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Professional Issues News



California Casualty



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Professional News You Can Use:

- **Become a 2019 NEA Foundation Global Learning Fellow**

Take your global education game to the next level! Apply for the [2019 NEA Foundation Global Learning Fellowship](#)! This is a great opportunity for educators to develop the knowledge and skills they need to integrate global competencies (the ability to investigate the world, recognize perspectives, communicate ideas, take action, apply expertise) into their instruction to prepare their students for global citizenship. The year-long, fully-funded fellowship includes:

- An online course in teaching global competence
- A two-day professional development workshop in Washington, D.C. (Fall 2018)
- Webinars discussing global issues
- A nine-day international field study (Summer 2019)

The application is open to NEA classroom teachers who want to gain the skills to prepare their students to thrive in our increasingly interconnected world. If this describes you or anyone you know, please check us out!

<https://www.neafoundation.org/for-educators/global-learning-fellowship/>

- **October Is National Arts and Humanities Month**

[National Arts and Humanities Month](#) celebrates and recognizes the powerful role that the arts and humanities play throughout daily life and the lasting impact they have on the nation's culture and history. To learn more about how you can engage in this national conversation, visit [Americans for the Arts' National Arts and Humanities webpage](#).

- **National Chemistry Week is October 22-28**

The theme this year is "Chemistry Rocks!" Resources are available at: https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/outreach/ncw.html?_ga=2.131739212.2125217226.1502726748-1041720666.1434289598

- **CCSS Resources for PD and Practice from "Achieve the Core": *The Latest From the Aligned Blog***

- a. **Blended Learning: The Station Rotation Model:** Find out how a blended learning station-focused model can help you differentiate instruction and give ALL students the support they need to tackle grade-level work. <https://achievethecore.org/aligned/blended-learning-the-station-rotation-model/>

- b. **Assessing Grammar and Language Convention Skills:** New guidance explains how to assess writing skills through embedded-error passages and multiple-choice items. <https://achievethecore.org/aligned/assessing-grammar-and-language-convention-skills/>

- c. **Looking At and Learning From Student Work, Part Two: Now What?** An 8th grade teacher models the process of using writing analysis checklists to make plans for future writing instruction. <https://achievethecore.org/aligned/looking-at-and-learning-from-student-work-part-two-now-what/>

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities:

Note regarding webinars: While I understand that most educators cannot leave class to attend webinars that occur during school hours, I cannot control when the various organizations choose to hold them. I include the information here in case any of our members have a schedule that allows their participation.

- **WY-TOPP DESMOS CALCULATOR TRAINING WEBINAR**

**October 11
4:00-4:45 pm MT**

Wyoming has the opportunity to learn about the Desmos calculator through a webinar by Dan Meyer, a lead expert in mathematics. This state-specific training will help support students working with the calculators they will use on the state assessment.

Join at <https://join.me/desmoscalculator> or phone +1.646.307.1990
Conference ID: 791-280-991 #

- **Heart Mountain Seminar (National Security v. Civil Liberties)**

**October 13-15
Heart Mountain, WY**

Join us for a weekend of learning with outstanding scholars and conversations with colleagues, as we delve into the constitutional issues surrounding the imprisonment of Japanese and Japanese-American citizens during World War II. Seminar is eligible for 1.0 WY PTSB credits and FREE to attend. Deposit Required: Please plan to send \$50 to reserve your spot in the seminar. All deposits for educators in attendance will be returned to you @ 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 15. Double Occupancy Lodging provided by the sponsors, We the People and Wyoming History Day. If you would like a Single Occupancy room the charge will be \$93 per

night. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0VVzp0Th_uIFa5rKcMeA8avQS2ywpHjHxTwSXgONMGuRXTg/viewform

- **Health, P.E., Recreation & Dance Convention**

**November 5-7
Cheyenne**

The Wyoming Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (WAHPERD) will hold its annual convention at Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne. Free Comprehensive School Physical Activity Program (CSPAP) training will be offered. <http://www.wyomingahperd.com/membershipconventions.html>

- **Conference for Community Arts Education**

**November 15-18
Oakland/San Francisco, CO**

The National Guild for Community Arts Education conference is the annual gathering of the nonprofit arts education community, providing learning, networking, and tools to ensure all people have opportunities to maximize their creative potential. Featuring more than four dozen workshops, roundtables, plenary sessions, site visits, and social events—plus full-day preconference institutes—delegates develop new skills, share effective practices, build relationships with colleagues, and return home inspired with new ideas about how to advance their organization and better serve their community. This year's conference will focus on how arts education can serve as a source of hope, healing, and strength in challenging times. All arts education stakeholders are encouraged to participate: arts education leaders, funders, policy makers, academics, researchers, and other allies, including those in non-arts sectors (e.g., youth development, health, etc.). Ensuring that all people enjoy access to quality arts learning opportunities throughout their lifespans requires a collective effort. <http://communityartsed.nationalguild.org/Home.aspx>

- **Music Education Days (MED) at The NAMM Show**

**January 25-28
Anaheim, CA**

Each January, music educators from across the U.S. gather in sunny southern California for Music Education Days (MED) at The NAMM Show. The program offers music teachers and administrators informative sessions, inspiring performances, and the opportunity to preview the latest instruments, products and tools relevant to today's music classrooms.
<https://www.nammfoundation.org/what-we-do/music-education-days>

Grants and Funding Opportunities

1. **Hurry—deadline approaching! NEA Foundation Grants:**

a) Student Achievement Grants: Educators frequently need outside funding for classroom resources. With our Student Achievement grants, NEA members are helping students learn how to think critically and solve problems. Two levels of funding are available: \$2,000 and \$5,000. Grants fund activities for 12 months from the date of the award. Grants are available to current members of the National Education Association who are educators in public schools or public institutions of higher education. We especially encourage education support professionals to apply. We're currently giving preference to proposals that incorporate STEM and/or global learning into projects. Grant funds can be used for resource materials, supplies, equipment, transportation, technology, or scholars-in-residence. Although some funds may be used to support the professional development necessary to implement the project, the majority of grant funds must be spent on materials or educational experiences for students. Grant funds cannot be used to pay indirect costs, grant administration fees, salaries, applicant stipends, conference fees for more than one person, or lobbying or religious purposes. **Deadline: October 15!** <https://www.neafoundation.org/for-educators/student-achievement-grants/>

b) Learning and Leadership Grants: Educators frequently need outside resources to engage in meaningful professional development due to limited district funding. Through our Learning & Leadership grants, we support the professional development of NEA members by providing grants to:

- **Individuals** to participate in high-quality professional development like summer institutes, conferences, seminars, travel abroad programs, or action research.
- **Groups** to fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson plan development, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff.

Grants are available to current members of the National Education Association who are educators in public schools or public institutions of higher education. We especially encourage education support professionals to apply. We give preference to proposals that incorporate STEM and/or global competence in their projects. Grant funds can be used for travel, room, meals, registration fees, materials, etc. for individual grants. For group grants, funds can be used for educator stipends, substitute fees, materials, travel, meals, etc. Grant funds cannot be used to pay indirect costs, grant administration fees, salaries, conference fees for more than one person, or lobbying or religious purposes. **Deadline: October 15!**
<https://www.neafoundation.org/for-educators/learning-and-leadership-grants/>

2. **2018 Neville-Pribram Mid-Career Educators Award:**

The Smithsonian Libraries is pleased to offer a call for applicants for the 2018 Neville-Pribram Mid-Career Educators Award. The Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology is the host library for the selected 2018 Educator. The purpose of this award is to provide an educator with travel funding that will enable him/her to use Smithsonian Libraries collections to develop educational materials (materials may include lesson plans, study modules, educational games, educational websites, etc.). The Dibner's collections would be particularly well-suited for an educator in a STEM field. The 2018 Neville-Pribram Mid-Career Educator awardee will have ample opportunity to explore, utilize, create, and share a project that contributes to continued learning and application of the history of science and technology in education. Topics could include, but are not limited to: Astronomy, Chemistry, Electricity and magnetism, Engineering, History of the Book, History of Science, Mathematics, Medicine, Natural Philosophy, Physics, Technology, World's Fairs. In addition to library resources, the awardee will have the opportunity to engage with staff, and researchers at the Dibner Library as well as Smithsonian educators; attend Smithsonian or NMAH sponsored lectures, symposia, programs and events to enhance the resident experience. Applicants must be current middle school, high school, or college teachers or museum educators working on curriculum development or publications. **Deadline: October 31.** <https://library.si.edu/about/internships-and-fellowships/travel-awards/neville-pribram-educators-awards>

3. **Shell Science Lab Challenge Competition:**

The annual Shell Science Lab Challenge Competition recognizes exceptional and innovative science educators. It was created in 2010, to recognize outstanding middle and high school programs for their exemplary approaches to science lab instruction utilizing limited school and laboratory resources, and raise awareness and exposure of the outstanding work being done in the science education field. Shell's support aids the science educators, their science educational programs, professional development and proactive efforts in the science education field by providing a lab makeover support package valued at \$20,000. **All entries must be received by 11:59PM EST on 12/15/2017, via online submission.**
<http://www.nsta.org/shellsciencelab/>

Summary of Memos to District Superintendents: October 4, 2017

To access the full contents of each memo in which you are interested, highlight and copy the ENTIRE Web URL listed and paste it into your browser.

PLEASE NOTE: If the URL to the memo doesn't work, go directly to <https://edu.wyoming.gov/inside-the-wde/communications/memos/> and scroll down to the document(s) in which you are interested.

1) Non-Regulatory Guidance for School Safety and

Security: <http://edu.wyoming.gov/downloads/communications/memos/2017/2017-109.pdf> -- Following the passage of [House Enrolled Act No. 0093](#) during the 2017 Legislative Session, WDE convened a School Safety and Security Ad Hoc Committee to provide clarification and guidance related to the statute. The committee was comprised of local and state law enforcement and education leaders, and using their expertise and experience, they have developed non-regulatory guidance to support local school district boards of trustees as they consider whether to implement the School Safety and Security Act. Each district considering allowing possession of firearms by school district employees on school property should consult its own attorneys regarding the requirements of the law, and any related references in the guidance. The guidance should not be construed as regulatory guidance from the WDE, or any member of the Ad Hoc Committee, or legal advice of counsel.

a. **Link to Non-Regulatory Guidance:** <http://edu.wyoming.gov/downloads/safety/SchoolSafetyGuidance.pdf>

2) U.S. Presidential Scholars Program Opportunity: <http://edu.wyoming.gov/downloads/communications/memos/2017/2017-110.pdf> -- WDE is looking to nominate Wyoming high school seniors for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. All high school students graduating between January and June of 2018 who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents that attend public, parochial, or independent schools, as well as those who are homeschooled are eligible to apply. The 2018 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and will receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion. **Nominations must be made by a school or district employee and are due to WDE by November 3.**

3) Changes to School District Accreditation Process for 2018-19:

<http://edu.wyoming.gov/downloads/communications/memos/2017/2017-112.pdf> -- WDE plans to implement a new state-led accreditation process beginning in the fall of 2018, making a regional accreditation process optional for Wyoming districts and schools. Although the WDE values the AdvancED accreditation process and partnership, reductions to the state budget make it unrealistic for the WDE to continue to provide AdvancED accreditation for all districts and all schools in Wyoming. District survey feedback was also considered in this decision.

a. **FAQ about new accreditation**

process: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rzEG1bTJHh07ayl871Z69ICNYqCAOQ7YptCebUxg7oA/edit>

4) Guidance for Temporary School Closures: <http://edu.wyoming.gov/downloads/communications/memos/2017/2017-111.pdf> --

WDE is reminding districts about the protocol for temporary school closures. In cases where a school temporarily closes for at least one-half of a school day due to weather, fire, construction problems, widespread illness, fuel shortages, or other extenuating circumstances, the attached temporary school closure form is required. Because the days of operation are tied to funding, the temporary school closure form must be completed within two weeks of a temporary school closure, and must be submitted even in instances where the closure does not result in fewer than 175 school days.

a. **Temporary School Closure Form:** <http://edu.wyoming.gov/downloads/communications/memos/2017/2017-111-attachmentb.pdf>

Member Benefits

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