



Inyo County Office of Education  
Barry D. Simpson, Superintendent

# The Inyo Insight

An Education Newsletter from the Inyo County Office of Education  
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## Attend, Achieve, Succeed!

By Barry Simpson

It's my pleasure to announce the Attend, Achieve, Succeed campaign for Inyo Schools!

This program is a collaboration between the Inyo County Office of Education and Aerohead Cycles. Together we are committed to improving the overall daily attendance in all Inyo County Schools.

The Inyo County Office of Education is providing incentives for



Inyo County students K-12 with perfect attendance and improved attendance for three select time periods, or "blocks" of attendance throughout the year. Each block is approximately 1.5 months. Students can qualify for the incentives for one, two or all three blocks of time. Every elementary student in Inyo County who meets the attendance criteria for the incentive program will receive a prize at the end of Blocks 1 and 2 and a raffle ticket for the Grand Prize Bicycle at the end of Block 3. All Inyo High and Middle School students will receive an opportunity to win an Apple

AirPod 2 with Wireless Charging Stations and a Kindle Fire 10 HD in a raffle at the end of Blocks 1 and 2 and a raffle ticket for the Grand Prize Bicycle at the end of Block 3. The Grand Prize Bicycles

have been provided by Aerohead Cycles.

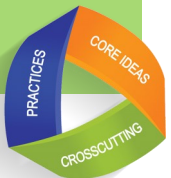
The attendance incentive program for Inyo County Schools will take place during the following three time blocks:

- Block 1 .Oct.1-Nov.15
- Block 2. Feb.1-March 31
- Block 3. April 1-May 15

Research indicates consistent attendance has a positive impact on student achievement and school connectedness. Unfortunately, chronically absent students, particularly K-5 students, struggle to develop foundational academic skills and continue to score lower in math and reading in later grades. These gaps tend to grow as they progress from grade to grade. Students who are not chronically absent, but still have poor attendance, also struggle to grow key academic skills and also fall behind. It is essential that we get our students to school every-day. Thank you Aerohead Cycles. Attend! Achieve! Succeed!



## Cause and Effect: Inyo County STEAM Showcase



Science Fair 2018



Smoothie making mountain bike!  
NCSOS STEAM Expo [video here](#)

To better promote 21<sup>st</sup> century educational goals, the Inyo County Office of Education is hosting the first ever Inyo County STEAM Showcase as an alternative to the traditional science fair. Student innovations that incorporate science, technology, engineering, art, and math transform learning by encouraging exploration, investigation, critical thinking, and problem solving. Our goal is to showcase education and hands on learning already occurring in our schools!

This event is open to students in ALL grades (K-12). Students can enter projects as individuals, in a group, or as a whole class. Teachers will be responsible for reviewing projects against the rubric and facilitating project registration. This year's theme is "Cause and Effect" and projects can be submitted in categories ranging from invention/engineering to creating STEAM.

Coming soon to your school email inbox will be the 2020 Inyo County STEAM Showcase handbook detailing the project timeline, guidelines, rubric, and much more.

Please save the date! Thursday, April 30, 2020, 4:30 - 7:30pm at the Tri-County Fairgrounds. Contact Mini at [mdoonan@inyocoe.org](mailto:mdoonan@inyocoe.org) with questions.



Example from Sonoma County Office of Education's STEAM Showcase, students perform "Dance of the Molecules"  
[Watch the video by clicking this link](#)

# Digital Resources

By Ilissa Twomey

Looking for digital resources to support your instruction? Try these resources:

- [KOED Learn](#) – an online space for student inquiry, discussion, and collaboration that connects middle and high school classrooms.
- [Above the Noise](#) – a video series for teens that asks questions about issues affecting their daily lives and dives into the data and research behind those issues.
- [CalSnap](#) - Many resources from the California State Library, California Streaming, encyclopedias and more!

Or, participate in an interactive webinar hosted by the California Academy of Sciences or the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

- [Spooktacular Skulls](#) (3rd-5th grades) October 30th and 31st, 9:10am and 10:10am  
Looking to make Halloween excitement into a fun science experience? Come face-to-face with a diversity of spooktacular skulls! Watch a live colony of flesh-eating beetles in action as they devour and clean flesh from bones. Examine eye sockets, teeth, and other features to find out if mystery skulls were predator or prey.
- [Art & Science: Nature as your Muse](#) (K-2nd grades) November 14th and 15th, 9:10am and 10:10am  
Nature is a muse that inspires artists and scientists to imagine, design and create their work. This live, educator-led broadcast will help students find their own inspiration from nature. Join classes from around the country to observe art and practice scientific sketching skills.
- [Tour of the Night Sky](#) (3rd-6th grades) December 19th and 20th, 9:10am and 10:10am  
Have you ever wondered if that shiny star in the sky is actually a planet? This December, students around the world will have a lively conversation with an astronomy educator from the Morrison Planetarium. We will discover what's so special about the planets we observe in the winter night sky.
- American Indians are part of the past, present, and future of the United States. Explore histories and cultures of some American Indians as captured by both Native and non-Native artists. Discuss the influence of geography, tradition, and tribal affiliation on contemporary Indian artists. Through inquiry-based questions and discussion, presenters engage with participants as they explore artworks together. For more information, including how to book this experience visit this [WEBSITE](#).

If you would like to sharpen your own digital media skills check out these links:

- [KOED Teach](#) – free professional learning courses for educators to develop digital media skills to bring to the classroom.
- [Media Literacy Educator Certification](#) – earn micro-credentials to showcase media literacy competencies with digital badges to share accomplishments.



## Student Spotlight

Evan Bocanegra, a student at the Small Steps Preschool became more verbal after a brief interaction with JKBS student Melody Taylor and Hen-rietta (chicken).

*If you have an image to share showing exemplary character traits, engaged learning or school spirit, please email it to [mduonan@inyocoe.org](mailto:mduonan@inyocoe.org) with a caption and it may appear in our newsletter!*

## Welcome Educators!

*Congratulations to all of the following individuals who have accepted new positions!*

### BISHOP USD

Bishop Elementary:  
Kaylee McDermott  
Home Street MS:  
Autumn Tyerman

### OWENS VALLEY USD

Jennifer Ray  
Cassandra Castillo  
Ariel Bohr

## Local Climate Educator Training Provided by Inyo350

By Betsy McDonald

Inyo350, a local action network, is providing Climate Educator Training to increase the cadre of people trained to deliver climate education to students, adults, congregations, etc. You don't need to be an expert to teach about climate change, just a willingness to learn and share.

Sharon Markenson is the trainer. She has been providing climate education for six years and was trained by Al Gore. She shares her slideshow, script and experience with us free of charge. Sharon has been presenting in schools in Los Angeles for six years and in Inyo County schools for 2 years, and is a retired English teacher.

The next training is Sunday, October 20th, 2:00 -4:00 PM, George Lozito Conference Room at the Inyo County Office of Education, 166 Grandview Drive, Bishop. Coffee, tea, and snacks will be provided; please bring your reusable mugs and utensils. Please RSVP to [betsymcdonald19@gmail.com](mailto:betsymcdonald19@gmail.com) if you will be attending. If you are a classroom teacher, please provide your grade level and specific requests. We will strive to offer you resources specific to

your grade and standards. First time participants welcome! If you attended previous trainings, we hope that you will be ready to show your introduction and a few slides from the education part of your presentation.

Subsequent dates for training are November 10th and December 1st. You may attend these either in person or by Zoom.

Please feel free to email Betsy McDonald with any questions.



Walkout for Climate Change at BUHS on September 30, 2019.