

UPCOMING EVENTS

Orientation Schedule

Friday, August 13th, 2021

8:30-11:30 New Staff

11:30-12:45 All Staff Lunch

12:45-4:00 All Staff

Region 9 Coordinating

Council Meeting

Wednesday, August 19th @

9:00am

Related Services

Orientation

August 12th @

Educational Services Staff

Meeting August 30th @

2:00 pm

AUGUST 2021

R9 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS

MESSAGE FROM THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

By Dahn Freed

Welcome back to the 2021-2022 school year! What is new in the Educational Services Department at Region 9 since we left off in May?

First, we are excited to bring on a few additional staff members to our Educational Services team. Megan Stasiak comes to us all the way from Ohio. She is a school psychologist and educational diagnostician. She will be supporting special education evaluations across member districts and some of the psych evals. Additionally, we are adding a new member to our Educational Consulting team with Jennifer Johnson. Jennifer is a Region 9 legacy! Her mother and father both worked at Region 9, so we are so happy to have her as part of our R9 family. She is a Level 3 teacher with experience at the elementary, middle, and high school level. She will be working as a math coach in Carrizozo and Cloudcroft Schools, as well as supporting professional development and mentorship alongside Amanda.

Sadly, Robyn Cook will be leaving Region 9. But what an asset to have her back at Cloudcroft Elementary. She is a ROCK STAR principal and I could not be more excited for Robyn and each of her students and teachers that she will be supporting. We know she will accomplish amazing work in the district and we still have the opportunity to work with her! Win-Win!

Another member leaving our team will be Charni Durham, Child Find Coordinator. Charni has some exciting new plans in her future that unfortunately do not include R9. We are happy for Charni to start her new adventure, but she has been with us for six years now and her easy-going nature, warm smile, and gentle presence will be deeply missed by all. It has been a true pleasure working with her.

Continued



We also will be sort of saying goodbye to Teresa Barnett and Butch Lancaster. But, thankfully they are not going too far away! They have both moved over into the Internal Supports Division of R9 to work with Hannah, Fred, Jackie and Makayla in order to support state-wide events on behalf of the PED. What a crew that will be!

Our last change with staff will simply be a switch. April Frost will be taking a new remote position to coordinate virtual tech bits and support marketing for internal supports. But, she will be remaining on the Ed Services team! WBLI and CTE programs will be coordinated through Makayla Johnston with support from Emmanuel Hernandez.

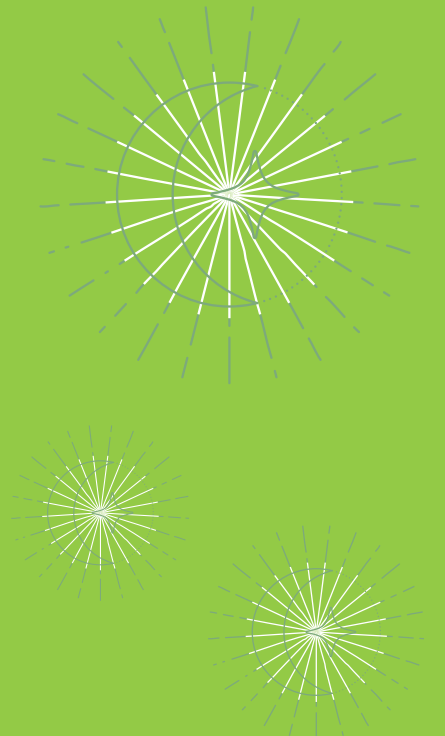
One of the biggest changes of course this summer is at the PED. With the resignation of Ryan Stewart, the Secretary of Education, there may be some delays in communication with the transition to the Secretary Designee Kurt Steinhaus. We will continue to share information as we receive it.

Other than that, it has been a fairly quiet summer...

While we still live in times of uncertainty and change as we begin this school year, I am confident that Educational Services staff is ready to provide the same quality services to our member districts with the flexibility and fluidity we always have, despite changes at the state level and being in the midst of a global pandemic! We are going to have a wonderful new year!



THE MOMENTS
WE THINK WE
CAN'T ARE
OPPORTUNITIES
TO PROVE
WE CAN.
~ UNKNOWN



NEW BEGINNINGS

By Amanda O'Doherty

MENTORSHIP AND YOU!

Welcome back everyone! I am so very excited for this new year, and can't wait to see all of you! I hope your summer has been refreshing and you are as ready as I am to get started. Mentorship is gearing up for an amazing year. We have had quite a bit of change in our districts, and with that change comes many new teachers. My list has never been this large this early in the school year. While this is so very exciting, it does bring about some challenges. As many of you are aware, the Mentorship Program is a requirement for teachers in their first year of instruction in New Mexico. Some of these teachers may have come from out of state, but reciprocated with a Level I teaching license and many others may be on an Alternative License Pathway. Regardless, we all understand the need for information and understanding when you find yourself in new situations. Region 9 colleagues, please feel free to share with them your wealth of knowledge, especially in the area of Special Education. Our new teachers will truly appreciate, and benefit, from what you have to offer. I would also love for those of you who are willing, to jump in on some of our Mentorship Trainings to help explain some of the processes and procedures

associated with your areas of expertise. So, if you are interested in enriching the lives of our new teachers, please reach out to me and we will get it scheduled! Thank you in advance for your help and understanding as they get settled into their exciting new careers!

MLSS UPDATE

MLSS is still on sight for this year. As last year threw many curve-balls our way, Multi-Layered Systems of Support got shuffled around a bit; however, it has found a new home under the Curriculum and Instruction branch of PED. Because of this change, it did fall a little short of the plan last year, but we are getting ready to kick off the year with the new guidance. As we begin to work with our schools through this process, we may be calling on some of you to partner with us and be a part of an MLSS Team. It helps so very much to have your voice in this process. While training will become available, I am always available to you if you have any questions about MLSS or what it means for our classrooms, and would be happy to help you in any way possible.

Continued...



NEW BEGINNINGS (CONTINUED)

UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING

We have another new initiative this year that I am very excited about. Universal Design for Learning has actually been around for many years, but is making a come-back as we are facing another year that may require more flexibility. What is so exciting to me about UDL is that we are no longer focusing on supporting students individually. UDL is about removing barriers for ALL students so that we give all of our students an opportunity to succeed. It does require a little more work on the forefront; however, the benefits are truly amazing...and far outweigh the work needed to accomplish having all students be truly successful in all areas of their lives. As the year progresses, we will be providing more information on UDL as well as sharing with you the different ways that you can become involved in the process. I look forward to working with each of you, and I am so excited to see the changes and successes in the students' lives that we serve.

CARNEGIE LEARNING

We would like to say thank you to **CARNEGIE LEARNING** for partnering with us.

Carnegie Learning is shaping the future of education. Born from more than 30 years of learning science research at Carnegie Mellon University, the company has become a recognized leader in the ed tech space, using artificial intelligence, formative assessment, and adaptive learning to deliver groundbreaking solutions to education's toughest challenges. With the highest quality offerings for K-12 math, ELA, literacy, world languages, professional learning and more, Carnegie Learning is changing the way we think about education, and creating powerful results for teachers and students alike. For more information please visit: www.carnegielearning.com.



SUMMER PROJECTS FOR REGION 9

By Emmanuel Hernandez

During this summer I was able to work with some of the best techs in our region. We are currently working on streamlining the use of Google. We have also used this time to update Region 9 staff computers. Presently we are working on a new log-in for staff computers, using your Region 9 email and password. I know what your next question is: "Emmanuel Hernandez what is this sorcery?" We are using a product for windows called Google Credential Provider for Windows (GCPW). This add-on uses your Region 9 email address and password to create an account in the windows system. This eliminates the need to have a password for your PC and your email account. After this update, you will use the same log-in to your laptop. With the current addition to this program, we will also install the new Google Drive. This addition of Google Drive for desktop is an added support for us and will be used to back up your files on your computer. In the future, we will be using this to set you up on a backup computer if anything does happen to your computer. What happens to my file you may ask? Well, by using this method, and having Google Drive back up your files, those files will then be on the cloud. You may be able to access those files on any computer using your Region 9 work email and password.

PS...please be patient with us as we get to your computer to convert your laptop with our new system.



NEW FACES IN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES



Jennifer Johnson
Instructional Math Coach



Megan Stasiak
Educational Diagnostician

Welcome to Region 9 Education Cooperative and to the Educational Services Department. We are truly delighted to work with you. You are part of a team that makes it a priority to work together to provide exceptional services to children, families, and communities across New Mexico.

We are Region 9 Proud!