



CAT ~news

A tri-annual publication from the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada
Office of Education

Bon Voyage!

Dennis Marshall, SDACC Director of Education



Why do you want to become a teacher? This question was posed to a random group of student teachers at the Faculty of Education, University of Toronto in 1992. The most frequent response was: "to make a difference in the lives of students." If I were to ask that same question today to a group of promising Adventist teachers, most likely I would get a similar response.

As Seventh-day Adventist teachers, we are given the responsibility to cultivate and nurture the minds of children in our charge so that they can become fully functioning human beings to fulfill God's purpose for them in the world. Through our daily interaction with students, dynamic changes take place causing them to grow intellectually, spiritually, physically and socially. This harmonious development of body, mind and spirit takes place within the context of our unique Adventist message and value system. Our hope is that the education and training given to our boys and girls will prepare them not only to become contributing citizens of society, but to develop a personal relationship with Jesus and by so doing become responsible for championing the cause of Adventism and advancing the mission of the church.

With this in mind, the SDACC Office of Education, with the blessings and support of the K-12 Board, is sponsoring the Teachers' Cruise Convention which takes place on August 17-21, 2009 with embarkation at Miami, Florida. Centred on the theme, "Called to Serve," this professional development opportunity will help us refocus on the important goals of Adventist education, to keep us abreast with changes in the field of education, and to equip us with the right tools to make a difference in the lives of the boys and girls entrusted to us. In addition, this cruise convention gives us an opportunity to enjoy some down time together with our families and colleagues.

While on sea, we will be exposed to a variety of pres-

entations and workshops given by renowned educators and administrators such as: Roo McKenzie, Principal, Loma Linda Adventist Academy; Dick Duerksen, official story teller for Maranatha International; Larry Blackmer, NAD Vice-President for Education; Kim Sutton, internationally known math specialist and university instructor; Elissa Kido and Bob Cruise, La Sierra University professors of Cognitive Genesis fame; Keith Leavitt, professor, Canadian University College; and Shane Anderson, author of the celebrated book, *How to Kill Adventist Education...*

While on land, we will visit and explore two island cities: Key West, FL and Cozumel, Mexico. We will have 7 hours to explore Key West and 9 hours to explore Cozumel. Key West is the southernmost city of the United States and has a rich and enchanting history. There is much to learn and enjoy in this city of palm-lined streets. Cozumel is rich in plant and marine life and boasts of having the only inland coral reef formation in the world. We can experience and enjoy these two beautiful cities either by guided tour or on our own. In either case, we can anticipate having great experiences.

Let me take this opportunity to thank the SDACC for showing appreciation to teachers for the invaluable work they do by supporting this visionary approach to their professional development. May this be a never-to-be-forgotten experience for all participants. Bon voyage!

Stiegelbauer, S. (1992). "Why We Want to Be Teachers." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco. (http://www.michaelfullan.com/Articles_98-99/03_93.pdf)

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North American Division News

E.G. WHITE DVD

The NAD has negotiated with the White Estate to provide the newest version of the White Estate DVD to all schools. This DVD, which contains all of Mrs. White's published books and articles and a host of other resource materials, includes a site license for these materials to be put on all school and teacher computers. Expect further information in the fall.



NEW SDA ELEMENTARY SCIENCE SERIES

The contract has been signed for the production of the new science series entitled *By Design: A Journey to Excellence Through Science*. This series should be completed by 2011. Betty is on the steering committee that will be working with the publisher, so please share all your ideas and recommendations with her (bbayer@sdacc.org). We are anxious to have a textbook that will work for our Canadian school system.



KIDSVIEW - SUMMER ISSUES

The original plan to send summer issues of KidsView to student homes has been revised due to budget restrictions. Instead, online versions of the June and July issues will be produced for students to access from home at www.kidsviewmag.org. Additional info for parents can be found at the KidsView blog: www.kidsviewkconnection.blogspot.com. Distribution of the KidsView issues will resume in August.



KIDSVIEW - STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

You are encouraged to keep the student writing AND artwork coming. Please remember that submissions should be final quality drafts which have already been edited by you and are ready for publication.

WEEK OF PRAYER SERIES

NADOE has contracted with Randall Fishell, Editor of *Guide*, to produce a second Week of Prayer DVD targeted at upper elementary grades. The theme is "Tight Spots" and is currently being filmed in preparation for delivery in the fall of next school year, 2009-2010.

SCHOOL TRIPS TO HAWAII

Schools are encouraged not to plan school trips to Hawaii as the churches and schools there are too small to accommodate the



many requests that come and the many large groups. Any requests should be made through the Hawaii Conference Superintendent of Schools and NOT to individual churches or schools.

PATHWAYS UPDATE

All 5th & 6th grade material has been published except for the *Esperanza Rising* Daily Lesson Guide which is nearly complete. Most 7th & 8th grade material has been edited and sent to Kendall-Hunt for publishing. The Writer's Handbook for grades 5-8 will also be published soon.



ROSETTA STONE

An earlier report of a negotiated agreement between Griggs and Rosetta Stone that would provide modern language instruction via distance education has not yet been finalized. Prices have been raised significantly and may prevent an acceptable agreement.



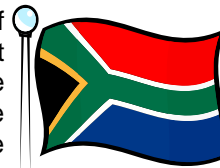
MISSION: MALUTI FUNDRAISING - SDACC

To date we have collected approximately \$3037.25 CDN Funds for the Mission: Maluti School Building Project. Our goal was \$16,000 US Funds. The NAD has voted to extend the fundraising project through the 2009-2010 school year. Please plan on promoting this project during the upcoming school year. Promotional materials are available through Advent Source or you can print them off CAT-net (<http://catnet.sdacc.org>) under Resources and Mission:Maluti. Let's utilize the extension given and reach our goal to help build a new school for Maluti Adventist Christian School in Lesotho, South Africa.



MISSION TRIP

If you are interested or know of any senior academy students that are interested in participating in the Mission Maluti Mission Trip, please contact us right away. The SDACC will cover return airfare from Canada to Dulles International Airport, Washington, where embarkation takes place. You will need to raise \$3000.00 US dollars to cover the airfare, spending money, food and accommodation and a Safari to Kruger Park. Application forms are available from the SDACC Office of Education.



SDACC News



REACH TRAINING

Twenty-five teachers from across Canada came together in the SDACC Board Room on May 11 to be trained in the use of the REACH materials to better meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs. Suzy Gloudeman, professor at Southern Adventist University and a member of the NAD Inclusion Committee, shared her passion, her experience, and her expertise. The pilot teachers from each conference were provided with additional materials for meeting special needs in their conferences. A link to additional resources, including video training clips, will soon be available on the NAD website. Teachers who would like support/information on better meeting the needs of their students with special learning needs are encouraged to contact their conference REACH pilot teacher:

Alberta: Tracy Jamieson (rodjam@hotmail.com)

BC: Lisa Stevens (stevens.h.lisa@gmail.com)

Ontario: Lisa Paul (pau_lisa@yahoo.ca)

Man/Sask: Chantelle Boisvert (chanb73@msn.com)

Maritimes: Karen Landry (karelynnelandry@hotmail.com)



the first ever distance learning graduation in the SDACC school system in Canada. Four graduates from the distributed learning program at WCAS joined four face-to-face graduates from Cariboo in the graduation ceremonies held June 12-14, 2009. The Friday evening Class Night spotlighted each of the graduates. On Sabbath morning, the graduates conducted the Sabbath services followed by a potluck for families and friends. Diplomas and scholarships were awarded at the Commencement program on Sunday morning.



All three of the weekend graduation programs gave evidence of a quality educational program which includes a strong spiritual emphasis, challenging academics, a dedicated and capable faculty and staff, and students who are committed to their school, their teachers, and each other. Congratulations, graduates and staff! May God continue to richly bless the distance learning program as you reach out to provide increased opportunities for all families to access a quality Adventist education.

SDACC MINISTERIAL CONVENTION

Over 300 pastors from across Canada converged on the CUC campus from June 21 – 25, 2009 for their first Canada-wide ministerial convention. This meeting provided opportunities for professional development, including a chance to get acquainted with their university and to become more aware of and involved in K-16 education.

Presenters on education included Larry Blackmer, VP of Education for the North American Division; Shane Anderson, author of "How to Kill Adventist Education...;" Loren Agrey, VP of Academics, CUC; and Dennis Marshall, Director of Education for the SDA Church in Canada. Pastors were enlightened on the purpose for our existence, the challenges facing us, and their role in making our school system a viable and sustainable one.

We believe that the future of Adventist education depends on the collaborative efforts of the church and school, and that a new spirit of co-operation will emerge as a result of this historic pastors' meeting.

WEST COAST ADVENTIST SCHOOL GRADUATION 2009

West Coast Adventist School and Cariboo Adventist Academy made history this past June as they hosted

CRAWFORD TEACHER PRODUCES FILM - HUSH

Canadian Christian filmmaker and Teacher at Crawford Adventist Academy Kevin Cameron wrote and directed the feature film "Hush". It premiered on Thursday May 21st, at the Regent Theatre in Toronto to a sold-out audience of over 500. "Hush" was covered by Canadian Christian media, and a segment was aired on 100 Huntley Street on Tuesday, June 30th, 2009. (the episode is available online at 100Huntley.com).



Hush examines the life of a family of four trying to exhibit the principles and ethics of Christianity.

All proceeds from DVD sales and future screenings will go directly to Crawford's Capital Campaign to build a new school, reports Kevin, who is also an alumnus of Crawford.

To purchase dvds please visit the nearest Adventist Book Store, Crawford Adventist Academy vegetarian store, kevincameronfilms.com, or call 416 633-0090 ext. 234



SDACC Teachers' Convention

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - *These questions and answers and many more can be found online at www.carnival.org under FAQ's.*

What is the tipping policy onboard?

Service Gratuities

For your convenience, the SDACC already paid the gratuities for dining and stateroom staff. The total amount is \$10.00 per guest, per day (Carnival's recommended guideline) as follows:

\$ 3.50 Per Day Stateroom Services

\$ 5.50 Per Day Dining Room Services

\$ 1.00 Per Day Alternative Services: distributed to other kitchen and hotel service staff

Carnival's Staff is totally committed to exceed your expectations in every way possible. If you are not satisfied with the service you receive, they encourage you to contact the Purser's Information desk while onboard. This will allow them to address your concerns in a timely and appropriate fashion.

For beverage purchases, fifteen percent of the bill is automatically added to the Sail & Sign charge. Room Service staff may be tipped as service is rendered. Tipping your Maître d' is at your discretion, based upon the service you receive.

Do you have luggage restrictions?

Guests are encouraged to limit their checked luggage to two suitcases per person, with each suitcase not to weigh more than 50 pounds and not exceed 16"h x 24"w x 30"length. Please attach your Carnival Cruise Lines luggage tags PRIOR to leaving home and make sure that they are still on your bags when checking in with us. In many ports, guests have the option of carrying luggage on board at embarkation and off the ship at the end of the cruise as long as it does not exceed 24"w x 16"h. This is an advantage you may want to consider as it will allow for quicker easier access to your bags.

LARGE COOLERS RESTRICTION:

Carnival Cruise Lines does not allow guests to bring large coolers on board its vessels. Small, personal-sized coolers no larger than 12" x 12" x 12" for the purpose of housing small quantities of non-alcoholic beverages and/or medications are permitted as carry-on luggage. Screening and movement of large coolers through embarkation is an impediment to the boarding and security screening process and therefore large coolers are not permitted as carry-on or checked luggage.

Please note that Carnival assumes no responsibility for carry-on luggage. Alternatively, curbside porters

are available at the pier to take luggage to the vessel for delivery to your stateroom by shipboard personnel. Customary tip is \$1 per bag. Please be sure each piece of luggage is locked and has a tag listing your name and stateroom number. Curbside porters are not employees of Carnival; therefore, if you experience any problems, please report them to porter management on site. Any luggage left at the pier will be forwarded at your expense. Claims for luggage loss or damage must be made in writing to the debarkation personnel prior to leaving the pier area.

If you are traveling by air, please remember that each airline has its own luggage restrictions on the maximum number, size, and weight of bags allowed per person. You are responsible for contacting you airline to learn about their individual luggage restrictions and policies.

Debarcation Baggage Advice – While onboard, you will be given numbered debarkation tags to place on your luggage. Please fill out the information on the back of the tag, and remember your zone number. When your zone is called, please proceed off the vessel to claim your luggage. It is easy to pick up the wrong bag, so check to make sure your name is on it. If your luggage is left at the pier, it will be forwarded to you at your expense. Claims for lost or damaged luggage must be made in writing with our debarkation personnel before you leave the pier area.

How Do I Get to the Port of Miami?

For those driving or making their own flight arrangements here are the directions to get to the ship:

PORT OF MIAMI / DODGE ISLAND

Terminal D - 1435 North Cruise Boulevard, Port of Miami, Miami, FL 33132

Terminal E - 1265 North Cruise Boulevard, Port of Miami, Miami, FL 33132

Travel Time: 8 miles from the Miami International Airport; travel time is approximately 25 minutes. 25 miles from the Fort Lauderdale International Airport; travel time is approximately 45 minutes.

DIRECTIONS TO THE PORT:

Traveling from I-95 North or South

Exit at I-395 east toward Miami Beach (Exit #2D).

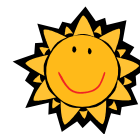
Follow the directional signs to Biscayne Boulevard (Exit #2A/#2B).

Follow directions for Biscayne Boulevard South; turn right at the traffic light/stop sign.

Stay in the left lane.

The entrance to the Port of Miami is at Biscayne

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Boulevard and Port Boulevard (N.E 5th Street).
At the traffic light, turn left at Port Boulevard (N.E. 5th Street).
Proceed over the bridge.
Stay in the left lanes and follow the signs to Cruise Terminals D/E.

Traveling from the West Coast of Florida

I-75 east toward Fort Lauderdale.
I-595 east toward Fort Lauderdale.
I-95 south toward Miami.
Exit at I-395 east toward Miami Beach (Exit #2D).
Follow the directional signs to Biscayne Boulevard (Exit #2A/#2B).
Follow directions for Biscayne Boulevard South; turn right at the traffic light/stop sign.
Stay in the left lane.
The entrance to the Port of Miami is at Biscayne Boulevard and Port Boulevard (N.E 5th Street).
At the traffic light, turn left at Port Boulevard (N.E. 5th Street).
Proceed over the bridge.
Stay in the left lanes and follow the signs to Cruise Terminals D/E.

PARKING INFORMATION

\$20.00 per day (rates subject to change by the Port Authority)

- Garage Parking/Parking Lot #2 (an open, outdoor parking lot)
- Accepted forms of payment: Visa, Mastercard, American Express, U.S Dollars, U.S. Traveler's Checks
- No advance reservations required
- Handicap Parking available with proof of valid permit.
- Oversized vehicles that are 20' in length or more will be charged an additional \$20.00 per day and can only park in Lot #2.
- Shuttle Service will pick you up at the Parking Garage/Lot and take you to the appropriate Cruise Terminal location.

For more information: (305) 347-5515
www.miamidade.gov/portofmiami

What amenities are in my stateroom?

All staterooms have an amenity basket displayed in the bathroom. The amenities are subject to change and are only sample sizes. The basket may include such things as: his/her razors; shampoo and condi-

tioner; body wash; Tylenol; deodorant; hard candies. Supplies will be replenished by the room steward, if quantities allow.

Is there a dress code for the dining room?

Depending on the length of the cruise, either formal dress or casual resort wear is required in the Dining Room. The dress requirement for children is the same. For those not wanting to dress up, the Lido restaurants are open nightly (with the exception of the last evening of the cruise), and have a casual dress code. However, shirts and shoes/footwear (flip-flops) must be worn at all times inside the Lido restaurants.

Cruise Casual Dining Dress Code:

Gentlemen - Sport slacks, khakis, jeans (no cut-offs), dress shorts (long), collared sport shirts; Ladies - Casual dresses, casual skirts or pants and blouses, summer dresses, Capri pants, dress shorts, jeans (no cut-offs).

Not permitted in the **dining room** during the Cruise Casual dinner for ladies and gentlemen: gym shorts, basketball shorts, beach flip-flops, bathing suit attire, cut-off jeans, sleeveless shirts for men and baseball hats.

Cruise Elegant Dining Dress Code:

There will be one night on the cruise that will be an elegant dining night.

Gentlemen - Dress slacks, dress shirts. We also suggest a sport coat. If you wish to wear suits and ties or tuxedos, by all means we invite you to do so.

Ladies - Cocktail dresses, pantsuits, elegant skirts and blouses; if you'd like to show off your evening gowns, that's great too! Not permitted in the dining room during the Cruise Elegant dinner for ladies and gentlemen: shorts, T-shirts, beach flip-flops, bathing suit attire, jeans, cut-off jeans, sleeveless shirts for men, sportswear, and baseball hats.

What is Sail & Sign?

Sail & Sign is Carnival's onboard cashless credit program which allows you to charge, at your convenience, all your services and purchases paid throughout the cruise. All locations onboard will accept your Sail & Sign card for payment.

How can I register for Sail & Sign?

Registration for Sail & Sign will take place during embarkation or at anytime onboard at Guest Services.

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What forms of payment are accepted for Sail & Sign account?

Credit Cards:

Visa
 MasterCard
 Discover®
 American Express
 Diner's
 JCB (Japanese Credit Bureau)
 SeaMiles MasterCard
 Visa and MasterCard Prepaid Gift Card

Uses for the Sail & Sign Card

The Sail & Sign Card must be utilized for the following; cash will not be an accepted form of payment: Beverage purchases: A 15% gratuity will automatically be added to the bill which the guest may adjust appropriate to the service received.

Shore excursion tours
 In-room calling charges
 Medical Center charges
 Valet laundry charges
 Photo purchases: On debarkation day, cash is only accepted.
 Video service
 Gift Shops
 Steiner's spa and salon
 Formality Shop (flowers; tuxedo; chocolates)
 European Cafe (specialty coffees and pastries)
 Supper Club
 Camp Carnival babysitting fees
 Gratuities for shipboard staff

How is my credit card charged?

During embarkation, when your credit card is swiped, an initial approval of \$50 is obtained. Throughout the voyage incremental holds will be obtained. This will reduce the amount of available credit on the credit card or restrict the availability of cash in the checking/debit account. Authorization hold releases to your account is entirely up to your issuing bank. All charges will be automatically billed at the end of the voyage. On the final morning of the cruise, a statement detailing all purchases made with your Sail & Sign card will be delivered to your stateroom. If you put down a cash deposit and there is an overpayment at the end of the cruise, you will receive the overpayment in the form of a check, attached to the detailed statement on the final morning of the cruise.

BOOKING OWN TRAVEL - REIMBURSEMENT

If you are booking your own travel your conference/

boarding academy will reimburse up to the amount it would have cost you to fly from the city closest to your home.

Edmonton - \$670.00*
 Vancouver - \$685.00*
 Montreal - \$495.00
 Calgary - \$650.00*
 Ottawa - \$570.00
 Toronto - \$499.00
 Halifax - \$730.00*
 Moncton - \$660.00*
 Winnipeg - \$616.00

These are all in US Funds. Those teachers who are arranging their own travel will receive reimbursement for actual expenses up to the maximum of the equivalent flight as listed above. Conferences require receipts in order to provide reimbursement. Please keep all travel-related receipts and submit copies to your conference as per their policy. Expenses incurred beyond the above amounts will not be reimbursed. Teachers who are driving will turn in mileage as per their conference/boarding academy policy (and will only be refunded up to the maximum of the equivalent flight listed above). Please check with your employing conference/boarding academy for further information and/or questions concerning travel reimbursement.

Plan to arrive by noon on Monday, August 17. The ship departs at 4:00pm but the lines could be long to get onboard.

INTRA-CONFERENCE TRAVEL/PER DIEM/ LUGGAGE FEE - REIMBURSEMENT

Many teachers do not live close to the cities that we have booked airline tickets out of. Any intra-conference travel is reimbursed by the local conference. You will be reimbursed the most economical form of transportation to the airport (flight or mileage). Please contact Cindy Chin at Bayview Travel (1-877-433-9233) to arrange flight and hotel.

These teachers will also be given per diem for travel days. This will also be done through your local conference.

Please be advised that some airlines are charging for luggage. Please be prepared to possibly pay for your luggage. Most airlines charge \$15 for the first bag and \$20 for the second. Keep your receipts and you will be reimbursed this expense (up to 2 bags per teacher).

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PRE-REGISTER ONLINE

All teachers are encouraged to go online to the Carnival Website - <https://funpass.carnival.com/signin.aspx> You will need to enter your Booking Number (which can be found on the SDACC Teachers' Convention Website - <https://secure.sdacc.org/edcon>). If you have two rooms you will have two separate booking numbers.

Registering on the Carnival Website will make expedite your check-in process, while also satisfying Department of Homeland Security requirements.

Once you have completed the information and printed a FunPass, simply go through a document verification check after you arrive at the cruise terminal.

You can also view the Shore Excursions and book any that you want to do.

For teachers sharing a cabin, the teacher that is listed as guest #1 must complete their information first before the 2nd guest can complete theirs. When completing the Sail & Sign information just put in 'Set Up At Another Time' for the guest #2. If the SDACC is booking your travel you will have to wait until you receive your flight information before you can completely fill out the required information.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Some teachers have inquired about immunizations needed for Mexico. We have been informed that the TwinRix vaccination is recommended for travel to Mexico but not required. If you choose to get this vaccination the Health Benefits Administration covers 80% for eligible employees. Please consult your doctor to see if he/she feels you need to get the vaccination.

PREGNANCY

Guests who on the day of disembarkation, are more than 24 completed weeks pregnant will not be allowed to sail. Pregnant women 24 completed weeks or less, on the day of disembarkation, must submit prior to departure, Carnival's Attending Physician Pregnancy Certification Form. This form must be filled out by the guest's attending physician certifying that her gestational status is in accordance with this policy, and that the expecting mother is fit to sail. If you fall into either category please contact Brandy right away.

SHUTTLE SERVICE

Shuttle is provided for the teachers whose travel has been booked by the SDACC (excluding teachers that are leaving early and had SDACC book travel). Teachers that are needing to book their own shuttle

contact Bayview Travel 1-877-433-9233 to do this since we are on a group booking.

WIN A FLIP CAMERA

Share your BEST CLASSROOM IDEAS with your colleagues and you could win a Flip Camera for your school! Your name will be entered once for **each entry** submitted. Three cameras will be given away during the cruise.



Please note: All submissions will be shared with the convention participants and may also be submitted to CIRCLE.

Choose one (or more) of the following classroom ideas to submit.

- ◆ Lesson plan
- ◆ Integrating technology idea
- ◆ Specific strategy for integrating faith and learning
- ◆ Effective classroom management technique
- ◆ Favourite worship thought
- ◆ Science demo or experiment
- ◆ Assessment tool (i.e., rubric, observation checklist, etc.)
- ◆ Relationship building idea
- ◆ Project-based teaching idea/student assignment
- ◆ Webquest
- ◆ Virtual field trip plan
- ◆ Bulletin Board idea (complete with diagrams, templates, etc.)
- ◆ Critical thinking strategy
- ◆ Original classroom game

*Please use the form provided on CAT-net (<http://catnet.sdacc.org>) under Resources then Education Conventions and submit by **August 10** to be eligible.*

Submit to: - Betty Bayer - bbayer@sdacc.org
Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada
1148 King St. E.
Oshawa ON L1H 1H8

*A Flip Camera is a small, easy-to-use camcorder that can store up to 60 minutes of video and plugs directly into the USB port of your computer

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions regarding the cruise please don't hesitate to contact the SDACC Office of Education. If we don't know the answer to your question we will find out and let you know right away. Call Brandy at 905-433-0011 x2072 or e-mail, bperkins@sdacc.org if you need any assistance.



The Back Page

THE CREATION OF THE TEACHER

Author Unknown - www.teacherweb.com

The Good Lord was creating teachers. It was His sixth day of 'overtime' and He knew that this was a tremendous responsibility for teachers would touch the lives of so many impressionable young children. An angel appeared to Him and said, "You are taking a long time to figure this one out."

"Yes," said the Lord, " but have you read the specs on this order?"



TEACHER:

...**must** stand above all students, yet be on their level

... **must** be able to do 180 things not connected with the subject being taught

... **must** run on leftovers,

... **must** communicate vital knowledge to all students daily and be right most of the time

... **must** have more time for others than for herself/himself

... **must** have a smile that can endure through pay cuts, problematic children, and worried parents

... **must** go on teaching when parents question every move and others are not supportive

... **must** have 6 pair of hands.

"Six pair of hands, " said the angel, "that's impossible"

"Well, " said the Lord, " it is not the hands that are the problem. It is the three pairs of eyes that are presenting the most difficulty!"

The angel looked incredulous, "Three pairs of eyes...on a standard model?"

The Lord nodded His head, " One pair can see a student for what he is and not what others have labeled him as. Another pair of eyes is in the back of the teacher's head to see what should not be seen, but what must be known. The eyes in the front are only to look at the child as he/she 'acts out' in order to reflect, " I understand and I still believe in you", without so much as saying a word to the child."

"Lord, " said the angel, " this is a very large project and I think you should work on it tomorrow".

"I can't," said the Lord, " for I have come very close to creating something much like Myself. I have one that comes to work when he/she is sick.....teaches a class of children that do not want to learn....has a special place in his/her heart for children who are not his/her own.....understands the struggles of those who have difficulty.....never takes the students for granted..."

The angel looked closely at the model the Lord was creating.

"It is too soft-hearted, " said the angel.

"Yes," said the Lord, " but also tough, You can not imagine what this teacher can endure or do, if necessary".

"Can this teacher think?" asked the angel.

"Not only think," said the Lord, "but reason and compromise."

The angel came closer to have a better look at the model and ran his finger over the teacher's cheek.

"Well, Lord, " said the angel, your job looks fine but there is a leak. I told you that you were putting too much into this model. You can not imagine the stress that will be placed upon the teacher."

The Lord moved in closer and lifted the drop of moisture from the teacher's cheek. It shone and glistened in the light.

"It is not a leak," He said, "It is a tear."

"A tear? What is that?" asked the angel, "What is a tear for?"

The Lord replied with great thought, " It is for the joy and pride of seeing a child accomplish even the smallest task. It is for the loneliness of children who have a hard time to fit in and it is for compassion for the feelings of their parents. It comes from the pain of not being able to reach some children and the disappointment those children feel in themselves. It comes often when a teacher has been with a class for a year and must say good-bye to those students and get ready to welcome a new class."

"My, " said the angel, " The tear thing is a great idea...You are a genius!!"

The Lord looked somber, "I didn't put it there."

Dates of Importance

NAD Summer Curr. Committees	June 8-26, 2009
SDACC Ministerial Convention	June 21-25, 2009
GRI Field School Teachers	July 12-23, 2009
NAD Commission on Accreditation	July 27, 2009
Maluti Mission Trip	August 9-Oct. 5, 2009
SDACC Teachers' Convention	August 17-21, 2009
CTBS/CCAT Testing	Sept. 28 - Oct. 16, 2009
ECEC/UDOEC	October 5-8, 2009
NAD TDEC Meeting	October 20-22, 2009
NAD K-12 Board	November 5, 2009
NAD Year-end Meeting	November 5-9, 2009
NAD Kindergarten Committee	November 9-13, 2009
SDACC Year-end Meeting	November 15-19, 2009
Education Council Executive	Nov. 18-19, 2009
Supt's/KC/PAA Shoptalk	November 20, 2009
SDACC K-12 Board of Ed.	November 22, 2009
NAD Education Advisory	December 2-3, 2009
NAD Curriculum Committee	December 4-8, 2009

Dates are subject to change. Please confirm with your local conference.