

Missouri Association of Rural Education

"Children and Learning Our Lifelong Priorities"



Annual Conference

February 24 — 25, 2006

**The Resort at Port Arrowhead
Lake Ozark, Missouri**

2:05 p.m. Friday, February 24, 2006

Small Group Session Description

Are you aware of all the options available for health care plans

Presenter: *Heather Binning*, Employee Benefits Client Service Specialist, Citizens Bank & Trust

New options in health care make expanded features on your 125 plan or the addition of a HRA or HAS program a means to meet your employee's health care needs while minimizing your continually increasing district health costs. Learn more about these programs and options available and be prepared to raise more questions during your next renewal negotiation.

Need better communications?

Simplified Online Communication System (SOCS)

Presenter: *Stacey S. Musil*, Educational Services Manager, Foundation for Educational Services

Time-pressed parents, students and staff want—and expect—quick access to school-related information delivered online. This makes communication one of the biggest challenges you face today. Learn how to meet—and exceed—those expectations easily and affordably using this online communication system. SOCS can help your district achieve dynamic, interactive, cost-saving and timely communications.

National Joint Powers Alliance "NJPA"

Staples Business Advantage

Presenter: *Dan Maddox*, Business Development Manager

Staples Business Advantage offers excellent prices, easy online ordering, and free delivery on virtually everything you need in office and classroom supplies. And now, thanks to its affiliation with NJPA, A government purchasing cooperative, it's easier than ever to take advantage of everything SBA has to offer.

- Automatic & consistent savings
- Consolidate billing
- Dedicated account management
- Easy online ordering
- Next day deliver free

Accounts Payable Cards

Presenters: *Mike Simonett*, Commercial Card Account Exec., Carolina Decker, Vice President, Commerce Bank

A trend is emerging where schools are using Visa cards to pay large dollar invoices. This reduces the number of checks cut and gives the Accounts Payable department the ability to track purchases on line. It also increases the amount of revenue share that the school would receive.

The Top Ten Things You Should Know About Parent Engagement

Presenters: *Sarah J. Read*, The Communications Center; *J. Scott Christianson*, Kaleidoscope Consulting

Senate Bill 480, as passed by the Missouri legislature in 2005, requires the state and local boards of education to adopt policies to encourage the effective involvement by parents and families in support of their children's education. Implementing an effective program for parental involvement involves some planning and forethought. Come learn about what works and what doesn't work. The main presenter will be Sarah Read, owner of the Communications Center, Inc., with more than 20 years of experience in building better communication and dialogue.