



# High Plains REC #3

Regional Education Cooperative for Colfax, Harding, & Union Counties

## What Is HPREC All About?

Located in Northeastern New Mexico, High Plains Regional Education Cooperative (HPREC) is one of nine regional education cooperatives in New Mexico. Our mission is to provide quality support and services to eight local school districts (i.e., Cimarron, Clayton, Des Moines, Maxwell, Mosquero, Raton, Roy, and Springer) and their affiliated charter and private schools. By providing administrative support, technical assistance, and professional development opportunities, HPREC assists these school districts in the improvement of educational practices, programs, and policies that ensure academic, social, and behavioral success for all students.



HPREC is committed to providing quality services that improve student outcomes through:

1. Quality **Professional Development** activities including:
  - Classroom mentoring and coaching on effective teaching practices, inclusion, behavioral management, and more,
  - Region-wide workshops of effective teaching practices,
  - Saturday Series ~ Providing monthly quality, exciting, & effective educational workshops for teachers, administrators, parents, & other school personnel,
  - Summer Series ~ Providing intense, quality, effective educational workshops for teachers, administrators, & other school personnel during the summer months,
  - Workshops, trainings, and consultation on *Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS)*, and
  - Annual "Best Practices in Reading" Conferences (Reading Academy and Reading Summit).
2. Dedicated and skilled **Ancillary Staff** (i.e., social workers, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, diagnostician, occupational therapists, certified occupational therapist assistants, transition counselor, school psychologist, and audiologist).
3. A specialized **Audiology Center** providing evaluation, consultation, and support for individuals with hearing difficulties. Open to local schools, as well as the public.
4. Technology Assistance.
5. Assistance and coordination of application and management of **Federal Programs** such as: IDEA-B, Medicaid in the Schools, and Consolidated Title programs (II, IV, and V).
6. **Child Find** Activities
7. Special **Projects**:
  - Positive Behavior Support
  - Transition to Teaching (Para-educator and substitute teachers training project)
  - HPREC Reading Project
  - DIBELS Summit (national conference)
  - HPREC Transition Project
  - And much more...

### High Plains Regional Education Cooperative

R. Stephen Aguirre, Executive Director  
Dana Stoltz Gray, Director of Programs

144 South First Street  
Raton, NM 87740

Phone: 505-445-7090

Fax: 505-445-7663

Visit : [www.hprec.com](http://www.hprec.com)

# Meet The High Plains REC Staff



**Executive Director~**  
R. Stephen Aguirre  
hprec3raton@bacavalley.com



**Administrative Assistant~**  
Christine Montoya  
hprecchristine@bacavalley.com

**Director of Programs~**  
Dana Stoltz Gray, Ph.D.  
hprecdana@bacavalley.com



## Ancillary Services Staff~

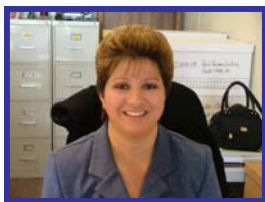
In addition to our office staff, HPREC has 20 related services personnel that work across the eight schools districts that HPREC serves. HPREC is fortunate to have such a qualified team!

Virginia Allen	Social Worker
Bob Anglin	Literacy Consultant
Petra Armijo-Bertola	Social Worker & Behavior Specialist
Richard Azar	Computer Tech
Kris Bohn	Speech Therapist
Jeff Bright	Social Worker
Treva Carmichael	Diagnostician
Daniel Cummings	Speech Therapist
Mike Cummings	School Psychologist
Nino Esquibel	Transition Counselor
Ernie Haecker	Audiologist
Keely Aragon-Horton	Speech Therapist
Martie Lockwood	Occupational Therapist
Kathy Pohl	COTA
Caryn Swagerty	COTA
Deborah Swagerty	COTA
Renie Tagliatela	Social Worker
Sally Van Lanen	Speech Therapist
Ann Walton	Speech Therapist
Vicky Wilson	Physical Therapist



**Program Coordinator~**  
Mary Lloyd  
hprecmmary@bacavalley.com

**Program Assistant~**  
Hollie Fish  
hprechollie@bacavalley.com



**Business Manager~**  
Mary Lisa Gonzales  
hprecbusmgr@bacavalley.com

**Human Resources/  
Payroll Manager~**  
Esther Torrez  
hprecesther@bacavalley.com



## Welcome...new region 3 Superintendents!

Mr. Bill Walz, Raton Schools  
Mr. Tim McCoy, Mosquero Schools





# APPLAUSE!

I want to extend special “Thanks” and a “Job Well Done” to my **cafeteria staff and custodial staff** for their efforts above and beyond during the recent cafeteria lock down. The fire marshal has finally reopened our facility so we are up and running again — up to speed.

Jack Wiley, Superintendent  
Clayton Municipal Schools

I want to applaud the administration, **faculty, and staff at Mosquero Municipal Schools** who work diligently everyday to help our students reach their highest potential. Also, we thank our new superintendent, **Mr. Tim McCoy and his wife, Susan**, for joining our community with a true interest in the lives of our children.

Carolyn Mayer  
Mosquero Municipal Schools

Raton Schools would like to congratulate **Ms. JoeLyn Pafford**, who has been named one of five finalists for the New Mexico Teacher of the Year. A banquet for the finalists will be held on October 20th at the Petroleum Club in Albuquerque, where the winner will be announced.

Bill Walz, Superintendent  
Raton Public Schools

The Des Moines School would like to thank each member of the School Board and numerous community members for the new playground. Because of their hard work and dedication the students are enjoying exercise and play on beautiful outdoor play equipment.

Andrea Good, Superintendent  
Des Moines Municipal Schools

Congratulations to **Ms. Virginia Allen**, Social Worker at the HPREC, on passing the Licensed Independent Social Worker (LISW) exam. Great job Virginia!  
Petra Armijo-Bertola  
HPREC Social Worker

A very special thank you to **Midge Graham** for her tireless hours providing 3-tier licensure training for regional administrators and teachers. Midge, you are not only leading the charge locally, but are having a significant impact statewide. Your knowledge, expertise, and commitment is appreciated by us all.

Dana Stoltz Gray, HPREC  
R. Stephen Aguirre, HPREC



A huge THANK YOU and applause to **Bob and Coleen Hildebrandt** and **Mr. and Mrs. Wiggins** of Fred's Lumber for all the volunteer hours and donations to the Maxwell BearFest. It was a great success, and wouldn't have been if not for your efforts. Also, a huge thank you to all other community members, staff, and students who worked to make the BearFest a wonderful and positive event for Maxwell.

Special thanks to **Lamar Robinson** for stepping in to volunteer his time and expertise to help Randy Casper with the gazebo.

Kaye Peery, Superintendent  
Maxwell Municipal Schools

The state ranking for over 800 New Mexico schools was released. The rankings for the **Cimarron Municipal Schools** were:

- Cimarron High School, met AYP, Exceeds Standards
- Moreno Valley High School, did not meet AYP, No Ranking
- Cimarron Middle School, met AYP, Meets Standards
- Eagle Nest Middle School, met AYP, Meets Standards
- Cimarron Elementary School, met AYP, Meets Standards
- Eagle Nest Elementary School, met AYP, Exemplary

The Cimarron Municipal Schools' (EPSS) focus area 3 is: Students will demonstrate Adequate Yearly Progress ... in mathematics and language arts. All the district schools, under the supervision of the Cimarron Board of Education, met their goal in the EPSS. Congratulations—teachers, students, and parents!

**Eagle Nest Middle School** was recognized for placing in the top ten scorers on the state criteria reference test among all middle schools in the state of New Mexico. Congratulations for a job well done. Eagle Nest School teachers will be recognized at the next School Board Meeting at the Eagle Nest School.

Annette Johnson, Superintendent  
Cimarron Municipal Schools



Eagle Nest Staff

# Upcoming Professional Development Activities

## Saturday Series: First Aid & CPR



This course will train individuals to overcome any reluctance to act in emergency situations and to recognize and care for life-threatening first aid, respiratory or cardiac emergencies in infants, children, and adults. Participants will practice on adult, child, and infant mannequins in the course. Participants will receive a First Aid Book and CPR card.

*Note: Please wear comfortable clothing.*

Presenter: Daniel Gurule  
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2004  
Location: Raton Alternative School  
Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Audience: All educators and staff employed by schools within REC #3

## TRACS: Teaching, Reinforcing, Assessing and Celebrating Success -



### HPREC Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Project

PBS is a system-level approach to preventing and responding to school and classroom discipline problems. PBS develops school-wide systems that support staff to teach and promote positive behavior in all students. By reducing behavioral problems, PBS creates and maintains safe learning environments where teachers can teach and students can learn.

#### **PBS Addresses:**

- High rates of problem behavior that interfere with learning
- Ineffective and inefficient disciplinary practices
- Lack of supports for staff to address problem behavior
- Lack of general and specialized behavior interventions
- Negative school climates
- Reliance on crisis/reactive management

Presenter: Jeff Sprague, Ph.D.  
Date: November...specific date to be announced  
Location: To be announced  
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Audience: School-based teams that are comprised of 3 - 5 members. An administrator **MUST** be a participant on the team.

Note: This will be the first of several PBS trainings. School-based teams **must be in attendance** if they would like to participate in the HPREC PBS project.

## Reading Summit III...Going the Distance, Reaching Your Goals



Don't miss out on the new and advanced **Reading Summit III**

Presenters: Dana Stoltz Gray, Ph.D. & Elisabeth Nixon  
Dates: November 16-17, 2004  
Location: The Inn at Sunrise Springs, Santa Fe  
Time: 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.  
Audience: All teachers and administrators (K-6)

Call HPREC for more information. Space limited to 50 participants!

# More Professional Development Activities

## Mentor Training



This training will help teachers satisfy the requirements for moving through the 3-Tier Licensure process. Information & forms will be provided which are required by the state to document the mentoring process. Gain skills to help you communicate better with all adults and students, even your spouse! You also will gain insights to strengthen your own teaching and add dimension to your classroom. Graduate credit is available for \$45 through Adams State University. Please call HPREC for more information.

Presenters: Carol Carpenter and Karen Dixon  
Dates: October 15-16, 2004  
Location: Raton High School Media Center  
Time: Friday—1:00-4:00 Saturday—8:00-4:00  
Audience: All teachers and administrators (K-12)

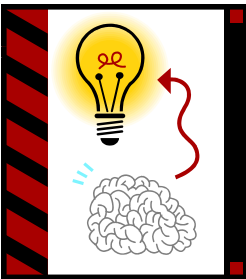
## Saturday Series: Teaching With Technology



Don't miss this hands-on, exciting workshop that will allow you to personally investigate the effectiveness of using technology as a critical **instructional tool**. Learn about how you can integrate the technology you currently have at your school for improved student learning. See new technology being used at area elementary schools. Participate in interactive lessons that stimulate both teachers & students and optimize student learning.

Presenter: Shari Zimmer, Cimarron Elementary School  
Date: January 15, 2005  
Location: Cimarron Elementary 4th Grade Classroom  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Audience: All teachers and administrators (K-6)

## Saturday Series: Brain Boogie



Think of your classrooms and your students...have you considered that every brain, due to its different dendrite connections, experiences, and memories, is as different as each individual's fingerprints? Every person we meet has different backgrounds, needs, abilities, and wants. As teachers, the thought of trying to reach each of these brains is overwhelming, but there is good news. There are similarities in how we learn best – brain compatible strategies that you can implement immediately in your classroom help your students grow new dendrite connections in their brains. This interactive hands-on workshop will begin to address the structure and function of the brain, the role of memory, and match instruction to how the brain learns best using the research of Dr.

Patricia Wolfe, Dr. Robert Sylwester, Eric Jensen and other leading researchers.

Presenter: Elisabeth Nixon-Peterson, Center for the Education & Study of Diverse Populations  
Date: January 29, 2005  
Location: Raton Alternative School  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Audience: All teachers and administrators (K-12)

~ To register for these workshop/trainings call **Hollie** at HPREC (445-7090) ~

Space Limited ~ Register Today!



# HPREC Calendar of Events

## September

9/01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Licensure Training @ Des Moines Schools &amp; Raton Schools</li> <li>• Transition To Teaching Conferences, Raton</li> <li>• Roy/Mosquero Visits—Steve Aguirre &amp; Dana Stoltz Gray</li> </ul>
9/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Springer Visit—Steve Aguirre &amp; Dana Stoltz Gray</li> </ul>
9/03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Licensure Training @Roy</li> <li>• Transition To Teaching Conferences, Mosquero</li> <li>• Positive Behavior Support Intro @ Roy</li> <li>• Raton Middle School &amp; Kearney Visits—Steve Aguirre &amp; Dana Stoltz Gray</li> </ul>
9/06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HPREC Closed</li> </ul>
9/07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transition To Teaching Conferences, Raton</li> <li>• Clayton &amp; Des Moines Visits—Steve Aguirre &amp; Dana Stoltz Gray</li> </ul>
9/08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Licensure Training @ Roy &amp; Springer Schools</li> <li>• Positive Behavior Support Intro @ Raton High School &amp; Longfellow Elementary</li> </ul>
9/09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Licensure Training @Clayton</li> <li>• Positive Behavior Support Intro @ Cimarron and Des Moines Schools</li> <li>• Raton High School Visit—Steve Aguirre &amp; Dana Stoltz Gray</li> </ul>
9/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Licensure Training @ Springer Schools</li> <li>• Transition To Teaching Conferences @ Springer Schools</li> <li>• Positive Behavior Support Intro @ Springer Schools</li> <li>• <i>Reading 1st DIBELS</i> Training @ Roswell</li> </ul>
9/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Licensure Training @ Roy</li> <li>• <i>Reading 1st DIBELS</i> Training @ Dulce</li> </ul>
9/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Licensure Training @ Des Moines</li> <li>• Transition To Teaching Conferences @ Des Moines</li> </ul>
9/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Licensure Training @ Mosquero</li> <li>• Positive Behavior Support Intro @ Kearney</li> </ul>
9/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Licensure Training @ Maxwell</li> <li>• Using DIBELS to Inform Instruction—Dana Stoltz Gray @ Fountain, CO</li> </ul>
9/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Licensure Training @ Roy/Mosquero</li> </ul>
9/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Training @Tucumcari</li> </ul>
9/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-Tier Training @ Cimarron</li> </ul>
9/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive Behavior Support Intro @ Eagle Nest Elementary</li> </ul>

# HPREC Calendar of Events



9/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transition To Teaching Meeting — Albuquerque</li> </ul>
9/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-Tier Licensure Training @Cimarron</li> </ul>
9/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-Tier Licensure Training @ Tucumcari</li> </ul>
<b>October</b>	
10/01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Reading 1st DIBELS @ Alamogordo</i></li> </ul>
10/05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cimarron and Maxwell Visits—Steve Aguirre &amp; Dana Stoltz Gray</li> </ul>
10/06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-Tier Training @ Clayton</li> <li>Transition To Teaching Conferences @ Clayton</li> <li>DIBELS Training @ Longfellow</li> </ul>
10/07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DIBELS Training @ Longfellow</li> <li>Technology Conference @ Las Cruces</li> </ul>
10/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-Tier Training @ Clayton</li> <li><b>HPREC Board Meeting 9:30 am @ Raton Administration Office</b></li> </ul>
10/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive Behavior Support @ Raton Middle School</li> </ul>
10/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-Tier Licensure Training @ Des Moines &amp; Cimarron</li> </ul>
10/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-Tier Licensure Training @ Roy, Mosquero, &amp; Raton</li> <li><i>Reading 1st DIBELS Statewide Training @ Santa Fe</i></li> </ul>
10/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CPR Training @ Raton Alternative School, 9-4</li> <li>3-Tier Licensure Training @ Cimarron</li> </ul>
10/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional School Board Meeting in Maxwell</li> </ul>
10/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-Tier Licensure Training @ Maxwell</li> </ul>
10/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-Tier Licensure Training @ Roy/Mosquero</li> </ul>
10/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Reading 1st DIBELS Statewide Training @ Albuquerque</i></li> </ul>
10/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-Tier Licensure Training @ Cimarron and Moreno Valley</li> </ul>
10/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-Tier Licensure Training @ Raton</li> </ul>
10/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-Tier Licensure Training @ Des Moines</li> </ul>



*"The principal goal of education is to create men who are capable of doing new things, not simply of repeating what other generations have done." ~ Jean Piage*

# Leaving “No Child Behind”...HPREC Reading Project is Making a Difference!



With a common and unwavering commitment to effective literacy reform...Clayton, Mosquero, Raton, and Roy school districts joined together to maximize funds, optimize programs, and develop an effective literacy model to ensure that all students are proficient readers by the end of third grade. Based on reading research and scientifically-based practices, the HPREC Reading Project was developed to provide essentially needed professional development, curricula, and support. During the 2002-03 school year, these schools participated in professional development activities such as the HPREC Reading Academy and began collecting assessment data using DIBELS. In 2003-04, the project was fully implemented and included the following essential components:

(a) Workshops and trainings on the 5 Big Ideas, literacy, effective strategies, and using DIBELS to guide instruction, as well as eight days of

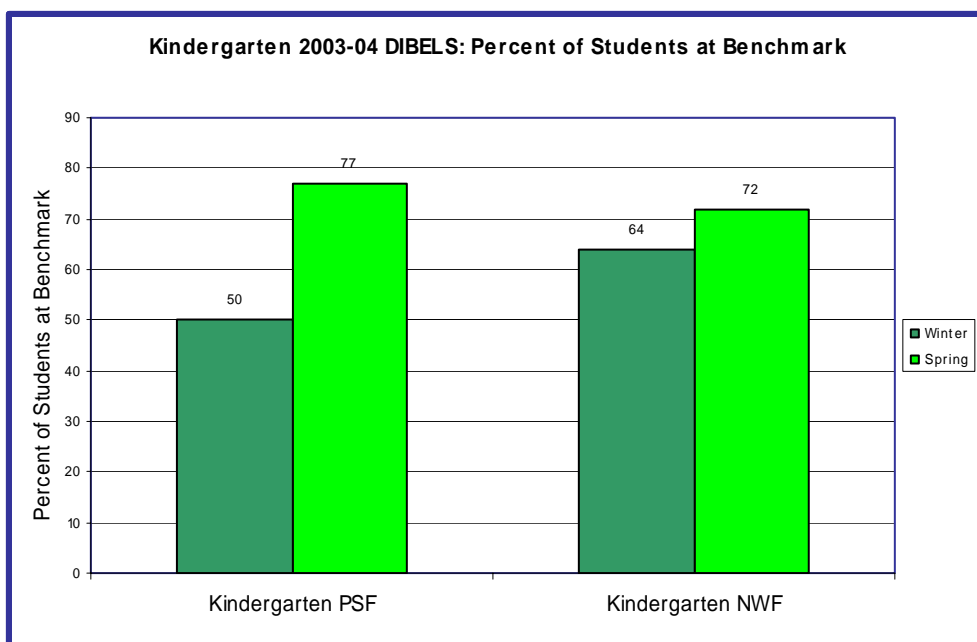
intensive training on Lindamood-Bell™ processes,

- (b) Reading Academy (Deb Simmons and Roland Good),
- (c) DIBELS Benchmark assessment and progress monitoring,
- (d) Research-based core curriculum (Harcourt Trophies),
- (e) Implementation of a three-tiered model,
- (f) Intensive reading clinics using Lindamood-Bell™ strategies,
- (g) Coaching and modeling in classrooms (at least monthly) by literacy consultants,
- (h) Administrator’s Academy,
- (i) Uninterrupted reading period (at least 90 minutes) each day, and
- (j) A commitment to provide only scientifically-based practices.

In August, at the New Mexico Reading First Institute, nationally recognized reading expert, Jo Robinson, recognized the quality of the HPREC Reading Project and referred to it as the “beacon of light” in New Mexico due to the comprehensive nature of the project and sound research-based components.

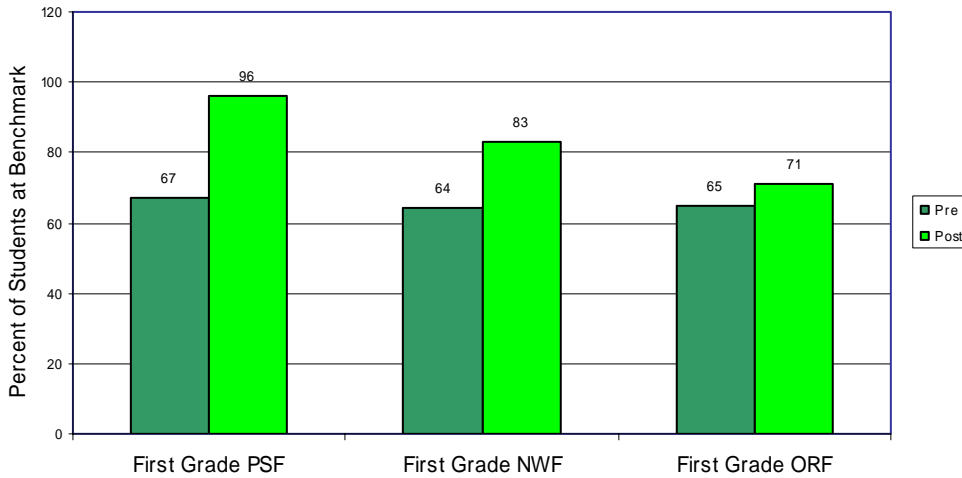
For the 2004-05 school year, Springer School District has joined the HPREC Reading Project. In addition, the HPREC Reading Project is fortunate to have **Bob Anglin**, Literacy Consultant, working across the five districts providing training, coaching, mentoring and modeling of effective reading instruction.

The DIBELS data provide clear documentation of the effectiveness of the project. The DIBELS data provided below are compiled from all participating districts.



The **kindergarten** DIBELS data (see Chart 1) indicates only 50 percent of students in the winter of 2004 met the established benchmark for phonemic awareness. However, due to effective programming, 77 percent reached the spring benchmark, as measured by Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (PSF). Likewise, 64 percent of kindergarten students met or exceeded the benchmark in winter for phonics skills (as measured by Nonsense Word Fluency - NWF). In spring, 72 percent of kindergarteners had met or exceeded the benchmark for phonics skills.

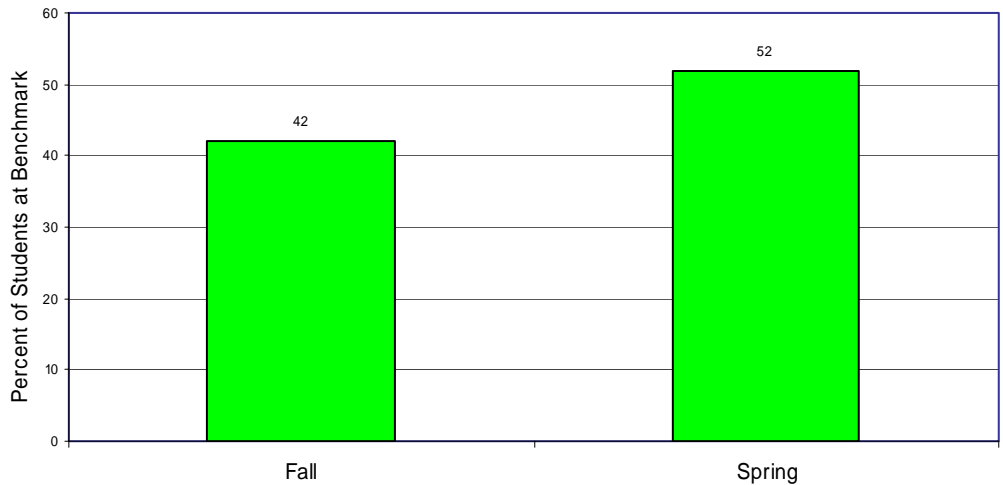
**First Grade 2003-04 DIBELS: Percent of Students at Benchmark**



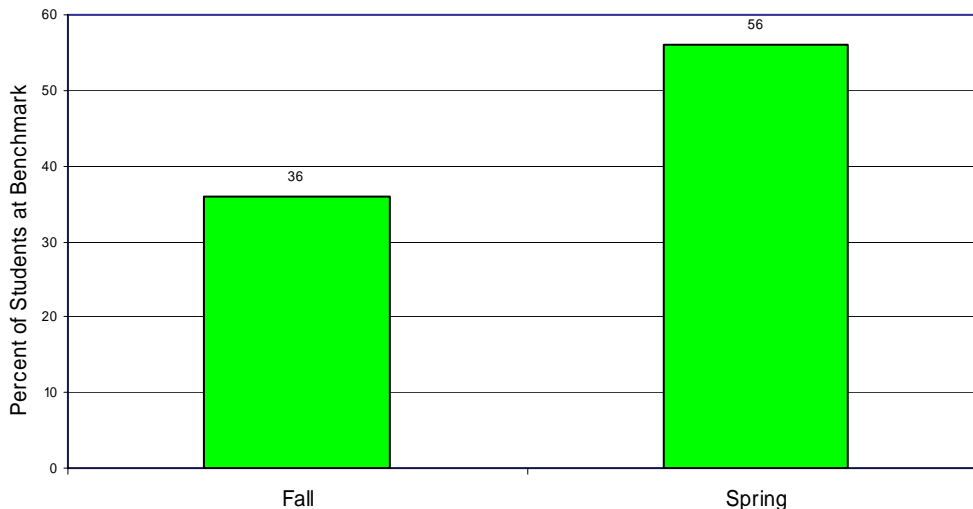
As depicted in Chart 2, the percent of students that were at or above benchmark in the **first grade** went from 67 percent to 96 percent in phonological awareness skills (as measured by PSF). On phonics skills (as measured by NWF), 64 percent met benchmark for phonics skills in fall, the percent increased to 83 by spring. For oral reading fluency (ORF), 65 percent met benchmark in the winter and 71 percent in the spring.

The **second grade** DIBELS data (see Chart 3) reveals that in fall of 2003 only 42 percent of second grade students met benchmark and were on-track to be proficient readers by the end of third grade. By the spring, 52 percent were at or above benchmark.

**Second Grade 2003-04 DIBELS: Percent of Students at Benchmark**



**Third Grade 2003-04 DIBELS: Percent of Students at Benchmark**



Finally, the **third grade** DIBELS data (see Chart 4) documents that in fall of 2003, only 36 percent of third grade students were on track to be proficient readers by the end of the school year. In the spring, 56 percent of the students met or exceeded the established benchmark.

**Congratulations to these schools for their commitment and dedication to excellence!**





## HPREC is “Exemplary”

In March of 2004, High Plains Regional Education Cooperative was evaluated by Management of America (MGT). The evaluation of HPREC was part of a statewide evaluation of all RECs within New Mexico to determine strengths and weaknesses, individually and as a whole, as well as provide New Mexico Public Education Department with specific recommendations to increase the effectiveness of the REC system statewide. The evaluation was comprised of surveys, interviews, focus groups, and policy and procedure review.

The final MGT report disseminated on July 9, 2004, indicated that

HPREC has many strengths and is viewed as one of the most effective RECs in the state. Specifically, MGT’s evaluation stated, “*REC #3 demonstrates exemplary service to its participating districts...*” In addition, the summary report delineated ten specific recommendations to increase REC effectiveness statewide. These recommendations included a range of suggestions from increasing accountability, changing the makeup of the Board of Directors, consolidating some RECs, and funding changes. On October 7, 2004, the New Mexico Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) met to discuss MGT’s

recommendations and requested that the NMPED Rural Education Assistant Secretary, Charlie Hayes, meet with stakeholders to review and modify the recommendations to meet New Mexico needs. Mr. Stephen Aguirre, HPREC Executive Director, is an active member of the task force which will assist in this endeavor.

If you would like specific information regarding the MGT evaluation and summary, please contact your superintendent or the HPREC office at 445-7090.



## Since July 1, 2004 HPREC has provided trainings (locally and statewide) to over 950 educators!



### Saturday Series Designed by you!

Since Winter of 2002, HPREC has been sponsoring monthly Saturday Series on topics that included behavior management, CPR, literacy, writing, math, and assessment. In the past two years, hundreds of educators from across our region and the state of New Mexico have attended HPREC Saturday Series Workshops. Saturday Series are designed to provide area educators with high quality professional development opportunities that do not take away from critical instructional time with students. Topics for the

Since Winter of 2002, HPREC has been

Saturday Series comes from the HPREC Professional Development Needs Assessment, as well as feedback and requests from teachers and administrators.

As accountability within education increases, the need to stay on top of effective teaching practices is paramount. Thus, HPREC will customize a Saturday Series to meet **YOUR** needs. Specifically, if a group of teachers, a grade-level, or a staff, would like a Saturday Series on a specific topic, HPREC will provide the training to you at no cost!

To request a “**Saturday Series Designed by You**”, submit the topic, 3 potential dates for the training, and the names of committed participants. For your “**Saturday Series Designed by You**” workshop, at least 10 participants must be committed to attending. The session will be open to other region 3 educators. The cost of the training should not exceed \$1500.

**Don't Miss Out on This Incredible Opportunity!**

**Call Dana at HPREC Today!**

## HPREC Social Worker News...by Petra Bertola

---

*"There is a moment in every childhood when the door opens and you can see the future."*

The HPREC social workers would like to welcome Ms. Renie Tagliatela to the HPREC Social Worker team—she will be providing social worker therapy services to the Raton School District this year. Returning to the HPREC for the 2004-2005 school year are Jeff Bright, Virginia Allen, and Petra Bertola. Jeff will be in Clayton, Roy, Mosquero and Clayton; Ginny will be in Clayton & Des Moines; Petra will be in Raton and Maxwell. Also, congratulations to Ginny on passing the LISW, Licensed Independent Social Worker exam!



### FREE Books!

Recently, HPREC received over 400 new and gently used children's books. These books were sent to HPREC through the generosity of the Cub Scouts in Packs 443, 125, and 643 from the Indian Prairie District of the Three Fires Council in Illinois. These young people collected books as a part of their community service project. The books were hand delivered to us by a member of the council.

These books would be a great addition to a literacy night or any other literacy event that might be planned at your elementary school. Elementary principals interested in acquiring some of these books for your school, call Mary Lloyd at HPREC (445-7090).

The cub scouts from Three Fires Boy Scout Council were pleased to help make a difference in the world of literacy. A special thank you to these Cub Scouts. **Don't Miss out! Call today!**



### Social Studies Curriculum Fair

The High Plains Regional Education Cooperative is in the process of organizing a Social Studies Curriculum Fair to assist regional schools with their social studies curriculum adoption.

The 2-day Curriculum Fair will allow educators across the region to review and learn about various curricula. Subsequently, the curricula will be available for school-based teams to check out for deeper review and analysis. If there is a specific curriculum that you would like to make sure is available at the Social Studies Curriculum Fair, please contact Dana Stoltz Gray, HPREC Director of Programs at [hprecdana@bacavalley.com](mailto:hprecdana@bacavalley.com) or call 445-7090.

Dates and times of the Curriculum Fair will be announced soon!



## Audiology at HPREC...by Ernest Haecker

---

The Audiology Center at High Plains REC#3 has recently received full Medicaid billing eligibility status. This means that reimbursement for students or community patients is readily available. Additionally, it means third party payers (Medicare, H.M.O.'s or private health insurance) will more favorably allow their customers to take advantage of our facility.

The hearing test site continues to be located in the HPREC offices at 144 First Street, on the corner of Cook and First Street. Testing is available to any person in the community; regardless of age. The Audiology Center now also includes the sales and service of hearing aids. Amplifications can be dispensed to any person, where this assistance is appropriate, at a considerable cost savings from commercial hearing aid sales. Please let your family and friends know! Appointments can be arranged by contacting Chris Montoya at HPREC (445-7090).

Students enrolled in Region 3 member schools are still a priority. A full comprehensive audiologic assessment is routinely administered once a referral is received from the school district or primary care physician. Tests crucial to the diagnosis of central auditory processes are also administered (i.e. dichotic listening, background noise, signal extraction, and rate assessments). Please contact Chris Montoya or Ernest Haecker at HPREC at 445-7090 for further information or to schedule an appointment.

# Transition to Teaching Project

The Transition To Teaching (TTT) Project provides support for educational aides, substitute teachers, and mid-career professionals to obtain a degree in education. The ultimate goal is to ensure that there are highly qualified teachers in every classroom in northeastern New Mexico.

As we begin year three of the Transition To Teaching Project, the High Plains REC is excited to see more local individuals joining the project. Additionally, in May of 2004, the project had five graduates. These graduates included: Carolyn Aragon, Amy Burchard, Vivian Frey, Lisa Lopez-Marquez, and Bobby-Lyn Volpato. Congratulations to these hard-working ladies! Great job!!

Participants are required to submit grades each semester to the HPREC and to keep a current Academic Plan on file. A web-based or paper portfolio must be submitted to the HPREC each spring in order to remain active in the project. Participants must also take a minimum of 6 credit hours per semester. In exchange, participants are awarded a \$5,000 scholarship which covers the cost of tuition and fees for credit hours at an approved college or university. In addition, the cost of books (up to \$250) per semester, Learning Center student fees, and costs for the New Mexico teacher assessments and teacher licensure are a part of the project. Participants in the project receive on-going academic support from a TTT advisor and a teacher mentor.

To participate in the project, you must be a qualified paraprofessional, who works as a substitute teacher or educational assistant in a school that belongs to a high need district (Cimarron, Clayton, Mosquero, Raton, or Springer) or is a mid-career professional whose goal is to change careers and become a teacher. If you or someone you know is interested and would qualify, please contact Mary Lloyd at [hprecmmary@bacavalley.com](mailto:hprecmmary@bacavalley.com) or call (505)445-7090.



***Transition to Teaching***  
*High Plains Regional Education Cooperative*  
144 South First Street  
Raton, NM 87740  
505-445-7090

We must become the change we wish to create.

~ Gandhi

## News From the Transition From School To Life Team

On June 7-9, 2004, nine members from area schools and DVR attended the New Mexico Summer 2004 Transition Institute in Taos, N.M. The nine member group developed a Transition Plan to increase positive student outcomes for students with disabilities, and ways to improve transition planning in the HPREC service area. Transition Specialist-Coordinator, Nino Esquibel, and HPREC Program Coordinator, Mary Lloyd, plan to meet with the HPREC Board of Directors to put the plan into motion. Area schools will be receiving more information on this initiative in the near future. In other news, DVR orientations will be scheduled in October for area schools and the Transition Coordinator will be providing staff training in the areas of transition. If you would like to schedule a transition training in your school, please contact the HPREC at 445-7090.