



# Schoolhouse News



October 8, 2010

Here is the latest edition of the Schoolhouse News. Register now for the Fall Professional Conference, November 21-23 at the Downtown Indianapolis Marriott. The next issue of Schoolhouse News will be published October 22 to accommodate the staff as we meet for the Assistant Principals Conference and the Academic Coaches Conference this coming week.



## POSITIONS OPEN

- **Special Education** teacher for a maternity leave, 10/18 – 12/22 in West Clark Community Schools. Candidate would be working with Severe and Profound students along with 4 teaching assistants. For more information, please contact Myra Powell at [mpowell@wclark.k12.in.us](mailto:mpowell@wclark.k12.in.us) or at (812) 967-2548.
- Greenfield-Central HS is in desperate need of an English teacher to fill a maternity leave. Please have any member contact Steve Bryant if they know of a candidate at: [sbryant@gcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:sbryant@gcsc.k12.in.us).
- Bedford North Lawrence High School has an immediate opening for a full time math teacher. This opening is for the remainder of the 2010-11 school year and possibly beyond. Candidates should contact Bill Denney at 812-279-9756 or [denneyb@nlcs.k12.in.us](mailto:denneyb@nlcs.k12.in.us).
- Lanesville JR/SR High School is need of a French/English teacher for the rest of this year. Please contact Steve Morris at 812-952-2555 or [morriss@lanesville.k12.in.us](mailto:morriss@lanesville.k12.in.us).
- Center Grove High School has a full-time Special Education teaching position for a candidate having a mild interventions license in grades 9-12. The position includes a combination of General Education support, direct instruction, and resource. Candidates with HOUSS documentation in Math and English would be preferred but not required. Candidates can contact Matt Shockley at 317-881-0581 or at [shockleym@centergrove.k12.in.us](mailto:shockleym@centergrove.k12.in.us).
- Part-time lobbyist position during this legislative session for the Coalition of Growing Schools. Most education committee hearings are on Wednesday that would require attendance and testimony. Those interested should contact Dr. Bill Riggs, Superintendent of Mt. Vernon School Corporation, One Shoppell Blvd. Fortville, IN 46040, Ph.#(317)485-3100.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Senator Richard Lugar** and Indiana Farm Bureau announce an essay contest for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on the importance of agriculture. Winners will be recognized with prizes including a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond and an all-expenses paid trip to Washington D.C. The [essay packet](#) provides the contest details. Good luck to all!
- **Student Due Process Workshops**: ISBA is hosting nine, half-day workshops across the state to train new administrators and expulsion examiners in student discipline issues. Veteran administrators wanting to hear the latest information should also attend. A revised handbook will be available, plan on hearing the latest news at

one of these sessions. Visit the ISBA website for complete information on these meetings. Persons interested in attending the workshops may register by mail, by fax, or online at [www.isba-ind.org](http://www.isba-ind.org). Click this link: <http://www.isba-ind.org/html/calendar.html> and select the date and location that is best for you.

- Northridge High School is interested in establishing a Hall of Fame for Distinguished Alumni. We would like to recognize graduates from our school that have made significant contributions to their profession and/ or their community. I would be interested in learning about any other high schools that are operating this type of hall of fame. The committee that is working on this desires examples of criteria for entrance into the hall of fame, nomination processes, selection processes, induction ceremonies, etc. Please contact Steve Lyng, Principal, at 574-825-2142 or at [lyngs@mcsin-k12.org](mailto:lyngs@mcsin-k12.org).
- **Teen Suicide Webinar:** Hazelden is a corporate partner with IASP and is offering a Webinar on Responding to Teen Suicide on Thursday, October 14. No one wants to have this happen in our school communities, but teen pressures are great and we must be prepared. For more information and to register, please visit <https://hazelden.webex.com/hazelden/onstage/g.php?t=a&d=963379709>. If people cannot attend the live event, it will be archived. They should register anyway, and they will automatically receive a link to the archived version.
- **District Meetings:** As you finalize details for your next District Meeting, remember to keep IASP up to date. Also, remember to invite one person to join you as you attend so they can share in the information and networking that are a part of the District Meetings.
  - Wednesday, October 20: District 11, Feed Mill in Poseyville, 5:30 pm CDT
  - Wednesday, November 5: District 5, Old Country Buffett, Westfield, 6:30 pm.
- **Riley News:** A [dedication](#) was held October 4 at the IASP office for the [plaque](#) honoring O.C. Moore's dedication to Riley Kids Caring and Sharing (please use the links for pictures). We hope you are making your plans now to help again this year, or to help your school and corporation be a "Miracle" to Riley by donating a dollar for each student. Remember O.C.'s vision was to raise \$1,000,000 a year for Riley. Lets make 2010-2011 the year for this to happen.  
For more Riley news and events, please click here: <http://editor.ne16.com/he/vo.aspx?FileID=5b381d38-ad5a-480a-889b-e7f27eeb0c19&m=25d54c2ea955dd47963e71ab7beb2768&MailID=13779268>.
- **Global Indiana: A Consortium for International Exchange** is finalizing plans for a trip to Germany for principals and lead teachers. Tentative dates are February 19—27, 2011, although these may vary depending on airfares. The cost is approximately \$1,500 - \$1,600. For more information, contact [phil.boleyn@clinton.k12.in.us](mailto:phil.boleyn@clinton.k12.in.us). Read the full flier [here](#).
- **Indiana Music Educators Association Free Workshop** Every year in November, IMEA sponsors a workshop for music teachers who are in their first through fifth year of teaching music. The workshop is free of charge to these music teachers, and lunch is provided. Details about the workshop are included in the [attached memo](#). Classroom management and assertive discipline are two of the main topics; needs specific to music teachers are addressed as well.
- **Education in Ireland:** 2011 Travel/Study Program for teachers and administrators. June 30-July 23, 2011 at the National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland. For more information email [lilyusk@ncia.net](mailto:lilyusk@ncia.net)

## INDIANA NEWS

- **Kappa Delta Pi** and the Committee on Teaching About the United Nations are co-hosting a one-day conference on peace and conflict resolution on Nov. 6. **It's Our World: Lessons for Peace and Reconciliation** on Saturday, November 6, 2010 at Shortridge Magnet High School for Law and Public Policy. National Speakers include:
  - Cora Weiss, President of the Hague Appeal for Peace
  - James Morris, Former head of the UN World Food Programme
  - Mariatu Kamara, Suervivor of the Sierra Leane civil war

**For additional information about this unique conference, please visit [It's Our World: Lessons for Peace and Reconciliation](#). The deadline to register is Friday, October 22, 2010. Teachers register for just \$35, K-12 students can attend for only \$10!**

- **Senator Richard Lugar** co-sponsored Senator Resolution 607 recognizing October as **National Principals Month**. Please access the [resolution](#) here and thanks for your continued dedication to our kids. Remember we want to hear from you when you celebrate. Here is a sample from our friends in [Alabama](#) with their Governor supporting the proclamation.

## IASP NEWS

- **Ed Leaders Network!**
  - View the [PowerPoint](#) to learn more about this exciting Professional Growth Opportunity. Further details will be shared at the November Professional Conference.



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- Congratulations again go out to **Matt Shockley** and **Rhonda Mull** for their recognition in Washington DC at the NASSP Principal of the Year Celebration. They are deserving high school and middle school principal representatives for the state of Indiana. Read the [press release](#) and see their [photo](#) with Senator Richard Lugar. Come to the Fall Professional Conference to see who will win the 2010 Principal of the Year awards. Myra Powell will be recognized at the NAESP celebration later this month.
- The Fall Principal's Conference is just a few short weeks away and we need your help. Yes, to encourage attendance but also to help our Principals Service Corp locate enough raffle items for their booth to aid Riley Kids Caring and Sharing. We ask each district to bring a nice raffle item to the conference to be featured on Monday for conference attendees to purchase raffle tickets. The raffle is conducted on Tuesday Nov. 23 with a list posted of those names drawn and the location to pick up their prize. Please help us help the kids at Riley with a great raffle that is fun for participants and helpful to a great cause- Riley Hospital. Bring the items to the registration desk or the PSC booth in the main hall Sunday afternoon or Monday morning. There is no limit, if other members in your district can find items the more we have the better the raffle. You may want to inform Carole Storch ([cstorch@earthlink.net](mailto:cstorch@earthlink.net)), PSC director, of the gift you have secured from any business that will need a thank you note sent. Please attach the contact information and address. Thanks for your help with this once a year effort for our friends at Kids Caring and Sharing and Riley Kids.

➤ **Tax Cap Referendum**

This fall voters will decide whether to make Tax Caps a permanent part of the State Constitution. IASP will publish talking points next week on this issue. We do not support making these caps permanent which would eliminate a revenue stream for schools, cities, and counties. The negative impact on your corporation budgets has started and will be felt as your assessed valuation increases each year. **Vote No on Public Question #1.**

➤ **Dates and Events**

Oct. 10-16 National Metric Week [www.nctm.org](http://www.nctm.org)

Oct. 11-15 National School Lunch Week by USDA [www.schoolnutrition.org](http://www.schoolnutrition.org)

Oct. 11 Columbus Day/Discover's Day sighting of the New World Oct. 12, 1492

Oct. 17-23 National Character Counts Week [www.charactercounts.org](http://www.charactercounts.org)

Oct. 18-22 National School Bus Safety Week [www.napt.org](http://www.napt.org)

Oct. 20 John Dewey's birthday American Education reformer. Lived 1859-1952

Oct. 23-31 National Red Ribbon Week [www.nfp.org](http://www.nfp.org)

Oct. 23 Make a Difference Day [www.usaweekend.com/diffday/](http://www.usaweekend.com/diffday/)

Oct. 24 United Nations Day [www.un.org](http://www.un.org)

Oct. 31 Halloween Evening before All Saints or All Hallows Day. Traditionally an occasion for masquerading and pumpkin carving, and for children to play pranks.

Nov. 1-30 American Indian Heritage Month

Nov. 1. All Saints Day A Catholic and Protestant commemoration of all the saints.

Nov. 2 Election Day The Tuesday following the first Monday in November.

**Nov. 7 Standard Time For all time zones at 2:00 a.m. clocks move back one hour. First Sunday in November!**

➤ **National Principal's Month is Here!!**

October 2010 marks National Principal's Month, namely the month to celebrate YOU, our very important principals! NASSP has created a web page for this special month, which you can access at <http://www.principals.org/NationalPrincipalsMonth.aspx>.

On this page you can find ideas for principals, parents, teachers, and students to celebrate this month, as well as the text of the Senate Resolution that recognizes October 2010 as National Principal's Month. If you have photos of events or proclamations from civic leaders celebrating this event, please send those to us so we can celebrate with you. Email your news features to [tbess@iasp.org](mailto:tbess@iasp.org) and thanks again for your dedication.

## IDOE NEWS

**Penn High School educator named 2011 Teacher of the Year:** Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Tony Bennett named Physics teacher Stacy McCormack the 2011 Teacher of the Year during a surprise assembly at Penn High School Thursday. "Ms. McCormack is a dynamic teacher. Her creativity in the classroom captures students' attention and allows for increased academic achievement," Bennett said. "I applaud her for her work and thank her for her many years of dedication to Indiana students." Read the [Press Release](#) here.

### ➤ **IDOE State Board of Education Update**

The state board met on Wednesday, October 6 and several key items were discussed. Please take time to read thru these comments and review the linked documents. Comments can be forwarded to Todd Bess at IASP at [tbess@iasp.org](mailto:tbess@iasp.org). There is still time to impact the decisions that will be made at the November 3 State Board Meeting..

**Read On Indiana:** Heated discussion occurred regarding the Reading Plans that are to be submitted by July, 2011. The **90-minute reading block** intended for grades K-3 was changed to include grades K-6. If this becomes a part of the rule, numerous middle school schedules would be impacted to comply. The second issue that was debated focused on retention. The current language **requires retention** at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade unless certain provisions are met. One of these would be that a student has been retained two times prior to 4<sup>th</sup> grade. This point of double retention was heard several times. Let us know your thoughts on these two issues. The document presented that day can be found [here](#). The State Board will consider revisions to the language at the November 3 meeting.

**Accountability:** Jeff Zaring presented a draft of the Elementary and Middle School Model and the High School Model.

- **Elementary and Middle School will relate to the 90-25-90 IDOE goals.**
  - English and Math ISTEP will have different grades, though the school grade will be a composite.
  - Letter grades will be primarily derived from performance, growth will influence category placement positively or negatively.
  - Growth would be defined in terms of high, average, and low median growth.
  - Growth for students in the lowest 25<sup>th</sup> percentile could influence grades.
- **High School will relate to the 90-25-90 IDOE goals.**

Some of these concepts are still in rough form and IASP has already responded to Mr. Zaring. We have focused on making sure all schools have equal opportunity to be graded in the manner they deserve. Right now the grades are based on a 4.0 scale, but could become letter grades to match the Elementary and Middle School Model. In the end, a school will receive a composite grade.

- English 10 and Algebra ECAs will have grades based on performance. Bonus Points could be earned for increasing the percentage of 11<sup>th</sup> graders passing the exams if they previously failed as 10<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Graduation Rate could utilize the waiver rate, or have a cap placed on the number of waivers if a non-waiver rate is used. Bonus Points could be earned for meeting their graduation rate target.
- College Readiness will examine graduates who pass an AP/IB exam, earn 3 college credits, or achieve industry certification. Bonus Points could be earned based on the percentage of students who complete the course exam or exercise.
- Bonus Points could also be earned if less than 10% of students earn a General Diploma, or if your 5<sup>th</sup> Year graduation rate increases.

- Future considerations could include credit accumulation and the Biology ECA, though they are not a part of the model at this time.

### ➤ **Indiana increases PSAT numbers again in 2010**

Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Tony Bennett announced today that over 75,000 Indiana high school sophomores have registered for the October 13 PSAT. Once again, Hoosier students have trumped the state's record, making Indiana a national leader in PSAT participation. The PSAT is a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT and can be used as a diagnostic to identify students who have the potential for future honors or Advanced Placement courses and credit. Read the full [Press Release](#) here.



## **Top National Education Stories**

### ➤ **New Study Does Not Find Link Between Teacher Bonuses and Student Achievement**

Merit pay and teacher performance bonuses have been the focus of many education reform plans recently, with the federal government promoting compensation reform as one way to improve student achievement outcomes. *Teacher Pay for Performance: Experimental Evidence From the Project on Incentives in Teaching*, by Matthew G. Springer, Dale Ballou, Laura Hamilton, Vi-Nhuan Le, J.R. Lockwood, Daniel F. McCaffrey, Matthew Pepper, and Brian M. Stecher, summarizes the results of one recent study designed to test the hypothesis that rewarding teachers for an increase in student test scores will result in better test scores.

The report centers on a 3-year study conducted in the Metropolitan Nashville School System, called the Project on Incentives in Teaching (POINT), in which middle school mathematics teachers voluntarily participated in a controlled experiment involving merit pay. Teachers were randomly selected for the treatment group (which was eligible for significant bonuses ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000 that were dependent on their students' test scores).

While the general trend in the school system's middle school mathematics performance was upward during the experiment, students whose teachers were eligible for bonuses did not outperform students whose teachers were not eligible for bonuses. Participating teachers generally were in favor of the additional pay; however, they did not agree that the teachers who received POINT bonuses were better teachers than the ones who failed to earn bonuses. Additionally, POINT had little effect on what teachers did in the classroom—which may help explain the lack of a difference in student test scores among those participating in POINT and those who were not participating in POINT.

### ➤ **New Teachers Want Support That Inspires for the Long Term**

As I begin my second year of teaching high school English, I know more about what can make—or break—a new teacher. Looking back on my student teaching days when I thought I wouldn't be a teacher after all, it's funny that here I am today, loving teaching and thriving in the classroom. [http://www.ascd.org/ascd-express/vol5/526-beach.aspx?utm\\_source=ascdexpress&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=express526](http://www.ascd.org/ascd-express/vol5/526-beach.aspx?utm_source=ascdexpress&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=express526).

### ➤ **A Pre-Observation Conference: Charlotte Danielson**

[http://www.ascd.org/ascd-express/vol5/526-video.aspx?utm\\_source=ascdexpress&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=express526](http://www.ascd.org/ascd-express/vol5/526-video.aspx?utm_source=ascdexpress&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=express526)

In her framework for teaching, ASCD author Charlotte Danielson discusses how understanding the various levels of performance—what teaching looks like at an unsatisfactory, a basic, a proficient, and a distinguished level—can help educators analyze their own

performance. Keeping the qualities of the various levels in mind allows teachers to engage in professional conversation with others to help structure their own professional learning.

In the video clip, a middle school math teacher engages in a pre-observation conference with school administrators, who will later observe the teacher's classroom lesson.

View the video excerpt of the pre-observation conference, in which a middle school math teacher outlines his goals and instructional strategies lessons, and then put yourself in the role of the administrator and consider other questions you would ask him in order to prepare for observing his lesson in action. How can the pre-observation conference help both the teacher and the administrator?

- This week, the House companion to S. 3658, the Senate version of the bill to provide principals with professional development in early childhood education, will be introduced by Representatives Jason Altmire (PA) and Jim Himes (CT). Both bills provide funds to expand access to quality professional development on the critical components of early childhood education: developmentally appropriate practices, the way a school culture supports early learning, and the principal's role in bridging the gap between prekindergarten and the primary grades. NAESP appreciates the sponsors of the bill, including Senator Mark Udall (CO), as well as the support from the early childhood community, including Pre-K Now and the National Association of Educating Young Children (NAEYC).

Principals can contact legislators and request they co-sponsor these bills through NAESP's [Legislative Action Center](#).

- The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) has released a draft of their [Model Core Teaching Standards](#). Principals are encouraged to review the document and submit feedback through the link provided.

## \$\$ GRANT TIP OF THE WEEK \$\$

Prevention programs are critical in schools and funding for these programs can be found through Hazelden. Please visit [http://www.olweus.org/public/funding\\_alerts.page](http://www.olweus.org/public/funding_alerts.page) for more information.

Enjoy the fall color it may be brief. Cooler weather reminds us all to prepare for the change of seasons as we address all the other changes in our lives. Have a great weekend.

Gerald and Todd