

Spring, 2006



# High Plains REC #3

Regional Education Cooperative for Colfax, Harding, and Cimarron Counties

## Message from Executive Director ... Stephen Aguirre

### High Plains REC Has Moved!

In November, High Plains Regional Education Cooperative (HPREC) moved from a 5,000 square foot historical building, nestled on South First Street, to a large, spacious facility on North Second Street in downtown Raton. HPREC has transformed the old Bank of America building into a comprehensive educational agency that will more effectively meet the diverse needs of schools in northeastern New Mexico. With over 14,000 square feet, the new facility is comprised of a new training center (accommodating over 60 participants), a large conference room, ancillary offices, a lending resource library, and an audiology center. In addition, HPREC has partnered with Plan B Networks to meet the technology needs of area schools. Plan B Networks, providing systems integration consulting, is based out of El Paso, has a branch in Santa Fe, and will now have a branch based out of the HPREC office.

A highlight of the new HPREC office is the state-of-the-art HPREC Training Center, which will be equipped with interactive technology to enhance professional development, as well as provide a model classroom to demonstrate the use of technology to enhance learning at all levels. In addition, the HPREC Training Center is designed to provide local schools with distance learning and professional development opportunities via ITV technology. To date, HPREC has successfully connected in "live time" to Cimarron Municipal Schools, Clayton Municipal Schools, Roy Municipal Schools, New Mexico Highlands University, Clovis Community College, New Mexico State University, Colorado Community College On-Line, and Tanberg in Dallas, Texas. With this addition, HPREC has extended their office hours in order for Transition to Teaching participants and others to take advantage of evening classes offered through Clovis Community College.

Thus, after a month or more of painting, construction, new carpeting, heating and electrical work, HPREC staff are settling into the new office. Please feel free to stop by and visit us.



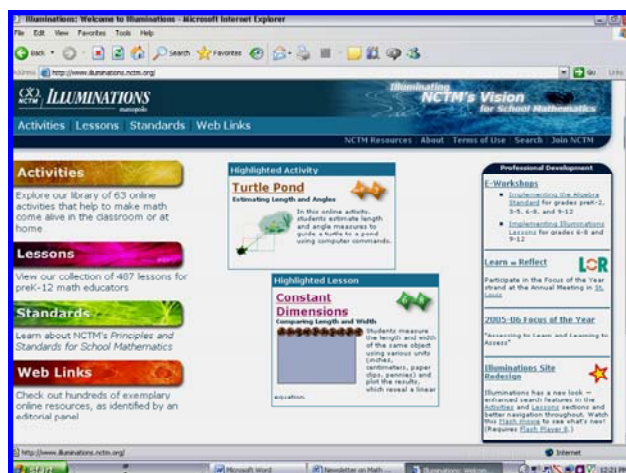
**You are cordially invited to the HPREC #3 Open House at 101 North 2nd in Raton on March 2, 2006 from 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Come join us and tour our the new facilities and training room.**

# Virtual Math Manipulatives By Shari Zimmer

IDEA 2004 and NCLB have changed the way many educators view their jobs. Scientific-based research is a term most educators have become familiar with over the last few years. Now more than ever, teachers are working diligently to align their curriculum with the standards to provide high quality educational experiences for their students. Instructional delivery is “key” in accomplishing this task. Using a variety of instructional technology tools is one way to differentiate instruction for the children who tend to be “at risk,” while stimulating the thought processes of others. The Illuminations website featured in this newsletter is sponsored by the National Council of Teaching Mathematics, and the National Science Foundation to help teachers provide visually stimulating instructional delivery opportunities for free.

## Illuminations Website (NCTM) <http://www.illuminations.nctm.org>

#1



The Illuminations website allows a teacher to maneuver through a variety of virtual tools. You will notice the tabs to the left of the window that will take you through Lessons, Standards, Tools, and Web Resources. This site will let you go to specific standards for the grade level.

#2

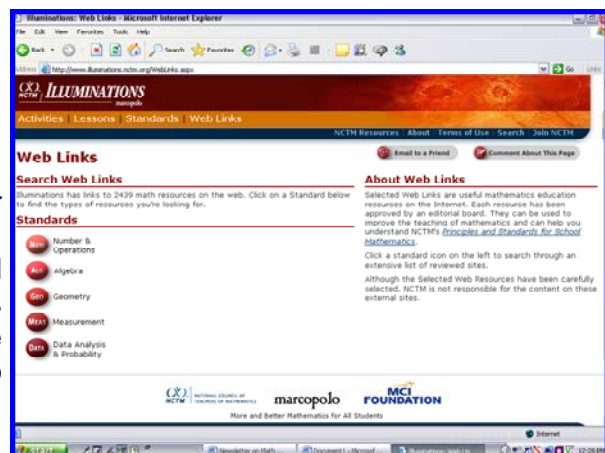


#3



Click on the standards tab

#4



A teacher simply logs on to the website to find tools at their fingertips. An LCD projector, hooked into your computer, allows you to project the image to use as a virtual manipulative tool. The site is user friendly and provides written instructions on how to use the various manipulative tools. You must enable JAVA in order for the virtual tools to work.

Continued from page 2

## National Library of Virtual Manipulatives (NSF) <http://nlvm.usu.edu>

The **National Library of Virtual Manipulatives**, supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF), is a site that offers hundreds of tools for K-12. The following window shows their homepage. To experiment with tools, click on the Virtual Library bullet. The next image will be a window that will take you into any grade level you'd like for a specific strand.

All you have to do is identify which strand and grade level you want to use. You can print out an entire listing of virtual manipulatives for each grade level.

If you want all the tools listed, click on the grade level blue box to the right of the index box heading. This will pull up all manipulatives available for the grade level you selected. Keep in mind ...if you want something specific, you only need to click on the content strand and drag over to the grade level column you desire.

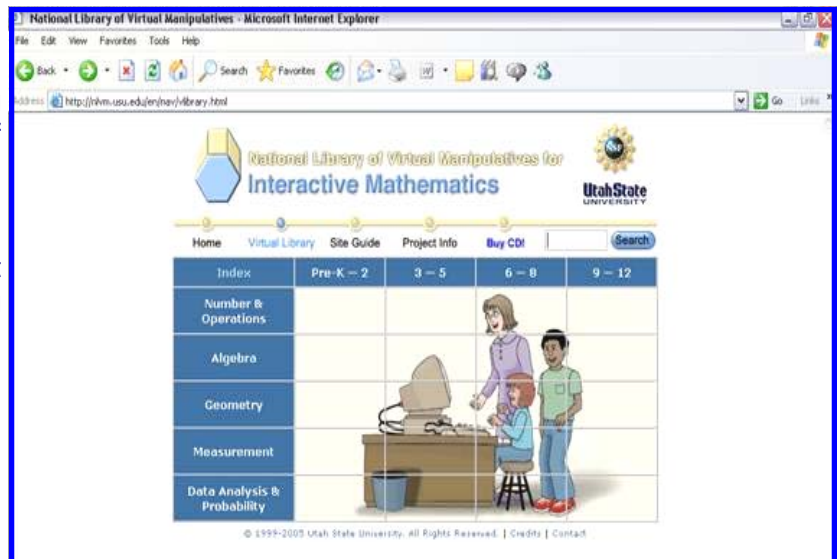
. You can simply click on the math strand and scroll over to the correct grade level. It may be helpful to print out each stand (and its virtual tools) and keep a copy in your lesson plan book. This way you'll be able to flip to the pages and quickly identify a large variety of free teaching tools that that can be used for creative instructional delivery options.

You will also notice that the **"PROCESS STANDARDS"**...the way math concepts are communicated are available for your perusal. These are key factors in providing high quality instruction!

This site is available to each student if they have access to the Internet at home. It is a great way to provide opportunities for students to work together on grade level projects and illustrate their findings with virtual manipulatives. It is a powerful way for them to communicate their understanding to their classmates.

These tools allow a teacher to provide high powered lessons. Students enjoy learning difficult content with the assistance of instructional technology tools.

Please feel free to call Shari Zimmer at HPREC if you have any questions regarding these sites at 445-7090 or email [szimmer@hprec.com](mailto:szimmer@hprec.com)



## How You Teach Is More Important Than What You Teach!

# Three Tiered Licensure Training Project

By Midge Graham

In the High Plains REC area, as many as 35-40 teachers plan to prepare and submit dossiers in February and June, for licensure advancement. This year, more than half of those will be Level II teachers who hope to advance to Level III in the new system. This is representative of the pattern statewide. **Congratulations to Karyn Hall, Longfellow Elementary School, who submitted her dossier in November and was successful at meeting standards for all strands!** Workgroups are established in most districts now and are working in planned workshops and technical assistance sessions as needed.

The 3TLS training project continues to serve districts and teachers/administrators by providing training modules from the project MENU, as needed. In most districts, training sessions were held for new teachers and administrators. Updated training has been provided for Boards of Education in the region and technical assistance has been provided with a variety of training goals, including the development and evaluation of professional development plans, use of indicators for teacher performance evaluation, administration of growth plans, etc.

At the state level, data collection is taking shape and important 3TLS reports will be made to the legislature. According to Dr. Jim Ball, plans are to request additional funding for continuance of the training project. For more information or to request specific training, contact Midge Graham at 505-278-2188 or 505-643-7557 or through the High Plains REC.

## Special Education Transition Web Resources

### **The Council of Administrators of Special Education**

This online resource supports programs and services designed to improve the learning experience for students with special needs.

<http://www.casecec.org/>

### **Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative**

This international organization provides an online network for special education professionals to network and promote new best practices for students with learning disabilities.

<http://www.edc.org/collaborative/>

### **Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights**

The PACER Center was created for parents by parents of children and youth with special education needs. This site offers a wealth of resources to help parents ensure their child has access to quality education services.

<http://www.pacer.org/>

### **The Council for Exceptional Children Catalog**

This collection of resources will help educators teach students with special needs the life skills they'll need to make the successful transition to life after school.

<http://www.cec.sped.org/bk/catalog2/transition-lcce.html>

### **Center for Special Education Finance (CSEF)**

This group conducts research aimed at promoting and improving special education programs and funding sources.

<http://csef.air.org/index.php>

### **Office of Special Education Programs**

OSEP is dedicated to improving the education of children and youth with special needs. This online resource provides leadership and resource information about available programs.

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html>

### **National Center on Secondary Education and Transition**

The NCSET is a partnership of six organizations providing secondary education and transition resources..

<http://www.ncset.org/>

### **The Transition Coalition**

The Transition Coalition provides professional development skills forums and new best practices for special education teachers at the secondary school level.

<http://www.transitioncoalition.org>

# Upcoming Professional Development Activities



## Special Education Directors' Regional Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2006 9:00—11:30 am  
Location: HPREC Training Center, 101 North 2nd in Raton

## Transition Team Regional Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2006 1:00 pm  
Location: HPREC Training Center, 101 North 2nd in Raton

## PBS Team Training

Don't miss out on this hands-on workshop designed for school-based PBS teams.

Presenters: Dana Stoltz Gray, Shari Zimmer, Mary Lloyd, and Elisabeth Nixon-Petersen  
Date: Friday, February 10, 2006  
Location: HPREC Training Center, 101 North 2nd in Raton  
Audience: PBS Teams, PBS Coaches, Administrators

## DIBELS Summit 2006

HPREC's annual national conference for DIBELS researchers from across the country.

Date: March 9—11, 2005  
Location: Tamaya Resort, Santa Ana Pueblo  
Audience: DIBELS researchers & advanced implementation teams

## Fun With Scissors & Graphic Organizers

Don't miss out on this hands-on workshop designed for school-based PBS teams.

Presenter: Elisabeth Nixon and Shari Zimmer  
Date: Date To Be Announced  
Location: HPREC Training Center, 101 North 2nd in Raton  
Audience: K-12 Educators, administrators, & TTT participants

## Regional Math Training

Presenters: Lisa Snow and Shari Zimmer  
Date: Friday, April 21, 2006  
Location: HPREC Training Center, 101 North 2nd in Raton  
Audience: K-12 Educators, Administrators, & TTT participants

## PBS Coaches' Training

Hands-on workshop designed for PBS coaches.

Presenters: Dana Stoltz Gray, Shari Zimmer, and Elisabeth Nixon-Petersen  
Date: Friday, April 28, 2006  
Location: HPREC Training Center, 101 North 2nd in Raton

## Trainings To Be Held At HPREC, Times To Be Announced, Call for Information

AIMSweb Training

Pre-AP & AP Workshops

TIEnet and S.A.T. for Administrators

TIEnet and S.A.T. for All Teachers

After months of development, TIENet is now available for all teachers and administrators in the High Plains Regional Education Cooperative region. TIENET is a management system designed to address the entire instructional process including student assistance teams, evaluation and assessment, Special Education eligibility, IEPs, Special Education case management, Section 504, and more.

Beginning in May, 2006 special education directors, special education teachers, HPREC ancillary staff, and HPREC program staff began a multi-month process to develop a user-friendly, comprehensive, and legally compliant process to assist all educators with instructional processes. After multiple meetings, many hours of work in developing and fine tuning the forms and processes, completion of a comprehensive review and feedback process, and ensuring internet access in schools, TIENet became available on January 11, 2006 to area school educators.

On January 11 – 13, 2006, special education directors, special education secretaries, special education teachers, and ancillary personnel began Phase I of TIENet training. Since the training, these professionals are working with TIENet, entering student information, developing IEPs, and more. Phase II of TIENet trainings will begin in February. Phase II will involve advanced trainings for those involved in Phase I trainings, as well as training for all principals, superintendents, and regular education teachers. Once trained, schools will have a web-based system to use with all students to document intervention effectiveness and assist with special education and Section 504. The goal is for all teachers and schools to use TIENet to ensure seamless, effective, and legally compliant processes. Watch for more trainings coming soon. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact High Plains Regional Education Cooperative.

**Watch for upcoming trainings for administrators and teachers!**

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## An Occupational Therapist's Perspective on TIENET

By Martie Lockwood

Over the last few years, HPREC has attempted to unify Region #3 through the use of a central data base that could be easily accessed by ancillary staff, teachers and administrators. We were very fortunate to have been approached last spring by the representatives from TIENET. I was impressed with the initial presentation, but past experience with other companies had left me very skeptical that the company would actually follow through with their promises to us. I am pleased to report that they have not only kept their promise to allow us to develop a program that is specific to the needs of Region #3, but they have also provided excellent representatives who have been extremely helpful in training all personnel.

Because each department (occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, etc.) had the opportunity to write their portion of the program, our assessment tools, daily documentation, summaries and parent contacts are easily accessed and uniform. When these documents are printed, they are well organized and easy for parents to read.

One of the best features of the TIENET program is that local administrators are being trained in making changes as the need arises. We know that state and federal regulations are constantly changing and now we have the means to stay current and in compliance.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the HPREC staff and the TIENET representatives that have worked tirelessly in an effort to complete the TIENET program and get teachers, ancillary and administrators on line. I have no doubt that this is a program that will serve us well now and in the future.



# APPLAUSE! APPLAUSE! APPLAUSE!

Many thanks and much appreciation goes out to Kathy Owensby for her tireless dedication to the *Read Naturally* program. She has worked many hours to organize trainings, secure volunteers, and implement the program in Des Moines. Kudos to Kathy!

**~ Jaynee Burchard, Superintendent  
Des Moines Municipal Schools**

Many thanks to the HPREC staff for all their efforts on behalf of region #3 schools and staff. Special thanks to Midge Graham for her tireless efforts with the 3-Tier Licensure Dossier process and to Bob Anglin for his excellent coaching, modeling, and consulting with regional teachers participating in the HPREC reading project. A special thanks to Dana Stoltz Gray for her help and persistence in getting the DIBELS measures established in region #3...we are way out ahead of the rest of the state in using this data to drive our educational decision-making at the school level. THANKS to all Clayton District administrators for their efforts on behalf of students and staff so far this year ... great job!! Lastly, thanks to Stephen Aguirre for his leadership and vision in bringing the HPREC and Region #3 to where they are today. He keeps us on the cutting edge of education, technology, and more. Keep up the good work!

**~Jack Wiley, Superintendent Clayton Municipal Schools**

Its hard to believe that half of the school year has passed. It is time to begin another semester, so that means starting off with short cycle assessment tests. These will identify each students progress towards standards and benchmarks for their level of education.

We are in the process of remodeling the Home Ec. Cottage to house our school based health clinic. The health clinic is operating in the coaches office for the time being. Thanks to Deanna Walker for all of the hard work in making this project a success.

Congratulations to the Roy FFA chapter for receiving a \$2500.00 grant to improve the Ag. farm. The Roy FFA chapter is preparing for the spring competitions and are excited to begin those adventures. We are very appreciative of the sacrifices that Mrs Smith has made in order to make this program a success.

A school is only as good and successful as the teachers that are in it. I would like to thank Mrs. Martinez (English), Mr. Mann (History), Mrs. Overberger ( Science), Mr. Overberger ( Math), Mr. David Wright ( computers), Mr. Baca ( Vocational Technology), Mrs. Ivey (K-2), Mrs. Hartley (3-4), Mrs. Ray (5-6), Ms. Garcia (Title I / Elementary P.E.), Mrs. Costa (Aid), Mrs. Goret (Aid), Mrs. Scott (Special Ed). I truly appreciate the hard work and dedication that you put forth in order for our students to be prepared and successful in or society.

Thanks to all of the other schools within our area for their support and thoughtfulness.

**~Rick Hazen, Superintendent  
Roy Municipal Schools**

A HUGE thank you to everybody who helped on the TIENet project and brought our vision to reality. Thank you to all the special education teachers, special education directors, and ancillary staff who provided feedback and guidance in the development of TIENet for region #3 area schools. I would also like to thank Martie Lockwood, HPREC Occupational Therapist, for her hours and hours of working with TIENet to work out the glitches. Martie's dedication and commitment has made TIENet more user-friendly for all of us! Finally, a very special "Thank You" to Elisabeth Nixon-Peterson, Shari Zimmer, and Mary Lloyd (HPREC program staff) for their never-ending support and tireless hours in bringing the TIENet project to fruition.

**~Dana Stoltz Gray, Director of Programs,  
HPREC #3**

**Raton Main Street Group  
Key Presentation Ceremony on Feb. 7, 2006**



# HPREC Awarded RUS Grant



Ms. Siefertson's 3rd Graders



Representatives from Senator Bingaman, Senator Domenici, and Congressman Udall's offices joined Ernie Watson from the USDA in congratulating R. Stephen Aguirre and the HPREC staff on receiving an RUS grant in the amount of \$454,668 to be used to develop connectivity to area schools.



Ms. Beard's Second Graders

## HPREC Staff

R. Stephen Aguirre, Executive Director  
Dana Stoltz Gray, Director of Programs  
Paul Romero, Educational Technologist  
Elisabeth Nixon-Peterson, Ed./Program Specialist  
Shari Zimmer, Ed./Program Specialist  
Mary Lloyd, Program Coordinator  
Lisa Gonzales, Business Manager  
Hollie Fish, Program Assistant  
Esther Torrez, Human Resources  
Rachael Padilla, Admin. Assistant  
Bob Anglin, Reading Specialist  
Midge Graham, 3-Tier Consultant/TTT Advisor  
Michael Johnson, Technology Support  
Carmen Valerio, Custodian

## HPREC

### Board of Directors

Rick Hazen, Roy—**Chairman**  
Zita Lopez, Springer—**Vice-Chairman**  
Jack Wiley, Clayton—**Secretary**  
Dr. Annette Johnson, Cimarron  
Jaynee Burchard, Des Moines  
Dr. Kaye Perry, Maxwell  
Tim McCoy, Mosquero  
Bill Walz, Raton



# Techie Tricks to WOW Your Friends

By Mary Lloyd



Here are some tricks that will help you WOW and impress friends and family alike.

Want to delete files in one step, without the Recycle Bin? Just hold down the Shift key while deleting a file permanently. Be careful though, there is no second chance with this choice, but it is a one step way to be rid of the file. Need a speedy way to restart Windows without rebooting your computer? Hold down the Shift key as you select OK in the Shut Down Windows dialog box. Want to streamline your system tray? (That is the gray bar at the bottom of your screen and holds the icons for the programs that start up when you boot your computer.) You control this with the System Configuration Utility. Simply open the Run command (Start, Run) and type in “*msconfig*”. Go to the Startup tab and unselect programs that you do not need. Be careful here, not to uncheck program applications that you might need.

Ever noticed a friend's computer that had a pretty picture or neat graphic as the desktop wallpaper? Well, now you can have something lovely to look at everyday too. In Win98, click Start>>Settings>>Control Panel, double click Display, then Background. Check the scroll box under Wallpaper. If you see an image on a Web site that you would like to look at everyday, you can have that too. Right-click on the picture, and click Set As Wallpaper. If the image does not fill the desktop, look for Position in the Display Background area, above. In this area, you can stretch, center, or tile a wallpaper image.

Can't see the words on your websites too well? In Internet Explorer, you can make the text larger (or smaller) by clicking the View menu and then selecting Text Size. To adjust the amount of hard disk space used for temporary Internet files, select Tools>>Internet Options>>Settings. You can take a look at the files here too. To make sure that you are viewing the latest version of a website and not the one saved on your drive, press F5 to refresh your page.

Did you ever wish your desktop icons were bigger or even smaller? You can resize them by right-clicking on a blank area of your desktop, and then selecting Properties. Choose the Appearance Tab, and scroll to Icon under the Item pull-down menu. Next, change the size up or down, and click OK to save the new setting. You can also rename your icons very easily. Rename it by right clicking the icon and selecting Rename (works with file names in Explorer too!).

Do you have a Windows password box that pops up every time you start your computer? If you are the only user or if you don't want to use a password, you can be rid of this little annoyance fairly easily. Go to Start>>Settings>>Control Panel and double click on the Passwords icon. Click the Change Passwords tab and select the Change Windows Password button. Clear all three fields and select OK. Exit out of both windows.

Would you like to add a quote to each of your e-mails, automatically? This is the equivalent of a signature. In Microsoft Outlook, from the Tools pull-down menu, select Options. Click the Mail Format tab and select the Signature picker. In the new window, click on New and enter a name for this particular signature. You have the option to create more than one signature or quote as the case may be, and select the one you want to use as you create an e-mail. Click Next and enter the text to include. Click Finish and you are done. Now you may choose which one you want to use as your Default. When you create new mail, the text will automatically appear. If you want a different quote, select the Signature icon in the new message toolbar and pick the one that is appropriate for the person receiving the e-mail.

In Outlook Express, on the Tools pull-down menu, select Options. Click the Signatures tab and click the New button. Enter the desired text and click the Set as Default if you want it as the preferred signature or click the Advanced button to assign it to a specific e-mail account. Add your signature to specific e-mails from the Signature Option on the Insert pull-down menu.

We hope at least one of these “tricks” will be added to your techie bag of tricks. See you next time!

***All of the top achievers I know are lifelong learners ... looking for new skills, insights, and ideas. If they're not learning, they're not growing ... not moving toward excellence.***

*Denis Waitley*

# Professional Learning Communities

By Elisabeth Nixon-Peterson

A professional learning community is a structure that provides an opportunity to develop the capacity of school personnel to function as a learning organization, as a learning community of continuous inquiry and improvement.

In their book, Getting started: Reculturing Schools to Become Professional Learning Communities (2003), Richard and Rebecca DuFour, along with Robert Eaker, discuss the role of change and the cultural shifts that occur when transforming schools into professional learning communities.

“Professional learning communities are our best hope for reculturing schools. A common belief is that changing the structure of schools – how they are organized – is the primary way to change behavior. But changing the structure of schools is not enough. Changing the structure without altering the belief system will not produce fundamental changes” (Eaker, DuFour, and DuFour, 2002, p. 9).

When looking to change a school culture so that it shifts into a professional learning community, many elements need to be addressed, including: collaboration, development of mission, vision, values, and goals, a focus on learning rather than teaching, a focused school improvement plan, celebration, persistence, and leadership.

“Culture is the total sum of interactions among community members and the beliefs that they bring to those interactions, the creation of such a culture means establishing norms and practices that lead to trust, mutual respect, continuous improvement, team-focused collaboration, clarity of thought, the candid expressions of views, and interpersonal accountability for the fulfillment of commitments” (Sparks 2003, p. 2).

Peter Senge’s 1990 book, *The Fifth Discipline*, shared with corporate America the idea of the learning organization “where people continually expand their capacity to create the results they truly desire, where new and expansive patterns of thinking are nurtured, where collective aspiration is set free, and where people are continually learning how to learn together” (p.3). As educators began to explore the challenges of reform, the idea of working collaboratively, of learning from one another, moved into the arena of education and became known as “learning communities.”

Historically, American public schools were organized around the concepts of the factory model; where students were taught the basic skills and simple facts they needed for industrial jobs. Large buildings enclosed labyrinths of classrooms where students sat in neat rows with the teacher up front, learning just enough to work at jobs they would keep for much of their lives.

“The factory model is woefully inadequate for meeting the national education goals of today-- goals that call for all students to master rigorous content, learn how to learn, pursue productive employment, and compete in a global economy. If educators are to meet these challenges, they must abandon an outdated model that is contrary to the findings of educational research and best practices of both schools and industry, and common sense” (DuFour & Eaker, 1998, p. 3).

Within this new model, all students will be held to higher standards of learning, links between students and their communities will be strengthened, and roles will change. New relationships will be forged between administrators and teachers, teachers and students, the school and community. “Professional learning communities rest on a foundation of four building blocks or pillars that support the school and give direction to the people within” (DuFour & Eaker, 1998, p. 57).

Professional learning communities create a broad structural framework for individual student achievement and overall school improvement. This structure supports teachers and administrators, encouraging collaboration and inquiry into best practices for teaching and learning. Professional learning communities have the following six characteristics:

Shared mission – Why do it in the first place? Why do we exist? What are we here for?

Vision – What do we hope to become?

Values – How must we behave in order to make our shared vision a reality?

Collective Inquiry – Questioning the status quo, seeking new methods, testing these methods, and reflecting on results.

Collaborative teams – A group of collaborative teams that share a common purpose.

Action orientation and experimentation – Aspirations are turned into actions and visions into reality, a willingness

Continuous improvement – Each member of the community is engaged in considering key questions; What is our fundamental purpose? What do we hope to achieve? What are our strategies for becoming better?

Results orientated – Ongoing assessment of the characteristics is based on results not intentions.

While the PLC focuses on achieving these characteristics, they also continually ask three critical questions (DuFour, Eaker, & DuFour, 2002). (a) What do we want students to learn? (b) How will we know if they have learned it? (c) What are we going to do if they have not learned it?

Schools that function as professional learning communities are always characterized by a collaborative culture in which teachers no longer work in isolation; the staff work together and participate in decision-making. All members of the community are called upon to be contributing members of a collective effort to improve the school's capacity for helping all students learn at high levels (Eaker, DuFour & DuFour, 2002).

In order for the Professional Learning Communities to function successfully, the learning community must:

- Develop shared vision, mission and values to guide them along the process of changing the school culture.
- Form collaborative teams that engage in collective inquiry, action orientation and experimentation.
- Develop a commitment to continuous improvement through a focus on results.
- Move away from the model of a traditional school, where teachers work in isolation, to a culture of collaboration where the universal agreement is that children learn at different rates. Also that time and support must be planned and given to support all children, and that the strength in reaching this goal lies in the teachers themselves.
- Involve the community in teaching them about the students.

The seeds of school improvement and school reform must be planted and cultivated. Professional Learning Communities are not the silver bullet to success but do provide an infrastructure for change to begin.

#### References:

Eaker, R., DuFour, R., and DuFour, R. (2002). Getting started: Reculturing schools to become professional learning communities. Bloomington, Indiana: National Educational Services



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Senge, P. (1990). The fifth discipline: The art and practice of the learning organization. New York: Doubleday Currency

Sparks, D. (2003). Leaders are creators of high-performance cultures Results,

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# Positive Behavior Support Across the Region ...



## Springer Schools PBS

Springer students show their **Devil Pride** with Positive Behavior Support bulletin boards showing *Preparation, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, and Excellence*.

## Maxwell Schools PBS

The year started at **Maxwell Schools**, the PBS team taught all students appropriate behaviors in the classroom and around campus. We also began giving positive BEARy Good! slips to reinforce students who had positive behaviors, such as responsibility, courtesy, safety and respect. Students can then win a weekly drawing for prizes. The students seem to be grasping the positive ideas and are much more well behaved this year, resulting in greatly reduced disciplinary referrals.



## Des Moines Schools PBS

A sign in front of the Des Moines School is there to remind students to "Demon Up" with respect, responsibility, and safety.



## More Great PBS Happenings ...

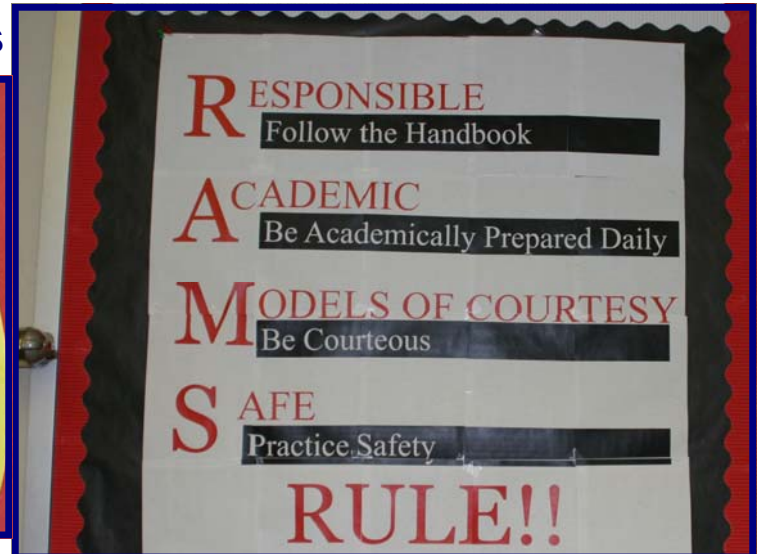


### Longfellow Elementary

Positive Behavior Support has taken hold at **Longfellow Elementary in Raton**. The school has seen a positive change in student behavior. The school focus has been in the cafeteria and lunch line. Everyone is please with the Super Bee and token rewards in these areas.

Longfellow Elementary's hardworking PBS Team: (left to right) Kelli Gabriele, Andy Ortiz, Carmen Valerio, Marian Ray, Nancy Gomez, and Shawna Williams. Not pictured is Toni Lea Fulmer.

### Cimarron Schools



Cimarron High School's PBS program is up and running. We are the RAMS: Responsible, Academic, Models of Courtesy and Safe. Students know what rules fall under each of these categories. If they violate a rule, staff members "re teach" the rule in some way. The handbook is also organized using RAMS.

Teachers and staff members reward students for positive behavior. We give courtesy cards and do a courtesy drawings every month. The winners of the courtesy drawings get an off campus lunch with Mrs. Coppedge.

We also give out "Ram Bucks" to students who are exceptional at following the RAMS rules. At the end of the semester, the students who have Ram Bucks can shop at the Rams Store for things like CDs, DVDs, jewelry, CD players, headphones, gift cards, etc.

When we do have rule violations and discipline problems, we have a system in place where each teacher has a partner teacher to help with the situation. This has worked well because sometimes a student just needs a change of environment to get his/her behavior back on track.

So far, RAMS has worked wonderfully. We have very few discipline problems and students are happy in a positive environment.

# PBS in Region #3 ~ Great Things Are Happening!



**Clayton Schools**

Kiser Elementary saw and enjoyed “visions of sugar plums” during the Christmas season. When staff “caught a student being good”, the student was rewarded by getting to clip a sugar plum (candy) off of a Christmas wreath. Each teacher and the office had a wreath of candy in his/her room, which was a motivating reminder for the students.



Kiser students also worked toward filling a gallon marble jar. If the marble jar had been filled, the whole school would have celebrated with a gingerbread house building party. Alas, the jar wasn't completely filled, so we didn't go into construction. Maybe next year!!



One of the things that Alvis is doing with the PBS is the Caught Being Good Coupons. At the end of each month a child from each grade level is drawn and receives a 3Bees t-shirt.



## **Columbian Elementary**

To reinforce positive behavior in the lunchroom **Columbian Elementary**

is awarding balloons to the best behaved class in the lunchroom. The class with the most balloons for the week becomes the “Super Class” for the week. Being the “Super Class” allows the class to eat first the following week, they get to hang the ribbon outside their classroom, and receive a class reward from their teacher. This incentive has worked so well that on some days two classes may be chosen. *Congratulation Super Classes!!*





## Got a Short-Cycle Assessment?

As districts look for a scientifically-based, efficient short-cycle assessment, AIMSweb® may provide a needed answer. Similar to DIBELS, AIMSweb® is a formative assessment system that 'informs' the teaching and learning process by providing continuous student performance data and reporting. This assessment system facilitates evidence-based evaluation and data-driven instruction for students kindergarten through eighth grade.

AIMSweb utilizes Curriculum-Based Measurement (CBM); an approved and standardized assessment practice based on over 25 years of scientific research. The system provides CBM testing materials for:

- Oral Reading Fluency
- Reading Comprehension
- Early Literacy
- Early Numeracy
- Math Computation/Math Facts
- Spelling
- Written Expression

AIMSweb's 3 Tier assessment model combines CBM with web-based data management and reporting applications. Together, these components provide a pro-active, evidence-based solution for universal screening, strategic assessment, determining special services eligibility, and progress monitoring.

High Plains REC #3 will be providing AIMSweb training in Spring 2006. **Watch for the brochure coming soon!**



## Did you know?

Since June 2005, over 1950 educators have participated in professional development activities sponsored by High Plains Regional Education Cooperative.

*You are cordially invited to the  
HPREC #3 Open House*

*101 North 2nd  
Raton, New Mexico  
March 2, 2006  
3:00 pm to 6:30 pm.*

*Come join us and tour our  
the new facilities and  
training room.*



### The Power of Team

"The flightless fairy penguin of Australia stands less than a foot tall and is clumsy on land, where the fox is its natural enemy. Alone, one penguin wouldn't survive for long. So, after each day in the water, they gather where the surf meets the shore, waiting until the last penguin joins them. Then shoulder to shoulder they march up the beach to their burrows. They support each other.

They rely on each other. And everyone, except the fox, wins."



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