

Cochise County School
Superintendent's Office



Trudy Berry
Superintendent

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[https://
www.cochise.az.gov
/schools/home](https://www.cochise.az.gov/schools/home)

“The important
thing is to never
stop questioning.”

Albert Einstein



The County School Connection

OCTOBER 2015

Hi All,

Education funding is receiving a lot of attention right now and, hopefully, there will be some beneficial solutions put in place. In the meantime, we need to look at the resources that are readily available to us. With the advent of technology, we are certainly blessed with many options.

The U.S. Department of Education, under the soon-to-be-departed director, Arne Duncan, designed a roadmap called Future Ready Schools “to commit districts to move as quickly as possible towards a shared vision of preparing students for success in college, careers and citizenship.” The belief is that, “Technology now allows for personalized digital learning for every student in the nation.” I believe this is true if the district leadership and the teachers buy-in and are devoted to this effort.

The ideal classroom would probably include “Blended Learning where a student learns in part at a supervised location away from home and at least in part through online delivery with some element of student control over time, place, path, and/or pace.” (Horn and Staker, 2011) We also can create “Flipped Classrooms.” According to Jane Nickles, “Instead of using classroom time for a lecture, the flipped classroom is used to reinforce, practice, and analyze the subject matter” while the delivery of instruction takes place at home with videos (i.e. YouTube), books, or tutorials.

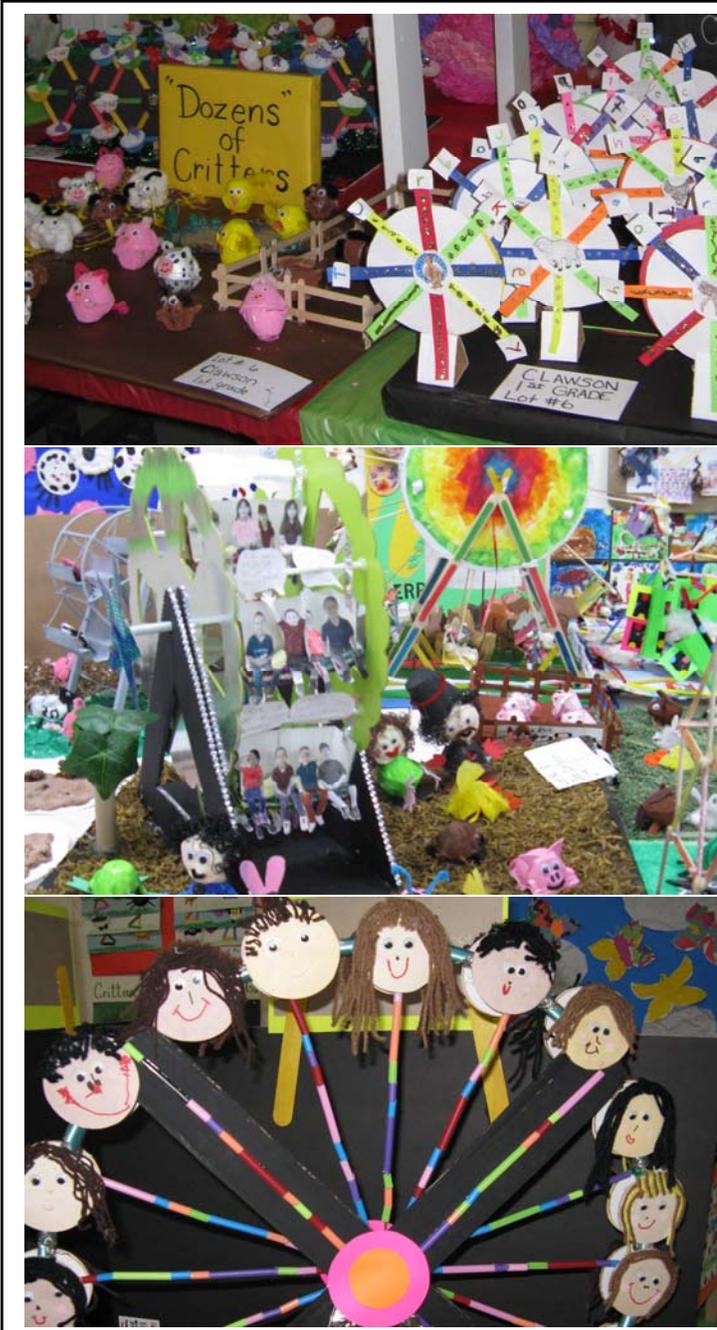
We have nine districts in Cochise County that use Beyond Textbooks, which is “a comprehensive program of curriculum development, instructional improvement, student assessment, and multi-level interventions” which has proven to be aligned with the State Standards and prepares students for success on the assessments. It is computer-based and provides lessons developed by local teachers.

Tenney Blended Learning Strategies incorporates many free digitalized resources to reinforce classroom instruction. Also, there are many other resources currently available which provide opportunities to integrate technology. Teachers can use Google Docs for in-class projects. Khan Academy provides tutorials, or try <http://interactivesites.weebly.com/> for immediate lessons, for individuals or group work.

For a nominal fee, Beyond Target Ed and Propel by A+ can supplement your instruction. These programs provide multiple types of presentations, games, and reinforcements for any Math or ELA (English Language Arts) standard that is being taught.

Also, in an effort to provide more resources in the classroom, we recently installed Interactive TV equipment in 13 schools. The elementary classrooms can benefit from free visits to the Phoenix Zoo, the Smithsonian, and much more. And, of course, we have the upcoming 21st Century STEM: Integrate to Innovate Conference on January 22-23, 2015 and the Tech & Learning [newsletter@techlearning.com] information that comes out daily with great ideas for the classroom. Now we need the time to examine and incorporate all of these wonderful resources. This is not an easy task, but certainly it would be worthwhile if students become adept 21st Century learners who are college and career ready. That is our goal!

We are here to serve you!
Trudy Berry



Congratulations to the 2015 Cochise County Fair's Grand Prize Exhibit Winners

Pre-K- Sara Marley School, DUSD
Elisa Vasquez's class "Ferris Wheel"

Kindergarten- Naco Elementary School
Erin Rhodes' class "Little Piggy's Squealing!"

1st grade- Naco Elementary School
Jennifer Meneses' class "Critters, Squeals, and Ferris Wheels Book"

2nd grade- Stevenson Elementary School, DUSD
Leticia Nunez's class "Silver Ferris Wheel"

3rd grade- Naco Elementary School
Jennifer Thomas' class "Ferris Wheel with Critters"

4th grade- Faras Elementary School, DUSD
Alvina Hughes' class "Amazing Critters of the World"

5th grade- Faras Elementary School, DUSD
Eduardo Molina's class "History of the Fair"

6th grade- Joyce Clark Middle School, SVUSD
Individual Exhibit by Karley Burke

7th grade- Huber Middle School, DUSD
Individual Exhibit by Aaliyah Orozco

8th grade- Huber Middle School, DUSD
Individual Exhibit by Sergio Cebrenos Jr.

HS class- Douglas High School
Abigail Griffin's class "Turtle Piñata"

Combined Grades- McNeal Elementary School
Dora Zamora's K-2 class "Critters, Squeals, and Ferris Wheels"

2016 Cochise County Spelling Bee

In order to participate in the 2016 Cochise County and 2016 Arizona Spelling Bee, schools must be enrolled with the Scripps National Spelling Bee. To enroll visit spelling-bee.com.

School bees must be completed on or before January 15, 2016. School coordinators must submit a completed Champion form to kenriquez@cochise.az.gov no later than February 1st, 2016. The Champion form and complete instructions are available at <https://www.cochise.az.gov/schools/2016-cochise-county-spelling-bee>.



Nidhi Mehta, 2015 Cochise County Teacher of the Year, with Willcox HS principal, Jeff Thompson. Nidhi represented Cochise County at the Arizona Rural Schools Association Conference.

Writing Foundations K-2

This professional development focuses on evidence based practices for foundational writing instruction (handwriting, spelling and sentence construction) in K-2 classrooms. This training is based on the work of numerous researchers, and the text, Best Practices in Writing Instruction, edited by Steve Graham, Charles A. MacArthur, and Jill Fitzgerald, which participants will receive. Research, assessment of student skills, and best practice and instructional strategies for immediate use in classrooms will be included. Writing opinion as outlined in Arizona's College and Career Ready K-2 standards will be addressed, as will technology in writing instruction.

Audience: Primary teachers, teacher leaders

Location: Office of the Pima County School Superintendent 200 N. Stone, Tucson 85701

Course Dates: October 29, 2015 8:30-3:00.

Cost: \$75

Register through SAREC: www.sazrec.org

Campaign Finance Training Presented by the Secretary of State's Office

Monday, November 9th
2:00 – 4:00 pm
Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, Bisbee

If you would like to attend, contact Katie Howard at khoward@cochise.az.gov

Cochise Buddies Youth Basketball Clinic

On the Douglas Campus of Cochise College
Saturday, October 31, 2015 12:00-2:00 PM
Hosted by the Cochise College Runnin' Apaches

For boys & girls in grades K-9
Cost is \$10 for the session



Each participant will receive:

- Cochise Basketball T-shirt
- Instruction on fundamentals from Cochise Staff & Players
- Pass to a home game and complimentary soda & snack

For more information or to register, call Guy Meyer:
520-417-4797

Cochise County School District Tax Rate Comparison

School District	2014-2015	2015-2016	Difference
Apache	\$4.45	\$5.67	\$1.22
Ash Creek	\$5.40	\$5.40	\$0.00
Benson (Secondary)	\$6.98	\$7.43	\$0.45
Bisbee (Secondary)	\$4.76	\$4.70	(\$0.07)
Bowie	\$11.10	\$11.10	\$0.00
Cochise Elementary	\$4.83	\$4.41	(\$0.43)
Cochise Technology	\$0.05	\$0.05	\$0.00
Double Adobe	\$9.85	\$8.58	(\$1.27)
Douglas (Secondary)	\$6.19	\$8.18	\$1.99
Elfrida	\$4.58	\$4.58	\$0.00
McNeal	\$8.06	\$8.06	\$0.00
Naco	\$5.74	\$6.48	\$0.74
Palominas	\$6.82	\$6.82	\$0.00
Pearce	\$4.16	\$4.16	\$0.00
Pomerene	\$7.32	\$7.32	\$0.00
San Simon	\$8.94	\$8.94	\$0.00
St. David (Secondary)	\$5.78	\$6.34	\$0.56
Sierra Vista Elementary	\$2.87	\$2.50	(\$0.37)
Sierra Vista H.S.	\$1.78	\$2.06	\$0.28
Tombstone	\$5.82	\$6.91	\$1.09
Valley Union (Secondary)	\$3.43	\$3.51	\$0.08
Willcox (Secondary)	\$8.48	\$8.46	(\$0.02)

USFR Chart of Accounts Workshop

The Auditor General's office will be presenting a USFR Workshop in Cochise County on **Friday, November 6** for all school business office staff members. This workshop will be hosted by the Benson Unified School District from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

To register, click the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/COARRegistration>

Dates to Remember

October 27	ASBA County Meeting (SVUSD)
October 31	Halloween
November 4	CASA (UA South)
November 6	USFR Workshop (Benson USD)



**Collaborations
Around the Planet**

CAPspace, a portal for videoconference projects

A collaborative videoconference project gives you and your students an opportunity to learn with another school or classroom. **CAPspace** is a social networking tool for educational videoconferencing. **Login** to find colleagues and schools interested in collaborative videoconference projects. Create and advertise your own collaborative videoconference projects to educators around the world. CAPspace also provides registration for collaborative events and projects such as TWICE's Read Around the Planet.

The following collaboration was recently created in the Collaborations Around the Planet website. *New collaboration notices are sent out daily. To participate and to receive collaboration notices, K-12, you must have an active account in the Collaborations Around the Planet website.*

Title: Monster Match:
Status: Open
URL: <http://projects.twice.cc/?l=collaboration&id=2089>
Connections:
Grades: K, 1, 2
Subjects: Elementary All Subjects, Language Arts/English, Mathematics, Science (Life), Science (Physical), Technology/Information Science
Dates: October 26-October 30 from 8:00-11:00
Description: I have one first grade class that would like to have a partner for the Monster Match. Classes will create monsters then write a description. The classes will then share the description with each other via email, and try to re-create the monster. At the conference we will compare our monsters to see how well we did!

**2016 Polly Rosenbaum Writing Contest
“What Does It Mean To Be Civically Engaged?”**

The Polly Rosenbaum Writing Contest is named for Polly Rosenbaum, a former Arizona State Representative and teacher who passed away in 2003 at the age of 104. This writing contest is a long-standing tradition honoring Mrs. Rosenbaum, who believed Arizona's young people are the state's greatest resource.

The creative writing contest is open to students in grades 7 through 12. Criteria and entry forms are made available to schools statewide in October and are accessible online. Entries are judged in three age categories: 7th/8th Grade; 9th/10th Grade; and 11th/12th Grade.

Every participant receives a letter of commendation and a commemorative pen. First, second and third place winners in each of the three age categories are invited for lunch and a ceremony in February on Statehood Day at the State Capitol in Phoenix. They receive an award certificate and are invited to read their winning essays aloud. In addition, first place winners receive a \$50 Amazon gift certificate; second place winners receive a \$25 Amazon gift certificate and third place winners receive a \$15 Amazon gift certificate.

For more information: <http://azedfoundation.org/programs/polly-rosenbaum-writing-contest/>

Valley Union High School Fall Harvest

Presented by the Culinary Arts Department
October 22, 5:30—7:30 pm
4088 W. Jefferson Rd., Elfrida

\$13 ~ Butternut Squash Soup
Turkey Roulade with Fall Veggie Blend
and Sweet Potato Hash
Strawberry Shortcake

\$16 ~ Homemade Mushroom Ravioli
Seared Duck Breast with Cranberries
Couscous and Asparagus
Pumpkin Cheesecake

For more information, contact Jeremy Summers at jeremy.summers@vuhs.net



McNeal Elementary School Fall Festival

October 24, 10:00 am—2:00 pm
3979 McNeal St., McNeal

Carne Esada Plates \$6.50 Sweet Tooth Booth
Dunk Tank Soda Ring Toss
Bean Bag Toss Kiddy Pool Duck game
Balloon dart game 50/50 Raffle

Contact Us

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