# TEA Tidbits--October 27, 2020

Dear TEA members,

## Sign The CEA Petition extending deadline

Please sign this petition asking the state Board of Education to extend the deadline for K-3 teachers to complete 45 hours of PD in reading instruction by one year. While this is excellent training, requiring districts to pay for, and educators to complete, 45 hours of training during this incredibly busy year represents an impractical ask. [Sign the petition today!](https://actionnetwork.org/letters/read-act-extension/?link_id=0&can_id=047b18ab66ee4249651eba0de142b82a&source=email-tea-tidbits-for-today-88&email_referrer=&email_subject=tea-tidbits-for-today)

## TEA Grants 2020!

The TEA Achievement Grant Committee is excited to announce they have received $5,500 for the 2nd quarter of the 2020-2021 school year, to fund small grants for teachers to ensure their students the best experience possible in these extraordinary times. Funds are to support NON-Tech based activities (see examples below), and you must be a member of TEA to apply. Applications will be reviewed quickly and recipients must commit to executing their project whether students are learning in-person or virtually. Successful applicants will also be given $28 (the equivalent of one hour of the district extra-hours rate) to honor the time it will take to order materials, plan, and write the required reflection.

These grants will be a one time and mostly first come, first served opportunity so don’t put off getting yours turned in!

There are three categories available:

* **General supplies [up to $100]** – Money can be used to purchase colored pencils, glue sticks, construction paper, etc.
* **Social emotional Learning outreach [up to $200]** – Money can be used for happy snail mail supplies or little student of the week gifts [NO GIFT CARDS]. Get creative here on how you could help and encourage your students.
* **Project based learning [up to $300]**– Money can be used for supplies for a project kit with a specified outcome or product [e.g. building a cardboard trebuchet; a cooking kit; a PlayDoh modeling kit].

**Steps to apply**:

1. [Read through the online presentation](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1NyjG6my-gPAzzbtLi8pGaWtbfgWJzPv2nNIrl9sJGsg/preview?link_id=1&can_id=047b18ab66ee4249651eba0de142b82a&source=email-tea-tidbits-for-today-88&email_referrer=&email_subject=tea-tidbits-for-today) to understand the parameters of the grant
2. [Complete the budget for your proposal](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NbK1yzvBMKRwoeX-x4CNwaDR32Ztx2kYQPlutXcrIwo/copy?link_id=2&can_id=047b18ab66ee4249651eba0de142b82a&source=email-tea-tidbits-for-today-88&email_referrer=&email_subject=tea-tidbits-for-today) (clicking the link will force you to make a copy; please rename the document with: last name\_budget)
3. [Complete the online application](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSen5Pi6fVhd5V5KJVbslQ2nTSjh3Yke86IHBV_R5-VC0tww0g/viewform?usp=sf_link&link_id=3&can_id=047b18ab66ee4249651eba0de142b82a&source=email-tea-tidbits-for-today-88&email_referrer=&email_subject=tea-tidbits-for-today) (the application must be completed in one sitting; feel free to preview it to prepare your responses if needed. To add your budget file, choose “My Drive” after clicking “Add File,” then locate your budget document, click on it, and choose “Select”).

General questions should be directed to the TEA Achievement Grant committee chair, Jill Date, at jill.date@thompsonschools.org.

Questions about the Grant Application itself (technologically speaking) can be directed to Carin Barrett at carin.barrett@thompsonschools.org.

We hope you are as excited as we are about the possibilities this additional funding could bring for Thompson students.

**TEA Achievement Grant Committee**

Carin Barrett, Jill Date, Janelle Joers, Michelle Keenan-Harte, Donna Pabst

# TEA General Membership meeting 10/19/2020

Thank you to the more than 50 of you who came to our general membership meeting! The following changes were enacted to our by-laws. Please reach out if you have any questions.

**SECTION VI CEA DELEGATE ASSEMBLY**

1.     Qualifications for Delegates

a.   Delegates and Alternates shall be elected from the  **general membership.**

2.     Election of Delegates

a.     A full quota of delegates as allowed by CEA shall be elected. At least three alternates shall be elected.

b.

c.     The election shall be by secret ballot of the membership.

3.     Duties of Delegates

a.     Local meetings

(i)

(ii)

b.   Regional and UniServ meetings.

(i)     The Delegates shall attend applicable regional and UniServ Delegate meetings during his/her term of office.

(ii)   The President shall have the responsibility of notifying the delegates of these meetings

c.     CEA Delegate Assembly Meetings.

(i)     The Delegate shall attend all meetings of the Delegate Assembly

4.     Removal and Replacement of Delegates.

a.     The President shall remove from the position of Delegate anyone not fulfilling the duties of the office. The President may grant exemption with acceptable rationale from the Delegate.

b.   In the event that a Delegate is removed from the position, the President shall appoint a replacement from the list of alternates following the order selection. In the event that all the alternates have been seated, the Executive Board may select additional Delegates as needed.

## SECTION VII NEA DELEGATES

1.     Qualifications

**a.** **The delegate shall be a member in good standing.**

2.     Term of Office

a.     The Delegate will serve for one year.

3.     Number of Delegates.

a.     The Executive Board shall decide the number of delegates to be seated, following NEA regulations.

4. **Duties of delegates:**

a)     **The delegates shall attend local association meetings in the period after the election and before Representative Assembly.**

**b)   The number and type of meetings shall be determined by the TEA Executive Board.**

**c)     The delegates shall attend all sessions of the Representative assembly and state caucus meetings.**

5.      **The TEA Executive Board shall determine budget and allocation of funds to support the expenses of the delegates to NEA Representative Assembly.**

6.     The Delegates shall report on the proceeding of the NEA Convention at the first AR Council meeting in September.

**7.     Removal and Replacement of Delegates.**

**a.     The President shall remove from the position of Delegate anyone not fulfilling the duties of the office. The President may grant exemption with acceptable rationale from the Delegate.**

**b.   In the event that a Delegate is removed from the position, the President shall appoint a replacement from the list of alternates following the order selection. In the event that all the alternates have been seated, the Executive Board may select additional Delegates as needed.**

## Thompson SD quarantine list

TSD has begun maintaining a [list of schools and areas that are under quarantine.](https://www.thompsonschools.org/page/22565?link_id=0&can_id=047b18ab66ee4249651eba0de142b82a&source=email-tea-tidbits-for-today-85&email_referrer=&email_subject=tea-tidbits-for-today&link_id=6&can_id=047b18ab66ee4249651eba0de142b82a&email_referrer=&email_subject=tea-tidbits-for-today) Each quarantine should be accompanied by a notification to staff and the school community. I hope you find this useful.

## Please vote!

'Nuff said. 90 percent of CEA members generally vote in elections--won't you please join us? 50 percent of members statewide have already turned in ballots--thank you!

## COVID leave procedures

If you qualify for paid leave under the [Families First Coronavirus Relief Ac](https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/WHD/posters/FFCRA_Poster_WH1422_Non-Federal.pdf?link_id=7&can_id=047b18ab66ee4249651eba0de142b82a&source=email-tea-tidbits-for-today-88&email_referrer=&email_subject=tea-tidbits-for-today)t (click on the link for guidelines) in effect until Dec. 31, please follow these steps to claim your paid leave.

1. Call in under "annual leave." If you are electing to stay home because you are experiencing COVID-like symptoms, make sure to seek out a medical diagnosis. If you are ordered to quarantine, please follow guidelines set out by Larimer County or whoever asked you to quarantine.

2. Contact Dorothy Barnhart or Robbi Stokowaz for a form requesting FFCRA leave, or [fill out this one](https://actionnetwork.org/user_files/user_files/000/049/860/original/FFCRA_Request_Form_fillable_%281%29.pdf?link_id=8&can_id=047b18ab66ee4249651eba0de142b82a&source=email-tea-tidbits-for-today-88&email_referrer=&email_subject=tea-tidbits-for-today). Submit the completed form to the Benefits and Risk Management office.

3. If your request is approved, you will be credited up to 2 weeks of annual/accrued leave for the time missed.

## Educator presence on social media

With election season approaching, and tensions building around re-opening school, please remember to mind your Ps and Qs on social media. [Here are some good guidelines for you from NEA.](https://www.nea.org/advocating-for-change/new-from-nea/six-ways-avoid-those-social-media-landmines?link_id=9&can_id=047b18ab66ee4249651eba0de142b82a&source=email-tea-tidbits-for-today-88&email_referrer=&email_subject=tea-tidbits-for-today)The two mistakes I see most often: 1. Teachers who either "friend" students, or post pictures of them; and 2. Teachers who disparage specific colleagues, supervisors, or students/families on social media.

## Politics In The Classroom

The classroom can be a wonderful, safe place to discuss politics, and a great place for students to learn how to research the facts on an issue, consider multiple perspectives, form opinions, and disagree respectfully. In this season, do consider how you set up your lessons, how to establish your classroom culture for discussion, and how you interact personally with the issues. [Here is a helpful article](https://hechingerreport.org/opinion-arizona-risks-failing-its-students-in-trying-to-limit-teachers-speech/?link_id=10&can_id=047b18ab66ee4249651eba0de142b82a&source=email-tea-tidbits-for-today-88&email_referrer=&email_subject=tea-tidbits-for-today) that discusses some possible ways to have these discussions--don't let the title fool you, it's a fairly balanced piece.

**Solidarity!**

Sincerely,

## https://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/51019/c/147/images/Andy%20professional%20pic.jpg

Andy Crisman

tea@coloradoea.org

[h](http://thompsonea.wikispaces.com/?link_id=12&can_id=047b18ab66ee4249651eba0de142b82a&source=email-tea-tidbits-for-today-88&email_referrer=&email_subject=tea-tidbits-for-today)ttp://thompsoneducationassociation.org

Andy Crisman, President

(he, him, his)

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