



The Inyo Insight

An Education Newsletter from the Inyo County Office of Education

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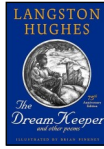
learn.inyocoe.org

February/March 2022

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



February is National African American Heritage or Black History month! Webinars, gallery talks, discussions, and other virtual events can be found on this [website](#) and we also gathered many resources below. Click on the images and sign in to Calsnap, Newsela, and Britannica to view!



Lone Pine FFA Chapter - Nationally Recognized

Last fall, Lone Pine High School FFA chapter was one of five schools in California recognized at the 94th annual National FFA Convention & Expo for their placement in the 2021 National Chapter Award Program from the National FFA Organization. The program recognizes outstanding FFA chapters throughout the country that actively implement the mission and strategies of the FFA organization. In addition to being one of the five schools in California recognized for receiving the maximum 3 star chapter rating, Lone Pine High School FFA was recognized as the 2021 California State National Chapter Award winner.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

In addition to the school being awarded, Lone Pine FFA students Luke Sullivan and Rebecca Tsosie were awarded the American FFA Degree at the national convention. This degree is bestowed upon a select group of students in recognition of their years of academic and professional excellence. Eligibility requires investment in a supervised agricultural experience program, community service, and demonstration of outstanding leadership abilities. [Click here](#) to read the full article. We congratulate Lone Pine FFA for their outstanding performance!

Inyo County Office of Education wanted to learn more about the Lone Pine FFA program and had the pleasure of interviewing current FFA student, Jessica Milsap, to discuss her experience at the National FFA Convention & Expo and her involvement in the Lone Pine FFA program.

Jessica, a current senior at Lone Pine High School spent the last 7 years involved in agriculture programs, specifically 4H and the Lone Pine FFA program for her entire high school career. One of her favorite aspects of the program includes animal husbandry.

Jessica loves caring for and working with animals and through the years she has had the opportunity to show chickens, rabbits, lambs, dairy goats, pigs, and this is her first year working with a steer. Preparation for the show takes a lot of hours of raising and practicing with the animal. One of her favorite aspects of showing animals is the competitiveness that is involved in showing.



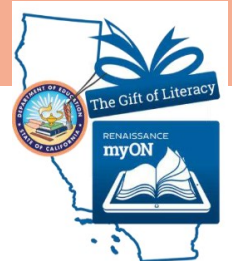
Lone Pine FFA Student, Jessica Milsap, with her show steer

Other important aspects of the FFA program involve leadership and public speaking. Jessica attended the State convention when she was a freshman in high school and described it as being one of her most memorable experiences. As a delegate for her chapter, Jessica was responsible for attending meetings with other delegates to discuss ways to improve their chapters. Jessica mentioned feeling "like [she] was involved with so much of the function instead of just being an attendee." Jessica also learned a lot about public speaking and meeting new people at the convention, and ended her time with a fun trip to Disneyland.

When asked if she had any advice for other students that might be interested in getting involved in 4H or FFA, Jessica responded by saying "...give it a shot! Taking care of animals and building a connection has to be one the pest past times and great hobby to have. It may be difficult at first but once you get the hang of it and the animal is bonded to you it is an experience that will last a lifetime."

Renaissance Digital Reading - Extended!

On January 25, State Superintendent Tony Thurmond announced that unlimited access to myON digital books and daily news articles for students in California has been extended until Monday, February 28, 2022. A partnership with Renaissance Learning, Inc., was originally announced in December to give students from pre-K to twelfth grade [The Gift of Literacy](#) and provide them an opportunity to engage in reading at home, at school, and in the community.



Spelling Bee Results

Seventeen students from local elementary and middle schools participated in the 2021-22 countywide Spelling Bee competition at Jill Kinmont Boothe School. The winners were:

- 1st—Anne Song, HSMS
- 2nd—Avygnon Reilly-Todd, LP
- 3rd—Charlotte Haverstock, BES

After much competition with words like parsimonious, doggerel, and funambulist, the winning word was accessory.

Thank you coaches: Tim Steele, Megan Fuchs, Tracy Magan, Bob Heist, Gemma Arana, and Rory Winzenread for working with students to prepare for the bee, and the local Altrusa Chapter for sponsoring the Spelling Bee competition.

Anne Song and Charlotte Haverstock will be recognized as participants of the State Elementary Bee. Avygnon Reilly-Todd and Drake Martinez (OV) will represent Inyo at the tentatively scheduled virtual Junior High State Bee in May.

Congratulations to all the student participants!



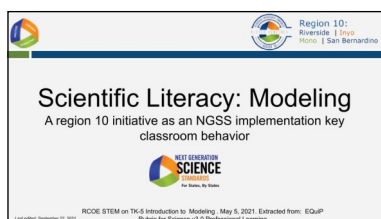
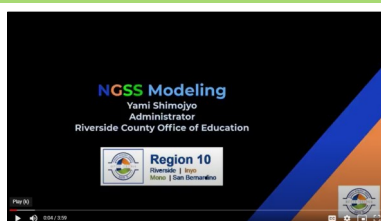
STEMapalooza is a virtual STEM experience for ALL of San Bernardino and Riverside County 4th - 8th grade students, hosted by San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools' Alliance for Education and contributing partners. The purpose of STEMapalooza is to provide students with exciting STEM learning experiences that expose students to STEM careers, the essential skills those careers require, and the pathways that lead to them. This free virtual experience will feature engaging keynote speakers, STEM activities, career exploration, industry tours, and informative videos from industry professionals, STEM-related high school pathways, and STEM-related postsecondary programs.

STEMapalooza will have **new content available each day from February 22nd - 25th**, however, you will have access to the platform until mid-March. This means you and your students can still access all the on-demand content until mid-March. [Learn more and register here!](#)

NGSS Modeling

Riverside County Office of Education has formed several groups to support NGSS Implementation. RCOE determined that the instructional implementation focus is around the SEP of Modeling. They are making things as simple as possible, and sharing this implementation information with Inyo County!

[Click this link](#) or the video in the top right for a quick demonstration by Yamileth Shimojyo. There are also slides for the Elementary and Middle School Modeling Module. If you are interested in gathering more information, being a part of the region 10 meetings, or have any questions, please feel free to contact Mini at mdoonan@inyocoe.org or call extension 2106.



The Inyo County **STEAM Showcase** is scheduled for April 28th and there's still plenty of time to plan to participate! Even if you don't know how you will participate yet, please complete this [interest form](#) if you would like to have your student involved and we can work on things together. Contact Mini at mdoonan@inyocoe.org with any questions and visit our [website here!](#)

We Love Learning!



Native Ways of Knowing Webinar Series - Supporting Literacy and Culturally Responsive

Instruction for Native American Students; on-going free series through April 12

Arts Education Framework - Join arts educators on March 1 for an overview of the updated arts framework. Register [here](#).

Learn how to utilize the research tools such **ProQuest, Britannica, and National Geographic Kids** available to you and your students. Various dates and topics available. Check out this [catalog](#) for more information.

The Sum of It All - join this asynchronous short reads book club on maths. Read the article, then listen to podcast and if you like interact with others on Twitter.

Please contact Ilissa Twomey at ext. 2197 or via email (itwomey@inyocoe.org) if you have questions on any of these opportunities and **check our PD Calendar** for additional offerings.

Congratulations!

In the January newsletter we raffled two gift cards just for reading our newsletter! The winners of the raffle were Heather Burror, Big Pine and David Fulkerson, HSMS. Keep an eye out for future raffles!



Directing Change is an evaluated program that engages youth to learn about mental health, suicide prevention and other critical health and social justice topics through film and art.

To learn more or participate, click [this link](#) to view a flyer or visit their website here: www.directingchange.org