



Northern Region Update

7/31/08

1. How is your region doing? What are some of your region's strengths and what are some areas in need of improvement? What are some strategies for addressing those areas of concern?

Our region's strength is having experienced communications professionals who are always willing to help out a colleague. I'll have to survey our region to determine what challenges we currently share (I know my own district's needs and concerns, but not those of others)

2. What major issues are facing your region? Are your regional members impacted by this? If so, how and what are they doing or what do they plan to do to address the issue?

We have new superintendents this year in Thompson (Loveland) and Weld 6 (Greeley), and there will be a new superintendent in St. Vrain (Longmont) next year. The transitions are going well in Thompson and Weld 6. Thompson in particular has had a nice campaign with the new superintendent pledging to visit 100 student families' homes in his first 100 days on the job.

Also, St. Vrain is pursuing a mill levy this fall. Weld 6 began community conversation about whether to have a mill levy election, but decided to hold off and not go for one this fall. The issue will resurface in 2009. Neither district has a mill levy currently in place.

3. What kinds of professional development are you planning to do or have done in your region? Explain...

In September we are planning a public engagement workshop, to be led by the director of the CSU Center for Public Deliberation. Tentative date is Wednesday, September 17, 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Following that, I am hoping to pull together a workshop on internal communication strategies. I would love to hear from anyone who knows an expert in the field who I can approach about leading this session.

4. Is there anything going on in your region that you think COSPRRA and/or NSPRA should know about?

Not at this time.