

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAILY

## UTRUST EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION PROGRAM

JULY, 2009

### '09-10 Set To Be A Big Year

Utrust has been busy planning fun and exciting ways for your school district to show employees appreciation in the coming school year. From fun monthly themes to inspirational new videos, we'll provide you with plenty of materials to make each appreciation day special. Participating is as easy as 1-2-3! We've done all the work for you, all you have to do is use the packet we put online each month. If you haven't registered on our website, click [here](#) (go to the top of web page). Doing so will make a more positive working environment for you and your employees! We look forward to hearing your stories, and seeing pictures of how your district made a difference.

#### APPRECIATION DAY CALENDER

Bus Drivers.....Sept. 17

Custodians.....Oct. 15

Superintendent.....Nov. 19

Food Service.....Jan. 14

Principals.....Feb. 10

Professional Services.....March 11

Admin./Support Staff .....April 8

Teachers.....May 4



### What Is A Difference Maker?

Since the implementation of the Utrust Make A Difference Program, we have come across some outstanding school employees across the state. These exceptional employees we call "Difference Makers". We know there are some in each school district, and we are hoping you'll tell us about them.

In the '09-10 school year, we will be looking for "difference makers" to highlight. Some we will feature on our website, others we will come to your district and make a video about them. You've already told us about a few already, but we're looking for even more. In fact, Utrust will also hold a writing competition at the school level that will focus on finding these difference makers.

Help us identify great employees now! We have provided a "[Difference Maker Nomination Form](#)" on our website. Just click here and fill out the form.

The employees we are looking for really go above and beyond their job title, make life better for students and co-workers, and stand out from others in their position.

Help us recognize those in your school district who set an example and pave the way for others to follow. Let's show we appreciate their dedication and passion for education!

## A Change In The Stories You Send...

During the '08-09 school year, many of you sent us great stories and pictures of how your school district celebrated each appreciation day, and we appreciate all the positive feedback! This year however, we are changing things up a bit.

We'll publish the **most** creative, innovative and inspirational stories in our newsletter to share with other school districts.

We have put together some fun filled packets full of ways your school can celebrate each appreciation day in a unique way. We hope you use them, and come up with more of your own. How you celebrate appreciation day can be on a small scale or large, but either way, we hope you make it unique, personal and full of heart.

We've heard some truly original and creative ways that several of our member districts celebrated appreciation days last school year, and hope you'll stretch the boundary

"The Utrust Appreciation Program is wonderful. It is great for morale. Everyone likes to be told they are doing a good job"

-Principal Lisa Arnold

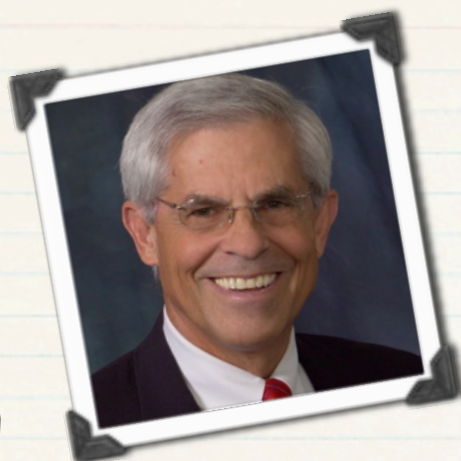


"We were glad to have the opportunity to say thank you to the people in our system who make it a better place to work everyday, they really make a difference".

Dr. Kathleen Airhart,  
Director of Schools

of your imaginations this school year. We'll be in touch, and hope you take plenty of pictures!!

## FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR



The Utrust staff is excited about the Make A Difference program this year, and hope you are getting ready to participate. We'll soon be sending you a guide about how to best use the materials we send you on appreciation days. This step by step guide offers suggestions on how to implement appreciation activities, get everyone in the school district involved, and how to get your school recognized for it's achievement in building a positive working environment.

Nothing improves employee morale as quickly as recognition of employees' work and expression of appreciation for it. The Utrust Employee Appreciation Program makes it easy for boards and Administrators to do both. Especially in economic times such as these, employee appreciation is essential. We are anxious to help you and your board build better relationships with employees through this program. It costs members nothing to participate but you can't afford **not** to participate.

*Don Jillett*