

# TITLE NEWSLETTER

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Glossary of Articles	
1	Flandreau Elem Wins National Recognition
2	School Parent Compact
3	New Title I Staff
	At Home Learning Activities
4	Free School Meals for Migrant Students
	Midwest Migrant Educational Resources Center
	Safe and Drug Free Funding Cut
5	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Community Center Grant Application Available
	School Improvement Grant (SIG)
	Learning Disabilities State Conference
	3-Year Consolidated Title Review Schedule
6	Kindergarten Academy 2010

## Flandreau Elementary Wins National Recognition

Flandreau Elementary of Flandreau, South Dakota has been selected as a 2009 National Title I Distinguished School and was honored during the 2010 National Title I Conference in Washington, DC, January 21-24. The conference attracts more than 3,000 Title I professionals from across the country who gather to honor these schools, as well as to share best practices and learn about innovative education programs.

Title I is the largest federally funded, pre-collegiate education program in the country, providing more than \$17 billion in federal aid to schools and districts serving students in poverty. The goal of Title I is to ensure that all children, especially those living in economically disadvantaged conditions, have the opportunity to receive a high quality education. Schools selected for national recognition must have a poverty rate of at least 35 percent for the selected year and have met or exceeded state standards for making adequate yearly progress for two or more consecutive years.

Flandreau Elementary was selected by the South Dakota Department of Education for its outstanding performance in the following category

- Exceptional student performance for two or more years

The quality and dedication of staff members contributes significantly to the academic achievement of Flandreau Public School's youngest students. These inherent qualities are enhanced by the district's culture of professional development. Weekly professional development opportunities are specifically designed to stretch skills and coach continual improvement. Another indication of the teacher quality and commitment is the caring atmosphere that is evident in the

hallways and classrooms of Flandreau Elementary. The faculty and paraprofessionals work tirelessly to help students during school hours and beyond. Also, other programs such as our schoolwide Title I approach, Response to Intervention structure, and technology integration have been contributing factors to our success.

"We are very honored to receive this award. We look forward to having a few of our staff members attend the National Title I Conference to learn even more ideas and strategies they can utilize in their classroom to increase student achievement." -- Brad Olinger, Elementary Principal.

The National Title I Distinguished School program began in 1986 is an annual recognition for Title I schools showing remarkable improvement and innovation. It is sponsored by the National Title I Association. To learn more about all National Title I Distinguished Schools and the other programs of the National Title I Association visit [www.titlei.org](http://www.titlei.org).



From Left to Right: Brad Olinger, Principal; Julie Relf, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher; Cheryl Austreim, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher; and Cynthia Johnson 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher.

The last monitoring from U. S. Department of Education indicates that not all South Dakota local educational agencies (LEAs) are complying with Title I requirements regarding the development of LEA level and school-level parental involvement policies and Title I school-level compacts. The South Dakota Department of Education has the responsibility to remind the LEAs of their obligation under the funding they receive.

According to ESEA (Elementary Secondary Education Act) , LEAs and schools must jointly develop with and distribute to parents of Title I students a written 1) Title I LEA-level parental involvement policy that is evaluated annually, 2) Title I school-level parental involvement policy that is updated periodically, and 3) school-parent compact that is included in the school-level- parental involvement policy.

## **SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT Title I Part A**

**NOTE:** Each school receiving funds under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must develop a written school-parent compact jointly with parents for all children participating in Title I, Part A activities, services, and programs. That compact is part of the school’s written parental involvement policy developed by the school and parents under section 1118(b) of the ESEA. The compact must outline how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State’s high standards.

*Schools and parents may use the sample template below as a framework for the information to be included in their school-parent compact. Schools and parents are not required to follow this sample template or framework, but if they include all of the bolded items listed under “Required School-Parent Compact Provisions” below, they will have incorporated all of the information required by section 1118(d) to be in the school-parent compact. Schools and parents, in consultation with students, are encouraged to include other relevant and agreed upon activities and actions as well that will support effective parental involvement and strengthen student academic achievement.*

The name of school, and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State’s high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during school year \_\_\_\_\_.

### **REQUIRED SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT PROVISIONS**

(provisions bolded in this section are required to be in the Title I, Part A school-parent compact)

#### **School Responsibilities**

The name of school will:

1. **Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State’s student academic achievement standards as follows:**
  - a. [Describe how the school will provide high-quality curriculum and instruction, and do so in a supportive and effective learning environment.]
2. **Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least annually in elementary schools) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child’s achievement.** Specifically, those conferences will be held:
  - a. [Describe when the parent-teacher conferences will be held.]
3. **Provide parents with frequent reports on their children’s progress.** Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:
  - a. [Describe when and how the school will provide reports to parents.]
4. **Provide parents reasonable access to staff.** Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:
  - a. [Describe when, where, and how staff will be available for consultation with parents.]
5. **Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child’s class, and to observe classroom activities,** as follows:
  - a. [Describe when and how parents may volunteer, participate, and observe classroom activities.]

#### **Optional Parent Responsibilities**

**We, as parents, will support our children’s learning in the following ways:**

[Describe the ways in which parents will support their children’s learning, such as:

- Monitoring attendance.
- Making sure that homework is completed.
- Monitoring amount of television their children watch.

Continues on page 3

- Volunteering in my child’s classroom.
- *Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children’s education.*
- *Promoting positive use of my child’s extracurricular time.*
- *Staying informed about my child’s education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.*
- *Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I, Part A parent representative on the school’s School Improvement Team, the Title I Policy Advisory Committee, the District wide Policy Advisory Council, the State’s Committee of Practitioners, the School Support Team or other school advisory or policy groups.]*

**Optional Student Responsibilities (revise as appropriate to grade level)**

**We, as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and achieve the State’s high standards. Specifically, we will:**

[Describe the ways in which students will support their academic achievement, such as:

- Do my homework every day and ask for help when I need to.
- Read at least 30 minutes every day outside of school time.
- Give to my parents or the adult who is responsible for my welfare all notices and information received by me from my school every day.]

8003

_____	_____	_____
School	Parent(s)	Student
_____	_____	_____
Date	Date	Date

**(PLEASE NOTE THAT SIGNATURES ARE NOT REQUIRED)**

*\*This sample template of a School-Parent Compact is not an official U.S. Department of Education document. It is provided only as an example.*

**New Title I Staff**

Hello. My name is Betsy Chapman. I’m the new Title I, Part A, School Improvement and Supplemental Educational Services Coordinator. I also assist with the consolidated applications and reviews. I started with the DOE on July 24<sup>th</sup> and love it!

I am a native South Dakotan returning home after many years of living in Texas. I have a Bachelor of Business Administration – Management from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX and Secondary Education Certification in Business and Technology Education. I taught for 18 years in Texas, with 17 years spent teaching computers and career classes in Plainview, TX.

My family and I are so glad to be in South Dakota. After 13 years of telling my family how wonderful it is up here, we were finally able to make the move. I look forward to working for the DOE and living in the Pierre area.

**Create an activity calendar to encourage at-home learning**

It's the beginning of a new year--a time for new resolutions and, of course, a new calendar. What better time to provide the parents of your students with a calendar full of ideas for making learning activities part of their daily household routine!

Take blank calendar pages for January–June and write in several ideas on each page that parents can do at home with their child.

Duplicate the pages and send a set home with each of your students. Include a cover letter that suggests posting the calendar in the kitchen and using it to keep track of other important school-related events and activities, too.

Here are a few ideas you might include:

- Cook with your child. Counting and measuring ingredients is a great way to practice math skills.
- Plan a "reading dinner." Take turns reading aloud to one another as you enjoy your evening meal.
- Hang a map or two in your child's room. It's a great way to learn about geography--and an inexpensive way to decorate!
- Put objects starting with the letter S into a bag--spoon, soap, sock. Let your child reach in and guess what each is. Next have your child hold the bag for you.

*Reprinted with permission from Ideas Staff can use to promote parent involvement.*

## Free School Meals for Migrant Students

Beginning in SY 2004 all eligible migrant students in your school district could be provided free school meals. Public Law 108-265: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 provided this new benefit to migrant, homeless and runaway children attending schools in your district. The families of these students do not need to complete the normal financial eligibility forms to obtain free school meals. The district only needs a certificate of verification from our office confirming a student's migratory status and their eligibility for free school meals. A packet containing information was sent to your school district's superintendent and food services director on August 17, 2009. Please check with those administrators to learn more about this program.

If you have questions about the eligibility of students that you suspect might be migratory or if you want to discuss the free school meals program, please contact Jenifer Palmer at 605.773.4437 or [Jenifer.Palmer@state.sd.us](mailto:Jenifer.Palmer@state.sd.us)

## Attention

The Safe & Drug Free Schools programs was not funded for school year 2010-11 under the US Department of Education's Appropriation Act signed by the President in December 2009.

More information will be forthcoming.

## Midwest Migrant Educational Resources Center (MMERC)

**What is MMERC?** MMERC was founded in 1983 from a grant from the Minnesota State Department of Education. MMERC's mission is to assist school districts in meeting the needs of migrant children. This is accomplished through services that historically have changed to meet the varied and mobile needs of the migrant population.

### What type of services does MMERC provide?

- Free access to educational materials
  - audiovisuals
  - books, including many which are bilingual or multicultural
  - games and manipulatives for hands-on learning
  - teacher and parent references
  - materials appropriate for the ESL (English as a Second Language) student
- to meet specific needs as Teacher workshops, in-services or site visits determined by state migrant department

**Who has access to MMERC services?** Schools in Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota that serve the children of migrant workers from ages 3 to 21 years are able to use MMERC's services at no cost. The federal definition of a migratory child is a child whose parent or guardian has moved to a different school district (in-state or out-of-state) within the last 3 years to find employment in agriculture on a seasonal or temporary basis. Many times this includes meat packing, vegetable canning, or any kind of fieldwork. The identification of migrant children is handled through the migrant education offices at the State Department of Education. **To be eligible, you need only one migrant child in your classroom.**

**How do you request MMERC's materials?** Schools that qualify for services can select materials from either a printed or on-line catalog. The printed catalog is divided by subject areas and distinguished between printed, visual, or game formats. The on-line catalog has many search features. Patrons may order via fax, e-mail, or phone. Orders are sent and picked up by UPS at no cost to the user.

### MMERC Contacts

MMERC Director; Kathleen Bibus  
MMERC Assistant Director: Rhonda Isaacs  
Phone: 651.645.9005  
Toll Free: 877.891.6379  
Fax: 651.645.9490  
Mailing Address: MMERC 1536 Hewitt Ave., MS-C1924 St. Paul, MN 55104  
Email Address: [mmerc@hamline.edu](mailto:mmerc@hamline.edu)  
Web Catalog: <http://mmercatalog.hamline.edu>  
Web Page: <http://www.hamline.edu/mmerc>

### South Dakota Contact:

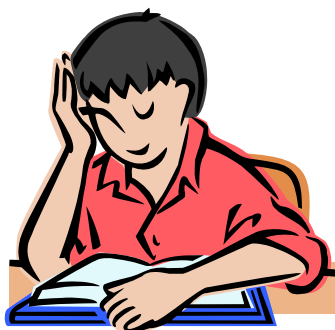
Director of Migrant Education:  
Jenifer Palmer  
700 Governors Drive, Pierre SD 57501  
605.773.4437

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Center Grant Application Available

The application for the 2010 round of 21st Century Community Center grants is now up on the web <http://doe.sd.gov/oess/21cent/appprocess.asp>

The due date for the application is February 19, 2010

This is a grant for after-school and other programs that take place outside of regular school time. The children in the program designed have to attend a school (s) that has 40% or higher free and reduced lunch percentages.



## School Improvement Grants (SIG)

All states are entitled to School Improvement Grants (SIG) funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and congressional appropriations. Each state must submit an application for the funds by February 8, 2010. Specifics of the School Improvement Grant, including regulations and guidance, can be found at:

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/sif/index.html>.

South Dakota will publish its application once completed and approved by the federal office. Districts will apply for these funds on behalf of their schools identified as needing assistance. Local educational agency applications are expected to be released in early spring and grants awarded by summer. The Department of Education will award \$9.5 million to be used over a three year period through a competitive grant process designed to bring about significant changes to student achievement in the state's persistently lowest achieving schools.

## Learning Disabilities Association of America - SD State Conference

**February 27, 2010**

9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
at Cedar Shores Resort,  
Chamberlain/Oacoma

### Strategies and Techniques for Parents of Children with Dyslexia

Cost of \$35 includes LDA membership, conference registration, and meals

Emphasis will be on dyslexia; however, many of the sessions will be helpful for parents, teachers, and teens wishing to learn about learning issues, special education, and advocacy.

Send Registration and fee to: Margie Neugebauer, LDA-SD, 1021 S. Courtland St. Chamberlain, SD 57325 by February 24.

Questions: Contact Margie Neugebauer at 605-234-0115 or [maneugebauer@midstatesd.net](mailto:maneugebauer@midstatesd.net)

## 3-Year Consolidated Title Review Schedule Released

Schools can click on <http://doe.sd.gov/oess/reviews.asp> and learn when they are scheduled to receive either an on-site or desk review. Schools will be reviewed once every three years. Those that receive \$70,000 or less in their Title I, Part A regular allocation will participate in a desk review. Three school districts will be randomly selected from that list and will have an on-site visit instead. Schools that receive over \$70,000 in their Title I, Part A regular allocation will host an on-site review.

Districts that are scheduled to be reviewed for the 2009-2010 school year have already been notified by mail. Starting in the 2010-2011 school year, schools will be notified one year in advance of their review via the DOE website.

If significant findings are identified in either the on-site or desk review, schools may be scheduled to receive an on-site review during the next school year.

In addition, new this year is technical assistance sessions via either *Live Meeting* or *DDN* focusing on areas of weakness or strengths identified during reviews. Schools scheduled for review in either the 2009-2010 or 2010-2011 school year are highly encouraged to participate in these sessions. The first of these sessions was provided, August 27<sup>th</sup> and September 2<sup>nd</sup> about the assessment and accountability reporting requirement. Information about these training opportunities will be posted on the Department of Education web site.

We are also looking for a few schools that receive under \$70,000 in their basic allocation to pilot a peer review system. If this works well and proves to be beneficial to schools, we'd like to investigate replacing the desk audit with this process. If your school is interested in participating in this effort, feel free to contact either Janet Ricketts or Diane Lowery at 773-6400 and discuss it with them.

# 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Kindergarten Academy 2010

"Promoting Success in Kindergarten"

**WITH Donna Whyte**

website: [www.thesmartiezone.com](http://www.thesmartiezone.com)

## Theme :

Join us for two days of inspiration, songs, professional development, and sharing with other kindergarten teachers around the state. Donna Whyte, nationally acclaimed teacher, speaker and songwriter will share inspiration and ideas to promote success in the kindergarten classroom through RTI and brain based learning as well as engaging ideas for morning meetings, centers, and teaching reading, writing, math and science. She will also share ideas on motivating learners, classroom management, and teaching through songs and games. Information on the proposed national common core standards will also be shared.

***Bring scissors, glue sticks, markers, baggies, and colored file folders for make-and-take learning stations/centers. Books and CDs will be available for purchase.***

## When and Where:

The 2010 Summer Academy will be Monday, *June 21st* and Tuesday, *June 22nd, 2010* 8:30 AM through 4:30 PM daily (15 clock hours for two days) at the Bridges in Beresford (Golf Course).

**Enrollment/Registration Cost \$185.00**  
**Summer 2010 Kindergarten Academy**  
**Monday, June 21st and Tuesday, June 22, 2010**  
**Location: Bridges at Beresford (Golf Course)**

## Registration:

***Return the registration form no later than Friday, May 28th.***

Registration will be on a "**First Enrollment Basis.**" Participant numbers may be limited due to physical/room limitations and speakers preference. The registration fee will be \$185 per participant and can be paid before attendance and/or participants (school district) will be billed after their attendance. The registration fee includes a noon lunch and break time beverages for both days.

## College Credit:

Participants will have the opportunity to receive a one-hour college credit at a cost of approximately \$45 through the University of South Dakota. On-line registration will be offered through USD. All college credit and criteria is subject to final approval by the Board of Regents.



Supported by the South Dakota Department of Education's **Title I** and **Special Education** programs

**Kindergarten Academy**  
**Southeast Area Cooperative**  
**1109 West Cedar**  
**Beresford, SD 57004**

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent/or Summer Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Will take Academy for a college credit \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

School District \_\_\_\_\_

**Email: [dean.lindstrom@k12.sd.us](mailto:dean.lindstrom@k12.sd.us)**  
**FAX: 605-763-2206 Phone 605-763-5096**



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Learning. Leadership. Service.



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<http://doe.sd.gov/oess/title/1Abasic/index.asp>



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