



GS Bulletin board

December 12, 2008

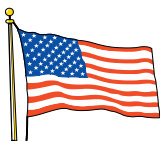
Internal Weekly Announcements
for Grant Wood Area Education
Agency Staff and Board

Mark Your Calendars

- Dec. 17** Agency Breakfast Potluck
33rd Avenue, 8:30-10:30 a.m.
- Dec. 17** GWAEA Board Meeting
5:30 p.m./Room 221 at 33rd Ave.
- Dec. 24** Agency closes at 3 p.m. for
Winter Break
- Jan. 1** Happy New Year!
Last day of Winter Break

Announcements

The Grant Wood AEA Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 17 at the 33rd Avenue Building in Room 221 at 5:30 p.m.



Giving in a Time of Great Need

We are pleased to report that last week all of the remaining funds and gift cards given to the Grant Wood AEA Employee Relief Fund were distributed to staff members most affected by last summer's flood. The total amount contributed to the fund by employees and others was \$23,605 in cash and \$795 in gift cards for a total of \$24,400.

The October 10 edition of **The Bulletin Board** reported that three staff members and their families who were displaced by the flood planned to move back into their homes before the end of the 2008 calendar year. We are happy to report that these families are back in their homes. In all three cases, some rebuilding such as installing cabinets, painting, putting up drywall still needs to be completed, but they are back in their homes.

It is possible that as families complete the final phases of rebuilding, volunteers may be needed. As requests are received, the agency will inform staff of these volunteer needs via Agency voicemail and e-mail.

During the past several months, the families affected by the flood have expressed their gratitude for the outpouring of support in ways such as mucking out homes, providing meals for families and volunteers, donating supplies and providing greatly needed financial assistance. One person who moved back into her home recently wrote, "We certainly couldn't have done it without everyone at Grant Wood AEA!"

United Way Campaign Closes Successfully

Now that the United Way campaign has closed for the year, we are also pleased to report that both offices came in ahead of last year's giving.

"This result is a pleasant surprise," says George Held, coordinator for the campaign.

The United Way of East Central Iowa giving totaled \$2000 more than last year according to the United Way office. In fact, more staff participated in the UWECI campaign this year than last. The Johnson County campaign ended up 3% ahead of last year's total pledges.

To all of you who have given so generously to agency employees and to those of you who have committed to giving to the many service agencies for next year, we say THANK YOU!

Flood Recovery Update

Bids were received and opened this week and a recommendation to contract the first four construction packages will go to the December 17 Board meeting for Board approval.

The bid packages include: electrical, heating/cooling/plumbing, drywall and framing, and doors and frames. The next set of bids will be issued in the coming days and will include: ceiling tile, carpet, paint, and the conference center partitions. Upon Board approval, Dave Unzeitig, the Agency's construction manager, will work with the four winning vendors to commence work post haste.

Our fortified data center has been delayed due to some design changes but its installation should begin in the coming weeks as well with a target date for its completion of January 23.

After the holiday break we should all begin to see visible progress towards the restoration of our building.

Plans for accommodating all of the various work needs for the people and groups needing to live and work on the second floor of 6th Street continues. A couple of different design plans that meet the criteria set by the Building Project Team are being formulated and should be ready for review in the coming weeks.

ICE Code Your Cell Phone

Most of us carry mobile phones with names and numbers stored in the phone's memory but few people outside of our immediate family know which of these numbers belong to emergency contacts. Here's an idea many people have begun to adopt, which emergency personnel now look for on cell phones: **ICE**, which stands for **In Case of Emergency**.

By putting a space and then the letters ICE in front of any key contacts you want reached in case of an emergency, when the emergency worker flips open your cell phone and looks at your programmed calling list, the ICE numbers will appear at the very top.

The concept of 'ICE' is catching on quickly. A paramedic thought of the idea after he realized many patients at accident scenes had mobile phones, but the emergency personnel didn't know which numbers to call. He thought it would be a good idea if a nationally recognized name for this purpose could be used. In an emergency situation, Emergency service personnel and hospital staff would be able to quickly contact the right person by simply dialing the number you have stored as 'ICE.' For more than one contact name you can enter ICE1, ICE2, ICE3, etc. A great idea that will make a difference!

*Our thanks to Randy Perkins for suggesting we put this information in **The Bulletin Board**. If you think of something we should share with all staff, please contact us with ideas. We love to hear from you!*

Education Directory Update

The Highland Community School District has some changes in their mailing addresses. See pages 10-11 in your 2008-2009 Education Directory and make the following changes:

Delete PO Box B, and use their street address, 1715 Vine Avenue. This change includes the superintendent's office, the high school and middle school buildings.

Delete PO Box D at Riverside Attendance Center and use this street address: 220 Schnoebelen Street.

Congratulations!

•to **Linnea Starkey, Occupational Therapist** and her husband, Mike. They became first time parents on Dec. 11! Caleb Michael weighed 9 lbs. 6 oz. and was 20 inches long.



Blanket Drive

We have collected 14 blankets so far!

Send blankets to Karen Michalec, Communications Office at 33rd Avenue or drop them off in the yellow collection box at 33rd Avenue's West Entrance next to the stair well.

Blankets will be collected until Monday, December 22.

Professional Development Opportunities

- 1/5/09 CBE Math
- 1/5/09 Evaluator Approval Level II Renewal Training: Evaluation of Administrators
- 1/8/09 Evaluator Approval Level II Renewal Training: Evaluation of Teachers
- 1/8/09 Reading in the Content Area
- 1/9/09 Substitute Authorization
- 1/10/09 Para Certification-Professional Strategies
- 1/12/09 Iowa Core & More
- 1/12/09 Let's Talk About Adolescent Literature
- *1/14/09 The Write Tools 101**
- 1/15/09 Literacy 101
- 1/19/09 Managing Stress in the Workplace
- *1/20/09 RTI: Making It Work for Secondary Schools**
- 1/20/09 Using the Abacus to Teach Mathematic Concepts
- 1/24/09 Classroom Instruction that Works with English Language Learners
- 1/24/09 Starlab as a Learning Environment
- 1/27/09 Habits of Mind: Preparing Students for Success
- 1/29/09 Apple Technology Round Table – Mac World 2009 Update
- 1/29/09 PowerPoint Basics

*National Speakers in January

Jan. 14 & 15 – Alice Greiner
The Write Tools 101

Jan. 20 – Wayne Callender
RtI: Making It Work for Secondary Schools

For location, more information, or to register, go to the Professional Development web page.

You're Invited



GWAEA Breakfast Potluck
at 33rd Avenue – Room 214
Wednesday, December 17
8:30-10:30 a.m.

Bring a dish to share. Plates, cups, napkins, silverware and coffee will be provided.

Chair Massages

Chair massages are being offered to staff on Monday, December 15 at the 33rd Avenue Building. Fifteen minutes of "Ah-hhhhh" costs just \$10. (Gift certificates available.)

The following times are open:

Morning: 11:00

Afternoon: 12:20, 12:40, 1, 1:20 and 1:40.

To schedule, contact Karen Michalec at kmichalec@gwaea.org or Ext. 6415.

Buy, Sell, Trade...

WANTED: Pet sitter for two cats in Iowa City. Needed 12/23 thru 1/2. Only requires 1 visit per day to fill food and water, clean litter box, and play with cats. If interested, please contact Mary at Ext. 2103 or mlindstrom@aea10.k12.ia.us.

WANTED: Pink Yoplait yogurt lids to help find a cure for breast cancer. Please put in the containers in your building break room or van mail them to Stacy Murphy at 33rd Ave.

WANTED: An exercise bike to be donated to a high school student who is on the autism spectrum. The Rockwell engineers are going to change it into a people powered TV/VCR for break time. Contact Ann at Ext. 6858.

FOR SALE: ET Mags. Size: P215/70 SR14. Approximately 14" X 7", GM 5 slot mags and tires. Had on a 1979 Chevy Nova. I also have a large roll top desk for sale. Call 319-430-4502 and leave a voice mail if interested.

BABYSITTING: Available 12/13/2008-1/17/2009. Brother/sister college student-athletes interested in babysitting (separately or as a pair) for small group or a family in the Coralville/No. Liberty/Iowa City area. Experience as summer youth workers, nanny, with references. Please contact mross@aea10.k12.ia.us.

Bulletin Board is published and distributed weekly to all GWAEA staff and Board members.

Buy, Sell or Trade items will be run for 2 weeks.

Staff wishing to submit items should do so by Wed. of the week they wish the item to be printed. Send to Karen Michalec, Editor.

When submitting news, please remember that agency staff work in a variety of locations, and it may take two weeks to reach them with printed material.

Please note: the **Bulletin Board** is posted on the agency's Web site. We recommend you use your office or voice mail phone number instead of your home telephone number for any items listed in this newsletter.

Grant Wood Area Education Agency extends equal opportunities in its employment practices, educational programs and services, and does not discriminate on the basis of color, gender, race, national origin, religion, creed, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, veteran status or as otherwise prohibited by law. If you believe you or your child has been discriminated against or treated unjustly, please contact the Agency's Equity Coordinator, Maria Cashman, at 319-399-6847 or 1-800-332-8488 or TDD 319-399-6766, Grant Wood AEA, 4401 Sixth St SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.

**VACANCIES
2009-2010
ANTICIPATED CONTRACTED**

Speech-Language Pathologist (1.0)
(Agency Center TBD/Region TBD)

**2008-2009
CONTRACTED**

Child Support Specialist (1.0)
(Southern Facility/Iowa City Region)
(Closed to applications;
interviewing)

Curriculum Consultant Science (1.4)
(33rd Ave/Northeast Region) (.4)
(33rd Ave/Northeast Region) (1.0)
(Recommendation to the Board)

Inclusion Resource Specialist (1.0)
(Southern Facility/Iowa City Region)
(Closed to applications;
interviewing)

Occupational Therapist (.4)
(Northern Facility/Cedar Rapids Region)

School Social Worker (1.6)
(Northern Facility/Northeast Region) (.6)
(Southern Facility/Iowa City Region) (1.0)
(Closed to applications;
interviewing)

Speech-Language Pathologist (1.0)
(Agency-wide/Southwest Region)
(Recommendation to the Board)

Teacher: Off-Site Programs (1.0)
(A.W.A.R.E./Off-Site Region)
(Closing date: December 19, 2008)

SALARIED

Programmer (1.0)
(Northern Facility/IMS)

CLASSIFIED

Paraeducator/Autism (.5)
(33rd Ave/Central Region)
(20 hours/week; year round)

Paraeducator (.72)
(Off-Site/AWARE) (.72)
(Off-Site/AWARE)
(Off-Site/BLC) (Recommendation Pending) (.72)
(Off-Site/LIFESKILLS) (Recommendation to the Board) (.72)
(37.5 hours/week; school year)

Superintendent, Building & Grounds (1.0)
(Northern Facility/Building & Grounds)
(Recommendation to the Board)

Technology Systems Technician (1.0)
(Northern Facility/Technology Center)
(Recommendation to the Board)

ASSIGNMENT OPENINGS

In addition to the vacancy posting, assignment openings may also be available to contracted staff members for a period of five days. For a listing of those assignment openings, staff may call voicemail box x6302. (In-house: 6555, x6302; Cedar Rapids calling area: 399-6555, x6302; WATS line: 1-800-798-9771, x6302). Staffs wishing to be considered for a change in assignment are to submit the request in writing to both the identified Regional Administrator and the Associate Administrator. (For further information regarding assignment requests, please see Article 10, Paragraph D, of the Master Agreement for Contacted Staff)