1. **H1N1 INFORMATIONAL LETTER TO PARENTS**

*Enclosure # 1* is a parent letter from Deborah McMahan, MD, Allen County Health Commissioner. On the back side, this letter has been translated to Spanish. Principals are asked to make copies to send home with students at their earliest convenience. Please continue to encourage teachers and staff to be diligent in efforts to prevent the spread of H1N1.

Karyle Green, ext. 1001

2. **HONOR ROLL PUBLISHING**

The News-Sentinel *will not* be publishing an *Honor Roll* section this year. Any school that wishes to send their honor roll for publication may send them to neighbors@news-sentinel.com to be published as space allows.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

3. **THE JOURNEY FROM BOYHOOD TO MANHOOD**

The brothers of Theta Upsilon Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. are requesting help in identifying African-American young men who may be interested in participating in the Bi-Annual Scholarship Beautillion. The Beautillion is scheduled for April 24, 2010. To be considered for admittance into the program, applicants must be a current high school junior or senior and must have demonstrated leadership potential (i.e., academic, athletic, religious, etc.), interest in public service and social and political change. A minimum GPA requirement of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale is required. The sessions will begin in October 2009. For additional information, please contact Kenneth Tucker at 260-348-4872 or tuckertrio88@verizon.net.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

4. **ACRES LAND TRUST LECTURE**

On Friday, November 13, 2009 at 7:30 pm ACRES will be hosting a lecture by Richard Louv, recipient of the 2008 Audubon Medal and author of the National Best Seller, *Last Child in the Woods*. The lecture will be held at Rhinehart Music Center on the IPFW Campus 2101 E. Coliseum Blvd. Fort Wayne. See *Enclosure #2* for more information.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050
5. **PAL YOUTH CENTER**

See *Enclosure # 3* regarding Self-Defense, Cheerleading, and Hip Hop classes for youth in grades K-9 hosted by the Police Athletic League. For more information contact Steven Butz, Director at 260-432-4122.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

6. **ST. HENRY’S THRIFT SHOPPE & CARE CENTER**

The St. Henry’s Thrift Shoppe & Care Center is now open and available for our EACS families. If schools provide families with a voucher (a letter written on school letterhead) indicating that a student is in need of clothing, families will receive items free of charge (example: 2 pair of pants, 2 shirts/blouses, etc…) Students must be accompanied by an adult. The adult should be named in the voucher letter. See *Enclosure #4* for more information.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

7. **GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTHERN INDIANA- MICHIANA**

If you know of any girls wanting to be a Girl Scout or any adult wanting to a Scout Leader see *Enclosure #5* for details. Also, there will be a Girl Scout Skating Party on September 26th from 4:30-6:30 pm at Bell’s Skating – New Haven, Indiana. For more information contact Ashley at 749-0929 – see *Enclosure #6*.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

8. **8th GRADE ESSAY CONTEST**

*Enclosure # 7* is information from the Indiana Women’s Education Foundation regarding an essay contest for 8th grade students throughout Indiana. The subject of the contest is “What positive changes would you make to improve your school.” On the backside of the informational flyer is the registration form.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

9. **STUDENT SUPPORT**

Please be advised that the Student Support Office has scheduled meetings for the 2009-10 school year on the following dates:

- **Nurses** will hold meetings on: September 24, October 29, December 17, January 28, 2010, March 4, April 15, and May 20. All meetings will be held at Park Hill in the Staff Development Room from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. except on May 20, it will be held in Room 220.
• **Elementary Guidance Counselors and School Specialists** will hold meetings on October 9, November 13, December 11, January 8, 2010, February 12, March 12, April 16, and May 28. All meetings will be held at Park Hill in room 224 from 7:45 to 9:45 a.m.

• **Secondary Guidance Counselors** will hold meetings on: September 18 from 9-11:00 a.m. in room 224 at Park Hill. All other meetings will be held in Room 220 at Park Hill from 9-11:00 a.m. on November 20, January 15, 2010, March 19, and May 21.

• **District Crisis-Planning Team** will hold meetings on: October 28, November 18, February 3, 2010, May 12. All meetings will be held at Park Hill in the Staff Development Room from 9-11:00.

  Britt Magneson, ext. 6490

10. **SAFETY REMINDER**

All school staff are reminded that during the school day outside entrance doors are locked and all staff members need to wear an East Allen County Schools identification badge.

  Britt Magneson, ext. 6490

11. **OSP & SECRETARY TRAINING**

There will be a training session for OSP’s and Secretaries in the district on September 22, 2009 from 9:30 to 11:30. Much new information will be discussed and previous expectations and requirements will be reviewed. The training will be held at Park Hill Learning Center in the Staff Development room. Individuals that need to attend will be notified by email.

  Kirby Stahly, ext. 1005

12. **REAL MEN READ!**

Last year United Way and the Urban League recruited 225 men for Real Men Read. Those men read to over 5,000 kids and distributed over 15,000 books. This year, because of some smart book buying, Learn United leadership (Jamie Garwood) figured out we could expand to all 2nd and 3rd grade classrooms in EACS and FWCS for the same amount of money!

So if you know men who would like to participate, please encourage them to register using the link below. We still have about 75 classrooms open. Men will need to register quickly in order to get background checked and attend a 1 hour orientation. They can register using the link below in a few short minutes.


  Jan MacLean, ext. 3124
13. **FEDERAL RESOURCES FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

To find relevant historical and subject area teaching resources as well as current events information that is just a “click away” you may want to visit the following site:

http://www.free.ed.gov/

You will find subject areas highlighted for:

- Art & Music
- US History Topics
- Language Arts
- Math
- Health & PE
- US Time Periods
- World Studies
- Science

Jan MacLean, ext. 3124

14. **EACS EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC ADVISORY MEETINGS FOR 2009-10**

EACS high school principals, Career Development Center (CDC) and Interdisciplinary Cooperative Education (ICE) coordinators will be participating in two meetings this year. The dates for our 2009-10 meetings are **Thursday, October 22, 2009** and **Thursday, April 22, 2010**. These meetings, in addition to the on-going career major academies’ efforts of our high school faculty, strengthen the business and community partnerships. By conducting these bi-annual meetings we are benefiting our regional economic development efforts as well as educational opportunities for our students in these key ways:

- Grow and retain a highly skilled work force for the Allen County area,
- Spur economic growth and development
- Expand community service, visibility, and marketing
- Improve student achievement
- Focus secondary educational opportunities on rigor, relevancy and relationships, and
- Provide real-world experiences for our students as they define personal career goals.

The vocational programming in our EACS high schools is truly a model to be proud of! Students have opportunities for in- or out-of-school internships, job shadow experiences, co-op work experiences (working 15 hrs/week with pay during their senior year), and field trips/work-site tours. Teachers are invited to participate (with pay) in educator externship experiences during the summer months affording them the opportunity to connect classroom instruction to the world of work.

Jan MacLean, ext. 3124
15. Remediation / Instructional Support Initiatives

All EACS principals are asked to prepare a description of their school’s remediation plan for 2009-10. This information will be discussed and collected at the next principals’ meeting scheduled on October 13th. Each school has been awarded funding to provide extra instructional support to students who did not pass ISTEP+ and/or GQE state-wide assessments during the 2008-09 school year.

Jan MacLean, ext. 3124

16. Assistant Principal’s

Meeting is Tuesday, September 22, 2009 - 9:00 A.M. in the Board Room.

Jeanne Zehr, ext. 1002

17. School Visits

Heritage Area (P.M.) September 22, 2009
Woodlan Area (P.M.) September 24, 2009
Leo Area (A.M.) September 25, 2009

Jeanne Zehr, ext. 1002

18. Human Resources

Principals are reminded to return the two forms sent to buildings at the start of the school year, with any necessary corrections, prior to September 30. This includes the print out of staff members and a form with staff names and addresses. Any information submitted after September 30 will not be included in this year’s school directory.

Peggy Rohrbacher, ext. 1009

19. Initial Day of Employment

According to administrative policy which is in line with state statute, employees may not begin work without an expanded criminal history check on file. Administrators, supervisors, and managers are not to direct employees to report to work without approval from the Director of Human Resources.

Peggy Rohrbacher, ext. 1009

20. Membership Count

A reminder to all staff that the official membership count is today, Sept. 18. Please follow the procedures which were outlined in last week’s bulletin.

Karyle Green, ext. 1001
21. BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE CHANGE

School Board Meeting Schedule for 2009-2010 – See Enclosure # 8.

Note changes:

- the November 17th Regular Board meeting has been changed to November 24th,
- the December 1st Work Session has been canceled, and
- the June 29th Budget Work Session has been canceled and moved to July 6th.

Karyle Green, ext. 1001
Septiembre 8, 2009

Estimado Padre de Familia:

Tanto la influenza (gripe) como el resfriado común ocasionan síntomas respiratorios, pero son ocasionados por diferentes virus. Por el hecho de que los síntomas puedan ser similares, hay veces que es difícil distinguirlos basándose solamente en los síntomas. En general, la gripe es peor que el resfriado común, y los síntomas como la fiebre, dolores al cuerpo, mucho cansancio, y una tos seca son más comunes y peores con la gripe. El síntoma más común que las personas experimentan con un resfriado es la nariz tapada o que gotea. Finalmente la gripe puede conducir a complicaciones más severas como ser la neumonía, deshidratación u hospitalización. Sin embargo, es más común que estas complicaciones se presenten más en los niños y las personas mayores.

También puede ser difícil saber cuando su niño debe quedarse en casa. Más abajo usted encontrará una lista de síntomas que indican que su niño debería quedarse en casa para facilitar su recuperación y también para proteger a sus compañeros de clase, pues es más que seguro que sea contagioso:

- Fiebre de más de 100º F (37.8 C)
- Tos que produce una flema amarilla o verde
- Dolor de garganta y fiebre
- Vómitos
- Diarrea

Otros síntomas por los cuales un niño debería recibir atención médica y quedarse en casa con supervisión incluyen: tos persistente, frecuente y seca o falta de aire, hasta tal punto que necesite un inhalador utilizado con frecuencia para el asma, mareos cuando está de pie, confusión, dolor de cabeza severo (especialmente con fiebre), o en general cuando el niño o la niña está demasiado enfermo para participar en las actividades de la escuela.

Para la Influenza H1N1 (también conocida como la gripe porcina), y una buena regla general para todas las infecciones, es que el niño/a debería quedarse en casa por lo menos 24 horas después de que este libre de fiebre (100º F [37.8 C]), o señales de fiebre sin necesidad del uso de medicamentos para reducir la fiebre como ser el Tylenol o Ibuprofeno.

¡Como siempre, nuestro mejor “tratamiento” es la prevención! Por favor asegúrese de revisar con sus niños la importancia de simples prácticas como ser:

- Lavarse las manos con frecuencia con jabón y agua o limpiarlas con una loción en base a alcohol, especialmente después de toser y/o estornudar;
- Cubriendo su tos y botando los pañuelos de papel en el basurero.

Finalmente, manténgase informado sobre la disponibilidad de vacunas y grupos prioritarios. Los niños especialmente aquellos con enfermedades crónicas, son de mayor prioridad. Continuaremos manteniéndolo informado sobre la vacuna H1N1 y como siempre puede visitar nuestro sitio Web: www.fighttheflu.org

Le agradecemos su cooperación con este tema de salud tan importante,

Deborah A. McMahan, MD
Comisionada de Salud
September 8, 2009

Dear Parent,

Both influenza (flu) and the common cold cause respiratory symptoms, but they are caused by very different viruses. Because the symptoms can appear to be similar, it can be difficult to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone. In general, the flu is worse than the common cold, and symptoms such as fever, body aches, extreme tiredness, and dry cough are more common and intense with the flu. The most common symptom people experience with a cold is a runny or stuffy nose. Finally, the flu can lead to more serious complications such as pneumonia, dehydration or hospitalizations. However, these complications are more likely to occur in children or the elderly.

It can also be difficult to know when your child should stay at home. Below you will find a list of symptoms that indicate that your child should stay home to facilitate their own recovery and also protect their classmates as they are very likely contagious:

- Fever over 100°F
- Cough that produces yellow or green phlegm
- Sore throat and fever
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

Other symptoms that indicate a child should seek medical care and stay home with supervision include persistent, frequent dry cough or shortness of breath, needing to use an inhaler frequently for asthma, lightheadness when standing, confusion, severe headache (especially with fever), or in general if he or she is too ill to participate in classroom activities.

For H1N1 Influenza A (aka swine flu), and a good rule of thumb for all infections, is the child should remain at home until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever (100°F [37.8°C]), or of signs of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen.

As always, our best “treatment” is prevention! Please make sure you review with your children the importance of simple practices such as:

- Cleaning their hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub often, especially after coughing and/or sneezing;
- Covering their cough and throwing used tissues in the trash receptacle.

Finally, keep yourself informed about vaccine availability and priority groups. Children, especially those with chronic health conditions, are a top priority. We will continue to keep you informed about the H1N1 vaccine and you can always visit our website: www.fighttheflu.org

Thank you for your cooperation with this important health issue,

Deborah A. McMahan, MD
Health Commissioner
ACRES Land Trust Lecture
Celebrating 50 years of land preservation

Friday, November 13
Rhinehart Music Center
on the IPFW campus
2101 E. Coliseum Blvd.
Fort Wayne

Annual Meeting and Lecture at 7:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker
Richard Louv

ACRES will be hosting a lecture by Richard Louv, recipient of the 2008 Audubon Medal and author of the National Best Seller, Last Child in the Woods. Louv identified a phenomenon we all knew existed but couldn’t quite articulate: nature deficit disorder. Since its initial publication, Last Child in the Woods has created a national conversation about the disconnection between children and nature, and his message has galvanized an international movement. Now, three years later, a new international movement “Leave No Child Inside” has spurred the creation of a resurgence of outdoor educational opportunities.

To reserve your tickets call the Rhinehart box office at 260.481.6555

Free - for ACRES Members
$5 - for teachers and partner organizations
$10 - for general public

A special thank you to our sponsors:
Indiana and Michigan Power, Ian and Mimi Rolland Foundation, Indiana - Purdue University (FW), Mary Scrogham, and Diane Humphrey

www.acreslandtrust.org
St. Henry Thrift Shoppe
(& Care Center)

On the St. Henry Campus
NW Corner of Hessen Cassel and Paulding Roads
Fort Wayne, IN. 46816

Gently Used Clothing for Adults, Children, and Babies
Shoes, hats, ties and much more!

Open Monday through Friday from 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
And Saturday from 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Send a child/family in with a voucher from the school system
to let the Care Center to do it’s job.

Thank You!
Looking for a place that's for GIRLS, by GIRLS, and about GIRLS? It's the GIRL SCOUTS! Girl Scouts invite YOU to join the fun!

OUR MISSION:
Girl Scouting builds girls of COURAGE, CONFIDENCE, and CHARACTER who make the world a better place!

Girl Scouts gain courage, confidence, and character by:
- Discovering themselves and the world around them!
- Connecting with new friends and their communities!
- Taking action to educate and inspire others to make the world a better place! Exploring interests and gaining leadership skills.

Come find out about all the fun and friendship Girl Scouts has to offer! Parents and girls of Roanoke Elementary School are invited to the School Café on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 6:00pm to learn more about becoming a Girl Scout.

Interested in becoming a Girl Scout?
Please complete the form below and fax to: 260-422-0084 or mail to: GSNIM, 10008 Dupont Circle Dr. E., Fort Wayne, IN 46825. This is not a registration form, only an indication that you and your daughter are interested in Girl Scouting.

PLEASE PRINT:
Girl’s Name: ______________________________________ Grade: __________
Parent/Guardian Name(s): ___________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________
Date of Birth: ___________ School: _______________ County: __________
Home Phone: ______________ Work Phone: _____________________________
Email (Parent): _____________________________________________________

☐ Yes, I am interested in providing opportunities to girls; I would like to be the leader.
☐ Yes, I know it takes committed adults to help girls succeed; I would like to help with a troop.

WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS!
Consider being a Girl Scout volunteer. Take the opportunity to influence the lives of girls—the rewards are endless!

Call us at (260) 422-3417 or (800) 283-4812 for more information or check us out on the web at: www.gsnim.org
Service Unit 614 is inviting all local girls to a Girl Scout Skating Party. Current Girl Scouts bring a friend and earn a FUN PATCH!

New girls interested in scouting come and see what the fun is all about!

Admission: $3/girl (Skates Additional)

Games, prizes, skating and more!

Girl Scout Skating Party

September 26th
4:30 - 6:30pm
Bell’s Skating
New Haven

For more information contact, Ashley  749-0929
INDIANA WOMEN’S EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

In conjunction with

THE CONNI RICHARDS YOUTH FUND

PRESENTS THE ESSAY COMPETITION FOR INDIANA 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

THE ESSAY TITLE IS:

“What positive changes would you make to improve your school?”

WHO: Indiana 8th grade students

WHEN: Program begins October 1, 2009, and ends December 1, 2009

Completed essays and entry forms must be postmarked by December 1, 2009

WHAT: Each participant is asked to submit an essay, which must be an original composition relating directly to the topic, “What positive changes would you make to improve your school?”

- May be typed (double-spaced) or legibly handwritten; one side of paper only.
- May be stapled once but no folders or paper clips.
- Writer’s name may not appear in the body of the essay.
- No fewer than 300 words or more than 450 words.
- This form must accompany the essay with the appropriate signatures.
  (Social security number will be needed for state prizes of U. S. Savings Bonds)

HOW: Mail essay and completed form, postmarked by December 1, 2009, to:

Essay Contest, Indiana BPW Foundation, PO Box 33, Knightstown, IN 46148

Name: _____________________________________________________ County: ______________________

Address: _______________________________ City/Zip Code: _____________ E-mail:___________________

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s) _____________________________ Home Phone #: _____________________

School Name and Address:  __________________________________________________________________

Teacher’s Name/Dept.: ___________________________________ School Phone #: ____________________

Each participant will receive a Certificate of Participation upon receipt of essay. One essay will be chosen from each of INFBPW’s 7 districts. Each of the 7 winners and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) and teacher will be invited to attend and give his/her essay at the District’s Spring Meeting which is usually in March. These same winners also will be invited to attend the luncheon on Saturday, April 17, 2010, at the INFBPW State Convention at the Walden Inn in Greencastle, Indiana. These 7 young individuals will be the guest of the district at the Spring Meeting and the guests of the Indiana Women’s Education Foundation at the State Convention. The three State Winners will be announced at the State Convention. These three will read their essays and receive the following prizes:

- Engraved plaque and $200 Savings Bond
- Engraved plaque and $100 Savings Bond
- Engraved plaque and $ 50 Savings Bond

The Indiana Women’s Education Foundation, Inc., founded in 1991, provides financial and scholarship assistance and strives to improve employment opportunity, career development, and economic self-sufficiency for women and/or youth in the State of Indiana. The Indiana Women’s Education Foundation, Inc., is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

Signature grants permission for the 3 state winners’ names, hometowns, and essays to be posted on the Indiana Women’s Education Foundation website.

____________________________     ____________________________     ____________________________
Student’s Signature                                              Teacher’s Signature                                     Parent/Guardian’s Signature

Rev. 8/2009
## NOTICE OF WORK SESSIONS AND REGULAR MEETINGS

**JULY 2009 – JULY 2010**

**ADMINISTRATION BUILDING BOARD ROOM**
1240 State Road 930 East, New Haven, IN 46774

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF MEETING</th>
<th>DATE OF MEETING</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION IF OTHER THAN ADMINISTRATION BLDG.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work Session (Budget)</td>
<td><strong>+Tuesday, June 30, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, July 7, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, July 21, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Session (Budget)</td>
<td><strong>+Tuesday, July 28, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, August 4, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, August 18, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, September 1, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, September 15, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Meadowbrook Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, October 6, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, October 20, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, November 3, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, November 24, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Village Elementary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, December 15, 2009</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, January 5, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, January 19, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, February 2, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, February 16, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Harlan Elementary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, March 2, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, March 16, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, March 30, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, April 20, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
<td><strong>Monday, May 3, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, May 18, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Monroeville Elementary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, June 1, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, June 15, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Session (Budget)</td>
<td><strong>+Tuesday, July 6, 2010</strong></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Denotes departure from regularly scheduled 1st and 3rd Tuesday Board meetings.**

**+Denotes yearly budget Work Sessions.**

============================================================================================================

**NOTE:** EACS board meetings may occasionally be moved to another location to accommodate an anticipated larger audience.

**Board Approved:** 02/17/09

**Revised:** 09/15/09
1. **2009 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL**

*Congratulations to Dr. Mark Daniel and Leo Jr./Sr. High School for being recognized as a National 2009 Blue Ribbon School.*

**What is a Blue Ribbon School?**

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private K-12 schools that are either academically superior in their state or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement.

Each year since 1982, the U.S. Department of Education has sought out schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. Using standards of excellence evidenced by student achievement measures and the characteristics known from research to epitomize school quality, the Department celebrates schools that beat the odds.

In addition, public schools must meet Adequate Yearly Progress, or AYP, in reading (language arts) and mathematics. Each state -- not the federal government -- sets its own academic standards and benchmark goals.

A total of 413 schools nationwide can be nominated, based on the number of K-12 students and the number of schools in each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The Chief State School Officer (CSSO) nominates public schools, and the Council for American Private Education (CAPE) submits private schools’ nominations. The schools are invited by the Secretary of Education to submit an application for possible recognition as a Blue Ribbon School.

The schools – 264 public and 50 private – will be honored at an awards ceremony on November 3 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. For the past 27 years, more than 6,150 of America’s schools have received this coveted award.

**CONGRATULATIONS LEO JR./SR. HIGH!**
Nathan Bienz, Senior at Heritage Jr./Sr. High School has been named a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist. There are approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 55th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,200 National Merit Scholarships, worth more than $36 million, that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship® award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. About 90 percent of the Semifinalists are expected to attain Finalist standing, and approximately half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar® title.

CONGRATULATIONS NATHAN BIENZ !