

# District Newsletter

## Inside this issue:

Staff Development Continues	2
Curriculum Advisory Committee Set	2
Egyptian Trust Insurance	2/3
Payroll Clarification	3
Central Registration	3
Technology Upgrades	3
New Staff	4
Open House Dates	4
Institute Agendas	
Calendar	

## Special points of interest:

- To increase our School/Parent Communication for the upcoming school year, our district website will be hosting all building newsletters as well as the district newsletter for your convenience. Encourage your parents to view these newsletters online, if they don't make it home in the bookbag!
- [www.floraschools.com](http://www.floraschools.com)

## Welcome Back to School

The 2009-10 school year officially begins on Friday, August 14 with a Teacher Institute Day. We will follow up on Monday, August 17 with another Teacher Institute. An agenda will be placed in your mailboxes in early August. All certified staff members need to report to the High School Auditorium on August 14th at 8:00 a.m. to start our Institute activities. Registration will occur in the commons area between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, August 18, will be an official student attendance day. Students will arrive at their regular time and will be dismissed between 9:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. The remainder of the day will be used for building meetings and personal school planning.



## Teacher Induction Mentoring Program

Flora CUSD #35 will again implement a formal teacher induction/mentoring program designed to assist teachers new to our district. This program will begin with a "Get-Acquainted Dinner" for new staff, board members, mentors, administrators and all spouses on August 11.

A formal induction day is

set for the morning of August 12 where new staff members will receive a lot of information about our district and community. This group will be joined by their mentors for an afternoon session. Activities scheduled for Thursday, August 13 will include an opportunity to work in their classroom with their mentor.

It is our hope that this program will provide the foundation for success in our district.



## Staff Development Continues in 2009-10

Staff development and curriculum planning are ongoing ventures that will continue throughout the year.

In addition to activities planned for August 14th and 17th, our district will provide professional development on October 9th in which we will be providing training in RTI, Thinklink, Aimsweb and CPR/AED.

We have our final Institute scheduled for January 4, 2010. Our Curriculum

Advisory Council assist in the planning of these days that encourage acquisition of knowledge and skills for personal growth. If you have any suggestions for an Institute, please contact your building representative.

School improvement days with a 12:30 dismissal are scheduled for October 8, January 15 and May 19. (Subject to amended calendar.)

We are also planning early dismissals at 2:00 p.m. on the following days: September 25, October 23, February

26, March 19, April 30. This will allow us more time for collaboration among our staff and work on school improvement activities.

**"The motto should not be forgive one another, rather, understand one another."**

**-Emma Goldman**

## Curriculum Advisory Committee Set

The Curriculum Advisory Committee will hold the first of its four annual meetings on September 23, at 8:45 a.m. at the Unit Office. This committee is made up of representatives from each campus, guidance counselors, administrators, board members, parents, community representatives, and the Flora High School Student Body President.

Committee representatives for each building are:

High School	Bryan Ridge
Junior High	Haley Kohn
McEndree	Reava Warren
Lincoln	Stephanie Howe
Xenia	Carmen Lewis
Washington	Beth Hilliard
Special Ed.	Brooke O'Donnell

SBP	Elizabeth Moore
Counselors	Mary Jane Dodge
	Annette Gullidge
	Danielle Seibring
Parents	Diane Briscoe
	Jeanie Moses
	Jo Ord
Board	Tisha Kitley
FAF	Bill Atwood

## Egyptian Trust Insurance Program

The current insurance program offered to the employees of Flora CUSD #35 is governed by Egyptian Trust.

As an intent to recognize the sensitivity and financial strains associated with rising costs of health insurance, the Board of Education has opted to make four Coverage types:

(Employee, Employee+Spouse, Employee+ Child/Children and Family), along with three different Plans (Gold and Silver) available to all employees. This allows the employee the opportunity to select the deductibles, coverage, and premiums.

As a result, all participants will be given the opportunity to stay in the top Platinum Plan, or select another plan. This individual selection must be made between September 1, 2009 and September 30, 2009. If nothing is done, the insured employee will stay with their current plan. Each em-

## Egyptian Trust continued. . . and Payroll Clarification

Employee should carefully review the options available and contact Karen Sailer regarding any questions, additional enrollments, or change in choice selection.

Information regarding Egyptian Trust Insurance will be included with August payroll information for all employees.

The payroll department often fields questions regarding payment of hourly stipends. The auditor strongly suggests that these should be paid through payroll to current employees. This does mean that taxes will be withheld and TRS deposited. There are some instances where separate checks are issued if payment must be made between payroll opportunities.

To determine if stipends have been paid, please look at the text below the grid indicating salary payment. Stipends will be listed as Title II salary, Title I salary, Summer School salary, Tech Prep salary, Learn and Serve salary, etc. Also included is your sick leave. Thank you in advance for reviewing your pay statement and familiarizing yourself with itemized additions to your check. If you have any questions, please contact Karen at the Unit Office.

## Central Registration

In an effort to streamline the school registration process, Flora Community Unit #35 will have a district wide central registration for all students.

The central registration will take place at Flora High School on Wednesday, August 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and on Thursday, August 6 from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

If you have any questions or would like to help with the registration process, please contact Heather at the Unit Office

**We're not put on this earth to see  
through each other but to see each  
other through.**

## Technology Upgrades

The district is continuing our computer replacement program with Xenia School receiving the new computers this year. We have just purchased 48 new computers for the district along with other technology upgrades for the our schools.

If you have technology problems throughout the year, please use your building Technology core person and they will work through the issue with Heather.



# Flora CUSD #35 Welcomes NEW STAFF

Welcome Back



The staff, administration, and Board of Education would like to welcome all new staff members to the Flora Community Unit School District #35 for the 2009-10 school year. New certified staff members include:

Aaron Wolfe– High School

Jessica Heiden– Floyd Henson Junior High School

## Open House Dates Set



The opening days of school prompt the scheduling of many events, including the opportunities for students to share their school with their parents and family. Be sure to mark these special dates on your calendar:

Xenia/ Washington	August 17 (Pre K/K Preview Night)
FHJHS	August 24
FHS	August 24
Lincoln	August 27
Xenia	September 1
McEndree	September 3

