

How does the future of education look? Just... Pee Chee

Ned Hickson

When I was a kid, our school supply list consisted of a "Star Wars" notebook and a Pee-Chee folder. The notebook helped us organize our assignments; the Pee-Chee folder was used for entertaining ourselves during class by drawing thought balloons for the athletes on the cover

Football Guy: (Getting tackled) "Oh sure — run the old L-42 play, THAT always

Tennis Girl: "If my skirt gets any shorter, I'll be playing Olympic volleyball..."

You get the idea. Just about everyone remembers this folder because, like Al Sharpton's hair gel, it has remained virtually unchanged since 1964.

What has changed, however, is the growing list of items parents must provide throughout the school year. This comes in addition to rudimentary things, such as clothing, snacks and a recent urine sample.

The reason is simple: The

government is tired of wasteful spending, particularly in the educational system, where a special task force has discovered that schools routinely get bilked into spending thousands of dollars on paper alone.

"And, shockingly, most of this paper has turned out to be blank," said Education Secretary Arne Duncan.

The study, code-named "Operation: Waste Storm," was described by Duncan as "the first step in a threepronged approach to end overspending in four areas of education."

White House press secretary Fred Netterman later apologized on behalf of Duncan, saying his initial figures were incorrect, and that it was actually a fourpronged approach.

"The point is, he's been promised as many prongs as it takes to get the job done - that's how serious we are," said Netterman, who revealed that "scissors," "glue" and "construction paper" were other pork barrel items targeted by the study.

"Obviously, we're approaching construction paper with a great deal of sensitivity since, in addition to money, it involves issues of color," said Netterman.

Duncan, meanwhile, went

on to explain that a less frivolous educational budget will encourage schools to do more with less, which will go further in preparing children for the real world than making paper hats and collages — items which, as Duncan pointed out, could be outsourced to children in Taiwan and imported for half the price.

"In addition to the cost savings, think of how it

would bolster our relationship with the Taiwanian people," said Duncan, who underscored his statement by pointing to a map of

Japan. So, how will all this affect our children's education?

I honestly don't know. But I'm sure, eventually, everything will be just Pee

Ned is a syndicated columnist with News Media Corporation. His book, "Humor at the Speed of Life," is available online at Port Hole Publications, Amazon Books and Barnes & Noble. Write to him at nedhickson@icloud.com

Ward appointed to new Rotary position

Past Rotary president Sadie a Ward has been appointed as the Public Image and Education chairwoman for Rotary District 5110.

The purpose of the Public Image and Education committee is to educate clubs and individual Rotarians what the new Voice and Visual look of Rotary is and why it is important, as well as create awareness of the tools and assets available to the clubs at the www.rotary.org website.

The committee also serves as a resource to clubs transitioning from their current electronic footprint to the new voice and visuals. This includes website and social media as well as the club's Rotary Bulletin and Brochure.

Ward will also lead the committee in assisting clubs in developing the use of electronic and social media.

The goal is to measurably improve the overall voice and visual Identity within the Rotary's 5110 District.

Wells has also been accepted to the Rotary Young Professional Summit this year,

distinction three only Rotarians per district and hosted by Zones 25 and 26.

The summit will allow leaders to come together to exchange ideas and take action.

The Young Professionals Summit will give approximately two to three of these leaders district Rotary Zones 25 and 26 a unique opportunity to share their thoughts, reflect on their stories and exchange

In addition, as a part of this summit, young leaders will work with the leadership within their Rotary district to create a plan of how to make current and new Rotary clubs more relevant to the needs, desires and purposes of younger professionals.

"Sadie is always upbeat, enthusiastic, outgoing, personable and principled," local Rotary president Crystal Farnsworth said of Ward. "She has more experience as a businesswoman than many people decades older than she is. As

given her immediate successor as Rotary president, I respect her as a resource and appreciate her support.

> "She is the perfect choice for the Young Professional Leadership Summit.

> "I know that she will do a wonderful job in her district assignment."

Sadie Ward displays her name tag as the Rotary **District 5110 Public Image** and **Education** chairwoman.



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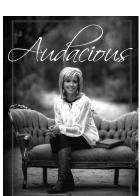


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