

Cochise County School
Superintendent's Office



Trudy Berry
Superintendent

100 Clawson Ave.
P.O. Drawer 208
Bisbee, AZ 85603

520.432.8950

[http://cochise.az.gov/
cochise_schools.aspx?
id=462](http://cochise.az.gov/cochise_schools.aspx?id=462)

“The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught, as that every child should be given the wish to learn.”

-John Lubbock



The County School Connection

MARCH 2014

Hi All,

This seems to be our “event” season. I hope you are all checking our calendar so you don’t miss out. Last week, our Teacher of the Year interview committee finalized their selections and we are planning our awards banquet for April 4. We have sixteen nominees for Teacher of the Year and seven nominations for Special Projects. Come cheer on your special teacher! (See p. 2.)

The ITV Consortium that was organized in Cochise County is making progress toward becoming a statewide network. The Arizona Education and Technology Consortium (AZETC) will now be administered by the five state regional centers that currently are made up of County School Superintendents, who provide professional development opportunities. In our region, we belong to the Southern Arizona Regional Education Center (SAREC).

Many of the proposed education bills have made it through committees and are on their way towards House and Senate approval. Such is the case with the “Transporting Schools” bills that were discussed last month. However, we’ve learned through discussions with our legislators that the request for this legislation came from Greenlee County, so the County School Superintendents from all over Arizona are proposing an amendment that indicates that this bill will apply to counties with a population of 15,000 or less. Please contact state legislators to support this change.

Other bills have similar concerns based on addressing a problem that we don’t have. HB2596, “No School on Election Dates,” seeks to force schools to close their doors to students on election days in order to have more polling places available. Our proposed amendment would recommend that this apply to Pima and Maricopa Counties only. And HB2395 allows the Property Tax Oversight Committee (PTOC – State Dept.) to take over the responsibility of calculating the district tax rates. Our suggestion is that the bill should include a process for appeal. Hopefully, our suggested changes will provide direction for some more targeted issues that can be solved with a rifle instead of a shotgun.

We are here to serve you!
Trudy

2014 Cochise County Teacher of the Year Awards Banquet Friday, April 4, 2014 at the Thunder Mountain Activity Centre 5:00 p.m.

Join us in honoring Cochise County’s most amazing teachers at the 2014 Teacher of the Year Celebration! Admission is \$35.00 per person.

Please RSVP by:

- Bringing your payment to the Cochise County School Superintendent’s Office, on the 3rd floor of Old Bisbee High School at 100 Clawson Avenue.
- Mailing your RSVP and payment to CCSSO, PO Drawer 208, Bisbee, AZ 85603.
- Emailing Purchase Orders to kenriquez@cochise.az.gov.

Checks should be made payable to Cochise Education Foundation. If you have a group of 7-10 attending, you may request a table reservation. Please RSVP no later than Wednesday, March 26, 2014.

Congratulations 2014 Cochise County Teacher of the Year Nominees!

Trudy Berry and the Cochise Education Foundation are pleased to announce the nominees for the 2014 Cochise County Teacher of the Year. We are truly fortunate to have teachers who are so dedicated, creative, highly-qualified and passionate about teaching. Thank you to all of the nominees for their devotion to teaching.

The Teacher of the Year nominees will each receive a monetary award and a medallion, and are eligible to win Cochise County Teacher of the Year. Special Projects nominees receive a plaque. The nominees will be honored at the Teacher of the Year Awards Banquet, on Friday, April 4, 2014 at the Thunder Mountain Activity Centre on Ft. Huachuca.

Elementary School Teacher of the Year Nominees

- Cori Aten – Cochise Elementary
- Michelle Wambach – Town and Country, Sierra Vista
- Nicole Mariscal – Stevenson Elementary, Douglas
- Sarah Lewis – Elfrida Elementary

Middle School Teacher of the Year Nominees

- Cindy Gage – Paul Huber Middle School, Douglas
- Dennis Unger – St. David Middle School
- Jennifer McBeth – Naco Elementary School
- Lee Ann Howell – Colonel Smith Middle School, Ft. Huachuca
- Margaret Looney – Willcox Middle School
- Sarah Bromke – Lowell Jr. High School, Bisbee
- Tari Hardy – Joyce Clark Middle School, Sierra Vista

High School Teacher of the Year Nominees

- Cynthia Fullerton – Tombstone High School
- Leslie Tiratira – Douglas High School
- Monty McDaniel – Buena High School, Sierra Vista
- Richard Anderson – Valley Union High School
- Tony Edmiston – Benson High School

Special Projects

- Family Leadership Institute – Lucy Rosario, Douglas High School
- Horse Tales – Susan Bradshaw, Brenda Kevins, Holly Nelson, Greenway Elementary, Bisbee
- Myer Reading Club – Marsha Hamric, General Myer Elementary, Ft. Huachuca
- 21st Century Community Learning Center – Alvina Hughes, Faras Elementary, Douglas
- St. David Small Ensemble Project – Dennis Senkbeil, St. David Middle and High Schools
- The Grand Canyon Experience – Betty Williamson, Robert Rawls, Benson Middle School
- Westward Expansion: A Star Wars Musical – Kristina Holston, Pueblo Del Sol, Sierra Vista



Free Books

Toys for Tots has donated over 29,000 books to the children of Cochise County through the Cochise County School Superintendent's Office. Titles still available are:

Pre-K through 1st grade

- Dino Huge! 480 books
- LSU, I Want to Go 288 books

5th Grade Up

- Children of the Lamp: The Cobra King of Kathmandu by P.B.Kerr 380 books
- Gregor and the Code of Claw by Suzanne Collins 200 books
- Twelve Long Months by Brian Malloy 580 books



If you are interested, please give us a call at 432-8950.



Pictured (L to R) Trudy Berry, Mary Ellen Dunlap, Elaine Carlson, Gabriel Agramon, Judge Conlogue, Ethan Johnson, and Judge Irwin.

Congratulations to Ethan Johnson, Cochise County's Spelling Bee 1st Place Winner!

Ethan Johnson and Gabriel Agramon were the two final contestants out of 31 fellow contestants from across the county, participating in the 2014 Cochise County Spelling Bee. The Bee held at Cochise College in Sierra Vista on Feb. 22, 2014, is an annual event sponsored by Cochise County School Superintendent, Trudy Berry.

In an unprecedented battle and as the audience excitement grew, the two boys went back and forth for the final eight rounds, each correctly spelling their designated words. Ethan, a sixth grade student from Center for Academic Success in Sierra Vista, secured the win by correctly spelling the word "mystique". Gabriel, also a sixth grade student from Loretto Catholic School in Douglas, was a very strong contender. Ethan will go on to compete in the Arizona Educational Foundation Spelling Bee in March. We wish him success in the next level of competition.

If you would like to receive *The County School Connection* by email, contact Nikki Madden at kmadden@cochise.az.gov or 432-8950.

Dates to Remember	
March 25	Auditor General Training, Benson
March 29	AZ Ed. Foundation Spelling Bee
April 4	Teacher of the Year
May 1	Law Day



Hosted by First Things First and the Cochise County Schools Superintendent's Office, the Read On Cochise County Symposium served as an opportunity to spread awareness and share resources regarding early childhood education, with an emphasis on meeting a new state reading requirement for third-graders to read at grade level or be held back from fourth grade.

Presenters at the event came from all over Cochise County and attendees participated in an open forum, highlighting the challenges and opportunities tied to meeting the state's increasingly rigorous standards. Educators, parents, elected officials and community members joined together to learn about the importance of early literacy and share opportunities on how it is promoted in their districts and towns.

The Cochise County Schools Superintendent's Office, which received a donation of 28,000 children's books from Toys for Tots, distributed free books to all in attendance.

If your school district is interested in becoming a partner in Read On Cochise County, contact Melissa Avant at 378-3280 or mavant@azff.gov.

Congratulations to Dr. Richard Rundhaug and the ITV Consortium!



The ITV program has earned recognition in the Achievement in Action award competition held by the Arizona Department of Education. The award acknowledges the effort, creativity, dedication, leadership and focus of the ITV program as they continue to work toward high academic achievement. The ITV Consortium nomination was one of numerous nominations and the program has been selected to receive special recognition for innovative best practices.

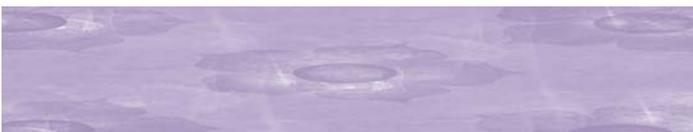
Dr. Rundhaug and the ITV Consortium will be honored for their commitment to excellence, at the Leading Change conference in Tucson at the El Conquistador on June 17-19, 2014. The award program shared with all conference participants will be highlighting the nominated programs with colleagues from all across Arizona.

Free Supplies for Your Classroom



WeWIN is a unique fundraising tool that helps teachers obtain donated supplies and equipment for their classrooms. Set up as a free and easy-to-use platform, WeWin guides teachers through the process of creating a Win List with not more than 10 items needed for a specific project. Then, through the use of social media, those supplies are donated by the community.

Teachers can register at www.WeWin.com. It takes just a few minutes to set up an account and create a customized Win List. There is a step-by-step explanation at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lutsPx92yIY&feature=youtu.be&a>.



The Arizona Department of Health Services and the Arizona Diamondbacks want students to “Be SunWise and Play Sun Smart!”

The Arizona Diamondbacks and the Arizona Department of Health Services are sponsoring a poster-drawing contest for students to increase their awareness about sun safety and skin cancer prevention. Simply have your students draw pictures that show ways to prevent skin cancer--like wearing a wide-brimmed hat, using sunscreen and wearing long-sleeved shirts and pants. **All drawings must be received by the Department by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 25, 2014.** The winning artwork will be professionally reproduced for use in the health department’s SunWise Skin Cancer Prevention School Program.



First prize is 6 tickets for the winning artist and his/her teacher to attend the Arizona Diamondbacks vs. the Atlanta Braves “Be SunWise and Play Sun Smart” baseball game in Phoenix on Sunday, June 8, 2014. The winning artist and teacher will receive on-field awards during the televised game.

For more information and contest rules, visit <http://azdhs.gov/phs/sunwise/>.

Law Day is May 1, 2014



As we approach the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the 2014 Law Day theme, American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters, calls on every American to reflect on the importance of a citizen’s right to vote and the challenges we still face in ensuring that all Americans have the opportunity to participate in our democracy.

Parents, teachers, and school administrators are invited to this year’s Law Day Celebration to be held Thursday, May 1, 9:30 at the Douglas Regional Service Center in Douglas, AZ. In addition to receiving an award, the contest winners will have the opportunity to read their entries or comment on their artwork to the audience. Please join us in celebrating and recognizing our contest winners.

For general Law Day information, you may contact Eric Silverberg at 520-432-8505.

SAREC Professional Development Opportunities

The Southern Arizona Regional Education Center (SAREC) Cochise County coordinator is Karen Enriquez. If you would like to schedule Common Core workshops for your district, without the cost of travel expenses, Karen can arrange your trainings.

For more information, you may contact Karen at kenriquez@cochise.az.gov or explore our SAREC Professional Development Opportunities at www.sazrec.org.

Contact Us

Trudy Berry, Superintendent tberry@cochise.az.gov	432-8950
Susan Arndt, Chief Deputy sarndt@cochise.az.gov	432-8951
Karen Enriquez, Admin Assistant kenriquez@cochise.az.gov	432-8952
Nikki Madden, Secretary kmadden@cochise.az.gov	432-8950
Martha Mauldin, Accountant mmauldin@cochise.az.gov	432-8953
Debbie Prow, Admin. Assist./Finance dprow@cochise.az.gov	432-8954