



# Schoolhouse News

A Publication of the Indiana Association of School Principals

11025 East 25th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46229 [www.iasp.org](http://www.iasp.org) Jan 27, 2012

## Announcements

- **Wapahani High School is in need of one copy of:**  
Elements of Literature: Essentials of American Literature  
ISBN: 978-0-03-079173-4 OR  
ISBN: 0-03-079173-1  
Please contact Dr. Chad Briggs, Principal at [cbriggs@selma.k12.in.us](mailto:cbriggs@selma.k12.in.us)
- **Join Learn More Indiana** on Wednesday, February 1, 2012 for a webinar on implementing Cash for College in elementary, middle and high schools and community organizations. Share ideas, learn about print materials arriving in schools, and find out how to use the in-person and online resources provided by the Cash for College campaign. Learn more at:  
<http://www.cashforcollegeindiana.org/>
- **The National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) Landmarks of American History** summer workshop. This weeklong course on the historical relationship between Mexico and the US will be offered to K-12 teachers free of charge, and includes a \$1200 stipend for travel expenses to California and per diem. Participants will gain skills and ideas for teaching about, and to, increasingly large Mexican populations in their schools. To learn more about the workshop, visit [www.peraltahacienda.org/nehlandmarks](http://www.peraltahacienda.org/nehlandmarks).
- **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](http://www.bsu.edu/academy/youth).
- **Autism Research Study:** The Christian Sarkine Autism Treatment Center at IU School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry is conducting a 24-week parent training research study. Children must be between the ages of 3 and 7 with Autism, Asperger's Disorder, or PDD-NOS. Participation requirements, benefits, and risks will be disclosed prior to study enrollment. [Click this link to access a flyer](#). For additional information about study requirements and study procedures, please contact us at (317) 948-9766 or [kidpsych@iupui.edu](mailto:kidpsych@iupui.edu).
- **Academic All Star nomination forms** should be postmarked by Friday, February 3rd. Your student's nomination packet should include an essay, excel GPA sheet, and paper forms. [For more information, click here](#).

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- **Olivia's Cause:** Each week the media brings us stories of teen bullying and teen suicides due to bullying. On a national level, high profile names and celebrities have joined the fight against bullying. Locally, 14 year old Olivia Rusk has also joined the fight. Though totally bald, due to the medical condition alopecia, Olivia decided not to wear hats or wigs. At 8 years old, she shed her custom made wig and bravely marched into her 3rd grade classroom. Losing all of her hair could have devastated Olivia, but instead it has given her a platform for a powerful anti-bullying message. With the help of IBJ Book Publishing, a book will be published that shares Olivia's story, *Just Your Average Teenager, Who Happens To Be Bald*. The goal of Olivia's Cause is to get the book, with Olivia's anti-bullying message into the hands of 20,000 6th, 7th and 8th graders throughout Central Indiana. Olivia's Cause is seeking corporate sponsors, to allow the kids/schools to receive the book at no charge. The book retails for \$8.95 each, but for only \$2 per copy, sponsors can donate one book. The sponsor's logo will be printed in the book ... "Olivia's Message is Sponsored by: ..." Contact Sandy Rusk at (317) 523-3019 or [sandyrusk@aol.com](mailto:sandyrusk@aol.com) for more details. [Click here to read Olivia's story.](#)
- **Nominate for Science Teacher of the Year:** Each year the Indiana University Bloomington Chapter of Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, makes an award for Indiana High School Science Teacher of the Year. The teacher is invited to attend a Spring Initiation program at the expense of IU to be honored along with their new members and undergraduate students researchers. He or she will receive a modest cash award and a certificate or plaque. IU also sends news releases about the teacher and award to local and regional media outlets. [Find out more here.](#)
- **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](mailto:tbess@iasp.org). [The application can be accessed here.](#) For questions or more information, please contact Todd Bess at [tbess@iasp.org](mailto:tbess@iasp.org) or 317-891-9900 ext 210.
- **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%20Conference2012.html>. You can access online registration by [clicking here.](#)

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- **generationOn Indiana Updates for February:** Click on the generationOn February Moments of Service Webpage <http://learningtogive.org/lessons/genon/February/> for suggested single lessons and multi-lesson units that focus on the following:

**Black History Month:** Students explore the role of African Americans in U.S. history and celebrate their achievements with acts of service. Also, check out African American Perspectives on Philanthropy: View educational materials and resources to celebrate the contributions of these outstanding advocates and philanthropists.

**Valentine's Day (February 14):** Help students demonstrate their caring and friendship through acts of caring and kindness for individuals, and for organizations that serve those in need. Many service-learning project ideas can be found on the website.

Have a teacher(s) in your school REGISTER on the website to be eligible for our \$250 mini-grants and Free "Grow Involved!" kits. See more information about generationOn, the mini-grants, and kits on the generationOn link on the IASP website. Check out information about the new generationOn Anti-Bullying curriculum and the Benefits of registering on the generationOn website in the Archived section (page 2). If you have any questions or would like me to contact a teacher at your school about generationOn, please contact Joan Belschwender at [generationOn@iasp.org](mailto:generationOn@iasp.org) Phone: 317-891-9900 x201.

- **The Indianapolis Indians** are proud to partner with the Indiana Association of School Principals and offer all Indiana schools, principals and teachers [this great program](#). It is a great field trip opportunity that includes the fun of a ballgame with ½ price tickets, along with plenty of education. Please contact Lauren Davis at [LDavis@indyindians.com](mailto:LDavis@indyindians.com) to schedule your trip and have seats blocked off. No payment is required until closer to game day.

- **The PTA** is celebrating 100 years of advocacy. [Click here to view their newsletter](#).

- **Professional Development Opportunity for Middle Level Educators:**

The Professional Educators Partnership (PEP) is sponsoring the eighth annual Middle School Conference: Actively Engaging Adolescents. Several sessions will be offered to give teachers support to successfully implement the CCSS with research based strategies. It is a one day workshop held at Valparaiso University on February 7, 2012. Registration is required. Click the following links to access an [invitation memo](#), [information flyer](#), [registration form](#) and the [agenda](#).

Additional information and directions are posted on at [www.valpo.edu/education](http://www.valpo.edu/education). Click on professional development tab. In response to the economic times the University continues to offer an economical registration fee for spring 2012. It is the mission of the University to continue to serve teachers in the community to be the best they can be. Again we will offer the group discount, one FREE registration with every four paid registrations from the same school. Hope you can take advantage of this year's special rates.

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- **The Center for Evaluation & Education Policy (CEEP)** is pleased to present its second Education Policy Chat of the 2011-12 school year, Matthew Tully from the Indy Star who will speak about his insights on school reform in Indiana via the lens of his experience reporting on Manual High School in Indianapolis. [Click here for more information.](#)

- **Children's Museum  
Educator Networking Night**

For teachers of Grades K–8

Thursday, Feb. 16, 4:30–7:30 p.m.

Event Highlights

- Receive a copy of the newest unit of study and enter to win a free field trip for up to 120 students
- Learn about Flight Adventures, an original SpaceQuest® Planetarium production
- Experiment with model aircraft in a wind tunnel and take models back to your classroom
- Visit the Flight Adventures display and see historic aviation models and authentic NASA models
- Meet experts from the Academy of Model Aeronautics and learn about models
- Light dinner will be served

Fee: \$5 (nonrefundable)

Register online at [childrensmuseum.org/professional-development](http://childrensmuseum.org/professional-development) or call 317-334-4000.

**Free Professional Development Opportunities**

**Flight Adventures Workshop**

**March 21, 2012, 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.**

Cost: Free after return of \$25 deposit

For teachers of Grades 3–5

We will reimburse substitute teacher pay up to \$50.

**Feb. 16, 1:30–4 p.m.**

Join a representative from NASA's Aerospace Education Services Project for a workshop about the science of flight.

Space is limited.

We will reimburse substitute teacher pay up to \$25.

Register online at [childrensmuseum.org/professional-development](http://childrensmuseum.org/professional-development) or call 317-334-4000.

- **Positions Open:**

**Superintendent:** [Byron CUSD #226, Byron, IL](#)

**Principal:** [Waukegan Community Unit School District 60, Waukegan, IL](#)

**Superintendent:** [Seminole County Public Schools, Sanford, FL](#)

**Executive Director** for the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association (MEMSPA) is linked here: [www.memspa.org/images/2012/job-posting-jan20.pdf](http://www.memspa.org/images/2012/job-posting-jan20.pdf)

**The East Central Educational Service Center (ECESC)** is seeking an Executive Director to direct and manage the affairs of the Center under the statutory provisions of the State of Indiana and the policies and regulations established by the Governing Board. [Click here to view the job posting.](#)

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- **IASP 2012 DIRECTORY:** The 2012 IASP Directory has been provided to members and Indiana schools as an additional way for IASP members and Indiana principals to connect with each other as we all strive to serve Indiana students. We hope that you can utilize this directory as you seek out other IASP members, or as you research IASP Principal and Student Programs. Our 2012 Conference dates are included in the IASP Directory, as well as our dates for upcoming student academic and cheer competitions. The IASP Directory is provided to you at no cost to the Association and serves as an additional benefit we provide to Indiana building administrators. As you speak with administrators about joining IASP, this IASP Directory further illustrates what their state professional association can and will do for its members through advocacy, professional development, and service. Please see the [letter](#) that references our desire to bring this IASP Directory to you, and please be sure to thank the IASP staff for their dedication in preparing the materials for the directory.
- **We are looking for a few great leaders!** The Blue Ribbon Awards Committee is seeking nominations for our 2012 Principals of the Year:  
Elementary Principal of the Year, Middle School Principal of the Year, High School Principal of the Year, Elementary Assistant Principal of the Year, Middle or High School Assistant Principal of the Year  
[You can find more information by clicking this link.](#)
- **District 12:** The next meeting for this district will be on Monday, February 6 at Jeeves and Company (64 Main Street, Scottsburg) Please RSVP to Lisa Nale by February 3 at [lnale@wclark.k12.in.us](mailto:lnale@wclark.k12.in.us) or 812.967.5801.
- **District 4** has reserved Nine Irish Brothers (119 Howard Avenue, West Lafayette, Indiana 4790, 765 746-4782.) for this District Meeting on Feb. 9th at 5:00 pm. here will be a legislative update. You are encouraged to bring a non-member as well anyone who may be interested in joining IASP. Please RSVP to Margaret Psarros by January 26 at [psarros@wl.k12.in.us](mailto:psarros@wl.k12.in.us).
- **District 8 Meeting:** 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. A more formal flyer will come at a later date.

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# DOE

The State Board of Education met in January to consider changes to teacher and administrator licensing. REPA 2 would make numerous changes, several of which are summarized below.

You can access the full [summary](#) of changes, and can also see the entire [rule](#) by clicking on the links. The largest shift for principals is that a teacher may obtain a Building Level Administrator (BLA) license without completing a Master's Degree. It will also be good to monitor what defines an approved BLA program as this rule moves forward. Your concerns will need to be communicated directly to State Board of Education Members regarding any of the proposed changes. The State Board of Education website is available at <http://www.doe.in.gov/idoe/sboe>.

Removes the residency program for beginning teachers and administrators. All teachers will be evaluated as required in IC 20-28-11.5. Beginning teachers will be issued a probationary license and will need 3 years of effective or highly effective summative ratings to be eligible for a professional license.

Proposes the first licensure level be called Probationary Practitioner License and be a 5-year license. The next license will be a Professional Practitioner License (5-years) and eligibility is a summative rating of effective or highly effective for at least 3 of the last 5 years.

Renewal of teaching license until 9/2017 may be done with PGP/Credits. Renewal of a Professional Teaching License after 9/1/2017 is only done with teacher effectiveness ratings. A teacher unable to achieve Professional status may renew the Probationary license with PGPs/credits.

Building Level Administrator (BLA) Requirements: After Sept. 1, 2017, eligible candidates must hold a professional license. Candidates are required to complete an approved BLA program. Candidates may complete a master's degree or higher. Recommend this area result in a P-12 license only.

Temporary Building Level Administrator License added to allow school corporations to "grow their own" administrators. This license would be issued upon application from the school board on behalf of the applicant with documentation that the individual holds or is eligible to hold a professional teaching license, and documentation on the applicant's knowledge or experience. This individual may only serve in this corporation as a building level administrator.

Middle School Generalist license as a content area is removed, candidates are still eligible to be certified for middle school separate content areas.

**Request for email addresses:** IDOE is attempting to update the list of educator [email addresses](#) we have on file. Once compiled, the IDOE will use these email addresses to keep educators informed of their rights under state law and provide updates on current implementation efforts and other opportunities of interest.

**Driver Education:** Effective January 1, 2012, jurisdiction for all driver education in Indiana was transferred to the [Bureau of Motor Vehicles](#) (BMV) by Senate Bill 127.

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# Ed Leaders Network

## Featured ELN Presenter

John Eller: John has authored a number of practitioner-related books in the area of leadership, working with difficult and resistant people, and employee evaluation. Dr. Eller works in the areas of dealing with difficult people, building professional learning communities, conferencing and coaching skills, school improvement planning and implementation, supervisory skills, and leadership effectiveness. His full profile is available at <http://www.edleadersnetwork.org/Presenters/DE/JohnEller/>. His webinars include: Energizing Staff Meetings and Conducting Difficult Conversations with Teachers; Part 1: Background and Planning

## Featured ELN Presenter: Dr. Howie Knoff

[Dr. Howie Knoff](#) is a national consultant, author, presenter, and licensed psychologist. He also is the creator and Director of Project ACHIEVE, a nationally recognized, evidence-based school improvement process that focuses especially on Positive Behavioral Support Systems and Response-to-Intervention processes. He has five webinars posted in ELN and his two most recent webinars focus on Organizing Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Interventions along a Three-Tiered Positive Behavioral Support System.

## Common Core State Standards: Dr. Schauna Findlay

[Dr. Findlay](#) has joined ELN and will utilize her expertise to deliver a webinar for ELN on Implementing the Common Core State Standards. This session will be recorded and made available as the demand for the live event has filled up the registration. Be sure to view this session as you insure your school has the correct resources in place for implementing the CCSS.

## 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](mailto:support@edleadersnetwork.org) for a quote!

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

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### **Indy's school lunches undergo change**

Ask adults what they remember about school lunches, and many will say the pizza. The rectangular slices, the strings of cheese that flopped over the side of the plate, the thin smear of tomato sauce and the pools of grease dripping onto the tray. But in many Indianapolis area schools, that lunch-line staple already has morphed into a more healthful concoction with whole-grain crust, low-fat cheese and, in some districts, turkey pepperoni. Thanks to new federal guidelines aimed at fighting childhood obesity, other school lunch items will get similar makeovers.

The guidelines, announced Wednesday, will cap calories and sodium in school meals, require schools to provide more fresh fruits and vegetables and limit milk choices to low-fat or fat-free. The changes didn't surprise schools because they saw copies of the proposal a year ago and already had begun complying. For example, whole-wheat spaghetti and meat sauce are replacing hot dogs. Cups of pepper strips and cantaloupe are replacing applesauce. But the changes will bring some challenges, including higher prices. The cost of food preparation is expected to go up -- an extra 11 cents per lunch and an extra 28 cents per breakfast.

The government will provide districts with an extra 6 cents of funding per lunch, but that still leaves a gap. To read the full story go to the Indianapolis Star at <http://www.indystar.com/article/20120126/LOCAL/201260312/Indy-school-lunches-undergo-change>

### **Education standards bill defeated in Indiana Senate panel**

Senator hopes to revive bill to halt 'common core'

An effort to force Indiana to withdraw from "common core" education standards failed Wednesday, but the bill's sponsor promised to try to revive it. Sen. Scott Schneider, R-Indianapolis, said he was concerned Indiana was signing on to national standards that did not measure up to standards the state previously had.

"It concerns me enough that I will continue to press on," he said after the Senate Education Committee defeated his bill 6-4. The common core is an effort led by governors in 46 states, including Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels, to agree to follow the same educational standards and, eventually, create common tests to measure whether kids are meeting them. The Indiana State Board of Education adopted the common core standards in 2010 and are phasing them in.

The full story from the Indianapolis Star: <http://www.indystar.com/article/20120126/NEWS05/201260311/Education-standards-bill-defeated-Indiana-Senate-panel>

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## **Bills that were passed Wednesday by the Education Committee would:**

Require schools to teach cursive writing. This bill also is in response to Indiana's adoption of common core standards, which require schools to teach handwriting and keyboarding, but not cursive specifically. Schools that teach only printed handwriting would meet the standard. The bill passed 10-0.

Drop the requirement for students seeking vouchers to first attend public schools for a year. Without the rule, students who currently attend private school could apply for vouchers to receive state money help to pay tuition. The rule was included in the newly created voucher law last year partly because of fears that wholesale use of the voucher program by children in private schools would be too costly for the state to afford. The bill was narrowly passed 5-4 and now will be considered by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Allow schools to teach the biblical story of the Earth's creation in science class alongside the theory of evolution, if they wish. Critics say schools that teach religious doctrine in science would risk violating the constitutional separation of church and state. The bill passed 8-2.

## **Several other education proposals that were not heard Wednesday but are still under consideration by the legislature include bills that would:**

Establish multiple enrollment counts during the school year for school funding purposes. When students transfer, those counts would redirect a prorated share of state funding to their new schools.

Allow schools taken over by the state for poor performance to become independent, charterlike schools if they meet goals set for them by the state. Next fall, the Indiana Department of Education will take control of five Indiana schools -- four in Indianapolis -- that were rated an F for six straight years.

Change the way the school year is counted from 180 days to the equivalent number of classroom hours, giving high-performing school districts flexibility to change the hours of the school day if they wish. The bill also would prevent school districts from starting their school year earlier than Sept. 1, unless they receive special permission.

Require that every student take at least one online class before graduating from high school.

Allow parents at low-performing schools the chance to vote to change the school into a charter school.

Reduce superintendent contracts from up to three years to one year

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# National News

**The NAESP Nominating Committee** met to review and select the nominees for NAESP President-elect and Zone Directors for Zones 5, 7, and 9 for the 2012 election. The following individuals have been nominated:

**President-elect:**

Dwight Liddiard, Spanish Fork, UT / Nancy Flatt Meador, Madison, TN

**Zone 5 Director:**

Karen Triezenberg, Willow Springs, IL / Merl (Travis) Wyatt, Newton, IL

**Zone 7 Director:**

Timothy Doran, Fairbanks, AK / Steven Geis, Farmington, MN

**Zone 9 Director:**

Robyn Conrad, Gilbert, AZ / Mai-Lon Wong, Anthem, AZ

**More states promote early high-school graduation**

The concept of emphasizing proficiency over seat time by offering college scholarships and other incentives to students who graduate early from high school is gaining momentum, with new programs being created in several states. Supporters say the programs help students avoid the senior slump and cut costs for families and school districts. Critics, however, question whether the programs are fiscally-driven and whether schools are doing enough to prepare students to enter college early. [Education Week](#)

**Denver program aims to groom school leaders**

A pilot program in Denver will pair assistant principals from public schools with principals at successful district-run charter schools to learn best practices in leadership. The program, funded by an \$800,000 grant, will place the assistant principals in the charters, where they will complete one-year residencies in a practice commonly used by the charters to prepare new leaders. [The Denver Post](#)

**Plan would reward top teachers at struggling D.C. schools**

Washington, D.C., will consider a program that would offer top teachers bonuses to work in struggling schools. Under the three-year trial, teachers would be eligible for a \$10,000 bonus and other incentives. The proposal, supported by D.C. Schools Chancellor Kaya Henderson, includes a commitment to recruiting and retaining top principals. Critics argue that highly effective teachers already working in low-performing schools should be eligible. [The Washington Times](#)

**Obama: Raise the dropout age, make college more affordable**

President Barack Obama highlighted several education issues as part of his State of the Union address Tuesday, calling on states to raise the legal dropout age to 18 and putting the nation's colleges and universities on notice to make tuition more affordable for students. Obama also talked about the importance of teaching as part of education reform and, through a document released during the speech, unveiled a competitive program for states to enact changes to improve and support the teaching profession. [Education Week/Politics K-12 blog](#)

**Videoconferencing helps N.C. district expand teachers' reach**

Officials in a North Carolina school district are planning to use videoconferencing to help expand the course offerings at their schools. Starting next school year, the technology will be used to broadcast a course at one school to other schools throughout the county. "It will help our students be competitive across the board," said Shirley Gamble, the school's principal. [The Fayetteville Observer \(N.C.\)](#)

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# 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.*

**The Senate Education Committee** engaged in a marathon meeting and included interesting testimony, especially on SB 373, Common Core State Standards. Virtually all bills passed out of committee and are now on the Senate Floor for debate. If they pass out of the Senate, the House Education Committee will begin hearing bills following the Super Bowl.

The actual vote is in bold, amendments to the bills are included in italics. We would urge you to contact your senator regarding SB 236 which would mandate a school start date after the 4th Friday in August, and SB 83 which would mandate cursive writing. The author believes that cursive writing is not going to be taught in schools and the senators need to hear from numerous schools to understand the reality of how cursive writing is taught.

**Senate Education and Career Development: January 25, 1:30 PM – 8:15 pm**  
**Chairman** : Kruse. **Members**: Yoder, Banks, Buck, Kenley, Leising, Schneider, Rogers, Mrvan, Skinner

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**SB 179** Virtual instruction course requirement Banks, Kruse. **Passed 9-1**  
Requires a student pursuing a Core 40 high school diploma to complete one virtual instruction course.

**SB 236** Various education matters. Delph **Passed 6-2**  
Amendment 10 passed to eliminate class basketball from the bill; Amendment 11 passed to make the school start date not apply to Charter Schools, and moved the start date to the 4th Friday in August. Access the IAPSS survey [here](#) that indicates the school calendar should be a local decision.

**SB 259** School consolidation executive session Alting **Passed 8-2**  
School consolidation executive session. Allows discussion of strategy with respect to school consolidation to be conducted in an executive session.

**SB 265** School report card Head **Passed 10-0**  
School report card. Requires that information on the number and percentage of students meeting academic standards on certain tests be reported on the annual school performance report in the following categories: (1) All students. (2) All students except students who fall into the lowest 5% of students in meeting academic standards.

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**SB 267** Education concerning child abuse                      Rogers                      **Passed 9-1**  
Education concerning child abuse. Requires the department of education, in collaboration with organizations that have expertise in child sexual abuse, to identify or develop model education materials, response policies, and reporting procedures on child sexual abuse. Three amendments #2 – DOE and the Department of Child Services coordinate research model. #3 – DOE is not to hire additional staff or incur additional expense to implement. Amendment 4 – Materials for grades 2-5 must be available for parent review and parents must be informed prior to any programming being delivered.

**SB 268** Advisory committee on early education                      Rogers                      **Passed 7-3**  
Advisory committee on early education. Requires the education roundtable to establish an advisory committee on early education, with members from around the state, to provide professional and technical assistance to the roundtable.

**SB 83** Cursive writing in school curriculum                      Leising                      **Passed 10-0**  
Cursive writing in school curriculum. Requires each school corporation to include cursive writing in the curriculum of the school corporation. Requires an accredited nonpublic school that participates in the choice scholarship program to include cursive writing in the school's curriculum.

**SB 89** Teaching of creation science                      Kruse                      **Passed 8-2**  
Teaching of creation science. Provides that the governing body of a school corporation may require the teaching of various theories concerning the origin of life, including creation science, within the school corporation.

**SB 198** Choice scholarship eligibility                      Eckerty                      **Passed 5-4**  
Choice scholarship eligibility. Removes the requirement that a student must attend a public school for at least two semesters immediately prior to receiving the choice scholarship. Senate Appropriations did not hear the bill this morning at their final committee hearing. This bill is most likely dead, but language can always be inserted into a bill that is still moving through the General Assembly.

**SB 283** High school dropout recovery schools                      Kruse                      **Passed 9-1**  
High school dropout recovery schools. Requires the department of education to modify accreditation standards for a nonpublic school that contracts with a school corporation to provide alternative education services for students who have dropped out of high school to accommodate the nonpublic school's program and student population. Provides that the nonpublic school is not subject to being placed in a performance category or designation. Provides that the contract between a nonpublic school and a school corporation must specify which data required to be reported as part of a school's annual performance report will be reported by the school corporation, and which will be reported by the nonpublic school. Two amendments waived standards for alternative schools and revised requirements for private schools.

**SB 296** Certified scholarship program eligibility                      Leising, Yoder                      **Passed 7-3**  
Certified scholarship program eligibility. Provides that an individual enrolling in grade 8 is eligible for a scholarship from a scholarship program that is certified by the department of education.

**SB 312** School policies on gang activities                      Hershman                      **Passed 7-3**  
The digest for this bill is quite lengthy and makes several requirements of the Indiana DOE and of individual School Corporations to comply with policy adoptions and reporting of gang activity.

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**SB 331** Choice scholarship eligibility Yoder **Bill Withdrawn by Author**  
Choice scholarship eligibility. Provides that a sibling of a student who is receiving a choice scholarship is eligible to receive a choice scholarship without first attending two semesters in a public school or receiving a scholarship from a scholarship granting organization.

**SB 373** Common core state standards Schneider, Kruse **Defeated 6-4**  
Common core state standards. Provides that the state board of education may not adopt as standards for the state any common core standards developed by the Common Core State Standards Initiative. Voids any action taken to adopt common core standards.

**SB 384** School accreditation Kruse **Passed 8-1**  
School accreditation. Makes various changes, beginning in 2013, to the manner in which a school may be accredited under a performance based accreditation system. Provides that a school may be accredited under a performance based accreditation system approved by the Indiana state board of education (state board) or by a national or regional accreditation agency that is approved by the state board. Provides that the state board shall establish: (1) a system for approving agencies or entities that seek to accredit schools in Indiana under this chapter; and (2) a procedure for determining whether a school is making progress toward meeting the criteria for accreditation by a national or regional accreditation agency approved by the state board.

**SB 413** Various education issues. Yoder **Passed 7-3**  
Various education matters. Amends the definition of educational service center. Repeals provisions relating to the establishment and administration of an educational service agency by the Indiana state board of education (state board). Replaces the definition of textbook with curricular materials. Provides that the Indiana department of education (department) shall determine the process for evaluating the curricular materials' alignment to academic standards and the appropriateness of the reading level of the curricular materials.

**SB 392** State Educational institution grading practices Banks, Kruse **Passed 9-0**  
State educational institution grading practices. Requires each state educational institution to provide the commission for higher education with information concerning grading practices for courses that are required to fill general education requirements at the state educational institution, and the commission to file an annual report of the information with the general assembly.

**The House Education Committee** did not attempt a marathon session, yet has moved several bills to the House floor for debate. If these bills pass out of the House, the Senate Education Committee will begin hearing these bills following the Super Bowl. Of concern to IASP is HB 1205, HB 1219, and HB 1324. Your contacts with all legislators is important as these bills move through the House and then into the Senate. We have highlighted the critical elements of each bill for your convenience.

## 2nd Reading

**HB1169 School discipline.** (Koch)

School discipline. **Removes the requirement that an activity must be "unlawful" in order for a student to be suspended or expelled for engaging in activity on or off school grounds,** if:

(1) the activity may reasonably be considered to be an interference with school purposes or an educational function; or (2) the student's removal is necessary to restore order or protect persons on school property.

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## **HB1205 Superintendent contracts.** (Behning)

Superintendent contracts. **Requires a school corporation to give public notice and hold a public meeting pertaining to a proposed superintendent employment contract.** Provides that the public meeting must occur on or before the earlier of: (1) the date the governing body and a candidate for superintendent declare an intent to enter into an employment contract; or (2) the date that is seven days before the contract is entered into. Requires that the governing body shall post the provisions of a superintendent's employment contract on the school corporation's Internet web site. **Requires a school corporation to post the provisions of an employment contract with a certificated employee that is not represented by an exclusive representative on the school corporation's Internet web site.** Provides that an employment contract between a governing body and a superintendent may not exceed two years. Provides that after a governing body and the certified employees' exclusive representative have reached an agreement on a contract, the governing body shall post the contract on the school corporation's Internet web site.

## **HB1219 Parental initiatives for school reorganization.** (Rhoads)

Parental initiatives for school reorganization. Establishes the following parental initiatives for school reorganization: (1) The conversion of an existing public school into a charter school if parents of at least fifty-one percent (51%) **of the students who attend the school have signed a petition requesting the conversion.** (2) **A petition to have the state board of education consider intervention in the school if the school is in the second or subsequent year of placement in the lowest category or the third or subsequent year of placement in either of the two (2) lowest categories.** Repeals current provisions concerning the conversion of existing public schools into charter schools.

## **HB1324 School accountability and turnaround academies.** (Behning)

**Requires the state board to hold a public meeting to consider state intervention in the fourth year that the school corporation is placed in the lowest two categories or designations of improvement.** Provides that after the public meeting, the state board may: (1) merge the school corporation with a nearby school corporation; (2) assign a special management team or lead partner to operate all or part of the school corporation; (3) implement the department's recommendations for improving the school corporation; (4) dissolve the governing board of the school corporation and install a state appointed board; (5) transfer the school corporation's authority to another entity; (6) require state board approval of the school corporation's annual budget; or (7) implement other options for school corporation intervention. **Provides that a turnaround academy that meets the goals set for it becomes an independent school. Sets forth provisions concerning the operation of a turnaround academy and an independent school.**

## **HB1326 Various education matters.** (Rhoads)

Abolishes the following programs and entities concerning various education matters: (5) Principal leadership academy.

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**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 >>>>](#)

## **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](http://www.americancouncils.org/isli) or email [isli@americancouncils.org](mailto:isli@americancouncils.org). Program Application Deadline: March 2, 2012

**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](http://www.irex.org/tgc). Due date is March 12.

## **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](http://www.americancouncils.org/es) or email [edseminars@americancouncils.org](mailto:edseminars@americancouncils.org). Upcoming Program Application Deadlines for Argentina, Brazil, Thailand: March 30, 2012

**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 >>>>](#)

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**The Tony Hawk Foundation** supports the design, construction and operation of high-quality skateparks for low-income children and youth. Preference is given to projects that include skaters in the planning and design of the skatepark. Grant range: \$1,000 - \$25,000. Deadlines: February 1, and July 2, 2012. [More info here >>>>](#)

**Read Across America Day:** The final deadline for Free Books for Read Across America Day is February 18th, 2012. The Literacy Empowerment Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, invites your school or other literacy project to apply for FREE books for Read Across America Day. During the past year, LEF has distributed over 3,000,000 books to schools all across the country for Read Across America Day and other literacy projects. Resources are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Free Books for Read Across America Day: Order Form at <http://www.lefbooks.org>

### **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>

### **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/>

### **Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation**

**The Christopher Columbus Awards Program** combines science and technology with community problem-solving. Students work in teams with the help of an adult coach to identify an issue they care about and, using science and technology, work with experts, conduct research, and put their ideas to the test to develop an innovative solution. Maximum award: \$25,000 Foundation Community Grant and an all-expense-paid trip to Walt Disney World to attend the program's National Championship Week, plus a U.S. Savings Bond of \$2,000 for each student team member. Eligibility: middle-school-age (sixth, seventh, and eighth grade) children; teams do not need to be affiliated with a school to enter. Deadline: February 6, 2012. <http://www.christophercolumbusawards.com>

**The NCFL Libraries and Families Award** will be given to three U.S.-based library literacy programs that serve families. This award is designed for literacy programs that use innovative approaches to connect with families in their communities. Winners of the award will receive grants of \$10,000 and scholarships to the National Conference on Family Literacy in 2012 and 2013. The deadline for grant applications is February 6. [Learn more and apply now!](#)

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**National Summer Learning Association:** The Excellence in Summer Learning Award recognizes an outstanding summer program that demonstrates excellence in accelerating academic achievement and promoting positive development for young people between kindergarten and twelfth grade. Award: national recognition, increased press opportunities, conference presentations and complimentary registrations, professional development opportunities for staff, and increased publishing opportunities. Eligibility: public or private organization or agency (schools, community-based organizations, libraries, universities, faith-based organizations, etc.) serving young people between the ages of kindergarten and twelfth grade over the summer months. Deadline: February 10, 2012. [http://www.summerlearning.org/?page=excellence\\_apply](http://www.summerlearning.org/?page=excellence_apply)

**Earthwatch Institute** offers educators fully-funded fellowships for hands-on learning with leading scientists doing field research and conservation on one of over 100 projects around the world. Maximum: fully-funded fellowship. Eligibility: elem, middle, and high school educators and administrators of any discipline. Deadline: February 13, 2012. <http://www.earthwatch.org/aboutus/education/edopp/>

**The Literacy Empowerment Foundation**, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, invites your school or other literacy project to apply for FREE books for Read Across America Day. During the past year, LEF has distributed over 3,000,000 books to schools all across the country for Read Across America Day and other literacy projects. Resources are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Orders must be received by February 18th, 2012. Free Books for Read Across America Day: Order Form at <http://www.lefbooks.org>

#### **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>

**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 >>>>](#)

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- **SUICIDE PREVENTION:** Wanting to become a Trainer in an evidence-based suicide prevention training program so you can train your staff and community partners? In one day, you can become a QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Suicide Prevention Trainer. QPR is a 2-hour suicide prevention training that teaches people how to recognize suicide warning signs and respond. Training is being held on February 27th in Kokomo at Indiana University Kokomo from 8:30-5:00. [Click here to view the flyer.](#)

**SUICIDE INTERVENTION:** If someone walked into your office and said they were suicidal, would you know what to do? If not, ASIST suicide intervention training is for you! In 2-days you will learn to how to de-escalate a suicidal situation and learn how to help someone move from wanting to die to wanting to live. [See the "ASIST" flyer.](#) This is essential training for those who work with high risk populations and are the "go to" people for those who are struggling or are in crisis (i.e., case workers, school counselors).

**Learn more** about evidence based training that Indiana Cares/Indiana Suicide Prevention Coalition offers at: <http://www.indianacares.org/programs.html>

- **The American Councils for International Education** would like to share information about two programs that expose K-12 schools and students to Arabic and Chinese language and culture. Both programs are fully funded through the U.S. State Department.

***Host a Guest Teacher from China or Egypt***

*Bring the world to your school by introducing Arabic or Chinese language and culture to your students. TCLP provides teachers' salaries, healthcare, roundtrip airfare, training, professional development funds, and ongoing program support. Selected host schools also receive access to grant opportunities to support language learning projects. To learn more about the program benefits and requirements, please read about the [Program Timeline and Details](#), or check out an [introduction video](#).*

*To apply, please visit [www.tclp.org](http://www.tclp.org) or email [tclp@americancouncils.org](mailto:tclp@americancouncils.org).*

*Extended Program Application Deadline: February 1, 2012*

***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](http://www.americancouncils.org/isli) or email [isli@americancouncils.org](mailto:isli@americancouncils.org). Program Application Deadline: March 2, 2012*

- **Connersville Middle School** is looking into changing their student information service for the corporation. They are investigating PowerSchool and Harmony. If you have any knowledge or information on either of these systems, please contact Tony Ellemen, Assistant Principal at [telleman@fayette.k12.in.us](mailto:telleman@fayette.k12.in.us) or (765) 825-1139 Ext. 225

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- **Cyberbullying Essentials: What School Administrators Must Know!**  
As administrators consider the many negative factors influencing teaching and learning, perhaps none may be more devastating than that of bullying and cyberbullying. Extensive research now provides us with the means to better understand bullying behaviors among our K-12 students. More recently, research has begun to focus on bullying behaviors occurring through technological devices, or cyberbullying. Accordingly, educational administrators are now posing policies and laws that specifically address bullying and cyberbullying. [This article outlines important aspects of cyberbullying and calls for action to ensure a safe teaching and learning environment.](#)
- **JET Memorial Invitation Program** provides 32 high school students with the opportunity to go to Japan for two weeks as a group to meet Japanese students, experience Japanese culture, and study the language. It was created in 2011 in memory of the two beloved American teachers of English who lost their lives in the earthquake and tsunami on March 11, 2011: Taylor Anderson (Ishinomaki, Miyagi) and Montgomery Dickson (Rikuzen-Takata, Iwate). The program is open to 11th and 12th graders who are currently learning Japanese, and it seeks to honor the principles which Taylor and Monty valued during their lives. For more information, please visit <http://www.jflalc.org/jle-12-jet-mip.html>.
- **From the University of Kansas and of possible interest to those who work in Teacher Education or have interest in East Asia – Darla Deardorff, AIEA:** K-12 educators in all grades and subject areas are invited to participate in the FREE online real-time professional development presentations being offered this semester by Asia for Educators (<http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/>) and the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia ([www.nctasia.org](http://www.nctasia.org)) at Columbia University. Participants may view from the comfort of their own home or office computer these presentations by noted scholars who are used to addressing K-12 educators. They will be able to ask questions either directly after the presentation or later online, and even may download images from the presentations and also supportive curriculum materials. All presentations are in the evening, 7:00-9:00 pm EST, except the two Saturday sessions as noted. [Click here to view all dates.](#)
- **2012 Out-of-School Learning Summit**  
March 12-13, 2012 JW Marriott, Downtown Indianapolis  
REGISTER NOW for the Indiana Afterschool Network's annual Summit in collaboration with the Indiana Department of Education. Calls for Sponsors, Exhibitors and the Afterschool Youth Video Competition are underway as well! Participant cost for the two day Summit includes breakfast and snacks. \$50 for all attendees (\$35 for 21st CCLC grantee attendees). Full details available here: <http://www.indianaafterschool.org/Summit.shtml>

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- **State Board Update:** The State Board of Education met on January 4 and you may access the full agenda at <http://www.doe.in.gov/stateboard/2012-01-04.html>.  
This link provides access to all of the documents discussed at the meeting. Two items of interest for schools are the changes to the Teacher Licensing Rule ([Summary of changes to proposed licensing rule](#)) and the approval of the Summer School categories for reimbursement ([summer school categories](#)).
- **AdvancED Fall Conference Call for Proposals:** Showcase your school improvement successes by presenting at the AdvancED/NCA Indiana Fall Conference. Presentations should emphasize hands-on, practical information that is directly related to improving student achievement.  
If you want to share your experiences with others, please complete [this form](#) and return by Friday, March 16, 2012  
The form can be faxed (800-237-4449),  
e-mailed ([lballard@advanc-ed.org](mailto:lballard@advanc-ed.org))  
or mailed  
(AdvancED Indiana, BCOE Room 211A, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809).
- **generationOn Indiana - Benefits of Registering on the Website:**  
If you would log onto the generationOn website, [www.generationOn.org](http://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](mailto: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.

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Click here to view the **January 20th** addition of Schoolhouse News  
Click here to view the **January 13th** addition of Schoolhouse News

