



Schoolhouse News



October 29, 2010

We hope you are making your plans to attend the Fall Professional Conference November 21-23. Great Keynote Speakers, Concurrent Sessions, and Conversations are waiting for you. [Register Now](#) and we will see you there!



POSITIONS OPEN

- Center Grove High School is looking for a teacher licensed in Physics and Earth Science to cover a maternity leave *on or about* November 29th through February 18th. I prefer that the teacher has at least a Physics license or strong course content in that area. Interested applicants should reach me at the contact information below. Thanks! **Matt Shockley, Principal** 317.881.0581 x4446 shockleym@centergrove.k12.in.us
- **English position available:** Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School in Goshen, IN. Contact Ben Tonagel, Principal, @ htonagel@fairfield.k12.in.us or 574.831.2184. A description of the opening can be found @ <http://www.fairfield.k12.in.us/jobs.html>

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Student Mentoring:** Blue River Valley Jr/Sr High School is trying to form a new group whose function would be to provide mentoring, support, and guidance to other students who are struggling with anger management, relationships with peers, and/or other social issues. Please help Principal Ken Howell with this effort by contacting him at khowell@brv.k12.in.us or at 765-836-4811.
- **Kids Count in Indiana:** This conference sponsored by the Indiana Youth Institute is December 7 and 8 in Indianapolis is designed especially for Indiana's youth workers, counselors, and educators. Scholarship vouchers are available through your local community foundation or United Way. Early bird registration closes November 1. Register online and save \$5: <http://www.regonline.com/register/checkin.aspx?EventId=837464>.
- **Textbooks Needed:** Kankakee Valley Middle School is in need of 30 copies of Elements of Literature Second Course Holt, Rinehart and Winston (2008) ISBN 978-0-03-079171-0. If you can help, please contact William D. Auker, Principal, 219-956-3143 or at wdauker@kv.k12.in
- **The Indiana Humanities Council** is sponsoring several Food for Thought events. Access their information at <http://hosted.verticalresponse.com/267965/78f253392f/1382004221/cb5b7e1c26/>.
- Online courses about China are available and allow for you to gain information on your own schedule. You may also qualify for a study tour to China! See the [Flier](#) for more details.

- **Vote November 2:** Remember to vote on November 2, and absentee balloting ends November 1. Tax Caps will be public question #1, VOTE NO. Here is another informative editorial from IU economist, Morton Marcus who discusses the effects Tax Caps will have on Local Government.

<http://www.indystar.com/article/20101019/OPINION01/10190310/1031/OPINION01/Tax-caps-will-strap-local-governments>

- **2,733 College Credits Earned Year End Dual Credit Report**

Our end of year data shows that Porter County Career and Technical Education students earned a cumulative total of **2,733** credit hours during the last school year. Conservatively, this is equivalent to over **\$250,000** of college tuition saved by the parents of our students. These students completed high school with a developed technical skill, a diploma, and a college transcript. Some also graduated with national certifications in such areas as Electronics, Nursing, EMT, Cosmetology, CPR/AED, Computer Networking, Video Editing, Marketing, and Welding.

- **Students, Teachers, and Staff Attend Manufacturing Jobs Summit**

Porter County Career and Tech Center students met with the keynote speaker, Ron Bloom, who is President Obama's senior advisor for manufacturing. Adam McCarty/Hobart HS, Ron Bloom, Robert Fleegeer/PHS, Mitch Shadwell/Boone Grove, and instructor, Mr. Avalos were included in this summit and meeting. Read more here: http://www.pccte.org/newsletters/Vol%2017_Issue%204.pdf

- Many educators were able to attend the viewing and funeral for Bill Gavaghan. If you would like to post a favorite story or memory of Bill to share with his family and friends, please go to this website: www.caringbridge.org/visit/billgavaghan.
- **Give Thanks: Service-Learning Opportunities for the Month of November**
generationOn, part of HandsOn Network and powered by Points of Light Institute, will be hosting a free webinar focused on service opportunities for school-aged youth. This webinar will introduce the newly-launched generationOn website in addition to providing participants with service-learning project ideas surrounding Veterans Day, Family Volunteer Day, Thanksgiving and much more. The webinar will include details about holding a Thanksgiving food or clothing drive and using **Learning to Give** curriculum and resources. Participants will learn about existing local and national service events, and how to plan and implement a service project of their own. Please join us!
Thursday, November 4 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm EDT
Reserve your Webinar seat now at:
<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/864349928>
- **Drug-Free Hoosiers announces 2010 Drug-Free Work Week Poster Contest:** Applicants must electronically submit a photo of their poster, submissions are accepted October 21-November 15. The contest is open to all Indiana students from Kindergarten through grade 12. Visit <http://www.facebook.com/drugfreehoosiers> for more information and to enter a poster.

- **Businesses with More Than 25 Employees Must Register to File Electronically Before End of December.**

Please consult with your Central Office regarding this notice from the State.

Indiana law now requires that all businesses that file more than 25 wage statements per calendar year must now file their WH-3 returns and W-2s electronically with the state. To comply with this law, these businesses will need to be registered to file electronically, and those that file more than 2,000 wage statements per calendar year must be certified to bulk upload those statements. To better assist businesses in completing this process before the end of the year, the Department of Revenue has established a website to specifically help businesses quickly and easily register and certify to file their WH-3s and W2s in 2011. Businesses can visit the website at: www.in.gov/dor/4455.htm. The deadline for businesses to register to file electronically, and to be certified for bulk upload of their wage statements is Dec. 31, 2010. WH-3s are due the end of February 2011.

IASP NEWS

- **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.
 - **November 8: Valparaiso**
 - **November 10: Muncie and Rushville**
 - **November 15: Jasper and Newburgh**
 - **November 16: Scottsburg and Jennings County**
 - **November 17: Huntington and Columbia City**
- **Riley Raffle:** The raffle at the Principals conference needs your help. The more items to raffle off, the more we can raise for Riley and achieve our goal of \$1,000,000 in 2010-2011. Great items to bring include dining gift cards and gift certificates at your local golf course. Autographed items from college and pro teams are also items that entice us even more to help Riley. Bring your donated items to the registration desk when you come to the conference.
- **Accountability Models** will be presented again at the DOE State Board Meeting next Wednesday, 11/6. Both the Elementary/Middle School and High School Models will be on the agenda. Look for these to be moved forward in the process and public comment will be sought after this date. Thanks to the principals who have worked with the DOE to make suggestions and modifications to these models.
- **Principal for a Day:** The IASP Principal for a Day Program is scheduled for November 17. This is a great opportunity to network with a community leader regarding your school issues. Help build support for a building program or legislative issues by scheduling a community leader to shadow you in all that you do. [Guidelines](#) for this program are available as well as a [sample press release](#).

IDOE NEWS

- **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> by **November 3** to attend. The full [press release](#) is available by clicking the link.

November 8 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. CST
Aylesworth Elementary School
5910 Central Ave., Portage, IN

November 18 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
Wakarusa Elementary School
400 N. Washington St., Wakarusa, IN

November 10 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
Wilbur Wright Elementary School
1950 Washington St., New Castle, IN

November 22 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.
Thomas Miller Elementary School
700 S. 4th St., Lafayette, IN

November 15 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. CST
Helfrich Park STEM Academy
2603 W. Maryland St., Evansville, IN

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

November 16 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.
Cortland Elementary School
6687 N. 400 E., Seymour, IN

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

November 17 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
Waynedale Elementary School
7201 Elzey St., Fort Wayne, IN

- **Indiana Announces Blue Ribbon Schools** Congratulations to the Principals, Teachers, Students, Staff and Communities for their efforts as they are recognized as Blue Ribbon Schools. Read the full press release at <http://www.doe.in.gov/news/2010/10-October/blueribbon.html>.
- **Reform Cabinet Meetings:** Take time to attend one of these meetings to hear further information on the Growth Model and to ask questions of the DOE. It is a good opportunity to hear first-hand information and to understand the opinions of others in the crowd.

November 11th: Bloomington, Bloomington High School North, 3901 N. Kinser Pike, Bloomington, 4:00. Hosted by Cabinet member Taji Gibson (Bloomington High School North)

November 15th: Evansville, location and time TBD hosted by Cabinet member Debbie Hartz (Evansville Community Schools) **Dr. Bennett is attending

➤ **Top National Education Stories**

➤ **New Report Finds Districts Can Improve How Universities Train Principals**

Urban school district officials can improve the way principals are trained and developed, according to a new report commissioned by The Wallace Foundation. ***Districts Developing Leaders: Lessons on Consumer Actions and Program Approaches from Eight Urban Districts*** examines districts that exercise their power as “consumers” to change how university-based school leadership programs better meet their needs.

➤ **Is 'Superman' a myth?**

In The New York Review of Books, education historian Diane Ravitch writes, "Waiting for Superman is a powerful weapon on behalf of those championing the 'free market' and privatization. It raises important questions, but all of the answers it offers require a transfer of public funds to the private sector." She takes exception to a number of misconceptions about charters and about public education that she feels the film encourages, summarizing the subtext of the film thus: "At last we have the culprit on which we can pin our anger, our palpable sense that something is very wrong with our society, that we are on the wrong track, and that America is losing the race for global dominance. It is not globalization or deindustrialization or poverty or our coarse popular culture or predatory financial practices that bear responsibility: It's the public schools, their teachers, and their unions." The film gives mere "acknowledgment" of the fact that only one in five charters gets the kinds of results that the film celebrates. Moreover, the film perpetuates "the central thesis in today's school reform discussion: the idea that teachers are the most important factor determining student achievement." As to the more heavily weighted factor, parents, the film says nothing of those children whose families are not available, for whatever reason, to heavily invest themselves in their child's education, or about children who are homeless, or children with special needs.

Read more: <http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2010/nov/11/myth-charter-schools/?page=1>

Related:

http://www.boston.com/news/education/k_12/articles/2010/10/12/dont_wait_for_superman_focus_on_teachers/

➤ **Opinion: Relationships are crucial to successful school turnarounds**

A Cincinnati principal was able to turn around a struggling high school by keeping the same teachers in place and working to build relationships among staff and the community. While many turnaround efforts focus on test scores and data, journalist and author Laura Pappano makes the case that relationships factor just as significantly into real change. "For turnaround to be meaningful, it must be deeper and more durable than test results," she writes. *Education Week* (premium article access compliments of EdWeek.org) (10/27)

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

Dialing for dollars! The Verizon Foundation funds a variety of programs related to education, literacy, domestic violence prevention, health care and Internet safety. Grant range is \$5,000 - \$10,000. [More info >>>>](#)



Depot dollars! The **Office Depot Foundation** funds a wide range of **youth programs that serve, teach and inspire children.**

➤ Grant range: **\$1,000.** Deadline: **November 15, 2010.**

[More info >>>>](#)

NSTA: Shell Science Lab Challenge

The Shell Science Lab Challenge invites middle and high school science teachers to illustrate replicable approaches to science lab instruction utilizing limited school and laboratory resources. Teachers and schools submitting top entries will receive additional laboratory tools, resources, and professional development opportunities. Maximum award: school science lab makeover support package valued at \$20,000. Eligibility: teachers grades 6-12 in the United States and Canada (with special attention to urban and underrepresented groups). Deadline: November 15, 2010.

<http://www.nsta.org/shell/>

Aspen Institute: William Randolph Hearst Endowed Fellowship

The William Randolph Hearst Endowed Fellowship is based on academic excellence and need, and is open to both undergraduate and graduate students of color. The student must be able to intern for 12 to 15 weeks at the Washington, D.C. office of the Aspen Institute. Fall and spring internships will be part-time (15 to 20 hours per week) and summer internships will be full-time. Maximum award: \$4,000. Eligibility: highly motivated, current, non-graduating graduate or undergraduate students from underrepresented communities of color. Deadline: December 15, 2010.

<http://www.aspeninstitute.org/policy-work/nonprofit-philanthropy/leadership-initiatives/hearst>

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>

Happy Halloween. Gerald and Todd