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# Invitational Education

Newsletter of the International Alliance for Invitational Education

March 2018

## A Message from the Executive Director



Spring is in the air and "March Madness" has certainly begun. I remember as a principal and superintendent how chaotic March-May could be with state-wide testing, evaluations, scheduling, pre-planning for the next year, and of course, end of the year activities. I love the anticipation of newness this season brings. Many new and exciting things are happening with our Alliance. See just a few of those shared below.

Thank you again for all you do that matters in the lives of so many!

## News and Updates:

### Our membership committee, lead by

Dr. William Purkey and Sue Bowen, have been busy with the many members who have joined or renewed their membership. The committee personally writes notes to members, intentionally thanking them for being part of IAIE. Each of the regional leaders are working to recruit new members as we share the invitational message at home and aboard. The Membership Committee also successfully completed a one-time gift project for IAIE members to present one-year IAIE membership to like-minded for only \$25.00 each. This six-month gift project produced 20 new members and \$500.00 income for the Alliance treasury. A very special thanks to these folks who serve on the committee:



Scott Robinson	Hawaii	Becky Greer	North Carolina
Jamie Spikes	Kansas	John Hanna	West Virginia
CK Fung	Hong Kong	Jetta Tarr	Indiana
Beth Puckett	New York	Thomas Blaylock	Washington
Jena Naswadi	West Virginia	Astrid Tonna	Malta
Marlene Wright	Kentucky	John Ivers	Idaho
Sue Bowen	Ohio	Secretary	
William Purkey	North Carolina	Chairperson	

### **Refreshing the Website:**

This week, the Board of Trustees voted to approve the refresh and update to the IAIE website. Tim Fields is currently working to redesign the site to allow for a more user-friendly platform that will allow members to visit the webpage from any device, stay current on JITP, watch podcasts, and purchase membership/books with ease. He anticipates that the rollover will take place late May or early June.

As a result of the updates to WordPress (which took place last month), the login credentials have changed. PREVIOUSLY, you would have logged on using your full email address. Now, you simply logon by using your user name only. Example: If my previous logon would have been:

kathy.fields@invitationaleducation.net. NOW my login is simply, kathy.fields.

Until the new site is up, if you have any concerns or difficulty logging on or securing any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me, kathy.fields@invitationaleducation.net, or Tim, webmaster@invitationaleducation.net, or by calling the IAIE office, 859-881-8388.



### **Red Oak Elementary Teacher of the Year:**

Congratulations to Angela Miller, Regional IAIE Leader and teacher at Red Oak Elementary School in Jessamine County, Kentucky. Angela was selected as the 2018 Teacher of the Year and will represent her school in the Excellence in Education competition held annually as a precursor to the Kentucky Teacher of the Year Award.

### **School Exchange Programs:**



Every year many student and teacher exchanges take place both in the USA and abroad. These opportunities afford cultural and educational learning experiences that transcend the walls of a classroom. These invitational events include interactions such as living in the home of the host family, participating in local school events, cultural tours, new foods, and of course, shopping. Teachers who participate in exchanges also prepare and present lessons to students and local teachers. Many schools have

developed partnerships that allow annual exchanges. Red Oak Elementary, The Early Learning Village, Wilmore Elementary, East Jessamine Middle School, and West Jessamine High School, Jessamine County Schools, Breckinridge Elementary, West Ridge Elementary, Franklin County Schools and St. Cloud Christian School, Minnesota have or will participate in exchanges this year. A special thank you to each host school superintendent, principal, staff and families. A very special thanks to Ken Wright, US Hong Kong Coordinator who works with each school to make the arrangements for the visit. Ken often meets the visitors at the airport to welcome them. Ken works with Dr. Peter Wong and Stephen Chu, Hong Kong IAIE, on each exchange.

If you would like to sponsor or participate in a teacher or student exchange, please contact Ken Wright, kenwright@bellsouth.net. or Peter Wong, khwong.peter@gmail.com.



### **Welcoming Schools:**

The International Alliance for Invitational Education (IAIE) is delighted to recognize US schools that have nurtured extraordinarily warm, welcoming, inviting atmospheres that encourage student engagement and learning. The schools listed below are new to Invitational Theory and Practice, and have been identified as "Welcoming Schools" by IAIE members. IAIE invites these schools to learn more about Invitational Education and participate in IAIE programs and services, such as the Inviting School Awards and Exchange programs.

For more information about the Welcoming Schools program, contact Program Director, **Dr. Vicki Wilson**, [wilson2521@gmail.com](mailto:wilson2521@gmail.com).



The following is a list of schools who were nominated and received the Welcoming Schools:  
**2015**

#### **Brookside Elementary, Columbus, OH**

**Principal Dan Girard**

K-6, 320 Students

Noted for its Schoolyard Enhanced Learning, Brookside is a happy place in which each adult is responsible for each student's growth in social interaction, emotional understanding, and academic learning. Parents are fully engaged in the learning process.

<https://www.worthington.k12.oh.us/Domain/16>

#### **Denver Place Elementary, Wilmington, OH**

**Principal Karen Long**

K-5, 620 Students

With a focus on kindness and inclusion, Denver Place is a positive learning environment for all students. Mrs. Long starts each conversation with a child with the words "You are smart, you are special, you matter, you are important." The school moved from being unintentionally inviting to intentionality inviting and was earned the Inviting School Award in 2016.

<http://denver.wilmington.k12.oh.us/>

**Shenandoah Elementary, Sarahsville, OH**

**Principal Cindy VanSeyoc**

PreK-4, 360 Students

Noble Local Schools provides a caring and safe environment and encourages all students to become responsible citizens by developing individual talents, critical thinking, and technological skills for success in higher education and the workplace.

<http://www.gozeps.org/3/Home>

**Town of West Union Free School District, Old Forge, NY**

**Principal John Swick**

K-12, 280 Students

Principal Swick supports placed-based learning, and all students in the district have the opportunity to learn to ski. With a K-12 program, there are ample opportunities for student role modeling and mentoring.

<https://www.towschool.org/>

**2016**

**Southern State Community College, Hillsboro, OH**

**Vice President Nicole Roades**

**Higher Education**

Southern State's mission is to offer accessible, affordable, and high-quality education to people in Adams, Brown, Clinton, Fayette, and Highland counties in southern Ohio. The college strives to be "Your First Choice College," connecting students to people, resources, and opportunities that otherwise might not be possible.

<http://sscc.edu/>

**Westridge Elementary, Frankfort, KY**

**Principal Kimberly Young**

**Grades 1-5, 435 Students**

Westridge has rigorous expectations for student achievement, with a Distinguished School rating. The staff is warm and welcoming and provides a positive learning climate. There is a strong collaborative culture among all stakeholders.

[http://www.franklin.kyschools.us/westridgeelementary\\_home.aspx](http://www.franklin.kyschools.us/westridgeelementary_home.aspx)

**Esperanza Elementary, West Valley City, UT**

**Principal Eulogio Alejandre**

**K-6, 475 Students**

People at Esperanza work as a team to do whatever it takes to provide the environment that fosters what each student needs to become biliterate and multicultural and to acquire the skills and attributes needed to effectively serve the local and global communities. The school earned the Inviting School Award in 2017.

<http://www.esperanzaelementary.org/>

**Asbury University School of Education****Professor Tim Crook****Higher Education**

The department focuses on invitational education and prepares professional educators who embody academic excellence, spiritual integrity, and servant leadership. Dr. Crook was a keynote speaker at the 2016 World Conference of the International Alliance for Invitational Education.

<https://www.asbury.edu/academics/schools/education>

**Culloden Elementary, Culloden, WV****Principal Keith Thomas****PreK-5, 200 Students**

Culloden provides a safe, nurturing, and inviting environment that encourages students to learn and grow. High expectations, quality services and support, and meaningful relationships are provided for ALL.

<http://ce.cabellschools.com/>

**Little Flower United Free School District, Wading River, NY****Principal Cindy Stachowski****Grades 3-12, 114 Students**

Little Flower provides residential and day placements for a diverse population. The school community embraces and respects each individual and assists each in meeting his or her special needs.

<https://www.littleflowerny.org/>

**Dual Immersion Academy, Salt Lake City, UT****Principal Suzi Ramos****PreK-8, 500 Students**

Dual Immersion Academy strives to hire a completely bilingual staff so that every student can speak to every adult in his or her own language. Teachers work closely with parents to provide academic and social support for all students.

<http://www.diacharter.org/>

**Sunset Elementary, Carlsbad, NM****Principal Allison Hervol****Grades 1-5, 415 Students**

A proponent of Capturing Kids' Hearts, Sunset provides a positive and welcoming environment for all students. Administrators, teachers, staff, parents, and the community strive to work together to empower and engross learners in their preparation towards becoming productive, successful, and socially responsible scholars.

**Monterey Elementary, Carlsbad, NM****Principal Fran McCarthy****Grades 1-5, 350 Students**

A committed and dedicated staff, caring parents, and a supportive community work together to support all students at Monterrey. The school has become intentionally inviting and has earned for Inviting School Award for 2017 from the International Alliance for Invitational Education.

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish School, Huntington, WV**

**Principal Jena Saseen**

**PreK-8, 180 Students**

During a recent accreditation review by the National Catholic Education Association, Our Lady of Fatima received high marks for student engagement and active student participation in learning. The school has an active partnership with Pentecostal Yu Leung Fat Primary School in Hongkong and is actively working toward the Inviting School Award.

<http://olofps.org/>

**Touro University-California, Vallejo, CA**

**College of Education and Health Sciences**

**Dr. Jim O'Connor**

**Higher Education**

Hallmarks of this program include respect for the inherent value and dignity of each individual, acceptance and appreciation for diversity, and compassion and service to society. Touro is a valued supporter of the principles of invitational education.

<http://www.tu.edu/>

**Norman J. Levy Lakeside Elementary, Merrick, NY**

**Principal Elizabeth Trencheny**

**K-6, 525 Students**

The staff members at Levy Lakeside have implemented the Lions Quest Social Emotional Learning program to help students become more skillful in how they communicate with others and are advancing their knowledge of invitational education. The school itself is beautiful, full of student artwork and murals.

[http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Levy\\_Lakeside\\_School](http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Levy_Lakeside_School)

**Findlay High School, Findlay, OH**

**Principal Craig Kupferberg**

**Grades 9-12, 1600 Students**

The administrative staff has focused on becoming invitational leaders and creating an environment in which students develop their potential to be lifelong learners who are caring, flexible, contributing members of society.

<http://fhs.fcs.org/>

**Pike Lake Elementary, Duluth, MN**

**Principal Nancy Litman**

**PreK-5, 240 Students**

At Pike Lake, every individual is empowered through creativity, imagination, and innovation. Parent and student satisfaction surveys show that the school is indeed fulfilling their promise to educate, engage, and inspire.

**2017**

**Highlawn Elementary, Huntington, WV**

**Principal Robin Harmon**

**PreK-5, 309 Students**

Highlawn Elementary is a proud and vital part of the Highlawn neighborhood community. During 2014-2015, it was the only Success school in Cabell County and has continued to show growth and make academic progress among all students. Visitors love the warm and welcoming atmosphere.  
<http://hes.cabellschools.com/>

**Salt Rock Elementary, Huntington, WV**

**Principal Jennifer Ross**

**PreK-5, 213 Students**

Salt Rock Elementary believes that every child entering the school has the potential to be a great leader, world changer, and productive member of society. Area businesses and churches partner with the school to provide the community and resources students need to achieve that potential.

<http://sre.cabellschools.com/>

**University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY**

**Department of Community and Leadership Development**

**College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment**

**Dr. Rebekah Epps**

**Higher Education**

The UK agricultural education program strives to make parents, prospective students, district staff, community, and alumni feel appreciated and welcome. The staff regularly serve as teacher educators for intern teachers and graciously attend FFA Chapter meetings and events. The work of each undergraduate and graduate student is promoted and celebrated.

<http://cld.ca.uky.edu/>

**University of Nebraska-Kearney, Kearney, NE**

**Department of Teacher Education**

**Professor Jane Zeibarth-Bovill**

Respect for the inherent value and dignity of each individual, expert advising, acceptance and appreciation for diversity, and compassion and service to society are hallmarks of this program. Staff members have long supported the tenets of invitational education and are committed to research and promotion of its theories and application.

<http://www.unk.edu/academics/coe/index.php>

**2018**

**Visually Impaired Preschool, Louisville, KY**

**Director Kathy Mullen**

**2-5 years, 46 Students**

A highlight of this program is Kid Town, a replica of a town square in Louisville where students learn to navigate the environment in a natural and supportive climate. Families and students are empowered to build a strong foundation for reaching their full potential.

<https://vips.org/vips-louisville/>

Congratulations to the three Welcoming Schools that have earned the Inviting School Award: Denver Place Elementary in Wilmington, OH (Principal Karen Long), Esperanza Elementary in West Valley City, UT (Principal Eulogio Alejandre), and Monterrey Elementary in Carlsbad, NM (Principal Fran McCarthy). Well done! All Welcoming Schools have been recognized for their success in providing outstanding environments that value, respect, and promote the growth and development of everyone in

their schools. Those who earn the Inviting School take this a step further by VERY INTENTIONALLY making their school an inviting place.

### World Conference 2018:



Make plans now to attend the upcoming IAIE World Conference in Georgetown, Kentucky October 9-11. Hotel reservations may be made by calling:

**Hilton Garden Inn, Georgetown, Kentucky**  
**110 Grandstand Drive**

**502-863-009**

Ask for the IAIE World Conference room rate of 112.00 (includes all hotel tax)

*Real People, Real Stories, Real Results!*

### IAIE Memorial Recognition Fellowship

Don't forget to send in your donations and nominations for the John Piper Memorial Fellowship.

Donations for This Memorial Recognition Fellowship will provide funding to cover the registration fee for a full- time student \* to attend the 2018 World Conference. Donations may be made by check or money order and mailed to the IAIE PO Box 594, Nicholasville, KY. 40356-9407. Please note reference to John Piper Memorial Fund.

The recipient of the Fellowship will be introduced at the conference in October.

\*Student is defined as a one being enrolled in undergraduate, master's specials, or doctorate level work



### Inviting Schools Hong Kong and IAIE Coaching:



Once again this year, I am pleased to be part of the USA team visiting schools in Hong Kong and Mainland China who are applying for the Inviting Schools Award. April 4-14, I will be joined by consultants **Ken and Marlene Wright, Corbin Willoughby, Dr. Laura Hunt, Scott Hunt, Jason Snider, Parthenia Wells, Elizabeth Gabehart, and Megan Barton**. These IAIE leaders will be joining **Dr. Peter Wong and the IAIE Hong Kong consultants** to review portfolios and conduct site visits.

April 13-22, following my visit to Hong Kong and Mainland schools, I will be leading an IAIE coaching/teaching visit to Peniel School in Tamil Nadu, India.

I will have limited access to email during this time. Should you need any assistance during this time, please contact my assistant, Sylvia Decker, [sylvia.decker@invitationaleducation.net](mailto:sylvia.decker@invitationaleducation.net) or Tim Fields, [webmaster@invitationaleducation.net](mailto:webmaster@invitationaleducation.net).