



# MEA UPDATE

**Millard Education Association**

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello everyone!! I hope that everyone was able to enjoy the extra days that we had off in January. By the sounds of things we are going to only have July off this year!! Mother Nature can stop anytime now!

I hope that everyone enjoyed some time away from the classroom with friends and family over the break. My sister was in town from Philadelphia She made it here and home safely and on time. We felt truly blessed to get to see her and her husband!

Santa visited our house as well. Ben has a workbench so we are now taking orders if anyone would like a birdhouse for the spring! Ellie has dress-up clothes so that she can dress up and sing all of her favorite songs on stage complete with guitar and microphone. I am fairly certain that she really believes she is Taylor Swift!

I hope this update finds you well. Best wishes for a fabulous second semester. Please keep me posted if you would like me to help with a project or just want me to come out to the building to say hello!

## VINTAGE FINANCIAL WORKSHOP

Vintage Financial is hosting a free tax workshop for MEA members only. Please click on the link below for more details!

[http://www.millardmea.org/media/MEA\\_Flyer-taxes.pdf](http://www.millardmea.org/media/MEA_Flyer-taxes.pdf)

## CRYSTAL APPLE AWARD

If you would like to nominate a teacher for the award for third quarter please visit the link below and email your nomination by February 12<sup>th</sup>.

<http://www.millardmea.org/>

## PASSPORT CARD

The passport card is available to MEA Members for a discounted rate. The Passport Card offers discounts (mainly buy one meal receive the second meal free) at many restaurants in Omaha. Please click on the link below for more details.

<http://millardmea.org/media/Passport0910.pdf>

## LEARNING COMMUNITY UPDATE

Millard will have a table at the Learning Community Fair to be held at the UNO

Alumni Building on January 31, 2010 from 1-4 pm. Click here for more information:

<http://www.mpsomaha.org/modules/cms/pages.php?pageid=145629&sessionid=cb1d9286261ec04693054ebd6a70e31e>

### **NSEA ACCESS CARD**

You should have received your new ACCESS Card from NSEA. Click on the link below for New Year savings!!

[http://emtedit.memberweb.com/EmailPreview.aspx?templateId=354&SC\\_EID=3931&groupid=8589&memberid=0002181717](http://emtedit.memberweb.com/EmailPreview.aspx?templateId=354&SC_EID=3931&groupid=8589&memberid=0002181717)

### **NSEA 2010 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

NSEA's legislative goal for the 2010 session of the Nebraska Legislature is to maintain the state's investment in public education. Meeting that goal will save and create education jobs, which keeps schools fully staffed; will keep class levels at sizes that will help raise student achievement, thereby ensuring our state's educational and economic competitiveness; and will help keep key staff in our schools at a time when many students' families are suffering financially, thereby creating undue stress on children.

NSEA will also work to secure additional state funding for programs that will enhance Nebraska's ability to recruit and retain quality teachers, higher education faculty and education support professionals. These programs shall include legislation that will improve compensation, benefits and working conditions.

### **LEAP - GROUNDWATER LEARNING EXPERIENCE**

Protecting groundwater is in the best interest of all Nebraskans. That's why The Groundwater Foundation is offering teachers, free of charge, the materials for a groundwater learning experience.

With the program, students learn about groundwater through hands-on activities, and then plan an event to educate others in their community. Students then make a difference through activities that benefit groundwater. Finally, students recruit or become involved in the Groundwater Guardian Community and/or Green Site programs.

The audience for LEAP can include classrooms, Boy or Girl Scout troops, after school programs, church groups, community centers, 4-H and other youth groups.

The LEAP Into Groundwater manual offers all the educational background and materials needed to begin teaching about groundwater. The manual also provides an extended step-by-step guide through the four phases of LEAP. Manuals are available from Jamie Oltman at The Groundwater Foundation at:

[joltman@groundwater.org](mailto:joltman@groundwater.org)

The Groundwater Foundation staff is available to guide educators and answer questions. There are resource links at:

[www.groundwater.org](http://www.groundwater.org)