



## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*by Bryan Dooley*

November is the season for many things but Apple Pie is right up there as one of my favorites. I was recently gifted some amazing local apples which allowed me the opportunity to spend some time in the kitchen and create an Apple Pie. Create is the pivotal word. Amazingly enough, there are corollaries between creating an apple pie and Region 9. First, you need amazing people, like the apples that go into the pie. Second, you need the right spices, like the True Colors that comprise the people, Orange to be daring and add extra cinnamon and nutmeg, Blue to take have the passion to add real butter for the true taste, Green to be visionary and look for opportunities to innovate with the recipe and Gold, to make sure the rules are followed and the pie is baked the “exactly” correct amount of time. The layering of all the attributes of True Colors defines Region 9. We are truly an amazing organization.

This month we celebrate our R9 School Based Health Clinic and all of the important work they do. Ashlee McEwen and her team provide a broad spectrum of services geared to help students in all 7 of our Region 9 member districts. Services include primary care for physical health, behavioral health for any student in need, prevention education and awareness, DWI education called Protecting You Protecting Me (PYPM), and suicide prevention. Our Region 9 team also responds to support our schools when a crisis occurs and is always immediately responsive to support the social-emotional needs of the entire school community. We are extremely Region 9 proud of this incredible team of professionals.

Other exciting news this month is around the opportunity for staff at Region 9 to participate in leadership training beginning in December. This training Dahn mentioned last month is based on Dare to Lead which is from Brene Brown. Employees will need to work with their supervisors to see if they are able to participate. Sessions will include topics like Living into our values, Rumble with vulnerability, Learning to rise/ failure and survival, and Braving trust, the 7 elements of trust. This series is designed to help individuals enrich their leadership skills.

More exciting news, the Region 9 Academic Competition has been redesigned to accommodate a virtual platform and open the event(s) to a broader opportunity. We will be hosting the first competition in December and are looking forward to a highly competitive, engaging, and rich academic opportunity for our Region 9 member district students. Things like "flash rounds", "knockout rounds" and a "Championship" round will result in a field trip to ENMU-Ruidoso with a catered lunch. More coming soon.

Region 9 continues to participate in the Regional Education Cooperative Association (RECA) which is the leadership of the 10 RECs in NM. this past few months the State of NM has been working to build a Dashboard to create transparency in reporting and funding for SB 96 from the regular legislative session in 2020. The reporting system is to be based on a standard chart of accounts that will enable comparisons between schools, between local education agencies, and between regional education cooperatives; In essence, this bill requires NM PED to establish an “open-book” webpage on which the interested public can see the budget and actual data. This webpage will be driven from OBMS data uploaded by all agencies affected. Click here for a look at the dashboard as it is developed. <https://openbooks.ped.nm.gov/recs/> The RECA is participating in modifying the information on the RECA pages to be more informative and reflective of the work we do.

# MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

*by Dahn Freed*

This past weekend, I had a very unpleasant encounter with an individual while driving. It was a beautiful day. I was driving with the windows down enjoying the 68 degree weather. Suddenly, an oncoming truck crossed the center line into my lane. I honked my horn to alert the driver who then swerved back to their lane. Unfortunately, a man in the truck next to me thought I was honking at him. Needless to say, he was not happy and in a very colorful fashion expressed his unabashed feelings toward me. I did try to explain myself as my window was down, but I quickly realized it was a waste of good oxygen.

I tell you this story, because it reminded me about how important it is to practice patience, kindness, forgiveness, and gratitude. We are living and working in stressful times. These somewhat uncertain times can affect children and adults alike. Over the past 18 months, we as humans have sometimes forgotten how to treat others. Stress situations trigger different reactions and some people struggle to have adequate coping skills. Another reason to be thankful for all of our mental health providers at Region 9. Thank you!

Sir Isaac Newton's Third Law of Motion theorizes that with every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. This of course is based on Physics. However, I think we can apply it to human interactions as well. My initial reaction this weekend was anger (equal reaction) and feeling stress from an unfavorable interaction. While Newton had something else in mind when he applied his theory to "opposite reaction", perhaps we can practice having a positive or neutral reaction to those who may be struggling with emotional regulation or stressful situations. November is National Gratitude Month. But what about using November to practice patience, kindness and forgiveness as well?

Last month, I shared some other notable days during the month, so I wanted to share some special days you may want to mark in your calendar for November. In addition to November being National Gratitude Month, it is also Native American Heritage Month. November 13th is World Kindness Day. Please remember Veteran's Day on November 11th. And, for all of you PB&J fans, November is National Peanut Butter Lover's Month!

Be patient. Be kind. Be forgiving. Be grateful. And as Bryan would say, "Be the One!"

*Happy Birthday November*

**Jackie Anaya, Internal Supports Special Projects Assistant**

**Patrick Berry, Technology Support Specialist**

**Lisa Brillante, Fiscal Accounts Payable Specialist**

**Erica Cardiel, Ruidoso Head Start Teacher**

**Keri French, Home Visitor**

**Ernestine Gonzales Early Head Start Teacher**

**Nalleli Rodriguez, Early Head Start Teacher Assistant**

**Debbie Sanchez, Educational Services Assistant**

**Elisa Vigil, Head Start PFCE Coordinator & Family Advocate**



Newest s



# Welcome New Staff!



**Debbie Sanchez**  
**Educational**  
**Assistant/Substitute**



**Robin Woodward**  
**Head Start Teacher**  
**Assistant**



Light

Employee  
Spotlight



## Teresa Baxter

Fiscal Payroll Specialist

I was born and raised in New Mexico and have been living in Tularosa since I was 4. I am the middle child with a younger brother and older sister. My husband Eddie and I have 6 kids together (4 boys & 2 girls). "The Brady Bunch" for those who can appreciate it. I have 5 wonderful grandchildren ranging from 8 to 4 years old. I was raised camping & hunting from a young age and have a great love for the outdoors especially the mountains of Ruidoso and Cloudcroft. After starting my own family, I took up fishing and love eating fresh trout. Any day outside is a wonderful day in the mountains. I have multiple work skills having been a prior banker, COTA, office assistant, and worked at multiple public schools throughout the years. I have attended NMSU-A and received an Occupational Therapy Assistant degree from ENMU-Roswell. I am very excited to be a part of Region 9 and look forward to a long future working in the business office.

## Dana Jensen

Early Head Start Assistant Manager

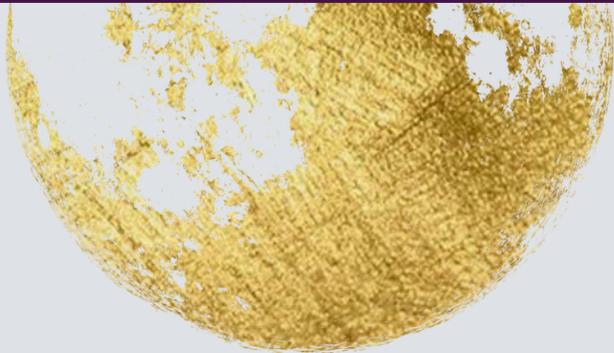
Hi, my name is Dana Jensen, and I just recently celebrated my 40th birthday. I have lived here in Ruidoso for all of my life. I started working for R9 when I was the ripe old age of 18 years old, as a secretary for R9 Head Start. After working as a secretary, I held positions as a Family Service Coordinator, Parent Involvement Coordinator, Teacher Assistant, Bus Monitor, and all other duties as assigned. During this time I obtained my Associates in General Studies. In 2015, I was asked to join and start up R9 Early Head Start, and today I hold the position of Early Head Start Assistant Manager. I have enjoyed working with some amazing children, parents, and most importantly my work family over the last 21 years.

Besides my job, my family is the most important thing in my life. I am the proud mom of two amazing children. My son Averyn is 15 years old and a Sophomore in High School. My daughter Aubryn is 11 years old and is in 6th grade. These two kiddos are my everything. As a family we enjoy being outdoors, crafting, and vacationing.





## UPCOMING EVENTS



The Region 9 website has a brand new calendar system. It's awesome. Here is a link. [Region 9 Master Calendar](#). This master calendar includes several other calendars. You can view them all or just view the one you need to see.

- Tech Bits Mini-Series, Every Wednesday from 12:00-12:30 pm
  - REGISTER HERE
- 11/05 R9 Leadership-Manager Meeting
- 11/09 Lunch & Learn Presentation "Office Safety"
- 11/09 SED Eleven Considerations in the IEP
  - REGISTER HERE
- 11/22-26 Thanksgiving Holiday - Office Closed
  - Happy Thanksgiving!
- 11/17/21 @ 9:00AM R9 Coordinating Council Meeting
- 11/30 SED: Special Factors, including Addressing Behavior in the IEP
  - REGISTER HERE

HAPPY  
thanks  
giving  
DAY

Region 9 - Your innovative regional educational cooperative providing exceptional services to children, families, and communities across New Mexico.

A Community Member  
Educating - Supporting - Serving

Serving Kids - Priority One!

<https://www.rec9nm.org>

