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Unplug from Technology Invasion!
by Terry Gladfelter, Deputy Director

I recently came across an article from Edutopia entitled “Defending a Teacher's Right to Disconnect.” The teaser for the article begins with, "Remember personal time? For many educators, technology has driven it toward extinction - and it's time to get serious about reclaiming it."

The article grabbed my attention because of our work at PEI. When we encounter an issue with an educator, many times there is an email thread we must follow. As I review the thread, I am surprised at the time stamps on messages. Administrators and teachers are emailing back-and-forth late into the evening hours. Researchers are using terms like "techno-invasion, pervasive connectivity, ubiquitous connectivity or 'always on' culture" to describe what is happening.

Technology invasion - click here to read on.

Title IX of the Civil Rights Act
The breadth and implications may surprise you.

"Title IX", passed as part of the Education Amendments of 1972, prohibits sex-based discrimination in any school or other education program that receives federal money. The breadth of its impact cannot be overstated. The law was passed primarily to grant all students equal access to educational opportunities (including athletics) regardless of sex. Title IX only covers discrimination based on sex and not other forms of discrimination. Over the years the law has evolved to establish that an education environment filled with severe and pervasive sexual harassment is a de facto denial of an individual's equal access to opportunities. The Title IX provisions protect not only students but employees as well. Every School District is obligated to have a Title IX coordinator assigned to handle these types of concerns. Know who this person is and be aware of both your rights and your obligations.

Know your rights and responsibilities! Click here to read on.
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!

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

Congratulations to the 2021 State Fair Classroom Supply Recipients!

Becky Bengard - Norwalk

Nathan Opheim - Des Moines