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The Inyo Insight

An Education Newsletter from the Inyo County Superintendent of Schools
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Inquiry and Exploration: Professional Learning Day for Inyo Teachers

On November 2nd, from 8:30 - 3:00, Inyo County Superintendent of Schools (ICSOS) once again welcomes all Inyo County teachers and administrators to a professional learning day, with a theme of Inquiry and Exploration.

The day will have a conference-style structure: a morning break-out session, keynote speaker, lunch, and afternoon session. Each break-out session will last for 2 ½ hours. For each session teachers will be able to select from among five different

options tailored to grade spans.

Break-out sessions will be at various locations on the Bishop school campuses. Participants

will receive detailed room information with their registration confirmation.

Additional details can be found on pages 2 and 3.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Online registration is required.

Registration open Oct. 1 and close Oct.15.

Participants will select morning and afternoon sessions. Some sessions have a limited number of spaces and will close when they fill.

Please register at:

<http://inyo.k12oms.org/1781-105385>

Click the + sign next to session titles to see detailed session descriptions and presenter bios.

Science and Nutrition Take Center Stage in Garden Program

"Only two things that money can't buy / That's true love and home-grown tomatoes". So goes the refrain to a song touting the many virtues of that best-of-all garden treats. This year primary school students in the Owens Valley are learning about healthy eating and science concepts as they plant gardens, harvest

their crops, and make and eat tasty dishes with the plants they grow.

Last spring, ICSOS was offered grant funding from the CDC through the Toiyabe Indian Health Project to develop a school garden program. ICSOS's Hillary Behr has been working with retired teachers Susan Jensen and Susan Flaherty, also a Master Gardener, to design and implement the program. During the summer, Ian Scott of Owens Valley Edible Gardens built 13 raised garden beds at all the Owens Valley elementary schools. For 10 weeks this fall, kindergarten and/or

first grade students at each school participate in one 20-minute garden-related lesson each week, taught by Garden Coordinators Jensen and Flaherty. The Coordinators will offer another set of 10 lessons in the spring. This fall students planted beets, chard and carrots. After harvesting the vegetables, the kids will make and eat vegetable soup. In the spring they'll grow lettuce, peas, and radishes which they'll make into a delicious salad to share.

Gardening provides a rich opportunity for students to learn biological concepts. For example, while planting and tending their gardens, the students learn what plants need to grow; they identify various plant parts as they taste them; they bring in praying mantises and learn about beneficial insects. At the same time, students develop an interest in growing and eating healthy fresh vegetables and fruits. Currently the program is serving 254 gardeners-to-be!



Children at Round Valley School participate with Susan Flaherty in an ICSOS garden project presentation.

INQUIRY AND EXPLORATION: PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAY FOR INYO TEACHERS



KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

4 Cs THROWDOWN

Presented by Jon Corippo

Jon Corippo, longtime educator and developer of CUE Rock Star Camps, will model the use of dynamic and engaging technology as he challenges his audience to evaluate a series of technology-integrated lessons against the “4 Cs”: creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and communication. He will inspire you with examples of how, with good lesson design, technology can enhance and energize your classroom.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

INVITE INQUIRY INTO YOUR SCIENCE CLASSROOM WITH THE NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS

Presented by Maria Simani, EdD

Dr. Simani will help participants understand the key shifts in the new science standards and what the shifts look like in the classroom. Participants will learn about the three dimensions described in the NGSS, including the new science and engineering practices; and learn practical strategies for applying some of the practices to help students move from observation to constructing explanations and conceptual understanding.

INCREASE ENGAGEMENT, RIGOR, AND ACHIEVEMENT WITH THE STANDARDS FOR MATHEMATICAL PRACTICE

Presented by Dolores Jones

This session will address the deeper conceptual understanding necessary for students to succeed in math. Participants will explore The Standards for the Mathematical Practices, research-based instructional strategies, analyzing student errors, multiple strategies for solving problems and the use of assessment items in everyday classroom instruction.

MAXIMIZE YOUR CLASSROOM ACADEMICS WITH SMART START (A.M. ONLY)

(Hands-on technology workshop)

Presented by Jon Corippo

Learn how to galvanize your students and prepare them to work in 1:1 classrooms by focusing on collaboration skills, culture building and creativity in a way that sets the stage for academics for the rest of the year. Join Jon to gather free resources, great ideas and hands-on activities as you experience the first day of school (any time of year!) in a different way.

STOP NOTE-TAKING. USE DEVICES FOR LEARNING THE IRON-CHEF WAY! (3RD-12TH, P.M. ONLY)

(Hands-on technology workshop)

Presenter: Jon Corippo

Jon will share a time-tested and best-practice method of eliminating note-based lecture in your classroom. For most any age, and every subject. It's less work, more fun and a much richer classroom experience for your students.

WRITING IS THE NEW BLACK

Presented by Ruth Culham, EdD

In the first part of this workshop, participants will examine the 4Ws of writing instruction: writing process, writing traits, writing modes, and writing workshop. Ms. Culham will discuss how to blend the strengths of each instructional approach into one, cohesive plan that really works for every teacher at every grade. Then she'll demonstrate how to use mentor texts for teaching writing – a strategy that works and just makes sense. Participants will explore books that can be used to teach each of the traits of writing in very specific, focused instructional lessons and activities.

USE THE NEW ELD STANDARDS TO PROMOTE STUDENTS' SUCCESS

*Presented by Kristal Cullivan, M.A. Ed.,
and Carla de la Torre, Ed.D.*

Dig into the 2012 ELD standards and learn how to use them to help your English Language Learners build fluency in English and better access the core curriculum. Using strategies that work for all academic language learners such as The Power of Three and Say-Mean-Matter, participants will learn about the purpose, structure, and components of the new standards. Explore how the ELD standards build toward ELA standards, and how to select and incorporate ELD standards to strengthen both designated and integrated ELD instruction.

INQUIRY AND EXPLORATION: PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAY FOR INYO TEACHERS

PRESENTERS

Jon Corippo

Jon Corippo is the California Computer-Using Educators (CUE) Director of Academic Innovation and leader of the CUE Rock Star Teacher Camp series. After 16 years as a K-8 teacher, Jon served as a County Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction and principal of a 1:1 high school he help create.

Kristal Cullivan, M.A. Ed

Kristal Cullivan, M.A. Ed., teaches Long Term English Learners at Citrus Hill High School in Val Verde Unified Unified School District in Perris, CA. A secondary teachers for 9 years, she completed a case study on academic language acquisition of LTEL students as a requirement for her Master's Degree program. In addition to teaching, Kristal serves as her site's ELAC Coordinator, Bilingual Facilitator, and PBIS team leader. Working with English Language Learners and Tier III intervention students is her passion, and she enjoys helping other educators learn how to give them more access to core curriculum and improve instruction in the four domains of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Dolores Jones

Dolores Jones has been a mathematics educator for over 30 years. After teaching math for 15 years in Los Angeles and Fontana, she served as a Regional Director for WestEd Regional Lab, Mathematics Coordinator for San Bernardino Superintendent of Schools, and Co-Director for The Inland Area Math Project.

Ruth Culham, EdD

Ruth Culham, Ed.D., is the author of over 40 books and best-selling resources about writing and the reading-writing connection. Her groundbreaking work with the writing traits is the culmination of 40 years of research, practice, and passion. Ruth conducts professional development for schools and districts, and is a contributor to the professional journal Reading Teacher.

Carla de la Torre, Ed.D

Carla de la Torre, Ed.D., is the Coordinator of English Learner Support Services in the Val Verde Unified School District in Perris, CA. Prior to that, Carla was a classroom teacher for 8 years. In her current role, Carla leads professional learning and the implementation of the 2012 English Language Development (ELD) Standards and the English Language Arts (ELA)/English Language Development (ELD) Framework for her district. Her work is driven by the passion to serve underrepresented students within English Learner Programs and students within Special Education.

Maria Simani, EdD

Maria Simani, Ed.D., is the executive director of the California Science Project. She has been closely involved with both the review and adoption of the NGSS and with the development of the new Science Framework.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

7:45am	REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST	11:45am	LUNCH
8:15am	MORNING SESSIONS	12:30pm	AFTERNOON SESSIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •NGSS (K-5) •New ELD Standards (K-12) •Smart Start (K-12) •Standards for Mathematical Practice (6-12) •Writing is the New Black (6-12) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGSS (6-12) • New ELD Standards (K-12) • Iron Chef (3-12) • Standards for Mathematical Practice (K-5) • Writing is the New Black (K-5)
11:00am	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION		

Read With Me

ICSOS and Altrusa of the Eastern Sierra are proud to announce the expansion of Read With Me, a literacy program for select students in first - third grades. Read With Me is designed to: share the joy of reading; foster lifelong readers; support literacy development; and expand students' home library.

Readers will read aloud one-

on-one with teacher-selected students. Reading sessions will be much like reading a bedtime story to a child: relaxed, informal and fun. It is our hope that volunteers will read with his/her student twice per week in half-hour sessions from mid-October through April. Participating students will have the opportunity twice per month to choose a



book to take home in order to build his or her home library. Selected students will attend

Read With Me as volunteers become available. Thus far, over 30 people have expressed interest in promoting literacy in our community by volunteering for the program.

For more information, please contact Ilissa Twomey (ICSOS) at 760-873-3262 ext. 429 or Sarah Sheehan (Altrusa) at 760-920-8762.

Middle School Writing Contest

The fifth annual writing contest for middle school students is underway! Prompted by the shift to CCSS, last year ICSOS revamped the writing contest to mirror an SBAC ELA performance task. Students participate in several pre-writing activities –

brainstorming, listening to a video interview, doing a short reading and internet research – before drafting a news article on the topic. This year's prompt requires that students imagine that they need to attract potential employees to Inyo County and are asked to write about the community in

which they live. The video interview features Tawni Thomson, Executive Director of the Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce. Of the writing contest Thomson said; "I am happy that ICSOS is promoting a program to help students think and learn a little bit more about the

business economy here – it's important to all of us." The writer of the top ten articles will receive Spellbinder gift cards and will be published in the Sierra Reader in mid-November.

For further information, please call Ilissa Twomey (ICSOS) at 873-3262 x429 or check out the writing contest website: <http://www.myhaikuclass.com/itwomey/writingcontest>

Power Up! Tech Tips and Tricks

Power Up! Tech Tips and Tricks is the first in a new, monthly series of articles highlighting apps and tips for teachers to try. If you'd like to share something that's working in your classroom, please email your suggestions to llynness@icsos.us.

To get Chrome extensions and apps, go to the [Chrome Web Store](#) or click the links below.

Tools that support active reading:

Clearly Chrome Extension: When students click the Clearly icon, they immediately see only the text they want to read without distracting ads, images, and extraneous text.

Diigo Chrome Extension: This is a powerful tool for annotating and saving web pages. Students can highlight text and add comments with a sticky-note feature. Diigo bookmarks save both the URL of the website and the highlights and comments

students have made, which can then be shared if they wish. Students can search their bookmarked files within Diigo. Great for research and collaboration!

Kami Chrome Extension (formerly Notable pdf): Want students to annotate pdf files digitally? This is your tool. Kami lets you: view pdf files in a Chrome window; highlight, add, and underline text; share pdf files with others; add comments; reply to other peoples' comments.

Actively Learn: Actively Learn is an outstanding web-based tool that enables teachers to enhance reading in any content area by

adding comments, questions, assessments and other items into online texts. Teachers create assignments using one of the many texts available through the site, or can upload their own materials. Students can annotate the text, answer the questions presented to them, collaborate with peers, and get real time feedback. Actively Learn is free to use, but additional features can be purchased. If enough people are interested, we can do a webinar which comes with free trials of "pro" features for participants. Let Lo know if you'd like to attend a webinar.

Chrome Speak It!: Students

can highlight digital text, right-click and choose, "SpeakIt!" to hear text read to them.

Tools for math teachers

Geogebra: This is interactive math software that brings together geometry, algebra, graphing, calculus -- a fun way to see and experience math and science concepts.

Desmos Graphing Calculator: Students can plot functions, create tables, add sliders, and animate graphs. Highly rated.

Buzz Math Middle School: Students practice middle school math skills. Good for extra practice, differentiation, remediation.

5 Ways Students Can Use Google Docs in Math

Good Article by Alice Keeler