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News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Helpful Tips For A Successful EAP



The new school year is right around the corner, and it is time to begin planning for a successful 2011-12 Employee Appreciation Program (EAP). Utrust has identified some tips that will help you have the best EAP possible.

Inform Teachers. Because the EAP is led by students, school coordinators may want to schedule a few minutes to explain the program to teachers and to solicit their support near the beginning of the school year.

Identifying and Inviting Participation. We've published an [article](#) to help you identify community resources and provided tools for inviting their participation. We believe that every community has groups and individuals who would like to be involved in the EAP but either don't know about it or are waiting on an invitation to be a part of it. We have started a list of resources that you

might consider. Getting commitments from these individuals and groups early on will take pressure off the school coordinator and make the appreciation days more successful.

Contact and Commitment Sheets. We think that these sheets will be a great help to you or your A-Team in inviting groups to become engaged in the Employee Appreciation Program getting specific commitments from them.

Closed network for coordinators. This is a place to pick up new ideas and share ideas of your own or to share stories about how you plan to celebrate an appreciation day or to share stories and photos about how your school celebrated an appreciation day. We believe this [Grouply Utrust Coordinators](#) network can become an excellent source of ideas.

TROUSDALE COUNTY ELEMENTARY

A-TEAM GOES ABOVE AND BEYOND

Donna Burris, the school coordinator at Trousdale Elementary, told an amazing story of how her A-Team went above and beyond their call of duty. An after-school program made cards for the residents of a local nursing home. Members of the A-Team liked the idea and wanted to be a part of this meaningful project.



The A-Team asked Burris if they could make cards for the nursing home because they wanted to honor more than just school employees. Burris was delighted that her A-Team wanted to do something like this, so she of course agreed. The A-Team members made cards for all of the nursing home residents and the cards were passed out when the residents came in to eat.

To reward the A-Team for their hard work and dedication, a local bank donated the money for tickets to the zoo and lunch. (See picture to left) Superintendent Clint Satterfield arranged for a bus to take them to the zoo. "The kids were very grateful for the trip, but they earned it," Donna Burris said. "They sent thank you notes to the bank and the superintendent for the trip to the zoo, which was their idea," Burris continued.

This inspiring story shows that Employee Appreciation Program truly is teaching students the importance of having an attitude of gratitude which extends into their everyday life.

JIM SATTERFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL'S A-TEAM RECEIVES PRINTER



Jim Satterfield Middle School in Trousdale County is implementing the EAP and it is making a difference in their school.

"This was my first year as the school coordinator and I truly enjoyed it,"

JSMS school coordinator, Patricia Frillman said. "It was a wonderful experience for me, the A-Team, the students and all of the employees at JSMS. I am thankful for our new printer/scanner and I know it is going to make our appreciation day activities much easier," Frillman continued.

The A-Team at JSMS received a donation through a cash register program with Piggly Wiggly. Through this program the guidance counselor, Ramona Welch, provided a new printer/scanner for the A-Team to use. Although the ideas suggested in the appreciation packets are not of great monetary value, this new printer

will make it much easier for the A-Team to prepare materials and document the celebrations.

The reason JSMS has such a successful EAP is because everyone there is in support of the program. At JSMS the A-Team is considered a club, just like any other school group/organization. Principal Amanda Gregory supports the program and feels that it is making a difference in her school.

"The Employee Appreciation Program has been great for our school," Principal Amanda Gregory said. "I was very pleased with the job the A-Team did and I know the faculty and staff appreciated each and every thought that was put into it by the school coordinators and A-Team. The program is definitely making a difference for the better in our school," Gregory continued.

Please contact [Utrust](#) for more information about the EAP. This program will improve your school's employee morale, increase positive publicity and teach the students the importance of showing appreciation to others.

Honor Your Bus Drivers

SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

Get ready to get your groove on! On September 15, 2011 we will kick off the 2011-12 school year with a 70s themed Bus Driver Appreciation Day.

Utrust has created some great artwork and posters to use and some fun ideas to honor bus drivers with the suggested 70s theme. Please visit the [Utrust website](#) to access the appreciation packets.

a SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DISCO DRIVERS!



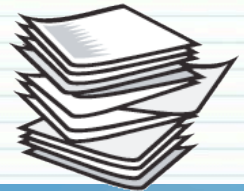
HAPPY BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY 2011!



2011 Utrust Writing Competition

Don't wait another second! Encourage participation in the 2011 utrust Writing Competition for a chance to win one of 17 cash prizes. This year we have two categories; one for adults and one for students, so the chance of winning is greater than ever. Click [here](#) for more information about the 2011 utrust Writing Competition.

[-Read stories from previous years.](#)



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