
November 2015

Etiwanda Teachers Association

Message from the Vice President

On behalf of the Executive Board, we would like to wish all of you a wonderful Thanksgiving Week with your friends and family. We are thankful to work in a district where people care about each other and rally when someone is in need. Your dedication to your students and their families make the Etiwanda Community a truly unique place to work. Thank you for going above and beyond each and every day. We hope that you take time to enjoy your time off doing something just for yourself. Below is a link to take advantage of teacher discounts if you are planning to explore or celebrate your time off with some of the destinations listed below. Follow the link to see how you can take advantage of these discounts.

TSA Special Member & Insurance Services, Inc. has been serving members of the California educational community for over 60 years. TSA is committed to delivering quality products and services with exceptional value and savings.

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<http://www.tsaspecialservices.com>

Negotiations update:

YOU HAVE A VOICE, PLEASE EXERCISE IT BY RESPONDING TO THE SURVEYS!



Upcoming Events

ALL Site Rep meeting @ DCIS @ 3:30

December 15, 2015

January 12, 2016

February 9, 2016

March 8, 2016

April 12, 2016

May 10, 2016

Snacks and water provide

Executive Board Goals

#1 Improve Communication

#2 Increase membership involvement

NEED A QUALITY LESSON PLAN QUICKLY? LOOK NO FURTHER!

After a quick log-in process, you can find standards-based plans for all grade levels, along with support materials. Check out these three popular sites:

- 🕒 **Share My Lesson:** Union-sponsored page has over 300,000 free downloadable resources for educators. Share your own plans and keep up on trends on their blog. <http://www.sharemylesson.com>
- 🕒 **PBS Learning Media:** Short videos demonstrate lessons by subject and grade level. <http://www.pbslearningmedia.org>
- 🕒 **The National Archives:** Add archived documents, artifacts, and primary source materials to your lessons. <http://www.archives.gov/education/>

AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH



"Let us put our minds together and see what life we will make for our children."
—Tatanka Iotanka (Sitting Bull)

[Activities to Celebrate Native American Heritage](http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson) http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson

November is National American Indian Heritage Month. This week, Education World offers 12 lessons to help students learn about Native American history and cultures. Included: Activities that involve students in dramatizing folktales, learning new words, preparing traditional foods, and much more!

- [Dramatizing Folktales, Legends, and Myths](#)
- [By the Numbers](#)
- [Native American Recipes](#)
- [What's in a Name?](#)
- [Code Talkers](#)
- [Native American Misconceptions](#)
- [Ball and Triangle Game](#)
- [Design a Navajo Rug -- A Lesson in Symmetry](#)
- [Native American Glossary](#)
- [Oral Histories](#)
- [Fun With Numbers](#)
- [Native American Word Search](#)

[Exploring Native Americans Across the Curriculum](#)

Blast stereotypes with across-the-curriculum activities for students of all ages. These activities will help teachers present a balanced portrayal of Native Americans today -- their history, their culture, and their issues.

[Plains Indians Pictographs](#)

Laura Wolfram, who teaches at Horace Mann School in Bronx, New York, submitted this week's lesson, in which students design their own pictograph sentences on scraps of "buffalo hide."

[Comparing Cinderella and The Rough-Face Girl](#)

Kellie Replogle, a soon-to-be teacher, submitted this week's lesson. Students use a Venn diagram to compare two popular children's stories -- Cinderella and the native tale The Rough-Face Girl.

[Yours and My Trail of Tears](#)

Marcus Garcia, who teaches at Lincoln School in Stockton, California, submitted this lesson in which a simulation teaches students about the forced relocation of Cherokees along the Trail of Tears. (Grades 6-12)

[The Native American Legacy](#)

Follow the yearly cycle of 12 full moons to learn about the lives of the early Algonquian people. Have your class perform a play based on a Native American folktale. Help students create Native American jewelry, clothing, and other crafts...

[Indigenous People's Literature](#)

A compilation of writings and information about indigenous peoples from around the world.

[Sitting Bull: A New Biography](#)

A biography of Sitting Bull sheds light on the Lakota chief who won the battle and fought to maintain his people's way of life.

[The Real American West](#)

Proud Native Americans, brave explorers, ambitious prospectors, groundbreaking women. This week, Education World celebrates the history, spirit, and people of the American West in two new and very different books.

- See more at: http://www.educationworld.com/a_special/native_americans.shtml#sthash.Z8oPIHhM.dpuf

Catastrophic Leave Bank

Last year we were able to help four of our teachers, who needed this bank. As we begin this year, we currently have NO days in reserve. During this time of thanksgiving, please consider a donation of one or two days so that we will be ready to help a fellow colleague if the need arises. The form is found on the ETA Website. Please fill it out and return to Michelle Carney at Summit. Thank you for considering this plea for help.



Questions and Answers

1. *Severe behaviors at East Heritage that were previously mentioned are also occurring at 4th grade. The teacher would appreciate suggestions and help. Beth was going to address the issue with the principal the day after our meeting and Jeff Sipos will follow up with help and suggestions. I have contacted the teacher and will continue to follow up and note progress personally with the teacher.*
2. *Real concerns over universal access and additional planning time needed at the Middle Schools. Some teachers have 2 levels to plan and prep for. They also have mandated curriculum for college and careers but no materials. Concerns were also voiced about sending out homeroom students to others. . . .since they have a vested interest in their own students and have a connectivity to the student. **Universal Access is a District Initiative, occurring at least 45 minutes per week at the students' individual level. This is to help close the achievement gap. It is a site decision on how it is implemented. If teachers are finding they need materials, please ask your site administrator for help for either monetarily funds or support.***
3. *Solorio was concerned over the fact that they are mandated to do a write up on the Kagan Structure of the Month. It makes using Kagan structures more stressful, with the form being labor intensive as well. Teachers would rather discuss and share to gain valuable insight on how fellow teachers are using the structure rather than do this in written form. **We asked that the site reps talk to their principal first. They did and the form is gone. Thanks ladies for your follow up.***
4. *Golden is concerned over limited parking. We have over 100 staff members and only 63 parking spots. **Doug will continue to look into possible solutions like utilizing the bus lane. A huge road block for adding parking is that the grass area is an easement for the Metropolitan Water District. Under all that grass is a huge pipe that extends under the driveway into the school as well.***
5. *Please clarify. . . .some schools are getting aide support for lower kiddos. Is this just happening at the Title 1 schools? **We currently have 5 schools, who qualify for additional funds under ELL, low income, or foster youth. (Solorio, East Heritage, West Heritage, Caryn, and Perdue) It is a school site decision on how the funds are allocated and used. Check with your principal for specifics as it varies site to site.***

Noteworthy Positives

*Teachers LOVE Michele Jacks and Jim Barnett

*Teachers are grateful for PE and for prep time

*DWL Teachers LOVE their new Principal and Assistant Principal

*Teachers are pleased with the Assistant Principals and Administration at EIS. They respond quickly to concerns and the campus looks better than it ever has!

*The principal at Grapeland really cares about his staff.

*At SIS teachers appreciate their new principal who cares about their input and responds quickly

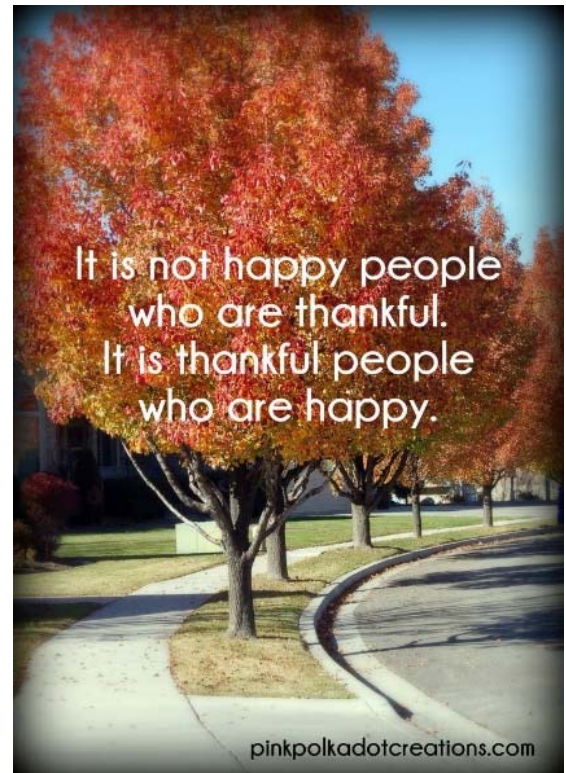
*PE is definitely a plus!

*Teachers appreciate ETA!

*Golden teachers appreciate smaller class sizes!

*Terra Vista teachers say the principal and assistant principal are awesome!

*West Heritage teachers are thankful for a principal who is highly visible, listens and interacts with parents, students and teachers daily.





Educational Opportunities offered through CTA.

<http://www.cta.org/en/Professional-Development/Events.aspx>

CTA's many conferences - like the Good Teaching Conference or the Equity & Human Rights Conference - provide a place for learning, collaboration and networking for education colleagues from around the state. Take advantage of the many opportunities for professional growth by attending the multitude of conference sessions offered by experts in the field of education. Policy is made at our Governance conferences - the CTA State Council of Education and the NEA Representative Assembly.

Visit the CTA Website to access details of each of the conferences, trainings or workshops. Many have Grants that will pay for 100% of your conference accessed under the Professional Development tab. Scroll down and find 2015 Statewide Incentive Grants to get information and deadlines to apply for each grant.

We would love to see teachers willing to go to any of these conferences and share the information with our membership. If a grant is not available for a training you wish to attend, please contact Julee Barry and fill out the form that is found on the ETA website. ETA will cover the cost of the conference, your room and transportation to and from. (Airfare or mileage)

The Good Teaching Conference South is on February 26-28th at the Hyatt Regency Orange County in Garden Grove.

The Good Teaching Conference North is on April 15-17th, 2016 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose, CA.

*To thrive in life you need three bones~
A wishbone.
A backbone.
And a funny bone.*

Reba McEntire