

2010-2011 Look Here Now Articles

April 2011

Contributed by Organizing Committee Member, Laura Quigley:

As we all are aware, education is taking a huge hit at this time. There are several issues that the republican party is choosing to make as their platform under the guise of balancing the deficit. These are busting negotiating rights of our unions, breaking our pensions, eliminating public schools and replacing them with vouchers that students could use at private schools, and instituting merit pay. Any or all of these measures would have a devastating impact on our jobs, students, and families. Many people support these candidates not completely understanding that they are actually working against themselves. We all have an equal stake in this and therefore need to take the initiative to be informed and dedicated to protecting our jobs and the interests of our students. Several organizations are currently dedicating their full effort into protecting our careers and the future of education. If you wish to get involved, click on the following links below

cta.org

nea.org

moveon.org

truemajority.org

February 2011

February's "Look Here Now" article is about www.dropbox.com. This website allows you to download software on any computer you work on i.e. school, home, laptop, and eliminate the need for a flash drive. It puts a box onto your desktop of any computer you work on and allows you to "drop" in anything you want to access at any other workspace that you use. It automatically updates and will replace your flash drive because you can access it on any computer with internet access. If you are anything like me and forget your flash drive at home or school when you become overwhelmed with all that we do, this will help you not feel lost or unable to complete or access your work. Many of AVUTA council members have started using this wonderful website, since Bethany Thompson, our 2nd VP, mentioned it and find it very useful. Please visit the site and happy start accessing your file at any workspace you use!

January 2011

This month's "Look Here Now" website is a list from Clark Howard CNN. He is the money Guru and does some amazing things to save people money. I found a great list on his website called "Free and Cheap List". This list gives all sorts of websites that offer free and cheap things for a lot of different venues. Click on the link below and see what you can get "Free and Cheap". The website is

http://www.clarkhoward.com/topics/free_and_cheap/Novemb

November 2010

This month's "Look Here Now" site is about scholarships. The CTA/NEA offers scholarships to both members and dependents of members. Please click on this site,

<http://www.cta.org/About-CTA/CTA-Foundation/Scholarships/index.aspx>, to see all of the scholarships that are available from CTA/NEA.

October 2010:

This new site, brought to us by the American Federation of teachers, created a funding database to find funds for continuing education, professional development, and classroom. Some searched you can perform are for loan forgiveness programs, teacher grants and awards, classroom donation programs, and summer studies and exchange programs. You can even narrow your search by state, grade level, subject area and more! Please click on this link to start searching <http://aft.org/benefits/loans.cfm>

September 2010:

Since AVUTA members, no longer have our own in house wellness program, I researched and found out that most health insurances offer their members a wellness program of their own. If you are Blue Shield PPO /HMO members, you can log on to www.mylifepath.com and click on Wellness Discount Programs and see all it offers. They offer several discounts to gyms as well as Weight Watchers. Kaiser Permanente offers several wellness discounts as well at www.kaiserpermanente.org and click on the Health and Wellness tab to explore. These sites are updated regularly and have new discounts all the time. Please log on and explore the possible discounts today.