 4  
Grades 4-8; JKBS



**Inyo Register Writing Contest**  
January 29 — Grade 7 & 8

**Poetry Outloud Contest**  
TBD (February)  
Grade 11-12  
Inyo Council for the Arts

**Coldwell Banker Speech Contest**  
March 12  
Grades 6-8  
JKBS  
Topic: TBD

**Sunrise Rotary Geography Bee**  
April 9 — Grades 11 & 12

## Teachers - Art Docents Needed!

Inyo Council for the Arts is needs new parent volunteers for the 2014/2015 Art Docent Program. If you have one or two wonderful parents this year that might want to volunteer, or have possible suggestions from last year’s parents, please email Liz McAteer, ICA School Arts Coordinator, at [liz-mcateer@hotmail.com](mailto:liz-mcateer@hotmail.com).

California



Arts Council

## ELA and ELD in ONE Framework for California

In July the state board of Education adopted the English Language Arts/English Language Development Framework for California Public Schools (Framework). This is the first time in the nation that a state has adopted guidelines in one publication for both English language arts and English language development.

The Framework provides guidance in teaching English language arts under the Common Core State Standards and describes what additional support teachers might provide for English learners. While teachers of English Learners will need to incorporate both the ELA standards

and the ELD standards in their planning, the framework provides context and direction for weaving both sets of standards throughout the school day. The Framework supports the theory that English Learners need English language development **integrated** throughout the day in all subjects, in addition to **designated** English language development.

In the Framework you will find **“snapshots” that describe** both integrated and designated English language development in a classroom setting. These vignettes offer a clear direction to us that English lan-

guage development instruction should not be isolated from the instruction in the core subjects, but instead should directly support the content standards and vocabulary that the student is encountering in classwork.

ICSOS will offer the opportunity for interested teachers to learn more about the Framework in a workshop setting. Look for a survey monkey in your inbox from Pamela Jones.

The Framework is also available online: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/rl/cf/elaeldfmwrksbeadopt-ed.asp>