



MTEA NEWS

Unexpected Distractions and Teaching Moments

Has this ever happened to you? Jerry Olson, traffic education instructor from Great Falls and a MTEA Teacher of the Year and former MTEA President, shared this unforgettable teaching moment:

This past weekend, I was doing my normal 7.5 hours of driving on a Saturday. It had snowed a bit the night before so the roads were not ideal. As luck would have it my 7:00 a.m. drive included a parking and reference point lesson, a rural drive lesson and an Interstate lesson. If this wasn't bad enough, one of my students showed up with a mechanical baby from her Child Development class.



Students with this assignment have to check out a robot baby and care for it over the weekend. It is very sophisticated with computer chips that record how long the baby cries before it is being tended to. The students have a wrist band that is locked on them so they cannot let someone else care for the baby.

So, on the Interstate drive, the baby starts crying. Problem is, the student caring for the baby is driving and she wants to know if she can pull over, **NOW!** I tell her no, there is an off-ramp a half mile ahead. We use that, she gets out and rubs her bracelet over the baby's tummy and changes the diaper.

The roads were terrible, the baby cried, and I was so thankful we made it back to the school.

The next group shows up and guess what? There is another car seat with a robot baby ready to go for a ride. **OMG!**

Mr. Olson's story might have made you chuckle, but this also became a potentially serious, if unexpected and valuable, teaching moment. Passengers can be a dangerous distraction for drivers, especially young teen drivers. But keeping babies and children safe as occupants is also an important lesson for teen drivers to learn.

Do you include child passenger safety issues in your driver education class? Teen drivers are just as likely to have children as passengers as adults. They need to know the proper way to buckle up babies, toddlers and children and why it's unsafe to leave a baby or child alone in a vehicle.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that motor vehicle injuries are a leading cause of preventable death among children in the United States. In 2016, 723 children ages 12 years and younger died as occupants in motor vehicle crashes and more than 128,000 were injured. One CDC study found that, in one year, more than 618,000 children ages 0-12 rode in vehicles without a child safety seat or booster seat or a seat belt at least some of the time. Of children ages 12 years and younger who died in a crash in 2016 (for which restraint use was known), 35% were not buckled up.

Buckling children in age- and size-appropriate car seats, booster seats, and seat belts reduces the risk of serious and fatal injuries. Car seat use reduces the risk for injury in a crash by 71-82% for children when compared to seat belt use alone.

So, if a mechanical baby joins your next drive group, embrace this opportunity to practice both attentive driving and attentive parenting. It's a win-win situation!

Using the correct car seat or booster seat can be a lifesaver: make sure your child is always buckled in an age- and size-appropriate car seat or booster seat.

REAR-FACING CAR SEAT
Birth until age 2-4
Buckle children in a rear-facing car seat until they reach the maximum weight or height limit of their car seat. Keep children rear-facing as long as possible.

FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT
After outgrowing rear-facing car seat until at least age 5
When children outgrow their rear-facing car seat, they should be buckled in a forward-facing car seat until they reach the maximum weight or height limit of their car seat.

BOOSTER SEAT
After outgrowing forward-facing car seat and until seat belts fit properly
Once children outgrow their forward-facing seat, they should be buckled in a booster seat until seat belts fit properly. Proper seat belt fit usually occurs when children are 4 feet 9 inches tall and age 9-12.

SEAT BELT
Once seat belts fit properly without a booster seat
Children no longer need to use a booster seat once seat belts fit them properly. Seat belts fit properly when the lap belt lays across the upper thighs (not the stomach) and the shoulder belt lays across the chest (not the neck).

Keep children ages 12 and under properly buckled in the back seat. Never place a rear-facing car seat in front of an active air bag.
*Recommended age ranges for each seat type vary to account for differences in child growth and height/weight limits of car seats and booster seats. Use the car seat or booster seat owner's manual to check installation and the seat height and weight limits, and proper seat use.
Child safety seat recommendations: American Academy of Pediatrics.
Graphic design adapted from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.
www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/cps

For more information, visit https://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/child_passenger_safety/cps-factsheet.html.

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MTEA News is published by the Montana Traffic Education Association in the fall, winter, and spring. MTEA, PO Box 637, Conrad, MT 59425. Jim Carroll, Executive Secretary, (406) 278-7856. MTEA News is mailed to members and published at MTEAOnline.org. The spring issue is mailed to all traffic educators in Montana as an invitation to the annual traffic education conference. Submissions can be emailed to: sgrogan@forsyth.k12.mt.us. Articles are due 10/1; 12/1; 3/1.

MTEA President's Message: *Honk If You Love Driver Education!*



It is time to make a commitment to advocate for your traffic education program. Even though it is difficult to place the program's success in the forefront, the instructor needs to show their school board and community what the program is about. Think back to the last time the driver's education program reported the program's facts, statistics, etc. to the superintendent, let alone the district school board. Someone once made the profound statement to me that if the driver education program doesn't take time in the spotlight, another cause will. School funding is always an unknown and MTEA members need to bring a positive image of a successful program to the public's eye.

Some programs think outside the box to find new ideas to create opportunities for education. Students in Arlee run a lesson such as blind spots around buses during parent open house. What about kids setting up a demonstration during parent/teacher conferences or a booth at the local fair? Contact sponsors of organizations like Business Professionals of America (BPA) or Family Career & Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) to offer assistance. The organization members look for community service projects, which could be a peer education program for traffic safety.

Common ways to report traffic education activities could include student-created PSAs; newspaper articles about special projects, like egg cars; and presentations to the school board. Take students with you and let the public hear how important the program is to your students, what they learn from it, and how standards have changed.

Nobody wants to toot his/her own horn, but as MTEA has seen from the lesson slams, instructors in our state are creative and talented. The new instructors coming out of MSU-Northern enhance the state curriculum with innovative activities to engage learners. The 2018 Traffic Education Teacher of the Year, Susan Carney, became the National Traffic Teacher of the year at ADTSEA using the techniques and curriculum designed for Montana. Oregon is updating new instructor training based on collaboration with Montana's model. Instructors around the state give time to Montana DRIVE in Lewistown to train defensive drivers each summer.

If I haven't given you enough reasons to step up and sell your program, remember the hundreds of student drivers who are positively influenced by a caring traffic education teacher (you) who gave out life-saving advice. Driver education is successful because of the hard work of instructors, OPI, MSU-Northern, local presenters, parents, school boards, administration, etc. It takes a village to raise a child and those important traffic education moments need to draw this outstanding program into the limelight.

Wishing you and yours a safe and very merry holiday season.

~ *Steffani Grogan, MTEA President (2018-19)*



MTEA Executive Board Meeting Summary—November 4, 2018

At the last Executive Board meeting held November 4, 2018 in Helena, board members:

- Reviewed minutes, correspondence, and financial reports.
- Heard miscellaneous reports from the 2018 Bozeman conference regarding speakers, meals, awards, door prizes, accommodations, and related costs.
- Reviewed post-conference evaluations and classification meeting notes regarding the 2018 Bozeman conference.
- Heard newsletter and web page reports.
- Approved President-Elect and Board assignments.
- Approved the purchase of door prizes and awards.
- Discussed Teacher and Contributor of the Year Awards and retirements.
- Heard reports from OPI.

The next meeting is scheduled for **January 27, 2019** in Helena. Send agenda items to President Steffani Grogan or Executive Secretary Jim Carroll as soon as possible.

CONTACT US! Send a note via the Contact page at MTEAOnline.org or call MTEA Executive Secretary Jim Carroll at (406) 278-7856. Email President Steffani Grogan at sgrogan@forsyth.k12.mt.us.

MTEA Membership Benefits

Encourage a colleague to join MTEA! Besides friendly colleagues and helpful mentors, there are many benefits of membership in MTEA:

- Annual Traffic Education conference every spring (conference fee includes membership fee) that brings 160+ teachers together with experts in the field, college credit or renewal units for professional development, and the latest research and resources for traffic educators.
- Three newsletters per year (Fall, Winter, Spring).
- \$5,000 AD&D/life insurance policy.
- Voting on and eligibility to serve on MTEA board and annual recognition awards.
- A voice in the ongoing improvement of driver education in Montana through policy and legislative actions.

Annual membership dues are \$45, payable to MTEA. Your membership in MTEA is automatically renewed when you attend the annual spring conference. Learn more about MTEA membership at MTEAOnline.org.

Mark your Calendars! Montana Traffic Education Conference

April 28-30, 2019

**Copper King Hotel and
Convention Center—Butte**

Register in March!

Send Your Ideas to Kurtis!

The Montana Traffic Education Conference is YOUR professional conference and Kurtis wants to know if you'd like to lead a workshop or have ideas for sessions.

Please send your conference suggestions to Kurtis Koenig at kkoenig@whitehallmt.org and Fran Penner-Ray at fpenner-ray@mt.gov BEFORE the January 27 MTEA board meeting.

Door Prizes and Silent Auction!

It's not too soon to start collecting items for the Silent Auction and door prizes at our spring conference. MTEA buys door prizes with the proceeds from our 50/50 drawings, but we can always use more. Consider asking at least one business in your community to donate something as a door prize. Bring your prizes and auction item with you when you arrive.

Our silent auctions are a huge success because of the great gifts donated and your generous bidding on them. The proceeds raised will help fund the David Huff Scholarship and conference prizes and giveaways.

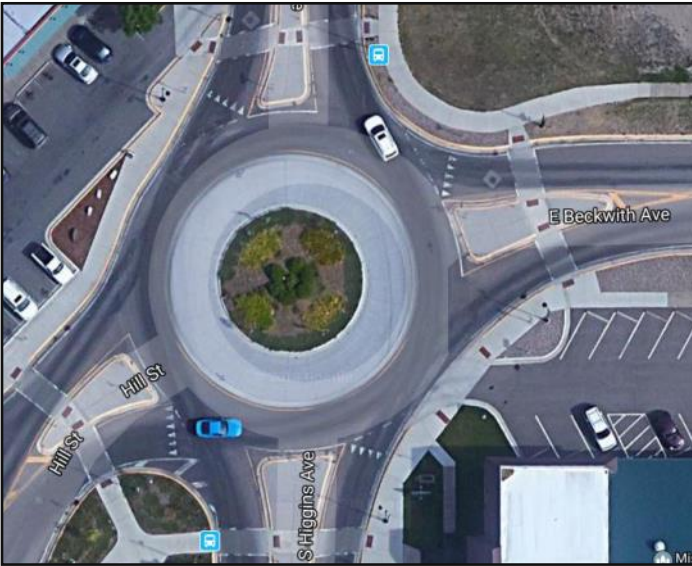
David Huff Memorial Scholarship for First-time Attendees!

First-time attendees to the conference can participate in a drawing for one of three \$150 David Huff Memorial Scholarships. Winners are asked to submit an article to MTEA News and lead a workshop at a future Montana Traffic Education Conference.

Teaching Teens about Traffic Calming in Missoula

By Roy Thomas, Missoula

Frequently on our first drive, students will find themselves confronted with the Higgins Street roundabout. Not always, but for those intrepid souls who master left and right turns, uncontrolled intersections, lane position, speed, and the dreaded four-way stop by our school, we move down to the university area to practice navigating “traffic calmers.”



The path there is arduous as students encounter a mass of signs, vehicles, and pedestrians. This is the intersection featured in a New York newspaper that had about 100 signs. Thankfully, many have been removed. But it is also placed about 50 yards from an elementary school replete with two crosswalks, a crossing guard, a flashing 20 mph school zone, and depending on the time of day, parents parking willy-nilly, ignoring those crosswalks and dashing like jaybirds across the street. The roundabout speed is advised as being 15 mph, but since this is Missoula, 25 mph is considered conservative and speeding is not uncommon.

The roundabout is explained extensively in class, complete with drawings, a power point, and detailed instructions on right-of-way. However, some students who demonstrated behind-the-wheel mastery with turns, residential intersections, and four-way stops, will attempt to enter the Higgins Street roundabout full bore staring straight ahead ignoring the instructor’s overtures to scan left. Just as likely, a student will come to a complete stop enraging those behind us.

Traffic calmers are a bit different from roundabouts. Traffic calmers, such as traffic circles, bulb-outs, and medians have been installed around Missoula. Diverters and tight

corner curves appear in a few locations. Just finishing up the roundabout experience on Higgins, some students will yield to the left and pull into the intersection although a traffic circle is not a roundabout, but an uncontrolled intersection.

As I explain this, some students then want to make the left turn before reaching and navigating to the right of the center island. Much of Missoula is similarly unknowing and it’s a toss-up whether the vehicle to the left will yield or the vehicle to the right will take the right of way. Luckily, the path around the traffic circle is so restrictive any speed over 10 mph will likely end up hitting a curb.

Ben Weiss of the Missoula Bicycle and Pedestrian Office explained to me that traffic calmers are not traffic control devices like signs, signals, and roundabouts. They are designed to reduce speed and in Missoula, placed often on residential streets frequently used as “cut throughs” from one major route to another.

When Missoula was considering traffic circles in the mid-nineties, City of Missoula data “showed that on 4th Street, traffic slowed from 6 to 12 % and volumes decreased by 7%. On Evans Street, speeds decreased from 2 to 8% and traffic volume decreased by 30%. The devices eliminated 1/3 of all speeds over 35 mph and ¼ over 25 mph.”

(<https://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/415/Traffic-Calming>)

No more recent data exists, but the number and variety of traffic calmers in town has greatly increased.

The variety of traffic calmers in town is increasing. Besides the traffic circles, bulb-outs appear to be the most popular. I’ve seen these around school crosswalks, downtown, and by the YMCA. Speed humps, a gentler cousin of the vicious speed bump are rarer, but a recently raised crosswalk has just been installed near Hellgate High School. This is categorized as a “table.” Angle parking along a street creates more driver awareness to the environment. Raised medians and lane narrowing also have an impact on driver behavior. A chicane has been installed in the Linda Vista neighborhood. This is a roadway feature using a curb, modified bulb out, or other modification causing a directional change in traffic flow. Basically, the street zig-zags and if you don’t slow down you could hit the curb.

As traffic in town increases, knowledge of traffic calmers and the proper way to navigate through them can help drivers recognize hazards, and hopefully, slow down. It makes teaching traffic calmers to teen drivers interesting and challenging, but ultimately worth the effort.

To see images of various traffic calmers visit this Flickr site: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsiDd96b9>.

Calm, not Chaos, While Driving this Holiday Season

By Steven Morales, Red Lodge

Once again, we're back into the holiday season. It seems to me that these days start earlier every time as the years go by. Not to mention that everything we do seems to be more over-the-top than the previous year. With all the good times and holiday cheer, also comes stress. Added tasks, busier schedules, financial burdens and a festive spirit all come alive at this time. These stresses and possible distractions can affect decisions when getting behind the wheel. Whether it be good or bad, the holiday madness can create chaos in anyone's life! Did I mention the weather?



I want this article to be a reminder that with all of the holiday madness, we have to separate the chaos from the driver's seat. At this moment, we have kids who are out there driving for the first time in adverse conditions. Our new drivers are dealing with a lot more than just their own driving—they're dealing with us and the rest of the world on the road.

This list is for *all* of us to think about before, during, and after the drive.

BEFORE THE DRIVE

- Make a plan. Check weather and road conditions. Use alternate routes that are more efficient and safer in adverse conditions.
- Avoid heavy traffic areas.
- Reschedule tasks for another time and use technological tools to communicate instead of a traditional meet-up.
- Make sure your vehicle is equipped and ready for the driving task (Emergency kit, tires, etc.).
- Assess your own skills and capabilities for the specific driving task. Are you able to safely navigate the route?
- Check for signs of fatigue, unusual behaviors, or headaches.
- Give yourself plenty of time before the trip so that you don't feel the need to rush.
- Let someone know that you'll be out on the road.
- Take care of texts and calls before you drive.
- Avoid any unnecessary travel, even if it seems you are changing plans at the last minute. Safety is your number one priority for everyone.

DURING THE DRIVE

- Avoid any distractions.
- Drop your speeds to the level of conditions.
- Make extra scans for wildlife that are blending in with the Fall/Winter colors.
- Double your following distances.
- Glance at oncoming traffic for safe lane positioning. Keep more space all around your vehicle.
- Do not rush or crowd a snow plow. If you find yourself behind a snowplow, only pass if the lane is clear and/or if the plow pulls over to safely pass.

AFTER THE DRIVE

- Reflect on the trip. Should you take the same route back? Are the conditions going to be worse? What driving approaches should you change on the way back that may keep you safer?
- Talk to others who may be taking the same route later. You may have the insight of what the conditions are like in real time.
- Check your vehicle for wear and tear. Remove any ice build up that may affect function of the vehicle.
- Rest or take a break before you attempt the next driving task.

Have a great rest of your year and happy holidays!



7 Great Apps recommended by Steven Morales

There are many resources for us to inform not only our students, but our coworkers, friends and families. Here are some phone applications that can be beneficial for everyone to aid in their drive. Feel free to contact me with other known resources for holiday and winter driving!

1. **Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Travel Information**
2. **Weather Underground**
3. **Winter Survival Kit**
4. **CamOnRoad**
5. **TomTom GO**
6. **Drivermatics Blackbox and Dash Cam**
7. **INRIX Traffic**



Visit MTEAOnline.org for links to these 7 Great Apps!



2019 Legislative Session begins January 7th

By Charlie Brown, Legislative Liaison for MTEA

Hello Driver Education teachers! The legislative session is close at hand. Here are a few tips on contacting your Montana senators and representatives. Go to the Legislature homepage: <https://leg.mt.gov/>.

The home page has several tabs to locate your Legislator, a Bill, Committees, and to watch certain committee hearings. It does take a bit of effort to find the information you need.

Go find your legislator and then click on the link to send an email. You may have to cut and paste the email address to your email account.

A well-written letter/email is one of the best ways to let your legislator know your thoughts and opinions about a particular issue. Here are some tips for getting your message across effectively:

- **Be brief.** Legislators have many demands on their time. They appreciate letters that are short and to the point.
- **Put the message in your own words.** Form letters and petitions don't have the same impact as personal, informed opinions.
- **Identify bills** by their number, title, and sponsor.

- **Address your letter to a specific legislator or legislators.** Depending on your message, you may want to write to the sponsor of a bill, certain members of a committee, or your own legislators. Don't address your letter to the entire Legislature.
- **Explain your position** on the bill and ask for the legislator's support or opposition.
- **Give any sources of information** that you use to make your point.
- **Include your name, address, and a little about who you are** (for example, where you work or what school you attend).

If a "call to action" message comes from the MTEA Board of Directors or from me, it means we have only a few hours or a day, maybe, to contact our legislators about a Bill. So time is usually of the essence. I will normally send out information; which committee, sponsor, action needed, etc., on a bill that concerns us as Driver Education teachers.

Let me know if you want MTEA to consider supporting or opposing any traffic education or transportation bills that are before the Legislature, and we will make a decision.

Thank you for all you do to promote safe teen drivers!

**Ice and
Snow**



**Take it
Slow**

Safe Winter Driving Tips

- Regardless of the vehicle you drive, slow down for winter driving conditions. Even four-wheel drive vehicles slide on slick roads. Steer in the direction you want to go, keep feet off the pedals, and both hands on the wheel;
- Leave plenty of room between your vehicle and others. It takes more time and distance to stop your vehicle on wet and icy roads;
- Avoid using cruise control in winter driving conditions. You need to be in control of your speed based on road conditions.

Explore the *Checklist and Tips for Safe Winter Driving* published by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: <https://www.nhtsa.gov/winter-driving-tips>

Start Your Engines!

**Driver Education Instructor
Summer Training**

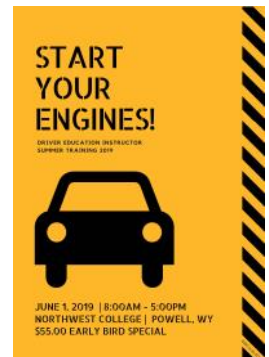
June 1, 2019

**Northwest College
Powell, Wyoming**

For more information and to register, visit

<http://www.nwc.edu/CTD>

or call (307) 754-6062



Early-bird discount if registered before May 4: \$55.00.

Share the Road DVDs from Montana Motor Carriers

Montana Motor Carriers has Share the Road DVDs to increase awareness of blind spots around commercial trucks. They are willing to arrange school presentations with big trucks. For DVDs and more information, contact Karen Lynch, Karen@mttrucking.org or call 406-442-6600.

Fran's Findings: Motivation for Effective Learning



May your days be merry and bright is a wonderful wish in the dimming light of the last days of the year. Stars and lights are twinkling and there is magic in the reflection of moonlight on snow. Drivers are watching for headlights, blinkers,

wildlife and hopefully for pedestrians. Night driving is risky for all drivers, especially teens with just ten hours of GDL practice in the dark.

Controlling speed is a challenge in the dark and in changing conditions. Speed on snow packed and icy roads was one reason for some of Montana's 12 Thanksgiving week fatal crashes. It was a tragic increase in this year when total crashes are trending lower. Driver errors are the reason for over 95% of crashes.¹ Engineering helps but driver choices are critical.

The puzzle of motivation to make good choices is explored by Dan Pink in his book, entitled *Drive*. His ideas caught my attention in his TED talk and an animated video from RSA. His motivation examples relate incentives to science and business, and parallel reasons to have a driver license and a vehicle.



Contact Fran Penner-Ray (fpenner-ray@mt.gov) and Patti Borneman (pborneman@mt.gov) by email or call the OPI Traffic Education Office at (406) 444-4432 with any questions about Teen Driver Education in Montana. Visit <http://www.opi.mt.gov/DriverEd> for resources and information.

Pink examines three elements of motivation:



- **Autonomy** – the desire to direct our own lives
- **Mastery** – the urge to get better and better at something that matters
- **Purpose** – yearning to do what we do in service of something larger

The motivation to learn, explore, play, and connect with others keeps us going. Team sports, video gaming, snowboarding, woodworking, teaching and coaching all require motivation and practice to level up but it can be elusive. We inspire young drivers with encouragement to develop skills, habits and good choices on speed control, focused attention, and seatbelt use. Your work is making a difference.

I hope you enjoy safe travels and a joyous Christmas.

~ **Fran Penner-Ray, Traffic Education Director**

¹ Recognition errors: inadequate surveillance, distractions;
Decision errors: following too closely, too fast for conditions
Performance errors: loss of control
Curry AE, Hafetz J, Kallan MJ, et al. Prevalence of teen driver errors leading to serious motor vehicle crashes. *Accid Anal Prev.* 2011 Jul;43(4):1285-90. Epub 2010 Nov 19

PLAN AHEAD ... if your educator license is up for renewal in 2019, your traffic education approval may also need to be renewed. Your educator license needs to be renewed by June 30, but Traffic Education gives you until September 30 to submit a *TE05 Application for Approval to Teach Traffic Education* (now available online) and your Traffic Ed program sheet from MSU-N if you are working toward your traffic ed endorsement. If you already have your endorsement, just submit your TE05 as soon as your educator license is renewed. It's easy! **Contact Fran or Patti for assistance and if you have questions.**

Coming Soon! CDTP Refresher Course on the Teacher Learning Hub



If you are a CDTP-certified instructor who could use some reminders about rules, regulations and deadlines related to the Cooperative Driver Licensing Program, this one-hour online course on the OPI's Teacher Learning Hub is for you. *One renewal unit can be earned upon course completion.*

Scheduled to be released in January, the course will update instructors on certification, students' eligibility to participate, Driver License application completion, and administering and recording CDTP knowledge and road tests. It provides lots of helpful resources to manage the CDTP part of driver education. And, it connects the dots between the OPI, MVD/DOJ, GDL, TEDRS, TEP and LL, with a lesson that decodes these acronyms for you!

Make sure you are signed up to receive the OPI's Traffic Education E-News and you'll be notified when the course is active on the hub. Visit <http://opi.mt.gov/Educators/OPI-Communication> to subscribe.



Montana Traffic Education Association
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Conrad, MT 59425

Return Service Requested



SAVE THESE DATES!



March 1-3, 2019— Portland, Oregon
PACIFIC NW DRIVER & TRAFFIC SAFETY CONFERENCE
 If you are looking for another great regional Traffic Education conference, the 2019 Pacific Northwest Driver & Traffic Safety Conference is excellent. Visit <http://triwou.org/projects/tse>.



June 1, 2019— Powell, Wyoming
DRIVER EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR SUMMER TRAINING Northwest College. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.nwc.edu/CTD> or call (307) 754-6062



July 21-24, 2019—Burlington, Vermont
ADTSEA CONFERENCE
 The 2019 ADTSEA conference will be held July 21-24 in Burlington, Vermont. The conference will provide you with a wealth of information and an opportunity to network with other professionals from across the United States.

MTEA has a scholarship program that will provide up to \$500 per person to offset ADTSEA conference costs. If you can't attend, at least consider joining your national organization. Check out the ADTSEA website at <http://www.adtsea.org>.



April 28-30, 2019
Butte, Montana
MONTANA TRAFFIC EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The 2019 spring conference will be at the Copper King Hotel & Convention Center in Butte on Sunday, April 28 to Tuesday, April 30.

Registration and details will be in the Spring 2019 MTEA News and posted at <http://www.mteaonline.org/annual-conference>.

See more about conference planning inside this issue of MTEA News!

The cost of attending the conference is considered an allowable expense for traffic education program costs under OPI guidelines.



Search for: Montana Traffic Education Association

LESSON SLAM!

Driver education ideas from teachers for teachers

RESEARCH/DATA

It Could Happen to You: Play a segment of the local news from the previous evening that covers a story involving motor vehicles. Talk about what went wrong, what could have been done differently, etc.

News Report—Keep track of the Interstate # of fatalities on MT highways. Students each assigned a date to scan headlines to report on driving mishaps. Verbal report to the class.

Crash Log: Record data of crash articles. Now take the data and use it on the Impact Teen Drivers probability wheel to find %.

Anti-DUI: After reviewing drunk driving module in Teen Driver Curriculum have students talk to parents to make a plan in case they are ever in that situation. Report back to the class.

Padlet: Steffani Grogan's Driver Education instructor material can be downloaded at this site:
<https://padlet.com/techiemom08/Grogdrived>.

REVIEW GAMES

Flash Cards with Learner License Questions: Write questions and answers on cards. Divide students into pairs. Have students go through cards. Right answers go in one pile and wrong answers go into another. Keep reviewing through the wrong answer pile until all answers correct.

Team Study for Learner License Knowledge Exam: Students create questions from driver manual. Create a bracket for teams. Each team gets 3 minutes to rapid fire question/answer and keep scores. Double elimination style.

Smack Down Tournament: Answers on board and students try to smack the answer when the question is read before other teams. Flyswatters can be used for smack-down.

Salad Bowl Game (Charades): Students form in groups of three or four. Each student must write a driver ed term on a piece of paper (something all would know) and drop in a bowl. Groups compete against each other. Whoever gets through the bowl of words first by acting them out wins. Switch bowls and play again.

Extra Credit: Why are potholes called "POT" holes and not kettle holes, pan holes, etc.

Extra Credit Scrapbook: Summarize 20 articles on distractions: visual, auditory, cognitive, manual. Students present to class on most effective ways to prevent distractions.

CLASSROOM LESSONS

Final Project due at end of class: Create song (4 verses), posters, movies, themed cakes.

Brainstorm Mnemonics: Students make up own Acronyms (or mnemonics) for a skill: Ex. Leaving the curb from parallel: **BSSSL** (**B**ack up, **S**mart car turn **1** revolution to left, **S**hift to D, **S**ignal, **L**ook over left shoulder).

Dumb and Dumber Things BTW: With one week left in class, ask students to write down the dumbest thing they have done behind the wheel. Allow students to remain anonymous.

Distance understanding: After going over distances in the manual, go outside with 300-foot tape measure and measure actual distances.

Following Distance: Students stand in line 1 arm length apart. The leader walks and stops randomly while other students try to stop and not run into person in front of them. Repeat with 2 large steps between students in line.

How to Handle Stress Simulation: Teacher lectures to students about being lazy and not getting work done. Hand out a chapter quiz on topic that hasn't been covered yet. Time how long student has to finish quiz all the while making distracting noise, comments and tapping pen. Correct quiz: most students haven't finished. Students usually go crazy verbally, nervous, mad at teacher. **Lesson learned:** How did student handle and react to stress?

Situational Awareness: Improve ability to focus on certain things in certain situations and learn how being distracted detracts from each situation. People are sometimes so caught up in their own world, they do not realize what is going on around them. Watch video: "You Can't Even Text and Walk" at
https://youtu.be/k_7KapnS2nk.

IMPAIRED AND DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS

Myth Buster—Alcohol Impairment: Use 3 different mouthwash brands to demonstrate the BAC on the school breathalyzer. Compare number & type of alcohol beverages to % alcohol in mouthwash.

Made Ya Look: In BTW simulation, teacher tells student driver to look at a deer/elk etc. in the field to see if they pull the practice wheel when/if they look. Discuss consequences of taking eyes off the road.

Answer Cell Phone While Driving Simulation: During class, teacher has a helper call cell and all students' eyes move to the sound which show taking eyes off the road.

Magnetic Erasers (Impaired Driving): Students write down five important people to them on a sticky note, which is attached to one of the magnetic eraser cars. Tell students that they choose to drive impaired, so knock 2 cars with names off board. Because of choices, the loved ones are gone and the driver must live with the consequences.

BEHIND-THE-WHEEL

Student Feedback: Worksheet that is based on the CDP Road Test score sheet is given to students to give other drivers feedback.

In-Car Observation Video: Take 15 minutes footage of student driving. The student watches video and self-evaluates on an In-Car Observation sheet (similar to TEP). See <https://sites.google.com/site/mrmasonschswebpage/home/driver-education>.

BTW Backseat Observer Activities: 10 things you didn't know today, 10 potential hazards on & off road, Tally Distractions, Tally freeway signs, evaluate driver ed teacher in car, evaluate student driver using the instructors sheet, count white crosses on highway & Interstate drives.

BTW-Road Bingo: Road signs, people on cell phones, failure to signal, etc.

Street View: Take students to actual location with a list of items to observe and record. Take data back to classroom to discuss. This could be a make-up assignment if student misses a drive or class.

Golf Cart: Place students in golf cart to maneuver around the parking lot to evaluate students' experience behind the wheel.

Discovering our HTS : On long drives, students get list of signs and other items to identify while on the road. They work together—the driver identifies and the passengers are scribes. Ex. How many adopt a highway sign?

Backing: Steering does not matter forward or backward; always turn which direction you want to go. In car, back up with only looking over shoulder/out window. Back up only using mirrors. Back up using both which should make it easier.

End of Drive: Share one positive and one negative for each driver.

Improvised Skid: (Make sure there are no LOS issues, level, gravel, low speed & no curves.) Instructor grabs the wheel and simulates evasive steering maneuver to put car in slight skid. Evaluate that students pull feet off pedals and steer toward target.

Vehicle Scavenger Hunt: Hunt safety/function items that should be in a vehicle. Students need to find where items located in different models of vehicles. Ex: ESC, Hazard light switch, fuse panel, jack storage.

Reference Points: To teach reference points, drive over a target like a 2x4 or a pop can.

TECHNOLOGY, WEBSITES & VIDEOS

Watch "It's Fine Line between Living and Dying." (16:45) at <https://youtu.be/rYhu5Z1r16E>. Check NHTSA for updated crash statistics.

Kahoot.com/kahootit.com: Quiz game with cell phones. Use to discuss statistics, signs, study LL, and to give Pre/Post-test for each lesson. Students can search Kahoot for quizzes to study for LL in small groups.

Share a Video: Students find a traffic safety video on YouTube to share with the class.

Tracking for GDL: Teen Driving Log. iPhone app for supervised driving. <https://www.teendrivinglog.com>.

Carfax: Access sample reports online. Create worksheet to guide the students through the report emphasizing areas of concern. Teach the students what to look for when buying a used car.

Thank you for sharing your traffic education classroom and in-vehicle lesson activities at MTEA's Lesson Slam at the 2018 Montana Traffic Education Conference.

