



Schoolhouse News

A Publication of the Indiana Association of School Principals

11025 East 25th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46229 www.iasp.org Feb 17, 2012

Announcements

- **Riley Updates**
 - **Riley Kids:** Click on the link to check out the [newest story](#) on the Kids Caring and Sharing website. You are encouraged to send KCS notes of Riley kids and campaigns in your community.
 - **Riley Children's Hospital:** [Click here for the latest newsletter.](#)
- **Free Webinar:** Discover creative opportunities for using newspapers in the classroom – both digital and print editions. Join this free webinar and earn ½-point Indiana PGP credit!
Newspapers: A Class Act! (A Newspaper in Education Initiative)
Tuesday, Feb. 28
Two sessions:
3:45-4:15 p.m. – For teachers of Grades 3-5
4:45-5:15 p.m. – For middle-school teachers
Before the webinar teachers will receive instructional objectives based on Common Core Standards for English, Language Arts & Literacy.
- **Opinions Needed:** Northwestern Elementary School is looking for advice and opinions on the anti-bullying/conflict management program, Kelso's Choice. Please share your opinion. Do you have it? Have you had it in the past? Have you rejected it? Does it work for you? Is it a waste of resources? Please share your experiences with Ron Owings, Principal at Ronald.Owings@nwsc.k12.in.us or 765-457-8101 ext. 5012.
- **Documentary captures efforts to curb hate, school bullying**
A new documentary highlights efforts by educators and students in one public-school district and two colleges to stamp out hate and bullying in the school environment. "Not In Our Town: Class Actions," set to premiere today on PBS, was produced in conjunction with a social media campaign that offers online resources for educators seeking to launch similar initiatives.
[Edutopia.org/Suzie Boss' blog](http://Edutopia.org/SuzieBoss/blog)

Content

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

[IMLEA](#)

[GenerationOn](#)

[Riley Children's Foundation](#)
[IASP Kids Caring & Sharing](#)

Content

- **generationOn UPDATES:** The MOST IMPORTANT thing that a K-12 Principal can do to help their teachers be aware of the tremendous service-learning resources and philanthropy curriculum on the generationOn website is to ask teachers in their schools to **REGISTER** on the [generationOn website](#). After a teacher or administrator registers, they will receive updates from generationOn Indiana. These updates will include website includes monthly Moments of Service curriculum and project ideas, online and school training opportunities, access to submit their service projects online, and grant opportunities to start your school's journey to Become a generationOn School. As an example, on the [February Moments of Service](#) page, you can find lessons that focus on Black History Month and Acts of Caring and Kindness. Also, the [Project of the Month](#) "Words Into Action" can challenge your students to celebrate diversity through advocacy. Check out more information about generationOn on the IASP website on the generationOn link and in the archived section of the School House News. If you have any questions contact Joan Belschwender at generationOn@iasp.org or 317-891-9900 x201

- **The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE)** in conjunction with their contractor, Evaluation Systems group of Pearson, is recruiting educators for an important two-day meeting that is taking place during the week of April 9, 2012 in Indianapolis.

Educators in the following fields will be meeting:

- *CORE Academic Skills Assessment*
- *CTE-Agriculture*
- *Elementary Education*
- *Engineering and Technology Education*
- *English Learners*
- *Exceptional Needs – Mild Intervention*
- *Fine Arts – Theatre Arts*
- *Journalism*
- *Social Studies – Geographical Perspectives*
- *World Languages – Chinese*
- *World Languages – French*
- *World Languages – German*
- *World Languages – Japanese*

These tests will be part of the new educator licensure program, Indiana CORE Assessments for Educator Licensure, which will become operational in 2013. The program is an important aspect of the licensure process for Indiana educators. Current educators, like you, are urgently needed to contribute their expertise to the creation of these new tests. **Please apply today!**

Benefits of Participation Include:

- *Professional Growth Points that can be used for license renewal.*
- *Collaborate with educators from across Indiana.*
- *Reimbursement for travel and meal expenses.*
- *Hotel accommodations, if necessary.*
- *Substitute reimbursement for P-12 educators.*

- **IASP member** Mike Caywood is [running](#) for State Representative of Dist. 82.

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

Riley Children's Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing

Content

- **Corydon Central High School** is looking for new ideas regarding food selection service in the school cafeteria. If you have ideas to share or would be willing to allow us to visit, please email principal Jennie Capelle at capellej@shcsc.k12.in.us.
- **Competency-based learning takes hold in N.H. schools**
Schools across New Hampshire are participating in a statewide effort to implement competency-based learning in the classroom. The strategy allows students to demonstrate mastery in new ways and decreases the focus on seat time in the classroom in favor of learning opportunities off-campus and online. At one high school, educators are revising their grading system and report cards to reflect the approach, while online courses allow students to learn at their own pace. [Education Week](#)
- **The Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators** is looking for an Associate Executive Director. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Essay Contest for 3rd Graders:** The Association of Indiana Counties presents an essay contest for third grade students across Indiana. The essay focus is “Healthy Counties, Healthy Families”, which reflects the theme of this year’s National County Government Month. For more information, [view the Essay Flyer](#). Submissions are due March 19th.
- **Pride Fundraising:** As the fundraising season gets under way we want to remind you of a member benefit provided by IASP that will help Indiana schools with successful, more profitable event-based fundraising. If your school and parent leaders are unaware of this program, please forward this email.
The time-saving resources, available through Pride Fundraising , will help your school earn 30% or more than a DIY fundraising event and help you keep 90 to 95% of your profits. Learn more about this valuable program at www.PrideFundraising.com/Indiana and don’t forget to request a FREE sample and information packet. Also, save \$100 with promotion code IASP when you register for this service.
- **What Great Teachers Do Differently: 17 Things That Matter Most**
This workshop will take place at Indiana State University. Everyone will leave knowing what great educators do differently, why these differences make these educators more effective, and how to immediately implement each of these into your own classrooms and schools. This One-day teachers’ workshop will be set up to accommodate on-campus, as well as distance learners. Find the [brochure](#) and [registration flyer](#) by clicking the links. For more information visit <http://coe.indstate.edu/edlr/Workshops/index.htm>

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

*Riley Children’s Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing*

- **Aspiring Principals Conference, April 22-23:** This unique two-day workshop gives educators who are considering a career in building level leadership an ideal opportunity to learn more about this fast paced, challenging, and rewarding career. Facilitated by principal-practioners, this conference exposes participants to the special challenges and opportunities of the fast -paced role of administration. Complete information is available at <http://www.iasp.org/dppAspiring%20Principals%20Conferece2012.html>. You can access online registration by [clicking here](#).

If you refer an Aspiring Principal to this conference you will receive a \$20 credit toward a 2012-2013 IASP conference.

District Meetings

- **District 1:** Thursday, April 26th at 6 pm at White Hawk Country Club in Crown Point.
- **District 5:** Wednesday, February 22nd from 6:00-8:15 at Pleasant View Elementary, 4700 South 975 East, Zionsville, IN 46077. [Click here to view the meeting agenda.](#)

- **District 6**

Meet John Gregg, Democratic Candidate for Governor
Wednesday, February 22, 2012, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

*Richmond High School
McQuire Hall/Richmond Art Museum
380 Hub Etchison Parkway
Richmond, Indiana 47374
765-973-3431*

John Gregg will be on hand to discuss his education platform for the upcoming Democratic Gubernatorial Primary election this spring. Bring your questions and queries for this candidate so we will be better informed at the polls in May.
Dessert will be served in the lobby after the session.

*RSVP by February 20th to:
Mrs. Kelly Andrews, President District 6
kellyan@rcs.k12.in.us
765-973-3431*

- **District 8:** The next meeting for District 8 will be on Tuesday, February 28th at 5:00pm at Almost Home Tea Room, 17 W. Franklin St. Greencastle, IN. The guest speaker will be Dr. Tony Bennett. He will speak from 5:00 to 6:00 and dinner will be served at 6:00pm. [Click here to view the flyer.](#)

- **District 9:** Tuesday, February 21st from 10-1pm

*Whiteland Community High School
300 Main Street
Whiteland, IN 46184*

RSVP by email to proctorb@centergrove.k12.in.us no later than Friday, February 17th.

****Invite your Superintendent to join us!****

Sponsored by HORACE MANN, Agents Ron Wallman, Linda Wilson, and Maribel Baumberger

Content

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

Riley Children's Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing

Ten Receive Funding for Innovative Education Initiatives

Wednesday at Herron High School in Indianapolis, Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Tony Bennett recognized the ten schools, school corporations, non-profits and other organizations selected to receive a portion of \$5 million through Indiana's innovation fund grant competition. Representatives from all ten winning schools and organizations attended the event at Herron High School.

"We received many quality applications, but those selected to receive funds this year demonstrated the best chance for short -and long-term effects on student success," Bennett said. "In particular, this year's recipients demonstrated a commitment to academic rigor, educator effectiveness and school improvement. I am eager to see the positive results for students brought about through these winning programs."

[Click here to read the full article and the list of winners.](#)

RISE Principal Evaluation System: The Indiana DOE just posted information about the RISE Principal rubric. The rubric, metrics, and allowable modifications can all be found at <http://www.riseindiana.org/how-does-rise-work/training-support-and-resources>. Scroll to the bottom of the page to find the Principal Evaluation Resources. Administrators may want to join the community, IDOE - Developing New Indiana Evaluations, on the [Learning Connection](#) to receive updates to the Principal Rubric and to stay involved in the evaluation discussion.

RISE Counselor Rubric: The Indiana DOE has posted a sample of the Counselor Rubric and Counselor Job Description. These documents can be found at <http://www.doe.in.gov/student-services/student-assistance/current-events-and-updates>. Additional resources are available within the counselor communities in the [Learning Connection](#). To join Counselor Talk (listserv for Indiana School Counselor Association), send an email to stocktor@indiana.edu with a request to subscribe.

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:*IMLEA**GenerationOn*

Riley Children's Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing

Content

Math and Science Educators Nominated for Presidential Award

Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Tony Bennett recognized six nominees for the 2012 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The PAEMST awards are the nation's highest honor for teachers of mathematics and science.

"I congratulate these extraordinary educators for receiving this distinguished honor," Dr. Bennett said. "To make sure all students are college and career ready, we need a great teacher in every classroom—especially in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Mastering these subjects is critical for our students to be successful in our 21st century economy. These finalists exemplify the very best of STEM educators."

Created in 1983 by the U.S. Congress, the PAEMST awards recognize excellence in math and science instruction across the United States.

The awards are administered for the President by the National Science Foundation and presents up to 108 awards each year.

The award is given to elementary teachers (K-6) in even-numbered years and to secondary teachers (7-12) in odd-numbered years. Nominees go through a rigorous application process in which they submit a videotaped unit and lesson with comprehensive reflection. The applications are reviewed by an independent panel of education experts, and the National Science Foundation selects the final state awardees.

For 2012, three secondary mathematics teachers and three secondary science teachers were nominated.

Mathematics Finalists:

Sandra Baker, Lincoln Middle School, Indianapolis

Natalie Schneider, Belzer Middle School, Indianapolis

Hillary Zortman, Arsenal Technical High School, Indianapolis

Science Finalists:

Liviu Haiducu, Avon High School, Avon

Christina McCarter, Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School, Indianapolis

Stacy McCormack, Penn High School, Mishawaka

For more information on the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, visit www.paemst.org.

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

Riley Children's Foundation

IASP Kids Caring & Sharing

Ed Leaders Network

Common Core State Standards: If you missed the live webinar featuring Dr. Schauna Findlay as she discusses the CCSS implementation, you can still see the recorded version. Login to your ELN account and click on Live Events. All of her handouts and materials are still available at www.edleadersnetwork.org. She will be producing two more webinars on the CCSS that will be made available through ELN. This whole series will be a great resource for you and your staff to view as the implementation timeline draws near.

Featured ELN Presenter: Schauna Findlay, Ph.D, is the Chief Academic Officer for Goodwill Education Initiatives where she supervises the academic programs for Indianapolis Metropolitan High School and The Excel Centers. Prior to joining Goodwill, Dr. Findlay was the director of Curriculum and Instruction at the Indiana Department of Education. There she supervised all content area specialists, Indiana's Academic Standards, implementation of state code regarding curriculum requirements and recommendations, and served as a team member of all areas impacting the state's academic achievement. Dr. Findlay was responsible for the state's plan for implementing the Common Core State Standards leading teachers, coaches, professors, and content experts in the development of state curriculum maps

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Individual Subscriptions

IASP members can subscribe to ELN for only \$99. This 12 month online membership provides great content in webinars of between 15 and 30 minutes in length. Work with your staff to provide timely topical information for a great rate. Go to <https://www.formstack.com/forms/?1033437-G7r8QEduUt> to register and begin receiving all the benefits of ELN.

Group Subscription

Take advantage of the HUGE discounts available by signing up your entire staff! **Create your ELN account** today and head to the [online store](#) to select any of the group subscription packages below.

- 10 - \$295 (non-member - \$595)
- 20 - \$495 (non-member - \$995)
- 40 - \$895 (non-member - \$1795)
- 60 - \$1195 (non-member - \$2395)
- 80 - \$1395 (non-member - \$2795)
- 100 - \$1495 (non-member - \$2995)
- 100+ contact support@edleadersnetwork.org for a quote!

[Click here](#) for detailed instructions on purchasing a group subscription.

Content

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

*Riley Children's Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing*

Indiana House leader kills creationism bill

A bill that would have specifically allowed Indiana's public schools to teach creationism alongside evolution in science classes has been shelved by the leader of the Indiana House of Representatives.

The proposal cleared the state Senate two weeks ago, but Republican House Speaker Brian Bosma is using a procedural move to kill the proposal for this legislative session.

"It seemed to me not to be a productive discussion, particularly in light that there is a United States Supreme Court case that appears to be on point that very similar language is counter to the constitution," Bosma said Tuesday. "It looked to me to be buying a lawsuit when the state can ill afford it."

To read the full article, visit <http://www.news-sentinel.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20120214/NEWS/120219744/1022/EDUCATION>

The Indiana Middle Level Education Association, state office for Schools to Watch is proud to announce the newly designated Indiana Schools to Watch for 2012:

Christel House Academy, grades 6 – 8, Indianapolis

Carey Dahncke, Principal

Franklin Community Middle School, Franklin

Pam Millikan, Principal

Hebron Middle School, Hebron

Lori Pavell, Principal

Riverside Intermediate School, Plymouth

Donna Burroughs, Principal



These 4 schools now join the other 7 Indiana Schools to Watch in becoming mentor schools for any middle level schools, grades 5 – 8, who are seeking help as a school or in any particular area regarding Academic Excellence, Developmental Responsiveness, Social Equity, or Organizational Support and Processes. These schools are all prepared for visits and networking of any kind. IMLEA has also trained over 40 administrators and teachers in Indiana in the STW criteria so that they are prepared to review applications, participate in site visits, and mentor other IN middle schools.

Teams for the 4 new schools will attend the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform's Summer Conference in Washington, D.C. in June, 2012. They will present a session on a program or practice at their school, spend an hour with an IN legislator on the "Hill," advocating for middle school best practices, attend the sessions given by other national STW, and attend a gala dinner to formally receive their award.

For more information about the Schools to Watch program and application, visit the [STW page](#) on the IMLEA website or call the IMLEA office at 317-894-2937 or email imlea@iasp.org.

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

Riley Children's Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing

National News

Teacher-tenure changes are under consideration in Va.

Virginia lawmakers are considering changes to the rules for teacher employment that could mean the elimination of seniority-based job protections for public-school teachers. If the measures are approved, three-year contracts would replace “continuing contracts” and would take effect in concert with new teacher evaluations that tie ratings to student performance.

[The Washington Post](#)

Mich. budget plan ties funding to student learning

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder is offering a 1% budget increase for the year beginning Oct. 1 to K-12 schools that demonstrate a full year’s worth of growth on standardized tests, according to a preliminary budget proposal. To be eligible, schools also would have to meet other requirements, including offering students options to take courses online. The proposal represents a unique approach to funding, by offering districts financial rewards based on student progress. [Google/The Associated Press](#)

Lawmaker proposes “Student Success Act” to replace NCLB

U.S. Rep. John Kline, chairman of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, says he believes Congress can act this year on legislation to reform No Child Left Behind. The Minnesota Republican on Thursday released the final parts of his “Student Success Act,” which would replace NCLB -- eliminating its “adequate yearly progress” measures. Instead, states would be required to design and implement their own school-accountability systems. [The Washington Times](#)

How will NCLB waivers affect disadvantaged students?

States that were granted waivers on Thursday from some requirements of No Child Left Behind will have new flexibility in assessing the performance of students and subgroups under federal law. While some say the changes could make it easier for states to overlook poor performance among subgroups, such as minority students and students with disabilities, Obama administration officials said the new accountability systems will be more inclusive of those students. [Education Week](#)

Content

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

Riley Children’s Foundation

IASP Kids Caring & Sharing

Legislative

All of the resources from past Schoolhouse News issues that provide information about the legislative committee members is still available.

[Click here to access all the information from previous issues.](#)

SB 179 Virtual instruction course requirement

The House Education Committee passed this bill 8-3 on a party line vote out of committee. It will be considered now by the full House.

The Senate Education Committee heard 11 bills on Wednesday in their 5 hour meeting. Their final meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday, 2/22 and will hear HB 1326: Various Education Matters. This bill is a clean-up bill and removes IPLA from statute. Following is a summary of bills impacting K-12 education.

HB 1047 Education Study Committee

The Senate Education committee passed this bill 6-2 out of committee. It will now be considered by the full Senate.

HB 1058 Adoption of Budget for Reorganized School

The Senate Education committee passed this bill 8-0 out of committee. It will now be considered by the full Senate.

HB 1134 Various education matters

This bill was passed out the Senate Education committee 7-3 and was then recommitted to the Senate Appropriations Committee. This committee will consider the financial impact of the language.

HB 1200 Indiana University and Ball State Boards

The Senate Education committee passed this bill 8-1 out of committee. It will now be considered by the full Senate.

HB 1220 Commission for Higher Education

The Senate Education committee passed this bill 8-1 out of committee. It will now be considered by the full Senate.

HB 1150 Family Friendly School Designation

A volume of testimony was heard on this bill with IASP supporting the concept. This bill will be heard again next week for amendments and vote.

Content

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

*Riley Children's Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing*

Content

HB 1169 School Discipline

This bill removes “unlawful” from statute and could allow administrators more leeway when disciplining students for behavior that interferes with a school purpose. Many Senators expressed concern that passing this bill would lead to an increase in suspensions and expulsions. IASP supported this bill as a good tool for principals to have available. Several concepts were proposed during testimony that would provide administrators more flexibility without removing the word, “unlawful”. This bill will be heard again next Wednesday for amendments and a vote by the committee.

HB 1189 Multiple ADM Counts

Some version of this bill language will be passed this session and this concept seems to work well for corporations and buildings. Two counts would occur (after September and after February) with funding modified then in January and July. This would allow your staff to complete the year and programs to remain in place. This bill was passed 9-0 out of committee and will now be heard in Senate Appropriations.

HB 1205 Superintendent Contracts

This bill is intended to provide transparency to the contracts that are issued to superintendents. The bill language also would require a building administrator’s contract to be published on the corporation’s website. IASP testified against this bill as the bill was originally intended to deal just with superintendents. The bill’s author, Bob Behning, replied that he desires all administrators to be included in this attempt to provide transparency.

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

Riley Children’s Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing

Grants

Newest Grant Opportunities

Kohl's Corporation: Kohl's Cares Scholarship Program

Every year, Kohl's recognizes and rewards young volunteers across the country for their amazing contributions to their communities. Maximum award: \$10,000. Eligibility: legal U.S. residents of a state in which a Kohl's store is located, between the ages of 6 and 18 and not yet a high school graduate as of March 15, 2012. Deadline: March 15, 2012.

<http://www.kohlscorporation.com/CommunityRelations/scholarship/index.asp>

Humane Society of the United States: Education Mini-grant

The Humane Society of the United States is now accepting applications for the 2012 Humane Education Mini-Grant, designed to fund innovative humane education opportunities in K-12 classrooms. Maximum award: \$1,000. Eligibility: all certified K-12 teachers in the U.S. Deadline: November 30, 2012.

http://www.humanesociety.org/parents_educators/award/humane_education_mini_grant.html

Archived Grants

Intel Foundation: Schools of Distinction

The Intel Foundation Schools of Distinction Program honors U.S. schools that have demonstrated excellence in math and science education. In order to be considered as an Intel School of Distinction, schools must develop an environment and curricula that meet or exceed benchmarks, including national mathematics and science content standards. Maximum award: \$25,000. Eligibility: middle and high schools in the U.S. Deadline: February 23, 2012.

<http://www.intel.com/about/corporateresponsibility/education/soda/index.htm>

Pulse of the Planet: Kid's Science Challenge

The Kid's Science Challenge is a chance for students to submit an idea, question, or problem for a participating scientist to solve. Maximum award: roundtrip airfare for the winner and his/her parent or legal guardian from a major airport nearest the winner home, hotel accommodations, and select events/sightseeing and meals, to visit the scientist who participated in his or her winning entry. Eligibility: all legal U.S. residents who are students enrolled in 3rd through 6th grade at a public, private, parochial, or home school located in one of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, or any of the U.S. territories and commonwealths, except in Puerto Rico. Deadline: February 28, 2012. <http://www.kidsciencechallenge.com/#/home>

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation offers several different grant opportunities to help youth and families learn how to read – including a special grant for summer literacy programs. Grant range: \$3,000 - \$15,000
Deadline: February 28, 2012 [More info >>>>](#)

Content

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

Riley Children's Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing



Content

The Bikes Belong Coalition funds the building of bike parks, trails, lanes, paths and facilities.

Grant range: \$10,000 Deadline: February 29, 2012 [More info >>>>](#)

Disney and Youth Service America fund the Disney Friends for Change Grants, supporting volunteer-led projects that highlight the creativity and commitment of students to make a positive change in their local community.

Grant range: \$1,000 Deadline: February 29, 2012 [More info >>>>](#)

Caring Institute: 2012 Caring Awards

The Caring Institute is now accepting nominations for its annual Caring Awards. Nominees should exemplify caring and serve as worthy role models for others.

Award criteria include length of service, scope and impact of work, challenges overcome, and imagination and innovation. Maximum award: All winners are honored at a special ceremony, and young adult winners receive funds for college. Eligibility: individuals from nine to 99 years old. Deadline: March 1, 2012.

<http://www.caring-institute.org/caringawards.html>

Study Language in China or Egypt

Intensive Summer Language Institutes (ISLI) provides fellowships for U.S. classroom teachers to spend six weeks overseas studying intermediate and advanced-level Arabic in Alexandria, Egypt, and Chinese in Changchun, China. Current K-12 teachers, community college instructors of Arabic and Mandarin Chinese, and students enrolled in education programs who intend to teach these languages can apply. Participants earn ten hours of graduate credit through Bryn Mawr College, and are provided with peer tutors and roundtrip airfare. All travel and study-related costs are fully covered. For more information, please visit www.americancouncils.org/isli or email isli@americancouncils.org. Program Application Deadline: March 2, 2012

ACTE: Cliff Weiss Essay Award

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) is sponsoring an essay contest in the memory of former ACTE Senior Director of Communications, Cliff Weiss (1951 -2004). This year, students will be asked to respond to the question, "How do you feel CTE prepares individuals, including yourself, for a future career?" Please include concrete examples of your classroom, CTSO participation, and job training (if applicable) experiences as they relate to your career exploration and preparation. The essay should be a maximum of 1,200 words. Maximum award: \$150 and publication in ACTE's Techniques Magazine. Eligibility: secondary or postsecondary students enrolled in at least one career and technical education course. Deadline: March 9, 2012.

<http://www.acteonline.org/essaycontest.aspx>

IREX is still accepting applications for this cycle of Teachers for Global Classrooms (TGC)! The Teachers for Global Classrooms Program (TGC) features an online course aimed at globalizing U.S. classrooms, two Global Education Symposia, and international travel. Participants are selected through a national, open competition. TGC is a program of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) administered by IREX (the International Research & Exchanges Board). Please see the program page on the IREX website for further information: www.irex.org/tgc. Due date is March 12.

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

*Riley Children's Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing*



Content

NABT: BioClub Student Award

The National Association of Biology Teachers BioClub Student Award recognizes outstanding student members of a NABT BioClub. The award is a great way to recognize that exceptional student who inspires you to be an even better biology teacher. Maximum award: a textbook scholarship from Carolina Biological Supply Company and an award plaque. Eligibility: any graduating senior who is a member of an NABT BioClub chapter and has been accepted to a two- or four-year college/university. Deadline: March 15, 2012. <http://www.nabt.org/websites/institution/index.php?p=132#award2>

Connect Internationally

The Educational Seminars Program provides short-term professional development opportunities to teachers and administrators from around the world, for 2-3 week reciprocal exchange programs and one-way professional development programs. Participating countries include Argentina, Brazil, Thailand, and Uruguay for reciprocal exchanges and Greece, India, and Italy for one-way programs. All Educational Seminars provide airfare, training, travel health care, and living costs. For more information, please visit www.americancouncils.org/es or email edseminars@americancouncils.org. Upcoming Program Application Deadlines for Argentina, Brazil, Thailand: March 30, 2012

McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation: Academic Enrichment Grants

The McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation offers Academic Enrichment Grants designed to develop in-class and extra-curricular programs that improve student learning. The foundation considers proposals that foster understanding, deepen students' knowledge, and provide opportunities to expand awareness of the world around them. Maximum award: \$10,000 per year for three years. Eligibility: educators employed by schools or non-profit organizations with the background and experience to complete the project successfully and who have direct and regular contact with students in grades pre-k to 12 from low-income households. Deadline: April 15, 2012. <http://www.mccarthydressman.org/academic.html>

The Monsanto Fund supports the America's Farmers Grow Rural Education program, delivering grants to school districts in rural communities to bolster the teaching of science and math. School districts in 82 of Indiana's 92 counties are eligible to apply! Grant range: \$25,000 Deadline: April 15, 2012 [More info >>>>](#)

Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes honors outstanding young leaders who have focused on helping their communities and fellow beings and/or on protecting the health and sustainability of the environment. Maximum award: \$2,500. Eligibility: youth 8-18. Deadline: April 30, 2012. <http://www.barronprize.org/>

The ING Unsung Heroes Awards recognize K-12 educators for innovative teaching methods and creative educational projects. Award range: \$2,000 - \$25,000. Deadline: April 30, 2012. [More info >>>>](#)

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

Riley Children's Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing



Archive

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SUMMER INSTITUTE

Teachers: Are you looking for an excellent professional development opportunity this summer? CEUs and graduate credit are available!

Administrators: Would you like to increase or enhance your AP curriculum?

Join us for the Indiana Academy Advanced Placement Summer Institute, offering intensive four-day workshops in 17 Advanced Placement subjects Endorsed by the College Board, this well-known APSI has provided quality professional development to thousands of educators since 1991. For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.bsu.edu/academy/summer>

College graduates look for work overseas

The desire to learn English in other parts of the world has proven to be a boon for young college grads struggling to get their career footing in America. Countries in Asia, the Middle East and Latin America are searching for those in the U.S. who would teach English as a second language. The practice has become so prevalent that Dave Perling started a website, ESLCafe.com, to match recruiters with potential teachers. Teachers can earn as much as \$3,000 per month to start. [Chicago Tribune](#)

Global Exploration for Educators Organization (GEEO) is a 501c3 non-profit organization that runs summer professional development travel programs designed for teachers.

GEEO is offering 16 different travel programs for the summer of 2012: India/ Nepal, Vietnam, Thailand/Laos/Cambodia, China, Russia/Mongolia/China, Egypt, Turkey 8 day, Turkey 15 day, South Africa/Mozambique/Zimbabwe/Botswana, Morocco, Argentina/Uruguay/Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, The Galapagos Islands and Costa Rica. Space is limited!

Educators have the option to earn graduate school credit (3 credits through Indiana University) and professional development credit while seeing the world. The trips are 8 to 24 days in length and are designed and discounted to be interesting and affordable for teachers. GEEO provides teachers educational materials and the structure to help them bring their experiences into the classroom. The trips are open to all nationalities of K-12 and university educators and administrators, as well as retired educators. Educators are also permitted to bring along a non-educator guest. Detailed information about each trip, including itineraries, costs, travel dates, and more can be found at www.geeo.org.

Indiana scores AP performance gains

Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Tony Bennett congratulated students, teachers and school leaders today after the College Board's 8th Annual AP Report to the Nation revealed Indiana's students achieved the nation's sixth highest one-year increase in graduates earning a passing score (3, 4 or 5 on a 1 to 5 scale) on an Advanced Placement (AP) exam. [You can find the full story here.](#)

Cyberbullying: We provided you with the first part of a two-part article on Cyberbullying in the January issue of the Indianagram. [You can find an electronic copy along with additional resources here.](#)

Content

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

Riley Children's Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing



International Center – March dinner hospitality opportunities:

March 2nd OR March 5th

Dinner Hospitality needed in two homes (two groups of three visitors)
Countries of origin: Iraq, Turkey, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, and Moldova
Homewood Suites - Pick up time is 6:00p.m.

March 5th, 6th OR 7th

Dinner Hospitality needed in three homes (2 groups of two visitors and one interpreter, and one group of three visitors and one interpreter)
Countries of origin: Syria
Homewood Suites - Pick up time is 6:00p.m.

The goal of this program is to provide international visitors the opportunity to meet a typical American family and to learn more about American culture, customs, and traditions over a dinner in your home. We kindly ask that hosts provide transportation for their visitors to and from their downtown hotels.

If you would like to RSVP for any of the dates above, please respond as soon as possible to this email as these opportunities fill up quickly. Thank you again for your active support of and participation with The International Center!

To learn more about volunteer opportunities at The International Center, please check out http://www.internationalcenter.org/index.php/volunteer_now

Lugar and Bennett Ask Hoosiers to Support Summer Food Service Program

United States Senator Dick Lugar and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Tony Bennett are asking local organizations to sponsor the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) in the 20 Indiana Counties where it currently does not operate. The SFSP feeds low-income children in the summer months when school is not in session.

“I am always amazed by the generosity of Hoosiers when it comes to providing for our students in need. The summer months can be difficult for families who may not have access to regular nutritious meals,” Senator Lugar said. “I am hopeful that additional sponsors will join our team and help provide meals to children across the state after the school year ends.”

The Indiana Department of Education will host training workshops for sponsors around the state. For additional information or to attend a workshop, please contact Marcia Yurczyk or Tina Skinner at the Indiana Department of Education. They can be reached via phone at 317-232-0852 or 317-232-0858 and emailed at myurczyk@doe.in.gov or tskinner@doe.in.gov. The application deadline to become a SFSP sponsor is April 30, 2012.

For more information on the SFSP, go to <http://www.doe.in.gov/student-services/nutrition/summer-food-service-program>.

Indiana’s school grading system gets federal approval

Indiana’s new A to F grading rules for schools won formal approval from the U.S. Department of Education on Thursday as well as release from some of the federal No Child Left Behind law’s most vexing requirements. [Read the full article here.](#)

Content

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

*Riley Children’s Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing*

Principals Matter: School Leaders Can Drive Student Learning

Most teachers have long known that they affect the life chances of children. But it took the work of economists to convince the world of public policy to take seriously what is now known as “teacher effectiveness.”

Now one of those very same economists has turned to another subject that, to most teachers and principals, is similarly self-evident: Principals, like teachers, affect the life chances of children, too.

[Click here to view the full article from the Huffington Post](#)

Overpaid? Hardly

A new NEPC review of a joint report by the Heritage Foundation and the American Enterprise Institute finds the report’s analysis -- which concludes that teachers receive total compensation 52 percent greater than fair-market levels -- is “based on an aggregation of spurious claims.” The review finds that the study -- which compares pay, pension costs, and retiree health benefits of teachers with those of similarly qualified private-sector workers -- misrepresents total teacher compensation in fundamental ways. Teachers’ 12-percent-lower pay is dismissed as appropriate for their lesser intelligence, without substantiation. Total benefits are calculated as having a monetary value of 100.8 percent of pay; the Department of Labor puts the figure at 32.8 percent, nearly identical to employment in the private sector. Pension costs are valued at 32 percent, when the real number is closer to 8.4 percent. The shorter work year for educators is said to represent 28.8 percent additional compensation, though their actual work year is only 12 percent shorter. Education job stability is valued at 8.6 percent without any sustaining evidence. See the report: <http://nepc.colorado.edu/thinktank/review-assessing-compensation>

Advocating with effect

A new report from Education First and Policy Innovators in Education details how state advocacy groups are working with state policymakers to advance education reforms. The report examines conditions in 11 states that recently enacted bold education policies -- Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Oklahoma, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Texas -- and describes specific ways that state-based advocacy groups have empowered elected leaders to make progress in improving K-12 education. The report identified six common practices. In all states, advocacy organizations marshaled facts and data about the quality of public education to build momentum for change and encourage new solutions. All groups developed detailed, evidence-based recommendations about what needed to change as well as recommendations for how to do it. They also nurtured relationships with stakeholders and aimed to be seen as objective. Throughout the political process, advocates were clear about goals, and organized volunteers, board members, and other assets toward these. Groups built coalitions with others to press for reform, deriving strength from a broader partnership. When consensus failed, advocates used grassroots strategies deployed by opponents to communicate with lawmakers, creating pressure to forge creative, winnable solutions. Finally, advocates aimed to enact legislation with bipartisan support, since widespread buy-in upfront improved the odds of successful implementation and prevented rollbacks.

See the report: <http://www.pie-network.org/seizing-the-opportunity>

Content

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

Riley Children’s Foundation
IASP Kids Caring & Sharing

The **Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities** offers exciting Saturday Adventure Programs for students in grades 2-12! [For more information on available programs for spring 2012, please click here.](#) To sign up please visit us on the web at www.bsu.edu/academy/youth.

Global Grant Announcement and Opportunity: IASP and the Center for the Study of Global Change, Indiana University Bloomington are announcing a grant opportunity for principals to extend their overseas travel experiences or domestic experiences of international significance into their schools. Up to five \$1000 grants may be awarded to principals for implementation in the 2012-13 school year. The application deadline is Monday, April 2 and should be emailed to tbess@iasp.org. [The application can be accessed here.](#) For questions or more information, please contact Todd Bess at tbess@iasp.org or 317-891-9900 ext 210.

generationOn Indiana - Benefits of Registering on the Website:

If you would log onto the generationOn website, www.generationOn.org, click the Teacher tab, and register (join now), this will put your name on my generationOn Indiana database. I send all my registered generationOn Indiana teachers periodic emails on upcoming generationOn events, new generationOn Indiana mini-grant links and updates on the website. All the resources on the generationOn website are FREE and when you register and login you are eligible for many more opportunities from generationOn. Thank you. Joan Belschwender generationOn@iasp.org

Registering on the generationOn website :

- makes you eligible for generationOn mini-grants for service-learning projects,
- ability to download many service-learning resources,
- updates on NEW generationOn LTG curriculum,
- track your service-learning projects,
- ability to view philanthropy education and service-learning training modules,
- free monthly generationOn e-newsletters and webinar alerts,
- and to start your school's journey to Become a generationOn School.

More information about GenerationOn can be accessed through the [IASP website](#).

Click here to view the [February 10th](#) addition of Schoolhouse News

Click here to view the [February 3rd](#) addition of Schoolhouse News

Content

Announcements

IASP

DOE

Ed Leaders Network

Indiana News

National News

Legislative

Grants

Archive

IASP Affiliates:

IMLEA

GenerationOn

Riley Children's Foundation

IASP Kids Caring & Sharing