

**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 8, Issue 1      www.inyo.k12.ca.us      September, 2015

## Next Generation Science Standards and the ICSOS Science Initiative

Exciting changes are afoot in science education. The start of this school year marks the official transition to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS); implementation is expected by fall of 2016. The new California Framework in Science is slated for release in January, in hopes that students will experience classroom science differently.

NGSS focuses on building a deeper understanding of fewer core ideas. The NGSS design provides a more cohesive framework, allowing standards to build from one grade to the next.

NGSS is not based upon content knowledge alone. Seven “Cross-cutting Concepts” delineate ideas shared across all disciplines of science, and eight

“Science and Engineering Practices” encourage students to think creatively, devise their own experiments, and solve design problems. NGSS is aligned to the Common Core State Standards in both English Language Arts and Mathematics.

This fall also marks the second year of ICSOS’ 2-year Science Initiative to support science instruction throughout Inyo County. ICSOS will continue to assist teachers and young scientists by upgrading equipment and materials to support NGSS. We can help teachers evaluate existing lessons through the NGSS lens, and will sponsor a series of science teachers’ dinners to facilitate articulation between grade levels and across the county. ICSOS also maintains a

Haiku “class” (website) of some of the best science resources on the web:

<http://www.myhaikuclass.com/kerrylozito/icsosscience2015>.

In addition, ICSOS will send 25, 1st-12th grade teachers to the National Science Teachers Association regional conference in Reno in October. The County is also bringing Maria Simani, Executive Director of the California Science Project to the county-wide teacher in-service on November 2.

One of the most exciting developments has been the enthusiasm with which so many K-5 teachers in Inyo County have embraced NGSS. This could pay big dividends in local science education for years to come.

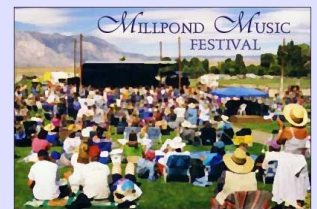
### Millpond Music Festival 8th Annual “Night for Educators” Friday, Sep. 18th

Did you claim your free wristband passes from ICSOS and the Inyo Council for the Arts?

Here’s what will be happening:

- 5:30–6:30pm: Beer, wine and hors d’oeuvres available at the tent for educators—sponsored by LeeAnn Rasmuson & Associates; Coldwell Banker; McDonald’s of Mammoth, Bishop and Lone Pine; and Manor Market.
- 6:30pm: Bodie 601
- 7:45pm: Café Musique
- 9:10pm: AJ Ghent

**Wristbands must be worn at the gate for admission!**



## Welcome, New Educators!

Congratulations to all of the following individuals who have accepted new positions in our schools for the 2015/16 school year!

### **BIG PINE USD:**

Ed Dardenne-Ankringa  
Melinda Dardenne-Ankringa  
Kristen Dallum  
Cindy Edge  
De Fie  
Christy Jennings  
Amanda Marsh  
Karen Mike  
Jennifer Weston

### **BISHOP USD:**

*Bishop Elementary:*  
Shelley Daugherty  
Kelly Dunn  
Steve Holland  
Katherine McLaren  
Abby Sada  
Lynsey Schneider  
Christine Vega  
Ana Whitmore

### *Home Street Middle School:*

Mark DesRochers  
Elisabeth Gianopoulos  
Amber Gratz  
Amber Popp

### *Bishop Union High School:*

Alice Bruck  
Barrett Cox  
Lee Cox  
Jerrod Davis  
Autumn Eanes  
David Fulkerson  
Sasha Greene  
Amy Greve Dutton  
Jesse Steele

### *Palisade Glacier High School:*

Katie Kolker

### **DEATH VALLEY USD:**

Nanci Frisoli-Bolton  
Tracey Hallett  
Brenda Lee McNeese

Rachelle Van Duser

### **ICSOS:**

Karen Griego  
Jacqueline Lutz

### **LONE PINE USD:**

*Lo-Inyo*  
Liselda Castro  
Sarah Civitano

### *Lone Pine High School:*

Sheyanne Joiner

### **OWENS VALLEY USD:**

Allie Whisler  
Daniel Velazquez  
Bryan Mack  
Susan Haenni

### **ROUND VALLEY JESD:**

Shawn Delmas

## Countywide Adoption Process for ELA/ELD

During this school year ICSOS will facilitate a countywide adoption process for English Language Arts. Let your site administrators know if you have an interest in being involved. More information to come in October.

# Inquiry & Exploration November 2nd

**It's Science Fair Year!**

## Countywide Professional Learning Day

November 2, 2015

There is so much happening in our State and locally in education. It is a challenge to keep current with it all. To support our educators, the ICSOS Curriculum Department is facilitating a conference-style professional learning day on November 2, 2015.

Workshops will be held in various locations on the Bishop Unified School District campus. Educators from all of our Inyo County school districts will be able to choose workshops from a variety of presenters and topics.

Sign-ups will be in October to reserve the sessions you want. There will be morning and afternoon breakout sessions with a keynote for all just prior to lunch.



### TECHNOLOGY

Jon Corippo, the Chief Academic Officer of Innovation for CUE is our keynote speaker, and will also present two breakout sessions on technology and instruction.

### SCIENCE

Maria Simani, Executive Director of the California Science Project, will present about the Next Generation Science Standards.

### WRITING

Ruth Culham, author of 6+1 Traits of Writing and other related writing instructional

guides, will offer sessions on writing instruction

### MATH

Dolores Jones, California Math Project, will provide workshops in CCCSS math practices

### ELD

Kristal Cullivan and Carla DeLaTorre, English Learner Support Services Val Verde Unified School District, will provide sessions on the new ELD standards

### Questions?

Contact Pamela, Ilissa or Lo at our office: 760-873-3262

Science fairs offer students an opportunity to be scientists as they formulate hypotheses, design experiments, gather data and draw conclusions to find scientific answers to questions that interest them.

This year Inyo County schools are invited to participate in the countywide Science Fair to be held on **February 10, 2016**.

After holding their own school science fairs, participating schools will send their winning 4th - 12th graders to the County Science Fair. County winners, in turn, will have an opportunity to attend the regional Inland Science and Engineering Fair held **April 5-6, 2016**, at the National Orange Show in San Bernardino.

Science Fair coaches will be contacted soon with the date for an informational meeting.

For more information, contact Lo at (760) 873-3262.



## Student Events: SAVE THE DATE

### WRITING CONTEST

OCTOBER 5-30, 2015

6th - 8th Grades

At your site

### NATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

OCTOBER 7, 2015

Bishop, Big Pine and Lone Pine

### COLLEGE DAY

NOVEMBER 13, 2015

9AM- 1PM

8th Grade

Cerro Coso College, Bishop



### COLDWELL BANKER SPEECH CONTEST

MARCH 10, 2016

6PM

6th - 8th Grades

Jill Kinmont Boothe School

### ALTRUSA SPELLING BEE

JANUARY 21, 2016

6PM

Jill Kinmont Boothe School

### POETRY OUT LOUD

DATE TBD (FEBRUARY)

11th & 12th Grades

Inyo Council for the Arts

### SCIENCE FAIR

FEBRUARY 10, 2016

4th - 12th Grades

Location TBD



### SUNRISE ROTARY GEOGRAPHY CONTEST

MARCH 24, 2016

6PM

9th - 12th Grades

Jill Kinmont Boothe School



## Teachers: Art Docents Needed!

Inyo Council for the Arts is in need of new parent volunteers for the 2015/2016 Art Docent Program.

California



Arts Council

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 Debbe Eilts, ICA School Arts Coordinator, at schoolarts@inyo.org.

For more information about any of these events, please contact our office at (760)873-3262.