



School District of New London

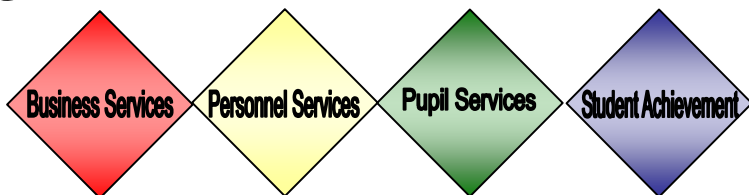
DIVISION

MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Ann Christopherson

Division: Pupil Services

Date: July 2009

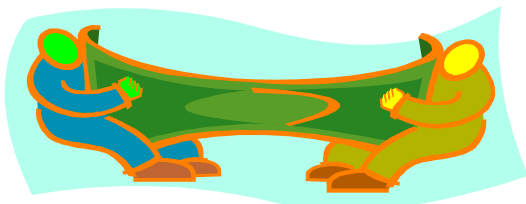


ARRA Spending Update:

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act dollars coming through Special Education Flow Through and Pre-school Entitlement projects requires regular updates at the state level. I will regularly update the board as well. First funds allocated using "stimulus" dollars amount to **\$260,863.00** from the Flow Through ARRA funds and **\$12,334.00** from Pre-School Entitlement ARRA funds. These funds account for 50% of all dollars allocated through federal government special education ARRA funds for New London. Dollars will pay for the salary and fringe benefits for 8.5 FTE Special Education paraeducators. (Another 4.5 FTE paraeducator salary and benefits are paid through regular Flow Through funds.) In making a conscious effort to allocation money with salary, we are able to reduce our annual Maintenance of Effort by the 50% allowed in this one-year opportunity.

An additional allocation (**\$8,000 – 9,000.00**) will be taken for updating assessment instruments and purchasing protocols for special education evaluation and assessment of potential students with disabilities.

As the school year progresses, Mrs. Gwidt, Mr. Fitzpatrick and I will work in finding staff development opportunities in the use of assessment data to improve student outcomes in subgroups, closing achievement gaps; using data for student improvement is one of the priorities of ARRA.



New Trend in Drug Abuse among Teens:

An alert from Outagamie County Pre-Action warns about a recent interest of teens in gardening departments of local stores. Flower and garden stores have noticed a trend in teens purchasing morning glory seeds. This new trend involves teens chewing and swallowing the seeds for a hallucinogenic high due to chemical called Lysergic Acid Amide (LSA); the same chemical used to make Lysergic Acid Diethylamide, commonly known as LSD.

School-Based Prevention Cuts Drug Use, Violence,

NIDA June 18, 2009 Says Fifth-grade students who took part in comprehensive, interactive school-based prevention programs starting as early as first grade were half as likely as their peers to use alcohol or other drugs, act out violently, or engage in sexual activity, according to a new study from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA).

"This study provides compelling evidence that intervening with young children is a promising approach to preventing drug use and other problem behaviors," said NIDA Director Nora Volkow. "The fact that an intervention beginning in the first grade produced a significant effect on children's behavior in the fifth grade strengthens the case for initiating prevention programs in elementary school, before most children have begun to engage in problem behaviors."

Researchers led by Brian Flay of Oregon State University studied students at 20 public elementary schools in Hawaii who had participated daily in Positive Action (PA), a comprehensive K-12 program focusing on social and emotional development. Students who had received the PA lessons the longest had the least amount of problem behaviors, the study found.

ESEA Planning: Title III-A and Title IV-A

Title III-A The allocation for 09-10 school year is \$12,225.00. The amount of \$5,000 has been set aside to purchase supplementary materials in the Spanish language to compliment the English versions. An additional \$2,175 has been put towards the purchase of a SMART Board and LCD projector for use in the Bilingual classroom. Training for bilingual teachers and tutors will cost \$3,000. The purchase of materials for parent participation meetings will cost \$300. An additional \$1,550 will pay for the salary to have documents translated into Spanish for greater parent understanding, and \$200 for fringe for the translation of the documents.

Title IV-A Under the Title IV monies, \$1,200 will go to the CESA AODA Network allocation. An additional \$800 will be spent on the *Too Good For Drugs* program. Bullying training has been allocated \$1,500 and \$2,034 will be spent on professional development and training conferences. The remaining \$500 will be spent on student leadership training opportunities.