

ECESC NEWS

Volume 1, Issue 3

Spring 2011

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK . . .



Fellow Educators:

The stress that everyone involved in education feels at this time of the year is much more than educators have felt in years past. Along with the media bashing, you are being held accountable for expectations when you do not have control of all the variables that influence student performance. In my opinion, the current group of educators is the best trained and most knowledgeable about effective educational practices than any group that has preceded you. Society is so much different than the "good ole' days" that are depicted in the Andy Griffith shows of the past. It was a good time to be growing up—there were not as many temptations—and certainly those temptations did not have the severe, deadly consequences that many do today.

Your jobs are very difficult, but also truly rewarding—especially when you encounter a former student, and they tell you what a difference you made in their life. Keep up the great effort—it's worth it! As always, if there is anything the East Central Service Center can do to help you in your quest of providing quality education to your students, please let us know.

Walter J. Harrison

Inside this issue:

Professional Development	2-3
Technology	4-5
Career Guidance	5
Four Star Schools	6
Registration Information	6
Contact Information	6

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.

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.

"If kids come to us from strong, healthy functioning families, it makes our job easier.

If they do not come to us from strong, healthy, functioning families, it makes our job more important."

—Unknown



On February 23rd, Robert Trammel returned to the East Central ESC to another full house! Bob's session on "Preparing for the ECA for Algebra I & Introduction to the New National Core Standards for Algebra 1" filled quickly. The ECESC plans to bring him back again in the fall of 2011. Watch our website for the exact date and time!

INDIANA'S TRANSITION TO THE COMMON CORE STANDARDS

Attention: Curriculum Directors and Principals! Sign up now to hear the latest, most up-to-date details about Indiana's Transition to the Common Core Standards!

On April 28, Dr. Schauna Findlay, IDOE Director of Curriculum and Instruction, will explain the Transition Standards documents that define what Indiana and Common Core Standards teachers need to teach in 2011-2012 to ensure that students are well prepared for ISTEP+, End-of-Course Assessments, and the future PARCC assessments. She also will describe the process that has been used to update the state's curriculum maps and talk about how schools can use these state maps as a starting point to align their curriculum with the Transition Standards.

Workshop hours are 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The registration deadline is April 21. This free workshop promises a packed house so early registration is highly recommended.

The Simple 6™ - Math and Writing workshops

Kay Davison, author of the Simple 6™: A Writing Rubric for Kids, will present her award-winning program for teachers from east central and west central Indiana this spring. On May 5th at the Sheraton North Hotel in Indianapolis, Kay will talk about Simple 6 Math™ for K-6 Problem Solvers. This program is tied directly to the Indiana Academic Standards for Math and ISTEP+. Teachers will be able to focus on the importance of basic fact mastery and how districts must articulate their expectations not only to master basic facts, but also to maintain those skills.

On May 6th, Kay Davidson will address the topic "Improving Student Writing Achievement using The Simple 6™, for Grades 2-6". This hands-on workshop will focus on standardized assessment, prompt format, Prompt Attack, program implementation, scoring, and data analysis. Every teacher who has implemented The Simple 6™ writing program has seen improved ISTEP+ scores! By the end of the day, teachers will know exactly what it takes to get a Score 6 on ISTEP+!

Participants will receive a copy of Kay Davidson's text relating to the workshop topic. Registration deadline is April 22nd.

Attention: All Media Specialists in East Central Indiana Kapco Book Repair Workshop

Kapco representatives will be on-hand on April 27th at the ECESC in Connersville to share with you and your fellow media specialists some quick and easy techniques for extending the shelf life of circulating materials in your Resource Center or school library. This will be an excellent opportunity for you to learn book repair and preservation tips through hands-on experiences!

Some of the topics to be covered include common repairs such as loose pages, broken spines, torn header caps, and ripped pages. Don't discard those precious old texts! Preserve them, using some brand new techniques and tools!

Be sure to go to www.ecesc.k12.in.us to register your attendance before April 20. The workshop hours are 9:00 a.m. to noon.

LEARNING CONNECTION: The ECESC Professional Development Community

The East Central ESC now has its own professional development community on Learning Connection! Educators across the state and especially in the Service Center region are invited to join this community. Simply create a user name and password, if you are not already a member of the Learning Connection. Once you have registered, select the East Central ESC Professional Development Community as the community you wish to join.

Once you are part of this community, you will receive the latest news about professional development at the ECESC with just a simple click of your mouse! What a great way for teachers and administrators to stay abreast of all the changes in education! What a great way for you to voice your thoughts about what's happening in professional development today!

Preparing Students for the English 10 ECA—Introduction to the National Common Core ELA



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 various degrees of emphasis on curricular components and to prioritize their instructional planning in preparation for the test. In addition, workshop content will focus on using the National Common Core ELA Standards to align current classroom instruction to the new Standards and plan for future instruction and assessment.

This workshop topic recently was recommended to ECESC staff by Service Center members so May 10th is the BRAND NEW DATE set for this event. 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 data to this workshop.

The site is the ECESC in Connersville. Space is limited so register early to guarantee your participation.

BOYS WILL BE BOYS & BEYOND RACE: CULTURE

On April 11 in Indianapolis, the ECESC will host Eric Rowles, President and CEO of Leading To Change, in a workshop that is guaranteed to be fast-paced, interactive, and highly informative. The morning content will be devoted to gender education on the national and regional fronts. Participants will learn new techniques to keep students, especially boys, engaged and on task in the classroom. In the afternoon, Eric Rowles will share ideas about how to refocus the social lens in the face of diversity and cultural issues in schools.

This workshop is open to all ESC members. ECESC and WCIESC LEP Consortium members may send participants at no charge. There are still a few slots left, so register right away!

“The foundation of every state is the education of its youth.”

—Diogenes Laertius

Differentiated Small Group Reading and Differentiated Literacy Learning Stations

ECESC Responds to Your Professional Development Requests!



Kristi McCullough, Literacy Consultant with Smekens Education Solutions, Inc., will present two exciting workshops in April at the ECESC in Connersville. On the 14th, she will discuss the five components of reading and how they can be supported through small group instruction. She will share ways to utilize small group differentiated instruction during ninety minutes of uninterrupted reading instruction. Additionally, Kristi will describe methods for supporting readers by incorporating oral reading strategies other than “round robin” style.

On April 15th, Kristi’s topic is Classroom-tested Strategies for Implementing Differentiated Literacy Learning Stations. Workshop participants will learn how to introduce literacy learning stations to students, how to gradually release responsibility to students as they refine their use of the stations, and methods for incorporating other content areas into the literacy stations. At the close of the day, educators will be able to organize existing materials to optimize continued skill practice. They also will know how to increase student reading/writing stamina during independent work

time.

Teachers in grades K-6, literacy coaches and coordinators, elementary principals, and Title I teachers and administrators are encouraged to register for one or both of these highly acclaimed workshops. Space is limited to the first 35 people who register each day.

Differentiation Principles that Work for Integrating ELL’s into Content Classrooms

Dr. Donna Albrecht, Administrator of the ENL licensure Program at Anderson University, will present a two-day workshop series on April 13 and May 11 at the Sheraton North Hotel in Indianapolis. Her content will focus on two essential questions:

1. When research shows that it takes 5-10 years for ELL students to catch up academically with their native speaking peers, how can teachers differentiate learning to respond to the needs of these students?
2. What are the best elements of differentiation to follow for success when teaching ELLs?

Workshop cost is \$150 per person for ESC members. Members of the ECESC/WCIESC Title III Consortium may send teachers at no charge to this event. Consortium schools will be reimbursed the cost of substitute teachers.

To register for this workshop, go to www.ecesc.k12.in.us and click on Workshop Registration. Be sure to print your confirmation receipt and check out the directions to the workshop site while you are online.



New Service– Driver's Education Online!

East Central ESC (ECESC) has partnered with Central Indiana ESC (CIESC) to provide your students the ability to take the driver's education class online. This online course has been approved by the Indiana Department of Education and will fulfill the required 30 hours of classroom instruction needed by the Bureau of

Motor Vehicles before they can issue a driving license. ECESC will provide the "behind the wheel" instruction to students that successfully complete the online course. The following information explains how the online course will operate and your responsibilities if you decide to pursue Driver's Ed Online:

ECESC will provide the required 30-hour classroom instruction of the Driver's Education course online. The cost to the student for online and driving is only \$355.

- The online course is approved by the Indiana DOE and the BMV.
- The online course may help reduce your district's cost of delivering Driver's Education to your community.
- The online course is beneficial for busy students involved in many after-school activities as well as those with non-school responsibilities.
- Increased flexibility provided by the online course should result in an increase in the number of students who are able to enroll and participate in your driver's education program.
- Security features ensure that only the registered student is online and working towards completion of the course.
- Students have three months to complete the online course and will develop class management and time management skills by completing the course in the required time.
- The course will foster academic rigor, and drivers will develop attitudes aimed at safe driving, along with the enhancement of defensive driving skills.
- The online course is based on the pass/fail system. If for some reason the student fails the course, they can complete the entire course again free of charge if desired.
- The online course eliminates the problems that often arise with classroom discipline and time consuming tasks that are inherent with a traditional setting.
- The online course is closed-caption and is totally available for hearing impaired students.
- Students with learning disabilities can progress at their own pace in a quiet and controlled home environment.

If your school is interested in taking advantage of this online driver's education course, go to our website and click on Discount Programs (Services-> Purchasing-> and Online Driver's Education). For questions and further information, contact Sheila Taylor (staylor@ecesc.k12.in.us or 800-669-3010).

Check Out This Very Useful Website"

TeachParentsTech.org—created by Google, it offers more than 50 two-minute videos with step-by-step instructions on everything from how to cut and paste to how to create a blog. You can use this site for yourself, or email a tech support "care package" to your parents!

New Agreement with Ascend Math—Close Math Skill Gaps with Targeted Intervention!




East Central ESC is pleased to announce our partnership with Ascend

Math brought to us by Close Education. Ascend Math identifies gaps and guides students through award-winning differentiated instruction, interactive activities that include video instruction and practice in order to fill skill gaps and bring students back to grade level. Automated features that target individual math gaps enable students to better understand and take ownership of their learning initiatives; thereby increasing their motivation. Ascend's automated tracking of student performance provides built-in accountability reporting, tied to both NCTM and State Curriculum Standards. Ascend Math's evidence-based program has demonstrated results in which students have achieved two or more grade level gains in a six month period!

IAESC members receive an automatic 5% discount!

For more information please visit our website's [Discount Programs page](#) (Services-> Purchasing-> Discount Programs) or contact Sheila Taylor at the ESC.

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"

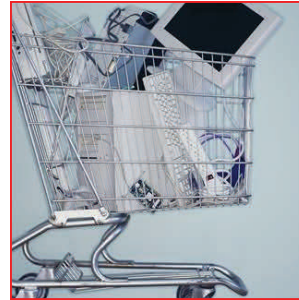


INDIANA ESCs ARE PARTNERING WITH BRITANNICA DIGITAL LEARNING TO BRING YOU THE AWARD-WINNING BRITANNICA ONLINE SCHOOL EDITION FOR PREK-12TH

A favorite with educators, *Britannica Online School Edition* includes three levels of content for elementary, middle, and high school students and the *Britannica Learning Zone*, a PreK-2 interactive learning environment. Three age-appropriate encyclopedias with differentiated reading levels and "Read Aloud" technology, appeal to users of all abilities. Additional reference tools like atlases, timelines, student news, and personalized workspaces make *Britannica Online School Edition* a timesaving tool for research. Educators have quick, easy access to Common Core and Indiana curriculum standards through encyclopedia articles and learning materials that cover language arts, math, science, and social studies. *Britannica Online School Edition* also easily integrates with Moodle.

Contact East Central ESC, Sheila Taylor (staylor@ecesc.k2.in.us) for a Free Trial or for more information. Pricing is just \$.50 per student (\$295.00 building minimum). Free Training is provided for all subscribers.

New Service from East Central ESC – Electronic Equipment Recycling



There have been many discussions about what to do with old, outdated and practically useless electronic equipment – computers, monitors, laptops, televisions, printers, etc. We now have a service that will help you address that need for your schools.

East Central ESC has entered into an agreement with Vintage Tech Recyclers. We will provide free pickup of your equipment if you have over 50 pieces. Less than 50 pieces will be picked up by our courier drivers who come to your school every other week. There is no cost to the school. If you are interested in this service, simply visit our Discount Programs page (Services-> Purchasing-> Discount Programs) and fill out the Disposal Request form. For items less than 50, contact Sheila Taylor (staylor@ecesc.k12.in.us or 800-669-3010 x222) to arrange for our courier system to make a pickup.

ECESC Region Career Cruising Workshops Planned for October 4



During the 2010-2011 school year 34 buildings in the ECESC region utilized the Career Cruising online career program. Deeply discounted pricing will continue to be available from Career Cruising during the 2011-2012 school year, and the ECESC will extend the \$100 additional discount per building for member schools using this program.

Mark your calendars now for Career Cruising workshops that are being planned for **Tuesday, October 4th**. The workshops will be held at the ECESC office in Connersville. Two workshops will be offered on October 4th. The morning workshop will be for beginning/first time users of Career Cruising. The afternoon workshop will be for experienced users of the program. Participants who attend the morning beginner's workshop are welcome to also participate in the afternoon workshop.

The beginning/first time users workshop will run from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and will be hands-on in the computer lab at ECESC. The afternoon workshop will be an update training session for counselors and teachers who have been using Career Cruising with their students. It will run from Noon to 2:30 p.m. This workshop will be in the larger presentation room at ECESC to accommodate more participants. Wireless internet is available and participants are encouraged to bring their laptops to this session.

The beginning/first time users workshop will run from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and will be hands-on in the computer lab at ECESC. The afternoon workshop will be an update training session for counselors and teachers who have been using Career Cruising with their students. It will run from Noon to 2:30 p.m. This workshop will be in the larger presentation room at ECESC to accommodate more participants. Wireless internet is available and participants are encouraged to bring their laptops to this session.

Please register for the session (s) of your choice through the ECESC online registration system at www.ecesc.k12.in.us

CAREER CRUISING ELEMENTARY PRODUCT IN THE WORKS



Career Cruising is currently developing a new product that explores the guidance curriculum for elementary age students. The target audience is K-5. The program will be delivered as a series of lessons/missions, incorporating gaming-dynamics to encourage learning and engagement. The program will incorporate a number of lessons at each grade level, covering the guidance competencies in line with the ASCA National Standards and the National Career Development Guidelines.

The new elementary product will emphasize indicators from the career development domain, while, incorporating aspects from the personal/social and academic domains. It is anticipated that the new program will also introduce elementary students to the concept of a portfolio and will include an administrative component for educators to track their student's progress. Career Cruising is working with educational software developers in designing and creating a program that is engaging and fun for K-5 students. Career Cruising is also working with a curriculum specialist on the content design.

A release date for the new elementary product is not yet available. The new product is still a work in progress. More information about the new program, along with license fee information, will be available when school resumes for the fall semester.

EAST CENTRAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

1601 INDIANA AVENUE
CONNERSVILLE, IN 47331

PHONE: 800-669-3010 OR 765-825-1247
FAX: 765-825-2532



Serving fourteen counties in east central Indiana.

REMINDER: DELIVERY CHANGES

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.

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, call the ECESC.**

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ECESC Executive Board

Dr. Allen Bourff, *Richmond Community Schools*

Dr. David Edds, *Greenwood Community School Corporation*

Mr. Paul Garrison, *Daleville Community Schools*

Mr. James Halik, *CSC of Southern Hancock County*

Dr. Russell Hodges, *Fayette County School Corporation*

Dr. Terry Sargent, *Southwestern CSD of Shelby County*

Dr. John Williams, *Rush County Schools*

East Central ESC Salutes Its Four Star Schools!!!



Dr. Tony Bennett recently announced the list of 2009-2010 Four Star Schools, and said: "Today I offer sincere congratulations to Indiana's 2009-2010 Four Star Schools as we celebrate their dedication to academics. These schools set high expectations for their students on a daily basis, and as a result, students work hard and exceed those expectations. The students and teachers in these schools should be extremely proud of this honor, and I am confident they will continue down this path of success." Four Star Schools in the ECESC region membership are:

Centerville-Abington Community Schools
Frankton-Lapel Community Schools
Greenwood Community School Corporation

Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation

New Castle Community School Corporation
CSC of Southern Hancock County
Yorktown Community Schools

Centerville Sr. High School
Lapel Elementary School
Southwest Elementary School
Westwood Elementary School
Mt. Comfort Elementary School
Mt. Vernon Middle School
James Whitcomb Riley Elementary School
New Palestine High School
Yorktown High School