

# Welcome back gift

As I said last post, I started working again this past week. What I didn't mention is my welcome back gift. In the past, I have received books at one of the district's workshops. Well, this year I didn't attend their workshop due to not planning on going back to subbing. I found out later that I couldn't have attended it anyway as this year they only allowed new subs. I guess they got tired of paying returning subs who already had the information. That's right, they pay subs to attend the workshop, then also pay for their lunches, materials, and extras like the books I mentioned. Another district workshop also pays subs to attend, but we have to work five days before receiving the pay for the workshop, and they don't give away books or even pay for lunch. Fine by me- I don't have lunch provided throughout the year, so why at the workshop? Anyway, you're probably wondering what gift I received this year since I didn't attend the one workshop? Well, the gift I received was a most unwelcome one- a cold. Colds any time of the year are depressing, but during allergy season when I'm already suffering it's downright oppressive. I kept waking up from the cold last night to a nose that would constantly run. Yes, I took Nyquil before going to sleep, but apparently that only worked for a few hours at best. Now I am a bit miserable which is why I can feel free to pass along some other misery in the form of a little rant about one of the districts.

Yesterday I mentioned problems signing up with this district. They seem to want more information than other districts for people who want to sign up with them. Fortunately, since I was already on file from a few years ago they didn't need transcripts or a new letter of recommendation. Why do they even want them in the first place? It's only subbing, not a permanent position, and as for the transcript that's required by the state to get a sub certificate which is also required.

It doesn't make a lot of sense that the district would want them too. I still had to fill out new forms for taxes, background check, employment eligibility, retirement, etc. I also had to fill out a new application. Well, at least they don't require a cover letter and résumé. In any event, the paperwork isn't even the main focus. What has been keeping me so far from employment there as a sub is fingerprinting. Fingerprinting is required by law for this sort of job. That's not the complaint. It's their execution of this requirement that making me wait. It seems they only do fingerprinting for 30 minutes on any given day, maybe 45. Say what? That's it?? No wonder they couldn't fit me in to do it for a week after I call. Then, when that day comes up, I get a call in the morning- sorry, we have to reschedule you as the people taking the prints are doing something else today. we can reschedule you for a week from now...

So, I am still sitting here with the paper work. I can only hope that I can start working right away after this is done, but they still probably have to wait for the results on that and the background checks. Well, I survived last year on three districts (realistically since the other barely called me) so I can survive another couple of weeks waiting for this one. I guess I can't entirely blame them- I did sign up at the last minute. For all I know they had a couple of full days a month ago for fingerprinting. Oh, well. I will just have to be patient. With this cold as well as with work. I hate colds...