



“GPISD Snip Its” Substitute Newsletter and Information Pages

Mission

We will ensure student success through engaging learning experiences, collaborative leadership, and a focus on maximizing student achievement.

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We hope you are enjoying your summer break, I am sure our students are! I would like to introduce the first edition of our new Grand Prairie ISD Substitute Newsletter and Information pages (GPISD Snip Its.) GPISD Snip Its will be released semi annually and mailed to your home. You can also view the newsletter on-line. Just click on Employee Information and look under Human Resources .

With the new 2008—2009 school year here, please review your profile on AESOP. If you need to make any changes (i.e. name, address or

phone information) contact Teree Berry at 972-237-5373 or by e-mail at teree.berry@gpisd.org. You have the capability to change your days of availability, school preference and your PIN.

We hope you find GPISD Snip Its informative and enjoyable as you thumb through it. Thank you for

your services and we look forward to another successful school year.



“He who dares to teach must never cease to learn.”

-Anonymous

District News

We are happy to announce the new elementary school opening this 2008—2009 school year, Hobbs Williams Elementary. Hobbs Williams is located at 1635 S. E. 14th Street. Jean Nunez is the Principal and Vanessa Verney is the campus secretary, both from Houston Elementary.

The Lloyd Boze Learning Center has been dissolved. A new school is opening August of 2008 that will focus on recovery of students. Crosswinds High School is located at 1105 N. Carrier Parkway. The principal is Craig Spears and the campus secretary is Lupita Cardenas, both from GPHS 9th grade center.

If you know anyone interested in becoming a substitute, have them visit our website and apply on-line.

District News continued:

At the start of a new school year students are not only starting a new year in learning but also in the areas of Orchestra, Band, Drama, Athletics, etc... Choose your favorite and attend a performance/ game and help support our students throughout the school year. Information can be found on our website at www.gpisd.org.

The first day of school for students is August 25, not too far down the road. You can go to the GPISD website and print off a copy of the new 2008—2009 school year calendar. You may also visit the Ed. Center and pick up a copy of the new school listings in the Human Resources department.

**Special note: If you have children who attend GPISD, don't forget to go on-line and fill out a volunteer form if you wish to volunteer for your child's school functions (i.e.: field trips, book fairs, etc...)*



"We're #1!"

Substitute Suggestions

From the Substitute Teaching Institute of Utah State University

Getting Ready for Fall

Permanent teachers must get ready for the start of a new year and so do substitute teachers. Here's a list of some essential items and things to do that will help you get ready for the school year.

1. **Sub Pack.** Whether you put your items in a bag or in a box your Sub Pack is your toolkit for substitute teaching and now's the time to assemble one or re-stock. Some basic items include erasable markers, pens, notebook, labels, paper clips, file folders, and some non-edible rewards like stickers or certificates.
2. **Classroom management practice.** In the classroom when confrontation happens try the "I understand" technique. Practice this technique in the summer. When someone confronts you because they don't want to do what you want/ need them to do, say, "I understand. What I need you to do is..." and then restate the expectation. Repeat this until the individual stops being combative. This takes some practice to use well, so now's a good time to use it. Remember to stay calm when using this technique.
3. **Visit the schools in your district.** If you're new to substitute teaching, this is a good time to

find some of the schools in your district. Many schools are located in difficult-to-find locations and knowing where they are will help you arrive early for your assignments.

4. **Read some good books** (for the ages you substitute). If you know you'll be teaching elementary school, spend some time reading children's stories. If you going to be in the middle school, make sure you've read your Harry Potter and Charlie Bone. For high school students, check out the Young Adult section of your library. You'll be able to use those references as you teach,

As always, we hope you have a great summer. Investing a little time, during the summer can contribute to a great year!

