

NIESC NEWSLETTER

August/September 2009



Welcome
back to
school!

NORTHERN
INDIANA
EDUCATIONAL
SERVICES
CENTER



Director's Notes

...from the desk of Ted Chittum,
Executive Director

All of us have seen that bumper sticker. The "Three Reasons We Teach.... June, July, and August". All of us in this profession have felt this way from time to time. However, I think the bumper sticker should read: "The Three Reasons We Teach.... Hope, Opportunity, and Rewards."

As I traveled this summer, I always looked for schools. Every school for the last few weeks has had more and more cars in the parking lots as teachers are preparing to provide the Hope, Opportunity and Rewards for their students.

You as teachers provide all of those to your children. Your most challenging students most of the times require the most from you, however, you continue. Much of the time you don't know that you are the most important adult in some of your students' lives. You continue to do your job, working to make your students successful, go home, re-energize, all to do it again for your students.

Sometimes when you are lucky, you have a student that tells you how much you have meant to him or her. Most of the time you never hear a word. Sometimes you hear the words after the fact, years later. You may have even forgotten because you were just doing your job, only to be reminded by that student what you did. Those are your rewards, for the hope and opportunity you have nurtured in the life of that child. Hopefully this is why you teach!

Thanks for providing the best education possible for our children. Let us help you as you look for resources and assistance as you provide the HOPE, OPPORTUNITY, and REWARDS for your students. We are your Service Center. All of us at NIESC hope you have a great start to your best school year ever!

WELCOME NEW SUPERINTENDENTS: Congratulations to Jenny Lucht – Argos; Terry Barker-Union North; and Alan Middleton- Prairie Heights



Cooperative Purchasing:

IAESC Procurement Update: The IAESC Procurement Computer and Technology Equipment purchase period begins August 1, 2009 and continues through July 31, 2010. Awarded vendors are DakTech, Inc., Global Gov Ed Solutions, Hewlett Packard, Tangent Computer, VARtek Services, Inc., and new vendor, Dell. Discounts for all computer needs, notebooks, desktops, printers, scanners, flash drives, servers, computer software, and data storage range from 2% - 17%.

Summer copy paper is now available by shopping catalog line item and selecting the catalog "Summer Bulk Copy Paper-Expires 09/17/09".

IAESC Procurement is excited to announce that products for the July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010 purchase period are available. Many changes have taken place this year and include the following:

Catalogs

Products formerly in the Art Supplies and Classroom Paper catalogs are now available through **punch out vendors only**.

Punch Out Vendors

Bye Mo'r – Formerly a line item vendor is now a punch out vendor. Be sure to check out their entire website.

Check out your favorite vendor and all other vendors, products and pricing!

If you would like an account or more information on how to save money by using IAESC Procurement in your school, email Lisa at: labell@niesc.k12.in.us.

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Media News



Streaming Video News:

LEARN360 Is Here!

The Learn360 video streaming service was designed specifically for schools to enhance the learning experience of students. Learn360 uses the latest technologies to deliver the highest quality K-12 content via the internet, including delivery by LAN or WAN networks for school districts, at one affordable price.

News Release:

On July 1, 2009, the Indiana Association of Educational Service Centers (IAESC), that the Northern Indiana ESC is a member of, selected Learn 360 as the service provider for streaming video. Learn360 was selected because their content of nearly 8500 videos plus video clips, audio files and still pictures met the needs of the majority of teachers. Coupled with their easy to use interface searchable by standards, grade levels, as well as subjects plus excellent service were important factors.

The IAESC team ran a one year pilot designed to learn what teachers preferred and the technical problems associated with using streaming video in their classrooms. The pilot evaluations confirmed our thoughts about the importance of searching the entire collection by standards, the ability to either download or have a server inside networks to conserve bandwidth, a simple uncluttered user interface and to have content available at both teachers and students homes. Our pilot also showed us the importance of training. The schools that committed to and completed training had much higher use, as well as teacher satisfaction, than others who did not.

Learn360 cont.

Learn360 offers K-12 digital content delivered in an online environment. Users can access thousands of resources from a wide variety of content partners including Sunburst Media, A&E, The History Channel, National Geographic, PBS, Goldhill Educational, Standard Deviants and others. Formats include: full videos, video clips, audio and images. [Learn360](#) is available to students and teachers from home or at school and supports Flash, Windows Media Player or QuickTime. A unique feature in [Learn360](#) is the ability to create slideshows. Learn360 includes a strong keyword search and the ability to search for titles by Indiana state standards. It also allows users the ability to import videos and clips into Power Point presentations and movie making software such as Windows Movie Maker and iMovie.

We secured three year pricing at \$500 per building, not school, with a 5% increase for each of the next two years, including setup and training. The fee includes all the new media that Learn 360 will be adding as well as the other enhancements they are installing. If you have a streaming video server the media can be installed on that server at no cost. So if you need to protect bandwidth and have a server the cost is still \$500. We are committed to offering other content, including locally developed content as well as professional development, but are still working on how that will look.

NIESC is committed to training your teachers and administrators on the use of the system. We are currently planning three training choices. One is basic system training that can be completed online, a second option is the same training in person with a trainer in the room, and the third is a more comprehensive training that is the integration of the use of video tools in the classroom. We have several ideas about how to deliver the trainings but the delivery depends on your professional development resources (time).

To receive an order form to purchase Learn360, contact Lisa Abell at NIESC: labell@niesc.k12.in.us



Media News cont.



PD 360-Streaming Staff Development Media:

NIESC has once again purchased enough licenses to PD 360 to distribute one to each of our member school corporations. PD 360 is the leading on-demand library of professional teacher development resources that leverages technology to make professional learning more convenient to school corporations. You reduce costs by providing in-house training, thus avoiding time out of the classroom for teachers. Training can be done instantly with the click of a mouse and at your discretion.

PD360 brings over 65 top experts to you, anytime, anywhere. Each segment is presented by a renowned consultant, including David Sousa, Rick DuFour and Michael Fullan. No longer do you have to wait for a workshop, pay a trainer, or pay thousands of dollars to access the best minds in education.

To find out if your corporation has signed up for a license, contact Lisa Abell at NIESC. To access the PD 360 Brochure with topic and usage information, copy this link into your web page browser:

http://schoolimprovement.com/download/PD360_brochure.pdf

Media Council Meeting Announcement

The first NIESC Media Council Meeting will take place at New Prairie High School. A preview of the state streaming video service-Learn 360 and PD 360, streaming staff development media, will be demonstrated at this meeting. We will also be planning for the direction of the NIESC Media Department at this meeting. If there is anything you would like to add to the agenda, email Lisa Abell at NIESC. Registration can be found by visiting:

<http://workshops.niesc.k12.in.us>

Back to school media for your classroom:

01605 Berenstain Bears Mind Their Manners, grades preK-3

11127 Courtesy for Beginners, grades K-6

11173 School Lunchroom Manners, grades, K-6



12348 Time for Table Manners, grades 4-6

D0528 Look Mom! I Have Good Manners, grades K-6

D0529 Bears Mind Their Manners, grades K-3

D0530 Table Manners for Kids, grades K-6

D0648 Minding Your Manners at School, grades K-3

To view full annotations of the above items or to place an order, visit our on-line catalog on the NIESC Webpage at: <http://www.niesc.k12.in.us> Select "Media Services" from the menu, then "Online Catalog". You will need your password and pin number and an 8-day lead time to complete your order. Contact Lisa Abell at labell@niesc.k12.in.us for assistance.



Are you a new teacher? Would you like to be able to access thousands of classroom media titles and have it delivered right to your building? If so, contact your Media Specialist or Lisa Abell at NIESC to see how to sign up for an account to use our Media Catalog. To browse the catalog and view our great selection of items, visit: <http://media.niesc.k12.in.us/index.cfm>



Staff Development News



Graduate Credit



Awarded for your "In House" Local Training

NIESC can support teacher's license renewal requirements by providing Graduate Credit for local "in house" training. If you have a local training, and would like to provide your staff with this benefit, let Stan Spencer know. He can plan, coordinate and manage all that is required with the Office of Educator Licensing and Development and Chapman University. Graduate credit fees for as little as \$80 per hour.

If you would like to add this exceptional feature to your local training programs, contact Stan Spencer via email: sspencer@niesc.k12.in.us or phone: 574-286-1687.

**>>> Graduate Classes <<<
Ended Summer 2009**

**Educational Leadership
Formative Assessment
Coordinating Math Curriculum
Teaching for Comprehension 1 & 2
MOODLE Camps 1 - 4
School Improvement through Goals
Mentor Teacher Training 1 & 2**

INDIANA NEW TEACHER MENTOR >>> PROGRAM REVISION <<<

The Indiana Mentor Teacher Program is under extensive revision. At this point portfolios are no longer required and new guidelines are being written to put the mentor programs back in the schools.

Supplemental Educational Services

Offered by NIESC

All Indiana Educational Service Centers are in the planning stage of offering tutoring services to member schools in Title 1 status (second year of "school improvement status").

The core of this program is an already proven *Math & Reading* curriculum designed to provide trained tutors to schools grade 1 – 5. Already receiving high marks from IDOE, this proven program is soon to be offered through all 9 Indiana Education Service Centers – with each CENTER managing and facilitating their regional effort.

Tutors / Math & Reading

Certified teachers from your district
Working together with parents
Hands on activities
Small classes > 6 maximum
Monthly progress reports
Research based curriculum
After school two hours sessions
Total 44 hours of instruction

Potential Member Participants

Fairfield / New Paris Elementary
Concord / East Side Elementary
South Side Elementary
West Side Elementary
Goshen Chamberlain Elementary
Goshen/ Chandler Elementary
Lakeland / Parkside Elementary
Wawasee / North Webster Elementary
& Syracuse Elementary
Baugo / Jimtown North Elementary
Wa-Nee / Nappanee Elementary
Bremen / Bremen Elementary
Knox / Knox Elementary
Whitko / Pierceton Elementary
(pending)

>>>Program Timeline <<< (2009)

Initial School Contact - June
Program Managers Training – July
Recruitment & Training – Aug. > Oct.
Parent SES Gathering – August > Sept.
Program Implementation – Oct. > Nov.



Staff Development Cont..



NIESC

Staff Development 2008-2009

Number of Staff Development Events >	48
Total Participants in Events >	2,101
Graduate Credit Recipients >	188
Number of CRU Units Awarded >	1,092
On Line Substitute Teacher Course >	67

>>> A NEW POSITION WITHIN IDOE <<<

DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Susan Kertes

Previously the IDOE's Associate Director of the Indiana Principal's Leadership Academy, Susan has been appointed to an "all new" position of Director of Professional Development within the Indiana Department of Education.

Susan Kertes
Director of Professional Development
Indiana Department of Education
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317-232-9006

NIESC Members:

Argos Community Schools
Baugo Community Schools
Bethel College
Bremen Public Schools
Cass Township School
Caston School Corporation
Concord Community Schools
Covenant Christian School
Culver Community Schools
Dewey Township School
Eastern Pulaski Community Schools
Fairfield Community Schools
Goshen Community Schools
J.E.S.S.E.
John Glenn Community Schools
Knox Community Schools
Lakeland School Corporation
Michigan City Area Schools
Middlebury Community Schools
New Prairie United School Corporation
North Judson-San Pierre School Corporation
Oregon Davis School Corporation
Plymouth Community Schools
Prairie Heights Community Schools
Prairie Township Schools
Rochester Community Schools
Sacred Heart School
South Central Community Schools
Tippecanoe Valley Schools
Triton School Corporation
Union-North United Schools
Veritas Academy
Wa-Nee Community Schools
Wawasee Community Schools
West Central School Corporation
Westview Community Schools
Whitko Community Schools



For fun back-to-school lesson plans, thematic units, seasonal items and collaboration projects, visit The Teacher's Corner at:

<http://www.theteacherscorner.net>



Technology/Views on Learning News



NIESC Technology Department

News:

School Closings System ----

Last year, NIESC developed a web-based school closings system. We Are Closed Today provides school administration a one-stop system to notify news media, staff, and parents about school delays and closings. If you would like to receive notifications, go to www.weareclosedtoday.com, see if your corporation is participating, and sign up for a free Community Member account.

New NIESC Website ----

Within a few weeks, NIESC will rollout its updated website. The new website automatically pulls data from our other systems for upcoming events and cancellation data. NIESC staff has the ability to easily update their pages with current information. The end result is that you have access to the latest information. We expect to go live September 1st. Check it out and let us know what you think.

Consulting Services ----

The NIESC Technology Department is evaluating areas where we can be of assistance to our member schools.

Consulting serv. Cont.

Some of these include technology audits and planning, technology related group purchasing, and specific training opportunities. If you have need in these areas or others, feel free to contact us at NIESC.

Views On Learning News:

On July 13, 2009, Jeff Gangloff became the newest member of the NIESC/Views on Learning staff as the Coordinator for Distance Learning. Jeff brings 29 years of public education experience as a teacher, principal and central office administrator. He has a strong background in staff development, curriculum and technology integration. Jeff's primary mission will be to facilitate distance learning opportunities for our member schools as well as coordinating distance learning for VOL's 24 national Education Broadband Service markets. Please call and welcome Jeff aboard!



NIESC Executive Board 2009-2010

- Dr. Rodger Smith, Plymouth Community Schools
- Dr. Bruce Stahly, Goshen Community Schools
- Dr. Randy Zimmerly, Westview School Corporation
- Dr. Steve Disney, Oregon-Davis School Corp.
- Dr. Debra Howe, Rochester Community School Corp.
- Mr. Jim Dubois, Baugo Community Schools
- Mr. Richard Reese, John Glenn Community Schools
- Mr. Charles Mellon, West Central School Corp.
- Mr. George Dyer, Concord Community Schools
- Mr. Joe Sabo, Wa-Nee Community Schools
- Mr. Brett Boggs, Tippecanoe Valley School Corporation
- Mr. Brad Schuldt, Culver Community School Corp.
- Dr. Phil Bender, New Prairie School Corporation

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