NOTE: The final bulletin for the Year 2012 will be Friday, December 14. The first bulletin for 2013 will be Friday, January 11. ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAY!

1. REMINDER: WINTER BREAK SCHEDULE

EACS central administrative offices will be open to the public during the winter break on December 26, 27, 28, and January 2, 3, and 4 from 9:00 – 12:00 each of these days. If you need to contact administrative services, human resources, or any other central office, someone will be available to take your call during these hours. ALL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 24, 25, 31 AND JANUARY 1.

Karyle Green, ext. 1001

2. CURRICULUM CONNECTION

The Curriculum Connection contains upcoming information regarding assessments, curriculum updates, video clips, instructional websites, and more. Please see Enclosure #1 for specific information.

Marilyn Hissong, ext. 3124

3. 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.

Providing all documentation through the LVIS website will speed up the license renewal process.

Chris Hissong, ext. 1002

4. SUMMARY OF BENEFITS AND COVERAGE (SBC)

This is a 6-8 page document required of all group health insurance plans to provide in plain language simple and consistent information about a health plan’s benefits and coverage. The SBC allows individuals to more easily compare and choose which plan best fits their needs.
Because the United States Department of Labor did not provide final regulations and a template until just recently, the SBC for our plan options is not yet available. We will provide this to those who participant in our Group Health Insurance and place on our website in the next few weeks. You have the right to receive the SBC when shopping for or enrolling in coverage or if you request a copy from your issuer or group health plan.

Kirby Stahly, ext. 1005

5. EACS NEAR-SITE WALK-IN CLINICS

Effective January 2, 2013, the EACS Walk-In Clinics will become operational. The EACS Walk-In Clinics (in partnership with Parkview Health) were created to provide employees and dependents covered by EACS Group Health Insurance a near-site clinic for acute (recent onset) medical services. The services provided include: treatment of minor injuries & illnesses; laboratory services; and limited generic medications. Covered Services under EACS Health Plan will cost $0 per visit for those with core plan ($500/$1,000 Deductible) and $35 per visit for those with the High Deductible Health Plan ($3,000/$6,000 Deductible).

Medications: will have many of the most commonly prescribed medications (with clinic visit) in generic form, including medications for the treatment of: hypertension, high cholesterol, diabetes. As well as medications for the treatment of common acute illnesses such as: strep throat; upper respiratory infection; sinus infection/congestion; and urinary tract infection.

Locations and Hours: The EACS Walk-In Clinics are located at Minnich Road in New Haven; Hobson Road, New Vision Drive, and Illinois Road in Fort Wayne; and Guilford Street in Huntington.

Allen County
1331 Minnich Road, New Haven, 46774
3909 New Vision Drive, Fort Wayne, 46845
1515 Hobson Road, Fort Wayne, 46805
10515 Illinois Road, Fort Wayne, 46814 (new location in 2013 at US 69 and US 24) (260) 469-6610
Open every day from 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Huntington County
2708 Guilford Street, Huntington 46750
(260) 355-3900
Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Saturday - Sunday: 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

6. EACS TEACHER & STAFF APPRECIATION NIGHT

On December 14 the Mad Ants is hosting EACS Teacher Appreciation Night! EACS teachers & staff are eligible for 50% off tickets! See Enclosure #2 for more information or go to https://www.wepay.com/events/eacsmadants or call Garrett Martz at 260-469-4667 x107 to order via phone.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050
7. INFLUENZA

According to the CDC, flu activity in the United States has increased substantially throughout the nation, most notably in the south central and southeast regions of the country. Influenza activity through November in the United States was much higher than last year at this time. In fact, "we’re seeing the earliest start to the flu season since 2003-2004, excluding the [H1N1] pandemic," said CDC Director Thomas Frieden, MD, MPH.

Flu symptoms include:

- A 100°F or higher fever or feeling feverish (not everyone with the flu has a fever)
- A cough and/or sore throat
- A runny or stuffy nose
- Headaches and/or body aches
- Chills
- Fatigue
- Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea (most common in children)

Do I have the flu or a cold?
The flu and the common cold have similar symptoms. It can be difficult to tell the difference between them. Your health care provider can give you a test within the first few days of your illness to determine whether or not you have the flu.

In general, the flu is worse than the common cold. Symptoms such as fever, body aches, tiredness, and cough are more common and intense with the flu. People with colds are more likely to have a runny or stuffy nose.

See Enclosure #3 to get the facts.

Mike Shaffer, ext. 3151

Remember the Slogan:
EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS ~ ENHANCING THE EDUCATION!
Comprehension
Real comprehension has to do with thinking, learning, and expanding a reader’s knowledge and horizons. There are 7 Keys to Comprehension, Susan Zimmermann and Chryse Hutchins, to build a student’s understanding of what the words and sentences mean.

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: Create mental images or visualizing
Sensory images are the cinema unfolding in your mind that makes reading three-dimensional. Certain smells, tastes, sights, and feelings emerge, depending on what you’re reading and what life experiences you bring to it.

✓ Be explicit and direct about what you see in your mind and sharing sensory images that you have as you read.
✓ Create a “thought bubble”, like a comic strip, to explicitly demonstrate how proficient readers think while they are reading
✓ Wordless books; it’s easy to be aware of our own thinking with no words

Keep working on this even with Advanced Readers as their text becomes more complicated.

Check out the curriculum resources shared drive for additional anchor charts and resources.
- curriculum resources
- 5 components of reading
- comprehension

Collaboration Topics
-RtI students -Acuity (G3-G8)
-Progress Monitoring -Curriculum Planning

Possible Read Alouds
I Need My Monster by Amanda Noll
Read or listen to book without showing pictures and have students draw the monsters.

Can’t Sleep Without Sheep by Susanna Leonard Hill

The Storm Book by Charlotte Zolotow
The text gives very vivid descriptions of each setting in the story. The best part is that the pages rotate from text only to picture only so the kids have to make the picture in their mind first and then turn the page and compare what they visualize to the illustrator’s picture!

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Date Range</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acuity B</td>
<td>11/26 – 12/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acuity Science/Social Studies</td>
<td>12/3 - 12/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Step Assessments</td>
<td>12/17 – 12/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasures Assessments (G1-G6)</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Apps
Scribble Press: Students can draw images they are visualizing during read alouds or Read to self. Then they can write a description of what they have drawn.

Word Ninja: Create words by jumping, flying, and gravity-flipping through this endless running word game.

Virtual Manipulatives!: fraction bars

Word Cloud: Create word clouds to help remember vocabulary words, character’s traits, and much more!

First Words with Phonics: 76 words in three categories helps learn vocabulary and how to make the word

Websites
http://www.abcya.com/ search for activities by grade level or concept.

http://www.kwarp.com/portfolio/grammarninja.html Practices parts of speech. There are 3 different levels.
Mad Ants vs. Maine Red Claws
Friday December 14\textsuperscript{th} 2012
7:30 pm at the Memorial Coliseum

\textbf{EACS Teacher Appreciation Night!}

December 14\textsuperscript{th} is Mad Ants EACS Teacher Appreciation Night! Teachers & staff eligible for 50\% off tickets!

Get half price tickets for Lower Level and Upper Level Sideline seats.

Join Us Friday December 14\textsuperscript{th} at 7:30 pm
Halftime Act: K-9 Crew Frisbee Dogs!

\textit{\$10 Lower Level Sideline. (Box office price: \$20)}
\textit{\$5 Upper Level Sideline. (Box office price: \$10)}

\textit{Order here:}

\url{https://www.wepay.com/events/eacsmadants}

Or call Garrett Martz at 260-469-4667 x:107 to order via phone

\textit{All tickets must be pre ordered by Wednesday December 12th to receive discount}
Know the Facts

Myth #1: You can get the flu from the flu vaccine.
FALSE – This is impossible. The flu vaccine does not actually carry a live virus; it contains inactivated or weakened organisms. Vaccine manufacturers grow the flu virus in eggs, then cleanse and chemically treat the virus to deactivate it.

Myth #2: The flu is just a bad cold.
FALSE – The flu is a serious disease. It is a highly contagious viral infection of the respiratory tract (nose, throat, and lungs). In the United States, about 200,000 people are hospitalized and tens of thousands of people die each year because of the flu. Influenza kills more Americans every year than all other vaccine-preventable diseases combined.

Myth #3: It is not necessary for children to receive a flu vaccination.
FALSE – Children are two-to-three times more likely to develop influenza than adults because of their less-developed immune systems. More than 20,000 children under the age of five are hospitalized due to the flu each year. In addition, influenza kills nearly 100 children under five years of age in the United States every year.

The CDC recommends that everyone 6 months and older should get vaccinated against the flu every year.

Myth #4: The side effects of the vaccine are worse than the flu itself.
FALSE – Most people who get the flu shot have no reaction. Up to 25 percent may have some redness and slight swelling at the site of injection; the risk of a severe allergic reaction in those who receive a vaccination is less than one in four million.

Myth #5: You must be vaccinated in the Fall to be protected against the flu.
FALSE – It is recommended to get vaccinated as soon as vaccine becomes available in your community. The flu virus tends to spread from October to May, with most cases occurring in January or February. However, vaccinations can be given at any time during the flu season – even getting a vaccination later in the season (December through March) can still help protect you from influenza.

Myth #6: Only older people need the flu vaccine.
FALSE – The CDC recommends that everyone 6 months and older should get vaccinated against the flu every year.

Myth #7: Taking vitamin C or Echinacea will prevent the flu.
FALSE – There is no conclusive evidence that these treatments are effective against the flu.

Myth #8: The flu vaccine is 100 percent effective in preventing the flu.
FALSE – Although influenza vaccination is not 100 percent effective, it’s important that everyone 6 months and older get vaccinated against the flu to help reduce the spread of the virus in the community. The more people who get vaccinated against the flu every year, the lower the risk of catching the flu.

Myth #9: Getting the influenza vaccine every year isn’t necessary.
FALSE – The vaccination needs to be given every year. Because flu viruses are constantly changing, flu vaccines may be updated from one season to the next to protect against the most recent and most commonly circulating viruses. In addition, a person’s immune protection from vaccination declines over time; therefore, annual vaccination is needed for optimal protection.

Myth #10: Healthy people don’t need a flu vaccine.
FALSE – The CDC recommends that everyone 6 months and older should get vaccinated against the flu every year.

Infants younger than 6 months old are too young to be vaccinated. Protect them by getting yourself, other children and family members, and close contacts vaccinated. This will help prevent spreading the virus to infants.

http://www.familiesfightingflu.org/resources/flu-fact-vs-fiction/
1. **POETRY WINNER**

   *Tara Tun*, 1st grade student at Southwick Elementary won 2nd place in the 2012 Allen County Public Library Poetry "Just Write It!" Contest. The awards ceremony will be held on tomorrow December 8 at 11:00 a.m at the Allen County Main Library. The winners were invited to read their winning poems at the award ceremony which will be taped for television by Access One to air in January! Many thanks to Allison Baker for her encouragement and work with Tara to enter this contest!

   **CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD LUCK TARA!**

2. **COLTS HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC ALL-STAR**

   Blake Miller, senior at Woodlan Jr. Sr. High has been named to the Indianapolis Colts High School All-Star Academic team. Blake will be honored on Sunday, December 9 at the Colts game.

   **CONGRATULATIONS BLAKE!**

3. **FIRST IN MATH**

   *As of Dec. 5, 2012*

   **Top Schools - Statewide**
   
   #2 Meadowbrook  
   #3 New Haven Middle  
   #4 Leo Elementary  
   #7 Woodlan Intermediate  
   #10 Paul Harding

   **Top Teams - Statewide**
   
   #1 New Haven Middle - cardiac5in - Gurney  
   #2 New Haven Middle - heart12in - Gurney  
   #6 Heritage El - Mellang  
   #9 Cedarville - Linson  
   #12 Leo Elementary - Elrod

   **Top Schools – District-wide**
   
   #1 Meadowbrook  
   #2 New Haven Middle  
   #3 Leo Elementary  
   #4 Woodlan Intermediate  
   #5 Paul Harding Jr.Sr.

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

   **WONDERFUL WORK- KEEP IT UP!**