



# School Lines

Findlay City Schools

January 28, 2009

Findlay City Schools  
1219 W. Main Cross  
Findlay, OH 45840

January is School Board Appreciation

## Extraordinary Dedication to Our Kids

School board members are ordinary people who have an extraordinary dedication to our school district. Too often we forget the personal sacrifices school board members routinely make and the important role school board members play in so many decisions that affect our children—what they learn, who will teach them, and what kinds of facilities house them. They volunteer hundreds of hours and an immeasurable amount of energy to assure that our schools are providing the best education possible for the children of our community. The school board works closely with the parents, education professionals and other community members to create the educational vision we want for our students. In this global society of the 21st century this is an ever changing task. As our world changes so must our vision for our students. The students and staff of Findlay City Schools would like to take this opportunity to thank our board members for their continued support to assure Findlay City Schools continues its tradition of excellence.



*Congratulations to We The People on being the State Champions and good luck at Nationals in Washington D.C. this spring!!!!!!!!!!*

Lincoln fifth grade math students have worked hard on the St. Jude Math-a-thon. They gathered pledges from staff, family and friends for doing math problems. They raised a grand total of \$1,258.65. They learned lots of math and learned about helping others.

Lincoln School staff members and students were happy to start the new year with the return of principal, Dick Dillon, following successful heart surgery. Everyone was thankful when he returned to school part time around Thanksgiving. He is now back to work full time. Special thanks to Rob Fox, assistant principal, who filled in for Mr. Dillon during his recovery.

### **Sixteen Findlay City School Teachers Receive the Designation of Master Teacher**

Ohio's Senate Bill 2 recently required that a Master Teacher Program be developed in all districts to recognize excellent teachers. The number of teachers designated as Master Teachers will be reported through EMIS (education management information system) and on the interactive version of the 2009 Local Report Card.

In November, a committee of outstanding teachers and administrators was appointed to consider applications for the Master Teacher designation. The committee included: Deb Wickerham (chair), Mike Eier, Mark Dickman, Susan Chesebro, and Sue McGonnell. Teachers must apply for this designation, but National Board Certified teachers fill out an abbreviated version of the application.

Findlay's first group of officially-designated Master Teachers include:

Lori Anast	Chamberlin Hill	Grade 4
Wendell Badertscher	Glenwood	Science
Mike Eier	Glenwood	Science
Laura Finney	Chamberlin Hill	Grade 5
Mary Goshe	Chamberlin Hill	Grade 4
Nancy Scott	Chamberlin Hill	Grade 4
Deb Wickerham	Chamberlin Hill	Grade 5
Anne Wilin	Whittier	Grade 2
Kelly Wohlgamuth	Wilson Vance	Grade 5
Lori Faeth	Findlay High School	Special Education
Greg Lang	Donnell	American History
Karlene Weiss	Lincoln	Preschool – Special Needs
Kathy Conine	Whittier	Grade 2
Susan Davis	Bigelow Hill	Grade 5
Nicole Fort	Wilson Vance	Grade 5
Mark Dickman	Findlay High School	Social Studies

State rules require that all future Master Teacher committee members already hold the Master Teacher designation. This being the first year for Senate Bill 2, the committee members were asked to apply to be designated as Master Teachers as well. For more information about the Master Teacher program please visit [www.ode.state.oh.us](http://www.ode.state.oh.us) and search keyword master teacher.

Our Varsity Football Team was one of 40 teams recognized by the Ohio High School Football Coaches Association (OHSFCA) as an All Ohio Academic Team with a GPA of 3.367.

Congratulations players and coaches!!!!!!!!!!

### **2A Today News**

2A Today Findlay High School's student produced news program placed fifth in the nation in the Best of Show Contest at the Journalism Education Association/National Scholastic Press Association's (JEA/NSPA) national convention held in St. Louis, MO.

The Best of Show contest is sponsored by NSPA.

To place in the Best of Show contest, the staff had to submit one program from this school year to be evaluated by a panel of judges from the St. Louis local TV stations and advisers from the top high school news programs in the country.

"We are a very young staff, so to place fifth in the Best of Show Contest using some of our video yearbook segments was a pleasant surprise," adviser Jim McGonnell said. "Staff members put in a lot of hours and do projects for other teachers and administrators in the school district, and community organizations. To date they have had over 49 requests to do video projects this year alone."

There were 5,210 attendees at the St. Louis convention representing 42 states. 2A Today is a consistent top 10 finisher in the Best of Show Contest. They won a Best of Show trophy at the San Francisco conventions in 2001 and 2006.

- Submitted by Jim McGonnell

### **Blue & Gold News**

Two Blue & Gold staff members won national awards and the paper finished second in the country at the Journalism Education Association/National Scholastic Press Association's national convention held in St. Louis, MO.

Photographer Senior Griffin Haywood won excellent in Sports Photography and News Editor sophomore John Sisser won honorable mention in news writing in the National Write-off Contest.

"This is a great accomplishment for two very talented young men. This is their first year on staff and to place nationally is amazing," Adviser Jim McGonnell said.

The Write-off Contest is a national competition that recognizes the nation's best young journalists.

"We are a very young staff, so to have two national winners and place second in the Best of Show Contest certainly says a lot about how hard the staff works. It's difficult for people to understand that this is the best of the best in the entire country," McGonnell said.

Judges for both contests are high school and college journalism teachers from some of the best programs in the country and members of the professional press.

The Write-off Contest included 1,630 entries from 43 states.

Besides placing in the National Write-off Contest, the Blue & Gold placed runner-up in the Best of Show Competition out of the 478 schools entered at the convention.

There were 5,210 attendees at this convention.

- Submitted by Jim McGonnell

## Findlay City Schools

Findlay First Edition traveled to Piqua, Ohio for the Piqua High School Show Choir Invitational on Saturday, January 24. 18 show choirs from Ohio and Indiana competed in the competition, along with one show choir from Albertville, Alabama. FFE was the Class A Champion, and also won the Best Overall Vocal Performance award. FFE was named the Overall First Runner-up, 2 points behind Grand Champion Twinsburg. Steve Jones was the most dynamic performer for First Edition. FFE will host their own competition, "Findlay Fest" on January 31, and then travel to Fort Wayne, Indiana for the Nothrop Charisma Classique on February 7. First Edition is under the direction of Kevin Manley and Dan Wilson, with choreography by Andy Haines.



Dr. Marilyn Shrude, the dept. chair of composition from BGSU, spent the day at the middle schools on Jan 22. She shared her music with the students from recordings and by performing on the piano. One of her pieces called "Portraits" was inspired by artwork, and she was able to explain her inspirations in composing the music.

The students were interested to see the many places she had traveled as a composer/performer including Russia, Thailand, Italy, and throughout the United States. Shrude was able to listen to Dazarah Schreiner from Donnell, perform her own composition for her, and Esther Park from Central, perform a Debussy piece. These individuals and other students were inspired by Dr. Shrude to explore their creativity and potential as young musicians. Shrude was invited to Findlay by Becky Baratta, a former student of Dr. Shrude's, who was looking for help in teaching "new music." This was a great experience for all of the students, and should help encourage students who would like to try their hand at composing, as well as have an open mind when they listen to unfa-



Jim McGonnell and six Findlay High School students, Alisha Riley, Emily Rivest, James Eckhardt, Carris Lammers, Rich Costello, John Sisser, attended the presidential inauguration!



**Youth Ballroom Dance Class provided by Adult Ed**

This class, for students ages 12-15, will teach the basics of the Swing, Waltz, Fox Trot, and Cha-Cha. Proper dress, manners, and etiquette will be taught and required of all students. Dancers will rotate partners during instruction. A required parent meeting will be held at 9:45 on 1/24 prior to the first class. Class is limited to the first 10 girls and 10 boys enrolling. Class runs 5 weeks for 10 hours. Class fee is \$50 and includes a practice CD. Saturdays 1/24 - 2/21 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

To register or for more information on all of our classes call 419-427-5422 or go on-line to [www.millstream-adult-ed.org](http://www.millstream-adult-ed.org).

**FINDLAY FIRST EDITION TO HOST 16<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FINDLAY FESt**

Findlay First Edition (FFE), Findlay High School's award-winning show choir, will host the 16th annual Findlay FESt show choir competition on Saturday, January 31, 2009. The day's theme is "Findlay First Edition's 25 Years of Excellence," to celebrate FFE's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary season.

Fifteen choirs will compete during the day in the Findlay High School (FHS) R.L. Heminger Auditorium, beginning at 8:30 a.m., with the top five qualifying choirs performing again in the evening. The following show choirs competing are:

- Wapakoneta *Starlettes*; Wapakoneta High School
- Columbia City *Lights*; Columbia City (IN) High School
- Ada *Varsity Singers*; Ada High School
- River Valley *New Addition*; River Valley High School, Caledonia
- Garfield Heights *Music Express*; Garfield Heights High School
- Wapakoneta *Singsation*; Wapakoneta High School
- Cory-Rawson *Impressions*; Cory-Rawson High School
- Columbia City *Heat*; Columbia City (IN) High School
- River Valley *Music Company*; River Valley High School, Caledonia
- Marysville *Swingers Unlimited*; Marysville High School
- Medina *Encore Entertainment*; Medina High School
- Center Grove *Sound System*; Center Grove (IN) High School
- Nitro *Showcats*; Nitro (WV) High School
- Beavercreek *Friends*; Beavercreek High School
- Olentangy *Keynotes*; Olentangy High School

The FHS Freshman Show Choir, Voices in Perfection (VIP), under the direction of Craig VanRenterghem, will open the evening's program with an exhibition performance at 7:00 p.m.

The evening competition will begin at 7:30 p.m. for the top five qualifying choirs and the top four soloists from the day's solo competition. The evening will conclude with an exhibition performance by FFE at 10:45 p.m. followed by the evening awards presentation. FFE is under the direction of Kevin Manley and Dan Wilson; choreography is by Andy Haines.

Concessions, including breakfast, lunch and dinner items, are available throughout the day in the cafeteria. Also available are specialty coffees and Otis Spunkmeyer cookies.

Information about FFE's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Alumni Weekend, May 15 and 16, 2009, will be available during the day.

The competition is open to the public and tickets are available at the door. The cost of admission is \$8 for the daytime competition and \$8 for the evening competition. All proceeds benefit FFE. Findlay High School is located at 1200 Broad Avenue in Findlay.

For additional information contact the FHS choir office at 419-425-8282.

## Arts Partnership News:

The Arts Partnership of Greater Hancock County and Findlay City Schools, in conjunction with the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, offer FREE Professional Development Workshops to demonstrate the effectiveness of integrating the arts into the curriculum. In addition, all workshop participants earn 3 contact hours. Two workshops will be offered in the coming months.

Teaching artist, Amy Chivington will present *International Folk Songs and Dance: A Celebration of World Cultures* on **February 24, 2009**, from **4 p.m. to 7 p.m.** at the University of Findlay's Mazza Museum. This workshop provides a method for educators to learn a sampling of international folk dances and songs from around the world. Participants will leave with materials and lessons for use with various levels of students to introduce them to music of our diverse international cultures.

Amy Chivington, a music educator for more than 30 years, has taught music in private and public schools throughout the midwest. She has been a clinician and conductor internationally for students pre-K through college. She has been a clinician and a conductor at professional conferences of the American Guild of Organists, Music Educators National Conference, the Ohio Music Education Association, and the American Choral Directors Association.

Karen Erickson will present **Who's the Bully?** on **Tuesday, March 31, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.** at First Presbyterian Church in Findlay. This workshop demonstrates a variety of advanced drama techniques to use with conflict resolution curriculum, focusing on the theme of bullying. In this workshop, teachers learn how to guide drama activities based on literature, use management techniques for successful classroom dramas, and sequence activities for maximum learning. This workshop will also present ideas on how to teach students to problem solve with their peers, assess their own behavior in bullying situations, learn why and how people stereotype others, learn story acting techniques to experience life and communicate new ideas, and analyze solutions to conflict situations.

Karen Erickson is the Executive Director of Creative Directions and is a master teaching artist working with schools in arts assessment, curriculum development, drama/theatre education, integration, and long range and partnership planning. She currently serves as Chair of the National Governing Board of Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network. and regularly works in classrooms with students of all ages and abilities.

YOUTHTEATRE will hold auditions for on-stage roles and interviews for the technical team for the production of "Castle Royal" on Sunday (2 p.m.) and Monday (6 p.m.), February 1 and 2 at the First Presbyterian Church in Findlay. The production is open to students in grades 1-5. In addition, interviews for Youth Assistants, students in grades 6-12, will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, January 21 and 22, also at First Presbyterian Church. Youth Assistants have the opportunity to work with the production's creative and technical personnel. The performance dates are March 20, 21, 22, 2009 at First Presbyterian Church.

For additional information or to register, please contact Peggy Grandbois, Director of Education at 419-422-3412, ext. 24, or [education@artspartnership.com](mailto:education@artspartnership.com) or visit The Arts Partnership website at [www.artspartnership.com](http://www.artspartnership.com).

## 12 Natural Tips to Prevent a Cold

There are no known cures for colds and flu, so cold and flu prevention should be your goal. A proactive approach to warding off colds and flu is apt to make your whole life healthier. The most effective way for preventing the flu is to get the flu shot. It may not be natural, but it works better than anything else. But there are other strategies you can employ as well. WebMD went to Charles B. Inlander, president of The People's Medical Society, for suggestions you may want to try:

### #1 Wash Your Hands

Most cold and flu viruses are spread by direct contact. Someone who has the flu sneezes onto their hand, and then touches the telephone, the keyboard, a kitchen glass. The germs can live for hours -- in some cases weeks -- only to be picked up by the next person who touches the same object. So wash your hands often. If no sink is available, rub your hands together very hard for a minute or so. That also helps break up most of the cold germs. Or rub an alcohol-based hand sanitizer onto your hands.

### #2 Don't Cover Your Sneezes and Coughs With Your Hands

Because germs and viruses cling to your bare hands, muffling coughs and sneezes with your hands results in passing along your germs to others. When you feel a sneeze or cough coming, use a tissue, then throw it away immediately. If you don't have a tissue, turn your head away from people near you and cough into the air.

### #3 Don't Touch Your Face

Cold and flu viruses enter your body through the eyes, nose, or mouth. Touching their faces is the major way children catch colds, and a key way they pass colds on to their parents.

### #4 Drink Plenty of Fluids

Water flushes your system, washing out the poisons as it rehydrates you. A typical, healthy adult needs eight 8-ounce glasses of fluids each day. How can you tell if you're getting enough liquid? If the color of your urine runs close to clear, you're getting enough. If it's deep yellow, you need more fluids.

### #5 Take a Sauna

Researchers aren't clear about the exact role saunas play in prevention, but one 1989 German study found that people who steamed twice a week got half as many colds as those who didn't. One theory: When you take a sauna you inhale air hotter than 80 degrees, a temperature too hot for cold and flu viruses to survive.

### #6 Get Fresh Air

A regular dose of fresh air is important, especially in cold weather when central heating dries you out and makes your body more vulnerable to cold and flu viruses. Also, during cold weather more people stay indoors, which means more germs are circulating in crowded, dry rooms.

### #7 Do Aerobic Exercise Regularly

Aerobic exercise speeds up the heart to pump larger quantities of blood; makes you breathe faster to help transfer oxygen from your lungs to your blood; and makes you sweat once your body heats up. These exercises help increase the body's natural virus-killing cells.

### #8 Eat Foods Containing Phytochemicals

"Phyto" means plants, and the natural chemicals in plants give the vitamins in food a supercharged boost. So put away the vitamin pill, and eat dark green, red, and yellow vegetables and fruits.

### #9 Eat Yogurt

Some studies have shown that eating a daily cup of low-fat yogurt can reduce your susceptibility to colds by 25 percent. Researchers think the beneficial bacteria in yogurt may stimulate production of immune system substances that fight disease.

### #10 Don't Smoke

Statistics show that heavy smokers get more severe colds and more frequent ones.

Even being around smoke profoundly zaps the immune system. Smoke dries out your nasal passages and paralyzes cilia. These are the delicate hairs that line the mucous membranes in your nose and lungs, and with their wavy movements, sweep cold and flu viruses out of the nasal passages. Experts contend that *one* cigarette can paralyze cilia for as long as 30 to 40 minutes.

### #11 Cut Alcohol Consumption

Heavy alcohol use suppresses the immune system in a variety of ways. Heavier drinkers are more prone to initial infections as well as secondary complications. Alcohol also dehydrates the body -- it actually takes more fluids from your system than it puts in.

### #12 Relax

If you can teach yourself to relax, you can activate your immune system on demand. There's evidence that when you put your relaxation skills into action, your interleukins -- leaders in the immune system response against cold and flu viruses -- increase in the bloodstream. Train yourself to picture an image you find pleasant or calming. Do this 30 minutes a day for several months. Keep in mind, relaxation is a learnable skill, but it is *not* doing nothing. People who try to relax, but are in fact bored, show no changes in blood chemicals.

### WebMD Medical Reference

SOURCE: American Lung Association: A Survival Guide for Preventing and Treating Influenza and the Common Cold. Family Doctor: Infections: Common Cold. Medscape: Viewpoint: Gargle your Colds Away.

## SYMPATHY

Our thoughts are with the following employees who experienced the loss of a loved one:

Laura Julien's father-in-law passed away on January 7, 2009.

Barb Kodor's father passed away on January 5, 2009.

### For Sale

PMC Kiln. \$350. Top of the line. Excellent condition.

Please call 419-306-2314 after 4:00.

FOR  
SALE



The next addition of school lines will be published on February 27. Please have your information to Barb Shick by February 20.

