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Wind River Institutes

for Alternative Teachers and Staff-June 24-25
for regular ed teachers of at-risk students Aug. 2-3

Answers to ALL your questions:

Who should attend which session?

They are very similar to one another. In fact, the agenda may be the same, but the focus may be slightly different. It might even work out if some of your staff can attend in June and some in August!

What kinds of topics are on the agenda?

Our agenda is 95% settled for the June Institute and almost complete for the August Institute. Both institutes are appropriate for all types of teachers and staffs: the common element is the emphasis on teaching at-risk students. There will be activities in the June institute to strengthen alternative school staffs and help them work with (and sometimes in spite of) district initiatives. The August institute is for all teachers in k-12 settings who work with at-risk students. Dropout prevention, early identification, classroom strategies, differentiated instruction, and special education issues will be some of the topics.

How do I get to Dubois and what about transportation and lodging?

Fly into Jackson Hole or Riverton, WY. Rent a car to get to Dubois (75 miles either way).

Lodging:-Rooms are already filling up fast-book them ASAP

Average price about \$65.00 a room for 2 queen beds, but some places are a little higher. Go to www.duboiswyoming.org for complete information about all our lodging choices. RV spaces, dude ranches, bed and breakfasts are also available. Some places are up in the mountain so you'd need to allow travel time to get to town for the institute-but it's doable.

I have gotten special rates at the Longhorn, Stagecoach, Branding Iron, Twin Pines and Rocky Mountain Lodge so far. Just tell them you are attending the Wind River Institute.

Location: The Headwaters Community Arts Center, Dubois, WY (use Google Maps for directions)-located next to city park, museum, river walk, tennis courts, softball field, and National Big Horn Sheep Center. You'll be able to come in and pick up materials the evening before from 6 to 8 p.m. the previous day and 7:30-8:00 the first morning.

Times of the institute:

8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. (thereabouts) with a "working" lunch so that will count as part of the class times.

Meals

Included in the registration fees are continental breakfast, snacks, and lunch for both days. There are many restaurants in the area to suit your dining preferences.

Be sure to take advantage of the chuck wagon dinner, Thursday night-(Monday night for the August institute)-cost is \$30 and you can include that in your registration. We have to limit the number to 100 and it includes great entertainment. Send additional money if family members are attending as well.

Family Friendly

This is a wonderful location for a family vacation. Plan on coming early or staying longer. Once I get your registration you will receive a complete package of activities to enjoy in the Wind River Mountains, compliments of the Wind River Visitors' Council.

Rodeo is Friday night. We will have a table of folks who can give you information on activities to do in town (and in the mountains as well) and sell you rodeo tickets-you can also buy them at the gate and also buy hamburgers, etc. there for Friday night dinner.

Graduate Credits

Graduate credits are being developed right now and will be based on work begun at the institute and continued on line during the fall semester-self paced. Syllabus will be available on line soon. One graduate credit is available for the 15 hours of attendance-probably about \$100 per credit. No charge for continuing ed credits-working now on reciprocity with other states so everyone can earn them.

Presenters and topics so far include:

- Eric Larsen and the Discovery Program- <http://store.cambiumlearning.com/AuthorPage>
- Stan Davis-Safe Schools Consulting-<http://safeschoolsconsulting.com/home.htm>
- Nancy Blackwell-Longevity of Success- <http://www.longevityofsuccess.com/>
- Ed Visions – The Hope Survey- <http://edvisionscooperative.org/>
- Dr. Liz Simpson, University of Wyoming, collaboration among teachers, special education issues, and working with “difficult” students
- Cindy Reinitz- problem and project based learning is appropriate for every one
- Dany Tanner from Natrona County, Wyoming, describing their new Recovery High School, staffed with substance abuse counselors, and meant to be used as a transition for students returning to school from treatment.
- Dr. Jo Ann Flanagan who will discuss high school curriculum re-design strategies to ensure success for all students (August)
- We will be engaging in a variety of activities to...
 - strengthen your staff relationships with one another and with students
 - engage in the poverty simulation developed by Ruby Payne (August)
 - build the kind of culture needed to get the most from your alternative school environment
 - increase effective instructional practice for all students
 - teach and reach your wounded students
 - differentiate for all students
 - empower special education teachers to become fully engaged in all professional teaching strategies
- The days will be divided into four types of activities...
 - large group work
 - time for planning and reflection
 - break-out sessions with the opportunity to see and hear specific speakers