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ONcall

ready-to-use NEWS

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2020-21 key dates for school calendars

The annual list of key dates for the school year includes interesting and important events to help you plan your school calendar for 2020-21.

Please note that some groups/states celebrate appreciation days or weeks on different dates, particularly those for classified school employees and teachers.

Helping your homeless students

Almost every community is dealing with a growing homeless population, and the challenge is to respond to the needs of this population and the community in general. Homeless students are a vulnerable population that needs special attention and have specific rights to education under federal law. How do districts reach homeless students and communicate sensitively with homeless families. Fine tips for helping unhoused students succeed in school.

Review and update your crisis communications plan

The coronavirus health crisis is testing districts' crisis communications skills. Parents' fear, rapidly developing information, and the need to communicate carefully and regularly are causing districts to polish off their crisis communications plans. For now, work with your partners, share information and do your best. When this crisis dies down, review what worked and what should be revised for next time.

Tips for effective bond communications

Is your district seeking approval for a capital bond proposal? The campaign — both the information and the advocacy — are simple, but they are not easy. You can make the job easier if you set the stage and plan the work well. Read about recommended tactics to help ensure success on Election Day.

What can you say? Guidelines for talking about politics

Election season can be a challenging balance of tempering your opinions and encouraging a free exchange of ideas. In schools, staff must be careful not to offend and not to censor students. Start with clear policies, consistent enforcement of rules and good communication.

INSIGHTS FOR PARENTS: What can you do about the coronavirus?

The coronavirus is a new and scary infectious health event. It is a global health crisis that is spreading quickly and instilling fear. And there are a lot of unknowns. Here are some guidelines for keeping kids healthy, and some resources for finding more information.

For subscription information, contact WSSDA at (800) 562-8927 or (360) 493-9231.

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