



Pray, Plan, and Communicate!

A New Plan for the Council of Nazarene Educators Worldwide

By Marilyn J. Dominick, NEW Council Chairperson

Our council members are still basking in the glow of God’s goodness, having just returned from a wonderful, impactful General Assembly in Indianapolis, Indiana. We are so thankful that so many educators from all over the world visited our exhibit, shared their hearts with us, and attended our collaborative workshop. At our recent follow-up meeting, there was a fresh excitement present and a time of sharing how mightily our heavenly Father blessed us during that time.

We have many ideas—many of them from those who visited with us—concerning how we can support Christian educators in all settings. As a result, we are launching a new initiative entitled “Pray, Plan, and Communicate!” Here are some of the ideas contained in this proposal for a fresh start for our ministry to you. The council has been challenged to do what the title says.

- **Pray** for NEW every day — Pray for God’s guidance on how we can proceed as a council, pray for clarity on each of our responsibilities in this effort, and pray for all our NEW educators as they serve in their ministry of teaching and leading. “Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving” (Colossians 4:2, ESV).
- **Plan** for how YOU can minister to those you represent. Plan ways to support them through the resources we have and through networking with each other. “‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future’” (Jeremiah 29:11, NIV).

- **Communicate** regularly with your constituents, letting them know they are not alone and that NEW is ready to help them. We represent educators in six areas: Christian schools, home schools, early education (preschools/daycares), public schools, global schools, and higher education. We have a council of 14 members with expertise and experience in their areas of representation. Our job going forward will be to spread that passion to all the educators we represent, helping them as needed. Many Nazarene educators do not even know about NEW, and we need to work hard to change that! Help us spread the word and broaden the resources we can offer. “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen” (Ephesians 4:29, NIV).

I am asking each NEW Council member to commit time each week to work on NEW efforts. Personally, I am blocking off time each week to work exclusively on NEW by praying, working on the website, communicating with public school educators, assisting the resource teams, coordinating Zoom opportunities, and networking with other Christian educators who are not members of NEW yet. I envision that this involves all of us crossing over to support each other in the areas that we have worked. That means we may be representing more than one area. Let us become resources to each other even more.

During General Assembly and on the website naznew.com, we have invited educators to form resource teams in each area of representation. It is our goal that these teams meet regularly to tell their representative council members what they need and what they feel other educators in their area need from NEW. We have begun working with some of those groups and will be holding Zoom conversations and prayer efforts very soon. Please contact me at mjdominick77@gmail.com if you would like to join a resource team.

We will be hosting a prayer Zoom at least quarterly. Be watching our website and your emails from NEW to participate. If you are not receiving our emails, please let me know!

Do you love our newsletter? Would you like to write an article for us? Please let us know!

We plan to expand our current offerings to include more professional development opportunities. These will be high quality, interactive Zoom presentations by experienced educators and will be FREE to members!

In addition, we are initiating a new mentor/coaching program for educators and leaders. If you would like to have a mentor or be a mentor for someone who needs that support, please email me.

Please visit our website to see many more resources that are available to our educators. There are SO MANY reasons to join NEW!

We are in the process of updating our contact information for our Nazarene schools. If you work in one of those, can you reach out to us so we can have accurate information to support you? Thank you!

We will be conducting a survey soon to find out what our educators need from NEW. Be sure and respond when you receive our email with a link to the survey!

Finally, we will be holding an education summit in August. Be watching for that announcement. It will be a Zoom opportunity with an exchange of ideas and resources for educators as we begin a new school year.

Thank you all so much for your interest in Nazarene Educators Worldwide. I hope you will consider becoming actively involved in our ministry to Christian educators! Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions that you have. You can learn more by visiting our website, naznew.com, or email me at mjdominick77@gmail.com.

May God bless you as you serve in the discipleship ministry of education!

Marilyn J. Dominick lives in Syracuse, New York. She served as superintendent of schools for the Jordan-Elbridge School District and retired in 2017. She currently serves as administrative advisor for public charter schools in the Syracuse area. You may contact Marilyn at mjdominick77@gmail.com.