

Presidents' Day



I had the pleasure of meeting with three individuals this past Friday as we make preparations for the career guidance and IOT strands of PTE Summer Conference: Merry Olson, Career and Technical Educators President and Idaho Career Guidance Association President (and Career Readiness Facilitator at CSI); Marshall Bautista, Jr., Individualized Occupational Training Association President (and Vocational Instructor/Computer Contact at Idaho Correction Center—Robert Janss School); and Cheryl Dietchler, CTEI Past-President (and Individualized Occupation Training instructor at Meridian Technical Charter High School).

Each of these three individuals reaffirm for me why I love what I do to support you, as you so often return that support to me by keeping me abreast of your current learning! My best work days are spent being with you in the field.

Let me share a couple of resources that were shared with us by Merry Olson in the course of our meeting:

1. Check out www.ResumeCompanion.com! The site boasts a resume builder where for a \$4.95 fee they will give you professional advice and ensure a professional format ready for printout. You'll want to take note of this part...They also have a companion organization, Resumes for America, that is a non-profit and will allow educational and veteran use of the site for free with the proper e-mail extension. The sponsoring organization (say, the College of Southern Idaho, for example) registers and is then provided a branded link to host on their website. Students with the .edu extension on their e-mail address may author their resume and print it free of charge!
2. Check out www.PDA.net! Apparently for a one-time, lifetime cost of \$20, registration allows those with iPhones to host as a hotspot for other electronics (i.e.: iPads, laptops, etc.) to connect to the Internet nationwide. While I haven't added this to my iPhone as yet, Mary has used it for a while and now relies on it as her home Internet connection because it serves her needs—apparently not speedy but reliable!
3. and last, but not least... Check out The Essential Work Skills Workbook for Jobs, Community and Home. It is full of self-assessments, exercises, and educational handouts for work with high school students (works for postsecondary students, too!) — and you are able to reproduce them all without copyright infringement as long as you own a copy. I won't cite a cost here, for as I Google the title, the cost varies greatly. Keep in mind that it's a one-time expense!

- Kristi Enger

Career Connection

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LINKS

Idaho PTE

- [Career Guidance](#)
- [Career Connection Newsletters](#)
- [Career Cluster](#)
- [Career Guidance Blueprint](#)

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REGISTER NOW FOR TITLE I CONFERENCE

From the State Department of Education E-Newsletter, February 15, 2013

The biennial Title I Conference, *Making It Happen: Whatever it Takes*, will be held April 8 - 10, 2013 at the Boise Centre. Register now! This year will feature two outstanding keynote speakers and a series of breakout sessions touching on critical issues for our schools today.

Clifton Taulbert and Manuel Scott are the featured keynote speakers. Taulbert is known for his ability to connect with diverse individuals on the topic of The Power of Community. He has served as a guest professor at Harvard University and the United States Air Force Academy, and has lectured at a NATO gathering in Brussels, Belgium. He is a Pulitzer-nominated author and was a major contributor to the Brussels' published *Human Resource Development and Information Technology* and had a featured article in the Summer 2008 edition of *Leader to Leader*, formerly published by the Peter Drucker Institute and is a content professor for PDI-NinthHouse, with the likes of Ken Blanchard, Steven Covey, and Peter Senge.

Manuel Scott was an original "Freedom Writer" whose story is told in the Hollywood movie, *Freedom Writers*. Scott has devoted his life to equipping others with proven tools to succeed. A dynamic

speaker and facilitator whose experiences have helped him inspire people of all ages and life stages, Scott travels around the world empowering leaders, servants, educators, and youth through powerful programs and presentations taken from his own life experiences. At the age of fourteen, Scott dropped out of school and began to fulfill his teacher's awful prediction that he would either be dead or in jail by the age of eighteen. However, due to an amazing transformation, he has defied all of the odds stacked against him. The one-time high school dropout now holds degrees from the University of California at Berkeley and Trinity International University.

You also will be able to participate in informative and dynamic workshops during the conference. You can learn about Schoolnet, performance evaluations, strategies for implementing Common Core State Standards, best practices for preventing Hispanic students from dropping out, and much more.

Please plan to bring a team to this informative event. Go [ONLINE](#) to register or to learn more about the Title I Conference. If you have any questions, please contact [Mary Lou Wells](#) (208.332-6958).

NOMINATE A GREAT EDUCATOR FOR LEP EDUCATOR AWARDS

From the State Department of Education E-Newsletter, February 15, 2013

The Idaho State Department of Education is pleased to announce a call for nominations for the 5th Annual Idaho Limited English Proficient (LEP) Educator awards. Awards are given out to an Administrator, a Teacher, and a Paraprofessional.

Please send in nominations for educators who "go above and beyond" to serve the needs of LEP students.

Complete applications are due Friday, **March 8, 2013**. Contact [Christina Nava](#), Title III & State LEP Coordinator (208.332-6905) for more information and an application.

WELCOMING SCHOOLS

From the State Department of Education E-Newsletter, February 8, 2013

The State Department of Education is offering a training on Welcoming Schools. The training is a comprehensive approach offering a tool kit to create welcoming schools that address family diversity, avoiding and eliminating gender role stereotyping, and ending bullying. The one-day training is designed to meet the needs of pre-school and elementary level educators, school staff, and child serving agencies. It is strongly suggested that schools bring teams to these sessions if possible.

The Welcoming Schools lesson plans have been aligned with Common Core Standards. The training will be offered February 25, 2013 in Lewiston. Substitute Reimbursement will be provided. Visit www.welcomingschools.org/idaho to register. If you have questions, contact [Lisa Kramer](#), HIV/Health Education Coordinator (208.332-6947).

ANNOUNCING PROJECT 24 WEBINAR SERIES

From the State Department of Education E-Newsletter, February 8, 2013

On Digital Learning Day, February 6, the Alliance for Excellent Education announced “Project 24,” a ground-breaking new initiative to help school districts plan for and effectively use technology and digital learning to achieve the goal of “career and college readiness” for all students. Project 24 is a one-stop shop of comprehensive district-level planning tools, expert advice, creative ideas, and tangible suggestions from experienced education experts and nonprofit education membership organizations.

Participation is free. School district leaders can sign up and learn more [ONLINE](#).

- February 28, 2013 from 2 to 3 p.m. ET: Planning for Progress in Digital Learning: Introduction to Technology and Infrastructure. Register and submit questions for the webinar online [HERE](#).

REGISTER FOR SAT TEST-PREP SESSION AT ISU IN MARCH

From the State Department of Education E-Newsletter, February 15, 2013

Idaho State University will be hosting a “Bengal Visit Day” in Pocatello on Saturday, March 9, 2013 for prospective students and their parents/guardians.

The day will include a 75-minute SAT Test-Prep session. The state currently pays for all high school juniors to take the SAT on Idaho SAT School Day.

– [REGISTER ONLINE](#) –

IMPLICATIONS FOR INSTRUCTION WEBINARS NOW ARCHIVED

From the State Department of Education E-Newsletter, February 15, 2013

The Idaho State Department of Education held a two-part webinar, “Implications for Instruction: Connecting the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics and the Smarter Balanced Assessment.” If you missed it, these are now archived [ONLINE](#). The Smarter Balanced Consortium’s Theory of Action calls for full integration of the learning and assessment systems, leading to more informed decision making and higher quality instruction, and ultimately to increase the number of students who are well prepared for post-secondary education opportunities and the workforce. The Implications for Instruction Webinar looks closely at the standards as defined by the Smarter Balanced, Math Content Specifications and examines the implications for classroom instruction.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

From the State Department of Education E-Newsletters, February 8 and February 15, 2013

Here is an update on education-related bills in the Idaho Legislature this session. All of these bills can be accessed [ONLINE](#) for more information.

- **HCR003- Cursive Writing-** *Adopted by full House of Representatives and now proceeds to the Senate Education Committee.* This resolution requests the State Board of Education promulgate administrative rule to provide that cursive handwriting be taught in elementary schools.
 - **H65- FY2013 Public Schools Budget-** *Passed House Education Committee and sent to full House.* This legislation addresses the more than \$30 million appropriation problem that was created after the November 2012 referendum repeal of the Students Come First laws. It makes temporary changes to allow the state to distribute the funding for advanced classroom technology, professional development, dual credit, and math and science teachers. Under this legislation, public schools would receive all expected funds, based on the original FY2013 appropriation.
 - **H163- Contract Return Date-** *Printed and referred to House Education Committee.* This legislation outlines the timeline for the return of teacher contracts and allows the contracts to be delivered electronically. *This bill replaced H68.*
 - **H164- Negotiations in Open Session-** *Printed and referred to House Education Committee.* This legislation would require all negotiations be held in open, public meeting. It also allows a board of trustees to impose a last best offer if the two negotiating parties cannot reach an agreement. *This bill replaces H67.*
 - **H165- Reduction in Force-** *Printed and referred to House Education Committee.* This legislation outlines the factors used in reduction in force, including individual performance, certification and endorsements, student and school needs, course offerings and shifting student populations. When all these factors are equal between two employees, the board of trustees may consider seniority in its decision. *This bill replaces H69.*
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- **S1005- Prohibition of Online Course Graduation Requirement-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would prohibit the State Board of Education or State Department of Education from promulgating rules to require an online course graduation requirement.
 - **S1028- Mastery Advancement Program-** *Passed by full Senate and now proceeds to the House Education Committee.* This legislation ends the pilot phase of the Master Advancement Program.
 - **S1037 Limiting Teacher Contracts to One Year:** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would limit contracts to one year.
 - **S1038- Denovo-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would limit the appeal of a board of trustees decision to district court to affirming or setting it aside and remanding the matter to the board of trustees.
 - **S1054- "Atlas Shrugged" Graduation Requirement-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would require students to read and pass an examination on the book "Atlas Shrugged." *Sen. Goedde said this bill will not be given a hearing.*
 - **S1055- Budgets and Master Agreements Online-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation reinstates the requirement for school budgets and master labor agreements to be posted on a district's website.
 - **S1056- Minor Felons in Public Schools-** *This legislation was pulled by the sponsor.* This legislation would deny enrollment to any pupil found guilty of a crime of violence or who was imprisoned for more than one year.
 - **S1057- Kindergarten Teacher Visits-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would facilitate kindergarten teachers visiting with parents to help strengthen the working relationship between the teacher, the parents or guardians, and the student.
 - **S1085- School Counselors-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would require one school counselor per three hundred twenty-five students.
 - **S1086- Class Size-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would establish a maximum number of students assigned to each teacher, with these limits being eighteen students per class for grades K through 3, twenty-two students per class for grades 4 through 8, and twenty-five for grades 9 through 12.
 - **S1087- Driver's Licenses and Academic Progress-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would require driver's license applicants under the age of 18 to provide proof that they are making satisfactory academic progress.

- **S1088- Consolidation-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation provides for a protocol to identify districts that would see financial savings by consolidating services, as well as providing for incentives to encourage consolidation.
- **S1089- Early Retirement Incentive Program-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation repeals the Early Retirement Incentive Program for teachers.
- **S1090- Financial Emergencies and Reduction in Force-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would lower the requirement for a local school district to declare a financial emergency and requires that Reduction in Force (RIF) decisions not be made solely on seniority or contract status. The legislation also requires school districts to adopt policies establishing the methods to recall individuals who have been part of a RIF.
- **S1091- IDLA/Online Course Portal/Dual Credit for Early Completers/8-in-6-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation creates a stable, long-term funding formula for the Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA), establishes a portal for online classes, reestablishes the dual credit for early completers program and makes technical changes to the 8-in-6 legislation.
- **S1092- Additional Funding for Math and Science-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation reinstates the funding for the state's increased high school graduation requirements for math and science courses.
- **S1093- Transportation-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation codifies the Legislature's approach to budgeting for public school pupil transportation costs and discretionary funds, which has been in place for FY2011, FY2012, and FY2013.
- **S1094- Limiting Teacher Contracts to One Year-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would limit contracts in regard to salaries, benefits, and cost to the school district's budget to one year. *This bill replaces S1037.*
- **S1095- Majority Representation in Negotiations-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would require local education organizations to provide proof of 50% plus one employee representation each year in order to negotiate. *This bill replaces S1039.*
- **S1096- Reduction of Salary-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation would allow a board of trustees to change the length of term in a contract or reduce the salary of a certificated person whose contract would otherwise be automatically renewed. *This bill replaces S1040.*
- **S1097- Out-of-State Students in Residential Facilities-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation will prevent Idaho school districts from having to use Idaho taxpayer funds to educate out-of-state students who are placed in Idaho group homes.
- **S1098- Open Negotiations-** *Printed and referred to Senate Education Committee.* This legislation provides for a negotiations process that is open to the public.

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