

News

Read All About It!



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

by Bryan Dooley

The Region 9 Vision is to provide exceptional services to children, families, and communities across New Mexico. Keep your eye on the vision. Remember, as a Region 9 employee you are part of a group that works hard every day to attain this vision. In August, we had our in-person Region 9 staff orientation and we discussed being aware of the need to be flexible as our workday, week, month, and year move forward. We talked about leadership and the ability to take control of “our” personnel actions. Here are several things you can control, attitude, effort, behavior, and actions. If you take control of those four things you will be a great Region 9 team member. At our meeting, we also shared about the good things that are occurring at Region 9. We are staffed with “you”, excellent people. We have several new staff joining our team as you’ll see below, and we are excited to welcome them to our R9 team. We have a large percentage of our contracts with the Public Education Department already signed with work started, and we have the opportunity to be back in person. We discussed being a Region 9 employee and being Hungry, Humble, and Smart. Attributes all Region 9 staff exhibit as we work towards our common mission. Hungry is, ready to go to work, ready to find innovative ways to do things better, looking for new opportunities, and recognizing the opportunity to lead change for better systems. Humble is, jumping in to get the job done, doing an excellent job because it’s what you do and it promotes the vision of Region 9, going the extra mile to help one of your coworkers because you care about them not because you want credit. Smart is about communication and how we interact with each other and the children, families, and communities we serve. It is the positive influence you have on others’ lives and how your leadership makes a difference every day.

R9 Learning Corner

Region 9 is one of 10 Regional Education Cooperatives in New Mexico and we are part of the New Mexico Regional Education Cooperative Association (RECA). Regional Education Cooperatives (RECs) were established in State Statute in 1984 as collaborative entities administratively attached to the Public Education Department (PED), to specifically serve the small rural school districts in New Mexico and to assist with providing special education services. Through the economies of scale, NM districts are able to leverage resources through their REC into targeted support for multiple schools and share those costs with other member districts. Unlike educational service agencies in other states, RECs in NM receive minimal direct, state funding to support the programs and services they provide. RECs are governed by the superintendents of their member districts. In Region 9’s case, this is Corona, Carrizozo, Capitan, Hondo, Cloudcroft, Tularosa, and Ruidoso. Because they are regional, each REC has grown to provide different programs and services at the request of their governing boards. The RECs administrative attachment to the PED also allows them to enter into Inter-Governmental Agreements with PED and do work on PED’s behalf. They are also able to apply for and receive grants, donations, and joint power agreements. The NM RECs currently serve 68 of the 89 school districts in New Mexico. Region 9 is the largest of the 10 RECs in NM in both the number of employees as well as the number of programs administered and services delivered.





MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

by Dahn Freed

Happy September!

One of the amazing aspects about working at Region 9 is the opportunity for professional growth. Region 9 recognizes that there are leaders in our midst and that our most valuable asset is our employees. One of Region 9's organizational goals this year is to continue to support leadership development for our staff. We have hosted an R9 Leadership Academy in the past. At that time, the current leadership team invited staff to participate. That academy was put on hold with Covid-19. This year, we are going to be implementing four leadership opportunities for anyone in our organization to participate in. Information for you to sign up for individual sessions or all four will be coming out very soon.

There are many kinds of leaders. Leaders are not just people in management positions or supervisors. Leaders are found in many positions, supporting our students, families, R9 staff, and district staff on a daily basis.

Here is an article from INC. with 100 answers to how different people defined leadership. Perhaps you will find yourself in one of these definitions.

[100 Answers to the Question: What Is Leadership?](#)

We hope that you also see yourself as a leader in some capacity, whether it is for your team, students, parents, department or this organization. Keep an eye out for more information and if you have questions, please let me know.

HAPPY
Birthday

SEPTEMBER

Kristen Eisenberg,
Early Head Teacher

Amy Gonzales,
Ed Services SPED Data Software Coord.

Carolina Hernandez,
Head Start Quality Assurance Mg.

Kari Jensen,
Early Head Start

Makayla Johnston,
IGA Coordinator

Arissa Klumker,
Procurement/Contracts

Gloria Magana,
Developmental Specialist

Corina Morales,
EHS Teacher

Megan Salaz,
School Social Work

Carmen Spann,
Business Manager

Shane Villado,
Tech Support Specialist



NEW FACES

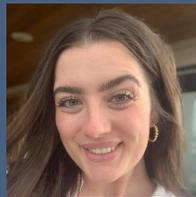
Jeanette Garcia
Early Head Start
Teachers Assistant



Sydney Nava
Early Head Start
Teachers Assistant



Shelby Southard
Home Visiting Program
Home Visitor



Emily Foose
Educational Services
Educational Consultant



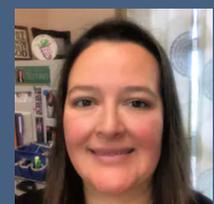
Aimee Daily
Educational Services
School Psychologist



Teresa Baxter
Fiscal Department
Business Office
Assistant & Payroll



Elissha Young
Educational Services
Bilingual Educational
Diagnostician



The logo features a stylized green and purple 'L' with a sun-like symbol inside a circle, followed by the word 'Light' in a green script font and 'Employee Spotlight' in a green sans-serif font below it.

Light

Employee Spotlight

JENNIFER JOHNSON is starting her 25th year in education. She has a level 3 teaching license and a master's degree from NMSU in "Teaching Mathematics". She has taught in the Ruidoso Schools for the past 23 years. (Student teaching in 2nd grade and then teaching many levels up through the high school.) She is excited about the endless possibilities of this new role as an instructional coach.



A LITTLE FAMILY HISTORY

Jennifer's mother, Donna Parker, worked for Region 9 for about 20 years. She retired in 2013. She was wonderful to work with and is still missed by us "R9 Old Timers". Also, Jennifer's daughter, Morgan Johnson now works for Region 9 Head Start as a Lead Teacher in the Hondo Classroom. Region 9 is very grateful for three generations of wonderful women that exude our mission:



A Community Member: Educating, Supporting, Serving.



UPCOMING EVENTS



As you may have noticed, we are going through a major upgrade to our website. Included in the website is a brand new calendar system. It's awesome. Here is a link. [Region 9 Master Calendar](#)
This master calendar includes several other calendars. You can view them all or just view the one you need to see.

- 9/1 Google Smart Features Series: Review Calendar & Other Tips
- 9/7 SED Virtual Training: Annual Determinations & NAEP
- 9/7 Mentor/Mentee Virtual Meet & Greet
- 9/9 Introduction to the Dossier Process
- 9/13 Mentor Fall Session 1
- 9/14 Lunch & Learn: J. Jones - Workers Comp Procedures, Hazardous Communications, & Injury Reporting
 - This LL will be recorded and will be a mandatory observation by all employees.
- 9/14 Mentor Fall Session 1 Make Up
- 9/15 Region 9 Coordinating Council Meeting
- 9/20 Mentee Fall Session 1
- 9/21 Mentee Fall Session 1 Make Up
- 9/22-23 2021 Fall Special Education Directors' Academy
- 9/23 Dossier Strand A Coaching Session
- 9/30 Dossier Strand B Coaching Session
- 9/30 Culturally Responsive Teaching & Learning Modules Overview & Kickoff



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>





Reading Horizons®

According to the most recent NAEP results, two-thirds of students across New Mexico are not reading proficiently by fourth grade. And by eighth grade, they're falling even further behind. At Reading Horizons, we feel these numbers in our core. These statistics represent real students who will struggle in all aspects of life without a strong reading foundation.

But, there's more to the problem. Many teachers find it almost impossible to provide a solid reading foundation for all K-3 students. At Reading Horizons alone, we hear from thousands of educators every year who are frustrated with programs that work for some students but leave others quietly falling behind.

Reading Horizons is the breakthrough you and your students deserve! This powerful phonics curriculum and training program has equipped more than 50,000 educators to help all their students read proficiently by the end of third grade.

Here's why it works:

- **We devour the science.** Decades of research have formed the Science of Reading and the Science of Learning. Our full-time job is to dissect findings so we can continuously arm teachers with the field's latest and greatest reading discoveries.
- **Then, make it practical for the classroom.** We work hand-in-hand with teachers to develop resources that transform the complexities of an evolving science into easy-to-implement resources for all students, regardless of learning differences.
- **So teachers can maximize their impact.** With turn-key lesson plans and software that tracks student progress in real time, teachers can be more efficient, more effective, and focus their attention where it's most needed.
- But at Reading Horizons, we believe you deserve more than a static curriculum. It's why we consider ourselves your teaching partners. You can count on the fact that, whether to offer support or to celebrate success, we'll know you by name and pick up when you call.
- For more information and additional resources please visit readinghorizons.com.

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