



APACHE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS AN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY

DR. PAULINE M. BEGAY,
APACHE COUNTY
SUPERINTENDENT OF
SCHOOLS

**P.O. Box 548
75 N. 1st W.
St. Johns, AZ 85936
Phone:
(928) 337-7539
Fax:
(928) 337-2033
Web Site:
www.acsbc.net**

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 13

JULY 9, 2009

*The only thing harder
than managing a bunch
of students is to do it
while driving a bus!*

-Todd Whitaker



Northern Apache County: Ms. Mary Phillips, 2009 Teacher of the Year Window Rock Unified School District. Dr. Pauline M. Begay, Apache County Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Doug Clauschee, Principal Chinle High School.

From the Desk of Dr. Pauline M. Begay

Hello Everyone! It has been a very interesting quarter from April to June 2009 for our department. Let me highlight some of my major activities and successful events.

I met with the new Navajo Nation Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Andrew Tah, who will oversee the B.I.A., and B.I.E. schools on the Navajo reservation. The N.A.T.I.V.E. Board met at the Sanders High School Library (way to go!). The high school graduations at Red Mesa, Round Valley, and Window Rock were excellent. All graduates (who passed their AIMS tests) smiled from ear to ear. Congratulations to all! It's time to pursue college careers. Dine Bi'olta' Immersion School 8th graders were promoted to the 9th grade. These students learned how to read and write the Navajo and English languages! (Could this be a double graduation ceremony at the same time?)

The Puget Sound Peer Coaching presentation in Chinle was fantastic! The Math workshop presented by Catherine Fosnot of New York was all about collaborative learning! The Arizona Association of County School Superintendents (15 of us) had our quarterly meeting in Phoenix. I joined the Arizona Indian Education Association. I earned my DD certificate by attending the Defensive Driving training in St. Johns (which we all need).

Math-Formulas for Success! Summer Academies in St. Johns and Chinle were successful. There were over one hundred participants, including presenters and exhibitors. Thank you Chinle and St. Johns Unified School Districts for the use of your facilities and for the great meals prepared by your staff.

The Apache County Departmental budget preparation included a 7% cut for the next fiscal year (a hiring freeze is in the works). An Intergovernmental Agreement with the Sheriff Dedman's Dept. for Jail Education & funding in St. Johns was implemented. We monitored all school district budgets and expenditures very closely, to avoid over expenditures in Maintenance and Operation, Capital outlay and Soft Capital budget capacities and cash balances. Arizona law states that we report to the State Board of Education if a school over expends their budget capacity. A Legislative Hearing held at the Window Rock High School was held to voice our concerns on Education Bills. Rep. Chris Descheenie, Rep. Lujan, Rep. Chabin were listeners!

We will continue to seek grant funds for teacher trainings. Somewhere there is a jackpot waiting regardless of the state budget deficit. Enjoy the day!

Summer Academy 2009

June 10, 11, 2009 St. Johns

June 17, 18, 2009 Chinle



Sarah Baird,
2009 Arizona Teacher of the Year



Michael B. Whiting,
Apache County Attorney



Camala Natay, 2007 Apache County
Teacher of the Year

The Summer Academies, titled "Math: Formulas for Success," were attended by fifty-five teachers from across Apache County. Emphasis was on Math instruction skills at all levels. Workshops were given by experts in education, government service, industry and educational publishing. Topics ranged from, "Discover Discrete Math" by Sarah Baird, Arizona's 2009 'Teacher of the Year,' to "Aligning Research Results for Continuous Improvement," by Dr. Florinda Jackson, educational consultant. Other presenters included: Leman and Janifer Booher of Ganado USD, Kim Dugdale of St. Johns USD, Katie Aikens of the Arizona Farm Bureau, Ron Cisco of SRP's Coronado Generating Station, Corvina Etsitty and Bonica Jones of Chinle USD, Darla Udall of Round Valley USD, Barry Williams of the Apache County Superintendent of School's TIS Office, Lindsey Klein and Josh Leitz of Backbone Communications and Elizabeth Redmond of Adaptive Curriculum, interactive Math curriculum publishers.

Tom White of Alpine and Mary Phillips of Window Rock were honored as Apache County's 'Teachers of the Year,' while Bryan Hollebeak of St. Johns USD and Doug Clauschee of Chinle USD took the "Administrator of the Year" honors. Special guest speakers included Sarah Baird, the Arizona 2009 Teacher of the Year, Michael Whiting, Apache County Attorney, Jan Amator of ADE, Camala Natay of Chinle, James Devlin, Vernon Elementary School, Mark Deschinny of Cultural Design, and Dr. Pauline M. Begay, Apache County Superintendent of Schools. We wish to thank all those at the St. Johns and the Chinle Districts who assisted in hosting these events. Everyone in attendance had a great time and was pleased with the workshops and the inspiring words of the speakers.

Thank You! Vendors, Donors, Participants and Guest Speakers for your help and encouragement! The Summer Academy for 2009 was a great success!



Southern Apache County:
Bryan Hollebeak,
2009 Administrator of the Year.
Coronado Elementary Principal.



Southern Apache County: Tom
White, 2009 Teacher of the Year.
Alpine Elementary District #7.



Opening General Session, St. Johns High School Library

Technology

The **Library of Congress** is the world's largest library, with millions of books, recordings, photographs, maps and manuscripts in its collections. Since the earliest days of the Internet, the Library's primary Web site at <http://www.loc.gov/> has led the way in making these rich resources and treasures available to the American people.

The Library's new, personalized site, [myLOC.gov](http://myloc.gov), presents many of these items in compelling online exhibitions that reveal our nation's history, knowledge and creativity through primary sources, engaging activities and materials for teachers and students.

Plan your visit. Use this site to get familiar with the Library. Plan a visit to the Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. If you've already been here, you can revisit the exhibits and build your personal collection of Library objects.

Touch history. MyLOC.gov is also an online museum with exhibitions and interactive features that bring rare historical books and objects to life. See the edits on the Declaration of Independence. Read the hieroglyphics on a Mayan vase. Turn the pages of The Builder's Dictionary, once owned by Thomas Jefferson.

Get lesson plans. MyLOC.gov has dozens of lesson plans, all created and organized around the books and items on display that will help teachers use primary sources to bring history to life.

Plus, there are cool activities for students. Zoom into maps. Do a word search related to the founding documents of the United States. Try your hand at re-writing the Declaration of Independence.

Professional Development

The next three-year cycle of support from ADE will be to follow-up and expand on the summer academies' theme of Math instruction. Cooperation is being arranged with institutes of higher education, various agencies and publishers, and other resources to provide a long-term, focused strategy to help in this important subject area.

Continued professional development services were delivered in cooperation with Chris Chiesl and Susie Martin of our T.E.M.P. Program, through a combination of in-person and video conferencing sessions with Ganado and Sanders, assisting teachers studying for certification, and a final study-preparation session held in St. Johns on June 26.

Legislative News

Today the Legislature passed a budget to fund K-12 education. The budget is only 20 pages and does include the majority of items that were included in the education budget the Governor vetoed. The components of the legislative budget plan include:

- A 2% increase in the 2008-09 Base Level (the Base Level after the 2008-09 cuts). This would make the 2009-10 Base Level \$3,267.72 (without Teacher Comp.). This is the Base Level that will be used to calculate your 2009-10 budget limit, including override amounts.
- Increases the Transportation Support Level per mile by 2%.
- Increases the Additional Assistance for Charter Schools to \$1,588.44 for grades K-8 and \$1,851.30 for grades 9-12.
- No funding for early K repeaters with an exemption for pupils enrolled in a kindergarten program before the effective date of the new law
- Until October 1, 2009, a Career Ladder district is not permitted to exceed the amount that was budgeted for Career Ladder in fiscal 2008-09.
- Until October 1, 2009, a district is not permitted to adjust its Revenue Control Limit for 2009-10 using the new utility funding formula (A.R.S. 15-918.04). No utility funding plan is required. Until October 1, 2009, a school district is not permitted to exceed the amount that was budgeted for desegregation expenses in fiscal year 2008-09.
- Until October 1, 2009, a school district is not permitted to exceed the amount that was budgeted for desegregation expenses in fiscal year 2008-2009.
- Until October 1, 2009, the Department of Education shall reduce the state aid and budget capacity by \$175 million for state aid districts and reduce the budget capacity for Soft Capital by a similar amount.

Under this proposal, if the state does not take additional action by October 1, 2009, the full funding for Soft Capital, the new utility formula and Career Ladder are restored. All other components such as assessment ratio changes, 15% overrides, etc. are not part of this budget proposal. It also appears that many items like Rapid Decline and the State Equalization Tax Rate (formerly the County Education Rate) are currently back in place. But, remember, the Legislature still needs to balance the state budget and items could change in August.

The Legislature has not fixed all of our state's budget problems. However, the action they took today will allow them time to work out solutions for the future.



Dr. Begay serves as an advisory committee member for US Congresswoman, Ann Kirkpatrick.

School Highlights

St. Johns Unified School District #1
Concho Elementary School District #6
Alpine Elementary School District #7
Window Rock Unified School District #8
Vernon Elementary School District #9
Round Valley Unified School District #10
Sanders Unified School District #18
Ganado Unified School District #20
McNary Elementary School District #23
Chinle Unified School District #24
Red Mesa Unified School District #27

First Day of School

Teachers

August 12, 2009
 August 6, 2009
 August 3, 2009
 August 3, 2009
 August 6, 2009
 August 10, 2009
 July 29, 2009
 August 3, 2009
 August 3, 2009
 July 30, 2009
 August 3, 2009

Students

August 17, 2009
 August 12, 2009
 August 5, 2009
 August 5, 2009
 August 12, 2009
 August 12, 2009
 August 3, 2009
 August 6, 2009
 August 5, 2009
 August 3, 2009
 August 6, 2009



Report Due to ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	Due Date
Proposed Budget (approved & uploaded)	July 5th
Adopted Budget (approved by Board)	July 15th
Bus Inventory	July 15th
Adopted Budget (uploaded)	July 18th
Excess Utilities Report to be uploaded with Adopted Budget	July 18th
PEA/LEA Calendar	Before August 31st
Annual Financial Report	October 15th
Affidavit of Publication	Within 30 Days of Publishing
School District Employees Report (SDER)	October 15th
Absence Approvals	April 15th
Final Budget Revision (approved by Board)	May 15th
Final Budget Revision (uploaded)	May 18th

Staff

Dr. Pauline M. Begay, Superintendent 928-337-7539
DrPaulineMB@apachecountyschools.net
 Nellie P. Pena, Chief Deputy 928-337-7540
npena@apachecountyschools.net
 Andrew Marshall, Professional Development Coordinator 928-337-7546
amarshall@apachecountyschools.net
 R. Barry Williams, Technology Integration Specialist 928-337-7643
bwilliams@apachecountyschools.net
 Gabriella Romero, Administrative Asst. 928-337-7539
Gabie@apachecountyschools.net
 Olivia Aranda, Payroll Specialist 928-337-7544
ocastillo@apachecountyschools.net
 Ginny Hoyt, Account Specialist 928-337-7542
ghoyt@apachecountyschools.net
 Janai Holowell, Account Specialist 928-337-7543
jholowell@apachecountyschools.net
 Chris Chiesl, Project Director 928-337-7541
cchiesl@apachecountyschools.net
 Susan Martin, Mentor/Coach 928-337-7541

Vision Statement

Student success through building a stronger partnership with districts, federal and state agencies, local communities and parents.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Apache County Superintendent of Schools and staff is to provide educational and fiscal services that will enhance student achievement in partnership with districts and local communities, and to work cooperatively with federal and state agencies in identifying the changing educational needs of Apache County and the complex communities we serve.