

BRENTWOOD TEACHERS ASSOCIATION **IMPACT**

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BRENTWOOD TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
VOLUME 37, NUMBER 2



What you need to know about the Internet, E-mail & Social Networking sites

Social networking sites, such as Facebook and MySpace, are a nice way to keep in contact with family and friends; however, gone are the days when life outside of work is private. We must remember that we are educators 24 hours a day; we must make informed decisions about our cyber activities with an understanding as to how they can affect our professional lives.

Behavior deemed “conduct unbecoming a teacher” could lead to disciplinary action by the district, and the State Education Department may have grounds to investigate and revoke your certification.

NYSUT recommends the following tips:

- Do not list students as your “Friends.”
- Assume nothing online is ever confidential.
- Scrutinize every photo, blog entry, and comment on your page.
- Censor yourself. The Internet gives many people a sense of freedom to share their thoughts and opinions on just about every topic. Share only information you are comfortable sharing with everyone — including administrators, colleagues, students, and their parents.

The Brentwood School District has a Technology Acceptable Use Policy that appears on the homepage whenever we access the Internet in school. To protect ourselves, it is very important that we understand and follow the policy. We have reprinted the policy below so you can familiarize yourself with it. Please note that anything you write in an e-mail is considered property of the district and can be attained by others through the Freedom of Information Act.

TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

The Brentwood Board of Education is committed to optimizing student learning and teaching. The Board considers student and teacher access to a computer network, including the Internet, to be a powerful and valuable educational and research tool, and encourages the use of computers and computer-related technology in district classrooms for the purpose of advancing and promoting learning and teaching.

- Users are not permitted to utilize the district's technological resources to engage in any illegal or illicit behavior.
- Copyright laws must be followed.
- No one is permitted to deliberately damage any computer or computer-related equipment.
- No one is permitted to deliberately disrupt the operation of the network or its components, through the introduction of viruses or through other means.
- Appropriate "netiquette" shall be followed at all times. Users should be aware that posting inappropriate materials on the Internet that cause material disruptions to the school setting shall result in disciplinary measures.
- **E-mail and other use of the district's computer network are not private.**

*Parts of this article were written by Clarisse Butler Banks for an article that appeared in the March 26 issue of **New York Teacher**. For more tips and the complete article, go to NYSUT.org and search for cyber-orientation or go directly to: www.nysut.org/cps/rde/xchg/nysut/hs.xsl/newyorkteacher_12466.htm*

Know Your BTA Contract

Brentwood Teachers Association members should familiarize themselves with **Article 2** entitled **Teacher Association and Board Rights**.

Article 2, 16 states:

The Association shall have the right to **post notices** of its activities and matters of the Association on Brentwood **bulletin boards** in each building. The Association may use the inter-school mail service and teacher **mailboxes** for communications to teachers. The **public address system** may also be used for Association announcements.

All buildings should have an up-to-date **BTA Bulletin Board**. To encourage our members, the BTA will visit each of the buildings in the district and will award prizes for the following categories:

One Winner

Best BTA Bulletin Board Overall

Elementary

Best Bulletin Board Most Eye-catching Board

Secondary

Best Bulletin Board Most Eye-catching Board

Flex Funds

The Brentwood School District employees may take advantage of **Flexible Spending Account Programs**. For more information, consult your chief delegate or refer to the Brentwood Employee Handbook. Your **Flex Benefits** forms are due in the Payroll Office by November 15. You may get the forms in your front office.

Important

If you have had a

Name Change and/or

Address Change

Please **contact** both:

Human Resources @ X2331

and

the BTA Office @ 273-4402

or e-mail btaoffice@brentwoodta.org

***Keep all beneficiaries up to date!**

"Site" Seeing

Thefrugalshopper.com

Looking for a site with lots of teacher freebies and many links to check out? Check this one out!

www.epa.gov

Environmental Protection Agency website. Help students learn about the environment and how to protect it. Available in Spanish and other languages.

Target Field Trip Grants

Target Stores will award 5,000 grants of up to \$800 each in 2010 to send students on educational field trips. Visit Target.com/teachers to complete the online application by November 3, 2009.

Goods and Services

~Condo For Sale By Owner~

Hauppauge
1 bedroom Condo
Spacious,
Mint Condition
\$220,000

Call Tracy @ 631-439-5658.



~Drum Kit For Sale~

6-piece Mapex drum kit in awesome condition!

Black fade to green.

Call Pete @
631-374-7773.

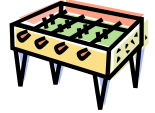


~Foosball Table For Sale~

Premier foosball table in great condition.

Gray and white.

Call Pete @
631-374-7773.



~Stone, Masonry and Fence Work~

Installations

Professional grade work

at unbeatable prices.

Call Rich @

631-560-1278.

Spanish speakers --

Call Jesus @ 631-355-5792.



Entertainment 2010

Entertainment 2010 offers hundreds of ways to save up to 50% off on fine and casual dining, airfare, hotels, car rentals, movies, sporting and cultural events, dry cleaning, car washes, video rentals, and much more.

The books will be available for sale in the BTA Office for just a few more weeks.

If you would like to purchase one, please see your Chief Delegate.



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is published by the
Brentwood Teachers Association
Local 2514

Affiliated with NYSUT, AFT,
NEA, & AFL-CIO

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