

Need Extra \$\$\$? PET Can Help!

Are you a member of Professional Educators of Tennessee? Are you proud to be a member of this professional association? Do you take pride in what PET stands for as well as what it does not? If you answered yes, you could receive some extra cash. PET is currently paying members an incentive for each professional member recruited! You will receive **\$25** for each new Professional member you recruit until **September 30, 2008**. A new member is defined as not having been a PET or AAE member of any class during the past two years. This a great opportunity for members (**\$\$\$**) and for PET (**new members**). Your name should appear on each application to ensure credit for each referral.

- ***PET brochure: your name on the "recruited by" line.**
- ***Phone: your name must be given during the call.**
- ***Internet: your name in the "referred" section.**



Remember the number one method of growth for PET is word of mouth. Do not underestimate the value placed on the words of a trusted colleague or a good friend. Every member should strive to recruit at least one new member during this recruitment cycle. Membership will continue to grow with your help.

Teacher In-service Days

Last month, staff members from the PET state office traveled the state of Tennessee visiting teacher in-service days in several school districts. The school districts visited ranged from as far west as Lewis County and as far east as Hawkins County. The meetings were attended by: Director of Membership, Mr. Jan Forman; Director of East Tennessee Services, Dr. Bernard Bull; Legal and Legislative Liaison, Mr. Tim Brinegar; and Director of Communication, Ms. Crystal Smith. The in-service meetings were described by staff as both an interesting and enlightening experience.

One employee reported feeling taken aback by the volume of people who came up to him and asked, "What is PET?". "Many educators had never heard of the Professional Educators of Tennessee and were also unaware of an alternative professional association."

Local unit members worked very hard to promote PET and increase membership. Many locals prepared and manned PET information booths at their district in-service meetings.

Pictured right, *from left to right*: Deborah Samuel (President of A-PET), Dr. & Mrs. Bernard Bull, attended the Athens City meeting.



Pictured left, *from left to right*: Shannon Lee, Misty Briggs (President of PCPET) and Suzanne Swain at the Putnam County in-service.

Pictured right, *from left to right*: Martha Clark (Treasurer for PET Board of Directors) and Barbara Walton, member of PCPET at the Putnam County in-service.



The PET State office employees would like to express their sincere gratitude to all the members who committed their time, effort, and hard work. Thank you all very much for taking an active role in your association! Keep up the good work!



Grant Opportunities



Grant: **Teacher Grant**

Given by: Kids In Need Foundation

Deadline: September 30, 2008

Max. Amount: \$500

Eligibility: K-12 teachers

Details at: http://www.kidsinneed.net/grants/grant_applications.php



Grant: **Teacher Recognition Award**

Given by: International Reading Association

Deadline: October 28, 2008

Max. Amount: \$2,500

Eligibility: Classroom teachers of reading and language arts in grades K-6, must be IRA member.

Details at: http://www.reading.org/association/awards/teachers_routman.html



Grant: **Grant for Music and Art**

Given by: Airborne Teacher Trust Fund

Deadline: October 31, 2008

Max. Amount: \$10,000

Eligibility: Classroom teachers in both public and private elementary and middle schools.

Details at: <http://www.airbornetrust.com/programoverview.aspx>

Grant: **Spirit of Community Awards**

Given by: Prudential Financial

Deadline: October 31, 2008

Max. Amount: \$5,000 for the honoree and \$5,000 to the nonprofit charity of honoree's choice.

Eligibility: Students grades 5-12 who have done volunteer work within the past year.

Details at: <http://www.prudential.com/view/page/public/12846>

Grant: **Science Teaching Awards**

Given by: Ciba Foundation

Deadline: November 30, 2008

Max. Amount: \$2,000, one year membership in the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), and up to \$500 to attend the NSTA National Conference on Science Education, March 19-22, 2009

Eligibility: Full-time classroom teachers

Details at: <http://www.nsta.org/pdfs/awards/CibaTeaching.pdf>



EDUCATION NEWS

Memphis City Council Votes to Cut School Funding Entirely

If the Memphis City Council doesn't reinstate \$73.3 million in funding to city schools, the Tenn. Department of Education is going to withhold \$423 million from the district, writes Dakarai Aarons of The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, Tenn.). On June 3, city council members slashed the school district's anticipated \$93.5 million city allocation to \$20.2 million, which allowed them to reduce the property tax rate by 18 cents. Council members hope to eliminate all city funding to the district in the 2009-10 budget. The city first provided money to city schools in 1937. The city is not required, under its charter or by state law, to fund the city schools, according to council attorney Allan Wade. He claims state law requires only counties to fund schools. Tennessee school districts have until October 1 to present a balanced budget before the state starts withholding money, said Rachel Woods, spokeswoman for the state education department.

<http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2008/jun/13/state-to-schools-recover-or-suffer/>

U.S. Seen Lagging in Pursuit of More STEM Degrees

Updating a high-profile 2005 report, a business-sponsored campaign called Tapping America's Potential has warned that the United States is slipping further behind in efforts to satisfy the group's call for the nations to double the number of bachelor's degrees awarded in science, math, and engineering by 2015, according to eSchool News. In 2005, a coalition of 15 prominent business groups said that a lack of expert workers and teachers posed a threat to America's competitive standing in the world, and that the nation would need 400,000 new graduates in the so-called STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and math) by 2015. But according to Susan Traiman, director of education and workforce policy for the Business Roundtable, an organization of corporate leaders, there's been insufficient follow-through to finance programs that might increase STEM graduates. She said other countries were doing more to shift incentives toward science training. American CEOs are concerned, she said, that "if we wait for a Sputnik-like event, it's very hard to turn around and get moving on the kind of timeline we would need." See the complete report at <http://www.tap2015.org>

SITES TO SEE

1		9
2	This URL is for a video clip featuring the jaw-dropping performance of an extremely talented	8
3	educator named Arthur Benjamin. In order to enjoy the short video clip, make sure you have	7
4	the sound on. The URL is: http://static.videoegg.com/ted/flash/fullscreen.html?v=/ted/movies/	6
5	ARTHURBENJAMIN-2005&cid=/ted/movies . It is a long web address, but it is well worth typing into the	5
6	address bar on your web browser.	4
7		3
8	Math teachers should check out this URL: www.themathway.com . This website solves	2
9	mathematical problems. It is capable of solving problems in subject areas ranging from basic	1
0	math to calculus. The student only has to specify the subject area and type the problem in the	0
1	space provided. Displayed on the next screen is each step showing how to solve the problem	9
2	along with the solution. Some students would learn from using this site and determine it to be	8
3	a valuable resource. However, how many others would abuse the site, turn in perfect	7
4	homework assignments, and then proceed to fail a test or quiz covering the same material? Will	6
5	you share this site with your students?	5
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