



# INTERCOM

Bismarck Public Schools weekly employee newsletter

May 7, 2009

## Sign-up is coming for Staff Development 2009-10

With the hustle and bustle of end-of-the-year activities, and concerns about the H1N1 virus, staff development for the upcoming school year is probably not a high priority at this time. However, it is imperative that Fran Rodenburg and I provide you with an overview of what is being planned for staff development for 2009-2010.

We encourage all staff to become familiar with the District Staff Development Tracker. The Tracker is easily accessible and user-friendly when looking for staff development that is being offered. For BPS staff members who are considering offering staff development opportunities, whether it is a class, book-study, latte hour, or other staff development options, please make sure you use the Tracker. All staff development being considered as a Floating Staff Development Day (FSDD) must be approved by Fran or me.

All 15 elementary schools will be offering a building FSDD for the 2009-2010 school term. A limited number of FSDD's will be offered and repeated for those who cannot attend the building day. Keep checking the Tracker to find out what topics will be offered, when, and where! In addition, there will be a half-day FOSS science staff development opportunity August 4th (grades K-3) and 5th (grades 4-6). This training will not qualify as an FSDD, but a \$50 stipend will be paid to those who attend. Only Simle Middle School will be offering a building staff development day at the secondary level which will count as an FSDD. For other secondary teachers, a limited number of FSDD's (August 4th, 14th, and 17th) will be offered. The topics presently being considered are listed below. There may be additional topics added and sessions will be repeated for all topics.

- Power Teacher GradeBook (PTG)-Web Version
- Office 2007

- Tips & Tricks-Computer 101
- United Streaming
- DELICIOUS
- Moodle
- Wiki.

The elementary level has chosen August 24th as their Teacher Work Day and August 26th as the Building Staff Development Day. The secondary has chosen August 24th as their Building Staff Development Day, and August 26th as their Teacher Work Day. August 25th will be the District Staff Development Day for all teachers. Fran and I are still in the planning stages for the 25th. Stay tuned for more updates!

A message will be sent out in the next week or so indicating that FSDD sessions are in the Tracker and available for registration. **Please make sure you register for the session you will be attending between then and the end of this school year (May 26).**

*John M. Salwei,  
Assistant Superintendent*

## Calendar Call

- May 7 **Retirement Open House**  
*Jane Heydt, Sue Simet, Jerry Wolf and Barb Wright*  
3:30-5 p.m., Solheim
- May 11 **School Board Mtg.**  
5:15 p.m. City/Cnty. Bldg.
- May 13 **Leadership Team Mtg.**  
9:00 a.m. Hughes #1-2
- May 13 **BPS Foundation Mtg.**  
11:45 a.m. Mtg. Rm. #1
- May 14 **Retirement Party**  
*Carmen Woodmansee,*  
3-5 p.m., Hughes
- May 18 **Speech/Lang. Pathologists**  
3:45 p.m. Hughes #2
- May 19 **Retirement Reception**  
*Shannon Fornes,*  
3:45-4:45 p.m.,  
Wachter Library
- May 20 **Secondary School Admins.**  
7:30 a.m. Hughes #3  
**Elementary Principals**  
9:00 a.m. Hughes #1
- May 20 **Retirement Open House**  
*Marilyn Johnson,*  
3:30-6:30 p.m., Will-Moore  
**Retirement Tea**  
*Cynthia Clausnitzer, Sandy Enget, Rudy Steidl, Carmen Woodmansee,* 3:45-5 p.m., Horizon
- May 21 **Potluck Picnic**  
*Jay Johnson,* 5-9 p.m.,  
Mandan Warming House
- May 26 **School Board Mtg.**  
5:15 p.m. City/Cnty. Bldg.
- June 3 **Secondary School Admins.**  
7:30 a.m. Hughes #3  
**Elementary Principals**  
9:00 a.m. Hughes #1
- June 8 **School Board Mtg.**  
5:15 p.m. City/Cnty. Bldg.

## Job Opportunities

*Application deadline: May 10*

Middle School Principal - Level EP01 Elementary Principal Credential or a level SP01 Secondary Principal Credential. Must have curriculum and instruction knowledge; significant middle level teaching and administrative experience; ability to build strong relationships with students, staff, parents and the community; ability to use technology for student and administrative needs; and the ability to be flexible, creative and collaborative.

Levels of Service (3 positions) - Valid North Dakota teaching license in elementary education, one year of successful elementary teaching experience and must have gifted and talented credential or be willing to obtain credential within one year.

Elementary Secretary to the Principal (3 positions) - High school diploma or equivalent, a minimum of three years of secretarial experience and proficient in computer skills.

*Application deadline: May 13*

Elementary General Music/Instrumental Music

*For a detailed job description and to apply, go to [bismarckschools.org](http://bismarckschools.org) and click on the "Job Opportunities."*

## Credit Courses

**Latte Sessions** - Held at Hughes, 3:30-5:00 p.m. Staff can register in the Staff Tracker to attend any of these free sessions for credit!

√ **FLIP Video in the classroom**  
- May 11

√ **Applying for Latte  
Grad Credit** - May 19

√ **School Tobacco Prevention Program** at Bismarck Burleigh Public Health is providing Towards No Tobacco Use (TNT) training for 5th grade teachers and counselors on June 10 and 11. We will provide the Teachers Guidebook and TNT student workbooks, plus a \$150 stipend. In return, the teacher or counselor will implement the TNT program at their school. If interested, contact Sue Kahler at 355-1595 or skahler@nd.gov by May 10.

√ **Excellent teachers needed!**  
Are you interested in making a difference in an aspiring teacher's future? Are you also interested in growing professionally and participating in a collaborative learning experience? If you answered "yes" to both of these questions, then Dickinson State University is offering a course for you! Supervision of Student Teachers prepares you to be an effective cooperating teacher, as well as, enable you to meet the North Dakota requirements for student teacher placement.

The course will be held at Bismarck State College on Thursday, May 28 from 8:30 am-4:00 pm. In order to accommodate the lives of busy teachers, there will be a combination of face-to-face and online instruction (15 hours total). Graduate credit through Minot State University is available for \$60. Since space is limited, contact Lori Gibson soon at 224-2481 or email Lori.Gibson@dsu.nodak.edu to register.

√ **Wind Energy SCIENCE**  
- August 6 - 7 (8 am-4 pm) at Bismarck State College. From the grain grinders of ancient Holland to the wind farms being constructed around North Dakota, wind power has captured the public imagination with its simplicity and elegance. Dig deeper into the wind and introduce your students to the science behind the fastest growing energy resource in the world.

This course will appeal to middle/high school science and technical education teachers who are interested in renewable energy, physics, engineering and design. NO knowledge of wind energy is required to attend the course.

In this two day course participants, will learn the basic principles behind wind energy and how to introduce students to wind

energy concepts using standards-based activities in an engaging, hands-on manner: A tour of a local wind farm is included.

Teachers who attend this course are eligible to receive credit through UND Continuing Education Program for an additional fee of \$50. The Dakota Resource Council and the ND Department of Commerce are sponsoring this course. The Department of Commerce is providing funding for this course. For more information on the workshop (directions, agenda & speaker information) or our project, call (651) 325 8149 or visit <http://www.kidwind.org>.

√ **Habitats of North Dakota** - A Visual Arts Approach Offered in August. The workshop Habitats of North Dakota - A Visual Arts Approach-will be offered August 19-20. This is a workshop for teachers, environmental educators, or anyone that works with youth. It will be held at ND Game & Fish Department headquarters, 100 N. Bismarck Expressway, with field trips to the OWLS site.

Teachers completing this course will have a basis for teaching ecological concepts and environmental stewardship to their students through the visual arts using the new Habitats of North Dakota curriculum. The workshop will be fun and fast paced with many hands-on activities educators can use in their classrooms, discussion of classroom and curriculum integration, and identification of local resources. Workshop participants will have the opportunity to experiment with different visual arts media including clay, watermedia, pastel, and colored pencil. No previous art experience is required. All supplies are provided.

Instructors for the workshop are Sherry Niesar, who has been a wildlife educator with the North Dakota Game & Fish Department for more than 20 years, and Paul Noot, who teaches visual arts at Bismarck High School, Sleepy Hollow Summer Arts program and Theo Art School.

The cost of the workshop is \$30 for registration and graduate credit is available through the UND for an additional \$50. Registration deadline for the workshop is August 15th. For more information or registration materials, contact Sherry Niesar, Program Director at Bismarck Art & Galleries Association, 701-223-5986, or email [baga@midconetwork.com](mailto:baga@midconetwork.com).

## Non-Credit Courses

The following non-credit courses are free to BPS employees and are held at the BSC campus. To register or more information, contact Elaine.Bowman@bsc.nodak.edu or call 224-5747. All classes are held in the new NECE building at BSC (on the corner of Edwards Ave. & Schafer St.).

√ **Advanced Excel 07**  
May 5, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

√ **Advanced Word 03**  
May 7, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

## Community Corner

√ **You are invited to Flex & Fun:** at the public library on two Thursdays, May 14 and 21, from 6:30-8:30 pm. Learn about aromatherapy and massage, basic yoga and Tai Chi poses, stretching and resistance bands, acupuncture and herbal medicine. Sponsored by the Arc of Bismarck as a community education event with presentations by local experts.

√ **Free documentary:** Century's American Pageant classes have created a timely public documentary called "The Great Depression: Make Do or Do Without." There are interviews from former ND governor Art Link and his wife Grace, as well as other residents ages 95-101! The premier is Thursday, May 14, at 7 pm at the CHS auditorium.

## BPS Graduate-Level Research

This information pertains to BPS staff who are enrolled in a degree/accredited graduate program of study. If you are considering a research project that surveys BPS students or staff or requires student data, you must receive prior approval. Information regarding academic research is available at: <http://www.bismarckschools.org> (click on Employees and then Academic Research – on the left navigation).

## TNT conference online registration:

go to [www.bismarckstate.edu/ceti/tnt](http://www.bismarckstate.edu/ceti/tnt) for early bird registration on or before May 15th. If you have questions, contact Karen Selensky at BSC, 224-5688 or [www.bismarckstate.edu/ceti](http://www.bismarckstate.edu/ceti).

## Neighbor's Network

**Program:** is in need of a couch and also a lawn mower. Contact Brenda Bergan at 527-4626 or 223-8095.

**Only 2 weeks  
left of school!**