



Schoolhouse News



November 19, 2010

Happy Early Thanksgiving. We hope you are able to join us at the conference. Enjoy your Thanksgiving Break and family gatherings. Read slowly since this issue will have to last you through the IASP conference and Thanksgiving break.

Positions Open

Half time Assistant to the Executive Director – Indiana Urban Schools Association

Summary of Duties: assist Executive Director; represent IUPUI & IUSA in planning annual summer conference; teach 1 course as requested; advise graduate students; coordinate IUPUI & IUSA publications, projects and services; track legislation, monitor State Board of Education; serve as a contact person for IU School of Education & IUSA members, gather urban data. [Read the Full Announcement.](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

➤ **Youth Service through generationON:** Help your students mobilize to give back to their community and to those in need. **generationOn** is a division of the Points of Light Institute and will provide curriculum, training, and materials to schools and teachers to support students as they perform service learning. Former League and Learning to Give schools will want to sign up; new schools and teachers should take advantage of this great resource as students discover their potential through service to others. Many existing service projects will fit with this program and best of all, your students will receive recognition for the work they perform.

For more information contact Shirley Wright at imlea@iasp.org or click this link to see the [generationON flyer](#).

➤ **School Accountability Models**

The elementary/middle school and High School accountability models have been released for review. IASP has been involved in presenting these models during the Growth Model Workshops. Your feedback is critical to help shape the final version of these models. Please use this link for the [Accountability Memo](#). The email address for public comments is stboard@doe.in.gov. You may also send your comments to us at tbess@iasp.org and we will represent these to the state board.

The State Board will meet again on November 23 at 1 pm to hear more information on these models. They will then meet again at their regular meeting on December 1 at 9 am and will probably move forward with the rule making process for these models. January will then be the likely adoption of these models.

Elementary and middle schools should receive from the DOE their data applied to the model and the subsequent school grade. We are still waiting to hear from the DOE when the data will be applied to the high school model.

➤ **New Rule on Pesticide Use in Schools**

On November 20, 2010, *the Pesticide Use at Schools Rule* will become effective. The rule are consistent with the model policies and regulations suggested by ISBA, IAPSS, and IASBO in consultation with the Indiana Pesticide Review Board a number of years ago. Many school corporations have already voluntarily adopted several, if not all, of these provisions into their operating policies. Read the full [Memorandum Here](#). Be sure to work with your Superintendent and Buildings and Grounds person to insure you comply with the new rule.

➤ **Zaner-Bloser: National Handwriting Contest**

The 2011 Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest encourages legible handwriting by testing the printing (or "manuscript") acumen of first and second graders, and the cursive abilities of students in grades 2 through 8. Entries are judged on the Keys to Legibility: Shape, Slant, Spacing, and Size. Maximum award: recognition and a special prize package. Eligibility: students grades 1-8 whose school uses Zaner-Bloser Handwriting curricula.

Deadline: January 23, 2011.

<http://www.zaner-bloser.com/educator/products/handwriting/national-contest.aspx?id=336>

➤ Lowell High School is investigating community service as a graduation requirement. If your school has a policy for graduation please send it to me. What does your school do if a senior does not fulfill the community service requirement? Does any school offer community service as an elective credit? If so, what are the parameters to make it an elective credit. Mike Chelap: mchelap@tricreek.k12.in.us

➤ **Graduation Requirements:** I am looking for Graduation Requirements for schools our size. We have 506 students in grades 7-12 (approx. 330 high school) and are operating on a traditional 7 period day (plus lunch). We were previously on a block schedule and needed to change due to limited number of staff. Can you send this to the members and have them forward their requirements to me? Michael Watkins, Principal, North Miami Middle/High School. mwatkins@nmcs.k12.in.us or 765-985-2931.

➤ **Books Needed:** We would like to borrow or rent 12 copies of the following book: Fundamentals of Java, Southwestern, Lambert-Osborne, ISBN: 0-619-05962-1
If you can help us please contact me and I will make arrangements to have the books shipped to us.
Kelley Bowyer, Alternative Services Coordinator, kbowyer@marion.k12.in.us

➤ **Lugar Symposium:** Principals from every high school in Indiana will be asked to select two junior students to attend the Symposium for Tomorrow's Leaders at the [University of Indianapolis](#) on December 11. Last year, nearly 500 students participated. Where transportation problems for the students exist, high school faculty members and parents have been invited to attend the Symposium as well. Reward your outstanding high school junior by nominating them now: <http://lugar.senate.gov/symposium/index.html>

➤ **English Remediation Help:** I am looking for top of the line EN/LA programs that we could use during a 30 minute tiered remediation/intervention period we are going to implement at Covington during the 2011-12 school year. What I am looking for is a program that diagnoses a student's current levels in reading comp, fluency, writing, grammar, etc., then, after that, the program assigns and monitors lessons to build on the students knowledge and takes them through appropriate assessments! We have a program, ALEKS, for math that is very good, but our EN/LA program (study island) is not a great diagnostic and progress monitoring program. Any help would be of great assistance! Please contact Adam Welchans at Covington High School. WelchansA@covington.k12.in.us.

- Bill Denney, Bedford North Lawrence Principal is offering summer courses for license renewal. Click the [flier](#) for course listing and further details.
- **Global Indiana China Trip:** Global Indiana: A Consortium for International Exchange is proud to announce its eighth Key Leaders' Trip to the People's Republic of China. This trip will be led by our president-elect, Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, and is scheduled for March 30--April 10, 2011. The enrollment deadline is December 20th. Travelers and/or school delegations will receive a \$100 discount per person if the full cost of the tour is paid by January 10, 2011. For the first time with this trip, travelers may pay their deposit and their entire trip cost online by using their credit cards. See the [Brochure](#) for more details or contact Phil Boley at 765-652-5300 or globalindiana@ciesc.k12.in.us

INDIANA NEWS

- Jack Bowers, retired superintendent of Alexandria Community Schools, passed away Thursday, November 18. He had been in poor health for some time. He previously was the assistant principal for many years at Alexandria Monroe High School and then became the high school principal there before becoming superintendent.

Arrangements are pending with the Owens Funeral Home in Alexandria. Information will be available on their website at : <http://obit.owensmemorialservices.com/>

➤ **Video Greeting for U.S. Troops**

Lt. Gov. Skillman announced the launch of the Hoosier Cheer for Our Heroes YouTube page. Hoosiers are encouraged to send in video greetings to U.S. servicemen and women who are away from home during the holidays. "Our U.S. servicemen and women should know Hoosiers appreciate the sacrifice they are making over the holiday season and throughout the year," said Lt. Gov. Skillman. "Through the use of technology we are providing another opportunity for Hoosiers to say thanks and bring cheer to our heroes."

On Oct. 18, Lt. Governor Skillman announced the launch of her fifth annual holiday letter writing campaign. The deadline for the office to receive greeting cards is Nov. 19. Now, in addition to cards and letters, video greetings will be collected throughout the holiday season at www.YouTube.com/hoosiercheer. This is the first year that videos are being collected through the Hoosier Cheer for Our Heroes campaign.

Those who wish to participate should record a short video greeting, and email the video's URL link to lg@lg.in.gov. Videos will be added to the YouTube Hoosier Cheer for Our Heroes page, where members of the military and their families can view them throughout the holiday season. Additional guidelines and info are available at www.lg.in.gov/hoosiercheer.

- The Polycom Grant Assistance Program is meeting with success helping associations put together applications for the RUS DLT (Rural Utility Service – Distance Learning and Telemedicine) Grant. [Polycom's grant assistance is free of charge](#) and is designed to help your members implement the distance education strategies required by today's tight budgets. As you are aware, the RUS DLT Grant is designed to help pay the cost of equipment used for distance learning and telemedicine with Federal funds up to \$500,000. These dollars are difficult to find, and I hope you will help your members take advantage of this opportunity. Successful applicants will score high on the rurality and poverty (national school lunch program) scales, and will provide \$1 dollar of local match for every \$2 secured from the Federal government. See the [Overview](#) and [Power Point](#) for more information. If you are interested in this program, please contact your technology director and superintendent.

➤ **Final Week for Bill Gavaghan Tributes**

Dear friends of Bill,

This will be the final week to add to Bill's memory book to be published for his wife and children. After next Saturday, the site will still be on-line, but only those posting done by then will be included in that book.

So far, the site has been visited 420 times! As a relative wrote recently, "I have enjoyed reading everyone's entries about Bill. I had no idea he was so accomplished professionally. What a humble, humble man!"

Please pass this on to other friends and family members. Thanks! Bob McDaniel

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/billgavaghan>

➤ **Riley Kids Caring and Sharing "Texting"**

Over the past week and a half a few Riley "events" instituted texting fundraising initiatives with great success. The three events collectively raised \$3,810 for Riley!

Indiana Association of Student Councils - \$860 (in one day) - Susan Miles

Ball State Dance Marathon - \$115 (in a few hours) –Robyn Burrroughs

IU Dance Marathon - \$2,835 (over a week and half) – Sarah Jenkins

Communication prior to the texting call out is key as each text will place a \$5 charge on the cell phone "owner's" monthly bill. We don't want any parents to be surprised! Also, the more intimate and heartfelt the callout, the more successful the initiative. Texting would be great at staff meetings, administrator gatherings, and large assemblies with a good sound system. The foundation secured a year-long subscription for this service, so if your group/school is interested in employing this easy, safe and simple fundraising means, please contact Susan Miles, Ben Cohen or your high school dance marathon liaison Robyn or Sarah, to find out how to make it work for you!

➤ **Riley Hospital Annual Luncheon:** Over 1400 people attended the annual luncheon to celebrate the successes of supporting Riley Kids. Here is a link to this event that contains a video that could be shown in any number of ways. http://www.rileykids.org/events/annual_luncheon/ **Thanks for all that you do for Riley Kids**

➤ **Growth Model Workshops:** IASP is offering regional workshops across Indiana to allow elementary and middle school principals to work directly with their school data with assistance from the DOE. Further details will come next week, but make plans now to attend and bring a teacher from your building. Additional dates and locations will be developed as plans are finalized. To see the details for each site and to register, click this link:

<http://www.iasp.org/Student%20Growth%20Model.aspx>

- **December 6: Wea Ridge MS, Lafayette and Klondike Middle School, West Lafayette**
- **December 6: Twin Lakes HS, Monticello**
- **December 8: Lebanon Middle School and Area 30 Career Center, Greencastle**
- **December 9: Owen Valley High School, Spencer and ISU College of Ed, Terre Haute**
- **December 10: Washington Woods Elementary, Westfield and IASP Office, Indianapolis**

IDOE NEWS

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➤ **Four Indiana Teachers Named Finalists for Presidential Award** [\(Full Press Release\)](#)

Four Indiana elementary school teachers were named finalists for the annual Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). The finalists will be recognized in January at a luncheon at the Indiana Historical Society.

Mathematics Finalists:

- Julie Sigmund, College Park Elementary, Indianapolis
- Laura Baker, Stephen Foster School 367, Indianapolis

Science Finalists:

- Alicia Madeka, Kenwood Elementary, Hammond
- Jan Koloszar, Northwestern Elementary, Kokomo

The PAEMST is the highest recognition a kindergarten through 12th-grade mathematics or science teacher may receive. The award alternates years between elementary and secondary teachers. The United States Congress enacted the award program in 1983 and authorizes the President to bestow up to 108 awards each year.

- ### ➤ **Area Schools to host “After School with Dr. Bennett” events.** Schools across Indiana that have achieved significant academic growth are hosting another round of meetings with Dr. Bennett and IDOE representatives. Educators interested in attending must register at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5HVGJJY> to attend. The full [press release](#) is available by clicking the link.

Dr. Bennett will also be offering a meeting for School Board Members following each After School Event. The [School Board Flier](#) can be downloaded by clicking the link.

December 2 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Central Indiana Education Service Center
6321 LaPas Trail, Indianapolis, IN

December 9 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
Deming Elementary School
1750 8th Ave., Terre Haute, IN

Top National Education Stories

Take that, Arne

A Maryland legislative committee has voted to reject a new regulation requiring that half of teachers' evaluations be based on student progress, calling into question the future of a \$250 million federal Race to the Top grant.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/08/AR2010110805775.html?wprss=rss_education

- Twelfth-grade reading and math scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) have improved in the past four years, according to the latest results, Education Week reports. Between 2005 and 2009, 12th graders' average reading scores rose two points, from 286 to 288, on a 500-point scale. While higher than in 2005, the latest reading scores are four points lower than those in 1992, the first NAEP reading assessment in the current trend line. Students performing at or above the "proficient" level rose from 35 percent in 2005 to 38 percent in 2009, although those figures are still lower than 1992 levels. One-quarter of high school seniors, however, are still reading below NAEP's "basic" level. On the math part of the exam, average scores rose three points between 2005 and 2009, from 150 to 153, on a 300-point scale. A greater proportion of students scored at or above the proficient level than four years earlier -- 26 percent compared with 23 percent in 2005. More than a third of 12th graders remain below the basic level. One other salient fact is the relative lack of progress for seniors compared with students in 4th and 8th grade. In reading, for instance, 4th and 8th graders' NAEP scores rose four points between 1992 and 2005, while 12th graders' declined by four points. Read more:

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2010/11/18/13naep.h30.html?tkn=SYPFj4XQzNklWkaN4Mst+M6pVjW5y/+hz55&cmp=clp-edweek>

➤ **Lean Years Ahead for K-12**

The economic picture remains bleak, but there's growing confidence that--so long as nothing untoward happens with Ireland or Portugal...or Italy...or Greece (again)...and so long as the Middle East doesn't implode--the worst is past. In edu-circles, there are hopeful murmurs that "this will all be behind us" in another year. Such notions echo Secretary Duncan's comment last August, while touting Edujobs, that he was "hopeful" things would be looking up by fall 2011.

Unfortunately, such hopes are likely to be dashed. My colleague Whitney Downs and I explain why in the just-published analysis *K-12 Budget Picture: Lean Years Ahead*. As John Thomasian, director of the National Governors Association Center, explains, "State budgets have not yet recovered from the Great Recession. In fact, total state revenues probably will not return to pre-recession levels until sometime around 2013." Thirteen states have already drained their "rainy day" reserve accounts, and another 28 used at least some of these funds to balance their budgets in 2009 and 2010. And, while the worst of the recession may be over, Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz has cautioned, "This is an anemic recovery...and is likely to remain anemic." See the full story at http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/rick_hess_straight_up/2010/11/lean_years_ahead_for_k-12.html

- **Educational Research Service provides timely research for IASP members. Here are articles that represent their work. Contact them when you need assistance on a topic. Click on the link for more information.**



Majority of Students Who Experience Bullying Do Not Report It

Addressing bullying in schools has become a priority for educators in recent years, and the demand to reduce bullying has only grown following a spate of high-profile bullying incidents that garnered national attention. In order for schools to address bullying, they must first be aware of it.

A report from the National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, *What Characteristics of Bullying, Bullying Victims, and Schools Are Associated With Increased Reporting of Bullying to School Officials?*, by Anthony Petrosino, Sarah Guckenbug, Jill DeVoe, and Thomas Hanson, looks at trends among students who report bullying incidents and those who remain silent.

The report presents data from a study conducted by the Regional Education Laboratory Northeast and Islands. The study used data from the 2007 National Crime Victimization Survey School Crime Supplement, a biennial survey of students ages 12-18, to examine characteristics of bullying victimization, bullying victims, and bullying victims' schools.

[Read the full article here.](#)

Children Under 18 Are the Largest Population Group Living in Poverty in the U.S.

Children's overall well-being affects all facets of their lives, including their performance in school. Their well-being is also typically driven by the same factors that affect adults, such as the economy. While a great deal of attention has been devoted to the recent recession's effects on adults, how have children fared?

That is one of the questions examined in *2010: Child and Youth Well-Being Index (CWI)*, by the Foundation for Child Development (FCD). The FCD compiles their Child and Youth Well-Being Index (CWI) each year based on a composite of 28 key indicators that focus on the following seven quality-of-life/well-being domains—economic well-being, safe/risky behavior, social relationships, emotional/spiritual well-being, community engagement, educational attainment, and health.

This year's CWI analyzes trend data from 1975-2008, with projections for 2009, and also includes a special focus on the effects of the 2008-2009 recession on children. Some of those effects are alarming, including the fact that children under 18 are the single largest group in America living in poverty. In fact, progress in American children's quality of life declined in 2009 and was projected to continue to fall in 2010. According to the CWI, virtually all of the progress made in families' economic well-being domain since 1975 will be wiped out.

[Read the full article here](#)

Schools Making Progress in Classroom Technology Usage

Achieving a more effective use of technology in school is often a stated goal of educators and policy makers, particularly when discussing how to best prepare students for the 21st-century world of work. A new report looks at how schools

are using technology and the frequency of the usage.

Results of the Spring 2010 SIIA Vision K-20 Survey: Technology > Education > America's Future, by the Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA) Education Division, discusses the results of a 2010 survey of educators from all levels of K-20 education to get a sense of how technology is being used in schools.

The survey is conducted with SIIA's Vision K-20 Initiative in mind. As stated in the report, the K-20 initiative is based on the belief that every K-20 educational institution should embrace technology and e-learning to:

[Read the full article here](#)

\$\$ GRANT TIPS OF THE WEEK \$\$

Captain Planet Foundation: Grants for the Environment

The Captain Planet Foundation funds hands-on environmental projects for to encourage youth around the world to work individually and collectively to solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities. Maximum award: \$2,500. Eligibility: 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations, including schools. Deadline: December 31, 2010.

<http://www.captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=3&tab=apply>

Honeywell: Educators at Space Academy Program

The Honeywell Educators at Space Academy Program funds five-day scholarships for middle school math and science teachers at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. Recipients have 40 hours of intensive classroom, laboratory and training time, focusing on space science and space exploration, including participation in astronaut-style training and simulations and activities designed to promote life-long learning in a classroom setting. Maximum award: travel, accommodations, materials and five-day tuition. Eligibility: middle school (grades 6-8) science and math teachers. Deadline: December 31, 2010.

<http://www.spacecamp.com/educators/honeywell/>

Astronauts Memorial Foundation: Alan Shepard Technology in Education Award

The Astronauts Memorial Foundation Alan Shepard Technology in Education Award rewards excellence in the development and delivery of technology programs in the classroom with students, or in the professional development of teachers in the school or district. Maximum award: \$1,000, recognition at the awards ceremony at the 27th National Space Symposium in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Eligibility: K-12 educators and district-level personnel in the field of Educational Technology. Deadline: January 15, 2011.

http://www.amfcse.org/Alan%20Shepard%20Award/alan_shepard_award.htm

Civic Ventures: Purpose Prize

The Civic Ventures Purpose Prize awards Americans over 60 whose creativity, talent and experience is transforming the way our nation addresses critical social problems. Maximum award: \$100,000. Eligibility: Americans 60 years old by March 1, 2011 and currently working in a leadership capacity in an organization or institution (public, private, nonprofit, or for-profit) to address a major social problem. Deadline: March 10, 2011.

<http://www.encore.org/prize>

Zaner-Bloser: National Handwriting Contest

The 2011 Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest encourages legible handwriting by testing the printing (or "manuscript") acumen of first and second graders, and the cursive abilities of students in grades 2 through 8.

Entries are judged on the Keys to Legibility: Shape, Slant, Spacing, and Size. Maximum award: recognition and a special prize package. Eligibility: students grades 1-8 whose school uses Zaner-Bloser Handwriting curricula.

Deadline: January 23, 2011.

<http://www.zaner-bloser.com/educator/products/handwriting/national-contest.aspx?id=336>

Toshiba/NSTA: ExploraVision Awards

All inventions and innovations result from creative thinking and problem-solving. The Toshiba/National Science Teachers Association ExploraVision Awards Program encourages kids to create and explore a vision of future technology by combining their imaginations with the tools of science. Maximum award: \$10,000.

Eligibility: students K-12. Deadline: February 2, 2011.

<http://www.exploravision.org/about/>

American Historical Association: Beveridge Family Teaching Prize

The American Historical Association Beveridge Family Teaching Prize recognizes excellence and innovation in elementary, middle school, and secondary history teaching, including career contributions and specific initiatives. Maximum award: \$1,500. Eligibility: K-12 teachers. Deadline: March 15, 2011.

<http://www.historians.org/teaching/Beveridge.htm>

Lemelson-MIT: InvenTeams

Lemelson-MIT InvenTeams foster inventiveness in high school students. InvenTeams composed of high school students, teachers and mentors are asked to collaboratively identify a problem that they want to solve, research the problem, and then develop a prototype invention as an in-class or extracurricular project. Maximum award: \$10,000. Eligibility: High school science, mathematics, and technology teachers -- or teams of teachers -- at public, private, and vocational schools; intra- and inter-school collaborations are welcome. Deadline: April 22, 2011.

<http://web.mit.edu/inventeams/about.html>

➤ **Indiana Youth Institute Professional Development Grants**

Grants of up to \$750 are awarded monthly by Indiana Youth Institute for youth-serving nonprofit leaders wishing to attend a conference, training, college course or other educational opportunity that will help you meet your mission. IYI also has services to help you with grant writing, including free prospect research. [Learn more»](#)

See you at the conference and back with the next edition of Schoolhouse News in December,

Gerald and Todd