

Nazarene Educators Worldwide

To embrace, encourage, and empower through a network of Christian educators.



What's Inside

Current Membership Needed to Vote for NEW Council for 2017-2021
Page 2

Homeschool Family Vacation
by Jan Wilton
Page 2

Not All Queens Wear Crowns
by Melodee Simmons
Page 3

Nazarenes Help Lesotho Village Fulfill Wish for a School
Page 3

A Leadership Rubric
by Marilyn J. Dominick
Page 4

THE NEW

NEW Will Be Looking for YOU in Indianapolis

On Friday, June 23, Nazarene Educators Worldwide will host a meeting of Nazarene educators. This meeting will take place from 12:15 until 4:30 pm—during the lunch time and the Sunday School and Discipleship Ministries International workshop periods. All three sessions will be in Room 111-112 of the convention center in Indianapolis, IN.

These events will include:

12:15–1:00 Lunch Chat

Bring your own lunch. (Lunch must be purchased from the ICC concessions. No outside food can be brought in.) Enjoy fellowship and networking with Nazarene educators from all areas of education during this lunch period.

1:00–1:45 General Session for Nazarene Educators

Led by Lance Howard and Marilyn Dominick

Meet the newly-elected council and co-chairs for 2017-2021. Learn about Nazarene Educators Worldwide.

2:00–3:00 Current Issues and Events Affecting Nazarene Educators

Led by Lance Howard and Marilyn Dominick

This workshop features a panel of educators who will discuss current issues and events that affect educators today. We welcome your input on these issues. All areas of education will be represented.

3:30–4:30 Nazarene Preschool Has an Amazing Effect on the Church and the Community - Led by Beula Postlewait, Deb Hughes, and Rev. Brady Wisheart

Learn about the amazing impact the Kiddie Prep School has been on the Grace Point Church of the Nazarene and the community of Fort Wayne, IN. The pastor and the director of the school will testify to God's work through the school to impact the church and the community.

NEW representatives will be found in the USA/Canada Regional Exhibit from Wednesday, June 21–Sunday, June 25. Please come to the exhibit and say hello.

More details will be added as General Assembly gets closer. Watch for more news about these events. We hope to see YOU in Indianapolis!



NAZARENE EDUCATORS WORLDWIDE
17001 PRAIRIE STAR PARKWAY
LENEXA, KS 66220



CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

To embrace, encourage, and empower through
a network of Christian educators.

PAGE 2



Current Membership Needed to Vote for NEW Council for 2017-2021

The Nominating Committee for Nazarene Educators Worldwide has completed the ballot for the NEW Council Members for 2017-2021. A preview of this ballot will be available at www.naznew.net until April 30. Ballots will be sent to current members on May 1. Results will be announced after May 15. You must be a current member before May 1, 2017 in order to receive the ballot.

Go to www.naznew.net to obtain a membership form. If you have questions about your membership status, contact Dan Harris at dharris@nazarene.org or call 888-644-4510, Ext. 2822.



Homeschool Family Vacation--A Time to Play and Learn

By Jan Wilton, Homeschooling Representative

V-A-C-A-T-I-O-N, in the summer time, a time for the children to play and forget all responsibility! Is that really what makes up a summer of fun? Many families plan for summer vacations and dream of it being a time for family bonding and exploration.

Family vacations, sharing time with each other, are the summer time dreams of most families. Popular summer locations are usually packed with others with the same goal. Families go to a place known for family fun, one that is geared for tourists whose children are on vacation from school. Families who lead busy lives all year too often discover it is a vacation segregated from each other into age-appropriate activity areas offered at the chosen vacation location.

But, what about having the time for an off-season vacation, a benefit which comes with homeschooling? This can be a wonderful time for homeschooling families not only to take time off from a busy life, but to incorporate homeschooling experiences in seeing firsthand history, science, and geography. These experiences then become opportunities to write and create scrapbooks of learning memories which can never be replaced with textbooks. Seeing the Grand Canyon or the Giant Redwoods or traversing the many mountain ranges of North America via plane, train or car can become lifelong family adventures for children to experience in person.

Some of our friends recently took their family on a seven-week road trip with a camper and bicycles from Arizona to the Northwest and back. They explored the great Northwest, they traveled south on the west coastal highway to southern California, and then returned to Arizona in time to start school. During their trip, the children were encouraged to write in journals, read geographical and road maps, estimate mileage and more. Time was spent building memories and learning about our great country. Was this homeschooling? It most definitely was, and it was so much more.

This learning experience occurs when the Homeschool family begins by planning the trip together. Have your "students," aka children, help with the vacation budget, the places to see, and the things to do. What kind of travel will your family include--car, train, or plane? What is the difference in the cost? What will you miss if you go by plane? How much time will the family have available for the vacation? Let each child choose a point of interest and become the expert tour guide by taking time in advance to research and create a tour speech to share with the family. Above all, have fun being a homeschool family who is on vacation-- playing and learning together.

Happy Vacationing, Homeschooling Families!



Not All Queens Wear Crowns

Submitted by Melodee Simmons, Preschool Representative

Did you know that the average four-year-old knows 5,000 words? If you spend time with them, you will get to hear them practice using those words, sometimes non-stop.

We have many terms and phrases that we use without thinking about it. Generally, whomever we are talking to will understand our meaning. Children are different. They don't know all of the common phrases we have or terms that we use.

I have always tried to remember this when talking with children. I try to explain words or phrases that I think might be new or unfamiliar to them.

Did I ever miss this recently with a class of 4-year-olds!

Our Pre-kindergarten class was doing a unit on ants. They were going to learn about the life cycle, what ants eat, how they work, and where they live. We purchased an ant farm for them to watch.

I went in their classroom to see what they were doing, and they had many questions about the ants. They would look at the ants, and then they would ask me a question. We talked about everything you could imagine about the ants. While I answered questions, I watched one little girl, Nilufer, who kept looking intently at the ants. She would walk around them, looking from all angles. She didn't say anything; she just kept looking at them. I was wondering what she was thinking.

After a few minutes, I told the children I would have to leave, but I hoped they would continue to enjoy the ants. As I was leaving, Nilufer called my name and said, "Where's the Queen Ant? I don't see one wearing a crown." She had heard me telling the children something about the queen ant. She had been intently looking for the ant wearing a crown, because "all queens wear crowns." I then tried to explain that ants don't wear crowns, and why only one ant was called the queen. I'm not sure she totally believed me. She then told me she had a crown at home.

We need to think about what we are saying to children and help them understand new words and phrases we use. This helps to expand their vocabulary and can help with their communication skills.

I love talking to children. I just need to remember they don't always know the words I am using or the way I am using them.

If you have experienced something like this with your class, please share it with our other readers. Send your experience to me at melodee.simmons@yahoo.com.

Nazarenes Help Lesotho Village Fulfill Decades-long Wish

for a School From Nazarene News April 21, 2017

[Editors' Note: Nazarene Educators Worldwide salutes the work and witness team and the people in and near HaRelejoe who worked to provide a school for these children in Africa.]

More than 20 years ago, a chief from the HaRelejoe village in Lesotho [Africa] asked then-missionary Dale Stotler and a Church of the Nazarene pastor to build a church in his village. A Work & Witness team built a simple church structure, then the chief asked the team to come back and build a school.

It was always the chief's dream to have a school in his village to serve local children and those who live in villages or remote mountainside areas far away from available schools in larger villages or the capital, Maseru.

In recent years, local leaders and the Nazarene district superintendent worked with missionaries to build a school, train teachers, and get the facilities for the school up and running in this village. (Cont. page 5.)



A Leadership Rubric by Marilyn J. Dominick

Recently, a young building administrator asked me to meet with her to discuss the identification of leadership potential among the teachers in her K - 4 building. Her desire to develop leadership in her staff was refreshing, as we often tend to think we must "import" leadership from outside of our own walls, or simply do everything ourselves.

As I mulled the issue over in my mind, I decided to begin writing all of the things that I look for in a teacher leader. Through the years, I reflected that I had actually done an informal scan of faculty for this very purpose! Teachers are such a wonderful resource and are very capable of taking on leadership tasks, so why not tap into that? In addition to getting valuable assistance with all of those things constantly on your plate, you create ownership and the "buy-in" of that teacher and their colleagues who look up to them.

You know from a previous article that I wrote* that I absolute love rubrics! So I decided that I would design a rubric as a tool to identify that leadership talent right in front of me. I could "scan" my faculty twice each school year and chart (confidentially, of course) my assessment. Thus, the rubric pictured here was born. While not a perfect tool, it creates a structure as well as an avenue of communicating what the attributes are of good leaders.

I hope you all find it useful, whether you are an administrator or a teacher. I'd love to hear feedback from you on my new tool, so feel free to contact me by email at mjdominick77@gmail.com or you may wish to call me at 315.679.3103.

We are rounding the bend to finish up another school year - let's all finish strong!

*Marilyn's previous article on rubrics can be found on www.naznew.net, No. 31, January 2017.

Leadership Potential Rubric Bi-Annual "Scan Plan"

Click on rubric below for a larger view.

Not Yet	Emerging	Advancing	Leadership Ready	Who Is Ready?
New teacher with limited classroom experience or a teacher in need of improvement.	Goes with the flow.	May bring an idea for improvement to leadership or colleagues.	Faithfully committed to school improvement and to the reputation of the school, often bringing ideas and implementation plans.	
Weak/basic teacher as evidenced in evaluation.	Basic/Proficient teacher as evidenced in evaluation.	Proficient with some areas of Distinguished as evidenced in evaluation.	At least an equal blend of Proficient/Distinguished as evidenced in evaluation.	
Does not act on recommendations of leaders and/or colleagues.	Defensive when suggestions for improvement are made by leadership.	Sometimes asks how he/she could improve. Attempts to implement recommendations made by leadership.	Consistently makes changes in practice to improve results. Student-centered, owns success of students. Strong communication skills; positive, can-do attitude.	
Resists support when offered. May not feel he/she needs help.	Brings issues to the attention of leadership but does not come with ideas or solutions.	Accepts support, works to implement changes to building issues as initiated by leaders. Shows some interest in being involved in organizational improvements.	Strong work ethic, going above and beyond expectation. Can be trusted to consistently do the right thing. Self-sufficient, solving own problems.	
Doing the minimum requirements, but no more.	Sometimes places blame on someone else.	Compliant with school policies and procedures. Team player.	Fully supports school leaders, policies, and the district. Knows the importance of confidentiality, does not lead others to question the decision/skills of leaders.	





Nazarenes Help Lesotho Village Fulfill Decades-long Wish for a School (Continued from page 3.)

However, it had been decades since the chief first asked for a school.

As 2017 began, the chief, who is in his 80s, became sick. He knew the end was near. He told the assistant chief that if the school can just open and begin holding classes, he will be at peace to go home to be with the Lord.

On 23 January, the assistant chief excitedly told the chief the school finally opened and classes had begun. Later that day, the old chief passed into the arms of his Lord, knowing that the children of his village and surrounding areas now had access to Christian education. In a village where the chief is the authority, it became a bittersweet day.

--Church of the Nazarene Africa via Out of Africa



When it came to educating her children, Susanna Wesley, the mother and teacher of John and Charles Wesley, used the opportunity to begin also to help shape her children's spiritual education.

“The children of this family were taught, as soon as they could speak, the Lord's Prayer, which they were made to say at rising and bed-time constantly; to which, as they grew bigger, were added a short prayer for their parents, and some Collects; a short Catechism, and some portion of Scripture, as their memories could bear.”

