

Cooperative Connection

September 2010

Southeast Service Cooperative

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Inside

YAYA review	2
MSTP Cohort news.....	3
The economics of pooling....	4 & 5
Online learning.....	6 & 7
Grant development service.....	8
MSC service award.....	9
SSC wins Sloan Award.....	10
Identify theft protection	11
Outstanding Educator award ...	12
New SSC staff members.....	13
Spelling Bee information.....	14
Water ecology project.....	15
TAH summer field study..	16 & 17
Recent Board actions	18
Upcoming events	19
Directory/Art contest.....	20

Second Mobile Science Lab allows SSC to impact more students

Launched in January of 2009, thanks to a \$75,000 grant from HealthForce Minnesota (part of the Minneapolis City Planning and Center of Economic Development Office), our first lab has been used by over 1,200 students. Due to the high demand and impressive impact, we are excited to announce that we will have TWO labs available for rent during the 2010-2011 school year! The labs bring state-of-the-art scientific equipment in portable cabinets directly to high school science classrooms. The labs are available for a nominal usage fee to any teacher that has completed the Mayo Clinic Educator Academy, designed to expand molecular biology and genomics, or the one-week session focused on agricultural bioscience. Participation



in this course is the prerequisite for using the specialized equipment and successfully implementing the curriculum.

To fund the second trailer, we secured a \$50,000 year two grant from HealthForce Minnesota, a \$10,000 grant from Workforce Development, a \$10,000 grant from

Science lab continues on page 2

SSC beginning new Gifted and Talented Cohort

If you are a Gifted and Talented coordinator in Southeast Minnesota, SSC has the perfect learning and networking opportunity for you!

We will provide the space and snacks, as well as a keynote speaker and valuable networking time for you! The group will be meet at 12:00 PM, and you can even bring your lunch with you!

Session Descriptions

October 12

Wendy Behrens, MDE

December 7

Barb Dullaghan will be presenting on Differentiated Instruction



January 6

Cynthia Stevenson will be presenting on the concepts from Mindset, by Carol Dweck

April 5

We are looking for suggestions from YOU!

If you have not registered yet, contact Heidi Knepper at (507) 281-6669 or hknepper@ssc.coop.



Southeast Service Cooperative
210 Wood Lake Drive SE
Rochester, Minnesota 55904
ph (507) 288-1282
fax (507) 288-7663
www.ssc.coop

Science lab continued from page 1

Winona State University-Rochester (a member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System), a \$5,000 grant from the AgStar Fund for Rural America, and a \$7,500 grant from Minnesota Agricultural Education Leadership Council. We thank these funders and are grateful for their support. We also extend our sincere appreciation to the staff and Board of the Rochester Area Math Science Partnership and our partners at the Mayo Clinic for their commitment to this program, leadership and initiative, and help with the grant applications!

The Mobile Science Labs have gotten lots of media attention lately. If you'd like to see the clips that ran on KTTC and KAAL, and read articles from MN Public Radio, the Post-Bulletin, the Wabasha

County Herald, and the Owatonna Press, visit the SSC website. In addition to this publicity, we have been monitoring the impact of the labs on students by means of a pre- and post- survey. As our goal was to help students explore career opportunities in the sciences, we were pleased to see 77% indicated that science will play an important role in their future and 26% said that they are considering pursuing a health science career (higher than any other option in any other field). In addition, 91% indicated that the experience personally impacted them in a positive way (by increasing engagement in their learning, teaching them new skills, and/or increasing awareness of scientific careers). Students reported that using the Mobile Science Lab "changed my opinion

of science and biology," "proved that science is relevant to my life," "made me curious of other applications of what we worked with," "got me excited about science," "helped me learn that I'm good at science," and "really inspired me." At a time when there is so much focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) we are proud that our program is making a difference and having such a positive effect on students.

For questions about the Academies, please contact Ross Aleff at (507) 266-0181 or aleff.ross@mayo.edu. If you would like to schedule a trailer, please contact Dick Riley at driley@ssc.coop or (507) 281-6666. For other questions, please contact Amy Grover at agrover@ssc.coop or (507) 281-6693.

Students learn from professional artists and authors at SSC's YAYA Conference

The Young Authors, Young Artists Conference was held on May 19 and 20, 2010. Over 750 students and almost 150 adults gathered at the Heinz Center at Rochester Community and Technical College to experience a day of learning.

Students in grades 4-6 from public and private schools across southeast Minnesota descended on the Rochester Community and Technical College campus for an exciting opportunity to learn and work with professional authors, poets, playwrights, composers, lyricists, illustrators, novelists, journalists, book crafters, and others.

SSC's Young Authors, Young Artists Conference promotes student engagement in the areas of written and visual communication, and

is often an out-of-classroom experience that students remember for an entire lifetime. The 2011 conference is scheduled for May 18 and May 19.

Session topics range from character development to extreme sport writing to book arts to watercolor artwork to storytelling. Presenters were a mix of individuals who have presented at the conference in the past and several individuals who were brand new to the conference. We welcomed back the following presenters from past conference years: Linda Back McKay, Amy Christie, Blake Hoena, Margie Kiefer, David LaRochelle, Mary McGrath, Katie McKy, Jim Postier, Pat Ryan, Shannon Steinfeldt, and several members of Rochester's Post-Bulletin staff.



We got to know new presenters, including: Nancy Carlson, Elizabeth Hurley, Ryan Jacobson, Carol McCormick, Deidre Webster from Minnesota Book Arts, and Greg Wimmer.

Mark your calendars for the 2011 conference (May 18 and May 19)! More information and brochures will be available early in 2011.

Math Teachers: Don't miss this professional development opportunity!

by Heidi Knepper

Are you a math teacher in grades 6-8 looking for a way to connect to other math teachers while learning new ways to present your content? Then the MSTP 2010-2011 Grades 6-8 Algebra cohort may be just what you are looking for!

This cohort will be studying the Lesson Study process as a way to improve instruction through on-site professional development, as well as participating in many hands on activities that can be taken directly back to your classroom.

Our first content session will be at SSC on September 28th from 9 AM - 3 PM, with lunch provided. The initial Lesson Study session will be on September 29th from 9 AM – 2:30 PM with lunch provided. Subsequent Lesson Study sessions will occur on site with Lesson Study expert Pete Ziegler as you teach your lessons. Further content sessions will be on November 10, January 25 and March 29.

The goals of the first session will be:

- To represent, analyze and generalize in a variety of patterns with tables, graphs, words and symbolic rules.
- To use graphs to analyze the nature of change in quantities in linear relationships.

Our facilitator for the content sessions will be Christy Hemp. Christy is the Math Specialist and School Improvement Specialist at SW/WC Service Cooperative in Marshall, Minnesota. She has been working with the Math & Science Teacher Partnership grant as a coordinator & facilitator since the 2008-2009 school year and has worked with over 130 teachers in grades 3-8 who impact Mathematics education in Regions 6 and 8. Prior to coming to SW/WC Service Cooperative, Christy taught Mathematics to 7-12 grade students in Sleepy Eye Public Schools & Comfrey Public Schools. She received her 7-12 Mathematics Education & K-12 Vocal Music Education degrees from Southwest Minnesota State University in 1997, as well as her Masters degree in Educational Leadership in 2004. She lives in Walnut Grove, Minnesota with her husband & has two children, Andy (19) and Maddie (15).

Our Lesson Study Expert is Pete Ziegler. Pete has been studying Lesson Study for the past ten years. His mentor and guide is Dr. Akihiko Takahashi. Aki was master teacher in Japan and is now an education professor at DePaul University. Many consider Aki the father of Lesson Study in the United States. Pete came to the realization that teachers working with teachers is the most powerful and effective professional developments while watching a team of 1st grade teachers debrief their first research lesson. The lesson had not gone well – but as a



team they improved it – without any help from him! Since that lesson he has trained over 500 teachers in the Japanese model of professional development. Pete was a classroom teacher for 17 years, worked with teachers developing curriculum and improving their instruction for ten years and was the director of an education district for seven years before “retiring” in July 2007. He has been working on things he likes best ever since. He is an AYP Coordinator for the Lakes Country Service Cooperative, the Executive Director of Minnesota ASCD, and has his own consulting company, Pike Consulting. Pete and his wife Sue live on a lake near Brainerd. He spends time in his flower gardens and loves to fish. He’s not sure which is a greater thrill, seeing the huge head of a 37” inch northern pike on your fishing line or hearing Paul Bunyan welcome the grandkids “Well hello Zechariah Ziegler from Minneapolis, welcome to Paul Bunyan Land”.

If you have questions, or would like an application to participate in this cohort, please contact Heidi Knepper at (507) 281-6669 or hknepper@ssc.coop.

The economics of pooling

by Bill Colopoulos

Multiple employer groups who pool their health benefits programs can lower their individual costs and reduce the volatility of their rate increases. However, this is not a certainty, based on size alone. A definite set of conditions must exist and certain choices made collaboratively among pool members to achieve these goals:

Pools must be inclusive and stable; i.e., groups participating in the pool must stay in the pool for an extended period of time. For a pool to work, the members have to be willing to share, as well as receive, pool subsidies with other groups.

Pools must be relatively homogeneous in terms of plan design. The pool cannot, for example, allow groups to adopt plan choices that create adverse risk selection within their group or allow healthy members a cash-out option (taking cash instead of the insurance). Each group's plan choices must also be adequately funded, relative to overall claim costs. Participating pool groups cannot be allowed to have a lower premium schedule for healthier participants and a higher premium schedule for less healthy folks. When that happens, claims loss ratios generally increase; driving up the overall costs of the pool.

Pool groups must follow sound risk management practices regarding participation. This means groups within the pool must adequately fund their programs in order to ensure a proper level of participation – and spread of risk – within their group. Inevitably, this means that each participating pool group must sponsor plans that they – and their employees – can afford.

Pools must be relatively homogeneous in terms of risk composition. Low risk groups cannot be expected to habitually subsidize higher risk groups and be content participants in the pool. Pools thus constructed never last – and for good reason.

Reducing the volatility of rate increases also means that groups participating in the pool must accept that in some years they will get a higher rate increase than their own claims may warrant, in order for those groups whose claims are higher that year to get the lower, average pool increase. Over time, this will even out in a well-managed pool. (Note: In mandatory pools, there is no management incentive to ensure the giving and receiving of pool subsidies evens out among the participating member groups over the long term).

It is up to a pool to decide how much it wishes to reduce the cost increase volatility for each member group. To the extent groups are willing to share more of their claim costs; volatility



of increases in future costs can be minimized. For example, if a pool's overall increase is 10%; rate volatility can be minimized to 10% by all pool members simply sharing the same 10% increase. On the other hand, if the majority of members want to be charged an increase more aligned with their own cost increase formula, the pool will have to develop a cost increase band; for example, with groups getting a minimum increase of 0% and a maximum increase of 20%. In this scenario, some will be charged more so that others may be charged less. The outliers (those over 20%) will still enjoy some control over their cost increase; albeit at the expense of those who warrant a rate reduction remaining at the same rate they have now. In general, this kind of rate banding methodology is preferred by most pools.

However, pooling can also lower costs, as well as premium increase volatility.

Maximizing economies of scale can lead to lower administrative rates and other fixed costs. This

Pooling continues on the next page

The Economics of Pooling continued from page 4

determines how much “bang for the buck” each pool member gets for their premium dollars. To the extent the portion of premium that is used to cover non-claim expenses can be reduced, overall costs reduce.

Another significant way to lower fixed costs and lower overall premium cost is **setting the optimal level of the price and claim offset value of stop loss**. Stop loss is a reinsurance policy that is purchased to protect the pool from high-cost, individual claims. For example, if the stop loss level is set at \$100,000, the costs of any individual claims (in a policy year period) that exceed \$100,000 are reinsured and not charged to the pool. However, the reinsurance policy that provides this protection has a fixed cost premium of its

own. The lower the stop loss protection level, the higher the fixed cost premium cost. The key for the pool is to find the optimal balance point: purchasing the highest recommendable stop loss level for the lowest fixed cost premium.

The higher the stop loss level, the lower the fixed cost and the greater percentage of premium composed by claims. This result, combined with lowest obtainable administration, is the optimal pool cost formula profile; where both costs and premium increases are minimized.

Pooling requires cooperation and consensus on the part of each participating group and their members. In general, there cannot be too great a diversity of opinion regarding adequate choice and/or funding of benefit

program design. So-called “best practices” that determine optimal plan design choices and high participation levels among pool groups’ employees are absolutely critical. As many failed pools have demonstrated, high cost and low cost benefit programs make poor pooling partners. Like-minded approaches in benefit strategy, plan choices and funding create the best environment for maximizing pooling savings for all participants. Size will not matter much if such guidelines are not adopted as firm pool rules.

For more information, contact Bill Colopoulos, (507) 281-6690, bcolopoulos@ssc.coop.

Increase morale, productivity and attendance with a worksite wellness program funded by SSC!

We will give you the funds and support, so why not get started today?

If your group is a member of SSC’s Health Insurance Pool, you are eligible to receive this funding. This program offers prevention-oriented health promotion services that can help you and your employees get fit, stay fit, and manage their health.

What can we use the funds for?

- Costs to start a wellness committee
- Stipends for committee members
- Incentives
- Biometric testing supplies (which SSC can supply for a small fee)
- Presenters
- Other costs directly related to providing a healthy working environment and health promotion for employees

Contact:

Nicole LaChapelle, (507) 281-6674 or nlachapelle@ssc.coop



How much funding are we eligible for?

Depending on your group size, you can receive between \$1250 - \$2750 in funds for your wellness program.

This includes funds for wellness coordination, which are used to either reimburse staff for their time, or for your organization if staff use work time to coordinate activities.

SSC offers online and ITV courses through SWWC Online Learning Community

by Kari Kubicek

SSC recently made some changes to its distance learning programming based on feedback from our member districts. We are now partnering with Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative in the delivery of distance learning opportunities. These opportunities include both online and Interactive Videoconferencing (ITV) course options.

The Southwest/West Central Online Learning Community offers various online and ITV courses for students that may not be offered in their own district. Through this program, teachers are also highly encouraged to develop and facilitate their own online courses.

The annual district enrollment fee is \$500.00 for districts with a student enrollment under 2,499 and \$900.00 for districts with a student enrollment over \$2,500. The annual fee covers the following services and opportunities:

- Access to the Moodle Course Management System (CMS) for receiving and offering fully online learning courses through the program. Hybrid courses will be hosted on SSC's Moodle site at no additional cost. Instructors will be required to complete SSC hosted Moodle training to have access to Moodle site for hybrid/blended courses. These trainings will be offered at a discounted rate for SW/WC Online Learning Community members.

- Access to online and ITV courseware
- Assistance with online course development and course certification to be offered as an online course through SW/WC Online Learning Community
- Regional program administration and coordination with the Minnesota Department of Education
- Maintenance of the CMS, including program, software and server technical support
- Districts retain all state and federal funding for students enrolled in SW/WC Online Learning Community courses

At this time, districts may enroll students in an SW/WC online course at a rate of \$414.00 per student per semester course or an ITV course at a rate of \$373.75 per student per semester course. If districts confirm enrollment numbers each spring by a specified date in May, the rate per student is reduced to \$360.00 for online courses and \$325.00 for ITV courses.

SW/WC currently offers a total of 32 online courses and 12 ITV courses. Member districts may also purchase Aventa courseware through SSC available at the \$360.00 per student per semester rate. Because these courses are available on a rolling enrollment basis, the fee remains the same throughout the entire year.



Individuals interested in teaching a fully online course through SW/WC must complete a three week Online Teacher Training course. Districts may sign up teachers to participate in the training course at the rate of \$300.00 per individual. The three week training, available at a cost of \$300.00 per participant, includes two face to face training days and online coursework and collaboration. The training will include instruction in the use of Moodle for facilitating an online course as well as provide opportunities for reflection and discussion on best practices in online teaching.

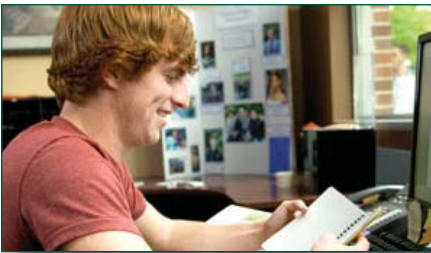
Individuals who previously completed the Facilitating Online Teaching three week training course through MSC Online are considered qualified to teach a fully online course through SW/WC and do not need to complete the three week Online Teacher Training.

Through SW/WC, teachers who have completed the three week Online Teacher Training have the opportunity to develop fully online courses. Once a course has been approved as an offering of SW/WC, the developing teacher is the

Online learning continues on the next page

Online learning continued from page 12

facilitator of the course. Students who are not enrolled in the host district pay the course enrollment fee to SW/WC. \$300.00 of this enrollment fee is then paid to the host district. It is between the



individual district and online course instructor to work out how the \$300.00 is distributed. Students that are enrolled in the host district pay a \$10.00 enrollment fee to take the online course.

SSC also provides training, opportunity and Moodle space for teachers to house blended or

hybrid courses on our own Moodle site, which is separate from the SW/WC Online Learning Community Program site. Individuals hosting a blended course on the SSC Moodle site are required to complete an SSC hosted Moodle training.

Introductory Moodle trainings are scheduled on the following dates this fall:

- Tuesday, October 5
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- Thursday, October 28
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- Tuesday, November 16
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Each of these trainings take place as a full day face to face session and introduce participants to the basic structure of a Moodle course and the tools available for

adding content. Moodle training is available to individuals from districts who are members of the Online Learning Community at a rate of \$200.00. Once these individuals have completed a Moodle training, SSC will host his or her blended course at no additional cost on our Moodle site. The fee for participating in a Moodle training for an individual who is not from an Online Learning Community member district is \$250.00. Also, these individuals must pay \$150 per course per year to house blended courses on SSC's Moodle site.

To access the SW/WC Online Learning Community District Enrollment Form and further information related to the program, visit our website at www.ssc.coop or contact Kari Kubicek at (507) 281-6668 or kkubicek@ssc.coop.

Southeast Service Cooperative introduces Distance Learning Technical Assistance

by Amy Grover

SSC is pleased to offer planning and development technical assistance services to assist you in planning and implementing your inclusion of distance learning opportunities for students and staff in your education programming. Kim Ross, recognized nationally for his expertise in online learning, has recently joined the staff of SSC as Distance Learning Facilitator and as Executive Director of the Southeast Minnesota Network (SEMNET).

Services may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Audit of existing course offerings and recommendations.



- Strategic planning of distance learning implementation.
- Online program development, implementation or support.
- Blended learning program development, implementation or support.
- Staffing solutions and recommendations.
- School board presentations.
- Program policies, procedures

and contract language development

- Business model development.
- State online provider application assistance.
- Program review and evaluation.
- Initial or ongoing supportive consultation.

For more information, please contact Kim Ross, Distance Learning Facilitator at kross@ssc.coop or (507) 281-6692.

SSC launches new grant and proposal development service

by Amy Grover

Southeast Service Cooperative member organizations need to find supplemental funding to support existing and new, innovative initiatives. The SSC staff can offer our cumulative experience to help members successfully secure funds for special projects that serve students and the general public.

SSC is a business member of the American Grant Writers Association and has a Certified Grant Writer® on staff. In fact, several of our staff members have special expertise and a proven track record of success. Therefore, as a direct response to member input, SSC will provide comprehensive grant proposal development and project coordination services, including grant proposal development for single entities and for consortia, grant project coordination, project or program evaluation, grant proposal review and coaching, grant writing training, and funding searches. There are two ways to access these services: a consortium program and a la carte services.

Consortium Member Grant Service Package:

For the 2010-2011 base annual fee of \$1,000, consortium members receive:

- Priority consideration for participation in SSC regional grant proposals.
- Coordination of consortium projects for which SSC has secured funding.

- Unlimited access to funding search and resource information.
- Proposal critiquing for single organization proposals requesting \$100,000 or less. Critique of proposals over \$100,000 may be provided at SSC staff discretion and may require a fee.
- Guiding/coaching a member representative through the grant development process.
- Reduced registration fees for grant writing trainings, offered at least twice a year.
- Referrals to external expert sources for additional training, evaluation, etc.
- Access to a la carte services at a lower fee than non-consortium members.

A La Carte Services:

- The following 2010-2011 fee-based services can be accessed by members of the consortium, other SSC member groups, and other groups/organizations not in the SSC membership.
- 3 hour grant writing training course - \$99 non-consortium members; free basic training for one person in a consortium member organization, \$59 for additional persons for basic training at anytime during the fiscal (consortium membership) year; \$59 per person for advanced training.
- Targeted, special request funding searches - \$75/hr non-consortium; \$50/hr consortium.



- Single entity grant proposal development - \$75/hr non-consortium; \$50/hr consortium.
- Group grant proposal development - \$75/hr non-consortium; \$50/hr consortium.
- Full coordination of a grant project - fee varies by proposal.
- Fiscal hosting of a grant project - usually at SSC's state established indirect rate of 8%.
- Evaluation services for a grant project - fee varies by proposal.

For more information or to discuss your grant writing needs, please contact Suzanne Riley, Executive Director, (507) 281-6673, sriley@ssc.coop; Heidi Knepper, Director of Planning and General Admin, (507) 281-6669, hknepper@ssc.coop; Amy Grover, Program and Planning Manager, (507) 281-6693, agrover@ssc.coop; or Kari Kubicek, Program Coordinator, (507) 281-6668, kkubicek@ssc.coop.

SSC Staff Member Receives 2010 Minnesota Service Cooperative Outstanding Service Award

Kirsten Kuehl recently accepted the 2010 Minnesota Service Cooperative's Outstanding Service Award. The rest of the staff is very proud of her accomplishment and is pleased to recognize this achievement.

A staff member since 1979, Kirsten started at SSC as a senior clerk-typist and currently serves as Instructional Services Coordinator. She left SSC to work for the City of Rochester for a year in the early 1980s, then returned to SSC and has been a continual contributor to our growth and development since then. Much of what other staff know has been learned from Kirsten. She is the chief coordinator for all student programs. Over the years Kirsten has assisted with many organizational transitions and new service opportunities, including cooperative purchasing, new service development, dental reimbursement programming, school staff training and conferences, health insurance,

and many others. Through many organizational challenges and adaptations, Kirsten has maintained a steadfast "can do" outlook and a "make it work" attitude.

Kirsten is an analytical thinker and an excellent problem solver. As a bonus to SSC, when tables need to be moved and hauled and folders stuffed, Kuehl family members have been our volunteer workforce! Her communications with teachers and parents have played an important role in our relationship building. She supervises the program assistants who support all SSC programs, and she is a go-to person when people need help thinking through options and issues.

Kirsten has been involved in the development, implementation, and improvement of many services and programs since 1979. She has exhibited leadership of the staff who support all of our programs. She was involved with



Kirsten and SSC Board Members after the service award ceremony.

Mary Gallaher in the design of the first young writers conference in Minnesota, which has since grown across all the regions and has been adapted by each region.

She has served a key role in building relationships with teachers and parents, extending our field of collaborative participants beyond the school building. She also collaborative very actively with staff in other Service Cooperatives to plan, share, and brainstorm ideas in student academics and instructional programming.

Register of one of SSC's highly-rated SMART Board trainings today!

SSC currently offers the following SMART Board session at our training site:

- ◆Basics 1
- ◆Basics 2
- ◆Advanced
- ◆Lesson Activity Tool Kit
- ◆Lesson Development (elementary and secondary),
- ◆SMART Board Users groups for Elementary and Secondary teachers.

Please check the SSC website for dates and times. Coming soon will be SMART Board training specifically for MAC users, as well as SMART Response training.

We can also facilitate on-site SMART Board training for your staff. If you are interested in scheduling training or have questions about SMART Board training, please contact Heidi Knepper at hknepper@ssc.coop or (507) 281-6669.

SSC is two-time recipient of Alfred P. Sloan Award

In 2008, SSC was awarded the Alfred P. Sloan Award for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility, and we have the distinct pleasure of announcing that we have received this award for 2010 as well! This award is part of the When Work Works project, an ongoing initiative of Families and Work Institute, the Institute for a Competitive Workforce (ICW), an affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the Twiga Foundation. Rochester is one of 30 communities across the nation participating in a When Work Works initiative.

This prestigious award recognizes employers that are successfully

using flexibility as part of an effective workplace strategy to achieve business goals and benefit employees by helping them meet their responsibilities on and off the job.

The selection process is rigorous. First, employer responses are measured against national data from Families and Work Institute's National Study of Employers. Employees are then surveyed on their access to flexible work options, the supportiveness of the culture and on nationally tested measures of workplace effectiveness.

As a recipient of the 2010 Sloan Awards, our organization ranks

in the top 20% of employers nationally in terms of its programs, policies and culture for creating an effective and flexible workplace. In addition, what makes this honor so special is that employees have corroborated this, affirming that ours is indeed an effective and flexible workplace.



Reduce emissions and improve health with Project Green Fleet

by Megan Rooney, IEA

Project Green Fleet has been reducing emissions and improving health for years, but there are still a few buses in Minnesota that could use the tune up.

The free service, offered by Minnesota Environmental Initiative, is aimed at bringing aging bus fleets closer to the environmental standards of their newer counterparts. The goal is to reduce tailpipe emissions, as well as emissions in the cabin, where Minnesota's students spend an average of over an hour a day.

These reductions are a way to directly benefit students and employees. "Our company chose to participate in Project Green

Fleet to take a proactive approach in helping reduce pollutants in the air we breathe for the safety of our children and employees that are around the buses everyday," said Jim Koonst, owner of Stier Transportation Services in Belle Plaine. This strong environmental leadership, coupled with proactive community action has been key to the program's success.

Diesel exhaust contains a variety of pollutants that harm health, increasing the risk of heart and lung disease and are triggers for upper respiratory problems, such as asthma. Children are especially vulnerable to these ailments as they breathe more air per pound than adults and their bodies are still developing.

Some transportation directors were unsure of the process at the beginning. "I wanted to see that other districts had done this successfully before we retrofitted our buses. But I should not have worried. Everything went really smoothly for us – the installations were seamless," said Denny Coughlin of Minneapolis Public Schools.

If you would like your school district to take part in Project Green Fleet, visit www.projectgreenfleet.org

Any questions about Project Green Fleet can be answered by Jordan Hansen, (612) 334-3388 ext. 104, or JHansen@mn-ei.org.

Protect you and your members from identity theft

by Katie Schmitt, Cooperative Purchasing Assistant

Identity theft is on the rise. We all have a role in preventing this crime whether we work with student information, employee data, financial transactions or other client records.

In response to the increase in identity theft and related crimes, consumer protection laws have been established. The Disposal Rule of the Federal Trade Commission's Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act (FACTA) of 2005 applies to any person or organization of any size that maintains consumer or employee information for business purposes, including information for credit, insurance, employment, and consumer reports and records.

Organizations must take "reasonable measures" to dispose of consumer and/or employee information. These methods include: burning, pulverizing, or shredding documents and destruction or removal of electronic media. These measures reduce incidents of identity theft by "dumpster diving".



The Supreme Court ruled in 1988 that once an item is left for trash pickup, privacy or continued ownership is no longer expected. There are penalties for non-compliance with the Disposal Rule including: lawsuits, class action suits, state and federal fines.

To help our members comply with FACTA and other mandates such as HIPAA and Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Southeast Service Cooperative has partnered with Beckley's, Inc. They provide mobile shredding services for members at discounted rates. Beckley's is NAID certified, which is the highest level of security standards in the industry.

Click here for special pricing and services for SSC members.

Identity Theft Statistics

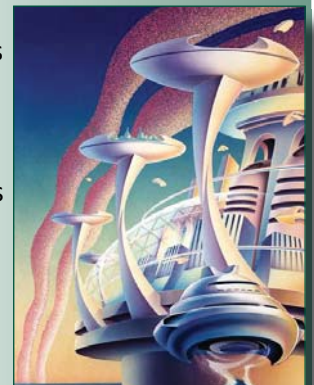
- 1 in every 10 U.S. consumers has already been victimized by identity theft
- There were 10 million victims of identity theft in 2008 in the U.S. (increase of 22% from 2007)
- 43% of victims knew the perpetrator
- Credit card fraud is the most common type of identity theft, followed by utilities fraud (accounts opened in a child's name), and bank fraud (check theft, changing the amount on a check, and ATM security code theft)
- The most popular methods of identity thieves are low-tech. Stealing wallets and physical documents accounts for 43% of all identity theft. Online methods contribute to 11% of all identity thefts
- The average victim spends 330 hours and \$500 repairing the damage

Source: <http://www.spendonlife.com/guide/2009-identity-theft-statistics>

Don't just dream about the future...Design it! Build it! Show it!

Your students dream about making a better world, and engineers design and build things that matter. The National Engineers Week Future City® Competition helps 6th, 7th, and 8th graders make dreams a reality as they imagine, design, and build cities of the future. They'll use math, science, and technology to 'do' engineering. Along the way, they'll tackle real issues affecting real people, discover engineering as well as talents, confidence, and insights they never knew they had. They'll act as citizen engineers in a future world while becoming more aware citizens in their own communities.

If you have questions, contact:
Colleen Feller, Colleen.Feller@metroecsu.org, (612) 638-1511
Or go to: www.successbeyond.org/fcc.htm



Northfield Educator Receives Regional Outstanding Educator Honors

by Kirsten Kuehl

The Southeast Service Cooperative and the Center for Academic Excellence announced that a teacher and Knowledge Bowl coach from Northfield Public High School, Troy Cohrs, was named as a regional honoree in the WEM Foundation's 2010 Outstanding Educator Awards program.

Cohrs was honored in the Academic Challenge Coach of the Year category, which recognizes coaches of student teams who participate and compete in academic challenge or enrichment programs endorsed by the Minnesota Academic League Council. He received an unrestricted \$1,000 gift, and award and a one year complimentary membership to the Center for Academic Excellence.

The 2010 WEM Foundation Outstanding Educator Awards program was created in 1998 in support of teachers and their important role in helping all students achieve academically. It strives to bring recognition to the often "unsung heroes" who meet the challenges of teaching in a variety of settings.

Troy Cohrs has been teaching for 17 years and coaching for 12 years. He currently teaches English and advanced English to ninth graders and Advanced Placement (AP) world literature to 12th graders. When Cohrs began coaching Knowledge Bowl more

than 10 years ago, the school had one team with about six players. The team now has more than 20 participants with four teams in the competitive section. The team qualified for the state meet in 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2008, 2009 and 2010.

With 21 players this season, Cohrs had enough powerhouse players to make up a team destined for state. Instead of placing them all onto one team, he placed a few on each of his four teams, allowing the strongest players to work on their leadership skills and strengthen the other players. The practice rooms are lively and other teachers are often invited to compete against the students. This strategy creates a little healthy competition and motivates the students, thus raising the performance level of all players. When students are not participating in a particular round, Cohrs continues to engage them with reading and judging duties and then observation of teammates and competitors in order to improve themselves.

"He is completely connected and dedicated to all facets of his life; I'm dazzled by what he continues to accomplish with students each and every day!" stated Tom Graupmann, Activities Director for Northfield High School.

In his classroom, Cohrs instills a love of learning in his students, who go above and beyond to research topics and find the perfect pieces of textual evidence for assignments and discussion.



*Academic Challenge Coach of the Year
Troy Cohrs*

Cohrs' door is always open for students, and although he spends many hours grading papers, each page of each paper he reviews includes insightful analysis, constructive comments and suggestions for his students.

The Center for Academic Excellence (CAE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and recognizing high levels of academic achievement for students and teachers.

Nominations are currently being received for 2011 WEM Outstanding Educator Awards program. Please encourage others to take a moment to nominate the dedicated individuals who are making a difference in your communities. Nominations can be placed on the Center for Academic Excellence website:

www.mncae.org.

SSC welcomes two new staff members

Kathy Hartman joined SSC as a School Improvement Coordinator in July.

Originally from Austin, Minnesota, Kathy earned her BA in Education from Minnesota State University, Mankato, and her MA in Teaching and Learning from St. Mary's University of Minnesota.

Kathy brings an incredible amount of experience to her new position. She spent 20 years as a 5th grade teacher, teaching in Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska. She then served as the Federal Programs Director for the Twin Cities Centennial School district before becoming the supervisor

of MDE's School Improvement Division. Before she came to SSC, she also served as a School Improvement Coordinator at Lakes Country Service Cooperative.

Kathy and her long-time husband, Doug have three adult children and one Basset Hound.

Kathy enjoys spending time at her lake house in western Wisconsin, reading, fishing, golfing, gardening and anything outside, especially in summer.

When asked about her thoughts on her new position, Kathy stated, "I look forward to working closely with the southeast region



schools. This is where I started my career, in Austin, so coming back to southeast Minnesota is very special to me.

Kathy can be contacted at khartman@ssc.coop or (507) 281-6685.

Kim Ross, recognized nationally for his expertise in online learning, has recently joined the staff of SSC as Distance Learning Facilitator and the Southeast Minnesota Network (SEMNET) as Executive Director.

Kim has 20 years experience in school administration, the last 12 as superintendent. His education includes a BS in Mathematics, with an Ed. Tech minor, and an MS in Computer Services Administration.

Kim has created several successful statewide online programs and has contributed in significant ways in the development of online learning in Minnesota. He was a member of the Commissioner of Education's Online Learning Advisory Council

and the Governor's Broadband Task Force. Kim is a recipient of the 2010 eSchool News Tech Savvy Superintendent award and is noted in Clayton Christensen's *Disrupting Class*.

A father of four, Kim and his wife have been married for 30 years. In his free time, he enjoys travel, especially to Sanibel Island, Madeline Island or Torrey Pines.

Kim shared, "I'm excited about contributing to the development of online learning in southeast Minnesota. Throughout the world, online learning continues to grow, significantly helping both teachers teach and students learn, efficiently and effectively. Online learning is a student-centric technology that is revolutionizing teaching and



it's invigorating to be part of this transformation. I am looking forward to helping SSC member schools and teachers develop and implement online learning tools."

Kim can be contacted at kross@ssc.coop or (507) 281-6692.

Spelling Bee registration for 2011 begins

Schools planning to participate in the 2010-11 Regional Spelling Bee must register with Scripps.

The \$99 registration fee includes:

- Study materials for students
- Pronouncer guides
- Rules
- Certificates
- Schools registering with Scripps are also eligible to receive a free one-year subscription from Encyclopedia Britannica Online Student Edition for use as a prize in your spelling bee program.
- and much more!

(see www.spellingbee.com)

Enroll by September 30, and Encyclopedia Britannica will double your bonus. All schools enrolled by September 30, 2010, will receive TWO free one-year subscriptions to the Britannica Online Student Edition.

The deadline for enrollment in the 2011 Scripps National Spelling Bee program is October 15, 2010. A late enrollment period is offered from October 16, 2010, through December 17, 2010. All schools enrolling during the late enrollment period will be subject to an additional late enrollment fee of \$75 per school.



Visit the Scripps National Spelling Bee website at:
www.spellingbee.com

2010-2011 Dates to remember:

Deadline to register with Scripps	October 15, 2010
Deadline to register with Southeast Service Cooperative	November 19, 2010
Regional Spelling Bees.....	February 15, 2011
Final Spelling Bee	March 1, 2011

The Great American Spellcheck is a fundraiser to offset costs incurred by the school. Find more information about the Great American SpellCheck at www.spellingbee.com. This fundraising program erases the objections that you (and your students' parents) have to traditional fund-raisers. It's a fund-raiser that:

- 100% of the money raised benefits your school,
- involves no students knocking on the doors of strangers and
- is rooted in academics

Students study grade-specific word lists and collect pledges from family and friends for every word they spell correctly in the Great American SpellCheck.

Students improve their spelling skills and your school enjoys the financial benefits!

Districts also pay the Southeast Service Cooperative \$95/student that participates in the Regional Spelling Bee. The deadline for registration with SSC is November 19.

Scripps sent information to schools in August. SSC will send additional information in October. Contact Katie Sue Cunningham, kcunningham@ssc.coop, (507) 281-6667 or Kirsten Kuehl at kkuehl@ssc.coop, (507) 281-6670 for more information.



Thank you to McNeilus Steel, Inc. and KM Telecom for co-sponsoring the 2010 final Spelling Bee. Their generosity allowed us to send a student from southeast Minnesota to the National Scripps Spelling Bee.

Knowledge Delivery Systems offers SSC members affordable, online professional development



The Southeast Service Cooperative continues our partnership with Knowledge Delivery Systems (KDS) to provide dynamic online professional development courses for K-12 teachers and school administrators. Each course is only \$55 and provides 10 continuing education units (CEUs).

Users can instantly access any of these online, self-paced courses any time, any day, from anywhere. The KDS award-winning platform delivers engaging video-based lectures from nationally renowned educators, including Rick Wormeli, Charlotte Danielson and Jay McTighe. KDS

specializes in timely content in areas such as instructional leadership, educational technology, differentiated instruction, classroom management, and teaching English language learners. Interactive discussion forums, reflective journals, study guides, and other educational resources are all included. Customized professional development programs are also available to help schools and districts meet their goals through report and tracking capabilities to improve student achievement and increase teacher effectiveness. For more information, visit our website or contact Amy Grover at agrover@ssc.coop or (507) 281-6693.

SSC districts invited to participate in water ecology project

SSC member districts are invited to participate in a Medtronic Grant project related to water education and technical support in requesting funding for best management water practices for your facilities under the Legacy Act. To participate in this project, district representatives are invited to attend an upcoming seminar that will take place Thursday, December 9, 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM, at SSC. Districts are encouraged to send a team of individuals to participate in the seminar, which is being offered at no cost to SSC member districts and will include lunch.

Content will include:

Science Education.

Participants will be introduced to the new state standards for



engineering education as it relates to water programming and some model K-12 curriculum/materials that meet the state guidelines developed through the Medtronic Grant.

Facility Management.

Information about managing facilities to better prevent water contaminants will be provided,

including a training session for facility managers on new water issues and how to reduce impervious water fees.

State Facility Renovation Support.

Technical assistance and guidelines will be provided for applying for financial support through the Legacy Act to upgrade district facilities such as creating rain gardens and other storm water controls.

To register for this event, click here. Contact Kari Kubicek at kkubicek@ssc.coop with questions.

Apply for funding through the Ag Literacy Grant program

Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom (MAITC) is a unique public/private partnership between the MAITC Foundation and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Grant funds are provided courtesy of the Foundation based on annual funding provided by Minnesota's agricultural community.

The maximum grant request is \$400. This grant program is targeted at K-12 practicing educators with cash awards offered to encourage educators to bring agriculture and food systems education "to life" by effectively integrating related content into their classroom or school. Non-formal education

applications will also be considered contingent on available funds.

New applications are strongly encouraged in the areas of youth gardening, unique integration and innovation in the classroom, and field trip experiences.

Field trip experiences might include working farms, agriculture industry tours, the MHS sites of Oliver Kelley Farm and FarmAmerica or the Minnesota Zoo Farm, to name a few.

Application deadlines are September 15, 2010 and February 1, 2011. For more information, see the MN Department of Agriculture web



site: www.mda.state.mn.us/grants/grants/minigrant.aspx

or contact Al Withers, MAITC Program Director at 651/201-6688 or alan.withers@state.mn.us with questions or for clarification.

Teaching American History project funds cohort trip to Philadelphia

by Kari Kubicek

Four and a half years ago, SSC and partners Winona State University, the Minnesota Historical Society, and Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative, submitted a proposal, *Blufflands and Prairies: Southern Minnesota's Place in the Fabric of America's Story* to the United States Department of Education's Teaching American History grant program. The intent of the program was to help teachers develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of U.S. history as a separate subject matter within the core curriculum resulting in improved instruction and increased student achievement.

In June, 28 teachers from both the southeast and southwest portions of the state travelled to Philadelphia on the four year project culminating field trip, enjoying numerous sight visits and opportunities that for some cohort members of the group were once in a lifetime opportunities.

The American Institute of History Education (AIHE) assisted SSC staff with the trip itinerary planning and provided tour guides and expert historians on the trip itself to lead the group during the week. Day one of the trip began with Ken Gavin of AIHE leading the group on a tour of old Philadelphia, with the first stop being the Independence Visitor



The group gathered outside of Independence Hall.

Center. Following a self-guided tour of the exhibits, Gavin led the group to visit and hear the stories behind several historical sites in Philadelphia including: The Liberty Bell, The Presidential Mansion Site, the Graff House, Washington Square, and Carpenter's Hall.

Following these site visits, one cohort noted, "What a fantastic opportunity for teachers!!! It was great to be able to see the sites with teachers because it gave us an opportunity to discuss how we might use these things in the classroom. Experiencing these places with people who share a common interest/teach these topics truly enhanced the experience."

The group spent time at Independence Hall and Congress Hall during the afternoon, followed by a self-guided tour of the Portrait Gallery at the Second Bank of the United States. The final site visit for the day was the National Constitution Center which included the opportunity for the group to see "Freedom Rising," a state-of-the-art



multimedia theater experience designed to connect visitors with the story of the U.S. Constitution. In viewing this show, visitors are able to see themselves as an important piece of the Constitution and the Constitution as a driving force in all of our lives.

The group finished their first day of the trip dining at the City Tavern; experiencing authentic 18th century dishes at what John Adams once called the most genteel tavern in America.

Day two of the trip began with a tour of Christ Church, the first parish of the Church of England (Anglican) in Pennsylvania, followed by a guided walk through Christ Church Burial Ground. The Burial Ground is the final resting place for some of the most prominent leaders including Benjamin Franklin and four other signers of the Declaration of Independence. The group then stopped by to visit the Betsy Ross House.

The group traveled by bus in the afternoon to Fort Mercer in National Park, New Jersey. Fort Mercer was one of two forts constructed in 1777 to block the water approach to Philadelphia. The group was led through a guided tour of the Red Bank Battlefield and the Whitall House.

TAH Trip continues on the next page

TAH Trip continued from page 6



The group enjoying a tour of the Red Bank Battlefield.

The final stop for was at the Eastern State Penitentiary, which was opened in 1829 as a part of a controversial movement to change the behavior of inmates through “confinement in solitude with labor.”

Based on her experience at the Penitentiary, one cohort member noted, “The prison experience will enhance how I teach not only my history class, but also the criminal justice class that I teach.”

Professor David Booz of AIHE took over leading the group the morning of day three of the trip. The first stop was the Philadelphia Museum of Art with a docent guided tour followed by time for individuals to explore the museum.

The group traveled to Valley Forge National Historical Park in the afternoon. Professor Booz led the tour of Valley Forge with a presentation based on the development of a new, regular American Army as envisioned by George Washington and created

by Von Steuben. The final stop was at the Good ‘N Plenty Restaurant for an authentic Pennsylvania Dutch meal.

The fourth and final day of site visits was spent at Gettysburg National Military Park, which the group began at the Visitor Center. The Visitor Center tour included an immersive experience with a film and the Cyclorama that places individuals in the middle of the action during Pickett’s Charge, the climactic struggle during the Battle of Gettysburg.



The group at the Monument to the 1st Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, Gettysburg Battlefield.

Professor Booz led the group on an extensive tour of the Gettysburg Battlefield and Soldiers’ National Cemetery during the afternoon.

The following morning, the group was up early to catch the flight back to Minnesota. Working together and collaborating on projects, site visits, workshops

and other components of the TAH grant project programming for the past few years resulted in some tearful goodbyes when the members of the groups went their separate ways. Group members expressed their gratitude for their experience as a cohort of the project.

“The trip was absolutely fantastic! What a PERFECT way to experience the places we teach about in our classrooms! I am so thankful I got to be part of this cohort! These are by far the best experiences I have had as far as staff development goes. The workshops that were offered, the trips that we went on, etc. were top of the line! We had great leadership from the project staff. They really worked hard trying to accommodate all of the teachers! The final trip was well organized, meals were beyond fabulous, and the schedule flowed very smoothly! THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK! I am looking forward to being part of another cohort - hopefully we will be funded again!” one cohort noted.

Unfortunately, the proposal submitted for TAH funding to support another project was not awarded funding. However, as long as the funding continues to be available, SSC plans to submit another proposal next year.

Recent Board meeting actions and information

May 2010

Lobbying Consultant Contracts

Determined to participate in contracts with Lindquist and Vennum and Capitol Hill Associates for lobbying services during the 2010-2011 year not to exceed \$25,000 in cost.

Legal Services

Determined to participate in a contract with The Kinney Firm services during the 2010-2011 year for legal services, including pool bidding process oversight, not to exceed \$31,500 plus photocopying expense.

CBC Consulting Contract

Offered a contract to Creative Benefit Consultants, LLC for one year from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 under the same terms as the current contract except that responsibilities will be revised and compensation will be set at or below the 2009-2010 fee, to be negotiated by the Executive Director.

School Improvement Consulting

Approved a consulting contract with Learning Curve Consulting for 2010-2011.

Fiscal Host SEMNET

Agreed to serve as fiscal host of SEMNET effective July 1, 2010, contingent on mutually acceptable terms; and the Executive Director is authorized to negotiate and finalize terms.

Potential Distance Learning Facilitator

Directed staff to work with the Administrative Advisory Committee to explore the potential of expanding SSC's distance learning support with the provision of a distance learning facilitator.

Appoint the following administrators to the SSC Administrative Advisory Committee for new two-year terms July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012:

Supt. John McDonald, Kingsland; Supt. Myrna Luehmann, Fillmore-Central; Supt. David Thompson, Stewartville; Supt. Bruce Klaehn, Dover-Eyota; Supt. Mike Funk, Albert Lea.

Finance Policy Revision

Discussed and decided not to revise Finance Policy Expenses and to continue to assign SSC owned mobile communication devices to staff as needed.

Service Fees 2010-2011

Maintained service fees for the 2010-2011 year at the current levels, with the exceptions outlined in Document 66 Annual Fee Memo.

Personnel Committee Recommendation

Accepted the Personnel Committee's recommendation for 2010-2011 employee compensation as submitted, including overall 2% wage and benefit adjustments outlined in Document 67; the Executive Director's salary; adopt the 2010-2011 Personnel Benefit Plan, which incorporates the recommended benefit adjustment; reduce Dianne Dodge's FTE to .3 per her request; hire Kathy Hartman for .7 FTE fixed day appointment as AYP-School Improvement coordinator effective July 1, 2010.

MSC Outstanding Service Award

Honored Kirsten Kuehl, SSC Instructional Services Coordinator, with the 2010 Southeast Service Cooperative Outstanding Service Award.

June 2010

City/County Pool 2009 Settlement Report

Accepted the 2009 CCOGA Health Pool settlement report and pursuant to SSC policy on management of the Health Insurance Pools, credit calculated excess claims funds to the following groups: City of Harmony, City of Byron, City of Mabel, and Housing & Development of Austin.

School Health Pool – Wabasha-Kellogg

Approved the request of Wabasha-Kellogg Public Schools to participate in the SSC School Health & Benefits Pool effective September 1, 2010.

City/County Pool 2011 Renewal

Rescheduled the August regular Board meeting to Wednesday, August 18.

Mobile Science Lab Sponsorship

Accepted a sponsorship from AgStar of \$5,000 to assist with equipping a second Mobile Science Lab.

Mobile Science Lab Fees for 2010-2011

Set the service fee for the Mobile Science Lab for 2010-2011, effective July 1, as follows: \$100 per booking, \$100 late fee if the trailer is not returned on the agreed upon date and time; and a \$25 surcharge fees for non-member schools.

Distance Learning Planning Survey

Offered a temporary appointment to Kim Ross for up to 3 months and up to the equivalent of half-time (20 hours per week), effective July 1 at a daily rate of \$308 with mandated benefits only (PERA, FICA, etc) to assist with development and implementation of a distance learning facilitation service; during this period, the Executive Director will monitor progress, report to the Board, and may open a new, regular appointment position if deemed practicable.

July 2010

School Health Pool – Pine Island Public Schools

Accepted the request of Pine Island Public Schools to participate in the SSC School Health & Benefits Pool effective September 1, 2010.

Distance Learning Programming Update

Directed staff to file a letter of intent with the Minnesota Department of Education to become an online provider for 2011-2012.

Cooperative Purchasing

Awarded the vendor bid for shredding services to Beckley's Office Products.

August 2010

Distance Learning Programming Update

Established the daily rate fee for Distance Learning Facilitation services at \$1,000 per day or portion thereof (e.g., 2 hours = \$250, half day = \$500, 6 hours = \$750).

City/County Pool Renewal

Adopted the 2011 City/County Health Pool renewal formula and the resulting rate adjustments, maintained the stop loss insurance level for the City/County Pool at \$125,000; directed and authorized staff to establish special conditions and adjustments for groups as warranted by unique group circumstances.

School Health Pool – Cannon Falls

Approved the request of Cannon Falls Public Schools to participate in the SSC School Health & Benefits Pool effective September 1, 2010.

SmartBoard Fees

Revised the fees for SmartBoard training.

Note: Complete SSC Board of Directors meeting minutes are available on the SSC website at www.ssc.coop

Calendar

SEPTEMBER

Distance Learning – Southeast Discussion Forum

September 28
10 AM - 12 PM

Distance Learning – Southeast Discussion Forum (at Mabel-Canton High School)

September 30
1 - 3 PM

SMART Board Basics 1

September 30
9 AM - 12 PM

SMART Board Basics 1

September 30
4 - 7 PM

OCTOBER

SMART Board Basics 2

October 4
9 AM - 12 PM

Introduction to Moodle

October 5
9 AM - 3 PM

Special Education Reading Interventions

October 5
9 AM - 3:30 PM

Elementary SMART Board User Group

October 6
4 - 6 PM

Junior High Knowledge Bowl Round Robins

October 7, 8, 11

SMART Board Basics 1

October 11
4 - 7 PM

Gifted and Talented Cohort Meeting

October 12
12 - 3 PM

SSC Board Meeting

October 27
5:30 - 8 PM

Secondary SMART Board User Group

October 13
4 - 6 PM

Instructional Leadership Forum

October 20
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Introduction to Moodle

October 28
9 AM - 3 PM

NOVEMBER

SMART Board Lesson Activity Toolkit 2.0

November 2
4 - 7 PM

Junior High Knowledge Bowl Round Robins

November 3, 4, 5

SMART Board Basics 2

November 9
4 - 7 PM

SMART Board Basics 2

November 11
9 AM - 12 PM

Save Your License Saturday

November 13
8 AM - 4 PM

Introduction to Moodle

November 16
9 AM - 3 PM

SMART Board Lesson Activity Toolkit 2.0

November 23
9 AM - 12 PM

SSC Board Meeting

November 29
5:30 - 8 PM

DECEMBER

Junior High Knowledge Bowl Round Robins

December 1, 2, 3

Special Education Reading Interventions

December 7
9 AM - 3:30 PM

Water Ecology Seminar

December 9
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Senior High Knowledge Bowl Round Robins

December 10, 13, 14

Instructional Leadership Forum

December 15
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

SSC Board Meeting

December 22
5:30 - 8 PM



SSC is a 2010 Recipient of the Alfred P. Sloan Award for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility.

Cooperative Connection is a publication of the Southeast Service Cooperative, published four times per year for members, associates, and the general public.

Editor: Nicole LaChapelle
nlachapelle@ssc.coop

Southeast Service Cooperative
 210 Wood Lake Drive SE
 Rochester, MN 55904
 Phone (507) 288-1282
 Fax (507) 288-7663

Office Hours:
 Monday - Friday
 8 AM - 4:30 PM

For up-to-date news, visit
www.ssc.coop

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- 2..... Dental Reimbursement
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- 4..... EHSM
- 5..... Student Academics & Conferences

We want to be there when you call, so try dialing us directly at the numbers below. Our voice mail system allows you to leave a detailed message if the person you're calling isn't able to answer right away. If you don't know who you need to talk with, dial (507) 288-1282 and one of our staff or our auto-attendant will direct you from there. To send a fax dial (507) 288-7663.

	name	phone	email	service area
SSC Staff	Suzanne Riley	(507) 281-6673	.....sriley@ssc.coop	Executive Director
	Katie Sue Cunningham	(507) 281-6667	.....kcunningham@ssc.coop	Program Assistant
	Dianne Dodge	(507) 281-6686	.....ddodge@ssc.coop	School Improvement Coordinator
	Amy Grover	(507) 281-6693	.....agrover@ssc.coop	Program and Planning Manager
	Chris Hancock	(507) 281-6671	.....chancock@ssc.coop	Accounting Assistant
	Kathy Hartman	(507) 281-6685	.....khartman@ssc.coop	School Improvement Coordinator
	Heidi Knepper	(507) 281-6669	.....hknepper@ssc.coop	Director of Planning and General Admin.
	Kari Kubicek	(507) 281-6668	.....kkubicek@ssc.coop	Program Coordinator
	Kirsten Kuehl	(507) 281-6670	.....kkuehl@ssc.coop	Instructional Services Coordinator
	Nicole LaChapelle	(507) 281-6674	.....nlachapelle@ssc.coop	Communications and Program Assistant
	Dick Riley	(507) 281-6666	.....driley@ssc.coop	Program Assistant
	Kim Ross	(507) 281-6692	.....kross@ssc.coop	Distance Learning Facilitator
	Katie Schmitt	(507) 281-6676	.....kschmitt@ssc.coop	Cooperative Purchasing Program Assistant
	Diane Schwinghammer	(507) 281-6683	.....dschwinghammer@ssc.coop	Lead School Improvement Coordinator
Bob Tweten	(507) 281-6663	.....btweten@ssc.coop	Health and Safety Consultant	
Dale Walston	(507) 281-6675	.....dwalston@ssc.coop	Director of Operations	
SSC Consultants	Bill Colopoulos	(507) 281-6690	.....bcolopoulos@ssc.coop	Health and Benefits Consultant
	Lesley Hauser	(507) 281-6684	.....lhauser@ssc.coop	School Improvement Consultant
	Roger Jones	(507) 951-6749	.....rjoneshr@yahoo.com	Human Resource Mgmt Consultant
	Mike Moriarty	(507) 450-2490	.....moriarty@acegroup.cc	Local Government Services Liaison
	IEA (Institute for Environmental Assessment)			
Thad Dahling	(507) 281-6680	.....thad.dahling@ieainstitute.com	...	Project Manager
Bruce Huffer	(507) 281-6681	.....bruce.huffer@ieainstitute.com	....	Facility Consultant
Natalie Nagel	(507) 281-6688	.....natalie.nagel@ieainstitute.com	...	Administrative Assistant
Angie Radel	(507) 281-6682	.....angie.radel@ieainstitute.com	....	Senior Project Manager
Pat Weir	(507) 281-6677	.....pat.weir@ieainstitute.com	.....	Regional Manager

Scholarships offered through Water is Life Art Contest

The Freshwater Society is working through Minnesota's Service Cooperatives to offer six \$500 scholarships to 9-12 grade students who find an artistic way to express the importance of water. The 2011 Water is Life Art Contest theme is Water Conservation. The contest gives Minnesota's senior high school students an opportunity to create art that may also influence and motivate others to take action to conserve our water resources.



By 2010 Scholarship Recipient
 Christine Hofschulte
 Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School

The art contest is open to all public, private and home schooled 9th-12th grade students in Southeast Service Cooperative's region (finals are statewide).

Acceptable media forms include: photography, sculpture, painting, drawing, and short video. Now is the time to pass this opportunity on to your art students, so they may begin thinking about, and creating their submissions.

For more information, click here, or contact: Dick Riley
driley@ssc.coop
 or (507) 281-6666.