

# ANW Special Education

March 2011

## Director's Corner

The Coop is currently gathering information on Employee Health Insurance plans for next year. We are asking that they be based on the two plans we currently have; a Health Savings Account and a Preferred Provider

Policy with similar benefits and deductibles. Not all of the bids have come in yet but it appears that the cost could very well go down from what is currently being paid. We hope to have all the bids in by Spring Break and then be able to call a meeting to discuss options by the first week in April. Also, the Legislature has not yet made a decision on Special Education funding for next year but at this time it looks as though we may remain stable with the current year's funding.

For next year, the Coop will be adding the money allotted for incentives to each teacher's annual supply budget. Teacher will be able to order the incentives that they plan to use for the year at the same time that they turn in their bulk order before they leave for the summer break. The money can also be used for items other than incentives.

Teachers should be working closely to monitor Para work hours to be sure that they do not run over or significantly under because of the snow days:

1. Para's may attend in-service training provided by the districts or our Coop with district and Coop approval.
2. With administrative approval, Para's may also work on teacher work days at the end of the year provided there is work that is needed to be performed.
3. Personal days may be used but not sick leave days.
4. Additional minutes may be added at the end of the day and/or the beginning of the day provided there is a need to supervise students, administrators should be informed of the change.

## Scheduled Meetings

### MARCH

10th Related Services Categorical (2:00)

17th New Para Sign Up (8:30)

21st-25th SPRING BREAK ☺

### APRIL

12th Superintendent's Meeting (9:30)

13th Education Association Executive Meeting (4:30)  
Board Meeting (6:30)

15th Gifted Categorical Meeting (1:00)

22nd Good Friday (Office Closed)

27th New Para Sign Up (8:30)  
Mentor & New Teacher Training (1:00)

### **\*\*Reminder\*\***

Para professionals need to have **ALL** in-service points for the 2010/2011 school year turned in **NO LATER THAN:**

**APRIL 15th, 2011**

(In-services attended between April 15th and the end of the 10/11 school year, may be turned in for in-service points on this year's record.)

# Nurses Station

## Poison Prevention Week

By Jamie Klenklen, MCH Admin Consultant

National Poison Prevention Week is March 20-26. More than two million poisonings were reported in 2010 to the 61 Poison Control Centers across the country. The Kansas Poison Control Center receives nearly 100 calls per day.

If you have any questions about unintentional poisonings, call the Poison Control Center Hotline at 1 (800)222-1222. Save this number in your cell phone in case of an emergency. A specially trained nurse, pharmacist or doctor at your poison center will assist when you call.

All services are free and confidential. They also provide information about poisons and poison prevention, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Translation services are available.

All questions about poisons are smart questions. The Poison Control Center helps people of all ages and in all types of situations.

- ★ When children get into household products
- ★ Give advice about preventing and treating chemical exposures on the job
- ★ When products or medicines are used in the wrong way, in the wrong amount or by the wrong person

The Poison Control Center has a variety of free brochures, magnets and stickers available. Their goal is to have the poison Control Center number in every

home, work place, school and daycare center. A few suggestions on how to get your community more aware of poison safety:

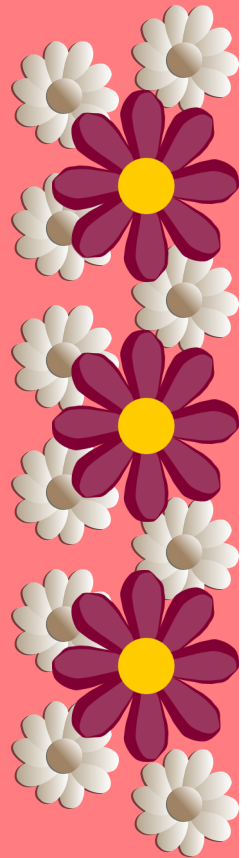
1. Hand out materials at school functions such as enrollment and health fairs
2. Utilize poison prevention materials at community health fairs
3. Ask the local newspaper to run a short news article on poison safety



For more information, contact Daling McMoran, Education Coordinator, The University of Kansas Hospital Poison Control Center at [wmc Moran@kumc.edu](mailto:wmc Moran@kumc.edu).

For more resources visit:

- ★ The American Association of Poison Control Centers <http://www.aapcc.org>.
- ★ The University of Kansas Hospital Poison Control Center <http://kumed.com/default.aspx?id=2144>.
- ★ Poison Prevention.org <http://poisonprevention.org/>
- ★ Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) <http://poisonhelp.hrsa.gov/>



## Teachers Lounge

This is Tamra Merando and she is assigned to the ED room at Chanute Elementary. She has two years previous experience. Tamra has been in various positions in Parsons and Pittsburg, from working with Head Start as lead teacher, Summer Activity Director at the Sate Hospital and Training Center, and First Grade Teacher in Parsons. She has received her education at Labette County Community College and Pittsburg State University.



## Management Tips for Spring

As we complete the year, your Crisis Management Team reminds everyone of a few tips that will be helpful for a safe school closure.

1. Severe Weather Awareness. This is the season for severe weather. Remember the difference between a watch and a warning. Review your building's procedures and your responsibilities when we are under severe weather conditions.
2. Bomb Threats usually occur during the spring semester. Make sure all personnel know where their bomb threat check sheet is located. Be conscious of any unusual or suspicious packages in your area.
3. Be visible in the hallways and doorways during this time of year.
4. Be helpful with substitutes and itinerate staff during drills or emergencies.
5. Take all drills seriously. The degree to which you practice safety drills will be the level at which you perform during an emergency.
6. Wear your ID badges in a visible spot when on duty.
7. Facilitate open communication with students in a caring manner. The majority of threatening situations are resolved early and safely via open and trusting communication.
8. When outside of the building or on a field trip, make sure you have a way to communicate back to the building and can account for all students and staff that are present with you.
9. Have a kind smile and helpful word for your SRO or Dare Officer.
10. Check your classroom/building kits to make sure it is up to date.

### HEADS UP!!!!

Para professional's current print out of hours will be on the van route March 15th-17th.



### *Students with ASD*

On Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, eight staff members attended a workshop in Wichita titled: "It's All About Independent Functioning Using Technology to Develop Life-Skills for Students with ASD." The workshop was presented by Susan Stokes, M.A., CCC-SLP. She has been working in the field of Autism for over 23 years.

Susan emphasized how students with ASD rely more on visual processing than auditory processing in their lives. They are presented with auditory information and have difficulty processing the information. We also need to increase their independent functioning skills and decrease their dependence on adults in order to be successful in society. Susan gave several examples of how to achieve this independence through work systems, technology (iPads, iPods and iPhones), visual schedules and video modeling. Susan gave a list of resources to gain further information. These are available from the autism team.

