

ECESC NEWS

VOLUME 2, Issue 1

Fall 2011

SAD NEWS . . .



With a heavy heart, the Service Center needs to inform our member schools that a trusted member of the East Central staff passed away recently. Sheila Taylor, the Technology Director for eighteen years, left us on August 1st.

Many of you knew Sheila, and were the beneficiaries of her expertise and friendship. We will miss Sheila and her many contributions to technology, education, and our lives.

Inside this issue:

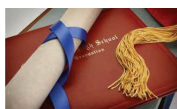
New Superintendents	2-3
Staff Development	4-9
Technology Information	10
PD Survey Results	8
Registration Information	6
Starlab Planetarium	4
New Resources	9

e-Procurement Changes

In the past, East Central Service Center provided support for the Wilson Center e-procurement site. Starting July 1, 2011, East Central began supporting a new site that promises to have better prices for our members. The new site will be housed at the Central ESC and is coordinated with the State of Indiana procurement site. The Center is making this change for a variety of reasons—but the driving force is better pricing for our member schools. New vendors are being added to the list regularly. Also of note—the computer bid list that was with the Wilson site—will now be with the Central site. At the Wilson site, the schools were not allowed to use paper purchase orders—everything was done online. With the new system, those that do not feel comfortable with computer ordering can send East Central the purchase order and we will enter the order for you. Our desire is to make the switch as smooth as possible and user-friendly. If you have questions, wish to see a demonstration, or wish to get trained—please contact Walter Harrison.



Indiana's Transition to the Common Core State Standards—Sessions II and III



The Indiana Department of Education and The Curriculum Institute jointly have developed a series of work sessions based on Indiana's plan for transitioning to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Session I was offered several times in Indianapolis, as well as in northern and southern Indiana. Many administrators from the ECESC region attended those sessions.

The Curriculum Institute has agreed to provide both sessions II and III in Connersville. Once again, curriculum directors and building level administrators are the target audience.

Please mark your calendar for Session II on October 18. Mark your calendar for Session III on January 11. Additional details about content and times will be forthcoming. Look for details on the ECESC website soon.

Points of Interest

- **IMPORTANT** Career Cruising information—see Page 4
- **NOTE** Special Microsoft pricing—see Page 10
- PD Survey Results—see Page 8
- Workshops are added to the ECESC calendar throughout the school year. To check the most current offerings, go to our website at www.ecesc.k12.in.us and click on Workshop Registration!

WELCOME, NEW SUPERINTENDENTS!



Denise Bessler, was appointed August 8 as **Edinburg CSC** Superintendent. She comes to this Johnson County school corporation from West Clark Community schools where

she served as Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction 2007-2011, Principal of Henryville Junior/Senior High School 2004-2007, and Principal of Southwestern Middle & High School in Hanover, Indiana, 1996-2004. She began her teaching career in 1984 at Clarksville Middle School and Clarksville High School, Clarksville, Indiana, where she taught Family & Consumer Science and Business.

Mrs. Bessler shares about herself and her new position: "I am an innovative and energetic leader and will be involved with the staff, students, parents, and community. I have particularly enjoyed working with teachers and administrators to develop strategies and opportunities for meeting the needs of children despite obstacles they may have. I am a strong advocate for establishing and promoting the belief that "All Children Can Learn!" and have extensive experience and success with all learning levels, but have been especially successful with students with special needs and social and family challenges. I look forward to working with Edinburg and all of the surrounding districts."

Mrs. Bessler received her B.S. from Berea College, her M.S. from Indiana University Southeast, and her Ed.S. from the University of Louisville.



Mr. Donnie Bowsman was named Superintendent at **Randolph Southern School Corporation** on July 1, 2011. RSSC is located in Lynn, Indiana. He served as the Elementary

Principal, Special Education Coordinator, and Title I Coordinator at Randolph Southern Elementary School for the past 6 years.

Mr. Bowsman's goals for the 2011-12 school year are to enhance the school corporation's utilization of technology, promote and continue our strong academic success, and look at ways to provide additional vocational opportunities to our high school students. "We had our greatest academic success at the Randolph Southern Elementary School in 2010-11. It was extremely difficult to leave the elementary school. However, I felt that I could help the school corporation meet its goals much better from the Superintendent's office."

Mr. Bowsman acquired his Ed. S., Masters Degree in K-12 Administration, Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education from Ball State University, and also holds an Associates Degree in Electronic Engineering. He taught at Richmond Schools, New Castle Schools, and Muncie Community Schools prior to arriving at Randolph Southern School Corporation. He has served in various coaching positions from 1988-2002: Boys Golf, Boys & Girls Basketball, Girls Softball, and Football. Mr. Bowsman is married and has one daughter. He loves playing golf in his limited spare time and enjoys the outdoors.



Mr. Wes Hammond has been named Superintendent of the **South Henry School Corporation** in Henry County. He is a graduate of DePauw University with a B. A. in history, Indiana State University

with a M. Ed. in school guidance and counseling, and Eastern Kentucky University with an Ed. S. in administration and supervision. From 1977 through 2010 he worked in the North Montgomery, Turkey Run and Mill Creek school corporations. During this time, Mr. Hammond was a middle school teacher and coach; junior – senior high school athletic director, assistant principal and principal; middle school principal; elementary principal, and; assistant superintendent.

Mr. Hammond shares that "In June of 2010, I retired from my position as assistant superintendent with the intent of finding something to do in the field of education, preferably part-time. The

position as superintendent at South Henry seems to be a perfect fit and I have enjoyed my first month on the job." He is married with three children and lives in Greencastle, Indiana, on a small family farm.



Michael Tim Heller officially assumed the position of Superintendent of **Muncie Community Schools** July 1, 2011. Formerly Assistant Superintendent/Instruction from 1989-1998 and 2010-2011 at Muncie Community Schools, Mr.

Heller first assumed an administrative position as principal of Southside High School for three years before being named Assistant Superintendent. He returned to Muncie in 2010 after 12 years as Superintendent of McCracken County Public Schools, Paducah, KY.

Mr. Heller shares that he will instill a great deal of communication with a lot of collaboration in decision-making and establishing community and business partnerships by involving stakeholders in the community in his new position. Heller supports the newly-implemented Action Plan for Security Enhancement, change of culture in the classroom, the improvement of technology throughout the district, the implementation of the 8-Step Process to include grades K-12, building strong business partnerships, and recruiting students and families back to Muncie Community Schools. Mr. Heller's 8-Step Process for Improvement includes:

- 1) Accountability; 2) Communication; 3) Live within our means; 4) Support technological advancement; 5) Provide schools that parents want; 6) Address the changing culture in the classroom; 7) Develop more business partnerships; 8) Improve academic achievement and raise test scores.

Mr. Heller received his B.A. from Morehead State University, his M.S. from Indiana University, and his Ed.S. from Ball State University. He has also taught and coached at Vevay, Sunman, and Union high schools, and served as Principal at Union and Brookville high schools.

"Leadership is communicating to people their worth and their potential so clearly that they come to see it in themselves."—Stephen Covey

WELCOME, NEW SUPERINTENDENTS!



Mr. Fred Herron comes to *Union School Corporation* with 37 years of experience in public education. He spent 17 of those years as Assistant Superintendent of Madison-Grant USC in

Fairmount and 12 years at Mississinewa High School in Gas City, where he served as Dean of Students, Assistant Principal and Principal. Prior to that, Mr. Herron was Athletic Director and Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds at West-Del CSC in Gaston, and was a teacher and coach at Cowan Community Schools and Monroe Central Community Schools. Most recently, he worked as a supervisor of Sports Facilities at Ball State University and co-owned a business in Muncie.

Mr. Herron is a 1967 graduate of West-Del HS in Gaston. He attended the University of Northern Colorado prior to graduating with a B.S. degree from Huntington University. He received both his Masters and Educational Specialist Degrees from Ball State University.

Mr. Herron says: "I am looking forward to working with teachers, staff, students and the school board of Union School Corporation. Having spent time in area school districts, I am well aware of the solid reputation of Union Schools. Students are obviously our future and I will work with everyone to make sure we provide the best possible education we can for them."

Mr. Herron and his wife Julie have been married for 42 years and are the parents of two adult children. He loves spending time with his six grandchildren, doing woodwork, and reading.



Mrs. Paula Maurer was recently named Superintendent of *Southwestern Consolidated School District of Shelby County*. She served as the principal at the Southwestern

Elementary, which was named an exemplary school by the state last year, before being promoted to the superintendent's position. She believes that

honor for the elementary school to be a tribute to the dedicated teachers there.

Mrs. Maurer shares: "I am very proud to serve as the Superintendent of Southwestern CSD, where students receive quality instruction in a caring environment with strong community and parental support. We are honored to have the opportunity to influence the next generation and are committed to meeting the needs of all of our students. Our teachers work tirelessly to provide the best instruction possible for our students. As well as having a strong general curriculum, we also provide differentiated instruction for our high ability and special education students."

Mrs. Maurer moved from Greenville, Ohio before coming to Southwestern 3 years ago. She has taught for 15 years and been an administrator for 12 years. She has a Bachelor's Degree in elementary & special education with an endorsement in gifted and talented and a Masters in Administration. She and her husband live in Shelbyville and have three grown children.



Dr. Matt Prusiecki comes to *Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson United School Corporation* as

Superintendent with eighteen years of experience in public education. He was a

teacher and coach at Harrison High School in West Lafayette from 1993-1996. He moved to the Indianapolis area to teach social studies while serving as assistant varsity football coach and head girls track coach at Warren Central High School from 1996-2000.

Dr. Prusiecki moved into school administration in 2000, as assistant principal for Decatur Middle School in MSD of Decatur Township until 2002. He then became assistant principal at Avon Intermediate School in 2002, working with grades 5 and 6. In 2004, Dr. Prusiecki was hired back to MSD of Decatur Township as principal, responsible for developing and opening the new Decatur Intermediate Learning Center (DILC) in 2005. He served as Intermediate principal of the

DILC Blue Academy until district realignment called for Dr. Prusiecki to become principal for the Blue Academy Elementary School, consisting of 700 students, grades 1-6, for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Dr. Prusiecki received his undergraduate and first Masters degree from Indiana University in Bloomington, attending from 1988-1993. He earned his second Masters degree from Butler University in school administration in 2000. Furthering his education, Dr. Prusiecki completed his Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Foundations in 2009 from Indiana State University.

A father of two children, Luke (8) and Mia (5), Dr. Prusiecki and his wife, Kristen, still reside in Greenwood. "I am excited for the opportunity to help lead and foster a community school environment for the children of Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson United School Corporation. The Indian Creek Schools are a wonderful opportunity for children and their families. I look forward to becoming an integral part in continuing such a great tradition."

"Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength of the nation"

—John F. Kennedy



The East Central ESC still has a few of the beautifully-framed Lincoln commemorative prints on hand. The dimensions are approximately 3 feet by 4 feet. If you would like to have another Lincoln picture for your school building, please contact the

ECESC. We will put all those who respond in a drawing for the remaining prints. If interested, please respond by October 14, 2011, by phoning 800-669-3010 or e-mailing Teresa Farmer at tfarmer@ecesc.k12.in.us



The Service Center is pleased to welcome **Hancock Madison Shelby Education Services** to the Service Center family of interlocals. Mrs. Karen Niemeier is the Administrator in charge of the multiple programs that are offered to students in the three-county area. The Center looks forward to Hancock Madison Shelby Education Services participating in the many opportunities that ECESC provides to its member schools.

Career Cruising: Saving Schools Education Dollars!

YOUR CAREER →

The East Central ESC is excited that the Career Cruising online guidance service will continue to be offered to its member schools during the upcoming school year! Career Cruising offers

state-of-the-art tools for students in grades 6-12, as well as career advisors, teachers, and administrators. **During this past school year, 34 schools in the ECESC region saved nearly \$9,000 total, on their Career Cruising programs!** Career Cruising has arranged for deeply-discounted pricing for ECESC member middle schools and high schools, and the East Central ESC will continue to pay \$100 per year off that amount for each school which purchases this service. Career Cruising continues to add new features and enhancements into the system. Trainings and online assistance is available to users. The ECESC will host training sessions in Connersville on **October 4, 2011**, for both beginning users (morning) and to update current users (afternoon). Pre-registration is required. You can register at www.ecesc.k12.in.us and then click on **Workshop**

Registration. If you have not yet ordered this program for your building for 2011-2012, it's not too late! Order forms are available at the ECESC's website www.ecesc.k12.in.us. Contact **Jennifer Drew** if you have questions about ordering this program at 800-669-3010 or jdrew@ecesc.k12.in.us.

Anytime you are in need of immediate assistance in working with Career Cruising, your first line of support is Career Cruising's client account manager for Indiana, Wes Handren. Wes can be reached at 1-800-965-8541, x138, or, at wesh@career Cruising.com. In addition to serving as your first line of support, Wes will also keep you updated on important information related to Career Cruising through his monthly e-mail newsletter. Your Career Cruising field representative for Indiana is Steve Yaun. Always feel free to contact Steve with non-urgent questions related to working with and implementing the Career Cruising system at your schools. Steve can be reached at 1-800-562-1079, or, at stevey@career Cruising.com.

NEW STARLAB SERVICE AVAILABLE!!!

Marvin Kuhn, pictured here with the Digitalis Planetarium, which is available for loan from the East Central ESC, recently retired as Elementary Science Coordinator for Rush County Schools. The East Central ESC is excited to announce that Marvin will be the on-site Starlab presenter for ECESC elementary schools during the 2011-2012 school year! Member schools that do not have a trained teacher on staff, or prefer not to have those teachers out of the classroom to present Starlab, may schedule Marvin during the time they use the portable planetarium. Although the East Central ESC does not charge member schools to use the Starlab units in their buildings, there is a fee for this presentation service.



Marvin is proficient with both the Basic Starlab planetarium and the newer Digitalis Planetarium. He brings his extensive background in science, as well as his many years of using these portable planetariums in Rush County Schools, to this position. Marvin presented about 175 lessons in the Starlab each year to his elementary students. For more information about this service, or to schedule him for your building, contact **Teresa Farmer** at the ECESC (either at 800-669-3010 or tfarmer@ecesc.k12.in.us). **NOTE: For those schools that choose to train a teacher, there is a Digitalis Training on September 29, 2011, presented by Dave Sell, NASA Aerospace & Technology Specialist. To register for this, go to the ECESC website at www.ecesc.k12.in.us and**

click on **Workshop Registration** for a printable flyer.

UNIVERSITY CREDIT AND PGPS



The ECESC is frequently asked whether or not university credit and Professional Growth Points are available for workshops. The answer is YES!

The ECESC is pleased to provide PGPS for a wide variety of trainings and meetings that can be used to renew your license. For a few one day and all multiple day workshops, the ECESC also offers graduate credit through Purdue University Calumet. University credit is available at an additional per credit hour cost to participants. That cost varies depending on the number of credit hours which depends upon the seat time and outside work required. When outside work is required, the assignments are designed to be useful to teachers in the classroom.

Please check out the details on the workshop flyers. If you have questions, phone 1.800.669.3010.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION



Let's get back to the basics! Students learn best in an environment that is safe, de-

signed with the needs of the learner in mind.

K-6 teachers and administrators are invited to attend a special day with Julie McFadden, president of Always Learning LLC, on October 13 at the ECESC in Connersville. Julie will share a variety of strategies, techniques, rules, procedures, and rubrics to help teachers manage and organize their classrooms. She will discuss classroom design, transitions, the power of modeling, and ex-

pectations...all of the things they did not teach you in college!

Julie is a "pro" at teaching how to reduce classroom interruptions and how to optimize instructional time. A well-designed classroom helps to prevent student misbehavior.

This classroom management workshop will help participants meet the goal of differentiated instruction in which students work on *purposeful* activities in the classroom. Participants will learn how students can become more responsible for their own learning.

To register for this workshop, go to the ECESC website and click on Professional Development. Don't miss out on a good one!!

RtI: A Framework for Differentiated Reading Instruction in the K-6



This workshop focuses on Indiana's Response to Instruction Model – what it is and is not,

and how it can be implemented as a tool for early support in the K-6 classroom. Betsy Larrabee and Nicole Terrell, teachers from Shelbyville Central School Corporation, will be the featured presenters in this workshop which has been endorsed by the IDOE as part of its Reading Framework training series.

On October 25, at the ECESC in Connersville, these presenters will share information about who is responsible for RtI in Indiana's schools. They will discuss the importance of data in making key decisions about interventions designed to help struggling students. Participants will compare the traditional classroom with a differentiated classroom and learn how to fit RtI and tiered instruction into their daily schedules.

This workshop promises to be a sell-out! The topic is hot! Be sure to reserve a seat for you and a colleague right away.

Professional Development on your Terms

Are you looking for specific content and presenters to help you accomplish your school improvement goals? Is there an author or presenter that you are really interested in but don't have enough money to bring to your school?

The East Central ESC will work with you to customize high quality professional development specific to your school and your unique situation. We also can work to bring several districts together to maximize your dollars. Contact Gay Worth at gworth@ecesc.k12.in.us to discuss various options.

School Attendance & Due Process Workshop



On October 12, Cathy Danyluk, State Attendance Officer, and Gary

Green, IDOE Director of Student Services, will review the ins and outs of Indiana's compulsory attendance laws. They will share information about recent decisions regarding legal settlement, home schooling, what constitutes a free and appropriate public education, suspension and expulsion, and vouchers...what you MUST do, CAN do, CANNOT do, and SHOULD do.

Participants are encouraged to bring their school corporation's Evidence-Based Behavior and Discipline Plan. You must be pre-registered to attend this program. Go to www.ecesc.k12.in.us to learn more about workshop content and to register your attendance.

Registration is Now Open for the 2011 Indiana State EL Conference



The Educational Service Centers of Indiana and Indiana ASCD are proud to

present the 2011 Indiana State EL Con-

ference on November 2 in West Lafayette. The theme of this year's conference is Beyond the Plateau, a focus on boosting ELs beyond the plateau of competency and on to excellence.

The keynote speaker is University of Wisconsin-Madison's Dr. Craig Albers, who is creating a customized presentation for Indiana educators based on his

research in EL education issues. Break-out presenters will hail from Indiana, Illinois, and Tennessee, showing participants what's going on in area classrooms right now.

The cost for this conference is \$75. Click on the link on the ECESC website to register.

An Introduction to Marzano's The Art and Science of Teaching—Coming in Early Winter



Effective teachers at all grade levels and in all content areas successfully blend the art and the science of teaching to positively influence student achievement. The book *The Art and Science of Teaching* written

by Robert Marzano brings together all of the research from his earlier texts in a comprehensive instructional framework.

Amy Leeson, certified Marzano trainer, will share details about Marzano's model of instruction. This model is organized by three lesson segments: rou-

tine events, content, and segments enacted on the spot. Participants will learn key instructional strategies that support each lesson segment and find out what this model looks like in the classroom. Participants will receive a copy of Marzano's text as well as handouts.

K-12 teachers, administrators, and instructional coaches are encouraged to sign up early for this highly recommended two-day event.

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."

—Benjamin Franklin

To register for ECESC workshops, go to www.ecesc.k12.in.us and click on **Workshop Registration.**

Call Mary Barbour at 800-669-3010 if you need assistance with the registration process.

Pre-registration is always required. A confirmation will be e-mailed to each registrant. If you do not receive this e-mail immediately after you register, contact the ECESC.

Preparing Students for the English 10 ECA: Introduction to the National Common Core ELA Standards—New Date—November 17



Plan to join Bonnie Jo Kelley, noted education consultant, when she leads ELA teachers in grades 8-12 through the mysteries of preparing students for the English 10 ECA. Participants will utilize ECA blueprints to identify the degree of emphasis that should be placed on the mastery of key standards. Sample items will be reviewed. Teachers will assemble a pacing guide to rank order curricular components. In addition, test data will be analyzed and teachers will learn how to design both formative and summative

assessments to match items tested on the ECA.

ELA teachers in grades 8-12, school principals, and curriculum/test coordinators are encouraged to attend. Participants need to bring a copy of the ELA State Standards for grade 10 and a copy of their ECA English 10 data to this workshop.

JUST SCHEDULED!!!

Sign up for the ITRA Workshop for Grades K-3 to be held in Greenwood on November 9 & 10, 2011!

Go to www.ecesc.k12.in.us and click on "Workshop Registration"!!!

BONNIE JO KELLEY IS BACK! A CCSC Workshop for Teachers

Come to the ECESC on November 22nd to join Bonnie Jo Kelley as she explores the teacher's approach to Common Core State Standards! Designed specifically for K-12 teachers, this workshop will focus on six steps to incorporating the CCSC into classroom instruction.

Participants will gain an understanding of the transition road map and various tools for realigning current school curriculum to the Common Core. Time will be spent studying the identified learning targets and explicit skills included in

the CCSC. In addition, Bonnie will focus on strategies, resources, and lessons for implementing the CCSC into classroom practice.

Teachers will leave this workshop with a clear understanding of the how and why of CCSC, as well as great preparation for the transition period. Plan to send your school leaders to this program so that they can share the message with their colleagues! Early registration is highly recommended.

ECESC CANCELLATION POLICY

For information about weather-related postponements and/or cancellations of East Central ESC workshops/events/delivery services check our website at www.ecesc.k12.in.us

Workshop cancellations also will be telecast on Channel 8 WISH-TV (Indianapolis) and Channel 5 WLWT-TV (Cincinnati).

Two New 1/2 day Workshops: “Helping K-12 Students with Anxiety and Depression” and “Girl Talk: Empowering Friendships and Preventing Relational Aggression”



More and more children and teens are experiencing anxiety or depression. Why? What are the general symptoms of anxiety and depression? What are the best intervention strategies to use to help these students?

On the morning of November 29, Carlabeth Mathias, licensed clinical social worker and mental health counselor, will discuss the role of school counselors, social workers and other school personnel in providing support for K-12 students who are depressed. She will share intervention strategies and skill-building strategies that help to prevent student anxiety.

In the afternoon, Carlabeth will share information about helping girls in grades 4-12 develop healthy friendships, practice positive social skills, and reduce or prevent relational aggression. Her audience again will be counselors, social workers, school safety specialists, teachers and administrators. Participants will learn the latest statistics on relational aggression. They will find out how to conduct small group activities that help to promote healthy friendships and reduce inappropriate behaviors.

Common Core State Standards for Math, Grades 3-5 & 6-8
& Problem Solving with Differentiation, Preparing for ISTEP+
Presenter: Bob Trammel

On December 1, Bob Trammel will return to the ECESC to present his new workshop entitled Common Core State Standards for Math, Grades 3-5. In addition, Bob will focus on problem solving strategies and differentiated instructional strategies to meet the needs of a variety of learners. Released Applied Skills ISTEP+ items from the Spring 2011 assessment will be investigated for depth of knowledge.

On December 2, Bob will present similar content for educators in grades 6, 7, and 8. Participants will learn about the five different domains, the standards for mathematical practices, and resources that will help make a seamless transition from the current Academic Standards to the CCSS. Afternoon hours will focus on problem solving strategies and differentiation strategies.

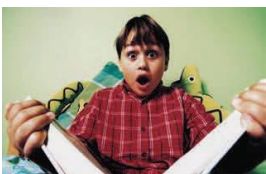
Participants in both workshops will leave with a packet of ready-made problem solving items that they can use immediately with their students. Early registration is a MUST for any Bob Trammel workshop! His new topics promise to be sell-outs!

Professional Learning in Tough Economic Times

How can school corporations provide effective professional learning when professional development budgets are being cut across the country? Because professional development occurs in multiple ways, schools can be creative with repurposing existing time, financial resources, personnel, technology, and materials to increase educators' opportunities to learn. Some designs for professional development do not require huge expenditures, but rather require a new way of thinking. Remember: Changes as substantial as the Common Core State Standards and new student assessments require multi-year professional development plans with multiple layers of focus and support.

More than thirty resources for conducting professional learning in tough economic times are available at www.learningforward.org/advancing/pdtoughtimes.cfm. Check them out!

What's NEW in Young Adult Literature and How to Use It in Grades 6-12



On December 13, Deborah Hipes, nationally recognized young adult literature expert and BER presenter, will be in Connersville to present her totally new seminar on all new young adult titles for the year 2012. This program is designed specifically for middle school and secondary teachers and media specialists.

Participants will learn what's new and best in the different genres. They will

discover inside secrets about young adult authors and their new books. Especially exciting is that Deborah will focus on books that will attract your “geek” readers, reluctant readers, and EL students. Participants will learn how to engage students with outstanding nonfiction options and explore the power of “book bundling” and literature pairs. They will learn how to use new teen books to differentiate instruction in the classroom.

“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.”—Sir Richard Steele

Please plan to join your colleagues for this exciting, fast-paced seminar and take home an up-to-date handbook filled with annotated bibliographies and ideas for using the most current, new books in your own program.

If you are looking for captivating new young adult literature to engage teens, this is the workshop for you. You will be doing what readers like to do most – talk all day about books!

Results of ECESC Professional Development Survey for 2011-2012 School Year

At the end of the last school year, teachers and administrators from 29 school corporations in the ECESC region responded to an online survey concerning professional development needs for the upcoming school year. The three topics of greatest interest to teachers were: (1) transitioning to the Common Core Standards; (2) using smartboards, streaming video, podcasts, wikis, cell phones, social media, Facebook, and Twitter as learning tools; and (3) teaching critical reading, writing, and thinking skills for 21st century learners. Other topics receiving many favorable scores were bullying, Indiana's RtI model, and using Acuity data and/or classroom assessment data effectively to drive classroom instruction. Teacher respondents preferred 2:1 face-to-face group instruction over online opportunities. 327 respondents preferred workshops offered during the week during the school year to 156 respondents who preferred summer trainings.



The three topics of greatest interest to administrators were: (1) evaluating the impact of collaboration time and/or professional development time; (2) helping teachers plan effective instruction based on Marzano's Art and Science of Teaching; and (3) conducting effective instructional audits (recognizing the appropriate use of instructional strategies). Other topics mentioned frequently were transitioning to the CCSC, using Acuity data effectively to drive instruction, and using technology as learning tools in the classroom.

As you can see from the workshops described in this newsletter, the ECESC staff designed programs this fall that meet the needs indicated by the teachers and administrators. Content for spring workshops also will focus on topics of interest to our members.

If you did not have a chance to respond to our online PD survey and you have a professional development topic or presenter in mind, please contact the ECESC to make sure that it is on our radar screen. We encourage and appreciate your input into the programs and resources provided by the ECESC! We are here to help you in any way that we can!

LEARNING CONNECTION: IDOE's Connection to Educators



IDOE's online Learning Connection is now the best place for **educators** to find out what's new, what's happening, and what's planned for the future in the State of Indiana. The IDOE website is moving toward offering general information to the **public**.

In November of 2007, ICAN and Smartdesktop morphed into the Learning Connection. At that time, the IDOE took over this online resource. Currently, teachers across the state are encouraged to register on Learning Connection so that they can easily collaborate with their peers and locate, share, and/or publish lesson plans and other content. What a great way for you, as a physics teacher in a rural corporation, for example, to network with other physics teachers across the state who are teaching the same content!

There are over 1000 teacher-created communities and 50 IDOE sponsored communities on Learning Connection. As an ECESC member, you are invited to join our professional development community so that you can stay abreast of happenings at the Service Center. The ECESC PD community offers you the opportunity to voice your thoughts and needs regarding professional development in your district.

Be sure to check out the Indiana Growth Model featured on the homepage. The Growth Model can be used to display student, school, or district data. The Student Growth Percentile method assesses the growth of every student by comparing individual students to students who began at similar levels of achievement to determine relative growth over time. Teachers can retrieve data on their classes based on gender and other classifications. Administrators can retrieve school-wide data and corporation data with the simple click of a mouse.

Contact the ECESC if you would like to schedule in-house assistance for your staff in the use of the Learning Connection. Training can be customized to teaching staff, administrators, or groups of superintendents in the region.



Learn360 is the streaming service that all Indiana Service Centers use for quality streaming videos

and video clips. East Central has 14 corporations that use this service. Below is the list of top 10 most viewed full titles and top 10 most viewed clips.

If your corporation hasn't checked into this service, you can do so by going to the ECESC home page and clicking on Services – Purchasing – Discount Programs.

[The 10 Most Viewed Full Titles](#)

Extraordinary Nations and Places_814861
 US Wars: Vietnam War_606347
 Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec_216379
 Life Cycle of a Frog_234488
 Infectious Diseases_497236
 Commanding Heights-The Agony of Reform_562045
 Timelines of Ancient Civilizations: Japanese-Mongols to Modern Day-Part 2_6577770
 Strength to Strength_720219
 WorldQuest: Great Britain (England and Wales)_419274
 School of Rock_483494

[The 10 Most Viewed Clips](#)

Maya Calendric System_732269
 Incas_834780
 A Sustainable Solution_373294
 A Quinceanera Celebration_553293
 Mecca, the Ka'ba, and Hajj_362170
 Antony and Cleopatra, Act I, Scenes 1-3_491480
 All Kinds of Letters_438355
 Listening and Note Taking_327010
 The Wright Brothers_777835
 English Exploration_359523

ECESC Media Resource Library



Don't forget the ECESC Media Resource Library when you are making your lesson plans! We have many resources, including DVDs, videos, books, and professional development kits. We have added a few new books to our collection over the summer.

Those books are:

Item #11000567 – Digital Community, Digital Citizen
 Item #11000568 – Teaching with the Tools Kids Really Use
 Item #11000569 – Empowering Students with Technology

Item #11000570 – Bullying Beyond the Schoolyard
 Item #11000571 – Teaching Digital Natives
 Item #11000572 – Leading 21st Century Schools
 Item #11000573 – Response to Intervention: Blueprints for Implementation
 Item #11000574 – RTI Toolkit – A Practical Guide for Schools

These items all discuss the use of technology in the classroom. They address issues such as sexting, cyber-bullying, research and problem-solving skills and many other safety concerns for students. You can read more about these items by going to the ECESC website and clicking on Media Resource Library at the bottom of the page and entering the item number into the search. They may be checked for 2 weeks at a time.

A few DVDs that have been added recently are:

Item #8000227 – Food, Inc.
 Item #8000226 – America The Story of Us
 Item #8000223 – H1N1 (Swine Flu) – What You Need to Know
 Item #8000222 – Driven to Distraction

These descriptions can be found the same as above. We also have the Mythbuster series, most of the Bill Nye series, and the Real Life series. Please feel free to browse the many selections that the ECESC carries by typing your request into the search box on the Media Resource Library page. If you have questions call Teresa Farmer at the ECESC (800.669.3010).



Check out these new titles in the ECESC Media Resource Library!



Bob Trammel works with educators from the ECESC region at last winter's Algebra ECA workshop held at the Center. Bob is a frequent presenter at the Service Center and always receives rave reviews! See page 7 of this newsletter for information about his newest workshops in December for elementary teachers in our region. Register early—his workshops always fill quickly!

EAST CENTRAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

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Serving fourteen counties in east central Indiana.

DELIVERY REMINDER

In an effort to reduce costs, the ECESC has changed the delivery/pick-up schedule to member schools to every two weeks, rather than weekly. To see a complete delivery calendar go to www.ecesc.k12.in.us and click on New Delivery Schedule for ECESC.



School has started! Are you looking for Microsoft software at a discounted price? ECESC has it! Go to www.ecesc.k12.in.us—Purchasing—Discount Programs—click on Microsoft Student Select and follow the directions. Any student, teacher, parent, or grandparent can get this discount! Microsoft Office Professional is only \$73.95! If you need assistance, call the ECESC.

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East Central Education Center is partnering with Britannica Digital Learning to bring you the award-winning *Britannica Online School Edition* for PreK-12th grades.

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Educators have quick, easy access to curricular area learning materials, lesson plans, and study guides: correlated to Common Core and Indiana state standards.

Britannica School Edition also easily integrates with Whiteboards, Moodle, and district learning management systems.

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****To get a quick [video overview](http://corporate.britannica.com/bolse/video/bolse_overview.wmv) of *Britannica Online* please visit:**

For more information and a **FREE TRIAL** please contact:

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