



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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Welcome from Inyo County Superintendent

By Barry D. Simpson

Hello Everyone,

Welcome Back! Wow, that seems like a very strange thing to say at this time, but I will say it anyway. While our circumstances are not what we had hoped, I am glad that we are once again able to see our students faces, even virtually, and be able to provide them with a little normalcy in this very difficult time. I hope each of you enjoyed at least a little relaxation during this summer and are feeling ready for the challenges ahead.

The longer I have been in this profession the more I realize how difficult our job has become and this pandemic has once again proven that to be true. But, in the face of all this uncertainty, I know you will continue to meet these new challenges and be there for our community and for our students.

We all know and appreciate that teaching is one of those rare professions where each year brings new hope and possibility. This year is no different, yes we are seeing our students through a computer screen, but that does not diminish the hope we have for each and every one of them. It does not diminish the expectation that we have for each of them to fulfill their potential and it doesn't diminish the responsibility we have to every learner. While we expect great things for our students, I want you to know

that we expect great things from you, our teachers, as well. We know that you can rise and meet this new challenge as you have time and time again.

Our job at the Inyo County Office of Education is to enable you to empower students. We want you to have the tools and resources you need to do great things. While we may not be able to provide everything you'd like, we want you to know we feel a great responsibility for doing all we can to support you. Now more than ever we should come together as an educational community and find new ways to support our students and each other.

I wish you the very best and I hope you have a wonderful new school year. Remember, we here at the Inyo County Office of Education are always your educational partner. Please reach out to us and we will do our best to find the support you need!



Ongoing Professional Learning

Every Other Friday @ 1:15pm

Loom - Sept 4

Join the ICOE Ed Services team for an overview of Loom and learn how to create video to support your students and parents.

Peardeck - Sept 18

PearDeck is a tool that allows teachers to integrate interactive questions into Google Slides.

*ICOE is looking into a county license.

Link to Join:

<https://inyocoe.zoom.us/j/97690136738>

Becoming an online teacher has certainly brought many challenges to our profession, however, due to the limited travel within our state many teacher supports and resources are now available at the click of a Zoom link. The Ed Services website has a professional learning calendar that is continually updated (<https://learn.inyocoe.org/teachers/professional-learning>) with various subject specific and ed tech offerings. On this page, you will also find recordings of Zoom webinars conducted by our staff as well as all the sessions offered on August 11th and 12th on the Pre Service PD tab. If you are interested in learning more about Loom, a screencasting tool, please join us this Friday. Link to join: <https://inyocoe.zoom.us/j/97690136738>

In addition, the Ed Services team is offering the following opportunities for you to ask questions, interact with other Inyo teachers and see how Google Tools can be integrated into your teaching:

Sept. 8: Docs & Drive

Sept. 10: Slides

Sept. 15: Forms

Sept. 17: Managing Workflow in Google Classroom

If you can't make it, recordings will be posted to our website, or feel free to schedule a one-on-one or small group meeting with us using this link: <https://calendly.com/ed-services/distance-learning> or call extension 2106.

Google Tools: Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 2:15pm

Presented by Ed Services & local teachers. See how Google Tools can be integrated into your teaching. Practice time and Q&A included. What would you like to learn? Fill out this [FORM](#).

- Sept. 8: Docs & Drive
Fundamentals for teachers and students of Google Docs and quick overview of how you can organize your Drive
- Sept. 10: Slides
How to create slides for instruction and promote student interaction.
- Sept. 15: Forms
Basics of Google Forms for formative assessment and surveys
- Sept. 17: Managing Workflow in Google Classroom
Learn some tips & tricks to increase efficiency, including Aeries integration for grading

Link to Join:

<https://inyocoe.zoom.us/j/96116420356>

Need support? Here are some places to find it!

By Maggie Riley

Right now all teachers need help and support in making the transition to this new way of teaching and learning for the new school year. Besides fellow teachers at your school, the county office (we're here to help!), and our Distance Learning Site (<http://learn.inyocoe.org>), other places to look for help with much larger communities of educators are online groups or forums for distance teachers. One that I've found to be very active and helpful is **Distance Learning Educators** on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/distancelearningeducators/>. This is my current favorite because it is very active and people are incredibly helpful and giving. Need something? Ask for it and you'll have dozens of responses with ideas, links to resources, or offers to share materials! Posts are labeled so you can search for what you need. Try it out and you'll find that you truly are not alone in this!

Student Wellness—Attend a Virtual Conference at Your Convenience!

Attending to our own and our students' wellness is important in the best of times; in a pandemic it is paramount! Over the summer San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools partnered with Behavioral Health to put on a virtual conference on wellness: 2020 Perspective: Engage, Empower, Elevate. Resources from this conference are open and free to all through the month of September. To access the resources, visit this link (<https://sbcss.6connex.com/event/SRSWC/login>) and register. Once you are registered, you will have access to keynote addresses from Dr. Pedro Noguera and others in the Auditorium section of the virtual conference. In the Breakout Rooms section, you will find recordings of all the sessions offered at the conference ranging from an introduction to trauma informed practices to supporting students with mental health needs to media literacy to working in a blended environment. To give you an idea of what was offered, you can see the conference agenda here (<https://bit.ly/3boMIav>). If you find a resource you like, don't forget to download it and save it...this resource is available only through the month of September. Below is a screenshot indicating where to click to register:



Raffle: Virtual Fall CUE Conference 2020

Interested in expanding your ed tech knowledge? Enter for a chance to win a spot at CUE's fall conference where educators share how they use technology to enhance instruction. Best practices and innovation will be taught through engaging sessions on various topics, including SEL, CTE instruction, pedagogical practices, math, science, history, and much more! For a full session descriptions, [click here](#).

Conference Details:

When? October 22 - October 26

Time? Afternoon/evening sessions with morning sessions offered on the weekend

Cost? \$79 or free for 10 Inyo County Educators

That's right! ICOE is giving away 10 registrations to the Virtual Fall CUE Conference. To enter the raffle, [click this link](#) and complete the form before September 25th.

For more information about the event, visit the [event website](#).



Save the Date!

**VIRTUAL 8TH
GRADE COLLEGE
DAY**
OCTOBER 14,
2020



**POETRY
OUT LOUD**

POETRY OUT LOUD
FEBRUARY 2021
9th-12th Grades

Inyo Council for the Arts or virtual



SPELLING BEE
FEBRUARY 25,
2021
4th-8th Grades
Jill Kinmont
Boothe School



HISTORY DAY
MARCH 11, 2021
4th-12th Grades
Jill Kinmont Boothe School
or virtual

**SPEECH
CONTEST**

MARCH 24,
2021
6th-8th Grades
Jill Kinmont
Boothe School
or virtual



**COLLEGE AND
CAREER DAY**
5th Grade
TBD

Please contact Mini at
mdoonan@inyocoe.org with
questions about student events.