

September 16, 2021



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Urgent Warning: Teacher Communications

Teachers are entering a new era where the dangers are as great as they have ever been. At PEI we want to ensure teachers do everything they can to protect themselves and their career. One topic of great importance is exercising caution when it comes to teacher communications with students, particularly electronic communications. For example, teachers have been sanctioned for friendly personal communications to out-of-state students. As another example, communicating with students through social media platforms such as Instagram has contributed to reprimand or suspension.



Written communications pose the greatest risk. For starters, these communications will last forever and can be the basis of disciplinary action years after the fact. Many written communications can be a matter of public record. The nature of written communication is that the intended message can be lost in translation. Written words can lose important context clues such as tone of voice or general levity. To protect themselves, teachers should imagine how a written communication might look out of context to the general public.

[click here to read on.](#)

2021 Annual Conference Highlights!



A special thank you to Joel Fry for the insightful instruction on compassion fatigue and to Barb Ranck for teaching on the Enneagram personalities.

We are also very grateful to the various businesses and individuals who sponsored the conference. And a special thank you to our



members who made the day successful!

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Conference in Pictures



2021 Star Educator Conference Speaker Sponsor



Thinking about completing your master's degree? Mount Mercy University's Master of Arts in Education (MAEd) program prepares students to become distinguished leaders in education by utilizing dynamic and interactive learning approaches in a collaborative setting. MMU is located in Cedar Rapids, IA but offers online (live) courses to advance your career to the next level!

The MAEd program offers six areas of emphasis:

- Early Childhood Inclusive Classroom
- Effective Teaching
- English as a Second Language
- Reading
- Special Education
- Teacher Leadership



MMU offers you an education that is attainable, affordable, and applicable. We are proud to announce our Iowa Teachers Tuition Scholarship Program. All current Iowa public and private PK-12 teachers receive a \$145/credit scholarship on all courses until July 2023.

For more information, contact admission recruiter Brooke Waldron at bwaldron@mtmercy.edu or 319.363.1323 ext. 1865.

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Does that sound like a teacher you know? Nominate them today for the **2022 Iowa STEM Teacher Award**, sponsored by Kemin Industries! [click to read on](#)

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