



Wentzville Wavelengths

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Contact your building rep. if you have any changes in contact information.
- Visit **WNEA.net** and **MNEA.org** for valuable member information and benefits.

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Master Agreement and Plan Time

The topic that has generated the most confusion from the 2009-2010 Master Agreement is the protection of teacher plan time.

The agreement clearly states that “With the exception of emergency or crisis situation, teachers who lose more than one plan time in a week will be compensated for that time.”

The district has recog-



2009-2010 Master Agreement protects teacher plan time.

nized that teacher plan time is necessary for effective teaching. Members who run into a violation of this portion of the agreement, should speak to a building administrator prior to the second lost plan time of the week.

If the situation is not resolved, please speak with a WNEA building representative or contact WNEA President Scott Kiehl.

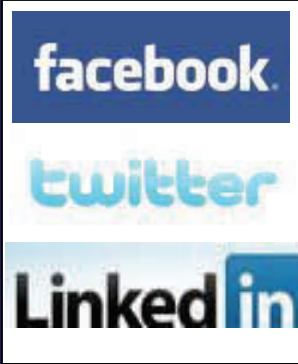
Welcome Back to School



While we can all agree that the summer went by too fast, we come back to school with many things to celebrate.

First of all, the new Master Agreement that we bargained last spring went into effect on July 1, 2009. As a district, we made strides with

MAP scores. Many of the upgrades from the Prop A bond issue, that WNEA played a role in getting passed, are underway and look fantastic. The two new elementary schools are on schedule to open in August next year.



“If you would be uncomfortable printing out everything on your site and posting it on your classroom door, you might not want to post it online.”

Social Networking Sites Make Wise, Professional Decisions

With the increasing popularity of social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, MySpace, and others, please remember a few things.

You do have your Constitutional right to freedom of speech. You are entitled to a personal life outside of school. You should be able to realize the benefits of these tools. That being said, consider these tips to being professionally smart when using such sites:

- As stated by MNEA Staff Attorney Jacquie Shipma: “If you would be uncomfortable printing out everything on your site and posting it on your classroom door, you might not want to post it online”
- Be very cautious in your online interactions with students. The best advice would be to avoid all contact with students or minor former students. This is for everyone’s protection.
- Use the “Settings” feature of social networking sites to control who has access to your profile. Keep in mind, however, that this does not mean access to your profile is not public. You should still remain cautious with what you choose to post online.
- Remind your friends and family of your obligation to appear professional and ask them to remove or not to post pictures or other information that could in any way be compromising to you as a professional educator.
- Lastly, become a “friend” of MNEA on Facebook. There are great discussion items and topics for all to read and participate. Log in to Facebook and search “Missouri NEA.”

Attend one of two informational meetings:
Sept. 1
or
Sept. 9.



Information for 403B Participants

If you are one of the 260 employees of the Wentzville School district who participate in a 403B program, then you have an important decision to make in the next two weeks. The Cooperating School District (CSD) of St. Louis, of which Wentzville is a member, has offered member districts a 403B plan that would replace the one you currently participate under. MNEA’s position is that this plan should be opposed for several important reasons.

You would no longer be able to

participate in your current program. The CSD plan allows for only a single vendor, Valic-AIG. You would have to freeze your current account and begin anew with Valic-AIG, or possibly roll over with penalties or charges. Currently, fourteen vendors operate 403B programs in the district. MNEA supports your right to choose.

The CSD plan guarantees compliance with federal tax law, but the district already has a compliance plan in place.

The WNEA encourages you to attend one of the two informational meetings that the district is holding for 403B participants on Sep-

tember 1 and September 9. The district will take into account your concerns and questions in making the final decision of staying with the current multi vendor practice, or switching to the single vendor, Valic-AIG, option.

At this point the school districts of Rockwood, Parkway, St. Charles, Ferguson-Florissant, and Kirkwood have already committed to staying with their current plans and not to go with the CSD option.

A copy of the letter that WNEA president Scott Kiehl sent to the board of education and district administration is on the WNEA website.

Wear your best denim and support Special Olympics



Special Olympics

Once again, WNEA will sponsor Special Olympics Jeans Days this year. For only \$2 per day, all employees can wear jeans on the dates listed below.

All of the money raised goes to support the Special Olympics State Basketball Tournament that takes place right here in Western St. Charles County in the spring.

Over the past three years, we have raised more than \$15,000 for this great cause for great kids. Your participation helps make it possible.

See your building representative for more details.

Mark the Calendar

Jeans Dates

Aug. 26

Sept. 16

Oct. 14

Nov. 18

Dec. 16

Jan. 13

Feb. 13

March 17

April 14

May 12

If interested in attending the

Fall

Representative

Assembly,

contact Sara St.

Clair for more

information.

St. Louis to host NEA Assembly

On November 5 and 6, hundreds of MNEA members from all over the state will be in downtown St. Louis for the annual Fall Representative Assembly.

This is the time and place that the MNEA Legislative platform is developed and our mission and goals are set.

Each local is allotted one representative for every 50 members. As our membership should be right at 700 members in Wentzville, we can send 14 people to the RA.

If you are interested in attending this event, please e-mail Sara St. Clair, WNEA

2nd Vice President, for more information.

If we get more volunteers than we have seats, we will have an election. We would love to have more members become involved in our local and state meetings.

Take Advantage of Member Benefits

MAGAZINES

As part of the NEA Member Benefits program, all members are eligible to receive 2 free magazine subscriptions. There is no catch to this program and it is simple to sign up. Go to www.neamag.com/members to select your magazines.

DISCOUNTS

Please take the time to go online to www.mnea.org to register your MNEA Membership card. This card allows you access to many benefits and savings, including saving 15-18% on most cell phone plans, 5% off at Target.com and many restaurant and travel deals.



One of many benefits for NEA members.

2009-2010

WNEA Officers

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09-10 WNEA Building Representatives

Building Representatives:

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Denise Boyd
Nicole Barbaro
Katherine Schack
EARLY CHILDHOOD
Carla Schonoff
DIAGNOSTICS
Debbie Vredenburg
WENTZVILLE MIDDLE
Scott Kiehl
Adam Estes
Leann Strate
GREEN TREE
Deborah Braman
Christina Telker
Adreina Smith

DUELLO
Annette Robertson
Missy Rogers
Natalie Fleming
HOLT HIGH SCHOOL
Marcia Petrus
Jill Dalton
Kristie Nuelle
CROSSROADS
Jana Dickherber
Kathi MacMahill
Katie DeCaro
PEINE RIDGE
Lynne Miller
HERITAGE INTERMEDIATE
Kristina Johannes
Becky Jennings
Rebecca Heppermann
Nancy Rudy

PRAIRIE VIEW
Sheila Hasse
Rebecca Zerillo
Patti McEwen
FRONTIER MIDDLE SCHOOL
Julia Luetkenhaus
Doug Leonard
BOONE TRAIL
Jeremy Maranan
Kate Adams
Kelly Douglas
TIMBERLAND HIGH SCHOOL
Crystal Wing
Christin Whitehead
Teresa Durbala