

WEEK 9

Dear NEA Members,

Greetings! There are many new ideas out there to help teachers. NEA has created a web-site called "Works-4-Me" which are tried and true teaching hints suggested by NEA members. Each week you will receive an e-mail with six helpful (and short) hints to help you in your teaching. They will fall under the following categories:

Teaching Techniques
Content
Getting Organized
Managing Your Classroom
Relationships
Using Technology

In addition, you will get information about your NEA Member Benefits that are available to you through your membership in the Association. Click on the link or visit www.neamb.com.

Teaching Techniques

Class Generated Books

"My students make numerous class generated books throughout the year. On the last day of school, I allow the students to choose one of the books to take home. The collective books make nice mementos for the students."

Content

Bean Bag Count

"I use a bean bag for my students to throw and catch as they count. It's also useful when counting by 2's, 5's and 10's. The beanbags keep the students' interest and make learning fun. This is also good for problem solving because if they drop the bag, they have to start over. Pretty soon they figure out that they should toss it to the person closest to them. It's fun to see them figure out these everyday problems on their own."

Getting Organized

Highlighted Names

"I have a problem with my students remembering to put their names on their papers. To solve this problem I tied a string to a highlighter and taped it to our "in work" box. Students must highlight their name on the paper when they put it in the box. If they forgot to write their name, they can add it and then highlight it. The kids love to use highlighters and it saves time trying to figure out what paper belongs to what student."

Managing Your Classroom

Pocket Attendance

"I quickly take attendance by using a pocket chart. I write each student's name on both sides of a card in two different colors. As the students walk in, they flip their name card over. I know which students are absent because their names are in a different color. Writing the names on both sides in two different colors eliminates the need for me to switch all the cards over each day because I only need to turn over the cards of those students who were absent. I color code the heading at the top of the chart so that students who can't remember whether or not they switched their name can see what color it's supposed to be."

Relationships

Teacher Business Cards

"I had business cards made up with my name, school address, phone and fax numbers and email address. Originally, I just gave them out at the meetings and conferences I attended but now I give them out to my students too. I laminate them and glue a magnet strip to the back. I get the magnets as freebies from business donations. Each family has the magnet on their refrigerator as an easy to find reference. It's also a reminder to my students that I want to be in touch with their families too."

Using Technology

Favorite Sites

"I teach Internet researching skills and have my students keep a notebook on interesting sites that they would like to return to at a later time. This allows them to continue with their research and know that they can get

back to a site they want to see again. The notebook works well because they can't save to a favorites or bookmarked folder."

NEA Member Benefit of the Week:

For those with four legged children...NEA Pet Insurance Program

Pets Best Insurance for healthier pets, happier pet owners!

NEA Member Benefits is now offering one of the nation's premier pet insurance products to NEA members—Pets Best Insurance.

If you have a pet, you know it can be expensive to care for your furry friend. The American Veterinary Medical Association estimates that certain procedures, such as treating a broken leg, can cost \$2,000 to \$5,000. Surgically removing swallowed items, such as sticks or toys, can cost \$1,000 to \$3,000. The good news is pet insurance can help cover certain procedures and illnesses.

Pets Best plans offer:

- Visit any licensed veterinarian
- Pets Best reimburses you 80% of the veterinarian's bill for covered services, after a deductible
- Plans include reimbursement for covered care from specialists and emergency services
- Wellness options are available
- Pets Best Plans underwritten by Aetna Insurance Company of Connecticut are the only pet insurance plans endorsed by The American Veterinary Medical Association Group Health & Life Insurance Trust

Rates start as low as \$19 per month plus discounts available for members. Additional discounts are available if you pay annually or insure more than one pet.

If you prefer, you may call one of Pets Best's helpful customer service representatives at 1-888-457-2121, Mon-Fri 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. or Sat 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (MT). Use referral code NEAWEB.

Source: http://www.neamb.com/home/1207_4466.htm

NEA Member Benefit Article of the Week:

College-Bound Should Hit the Books on Insurance

Date published: Sunday, June 29, 2008

National Association of Insurance Commissioners

Children living away from home at college might not be covered by their parents' property, auto or health insurance, according to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. It will pay to look into the details of the family insurance coverage before fall classes begin.

The summer weeks are a good time to do some homework on the kind of insurance coverage that college-bound students will need for the coming school year.

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) strongly urges young adults—and their parents—to get smart about insurance. For insurance tips, NAIC suggests going to www.insureuonline.org.

Parents do not need the unpleasant surprise of an insurance claim that is denied because their child is not properly covered, NAIC said. The Association recommends that parents carefully review their homeowner's, auto and health insurance policies to determine what is—and what is not—covered for college-bound children.

Renter's Insurance

Whether students live in college housing or rent off-campus apartments/houses, they will likely have valuables—such as a computer, TV, stereo and/or video game system—that could be stolen or destroyed in a fire or natural disaster.

Parents should check their homeowner's policy to see whether it will cover a college student's possessions. Furthermore, if students live in an off-campus apartment or house, parents should consider purchasing renter's insurance through their existing homeowner's insurance provider.

Auto Insurance

If a college student is going to be using a family vehicle while at home, parents should make sure the child is listed by name on the family's auto insurance policy.

If the student will be taking a family car with them to school, parents should check the specific rates for the college's city and state before deciding whether to keep their child on the family's auto policy.

Parents should also consider raising the policy's deductible and only allowing their child to drive the family's oldest, least expensive car. In addition, parents might consider purchasing an older car for their child and forgoing comprehensive and collision insurance on that vehicle.

Health Insurance

Full-time college students are often covered under their parents' health insurance plans until they graduate or reach 23 years of age.

While students are away at college, it is important to check whether the campus health facility, local physicians and hospitals accept the family's insurance coverage. If not, it might be advisable to purchase a student insurance plan through the college.

Be sure the student has a copy of the relevant insurance cards and knows the procedure about obtaining referrals and approvals before seeking treatment.

Source: http://www.neamb.com/home/1212_1828.htm