

Peru Central

Cross-Campus Web-based Update

EMERGING ECONOMIC DOWNTURN FOR OUR NATION & STATE

The emerging economic downturn makes it particularly important for Peru CSD to carefully examine and consider each and every request associated with requisitions, conference & workshop attendance, stipends, in-service credit, etc.

In recent years, Peru Central and many of the state's other rural school districts have benefited from some growth in state aid. Various state officials say a mid-year 'adjustment' by Albany of state aid to school districts is possible. In plain language, that means a cut in state aid is possible. Already this week, the State Comptroller said this will be a 'fasten your seatbelt' state budget season, with increasing state deficits forecasted beyond that.

Just as many of us are doing at home, Peru Central is adjusting spending patterns to reflect the economic downturn.

Yesterday, I commissioned the information technology 'tech team' to recommend specific strategies to reduce energy consumption associated with workstations and other network devices across campus. Please turn off computer printers and video screens at the close of business each day in your classroom or work area. Doing so reduces energy consumption, reduces our 'carbon footprint' and helps Peru Central reduce costs.

It's likely some conference/workshop requests will not be approved. From today forward, be certain to submit a conference/workshop request well in advance making a deposit or 'booking' that date on your calendar. Doing so will avoid disappointment for all involved, which can result from an individual assuming a request will be approved.

Next month, I will engage the faculty association, support staff association and administrative council in discussion of how we might best engage together in collaborative strategies to prudently reduce day-to-day costs while sustaining the solid instructional programs and support services we provide to our community and its children. We'll likely focus on areas such as energy conservation, increasing efficiency via partnerships with the BOCES and this region's teacher center, and examining whatever studies and proposals are received from state associations and state agencies.

Monday, I will publish and distribute the annual preliminary draft set district goals and forecasted budget development factors for the next fiscal year.

We've provided this rural school community with strong public education programs and support services for seven decades. We've faced economic downturns previously by rising to the occasion. Together, we'll rise to the occasion again. Thank you!

OCTOBER 24, 2008


FROM A. PAUL SCOTT, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS