



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

by Bryan Dooley

Happy New Year.

January of 2022 begins with a rush. Region 9 programs are back in full swing, from Early Childhood through Career Technical Education programs to the contracts we support with the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED) and other state agencies. We are excited to be implementing new programs like, statewide teacher mentorship programs for the College and Career Readiness and Special Education Divisions of PED, begin work on the McKinney Vento Homeless contract, and support the implementation of the Education Fellows initiative to place more adults in K-12 classrooms across the state. Region 9 staff also return to daily Covid screenings and weekly testing to ensure a safe workplace.

This month we will have an all Region 9 virtual staff meeting on the 14th from 2:30 to 4:00. This is our mid-year annual opportunity to reconnect with each other and go over Region 9 updates and any COVID-related updates. In December a group of 24 Region 9 staff participated in the first 2 days of training following the Brene Brown Dare To Lead strategies, and will finish in the final 2 days in January.

January is always a good time to reflect on the work you do daily and the impact you have individually and collectively as an organization. We will be preparing the Annual Performance Report for Region 9 this month and I look forward to sharing with you the collective impact we have in our member districts and across the state.

Region 9 is proud of the collective impact we have on early childhood in Lincoln County. Over the past 38 years, our Early Childhood Programs have grown into a comprehensive set of services. We offer Home Visiting, Developmental Services, Early Head Start, Head Start, and Child Find programs. Region 9 employs a staff of 62 employees that provide support to over 200 families of children pre-natal through age 5.

Region 9 is a member of the New Mexico Regional Educational Cooperative Association (RECA). This year we are looking forward to a productive legislative experience. As an organization, we are requesting an increase in our annual funding from \$100,000.00 to \$300,000.00. We have based this on the statutory requirements of an Executive Director, a Business Manager, and a Procurement Officer. These additional funds provided to each REC in NM would be of great benefit to assist with the annual cost of operating each REC.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR *by Dahn Freed*

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2022. I can't think of a better way to start the new year than spending time with Region 9's greatest asset, our employees! I am looking forward to this coming year and all the opportunities coming up. One of these is engaging in meaningful professional development and conversations with R9 employees.

In December, many of our staff had the privilege of participating in Dare to Lead. This is a four-day workshop based on the research of Brene' Brown, Ph.D. This group looks forward to exploring the next two days on January 6th and 7th. Beyond that, our next step will be sharing more of this amazing work with the rest of our organization.

Amy McMasters, a Dare to Lead consultant, spent the first two days with us engaging in gritty work. If you are familiar with any of Brene' Brown's work, you know that the body of her research is about what makes organizations work well through Daring Leadership. This includes how an organization rumbles in vulnerability, lives into values, and braves trust. This requires an organization to cultivate a culture of building courage in individuals to have difficult and honest conversations with each other, develop healthy relationships through trust, and stretch our comfort zones. We have an amazing organization, but we always want to keep improving our culture, providing opportunities for staff, and continuing our history of excellent service.

I hope your New Year is off to a great start and you have a positive outlook for 2022. Some special days to note for January. 1/17-Martin Luther King's birthday. (Reminder, R9 offices will still be open); 1/17 Civil Rights Day; and of course our All Staff on 1/14. I can't help but always look for some of the more unusual days that make it on the calendar, They put a smile on my face. I hope they do yours as well. 1/14 is National Dress up Your Pet Day.

Happy Birthday January

Larissa Aparicio, Head Start Teacher Assistant

Dahn Freed R9 Deputy Director & Educational Services Director

Melissa Gonzalez, Office Assistant

Jennifer Johnson, Math Instructional Coach

Tim Lewis, Speech & Language Pathologist

Jeanette Lindsey, Assistant Business Manager

Rosa Nava, Head Start Floater / Teacher Assistant

Amanda O'Doherty, Teacher / Mentorship Coordinator

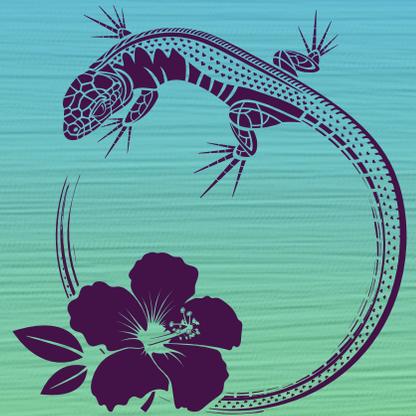
Sherrie Padilla, Head Start Teacher Assistant

Carma Patterson, Educational Consultant / OT Supervisor

Hannah Pritchett, IGA Projects Coordinator

Juanita Tuttle, Capitan Head Start Teacher

Sylvia Wilson, HS/EHS HS/EHS Family Advocate

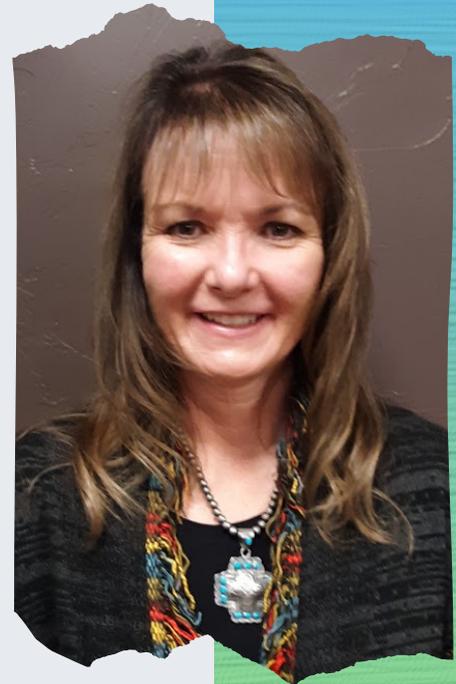


Newest Faces

Welcome!

April Lindsey
Educational Consultant
Educational Services Department

I am so excited to be a part of Region 9 as an Educational Consultant. I grew up in Deming, New Mexico. After graduating from Deming High School, I attended NMSU where I received both my Bachelor's and my Master's Degree in Education. I come to Region 9 with 31 years of experience in education. I spent 11 years teaching in Las Cruces at Dona Ana Elementary. After getting married to Daryl Lindsay, I moved to Edgewood, New Mexico where I taught at Mountainview Elementary for 2 years. My husband had a huge career shift and we moved to Capitan where I spent the next 18 years teaching at Capitan Elementary. I have two amazing daughters, Emilee and Aubree. Emilee is a sophomore in college and Aubree is a sophomore in high school. I am looking forward to this new chapter in my career and am excited about the possibilities!



We have several job openings. Check out the [Employment Opportunities](#) page on our website.

Light Employee Spotlight



Corina Morales

Early Head Start Teacher

I am from Las Cruces New Mexico. I also lived in Carrizozo and Melrose. I have never lived anywhere else besides NM.

I have my CDC and will be returning to school this year. I'm going for my bachelor's. I have two kids, Marisol who is 7-years old, and Mateo who is 3-years old, and a boyfriend I've had since 2012.

Fun Fact: I am a very boring person, but I was Homecoming queen my senior year, and Region 9 EHS is the longest job I've had in my life.

Lynn Soucy

R9 Developmental Services Family Service Coordinator & Development Specialist

My name is Lynn Soucy. I lived in Lubbock, Texas most of my life, but I love living in Ruidoso. I attended Texas Tech University and received a B.S. in elementary education with a specialization in Early Childhood Education and a special education endorsement. I taught Early Childhood in Lubbock, Texas for 18 years. I also was a nanny for 3 different families in the Austin area. I am currently a family service coordinator and developmental specialist for the Region 9 Developmental Services program that serves children from birth through 3 years of age. I have 2 adult children. My son is a web designer in Austin, Texas and my daughter is a high school biology teacher in Houston, Texas. My twin sister is the school nurse at Ruidoso High School. I love traveling, especially going on cruises.



Upcoming Events

Click here to view the [Region 9 Master Calendar](#)

- R9 Virtual Mandatory Staff Meeting 1/14/2022
 - [ZOOM MEETING LINK](#) (We will email this link to staff the day of the event)
- Tech Bits Mini-Series, Every Wednesday from 12:00-12:30 pm
& Tech Bits Bi-Monthly Training Series
 - [REGISTER HERE](#)
- 01/19/2022 R9 Coordinating Council Meeting



Region 9 - Your innovative regional educational cooperative providing exceptional services to children, families, and communities across New Mexico.

A Community Member
Educating - Supporting - Serving

Serving Kids - Priority One!

<https://www.rec9nm.org>

