



# Schoolhouse News

September 3, 2010

Here is the latest edition of the Schoolhouse News. We are working to provide a consistent format for this news feed and welcome your comments on what improvements we can make. We hope this weekly newsletter will help you manage your inbox while also providing Indiana and national education news. You may follow the provided link if you wish to see more details on a particular item.

## **JOB OPENINGS:**

- Spanish Teacher for 7 weeks...Do you know of anyone who is interested? Please have them send resume to my e-mail.

Jimmy Meadows, Jr., Stonybrook Middle School Principal: [jmeadows@warren.k12.in.us](mailto:jmeadows@warren.k12.in.us)

## ➤ **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Children's Museum Director, School and Family Programs**

**OVERVIEW:** Provides the educational vision for, and integrity of, the museum's world class family and school programs that connect the museum's exhibit experiences directly to families as well as the formal education community of pre-k -16 schools and universities. Provides strategic leadership and oversight in the areas of school services and outreach programs to children and families. Understands and advocates for the Family Learning philosophy of TCM and incorporates it into all programs. Assures the operational effectiveness of all family and school programs for visitors within and outside of the museum. Partners with like-minded formal and informal learning institutions in order to develop and implement a world-class school services and family learning programs.

Click [here](#) for the full job description.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Please attend IASP District #6 Fall Meeting in Richmond to hear Wes Bruce discuss Indiana's Growth Model if you can. [See attached invitation](#). Hope to see you there!

Mrs. Kelly Andrews, Garrison Elementary School, Principal: 765-973-3755

- The Indiana State Reading Association is still accepting *concurrent session proposals* until September 15th for our conference being held March 13-15, 2011 at the Indiana Convention Center.

Make time to share the great things happening in your classrooms, buildings, or districts by presenting at our conference.

When you attend, you will also have the opportunity to learn from the experts in field of reading. Keynote speakers for our conference include Michael Opitz, Ralph Fletcher, Debbie Diller, and Ellin Keene. More information is available at [www.indianareads.org](http://www.indianareads.org)

or by contacting

Jessica Heidelberg, 2011 Program Chair, Indiana State Reading Association  
[jheidelberg@msdwt.k12.in.us](mailto:jheidelberg@msdwt.k12.in.us)

## IASP NEWS

- Member Steve Burt shared the information and site for locating a model crisis plan with a large amount of detail you are free to share from the DOE website below. Thanks to Greenfield for helping all schools.
  - Dee Kempson, the DOE school social work consultant, contacted me a couple of weeks ago about a new webpage that the DOE was developing regarding school safety and crisis response. She requested to be able to put the Greenfield Central Crisis plan and accompanying information that we provide to our students, teachers, and families on this new site. With Mrs. Vail's permission to release the information, it was sent to Dee and can now be found at:  
[http://www.doe.in.gov/sservices/crisis/crisis\\_kit-greenfield.html](http://www.doe.in.gov/sservices/crisis/crisis_kit-greenfield.html)

This is a tribute to the work that the social work and guidance staffs put into the development of these resources.

- **The IASP Assistant Principals Conference is coming soon!** [Register for this 2-day event here](#) and be ready to be energized and informed on current education topics and legal issues. Now is a great time to renew friendships and find new colleagues who can help you manage the tough school days. Featured speakers are [Neila Connors](#), [Danny Tanoos](#), and [Dave Emmert](#). Reserve October 11 and 12 at the downtown Indianapolis Hyatt Regency now; the cutoff for making hotel reservations at a reduced rate is September 13. Hotel information and agenda can be found at <http://www.iasp.org/dppassistantprincipal2010.html>.
- **The Fall Professionals Conference** is also on the calendar. This three day conference, November 21-23, will be your source for professional development this school year at a time when we all need to help each other. Online registration is easy and you can also book your hotel room at a reduced rate at the downtown Indianapolis Marriott. Visit <http://www.iasp.org/dppfallconference2010.html> for speaker bios, online registration, and hotel reservations. The concurrent sessions are set to provide timely information from your colleagues in the field and from our local professional organizations.

- **V Bulletin is waiting for your help.** Forum topics are posted on **VBulletin** and your colleagues need your timely advice. The V Bulletin link is on the IASP homepage, simply click and login to start helping fellow principals. Or, just click this icon.



A username and password is necessary; if you need help with this, please contact Penny Moss: 317-891-990 ext 211, or email her at [pmoss@iasp.org](mailto:pmoss@iasp.org). As our method of communication evolves, VBulletin will become a primary source for sharing news or posting questions. Please become familiar with this format so you can continue to stay connected.

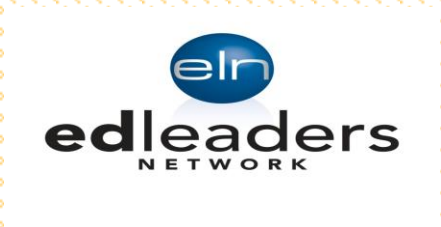
Current forum Categories and Topics are listed below:

**School Schedules:** Elementary 90 Minute Reading Block

**Practices:** GPA Calculation, 7-Semester GPA for Valedictorian, Peer Mediation Program

**Policies:** Staff Dress Code, Model Crisis Plan, ID of honors or HA students, Procedures for transporting students and vacating school after hours, Promotion/Retention policy for MS, GPA requirements and restrictions, Home School Credits, and YouTube Access to students

- **Ed Leaders Network Coming Soon!**
  - Look for more information soon on this new library of professional development programs in February 2011.



- We hope that you are enjoying the weekly Schoolhouse News updates. We have now posted a link on the IASP homepage titled [Schoolhouse News](#) that contains our past weekly updates. Click on the link here or on the homepage to access past issues of the Schoolhouse News.

## **INDIANA NEWS**

- Greetings from the Lilly Endowment: Once again – for the 24th year – the Endowment is pleased to announce that the **Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program** will honor and recognize Indiana teachers, principals, assistant principals, guidance counselors, media specialists.

The Endowment will offer 120 fellowships at \$8,000 each for these educators to embark on summertime periods of personal renewal. Nearly 2,200 Indiana educators have participated in this competitive program and returned with tales of adventure, personal discovery, new scholarship, and a renewed sense of purpose. For a full program description, go to [www.lillyendowment.org](http://www.lillyendowment.org) or [www.teachercreativity.org](http://www.teachercreativity.org).

Thank you. Click [here](#) for the b/w article . Click [here](#) for the color article. Click [here](#) for the color ad

- Bedford North Lawrence High School invites high schools and middle schools to send English and Language Arts Teachers to this in-service.

Rick Wormeli - Disney English Teacher of the Year Thursday, September 23rd 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Bedford North Lawrence High School, Bedford, Indiana

Rick Wormeli is one of the most highly sought after educational consultants in America. Rick has been featured on Good Morning America and has been an invited guest at the White House. Rick is a Disney English Teacher of the Year. Rick will present in-service on the following topics:

1. Meaningful Homework Versus Busy Work 2. Assessment & Grading Practices 3. Writing Process 4. Writing Applications

This staff development program is open to all high school and middle school English/Language Arts teachers. The registration fee includes continental breakfast and lunch and is only \$ 60 per person.

Marshall University provides the credit. The DOE requires credit be provided by an accredited university, are 500 level or above courses, and appear on an official transcript. Marshall University meets all of this criteria. Principals, if you would like to send teachers from your school to this in service, contact Bill Denney at [BNLdenneyb@nlcs.k12.in.us](mailto:BNLdenneyb@nlcs.k12.in.us) or call 812-279-9756.

- Course Fees Lowered For IASP Member Schools!

The following courses meet the new Indiana DOE REPA guidelines for license renewal. Educators can take these courses for graduate credit or Professional Growth Points. The course fee has been lowered for member schools of IASP from \$ 600 for 3 graduate credits to \$ 525.

Registration deadline is Tuesday, September 7th.

- ❖ Infected With Apathy - Healed By Creativity Day One - Saturday, October 16th Day Two - Sunday, October 17th Day Three - Saturday, October 23rd 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Indiana Convention Center, Indianapolis, Indiana.

3 Graduate Credits - Course Fee = \$ 525 or 24 Professional Growth Points - Course Fee = \$ 300

- ❖ 12 Traits of a Tremendous Teacher & Administrator Day One - Sunday, October 24th Day Two - Saturday, November 6th Day Three - Sunday, November 7th 8:30 to 3:30 Indiana Convention Center Indianapolis, Indiana

3 Graduate Credits - Course Fee = \$ 525 or 24 Professional Growth Points - Course Fee = \$ 300

Registration deadline is Tuesday, September 7th. Go to [www.billdenneyconsulting.com](http://www.billdenneyconsulting.com) for course descriptions, course requirements, and registration information. Bill Denney is the course instructor and is also the Principal of Bedford North Lawrence High School. Bill can be reached at 260-409-2144 or [billdenney@hughes.net](mailto:billdenney@hughes.net)

- IASP and Disney present the following Disney Institute Leadership Conference. A reduced rate is available just by using the IASPMEE code at registration.



The flyer features a dark blue header with the IASP logo (a map of Indiana with 'IASP' text) on the left and the Disney Institute logo (with 'Disney INSTITUTE' and 'A DISNEY APPROACH TO BUSINESS EXCELLENCE') on the right. Below the logos, the text 'Welcomes...' is written in a white script font. The website 'www.KeysIndianapolis.com' is on the left and 'EVENT DATE: September 28, 2010' is on the right. The main body is olive green with a red headline: 'Discover The Success Drivers From One Of The World's Leading Companies And Learn How To Generate Breakthrough Growth For Your Organization!'. Below this are four columns of text, each with a blue header: 'LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE', 'PEOPLE MANAGEMENT', 'QUALITY SERVICE', and 'BRAND LOYALTY'.

**www.KeysIndianapolis.com** **EVENT DATE: September 28, 2010**

**Discover The Success Drivers From One Of The World's Leading Companies  
And Learn How To Generate Breakthrough Growth For Your Organization!**

<p><b>LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE</b> At the core of Disney's success is its leadership. Find out how to use Disney's effective leadership principals to improve everything from customer satisfaction to bottom-line results.</p>	<p><b>PEOPLE MANAGEMENT</b> Disney's management principals are second-to-none. Learn how to apply them in your own organization to create an environment in which employees thrive and perform to their highest potential.</p>	<p><b>QUALITY SERVICE</b> Disney is admired for their customer service record. Discover how Disney employees make customer service central to their everyday lives and how you can too.</p>	<p><b>BRAND LOYALTY</b> Disney is arguably one of the biggest brands in the world. Learn how you can apply their brand strategies in your own organization with almost immediate impact.</p>
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**Reserve September 28, 2010 for an exciting opportunity you and your fellow employees won't want to miss!**

One short day away from the office can transform the style of your management and the state of your business forever. Learn by Disney's examples and attend **Disney's Approach to Business Excellence** program on September 28, 2010 at The Murat Centre. The cost to attend is just \$395 per guest, but you can save \$50 per guest when you use promo code IASPMEE at registration. Plus, additional group discounts are available when you register 10 or more employees.

For more information on **Disney's Approach to Business Excellence** program or to register now, visit [www.KeysIndianapolis.com](http://www.KeysIndianapolis.com)

[Click here for the flyer!!](#)

## ➤ PARCC Consortium Awarded Race to the Top Assessment Funds

*Indiana part of State Partnership to create a Common Assessment to Prepare All Students for College and Careers*

The U.S. Department of Education today awarded Race to the Top assessment funds to the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC or Partnership) to develop a K-12 assessment system aligned to the Common Core State Standards. The goal of the PARCC assessment is to help states dramatically increase the number of students who graduate high school ready for college and careers.

Indiana is one of the 11 governing states that will lead the 26-state partnership in assessment development. Other states include: Arizona, the District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island and Tennessee. Florida will serve as PARCC's fiscal agent.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full press release.

## ➤ DOE STATE BOARD MEETING UPDATE

The Indiana State Board of Education met on September 1 to discuss several [agenda](#) items. Congratulations to Pike Central High School Principal LeAnne Kelley, and her teacher Ray Niehaus and his students on being honored at the meeting during the Spotlight on Learning. Their work with Project Lead The Way illustrates the great work across Indiana in our schools.

The only actions that were taken were to approve several renewals for Freeway School Petitions and to approve the K-12 Technology standards.

Much discussion was held, however, regarding the Read on, Indiana, [Assessment](#), and [Accountability](#) items.

**Read on, Indiana:** The template for the Reading Plan was presented and comments and suggestions were taken. The DOE has strived to streamline this form and to avoid redundancy. Look for the form to include fields for team members, the Core Reading Program, Reading Interventions, Assessments by grade level, Goals by grade level, Professional Development, and Parent Communication. Several areas will be pre-populated with drop down boxes to aid completion. We will work with the DOE to help refine the form and process.

After listening to several comments from State Board Members, we would offer that the State Board has a high level of interest in this initiative and wishes to drive reading attainment.

**Assessment:** The push for ISTEP online assessment this spring continued. The test of a networks capacity for online assessment will occur this fall after the software is installed on your school corporation network.

Wes Bruce did also discuss that as PL 221 and AYP are separated (this is a part of the new school grading approach), this could help with the current cap placed on the percentage that may be tested under IMAST.

**Accountability:** Jeff Zaring presented a draft plan of what the High School Accountability Model could look like. This has been a difficult issue given the lack of an ISTEP test at the high school level. We appreciate the time that Jeff Zaring and others at DOE have given to this topic, and for their consideration of suggestions given by IASP and several principals. [CLICK HERE](#) for the draft plan that was presented at the meeting. If you have thoughts or questions regarding this draft plan, please contact Todd Bess at [tbess@iasp.org](mailto:tbess@iasp.org), or Steve Baker, Blufton High School Principal, at [sbaker@bhmsd.k12.in.us](mailto:sbaker@bhmsd.k12.in.us).

## ➤ IDOE Honors Title I Distinguished Principals

The Indiana State Board of Education recognized Indiana's "Title 1 Distinguished Principals" at this morning's monthly meeting. These school leaders come from high-performing, high-poverty schools and provide assistance to Title I schools in implementing school improvement plans.

"Every student—regardless of the color of their skin or how much money mom and dad have in the bank—deserves exceptional learning opportunities, and I believe excellence in education begins with great teachers and school leaders," said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Tony Bennett. "These Distinguished Principals are improving academic achievement in high-poverty schools, proving once again Indiana's students will meet or exceed the high expectations we set for them. I look forward to learning of their continued success, and I hope all Indiana schools will look to these great leaders as an example of excellence."

Each Distinguished Principal is paired with a Comprehensive Intensive Title 1 school and works with fellow principals, teachers, administrative staff and community members to enhance student learning opportunities in that school. These efforts form an important component of the Indiana Institute for School Leadership Teams, a two-year program for Title 1 Comprehensive Intensive Schools aimed at fostering increased academic achievement in underperforming schools.

The Title 1 Distinguished Principals are:

- ❖ **David Rohl**, principal at Perry Meridian Middle School in Indianapolis, serving as Distinguished Principal for Abbett Elementary in Fort Wayne
- ❖ **Jeff Cline**, principal at Fairfield Elementary in Fort Wayne, serving as Distinguished Principal for Madison Primary in South Bend
- ❖ **Maribeth Guhl**, principal at Meredith Nicholson Elementary in Indianapolis, serving as Distinguished Principal for Indianapolis Lighthouse Charter
- ❖ **Julie Bakehorn**, principal at Brookside Elementary in Indianapolis, serving as Distinguished Principal for Beck Elementary in Elkhart
- ❖ **Greg Myers**, principal at J.E. Ober Elementary School in Garrett, serving as Co-Distinguished Principal for Dugger Elementary in Northeast School Corporation
- ❖ **Tonya Weaver**, administrator at Garrett-Keyser-Butler CSD, serving as Co-Distinguished Principal for Dugger Elementary in Northeast School Corporation
- ❖ **Sally Vaught**, principal at Loper Elementary in Shelbyville, serving as Distinguished Principal for Southwick Elementary in East Allen
- ❖ **Stephen Foster**, principal at Creston Intermediate Academy, serving as Distinguished Principal for Howard Roosa in Evansville
- ❖ **Kristie Sweeney**, regional director for Lighthouse Academies Charter School in Indianapolis, serving as Distinguished Principal for McGary Middle School in Evansville
- ❖ **Phil Talbert**, principal at Hawthorne Elementary in Warren Township, serving as Distinguished Principal for Village Elementary in East Allen

## ➤ Bennett Announces 2011 Teacher of the Year Finalists

Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Tony Bennett today announced ten finalists for the 2011 Indiana Teacher of the Year program, which recognizes the state's outstanding classroom teachers.

"The number one factor for students' academic success is teacher quality," Bennett said. "Our ten finalists are committed to delivering innovative classroom instruction and driving student growth. Their achievements serve as best practice examples for teachers across the state."

The Teacher of the Year program is open to all licensed classroom teachers who intend to remain active in the teaching field. Each year, school officials nominate teachers by submitting portfolios in which teachers' exceptional qualities and accomplishments are highlighted in a professional biography, a description of their community service, their philosophy of teaching and their views on educational issues and trends.

Indiana superintendents nominated 50 public and non-public educators for the 2011 Indiana Teacher of the Year. All nominees will be honored in November with a banquet.

The ten finalists were selected based on criteria that include concern for students, the ability to inspire learning and willingness to work cooperatively with colleagues. Each finalist will be interviewed Tuesday, September 7, 2010, by a committee of past Indiana Teacher of the Year honorees and other education stakeholders.

The following teachers were selected as Indiana's ten Teacher of the Year finalists:

**Scott D. Black**

Grades 9-12, Speech/Debate  
MSD of Warren Township  
Warren Central High School

**JoAnn Brugos**

Grade 1  
LaPorte Community School Corporation  
Hailmann Elementary

**Erin Hartman**

Grades 9-12, U.S. History & Economics  
Elkhart Community Schools  
Elkhart Memorial High School

**Stacy Huffer**

Grade 4  
Warsaw Community Schools  
Leesburg Elementary School

**John A. Jackson**

Grades 9-12, Secondary Social Studies  
Franklin Community School Corporation  
Franklin Community High School

**Stacy A. McCormack**

Grades 11-12, Physics  
Penn-Harris-Madison School  
Corporation  
Penn High School

**Lisa Miniear**

Grades 9-12, Physical Education  
Franklin Township Community School  
Corporation  
Franklin Central High School

**Jamil Odom**

Grade 3, General Education and High  
Ability  
MSD of Perry Township  
Mary Bryan Elementary School

**Anthony Record**

Grades 9-12, Mathematics  
Avon Community School Corporation  
Avon High School

**Jacquelyn J. Singleton**

Grade 1  
Archdiocese of Indianapolis  
St. Anthony of Padua

The winner, to be announced mid-to-late September, will be Indiana's candidate for National Teacher of the Year and will be recognized in Washington D.C. this spring. Indiana's Teacher of the Year will receive \$1,000 and sabbatical/higher education scholarship opportunities.

The National Teacher of the Year Program, sponsored by the ING Foundation, is a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers. Visit [www.doe.in.gov/toy](http://www.doe.in.gov/toy) for more information.

## **Top National Education Stories**

### ➤ **An agenda founded on mixed results**

In a critique of the education policies of the Obama administration, David Moberg writes in *In These Times* that on the campaign trail, then-Senator Obama offered Arne Duncan's efforts in Chicago as an alternative model for improving American schools, but in fact Duncan's reforms were too mixed "to justify pushing them on every financially desperate school district." During his tenure, Duncan promoted charter schools and a program known as Renaissance 2010, which involved shutting down poorly performing schools, dismissing all staff, and reopening them with or without the old student body. Chicago's charters have performed no differently in reading than public schools. Bonus payments to "good" teachers had "no significant impact on student achievement or teacher retention" in Chicago, according to Mathematica Policy Research. Other studies have concluded that Renaissance 2010 schools only occasionally performed better than demographically similar schools, and that Duncan's "portfolio strategy" yielded "no dramatic improvements." Nor did strategies imposed on schools as consequences for low scores produce higher outcomes. The number of high school students who failed to meet grade-level performance remained between 69 and 73 percent from 2001 to 2008, the year before Duncan left Chicago for Washington.

Read more: [http://www.inthesetimes.com/article/6324/can\\_our\\_schools\\_run\\_on\\_duncan](http://www.inthesetimes.com/article/6324/can_our_schools_run_on_duncan)

### ➤ **The numbers don't add up (yet)**

On *The Numbers Guy* blog in *The Wall Street Journal*, Carl Bialik writes that efforts by some districts to assess teachers based on student test scores "deserves an 'incomplete'," since the method relies on a flawed statistical approach, and studies find that the assessments don't really predict how much students' test scores will change. For instance, students aren't always assigned to teachers randomly: A teacher who gets more than his share of students who learn slowly because of his knack for helping them might be penalized at the end of the year. Elementary-school teachers might have just 15 or 20 students in their classes, which is a small sample on which to evaluate a teacher's achievements. Research also suggests that using multiple years of data helps, though only so much. A report from the Department of Education released last month shows that even with three years of data, one in four teachers is likely to be misclassified because unrelated variables creep in. Bialik feels that even with these questions, relying on student test scores to create a quantitative assessment of teachers is better than the current standard practice, where principals grade teachers based on a few minutes of classroom observation (and then give mostly high scores). Advocates of the student test-score measure say it can be improved with a carefully constructed model that takes into account such factors as students' family income and schools' support for teachers.

Read more:

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704476104575440100517520516.html?mod=dist\\_smartbrief](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704476104575440100517520516.html?mod=dist_smartbrief)



## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

### ➤ **Carnegie/New York Times: I Love My Librarian Award**

The Carnegie Corporation of New York/New York Times I Love My Librarian Award recognizes the accomplishments of exceptional public, school, college, community college, or university librarians. Maximum award: \$5,000, a plaque, and \$500 travel stipend to attend an awards reception in New York hosted by The New York Times. Eligibility: school, public, college, or university librarians. Deadline: September 20, 2010.

<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/lovemylibrarian/home.cfm>

### ➤ **Verizon Foundation: Literacy Grants**

Verizon Foundation Literacy Grants are available to organizations committed to basic literacy skills in the United States. Verizon has invested in a network of collaborative literacy partners, offering a wide variety of programs with a focus on e-learning. Verizon's leadership in technology and communications provides the distribution network. Maximum award: \$10,000. Eligibility: 501(c)3 organizations. Deadline: October 31, 2010.

<http://foundation.verizon.com/grant/guidelines.shtml>

### ➤ **The Indiana Humanities Council to launch Indiana Legal History Grant program**

The Council is launching a new grant program with the Indiana Supreme Court that supports research, documentation and educational projects related to Indiana's legal history.

Eligible projects include research related to court documents, written and oral histories of Indiana's courthouses, individuals, cases brought before the courts and family histories of those involved with Indiana's legal system. Educational print materials will be given special consideration. These could include walking tour brochures, guides to courthouses and curriculum units designed for K-12 classes.

Guidelines and applications are available [here](#). The deadline is Nov. 1. For more information, contact Nancy ([nconner@indianahumanities.org](mailto:nconner@indianahumanities.org)).

Have a great Labor Day weekend!  
Gerald and Todd