1. **PARENT RESOURCE ROOM**

Please be advised that the Parent Resource Room is now open and available for parents in the Paul Harding and Meadowbrook areas. The room and many resources are available for parents’ use Monday – Friday from 7:00 – 8:30 am and from 12:30 – 3:30 pm. Times outside of the school day are available by calling Becky Jones at 446-0270, ext. 6432.

Britt Magneson, ext. 6490

2. **TITLE V, PART A FUNDS**

Librarians and Media Specialists are reminded that all of your Title V, Part A funds (EACS Fund 422) must be encumbered by September 30, 2009. Purchase Orders must be processed ASAP. As you know, the appropriate use of Title V funds is to purchase reference materials for student use in your media centers. All items purchased with Title V funds must be labeled with a tag which reads "EACS, Title V, Part A, SY08/09" so that each item is identifiable as purchased with Title V funds. Via courier, you will soon receive a set of 30 labels for this purpose. This is the last time EACS will receive these funds. If you are not aware how much money your school has available in Title V funds, contact Rose Fritzinger with questions / concerns.

Rose Fritzinger, ext. 5537

3. **THREE RIVERS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**

On Friday – Sunday, Oct. 16th & 17th 10 am- 7 pm and the 18th 10 am – 5 pm. the Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society presents its 48th Annual Show at the Allen County Fairgrounds (2726 Carroll Rd.) Please encourage students and parents to take advantage of a wonderful educational opportunity to learn more about geology, rocks, minerals, fossils, and Indian artifacts.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

4. **EAST ALLEN FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**

The East Allen Family Resource Center will host its 2nd annual Ice Cream Social on Saturday, September 12, 2009 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at Schnelker Park, New Haven, Indiana. There will be face painting, games, prizes, a bake sale, ice cream. Admission is free however, donations are accepted. For more information call the East Allen Family Resource Center at 749-9516.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050
5. **MOVIE NIGHT – “LOST BOYS OF SUDAN”**

On September 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. the Rialto Theater Gallery – 2614 South Calhoun St. Fort Wayne, Indiana will host a movie night. The purpose of this night is to educate individuals about the lives of refugees and the obstacles that they face. This event is to help create valuable links among individuals and agencies that work with refugees within our community. The movie is a documentary on the journey of two teenage Sudanese refugees who traveled from Africa to America in order to escape the violence and danger in their country. The documentary also captures their experiences in an American resettlement program where they are faced with extreme cultural differences. Seating is limited. RSVP to info@thereclamationproject.org in order to receive confirmation of attendance. If you have questions, you may call Kristie Jacobson, Executive Director, at 260-341 ext. 1993.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

6. **ARTS COMMISSION NOW ACCEPTING ONLINE APPLICATIONS FOR ARTS IN EDUCATION GRANTS**

The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) is now accepting online applications for its arts in education program, according to State Sen. Dennis Kruse (R-Auburn). This program is open to any Indiana pre-kindergarten through 12th grade public, private or parochial school. More guidelines and the application can be accessed at www.in.gov/arts/2348.htm.

Approximately 12 to 13 grants up to $5,000 will be provided. Applicants must match dollar-for-dollar the IAC grant amount awarded with school funds, contributed funds, in-kind donations or services. Funding may not replace or supplant existing resources and project activities must take place during the scheduled school day and cannot fund after school or summer activities.

Applications are to be submitted online at http://indiana.cgweb.org no later than Oct. 1, 2009. The IAC asks that projects include a planning phase and implementation plan between Jan. 1, 2010 and Dec. 31, 2010.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

7. **H1N1 – VACCINATION**

The Immunization Action Coalition has published an “Ask the Experts” edition regarding H1N1 vaccination. Focused solely on vaccination against H1N1 influenza, the Q&As in this "Ask the Experts" edition that will give healthcare providers some of the information they need to start immunizing immediately once H1N1 influenza vaccine becomes available. *Enclosure # 1*

Tamyra Kelly, ext 1050
8. TECHNOLOGY

The Technology website has been updated to include tutorials, technology forms and educational websites. The News & Announcements will be updated weekly with new technology websites as well as school technology news. If you have any suggestions for the page, please click on the Website Content Request tab. To access the Technology page, go to www.eacs.k12.in.us, left click on the Programs & Services - Technology.

Jo Ann Roscoe, ext. 3125

9. END OF COURSE ASSESSMENTS

The Department of Education has clarified the number of times end of course assessments will be offered in 2009-10 and the number of times a student may take the assessment.

- **First time test-takers** in Algebra I and English 10 may test one time (at the end of instruction) during the 2009-10 school year. This one time test may be taken only during one of the following windows which coincide with the end of each trimester: Fall, Late Winter, Spring.
- **Retest students of Algebra I** may test two times during the 2009-10 school year during two of the windows which coincide with the end of each trimester: Fall, Late Winter, and Spring.
- The **Summer** window may be used only if the student is enrolled in the actual Algebra I and/or English 10 course during summer school in 2010.
- Students enrolled in Biology I will test at the end of instruction in one of the windows coinciding with the end of the trimester. However, the assessment must be given at the end of the trimester in which Biology 1 is completed.
- **Please note:** English 11 will **not** be part of the end of course assessments in 2009-10.
- **Algebra and English 10** are now known as the **GQE ECAs**.

Jo Ann Roscoe, ext. 3125

10. SCHOOL VISITS

Dr. Zehr will be visiting attendance areas throughout the school year. She will meet with principals and visit 1-2 classrooms.

- Sept. 15 will be the 4 Harding area schools
- Sept. 18 will be the 5 New Haven area schools

Midterm and Grade Card Schedule
Enclosure # 2

Dr. Jeanne Zehr  x1002

11. ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S MEETING DATES

- Sept. 22  Admin. Board Room  9:00-11:00
- Feb. 16  Luncheon Meeting  11:00-1:00
- Mar. 31  Admin. Board Room  9:00-11:00

Dr. Jeanne Zehr  x1002
12. WAYS TO ENHANCE CHILDREN’S ACTIVITY & NUTRITION – WE CAN!

We Can! is a free national program that focuses on educating children and their families about health and fitness in interesting, energizing ways. Join Parkview Hospital dietitians and nurses for four fun-filled evening of interactive demonstrations and discussions. Dates: Sept. 14, Sept. 21, Sept. 28 and Oct. 5 (four part series) from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. The location is Highland Terrace School, 1445 Berwick Lane, New Haven, Indiana. To register or for questions, call 260-373-7998. See Enclosure #3 for more information.

Kirby Stahly, ext. 1005

13. SPECIAL EDUCATION REMINDER

In an effort to help EACS remain compliant with special education services and guide staff through the process for case conferencing, principals and teachers are reminded of the following steps:

• Create an agenda in order to keep case conferences on track.
• Finish case conferences with an action plan to provide a quick summary of what needs to happen next.
• Document who will be responsible to complete each step of the action plan. It is also important to review procedures for Excusals and for Revising an IEP outside of the case conference. All procedures and forms are located on the flash drive which was given to special education teachers during the August 19 training session.

Connie DeLong, ext. 3109
Read "Ask the Experts" Q&As about 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccination

The Immunization Action Coalition has published the following “Ask the Experts” edition regarding H1N1 vaccination. Focused solely on vaccination against H1N1 influenza, the Q&As in this “Ask the Experts” edition will give healthcare providers some of the information they need to start immunizing immediately once H1N1 influenza vaccine becomes available. IAC thanks William L. Atkinson, MD, MPH, and Andrew T. Kroger, MD, MPH, medical epidemiologists, at the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, CDC, for agreeing to answer the following questions.

Q: When will vaccine for the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus be available?

A: CDC estimates that approximately 45 million doses of H1N1 influenza vaccine will be available in mid-October. CDC anticipates that approximately 20 million additional doses will be released in each subsequent week. Keep in mind that vaccine availability is driven by a number of variables in the manufacturing process. Once vaccine is available, vaccination should begin immediately.

Q: Is the 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine experimental?

A: No. H1N1 influenza vaccine will be available in an inactivated, injectable formulation and a nasal-spray, live attenuated formulation. Neither is an experimental vaccine. The 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccines are made employing the same methods and facilities used annually to produce seasonal influenza vaccine. The vaccines are undergoing additional clinical trials at this time to determine the size of the dose and the number of doses that will be needed for protection.

Q: Once a 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine becomes available, who will be targeted to receive the vaccine?

A: On August 28, 2009, CDC issued recommendations for the use of the 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine. The recommendations identify 5 initial target groups for H1N1 influenza vaccination. They are (1) pregnant women; (2) people who live with or provide care for infants younger than age 6 months (e.g., parents, siblings, day care providers); (3) healthcare and emergency medical services personnel; (4) children and young adults ages 6 months through 24 years; and (5) people ages 25 through 64 years who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza-related complications. You can access the complete recommendations at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5810.pdf

Q: Why are pregnant women prioritized for vaccination?

A: Data from early 2009 H1N1 influenza cases in the United States show that pregnant women account for a disproportionate number of deaths, making them a high-priority group for vaccination (see http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PII:S0140-6736(09)61304-
Also, guidance has been issued for clinicians to promptly treat pregnant women who become infected with the 2009 H1N1 virus with antiviral drugs (see http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/clinician_pregnant.htm).

Q: Why aren't adults age 65 years and older included as a priority group for the 2009 H1N1 vaccination as they are for seasonal influenza, where they are included as part of the age-50-and-older priority group?

A: Current studies indicate that the risk of infection, hospitalization, and death from the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus among persons age 65 years and older is less than is the risk for younger age groups. Studies suggest that there is some degree of preexisting immunity to the 2009 H1N1 strains, especially among adults older than age 60 years. One possible explanation is that some adults in this age group have had previous exposure, either through infection or vaccination, to an influenza A (H1N1) virus. People age 65 years and older are included as a priority group if they live with or care for infants younger than age 6 months or are a healthcare or emergency services provider.

Q: Will H1N1 influenza vaccine be available for healthy people age 25 years and older (who are not in targeted groups)?

A: Once public health authorities at the local level determine that the H1N1 influenza vaccine demand for the 5 target groups has been met, providers will be notified that they can administer the vaccine to healthy people ages 25 through 64 years. Once demand for H1N1 influenza vaccine among younger age groups is met, vaccination should be expanded to all people age 65 and older.

Q: Once H1N1 influenza vaccine becomes available, should we stop administering seasonal influenza vaccine?

A: No. Providers should start administering seasonal influenza vaccine as soon as it is available and continue to administer it throughout influenza season, including during the winter and spring months.

Q: If a patient has received the seasonal influenza vaccine, do they need to receive the H1N1 influenza vaccine?

A: If a patient is in a risk group to receive H1N1 influenza vaccine, they should be vaccinated. Studies suggest that vaccination with season influenza vaccine will not provide protection against the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus.

Q: Will we be able to administer both the seasonal and H1N1 influenza vaccines at the same visit?

A: You can in most cases. See the points below.

- You can administer both the inactivated seasonal and the inactivated H1N1 influenza vaccines at the same visit (using separate syringes and sites) or at any time before or after each other.
- You can administer the inactivated seasonal and live H1N1 influenza vaccines together or at any time before or after each other.
- You can administer the live seasonal and inactivated H1N1 influenza vaccines together or at any time before or after each other.
Administering both the live attenuated seasonal and the live attenuated H1N1 influenza vaccines at the same visit is NOT recommended because of concerns about competition between the two vaccine viruses. If you have only live vaccines for both seasonal and H1N1 influenza available, you should separate the doses of the two live vaccines by at least 4 weeks.

Q: Will there be a new Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) for the 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine or can we use the same influenza VISs that have been issued from CDC for seasonal influenza vaccine?

A: A new VIS will be developed that pertains only to the 2009 H1N1 vaccine. You will find it posted at http://www.immunize.org/vis when it is available.

Q: In anticipation of H1N1 monovalent vaccine arriving later this fall, CDC recommends that we begin vaccinating with seasonal influenza vaccine now. Does protection from seasonal influenza vaccine decline or wane within 3 or 4 months of vaccination? Should I wait until October or November to vaccinate my elderly or medically frail patients?

A: CDC recommends that seasonal influenza vaccine be administered to all age groups as soon as it becomes available. Antibody to seasonal inactivated influenza vaccine declines in the months following vaccination. However, antibody level at a point several months after vaccination does not necessarily correlate with clinical vaccine effectiveness. There are no studies that compare vaccine effectiveness according to the month when the vaccination was given. The authors of a recent review on antibody declines among the elderly after vaccination reported, “In conclusion, we found no compelling evidence for more rapid decline of the influenza vaccine-induced antibody response in the elderly, compared with young adults, or evidence that seroprotection is lost at 4 months if it has been initially achieved after immunization.” (see Skowronski et al., Rapid Decline of Influenza Vaccine-Induced Antibody in the Elderly: Is It Real, or Is It Relevant? Journal of Infectious Diseases 2008;197:490-502). In addition, there is a lack of evidence for late season outbreaks among vaccinated persons that can be attributed to waning immunity.

Midterms and Report Card Dates – 2009 - 2010

1st quarter ends: Friday, October 23rd (46 days)
- Special area grades entered electronically – 9/25/09
- Mid-terms sent home – 9/30/09
- Special area grades entered electronically - 10/26/09
- Report cards given at parent/teacher conferences

2nd quarter ends: Friday, January 8th (41 days)
- Special area grades entered electronically – 11/23/09
- Mid-terms sent home- 11/30/09
- Special area grades entered electronically - 01/8/10
- Report cards sent home- 01/13/10

3rd quarter ends: Friday, March 19th (47 days)
- Special area grades entered electronically – 2/12/10
- Mid-terms sent home- 02/17/10
- Special area grades entered electronically - 03/19/10
- Report cards sent home- 03/24/10

4th quarter ends: Wednesday, June 2nd (46 days)
- Special area grades entered electronically – 4/30/10
- Mid-terms sent home- 05/4/10
- Special area grades entered electronically - 05/28/10
- Report cards sent home- last school day 06/02/10
Parkview Hospital has teamed up with the National Institutes of Health to offer:

We Can!™ to northeast Indiana families. This free national program focuses on educating children and their families about health and fitness in interesting, energizing ways.

Join Parkview Hospital dietitians and nurses for four fun-filled evenings of interactive demonstrations and discussions. Learn how to prepare and choose healthy foods, and to encourage your family members to keep moving. Youngsters, along with adults, can participate in CATCH Kids Club for fun physical activities!

Parents will receive a free We Can!™ Booklet, which offers tips on:

- Grocery shopping
- Parenting
- Improving family communications
- Exercise and more

Group support with other families and Parkview Hospital dietitians and nurses is available.

Enjoy free healthy, delicious snacks and exciting games. Class size is limited. Parents and Kids -enroll early and attend all class sessions.

Dates: Sept. 14, Sept 21, Sept 28, and Oct. 5 (four part series)

Time: 6:30 - 8pm

Location: Highland Terrace School, 1445 Berwick Lane, New Haven

To register or for questions, call (260) 373-7998.
1. LEADERSHIP FORT WAYNE ANNOUNCES 2010 CLASS

Theingi Tin has been selected for the Leadership Fort Wayne Class of 2010. Leadership Fort Wayne's mission is to train, prepare and inspire individuals to positively impact the community through meaningful engagement. Theingi is a Bilingual Parent Liaison for EACS and her office is located in Park Hill Learning Center. Theingi Tin has been employed by EACS since December 2007.

CONGRATULATIONS THEINGI TIN!!!