1. **2013 STANDARD MILEAGE RATE**

The IRS standard mileage rate for business miles is increasing to 56.5 cents per mile. Beginning January 1, 2013, the standard mileage reimbursement rate for the use of a personal vehicle for EACS business will be 56.5 cents per mile. Refer to Enclosure #1.  

Kirby Stahly, ext. 1005

2. **EDUCATOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES**

There are K-12 international study opportunities available for educators to travel to Italy (5 weeks), London & The Netherlands (5 weeks), South Africa (5 weeks), Germany & Prague (4 weeks), Scotland (4 weeks) and Turkey (2 different trip -3 weeks). These are all expenses paid trips to US locations AND overseas locations for travel and study! Go to [http://www.neh.gov/divisions/education/summer-programs](http://www.neh.gov/divisions/education/summer-programs) for more information.  

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

3. **K - 5 TEACHERS- SPLASHTOP**

Just a reminder, Splashtop was purchased for teachers last school year. If you would like to use your iPad to control your PC, go to the App Store and use the Apple ID from last year. If you do not know your Apple ID or need assistance please contact Cindy Fritz, X3131.  

Bill Diehl, ext. 3125

4. **2013 SUMMER SEMINARS/INSTITUTES FOR EDUCATORS**

The National Endowment for Humanities (NEH) is soliciting applications for its 2013 Summer Seminars and Institutes for School and College Educators, which is a tuition-free opportunity for K-12, college, and university educators to study a variety of humanities topics. Each Summer Seminar enables 16 NEH Summer Scholars, working in collaboration with one or two leading experts, to examine important texts and authors, or review significant scholarship or an important historical period or event. Participants have access to a major research collection, with time reserved to pursue individual projects.

The stipend amount will vary based upon the length of the summer seminar or institute: $3,900 for five-week seminars/institutes, $3,300 for four-week seminars/institutes, $2,700 for three-week seminars/institutes, $2,100 for two-week seminars/institutes, and $1,200 for one-week seminars/institutes. Stipends cover the cost of travel to and from the project location, books and other research expenses, and living expenses for the duration. Applications must be postmarked by March 4, 2013. Go to [www.neh.gov](http://www.neh.gov) for more information.  

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050
5. **IPAD RESPONSIBILITY GUIDELINES**

*Always* lock your classroom doors if you are NOT in your classroom.

*Always* lock your iPad cabinet if you are NOT in your classroom.

*Remind students they are responsible for the care of their iPad.

*Report a lost or stolen iPad ASAP to your librarian and/or school administrator. The sooner the iPad is reported, the greater chance of recovery.

*Lost and stolen iPads are expensive to replace and strain our district's 1:1 budget.

Bill Diehl, ext. 3125

6. **LICENSE RENEWAL**

The LVIS - License Verification and Information System from the Indiana Department of Education - requires teachers to **upload** two items to the LVIS website for their teacher’s license to be considered for renewal:

1. Documentation of PGP's which could be in the form of PGP certificates, official transcripts from universities for courses completed, committee work completed outside of regular work hours documented by a letter from the principal, and student teacher or practicum teachers documented by a letter from the principal. For the complete list of items that can be used for renewal credits go to the EACS website, look under the staff heading for Professional Growth Plans and then click the link titled *PGP Activities and Acceptable Documentation*.

2. A valid CPR/AED/Heimlich certificate. Providing all documentation through the LVIS website will speed up the license renewal process.

Chris Hissong, ext. 1002

7. **CURRICULUM CONNECTION**

The Curriculum Connection contains upcoming information regarding assessments, curriculum updates, video clips, instructional websites, and more. Please see *Enclosure #2* for specific information.

Marilyn Hissong, ext. 3124

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*EACS School Choice Fair ~ Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013*

1-4 pm @ New Haven High School

‘Your District, Your Schools, Your Choice’!

*Remember the Slogan:*

EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS ~ ENHANCING THE EDUCATION!
East Allen County School’s Business Mileage Rates Are Increasing!

Beginning January 1, 2013, the standard mileage rate for the use of a personal vehicle for business miles driven in 2013 will be 56.5 cents per mile.

per Administrative Policy 4140.26.
Comprehension
Real comprehension has to do with thinking, learning, and expanding a reader’s knowledge and horizons.

1. Create mental images
2. Use background knowledge
3. Ask questions
4. Make inferences
5. Determine the most important ideas and themes
6. Synthesize information
7. Use “fix up” strategies

This week’s focus: Make Inferences

The ability to infer helps us make solid deductions. When you break it down, inferring is really the process of merging your schema (background knowledge) with an evidence-based (text) guess.

Background knowledge + text clues = inference

Activities for teaching:

✓ “Mama always said you could tell an awful lot about a person by their shoes.” (Forest Gump)
  Bring in different types of shoes. List student’s inferences as they uncover who might wear the shoe. (a man, some who works in dirt, etc.)

✓ Mystery house – Who lives there? Be spies and go through their garbage (pretend). Bring in a trash bag with items that might give clues as to who lives in the mystery house. From a garbage bag, set out one item at a time and make inferences as to who or what type of family lives there.

✓ Tear out interesting advertisements from old magazines; pets, families, sports, or entertainment. Cover or cut out the featured item that would force viewer to infer what the ad is for. Students can work in pairs to list evidence on sticky notes.

Lessons and activities also available on curriculum resources shared drive

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Dates</th>
<th>1/9/12 – 2/4/12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DIBELS and TRC-MOY (K – G5)</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Writing Prompt (give)</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRI (G6-8)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Acuity and Grading
✓ DO NOT TAKE A GRADE FROM PREDICIVE ACUITY
✓ Can take a grade from the 4 week assessment

Technology for Writing

The applied skills portion of the ISTEP is quickly approaching. Here are a few websites that may be useful.

Anchor Paper Websites –
http://thetraits.org/scoring_examples.php
http://www.eduplace.com/rdg/hme/ GK-5, G6-8
http://www.cyberspaces.net/6traits/anchor.html GK-2
http://www.thewritesource.com/models.htm
http://www.doe.in.gov/achievement/assessment/istep-released-items-and-scoring-notes

Compass Odyssey

Students should be receiving 1to 2 hours of instruction time weekly.

When can students use Compass Odyssey?
✓ Schools should have designated times set for each classroom to visit the computer lab to meet the expected minutes each week.
✓ Students may work on from home, possibly for extra-credit.
✓ Teachers may use this tool for academic remediation in the classroom or lab.
✓ Teachers may use this as an extension for students who have surpassed grade level material.
✓ Teachers may use whole group in the classroom to review common errors or subject areas; Science or Social Studies.

K-6 Collaboration Topics

- RtI students
- DIBELS Data
- Writing Prompts
- Success/Intervention lessons

Technology to support Inference

Nice Power point on inference and prediction:
Power point inference and prediction
Handouts for powerpoint
1. STUDENTS WIN GOOD CITIZENS COMPETITION

Bryce Hieber, a senior at New Haven High School and Carissa Eisenmann, a senior at Woodlan Jr. Sr. High School were both named as runner-ups in the DAR Good Citizens Scholarship Competition. Students were selected by their peers and teachers to represent each high school in Allen County based on four qualities: dependability, service, leadership and patriotism.

Once nominated each student was required to complete an application and write an essay about American Heritage and how we can preserve it. Students only had two hours to write their essay and no prior planning was allowed.

Congratulations Bryce Hieber & Carissa Eisenmann!

2. FIRST IN MATH

As of Jan. 15, 2013

First in Math

Top Schools in State
#2Leo Elementary School
#3New Haven Middle School
#4Meadowbrook Elementary School
#5Woodlan Intermediate School
#6Cedarville Elementary School

Top Teams State
#1 - ocean78in - Leo El (Elrod)
#2 - heart12in - New Haven Middle (Gurney)
#4 - cardiac5in - New Haven Middle (Gurney)
#5 - quark1in - Cedarville (Linson)
#9 - sting45in - Heritage El (Mellang)

Top Schools - East Allen
#1 Leo Elementary School
#2New Haven Middle School
#3Meadowbrook Elementary School
#4Woodlan Intermediate School
#5Cedarville Elementary School

Top Teams- East Allen
#1 Leo El - ocean78in - Elrod
#2 New Haven Middle - heart12in - Gurney
#3 New Haven Middle - cardiac5in - Gurney
#4 Cedarville - quark1in - Linson
#5 Heritage El - sting45in - Mellang

Congratulations to Kevin Elrod’s 6th class for being #1 in the state!

AWESOME JOB!