

Special points of interest:

- American Education Week
- ISEA President Wants To Meet You
- Membership News
- Retirement- Five Reasons to Save More

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THE LINCOLN-WAY

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No Surprise to Educators*

Most states now have a "safe haven" law of some kind. These laws make it possible for a parent(s) to leave a child the family can no longer take care of at a hospital without penalty. Most states limit the age of the child to infancy. The Nebraska law passed last year makes it possible to leave children up to and including teenagers. A good share of the children left so far under the Nebraska law have been in their teens. This has greatly surprised many and has been highly publicized recently.

I suspect that this is not a surprise to most of you. It is no secret to educators that families are in need of assistance and that this "need" is demonstrated in classroom achievement across the country despite the so-called "Leave No Child Behind" law. I'm going out on a limb to suggest that children in these stressed families are not scoring to their potential on the standardized tests that our nation's leaders seem to hold in such high esteem. When families suffer, so does education within the home. The urgency for maintenance of

basic needs trumps any interest for education.

While many seem to think that the age limit was a great mistake on the part of legislators, it has exposed an important fact. Raising a family is not an easy thing to do, and the level of frustration that accompanies family issues can be simply overwhelming. Supporting the needs of families positively impacts the result that educators have with their students.

**An opinion of UniServ Director Myron Halverson*

Is Your Voice Being Heard?

ISEA proclaims to provide a "voice" for members. An important opportunity for this will happen on Thursday evening, November 20, 2008. Lincolnway UniServ Unit will conduct its annual Fall Representative Assembly in Carroll on that date. Members representing each local association are invited to attend and have

the opportunity to share a "voice" for members. An important opportunity for this will happen on Thursday evening, November 20, 2008. Lincolnway UniServ Unit will conduct its annual Fall Representative Assembly in Carroll on that date. Members representing each local association are invited to attend and have

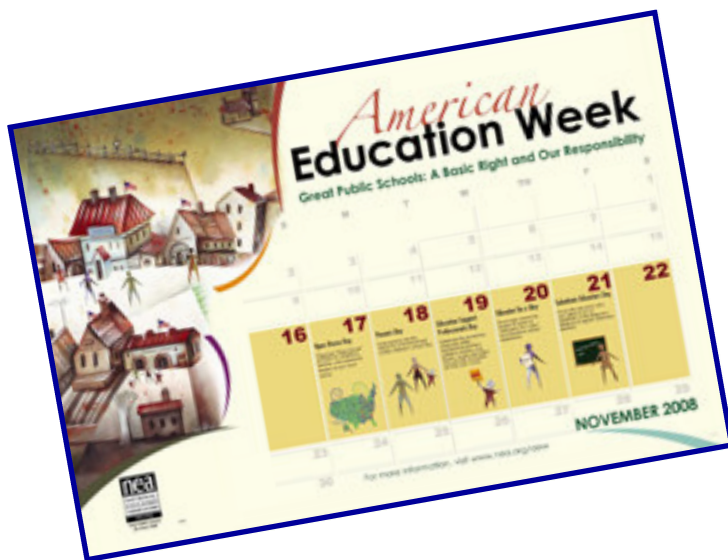
the opportunity to share a dinner and help set the direction for future ISEA initiatives. Contact your local president and share your ideas or better yet, request to be the local representative sent to the meeting.

Hope to see you Thursday, November 20th at the Carrollton Inn in Carroll!



A packet of information will be mailed this week.

IT'S AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK!!!



American Education Week (AEW) is fast approaching. During the week of November 16-22, NEA will celebrate with the theme: *Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility*. This theme spotlights the importance of providing every child in America with

a quality public education, and the need for all to do their part in making public schools great.

It also reflects NEA's vision of calling upon America to provide students with quality public schools so that they can grow, prosper, and achieve in the 21st century. You can log on to: www.nea.org/aew/toolkit.html to find history, ideas, posters and other items to use during the week.

This year, each day has a theme:

Monday, November 17: Open House Day. From national commemorations to local community events such as AEW house parties, millions of Americans will celebrate public education nationwide.

Tuesday, November 18: Parents Day. Schools will invite parents into the classroom for a hands-on experience of what the day is like for their child.

Wednesday, November 19: Education Support Professionals Day. Individuals who provide invaluable services to schools are recognized for their work.

Thursday, November 20: Educator for a Day. Community leaders will be invited to serve as educators to get a glimpse at a day in the life of a school employee.

Friday, November 21: Substitute Educators Day. This day honors the educators who are called upon to replace regularly employed teachers.



SPECIAL WEEKLY READER OFFER From October 29 to November 15 only!

NEA Members can save 20% off the retail cost of a *Weekly Reader* classroom subscription for the 2009 spring semester. Offer ends November 15, 2008. Visit weeklyreader.com/store and use promo code 13582.



November			
4	Election Day—VOTE!!!	20	Executive Council Meeting, Carroll
6	Bargaining Training, Denison	20	Fall Representative Assembly, Carroll
7-8	ISEA ESP Fall Conference	22	Committee Mtg for BTLE
7-8	ISEA Executive Board Meeting	25	Bargaining Training, Sioux City
13	Bargaining Training, Carroll	27-28	Office closed— Thanksgiving Holiday
15	Committee Mtgs for PMR and SLA	30	PERB Annual Reports Due
15	Bargaining Meeting for locals with Allowable Growth of 6% and above	<u>December</u>	
16-22	American Education Week	5-6	ISEA Executive Board Meeting
19	ESP Day	24-31	Office closed— Christmas Holiday

A Visit From Chris Bern

ISEA has a new President, and he wants to meet the members of Lincolnway! **Chris Bern**, a math teacher from Knoxville, is the new President of ISEA.

Like his predecessor, Linda Nelson, he wants to meet the

members of the Association. Chris is willing to meet with members before school, during lunch, or after school. He is also willing to read to younger students and/or talk with older students, especially about bullying.

The open dates Chris still has for the rest of 2008 are November 10-14, 17, 26, and the week of December 15-19.

If your local is interested in hosting Chris, please contact Myron or Peri with a preferred date.



Tips About Use of District Property for Non-District Activities

Taken from "School Leader Update" – Iowa Department of Education

1. Transportation

In accordance with Iowa Code section 285.10(9, 10), vehicles owned by a school district may only be used for non-school activities under the following circumstances:

- a. The vehicle is not needed for transportation of pupils.
- b. The district charges and collects "an amount sufficient to reimburse all costs of furnishing the bus and driver."

Example: 10-12 students all sign up for the same baseball camp. Their parents ask the district to provide transportation for convenience of the parents. The school board makes a finding that the vehicle is not needed at the time in question for transportation of pupils. The board and the district's transportation director figure out the actual costs involved. The

board enters into a written agreement with all affected families.

Note that following all of these steps has the additional advantage of protecting the district from any allegation of a violation of the Camp and Clinic* rule — assuming a baseball coach from the school does not accompany the students and assuming further that attendance at the camp is totally voluntary! And, of course, the students are paying any and all fees related to the camp.

2. Athletic Equipment (e.g., catcher's mask, football pads)

When a student voluntarily chooses to attend a specialized camp and the host of the camp does not provide safety equipment, the student often asks to use equipment owned by the district. The district must charge a fair rental to the student. This avoids any appearance that the camp is school-related and also emphasizes to the student, the student's family, and the community at large that the

district is aware that district property is not property of students; it belongs to the taxpayers, and the district is being a good steward of the property by charging a fair rental value.

3. Insurance Carrier

This is just a reminder to the district to alert the district's insurance carrier whenever district property is being rented for non-school purposes.

* And remember that the Camp and Clinic rule only applies to interscholastic sports, not music or speech. That rule [36.15(6)] prohibits school personnel, whether employed or volunteers, from coaching the school's students out of season and from requiring students to participate in any activities outside the season of that coach's sport as a condition of participation in the coach's sport during its season.



Quotes

“In a completely rational society, the best of us would aspire to be teachers and the rest of us would have to settle for something less, because passing civilization along from one generation to the next ought to be the highest honor and the highest responsibility anyone could have.”

~ Lee Iacocca
(*businessman*)

“The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn.”

~ Alvin Toffler
(*essayist and futurist*)

Lincolnway Shrinks in 2008-09

Lincolnway, along with some other UniServ Units in the state, has decreased membership for 2008-09. As of today, membership has decreased by 3 members. Of our 36 locals, 13 have increased their membership totals from last year, 6 have remained the same, and 15 have lost a few members. We are still waiting to hear membership numbers from two locals.

As you know, Lincolnway will hold a drawing during the Fall Representative Assembly (Thursday, November 20 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Carrollton Inn in Carroll) for **three \$100 cash cards**. For each **new** member (not a member in 2007-08) a local enrolled, that local's name will be entered into the drawing. So if a local has seven new members, that local's name is put into the hat seven

times. We suggest that local executive boards decide before the 20th how the local winner will be selected. Examples include: local drawing of members or the membership chair/president receiving the prize.

Listed below are 31 locals with the number of their **new** members – a total of 128:

Anthon-Oto – 2
Ar-We-Va – 1
Battle Creek-Ida Grove – 3
Boyer Valley – 3
Carroll – 7
Carroll ESA – 10
Charter Oak-Ute – 2
Coon Rapids-Bayard – 1
Denison – 9
East Greene – 7
Galva-Holstein – 6
Glidden-Ralston – 1
Guthrie Center – 2
Harlan – 9
I-K-M – 6

Jefferson-Scranton – 3
Lawton-Bronson – 3
Logan-Magnolia – 2
Manning – 3
Maple Valley – 2
Odebolt-Arthur – 2
Ogden – 3
Perry – 16
River Valley – 2
River Valley Support – 6
Sac City – 3
Schaller-Crestland – 4
West Harrison – 2
West Monona – 3
Woodbine – 4
Woodbury Central – 1



But it is not too late! All membership forms received by Thursday, November 20th will count toward the drawing.

You can enroll new members year-round so continue to promote NEA, ISEA, Lincolnway, and your local to those who are not yet members.

Passing? Be Careful!

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, today's U.S. motorists travel almost 80 percent more miles on urban arterial roads than on rural roads. Arterial roads are those main multi-lane roads with many intersections controlled by traffic lights and stop signs.

Drivers traveling down these roads may find themselves stuck behind a slower-moving car, truck, or even – in the case of a rural road – a piece of farm equipment. Whether on urban or rural roads, passing a slower moving vehicle can be dangerous, and should only be done if:

- You're sure you can return to your lane without affecting the safe movement of traffic being passed, or any that is coming in the opposite direction.
- You're sure you can return to your lane be-

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Preparing For Retirement... Five Compelling Reasons to Save More

According to the organization Americans for Secure Retirement, Americans' retirement security is at risk. Beyond the obvious conclusion that we are not saving enough, here are five factors that give pause to think about your plan for retirement.

We are living longer. One in three 65-year-old women will live into their 90s. Your retirement income may need to last for 25-30 years, maybe more.

We are spending more in retirement. The average retirement age of NEA members is 59. If you retire early, that means you will have to fund those extra retirement years.

Social Security falls short. If you're eligible for Social Security, it will only provide a portion of your retirement income needs. Your state pension will

also help, but supplemental retirement savings may be necessary to maintain your lifestyle in retirement.

Rising healthcare costs. Inflation alone depletes your retirement savings, but coupled with healthcare costs that outpace inflation, your retirement savings can take a real hit.

Market volatility. The current national financial crisis underscores how changes in the economy can affect retirement savings. A large downward swing in investment results as you near or enter retirement can significantly impact how long your retirement savings will last.

There are two good sources for help in working through these issues and developing a plan for your retirement. First, the [Five Minute Retirement Checkup](http://neamb.com/5toRetire/) is a quick and easy

online calculator that will give you a snapshot of your retirement readiness. Whether you're getting close to retirement or decades away, the [Five Minute Retirement Checkup](http://neamb.com/5toRetire/) can help you assess your retirement savings progress. Members can access this Checkup at <http://neamb.com/5toRetire/>.

A more thorough, hands-on approach is to seek help from an NEA Valuebuilder® representative. These knowledgeable people can help you make a plan for retirement and provide strategies and investments to help you meet your individual financial goals for retirement.

Contact your NEA Valuebuilder representatives:

Bill & Nancy Haigh

515-537-7955 or 888-900-6414
bhaigh@hickorytech.net
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Passing? Be Careful!

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fore you enter a no-passing zone.

- You're not passing in an intersection, at the crest of a hill, on a curve, through a railroad crossing, school or bus zone, or within 100 feet of a bridge or viaduct.

- Your lane of traffic

does not have two solid double lines, but does have a broken; or dashed line, indicating that it is legal to pass if conditions are safe.

- You use your blinkers to indicate your plans to move.

If you have questions concerning your vehicle or would like to receive a free no-obligation quote, please call:

(877) 999-8952
or
JOSH HINRICHS,
Field Rep
(515) 978-6613

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