



Schoolhouse News



October 1, 2010

Here is the latest edition of the Schoolhouse News. We are looking forward to seeing you at the District Meetings, at the Assistant Principal's Conference October 11 and 12, and at the Fall Professional Conference in November.



POSITIONS OPEN

- **Special Education** teacher for a maternity leave, 10/18 – 12/22 in West Clark Community Schools. Candidate would be working with Severe and Profound students along with 4 teaching assistants. For more information, please contact Myra Powell at mpowell@wclark.k12.in.us or at (812) 967-2548.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **MEMBERSHIP:** Your 2009-2010 membership is active through Monday, October 4. Please renew now so you will continue to receive emails and information from IASP. Keeping our membership strong allows us to have the positive impact with the State and with the IDOE. Our email listserve will be updated after Monday and we want you to be included. Click here for online access to the [membership page](#) and [membership form](#). Please contact us if you have questions or need special assistance with your membership payments.
- **District Meetings are here!** Here is our current list of upcoming meetings. It has been wonderful to make connections across the state. As you make plans to attend your next District Meeting, also make plans to invite someone to join you.
 - Monday, October 4: District 4, 9 Irish Brothers, West Lafayette, 5:30 pm
 - Wednesday, October 20: District 11, Feed Mill in Poseyville, 5:30 pm CDT
- **Riley Fundraiser at Ferdinand Elementary:** From Lee Begle, Principal. Our booth at the Folk Fest was a tremendous hit! We will be sending Riley Hospital a check in the amount of \$2,001.00. We ended up getting a lot of press for the project and hopefully other schools will pick up an idea to do the same. Another [photo](#) attached. The kids paraded around the crowd and took orders from Vendors throughout the day. Hard to resist a child :)
- The Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Midwest at Learning Point Associates invites you to join us on Friday, November 5, in Rosemont, Illinois, for an event designed to provide educators and stakeholders with research-based information on student achievement gaps in the Midwest region.

The event, "Connecting Research to Practice: Addressing Student Achievement Gaps," will feature Mark Berends, Ph.D., director of the Center for Research on Educational Opportunity at the University of Notre Dame. Dr. Berends's presentation will cover the landscape of research on achievement gaps, highlighting his own work that examined patterns of achievement gaps in mathematics over time and their relationship to school and student characteristics. Dr. Berends will engage in a

collaborative dialogue with a panel of practitioners working to address achievement gaps in a variety of contexts. [Register](#) for "Connecting Research to Practice: Addressing Student Achievement Gaps."

This event will be held in conjunction with the Achievement Gap Midwest Regional Conference hosted by the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. The conference will be held from November 3 to 6, 2010. With more than 100 presenters from 17 states and Canada, participants will have many opportunities to hone in on one of the most relevant topics in education today. **[Check out the conference website and register today.](#)**

- **Global Indiana: A Consortium for International Exchange** is finalizing plans for a trip to Germany for principals and lead teachers. Tentative dates are February 19—27, 2011, although these may vary depending on airfares. The main focus is five days exposure to German education at various school levels. Principals will experience the everyday tasks of a German administrator: observe different classroom activities, and observe how the educational system is designed for reaching high academic standards. School partners are in Munich, although additional schools outside the city may be recruited, depending on demand. Tentative dates are February 19 – 21, 2011 and the cost is approximately \$1,500 - \$1,600. For more information, contact phil.boleyn@clinton.k12.in.us. Read the full flier [here](#).
- **Indiana Music Educators Association Free Workshop** Every year in November, IMEA sponsors a workshop for music teachers who are in their first through fifth year of teaching music. The workshop is free of charge to these music teachers, and lunch is provided. Details about the workshop are included in the [attached memo](#). Classroom management and assertive discipline are two of the main topics; needs specific to music teachers are addressed as well.

➤ **Fully Funded Exchange Program with Uruguay**

American Councils for International Education is actively recruiting teachers and administrators for the Uruguay-United States Educator Exchange Program, a fully-funded short-term international exchange program, to take advantage of the extraordinary opportunities this program provides. They are looking to fill open positions, and will be **accepting applications until October 18, 2010**.

The application and further details can be accessed at <http://www.americancouncils.org/program/48/USEEP>. You can also email specific questions to the staff at edseminars@americancouncils.org.

- As your school year gets under way, many of your PTA/PTO parents are looking for innovative new fundraising solutions that promote healthy choices. We have just the solution with healthier, more profitable fundraising events through Pride Fundraising. Encourage your PTA/PTO parents to step up to healthier fundraising with Pride Fundraising's trademarked Fun Runs, Bike-a-thons and Walk-a-thons that are accessible to almost any school using their easy-to-use program.

Download Pride Fundraising's new Quick Start Guide to understand how your school can keep significantly more of the profits on your next fundraiser - www.PrideFundraising.com/wfData/files/Quick_Start.pdf.

For additional information please visit www.PrideFundraising.com/Indiana and be sure to use promotion code **IASP** to save \$100 should you choose to register a new fundraising event.

I hope this message finds support for **Walk to School Day, which is on Wednesday, October 6th**

As you know, Walk to School events work to create safer routes for walking and bicycling and emphasize the importance of issues such as increasing physical activity among children, pedestrian safety, traffic congestion, concern for the environment and building connections between families, schools and the broader community. Such celebrations are also a wonderful opportunity for parents, administrators, and community members to be introduced to the broader programmatic and policy applications of Safe Routes to School and to get involved in an easy, non-threatening way.

Our [HbD/INDOT/ISDH invitation letter](#) provides some guidance and information for you, and the [Resources page](#) of the Walk to School Day website is loaded with promotional, educational, and incentive materials. If you have any specific questions or need more detailed assistance, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Members of our [Safe Routes to School state network](#) are ready and willing to assist!

Kim Irwin, Health by Design Executive Director, Alliance for Health Promotion
Direct line: 317.352.3844, Fax: 317.634.7817
kirwin@acsm.org www.healthbydesignonline.org

INDIANA NEWS

- **Kappa Delta Pi** and the Committee on Teaching About the United Nations are co-hosting a one-day conference on peace and conflict resolution on Nov. 6. **It's Our World: Lessons for Peace and Reconciliation** on Saturday, November 6, 2010 at Shortridge Magnet High School for Law and Public Policy. National Speakers include:
 - Cora Weiss, President of the Hague Appeal for Peace
 - James Morris, Former head of the UN World Food Programme
 - Mariatu Kamara, Suervivor of the Sierra Leone civil war

For additional information about this unique conference, please visit [It's Our World: Lessons for Peace and Reconciliation](#). The deadline to register is Friday, October 22, 2010. Teachers register for just \$35, K-12 students can attend for only \$10!

- **The Indianapolis Star** printed a series of opinions regarding **Merit Pay** on Sunday 9/26. Please take a moment to read these columns. Read these blogs at <http://blogs.indystar.com/ourschools/> and take a look at the first 3 posts.
- **Senator Richard Lugar** co-sponsored Senator Resolution 607 recognizing October 10 as **National Principals Month**. Please access the [resolution](#) here and thanks for your continued dedication to our kids.

IASP NEWS

- Congratulations again go out to **Matt Shockley** and **Rhonda Mull** as they are recognized today, October 1, in Washington DC at the NASSP Principal of the Year Celebration. They are deserving high school and middle school principal representatives for the state of Indiana. Come to the Fall Professional Conference to see who

will win the 2010 Principal of the Year awards. Myra Powell will be recognized at the NAESP celebration later this month.

- **IDOE State Board Meeting Agenda** is now posted. [Click here to access the agenda](#). IASP will be attending and will provide an update on the Board's actions in the October 8 Schoolhouse News.

- Dr. Bob Pychinka shares his legislative report prior to the start of the 2011 legislative (long) session. Please take time to browse his summary of Federal and State elections by clicking [here](#).

- The IASP Legislative Committee met on Tuesday, September 21 at the IASP office. Dr. Pychinka led this group through our current platform to review our legislative priorities and new state initiatives. This platform will then be shared with the Executive Committee and the IASP Board for review. A shortened version of "Talking Points" will then be developed for use with legislators.

- **National Principal's Month is Here!!**

October 2010 marks National Principal's Month, namely the month to celebrate YOU, our very important principals! NASSP has created a web page for this special month, which you can access at <http://www.principals.org/NationalPrincipalsMonth.aspx>.

On this page you can find ideas for principals, parents, teachers, and students to celebrate this month, as well as the text of the Senate Resolution that recognizes October 2010 as National Principal's Month. If you have photos of events or proclamations from civic leaders celebrating this event, please send those to us so we can celebrate with you. Email your news features to tbess@iasp.org and thanks again for your dedication.

- **Ed Leaders Network Coming Soon!**
 - These are not your typical power points with endless bullets being read to you. Come see highlights at the Fall Conference in November. The full release is scheduled for February, 2011.



IDOE NEWS

IDOE Announces Indiana Education Reform Cabinet

The Indiana Education Reform Cabinet (IERC) held its inaugural meeting Saturday, Sept. 18. The cabinet is composed of 15 teachers from school corporations across the state.

The IERC was created to provide classroom teachers a recognized forum for asking questions and providing thoughtful feedback on the state's newest education initiatives. Meetings will cover topics such as Indiana's Growth Model, Rule Revisions for Educator Preparation and Accountability (REPA), Common Core State Standards, the Learning Connection, teacher and principal evaluation processes, and legislative efforts.

"The Indiana Education Reform Cabinet members are a vital component in building a system that better serves teachers, school leaders and students in Indiana," Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Tony Bennett said. "I look forward to

working with these devoted educators to provide high quality academic opportunities for all Hoosier students.”

Indiana's New Learning Targets

In July of 2010, educators, professors, and administrators collaborated to develop math and English curriculum maps for the current state standards. This project focused on breaking down Indiana's Academic Standards into Learning Targets in order to create logical learning progressions. Clear learning targets allow us to:

- Know if the assessment adequately covers and samples what was taught
- Identify what students know and don't know and their level of achievement
- Plan next steps in instruction
- Give detailed, descriptive feedback to students
- Encourage students to self-assess and set goals
- Select instructional activities that actually help students achieve the target

Access the learning targets: http://indianadoe.buildyourowncurriculum.com/public/course_search.aspx

While Indiana has adopted the Common Core State Standards, they will be taught in kindergarten next year, kindergarten and first grade the following year, and all grades will begin teaching these standards in 2013- 2014. As a result, the learning targets and state level curriculum maps will be updated each year to reflect the Common Core standards. Until then, the IDOE wants to provide the greatest instructional information possible for Indiana's academic standards.

Top National Education Stories

➤ **House Full Committee Hearing on Impact of Student Athlete Concussions**

The House Committee on Education and Labor held a full committee hearing on a new bill to be introduced, the Protecting Student Athletes from Concussions Act. NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell also endorsed this legislation in a letter to Rep. George Miller, Ranking Majority Chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee.

This legislation would require that districts implement a concussion safety and management plan that would educate students, parents, and school personnel about the importance of concussion safety and how to effectively support students recovering from concussions. NASSP has sent a letter to Chairman Miller in support of this bill.

Read the Committee's press release on this hearing here: <http://edlabor.house.gov/newsroom/2010/09/new-legislation-to-help-inform.shtml>. Watch the video of the hearing and read Rep. Miller's opening remarks here: <http://edlabor.house.gov/hearings/2010/09/protecting-student-athletes-fr.shtml>.

- This week, the House companion to [S. 3658](#), the Senate version of the bill to provide principals with professional development in early childhood education, will be introduced by Representatives Jason Altmire (PA) and Jim Himes (CT). Both bills provide funds to expand access to quality professional development on the critical components of early childhood education: developmentally appropriate practices, the way a school culture supports early learning, and the principal's role in bridging the gap between prekindergarten and the primary grades. NAESP appreciates the sponsors of the bill, including Senator Mark Udall (CO), as well as the support from the early childhood community, including Pre-K Now and the National Association of Educating Young Children (NAEYC).

Principals can contact legislators and request they co-sponsor these bills through NAESP's [Legislative Action Center](#).

- The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) has released a draft of their Model Core Teaching Standards. Principals are encouraged to review the document and submit feedback through the link provided.

September 27, 2010

Dear Educator:

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- Sincerely,
Julie Kochanek, Ph.D.
Senior Research Associate

\$\$ GRANT TIP OF THE WEEK \$\$

That's the spirit! The **Community Spirit Awards**, offered by **Prudential Financial** and the **National Association of Secondary School Principals**, provides cash awards to **middle and high school students** for **extraordinary community service**.

Grant award: **\$1,000 - \$5,000**. Deadline: **November 1, 2010**.

More info >>>>

Enjoy the fall color it may be brief. Cooler weather reminds us all to prepare for the change of seasons as we address all the other changes in our lives. Have a great weekend.

Gerald and Todd