



<b>Special points of interest:</b>	
News from Executive Director	WIA Update
News from Business Office	Perkins/Tech Prep
Medicaid update	What LRE is and is not

Supporting Exemplary Education

# SWREC Newsletter

## News from Executive Director, Cathe North

Well, the 2004-2005 school year is over. Not quite, the students may be gone but we are all (districts and SWREC) still working hard.

The SWREC and its participating districts have much to be proud of this year. We've done well regarding AYP. We had an excellent pass rate on the licensure dossiers. We are raising our literacy rates. We are including more students with disabilities in general education classrooms. We are improving our career-technical curricula. We continue to grow, to learn and to improve. We are, in fact, bringing an exemplary educational experience for all our students.

Soon the staff and then the students will be back and the whirlwind will begin again. Before that time we have a strategic planning meeting on July 7-8. Come with ideas of how the SWREC can support you in your endeavors and how the SWREC can improve and grow. I am looking for some place with cooling since it will be very hot in July.

I am looking forward to working with all of you in 2005-2006.



## News from our Business Office

"Spring has sprung, summer is near and so is the end of the year." As this fiscal year has gone by fast and coming to an end, I will be cutting the last check June 30, 2005. Please do not wait until the last minute. Get travel, etc. in as soon as possible.

Thank you all for reaching the PO cut off date on March 18, 2005. It was a full run of Pos but we are done and your orders are coming in.

I wish you all a great and safe summer.

<b>SWREC Staff:</b>	<b>Participating/Member Districts:</b>
Cathe North, Executive Director	Animas Public Schools
Geralyn Bennett, Business Manager	Deming Public Schools
Anita Petersen, WIA Grant Facilitator	Hatch Valley Public Schools
Denise Gustin, Data clerk	Lordsburg Municipal Schools
Casey Andrews Hedge, Medicaid Data Clerk	Reserve Independent Schools
Connie Longley Copeland, IDEA Program Specialist	T or C Municipal Schools



## WIA Update:

The Youth One Stop Shop's summer program is in full swing. The majority of the students in Sierra County were excused for summer break on May 20th. As in the past, summer break means summer jobs for many of our youth. Year to date, we have 50 *new* participants and 30 *carryover* participants. These individuals have been involved in activities such as work experience, tutoring, counseling, literacy training, career exploration, and/or life skills classes.

On April 26th, the Youth One Stop Shop hosted an evening of *Information* and *appreciation* for all of our business partners. We handed out employer packets to all of the businesses that were present. We also showed our appreciation by providing certificates for the years served as trainers and mentors. Work experience would not be possible without the dedication and supervision offered by our various business partners. We really want to thank the different businessmen and women who generously provided the delicious appetizers.

On May 19th, during the HSHS Senior Awards Assembly, the Youth One Stop Shop recognized 24 of the 70 graduating seniors for being members of our program. We sincerely hope that our efforts were partially responsible for the successes they've achieved.

If you have any news, programs, or just want to brag about something that is happening in your district, please submit to Connie at [clcopeland@swrecnm.org](mailto:clcopeland@swrecnm.org) to be included in our next newsletter!

### SWREC

P. O. Box 4075  
405 N. Date Street  
Truth or Consequences,  
New Mexico, 87901  
Phone: 1-888-394-7589  
Fax: (505)894-7584

<http://www.swrecnm.org>

## Upcoming Events:

- June 5-8, 2005: Summer Transition Institute
- June 6-9, 2005: Summer Review Institute
- June 13-17, 2005: LRE Summer Institute
- July 7-8, 2005: SWREC Managerial Board strategic planning retreat
- July 18-20, 2005: NM Council of School Administrators
- July 26-29, 2005: NMACTE
- August 4-6, 2005: Summer Gifted Institute
- August 10-11, 2005: NM Technical Evaluation and Assessment Manual

**For more details about locations and times, please check the calendar at the SWREC web page.**



## Medicaid Update

In trying to keep up with the latest in billing for reimbursement of Medicaid funds, I attended training sessions with ACS and Payerpath this past spring. There is always something new they have to offer beginners like me.

Our newest endeavor is the implementation and reimbursement of the Administrative Time Studies. We appreciate your promptness in returning the Random Moment Sample Questionnaires from those who were chosen to participate this last quarter. All these things help to bring money back into each of your districts.

Thank you for being a part of our student's growth and well being.

## Perkins/Tech Prep

I am happy to report that we have received funding for both Perkins Basic and for Tech Prep. Great job, Danny Bryant! Thanks to all of you for your information and support during the process. Danny, Geri, and Cathe are still working on the final wrinkles with Tech Prep. As you have been hearing all this year, the requirements for both Perkins and Tech Prep are becoming much stricter. We will be spending quite a bit of time with each of you to ensure that we have programs that will continue to receive funding. That effort begins this summer at the Career Clusters Conference in Phoenix where we will be attending along with many of our district's staff members. It continues at the NMACTE Conference in July and throughout the year. We hope to see many of you at NMACATE. The grant has funding to support your attendance.



We wish a fond farewell to two of our Superintendents who are leaving us:

Paul Benoit of Animas and

Dwight Myers of Reserve. Good luck to both of you. You will be missed!!

A special good-bye to our own Anita Petersen as she leaves us to join the staff at Hot Springs High School. We miss ya already!

Auf Wiedersehen!!



Welcome to our new Superintendents:

- Jerry Birdwell will be the new Superintendent in Animas
- Dr. Maria Fuentes-Leas will be the Interim Superintendent in Reserve.

Welcome aboard. We are looking forward to working with you both!!



## IDEA Update: What LRE is and is not

Clarification of LRE, Villa, Falvey, & Schrag, 2001

### LRE is:

Required by federal and state law

Where students with disabilities attend schools that are as close to their home as possible

An individualized determination of the appropriate placement for educating a student with a disability which is made by a team, including the student's family and, with the family's permission, the student.

Consideration of the general ed classroom with any necessary supplemental supports, aids, and services as the first possible placement

Consideration of the full continuum of educational options to meet individual student needs

Placement of students with disabilities with peers who are at or near the same chronological age

Bringing supports and services to students where they need them

Students with disabilities being involved with and progressing in the general education curriculum

Access to curricular and co-curricular activities

Coordinated deliver of educational and related services

Educating students with disabilities in general education classrooms with supports and services related to student needs to the extent appropriate

Providing curricular and assessment modifications as needed

Viewing special education as a service

Collaboration and shared responsibility between general and special educators, administrators, related service personnel, parents, community service providers, peers, and students with disabilities

Providing special education programs and services at all schools in the district, maximizing opportunities for interaction between students with and without disabilities

### LRE is not:

An option

Educating students with disabilities without consideration of the school they would attend if they were not disabled

Special education services based upon the category of the disability or placement of only students with mild disabilities in general education classrooms

Failure to consider the general education classroom with any necessary supplemental supports, aids, and services as the first possible placement

Considering only one placement option with the continuum (e.g., special schools)

Placement of students with disabilities with peers who are not at or near same chronological age

Making supports and services available only in specific placements, thereby forcing the student and family to choose between receiving services or being educated with non-disabled peers

Providing a separate curriculum, not related to the general education curriculum

Access to only curricular or non-curricular activities

Isolated and fragmented services, supports, and programs within the continuum

"dumping" students in general education classrooms without supports t them and/or their teachers

Requiring students with disabilities to do the same as the other students in class

Viewing special education as a placement

Special educators assuming sole responsibility for the education of students with disabilities

Clustering students with disabilities in a few schools or in segregated classrooms or in select classrooms rather than across all classrooms in the school