

A New Unit within the Department of Public Instruction



The Information, Communications and Research (ICR) Unit was formed within the Department of Public Instruction. The unit is composed of:

Kay Mayer, Director of the ICR Unit
Roxie Dietrich, Multi-media Developer
Dale Wetzel, Public Information Specialist
Don Kaiser, Education Information Process Analyst
Brian Bucholz, Research Technician

Don and Brian were formerly part of the Management Information Systems unit.

The title of the unit—Information, Communications and Research—describes the purpose of the unit.

Information. It is the intent that this unit will serve as the information center for the Department of Public Instruction. We solicit your input about the positive developments that are taking place in your schools that can be shared with others to promote new and innovative ideas, projects, programs and developments that work for you.

We intend to link media venues to provide meaningful content information to support the educational efforts of teachers, school administrators and parents, all to the benefit of our students. We consider this “information sharing” and recognize that this is a two-way street. We not only welcome, but encourage, your input that we in turn can share with others.

Communications. We will partner with schools and educators in the state and acknowledge the superb teaching and learning that is taking place. We will showcase and market the innovative instruction happening throughout our state. This will be done through continued improvements of our website, enhanced use of social media, newsletters and press releases.

Research. We will continue to refine and define the information that we gather from you. Much of this information is required by law or administrative rule. Some of this information might be duplicative or no longer needed. We will review the necessity of the information we collect and make a determination if it is still required. Further, we will assess how that information is used—is the information collected only to sit on the shelf or does it provide important information that is valuable to you as teachers, administrators, and policymakers at all levels?

I encourage you to share your thoughts and ideas about how the Department of Public Instruction can improve our communication efforts. We consider this a team effort with all of us in education a part of this important team. I look forward to hearing from you and working with you to promote the best possible educational environment for our students.