



INYO COUNTY
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The Inyo Insight

An Education Newsletter from the Inyo County Superintendent of Schools
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EXCELLENCE THROUGH EQUITY COUNTYWIDE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

On March 6th ICSOS will offer an informative morning of professional learning on the theme of promoting equity in our classrooms and schools. The morning will consist of two workshops, one on the topic of improving school climate, and the other offering an introduction to Restorative Practices, which are positive strategies for responding to conflict.

The day will begin in the Home Economics building at the Tri-County Fairgrounds in Bishop with continental breakfast and registration from 7:45 to 8:15. The conference kicks off at 8:15. The second workshop will end at 12:15, followed by a delicious catered lunch. Each school site will continue with site-specific professional development at 1:00 p.m.

Please register online as soon as possible using the weblink below.

<http://inyo.k12oms.org/1781-127572>

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: February 20th

New CA Science Test: What You Should Know

This spring California's new science assessment will make its debut. The California Science Test (CAST) will be administered as a pilot to *all* students in grades 5, 8 and selected grade levels at each high school. (For a list of which grade levels will be assessed at Inyo County's high schools [click here](#).) The CAST, based on the California Next Generation Science Standards adopted in 2013, will use the current California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) test delivery system online. Students will not receive scores for the pilot test; however, student participation data will be collected and reported for accountability. Each grade level pilot will have 10-15 discrete items and a performance task and will take about an hour including a brief student survey at the end of the test. While accessibility supports for students with IEPs or 504 plans will be limited for the pilot, they will be in place for the operational test in Spring 2019. All students will be allowed to use a grade-level-specific version of the periodic table and/or a formula reference sheet. Online training tests will be available this month to allow teachers, parents and students the opportunity to try a small number of sample tasks and questions in preparation for the statewide pilot test. For the most up-to-date information and to view the periodic table and formula reference sheet for student use during the test, visit the [CAASPP website](#).

Spelling Bee Results

Twenty students from local elementary and middle schools participated in the 2016-17 countywide Spelling Bee at Jill Kinmont Boothe School. The winners were:

- 1st—Rose Bracken, HSMS
- 2nd—Mahdi Ayman, HSMS
- 3rd—Jodie Bedore, RV

After much fierce competition with words like contumelious, cirriped and firkin, the winning

word was: blitzkrieg.

Thank you coaches for working with students to prepare for the bee, and the local Altrusa Chapter for sponsoring the competition.

Representing Inyo County at the Elementary State Bee in May will be Jodie Bedore and Rose Bracken. Mahdi Ayman and AJ

Wilder will represent Inyo county at the Junior High State Bee in May. Congratulations to all the student participants!



Family Science Nights

Students are invited to explore adaptations to extreme environments in the Eastern Sierra through interactive science activities. Kids and their families will figure out why jackrabbits have big ears, get to try mountain driving, explore how clouds are formed, and uncover archaeological artifacts! There are activities for all ages from painting native fish to exploring the chemistry of Mono Lake. All of the Family Science Nights are free and are held from 5:30-7:30pm in the school gym. Siblings are welcome and all students must be accompanied by an adult. For more information or to volunteer at the event, contact your school office!



- Feb 9th- Round Valley
- Feb 15th- Big Pine
- Feb 22nd- Owens Valley
- Feb 23rd- Bishop
- Feb 27th- Lone Pine

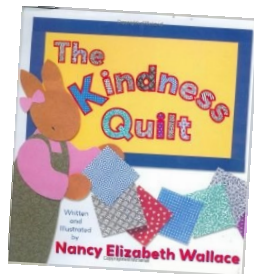
MOOC Notice

Congratulations are in order for six Inyo County teachers for completing Stanford University's Understanding Language online course entitled Constructive Classroom Conversations: Analyzing Student Language through Formative Assessment. Thank you to **Amy Dutton, Kim Kost, Margo Johnson, Mame McGovern, Kathy McLaren and Greta Thompson** for your commitment to improving your practice.

The next course offered by the Understanding Language group is Learning as Evidence: Improving Argumentation through Formative Assessment Practice beginning February 28th. Please see the [website](#) for more details.

A message from Dr. Fontana

February is a wonderful month to focus on kindness, friendship and respect. I'm sure you know by now about the Inyo County One Million Acts of Kindness Campaign we launched to highlight the wonderful acts of kindness we experience around the county every day and I've seen some teachers



using our website (inyokindness.us) to help their students focus on kindness in their schools. I would also like to share some wonderful books on the topic of kindness: The Kindness Quilt by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace is a wonderful picture book for the younger elementary ages

and Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson is a pretty powerful book for upper elementary. Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed by Emily Pearson illustrates how kind deeds can ripple out to affect many others. I hope you'll all join me in logging onto inyokindness.us every time you experience kindness. The counter is showing that kindness is growing!

Art Contest for Students

US Fish & Wildlife Service is looking for [artwork](#) from students (grades k-12)! For direct links to the contest information, please visit the websites below:

[Photography contest](#)—Deadline February 13th

[Art Contest](#)—Deadline March 1

Speech Contest Results

The 65th Annual Inyo County Speech contest was held on 12/14/16. Students from Round Valley, Seventh Day Adventist, Home Street Middle, Owen's Valley, Lo Inyo, and Big Pine all participated. The topic was: *What problem do you most desire to fix in our world? How can you use lessons and examples from a "hero of change" to guide you in solving this problem?* ("hero of change" is a topic students wrote about during

the ICSOS Writing Contest). We had a full house, and enjoyed listening to inspiring, wonderful speeches from some creative middle-schoolers who are striving to make our world a better place. ICSOS would like to thank the students, coaches, teachers, parents, and administrators for their hard work making the event a success. In addition we'd like to thank Jake Rasmuson of Coldwell Banker for sponsoring the event.



1st—Samantha Burns, SDA (Topic—Water Conservation)
2nd—Isabel Rodriguez, SDA (Topic—Divorce)
3rd—Jacob Gilbert, RV (Topic—Habitat Loss)
Runner up—Brooke Winzenread, HSMS (Topic—Saving Dolphins)

CA High School Proficiency Exam

Starting in March, Jill Kinmont Boothe School in Bishop will be an official test location for the California High School Proficiency Exam.

The California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE) is a testing program established by California law. If eligible to take the test, a student can earn the legal equivalent of a high school diploma by passing the CHSPE. The CHSPE consists of two sections: English-language Arts and Mathematics. If students pass

both sections of the CHSPE, the California State Board of Education will award them a Certificate of Proficiency.

A student may take the CHSPE only if on the test date he/she:

- Is at least 16 years old,
- or has been enrolled in the tenth grade for one academic year or longer,
- or will complete one academic year of enrollment in the tenth grade at the end of the semester during which the next regular administration will be

conducted.

Registration for the March 18, 2017 administration of the CHSPE is open now through February 17. Registration materials including the Registration Form, proof of eligibility, and appropriate payment, must be received in the CHSPE Office by 5 p.m. on that date to avoid late registration fees. Log on to <http://www.chspe.net/> to find out more or to register.

Other testing dates are June 2017 and October 2017.



This year readers can choose from a variety of books for all ages around the theme of birds and birdwatching. [Click here](#) for a list of community reads books inspired by Dr. Fontana's kindness initiative.

Kick Off Event Information!

Wed. March 1—5:30-7:30PM, ICA

Meet Dr. Lisa Fontana and learn about the books! There will be kids activities, gallery opening and book giveaways.

Stay tuned for more details on upcoming dates and activities!

Save the Date!

POETRY OUT LOUD

FEB 9, 2017—6:30PM

11th & 12th Grades

Inyo Council for the Arts

HISTORY DAY

MARCH 13, 2017— 5PM

4th— 12th Grades

Jill Kinmont Boothe School

COLLEGE & CAREER DAY

MAY 19, 2017

5th Grade

Cerro Coso College, Bishop

For more details on upcoming events, contact Tiffany at:

trandall@icsos.us

**Fun
Community
Event!**

Webinar

Announcement

Making Claims and Evidence Building Using the Library of Congress, Primary Sources

February 15, 2017

3:30–4:45 p.m. PST

This webinar engages participants in an exploration of how to build capacity in students to make claims and use evidence with Library of Congress teacher resources, including primary sources and analysis tools. To register, please [go to this link](#).