



# GW Bulletin board

**November 7, 2008**

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

## Mark Your Calendars

- Nov. 18** GWAEA Board Meeting  
5:30 p.m./33rd Avenue
- Nov. 26** Agency closes at 3 p.m.
- Nov. 27** Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov. 28** Agency closed
- Dec. 10** Agency Potluck-Coralville Facility  
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Dec. 17** Agency Breakfast Potluck  
33rd Avenue, 7:30-10:30 a.m.

## Announcements

•Here is an update to be made in your **2008-2009 Education Directory**. On page 11, middle column under Media Technology Center, remove (GWAEA Computer Training Lab). The lab moved this summer to the CAO building, 509 S. Dubuque St., 3rd floor. Thank you.

## School Psychologists Provide Mental Health Services to Improve the Lives and Learning of Children

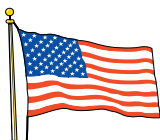
*November 10-14 is School Psychology Awareness Week*

Good mental health is important for everyone. According to the National Association of School Psychologists, mental health is as important as physical health to our quality of life. Mental health is not simply the absence of mental illness, but also means having the skills necessary to cope with life's challenges. If ignored, mental health problems can interfere with children's learning, development, relationships, and physical health.

Grant Wood Area Education Agency wishes to recognize the work of school psychologists during School Psychology Awareness Week, Nov. 10-14. School psychologists are mental health professionals who help children and youth overcome barriers to success in school, at home and in life. AEA school psychologists work with parents, educators and other mental health services providers to help youngsters develop resiliency, competence and self-esteem. School psychologists provide mental health services that address needs at home and school to help students succeed academically, emotionally and socially.

Grant Wood AEA school psychologists work to find the best solution for each child and each situation. They work with students individually and in groups. They also develop programs to provide professional development to teachers and parents regarding effective teaching and learning strategies; effective techniques to manage behavior at home and in the classroom; working with students with disabilities or with special talents; abuse of drugs and other substances; and preventing and managing crises.

Grant Wood AEA employs 45 school psychologists. Tina Hoffman and Tracy Liebermann are the discipline leads for their group.



**GRANT WOOD**  
AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

## Early Separation Plan Revised

At the October 15 Grant Wood AEA Board meeting, the Board of Directors approved the second reading of the agency's revised separation policy. The current separation plan will be eliminated June 30, 2009, and a Transition Separation Plan will be provided beginning July 1, 2009. The transition plan will be available for up to three years and shall end no later than June 30, 2012. It is the Board's intent that all employees who meet the eligibility criteria as of June 30, 2012, will be allowed an opportunity to participate in the plan. The Board will, however, have the discretion to make changes in the plan based on changing financial needs of the Agency. **All employees who will be eligible for the plan will be notified by the Human Resources Office prior to Winter Break.**

To see a copy of the new separation policy and/or the administrative regulation related to the policy, please click on the following links:

[Policy 4136 – Separation Policy](http://www.aea10.k12.ia.us/policy/Personnel%20Policies%20Shared%2Fpolicy%20manual%2F%2F4000%20Series%20Personnel%2FBP%204136%20-%20Separation.doc)  
<http://www.aea10.k12.ia.us/policy/Personnel%20Policies%20Shared%2Fpolicy%20manual%2F%2F4000%20Series%20Personnel%2FBP%204136%20-%20Separation.doc>

### 4136A – Adm Reg

<http://www.aea10.k12.ia.us/policy/Personnel%20Policies%20Shared%2Fpolicy%20manual%2F%2F4000%20Series%20Personnel%2FBP%204136A%20-%20Separation.doc>

Staff who have additional questions about the policy may contact Jackie Schreder in the HR office (399-6731).

## LOFT Office Design Survey Results Online

The results are in. You can access the LOFT survey results by going to:

[Office Design Data.ppt](#)  
[Office Design Comments from Survey.doc](#)

If you want to see the raw data in the spreadsheet form generated by Zoomerang, contact George Held, Ext. 6714.

## November Blood Drives

Give the gift of life this year by donating blood. Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) or visit [www.giveblood-givelife.org](http://www.giveblood-givelife.org) for more information or to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome at the following blood drives:

**November 8:** Grant Wood Area Chapter, 7-11 a.m., 6300 Rockwell Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids

**November 10:** Center Point Family Dentistry, 1-6 p.m., 907 Bank Court, Center Point

**November 10:** Grant Wood Area Chapter, 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 6300 Rockwell Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids

**November 11:** Old HOA Cornell College Commons Building, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., 600 1st St. West, Mount Vernon

**November 15:** Church of Jesus Christ LDS, 8 a.m.-12 p.m., 2730 Bradford Dr., Iowa City

**November 15:** Grant Wood Area Chapter, 7-11 a.m., 6300 Rockwell Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids

**November 17:** Church of Christ United, 2-6 p.m., 534 W. Madison, Winthrop

**November 21:** Grant Wood Area Chapter, 7-11 a.m., 6300 Rockwell Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids

**November 22:** Grant Wood Area Chapter, 7-11 a.m., 6300 Rockwell Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids

**November 24:** Grant Wood Area Chapter, 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 6300 Rockwell Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids

**November 29:** Grant Wood Area Chapter, 7-11 a.m., 6300 Rockwell Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids

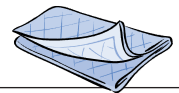
## Enjoy the Bounty of the Harvest with the CRMA

The Cedar Rapids Museum of Art (CRMA) is hosting a fundraising event, the Food & Wine Festival, on Friday, November 14, from 7-10 p.m. at Cabinet Studio, Inc., 700 16th Street NE in Cedar Rapids.

Four local chefs will prepare specialties in the kitchens of Cabinet Studio, Inc. with wine complements. Festival chefs include Zins, Lincoln Café and Wine Bar, Daniel Arthur's, and CR Catering, with wines provided by First Avenue Wine House.

A small silent auction will allow guests to bid on a variety of items for their homes, as well as items from other tenants in the Shores Central Park building.

Tickets are \$40 per person and can be purchased online at [www.crma.org](http://www.crma.org), by visiting the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, or by contacting Beth Roof at 319.366.7503, Ext. 213.



## Blanket Drive

Blankets will be collected until Monday, December 22. The yellow collection box is located in the 33rd Avenue building at the West Entrance next to the stair well.

Blankets can be sent to Karen Michalec, Communications Office at 33rd Avenue.

## Our Sympathy

•to **Nancy Coffman, Computer Programmer**, whose father, Gerald Legins, passed away on Nov. 3. He was from West Liberty.

•to the family of former GWAEA employee, Barb Opheim, who passed away Monday, Nov. 3. Barb worked as a secretary in the Speech Dept.

## Professional Development Opportunities

- 11/11/08** Section 504 Plans
- 11/13/08** Preparing the Educator for Post Disaster Practice
- 11/17/08** CBE Social Emotional Behavioral
- 11/17/08** CISM Group Crisis Intervention
- 11/18/08** A Review of IEP Documentation & Processes for AEA and LEA Staff
- 11/18/08** Working with Clip Art
- 11/24/08** Coping with Change in the Workplace
- 11/25/08** IEC Scholastic Iowa Tour
- 12/1/08** An Inside Look at Outlook
- 12/4/08** How to Get More Out of Your Core Reading Program
- 12/8/08** Schools Where Everyone Belongs
- 12/9/08** iLife 08 in the Classroom
- 12/9/08** Sexual Harassment
- 12/15/08** CISM Group Crisis Intervention
- 12/15/08** Fundamentals of Applied Behavior Analysis
- 12/16/08** Counselor Academy – “Building A Comprehensive School Counseling Program”

### *National Speakers in December*

Dec. 4 - Jo Robinson

How to Get More Out of Your Core Reading Program

Dec. 8 - Stan Davis

Schools Where Everyone Belongs

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

## Buy, Sell, Trade...

**FOR SALE:** Bronze Motorazr2 cell phone. Includes memory card, charger, headset, headset adapter, USB cable & user guide. This phone was purchased as a replacement phone but has not been used. \$200 or best offer. Please contact hmarolf@aea10.k12.ia.us or call 563-920-9059.

**WANTED:** Small General Foods International coffee cans and the small, plastic Folgers coffee cans. Please drop off or send the clean containers to Erlene Spicer at 33rd Ave.

**FOR SALE:** Retirement Condo-well maintained 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo in Solon's Terrace Lane Community. Walking distance to all shops, services. Warm welcoming community-170K. Contact mross@aea10.k12.ia.us/319-338-0082 for further info.

**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 319-399-6647 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**

**Curriculum Consultant Science** (1.4)  
(33<sup>rd</sup> Ave/Northeast Region) (.4)  
(33<sup>rd</sup> Ave/Northeast Region) (1.0)

**Early Education Specialist** (Recommendation Pending) (1.0)  
(Northern Facility/Agency-wide)

**Occupational Therapist** (Closing date: November 14, 2008) (.4)  
(Northern Facility/Cedar Rapids Region)

**Physical Therapist** (.2)  
(Northern Facility/Northwest Region)

**School Social Worker** (.6)  
(Northern Facility/Northeast Region)

**Speech-Language Pathologist** (Recommendation Pending) (1.0)  
(Agency-wide/Southwest Region)

**SALARIED**

**Programmer** (1.0)  
(Northern Facility/IMS)

**CLASSIFIED**

**Paraeducator/Autism** (1.5)  
(33<sup>rd</sup> Ave/Central Region) (Recommendation Pending) (1.0)  
(33<sup>rd</sup> Ave/Central Region) (Closing date: November 7, 2008) (.5)  
(20 hours/week; year round)

**Paraeducator** (Off-Site/AWARE) (Closed to applications; interviewing) (.72)  
(Off-Site/AWARE) (Closed to applications; interviewing) (.72)  
(Off-Site/BLC) (Closed to applications; interviewing) (.72)  
(Off-Site/LIFESKILLS) (Closed to applications; interviewing) (.72)  
(37.5 hours/week; school year)

**Superintendent, Building & Grounds** (Closing date: November 7, 2008) (1.0)  
(Northern Facility/Building & Grounds)

**Technology Systems Technician** (Closing date: November 7, 2008) (1.0)  
(Northern Facility/Technology Center)

**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)