GEAR UP Weekly Widgets 4/29/15

See you all next week!
*Montana GEAR UP Spring Implementation Planning Meeting,  
May 5-6, Colonial Red Lion Hotel, Helena*

*Summer 2015 Montana Advanced Placement® Professional Development Workshops Final  
June 29 – July 2, 2015, at Bozeman High School*

These workshops will help Montana high schools and teachers implement and build quality AP® programs that:

· Foster student engagement;
· Develop college/career ready students; and
· Prepare students for success on AP® assessments.

Three AP® subjects will be offered:

· Calculus AB,
· English Language and Composition, and
· English Literature and Composition.

Interested administrators, counselors, and teachers can access an informational brochure, detailed course descriptions, and a link to the registration website at http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/Accred/. Tuition is $450 for 30 hours of professional development. Registration should be completed by April 29, 2015. Each workshop requires a minimum of 20 people and is limited to 30 participants.

For more information, contact Julia Cruse, 406-444-0769

*REL Study Finds that Attendance and GPA in Grades 8 and 9 are Significantly Associated with Graduating On Time*

A Regional Educational Laboratory Northwest study of graduation outcomes in four Oregon school districts confirms findings from research in other settings that attendance and grade point average (GPA) in grades 8 and 9 are significantly associated with graduating on time. The study also shows that race/ethnicity and achievement on standardized tests were less predictive of graduating on time after accounting for other factors. When the influence of students’ demographic, attendance, achievement, and behavioral characteristics and differences in the schools that they attended were considered at the same time, only gender, English learner student status, and attendance and GPA in
grades 8 and 9 were associated with graduation outcomes.

The authors conclude that practitioners and policymakers concerned with early identification of students at-risk of not graduating on time could consider these early warning indicators: grade 8 attendance rates below 80 percent; grade 8 GPA of less than 2.0; grade 9 attendance rates below 80 percent, and grade 9 GPA of less than 2.0.

Read the full report at: 

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The Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs) build the capacity of educators to use data and research to improve student outcomes. Each REL responds to needs identified in its region and makes learning opportunities and other resources available to educators throughout the United States. To receive regular updates on REL work, including more reports like this, follow NCEE on Twitter: @IES_NCEE. To provide feedback on this or other REL work, email NCEE.Feedback@ed.gov.

* “Earth Science & Me”
A Teachers Workshop

When: July 13 – 16, 2015
Where: Heck/Quaw Elementary School          Location:. Belgrade, MT
Instructors: Doug Scott & Dave Scott (professional geologists)

•Designed for All Teachers! 2 ½ classroom days with “Hands-On” Mining & Geology activities, a 1-day Field Trip to a talc mine, & a ½ day field trip to a talc mill

•What you get: Activity Notebooks; Posters; PowerPoint Presentations; Minerals, Ores, Sedimentary rocks, Metamorphic rocks, & Igneous rocks; Door Prizes; Continental breakfast (2 days); Refreshments (4 days); & Lunches (3 days)

•Re-certification Credits: 2.0 semester hours ($135): Course number: ERTH 588-50 (MSU); Tuition: $60.00 per teacher (checks payable to DST & Associates)

•Curriculum – Why minerals are important; The Rock Cycle; How to identify a mineral; How to identify a sedimentary rock; How to identify a metamorphic rock; How to identify an igneous rock; How to identify an ore; The basics of plate tectonics; Essential Montana Geology Fundamentals; How geologists explore for ore; Why is coal important; The cost of mining; Why the ground shakes; The basics of volcanoes; How to make and read a map; GEOPARDY; & 1 ½ days of field trips!
**** No Refunds after June 22, 2015 ****

*Earth Science & Me Workshop Registration Form*  
($60.00 Tuition Fee due with registration)

Workshop location: Heck/Quaw Elementary, Belgrade, MT     Dates: July 13-16, 2015

First Name     Last Name     Address

City, State, Zip     Home Telephone

School Grade Level Taught

Email address     Tee Shirt size: S M L XL XXL

Mail registration and a $60.00 check to: DST & Associates 14293 W. Baltic Ave.  
Lakewood, CO 80228