

THE SUPERINTENDENT'S Pipeline

JANUARY 2000

IN THIS ISSUE

Update: Report Card

ESD Taskforce
Survey Coming

CIM Celebrations

State Tests Begin

Special Ed Cap
Waivers Due

Board Meeting
Dates Changed

Test Manuals Ready

Please Share Pipeline!



From My Desk to Yours

A Message from Stan Bunn
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

January 2000 has been heralded as the dawn of the new millennium, the start of the century, and simply as the new year. But for those of us in education, January is really the middle of the year – and often it is a high pressure time in schools and district offices.

Schools are facing the end of the semester, with final exams, grades due, semester schedule changes, and report cards or parent conferences.

Statewide tests in writing and mathematics problem solving start the end of January, and for the first time ever, the Department will be releasing individual school and district report cards. In the central office, projections for next school year and budget work seem to consume all the available time. Add to that the potential for winter weather closures, and your office may begin to resemble a pressure cooker!

When pressure and stress begin to build, it is important to know whom to contact for help. I want you to feel good about calling on any of my staff at the Department of Education, knowing you'll get an accurate and timely response. For some of the specific issues mentioned above, you can call on the following people:

Topic/Contact Person	E-mail Address	Phone
Statewide Assessment Wayne Neuburger	wayne.neuburger@state.or.us	503-378-5585 ext. 272
School/District Report Cards Mardale Dunsworth	mardale.dunsworth@state.or.us	503-378-8004 ext. 225
Scheduling/Grading Issues Randy Harnisch	randy.harnisch@state.or.us	503-378-8004 ext. 222
Budget Questions Nancy Heiligman	nancy.heiligman@state.or.us	503-378-5532 ext. 441

In addition, the Department has updated our "Yellow Pages" so you can look by topic for the specific staff person who has the most expertise to help you. The updated "Yellow Pages" can be found on the website at www.ode.state.or.us/pubs/directory/yellow.pdf. Please feel free to use our assistance liberally. If there are ways I can directly be of assistance you may contact me at stan.bunn@state.or.us or at 503-378-3573. Clark Brody and Greg McMurdo, Deputy Superintendents, are also ready to be of service and can be reached at the same telephone number or by e-mail at clark.brody@state.or.us or greg.mcmurdo@state.or.us.

Sincerely,
Stan Bunn
Stan Bunn

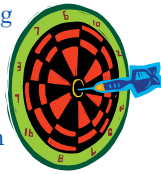
Update: Report Cards

After Jan. 10, please check our web site for resources to help you communicate with your staff, school board members, parents and others about the report cards. The address is www.ode.state.or.us/reportcard/

Also, remember the following dates to help you plan: Districts must verify data by Jan. 18. Superintendents will be contacted by Jan. 26 if any schools are rated "low" or "unacceptable." Copies of actual report cards will be accessible to districts by Jan. 28. Feb. 1 the Department will release report cards publicly. Deadline for districts to send report cards to schools is Mar. 31.

State Tests Begin

Students in grades 3, 5, 8, and 10 will be taking the statewide writing assessment during January and early February. Fifth, eighth and tenth graders will also take the mathematics problem solving assessment.



Schools are working hard to create a good testing environment for students. Newsletter articles for parents about the statewide tests were distributed earlier this year and can be accessed currently at <http://www.ode.state.or.us/edact/newsletters/index.htm>.

Test Manuals Ready

The Administration Manuals for the 1999-2000 Statewide Assessments in Mathematics Problem Solving and Writing are available on the Department of Education's website at http://www.ode.state.or.us/asmt/MPS_DWAadminman2.pdf

Test materials, including print copies of the Administration Manuals, are being shipped to school districts beginning the first week of for these tests.

ESD Taskforce Survey Coming

School district superintendents are being asked to complete a survey during the first two weeks of January. The electronic survey is posted on the Department of Education's website, where district responses will also be collected.

The purpose of the survey is to gather information for the ESD Taskforce about services provided by regional ESDs and other service providers. In addition, the survey seeks to identify unmet district needs and future needs that districts foresee.

Contact person is Angie Steppe at angie.steppe@state.or.us or 503-378-3573 ext. 533.

Special Ed Cap Waivers Due

Applications for waivers to the 11% CAP on state school funds weighted ADM for students served in special education programs are due to the Department by January 15, 2000. Application forms and information have been sent to all school districts that exceeded the 11% CAP in 1998-99 via numbered memorandum 107-1999-00. Another memorandum was sent to those districts that did not exceed the 11% CAP last year, informing them that they are not eligible to submit a waiver. For more information, contact Bob Siewert, 503-378-3598, ext. 645; or bob.siewert@state.or.us.



CIM Celebrations

Nearly a dozen high schools held a ceremony earlier this fall to honor students who had achieved the CIM based on their 10th grade tests and work samples. Astoria High School gives a \$300 scholarship to students who earn the CIM by graduation.



If you have plans for either a celebration or an incentive, please e-mail Tanya Gross at tanya.gross@state.or.us with details. As the information from various schools is compiled, it will be made available to others looking for ideas or partners.

Board Meeting Dates Changed

The date for the State Board of Education meeting in January has been changed. The Board will consider K-12 items on Jan. 25 and Community College items on Jan. 26.

Please Share Pipeline!

Many people, including local district school board members, are requesting The Superintendent's Pipeline.

Our goal is to remain a web-based publication, but you can help. Remind your administrators, teachers, board members and others of the website address, <http://www.ode.state.or.us>. You are also welcome to print a few copies for those in your immediate contact without internet access.

If you have questions or comments about this publication, please contact Barbara Wolfe, communications team, at barbara.wolfe@state.or.us or (503) 378-3310 ext. 440