



Professional Times

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David Nagel from the Leadership and Learning Center is coming to Greece Central!

As you are aware, in your school and as a district, we have been working on developing common formative assessments in our professional learning communities. For the administrative retreat this summer, we are fortunate to have Mr. David Nagel from the Leadership and Learning Center scheduled to join us to discuss **Common Formative Assessments** and **Power Standards**. In order to better prepare for David's time with us, we ask that teachers and administrators take a few minutes to complete a brief multiple choice survey on standards and assessments. To take the survey, log into your MyLearningPlan.com account and the survey will appear at the top of the page. All responses are confidential and completing the survey is voluntary, although we hope to get a good response for planning. Thank you in advance for your input and support. The last day to complete the survey is **May 10**.

Create Edible Models of Plant Cells

Traditionally, students learn the parts of a cell by looking at a drawing in a textbook. Then they are asked to create their own drawings (showing a nucleus, a cell wall, etc.) For a hands-on activity to get students even more involved, assign them to create some edible models of plant cells. You'll need to assemble a few basic materials--graham crackers, colored icing and a variety of different candies. Students can then create models of a plant cell using these materials. Have your students:

1. Construct a base for their cell model. They can use graham crackers or any other edible solid material you have available for them to use.
2. Make the nucleus. It should be round, so have students look for a round candy to represent the nucleus.
3. Make the cell wall and the cell membrane. Students can use candy such as string licorice for this.
4. Add the chloroplast. Since this is what provides the plant's green color, students should look for a green candy.



Once students have completed their models, ask them to:

- Give the name and function of each part of their plant cell.
- Identify the parts of their plant cell that would not be present if they had made a model of an animal cell.
- Transform their plant cell into a model of an animal cell by taking a few bites. (They should know that there is no cell wall and no chloroplast in an animal cell.)
- Eat their entire creation!

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National Teacher Day May 4, 2010



Great Teachers Make Great Public Schools

On National Teacher Day, thousands of communities take time to honor their local educators and acknowledge the crucial role teachers play in making sure every student receives a quality education. Thank you for all you do each day!



I Am a Teacher
By Stacy Bonino

I am a counselor and psychologist to a problem-filled child,
I am a police officer that controls a child gone wild.

I am a photographer keeping pictures of a child's yearly growth,
When mother and father are gone for the day, I become both.

I am a travel agent scheduling our trips for the year;
I am a confidante that wipes a crying child's tear.

I am a banker collecting money for a ton of different things;
I am a librarian showing adventures that a storybook brings.

I am a custodian that has to clean little messes;
I am a psychic that learns to know all that everybody only guesses.

I am a doctor that detects when a child is feeling sick,
I am a politician that must know the laws and recognize a trick.

I am a party planner for holidays to celebrate with all;
I am a decorator of a room, filling every wall.

I am a news reporter updating on our nation's current events,
I am a detective solving small mysteries and ending all suspense.

I teach with humor that make the children learn and laugh,
I am a dietician assuring they have lunch or from mine I give them half.

When we seem to stray from values, I become a preacher,
But I'm proud to have to be these people because ...
I'm proud to say, "I am a teacher."



Certification Requirements

Effective February 1, 2010 the NYS Department of Education will no longer be printing initial, provisional, time extensions, renewals, supplementary, transitional or TA Level I and II certificates. They will print professional, permanent and TA Level III and Pre-Professional certifications. SED is directing candidates to the TEACH website at <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/teach/> for the certification information. As a reminder GCSD does not subscribe to a BOCES regional certification office so when applying for your certificate, request the NYS review of your credentials. Should you have questions, please contact Kim O'Connor in Human Resources at Kim.O'Connor@greece.k12.ny.us.

Stuff a Bus/ Food Drive

February 2010 A big thank you to everyone who participated in this year's food drive. It was by far the best we've ever had. Last year we collected 9,400 lbs, and this year's drive yielded 11,209 lbs of donations.



Please join us for the GTA Year
End Happy Hour at Romeo's
May 14th 3:00 PM



Resources:



Create a Graph: Web-based graphing tool for producing bar, line, pie, and area charts from small sets of discrete data. Great for students K-12 and staff as they create all kinds of projects.

<http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/createAgraph/>



SMART Exchange ^{beta}

<http://exchange.smarttech.com/index.html>

Come surf around to find resources and ready made lesson for your Smart Board! Suitable for K-12, all subject areas.

Resources for exploring art education with children... Great artists, art lessons + heaps of ideas for spicing up your art program.

http://www.adrianbruce.com/web_site_links/art/art_websites.htm



Book Adventure is a FREE reading motivation program for children in grades K-8. Children create their own book lists from over 7,000 recommended titles, take multiple choice quizzes on the books they've read, and earn points and prizes for their literary successes. Book Adventure was created by and is maintained by Sylvan Learning.

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



Interactive Websites



At <http://jc-schools.net/tutorials/interact-science.htm>

explore cool sites which cover **all** academic areas K-12. There is even an assessment component.

The mission of **MY HERO** is to use media and technology to celebrate the best of humanity and to empower young people to realize their own potential to effect positive change in the world. This freely accessible, not-for-profit project is supported by visitors of all ages who share stories, art, and short films on our award winning multimedia journal and digital library. Visit <http://www.myhero.com/go/home.asp>



Give free rice to hungry people by playing a simple game that increases your vocabulary knowledge. For each answer you get right, 10 grains of rice are donated through the World Food Program to help stop hunger.

<http://www.freerice.com/>



MyLearningPlan

Plan » Manage » Learn » Evaluate

My Info:

My Portfolio

My File Library

MY POINTS Tracker

How to Redeem Your Points (GTA Members Only) Once you have at least 25 points in MyLearningPlan (MLP) you can redeem your points. Directions for this are located in the My File Library. To view and redeem points, click on the upper left hand-side called My Points Tracker. If you need assistance, please ask your Policy Board member. Their names and buildings are listed on the front page of this newsletter.

I keep receiving an email telling me to "Mark Complete" what does this mean? After any professional development that you participate in (Greece

Central Workshop/Collegial Circle/Book Study/Professional Learning Community/Study Group/Committee, College Course or Conference) you **MUST** log back into MyLearningPlan MLP and complete an evaluation form, then click on **Mark Complete**. Why? This is to let the system know that you have completed this professional development and are requesting points or hours or tuition reimbursement. Remember for conferences, in addition to clicking on Mark Complete, you must also print out and complete the Travel Reimbursement form and mail to Joanna Morreale in the business office. A copy of this form is in "My File Library".

MyFileLibrary What is this? MyFileLibrary is a section in MyLearningPlan (MLP) where you can view helpful documents on how to use MLP. Here is a short list of the documents you can view: How to: redeem your points, complete a conference request, complete a tuition reimbursement, IEP Writing Day Log, print out a sign in sheet, register for an on-line course and more! Don't forget if you are completing a conference request from, you need to first scan a completed registration form (with principal signature) into your MyFileLibrary. See your policy board member for assistance.

Greece Professional Learning Center
(PLC)
Greece Teachers Association (GTA)

Professional Learning Center
1790 Latta Road-Bldg. A
Rochester, New York 14612
585.966.2130
Hours: 8-4:30 p.m.

Greece Teachers Association
3670 Mount Read Blvd.
Rochester, New York 14616
585.621.7970
Hours: 8-4 p.m.
www.greeceteachers.com



Teamwork: Many hands, many
minds, one goal.



Greece PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CENTER

Hours: PLC office hours are **8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** We are open during December, February and April recesses. We are also open during the summer (8-4:30). We are closed on weekends and major holidays.

PLC Contacts: Email marguerite.dingba@greece.k12.ny.us Director, Professional Learning Center, for professional development and teacher center questions. For appointments for academic resources (**self service:** laminating, poster making or equipment loans), Shadow Day, Special Projects and MyLearningPlan information please contact Peggy Donlon at ext. 2709 or email peggy.donlon@greece.k12.ny.us For professional development day questions contact Patrice LaPlaca at ext. 2945 or patrice.laplaca@greece.k12.ny.us

New Die Cuts!



Save the Date: 2010 Spring/Summer

Log into www.mylearningplan.com
Your user name is now your
[firstname.lastname](#), your initial
password is **changeme**. **Please change
your password if you haven't already
done so.**

Professional Development Days

- May 11 and May 19

DCIA Circuits

- July 12 and 13

Administrative Retreat

- July 14 (All Admin. & SIT Reps)
- July 15, 16 (All Admin. & selected
teacher leaders only)

Special Education Administrative PD (Admin. Staff Only)

- August 16

New Teacher Induction

- August 17, 18 & 19

Admin. Professional Development

- August 20

Teacher Day

- September 7, 2010
Opening Day: (Keynote Doug Reeves)
- September 8, 2010

Other opportunities:

(log into MLP to view dates and times)

- On-Line Classes
- Collegial Circles/Study Groups/PLCs
- ALL Committees
- ALL Conference Requests

This is just a highlight of the hundreds of
professional development opportunities
available to you.

Don't forget you must register in MLP
for any committee you serve on or course
you participate in.

Summer registration begins June 7th!

Note: GTA members only
earn points for courses listed
in MLP that are outside of the
work day.

*Steering Committee

*5/6, *6/10 Time: 4:-5:30 p.m.

GTA Rep. Assembly Meetings

4-6 p.m. All Teachers Welcome
5/5, 5/26, 6/9



Student Learning is the Goal