

School Lines

November 5, 2009

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

Chamberlin Hill “Grows” A Rock Garden

“Growing” a rock garden was Chamberlin Hill’s latest endeavor. Morgan Hammer, a senior from Findlay High School, and a Chamberlin Hill Alumni, used this project to earn his Eagle Scout Badge by creating, building, and accomplishing this incredible task. Morgan took an idea the school had to assist in the instruction of geology and created an inviting leaning habitat that will help children with the three rock groups (igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary). He worked with local businesses: National Lime and Stone, Northwestern Masonry, Lowe’s, Couchot Mechanics Inc., and The Sandman. These businesses helped supply the rocks, the transportation of the rocks, and the tools for this Eagle Scout project. Boy Scouts from Troop #338 and their dads donated over 50 man hours to produce the Rock Garden. Chamberlin Hill’s “Steppin’ into Nature” outdoor land lab has served students since 1996. Its goals have been to make curriculum come “alive” through lessons taught outdoors. It provides for a natural arena for cooperative learning and hands-on activities.



Glenwood Art Students Receive Courier Design an Ad Contest

Glenwood had four business-level winners in the Courier Design an Ad Contest. They are sixth graders Josh Moore, April Joy Torres, Fiona Geisey and Justin Horton. They are all still in the running for the overall first place prize, which will be announced in a special pull-out section in the Courier at the end of October.

Millstream's October Rotary students of the month are: Kelsey Zimmerly a 12th grader in Cosmetology II and Justin Myers also a 12th grader in Auto maintenance II. They were honored on Oct. 19th at the Rotary luncheon at the Findlay Country Club.

The Findlay High School Student Council received the 2009 National Gold Council of Excellence seal. Way to go FHS!



Bethany Henderson-Dean, Chair of Natural Science from the University of Findlay gave a presentation on microbiology to Kim Fillhart's class at Findlay High School. She brought several items for my students to see and smell.



Hands On Experience for Millstream Students

Herb Franks' Buildings and Grounds Maintenance class from Millstream gets the opportunity to plant the foliage in the Findlay High School courtyard. One part of the curriculum for this class is lawn and plant care. These students not only received the opportunity to participate in the planting process but will also continue to care for them as well. The Buildings and Grounds Maintenance program is a two-year program that will provide students with the skills necessary to perform tasks common to most building and grounds maintenance programs. This lab experience not only gives them the opportunity to work in the grounds maintenance field it also helps with the cost of labor.

Findlay High School Completes North Central Accreditation

Findlay High School just successfully completed a five year cycle for accreditation with North Central Accreditation (which is now known as AdvancED). What this means for FHS is that we are accredited for another five years while continuing to work on AdvancEd's recommendations for improvement in certain areas. The possible "grades" for the seven different standards are Not Evident (the lowest), Emerging, Operational, and Highly Functional (the highest). FHS received six Operationals and one Highly Functional. The highest score was under Standard 3, Teaching and Learning.

The seven standards are Vision and Purpose, Governance and Leadership, Teaching and Learning, Documenting and Using Results, Resource and Support Systems, Stakeholder Communications and Relationships, and Commitment to Continuous Improvement. For each of these standards first I surveyed the staff; then had focus questions answered from the administration; last, I compiled all this information into a reflection of the school's overall analysis of its internal evaluation of the accreditation standards. By April 1, 2009, I submitted the 28 page Standards Assessment Report (SAR) to AdvancEd.

After AdvancEd received the report, I was contacted by Dr. Bob Cyders of the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). We met and he gave me the checklists for each of the standards. I needed to collect "artifacts/evidence" and set up interviews for the upcoming ODE review team visit (May 12 and May 13, 2009) to support everything we had reported in the SAR. I supplied the team with 114 samples of 34 internal documents in seven binders—one for each of the standards. I set up interviews for the team with Craig Kupferberg, 5 members of the administrative team, 4 students, 6 parents, and 7 teachers. Additionally, the team visited classrooms and observed teachers and students.

During the summer AdvancEd sent me the Quality Assurance Review Report (QAR) (18 pages) which contains: Summary of Findings—Commendations, Recommendations, Next Steps. Over the next two years the recommendations need to be implemented and then reported to AdvancEd.

NOTE: Accreditation through a recognized official organization that has certain standards and methods to ensure those standards lets any college know that a student coming from a school that is accredited has met certain criteria.

Submitted by: Deborah Stall
Findlay High School
Teacher

Pacemaker Award nominee

2AToday/The Vid, Findlay High School's(FHS) student news broadcast and video yearbook, is one of 10 finalists from across the nation for the National Scholastic Press Association's (NSPA) Pacemaker Award.

Chosen from a field of 50 news shows the FHS student produced news broadcast received it's fourth nomination. Known as the "Emmy of high school broadcast journalism" this award is one of the most coveted in the nation.

The Broadcast Pacemaker contest is co-sponsored by SchoolTube.com and the Radio and Television News Directors Foundation (RTNDF). This is the second year that NSPA has accepted entries online through SchoolTube.com. Entries consisted of an entire broadcast news program no longer than 20 minutes.

Entries were judged based on the following criteria:

Content/Coverage

Relevancy to audience, significance of subjects covered Writing and editing of the script Language appropriate to audience, smooth transitions Recording and editing of the show Good connections between segments Interviewing skills Interviews were conversational Technical quality Lighting framing, audio

The Pacemaker winners will be revealed at the NSPA's fall national convention's awards ceremony in Washington DC on November 14. The finalists were selected by the local Washington DC news stations, the RTNDF and other national advisers.

Getting our fourth nomination was a total surprise and great for our program. The competition is incredible and just to be nominated is truly an honor. The neatest thing about the nomination though, is staff members in the DC broadcast market and the RTNDF selected us, not other high school advisers. These are professionals that were impressed with what our student staff members did this past year. That says a lot about where our kids have taken this program at the high school. Win or lose this gives us credibility and national recognition for our school district and our news broadcast/video yearbook staff,² Adviser Jim McGonnell said.

2AToday/The Vid staff members will travel to Washington for the national convention to receive the nomination plaque and to compete in the Best of Show contests.

I am looking forward to Saturday's awards competition, when we find out if we won the Pacemaker, and the overall two days of competition. We are representing Ohio in Washington, because we were the only Ohio news broadcast to be nominated,² Show Producer Senior Carrie Lammers said.

2aToday/The Vid segments can be viewed on the SchoolTube web page at schooltube.com.

Submitted by : Jim McGonnell

Nancy Wood Allison Selected As Part of the Continuum of Teacher Development Writing Team

Nancy Wood Allison, Director of Secondary Instruction has been named to the Continuum of Teacher Development Writing Team. This writing team will be charged with developing a continuum of teacher development that will span a teacher's career from pre-service to proficiency. The team will work collaboratively with the Residency Development and the Teacher Evaluation Committees. Congratulations Nancy!!!



THE ARTS PARTNERSHIP HAS BUSY FALL FOR EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

The Arts Partnership of Greater Hancock County will host School Day Performances this fall.

The Jungle Book – November 10, 2009; 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

(Musical ideal for 2nd through 4th grades)

With the help of his companions, Bagheera, the black panther, and Baloo, the loveable bear, Mowgli learns about friendship and survival as he faces his fears and foils his nemesis, the tiger Shere Khan. This musical version of Rudyard Kipling's classic will delight both the young and the young at heart.

The spring School Day Performances include The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Other Eric Carle Favourites on January 19, 2010 and Henry and Mudge on February 17, 2010.

The School Day Performances are approximately 1 hour in length and are held at Central Auditorium. Seats are \$3.00 and study guides are available for all performances. Preregistration is required.

The next **FREE Professional Development Workshop** is on November 5, 2009, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the University of Findlay's Mazza Museum. In his workshop, Integrating Visual Art with the Curriculum, author Bob Barner will use his non-fiction books, music, and art to share techniques that engage young students in reading and science. The workshop fulfills Ohio Academic Content grade-appropriate standards for life sciences and fine arts.

Join the Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant, Mayzie LaBird and the Whos of Whoville in this witty, wild and wonderful tale that will delight the young and young-at-heart. Youtheatre will present the musical, Seussical Jr. on October 16 and 17 at 7:00 p.m. and October 18 at 2:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. Twenty-six Findlay City School middle and high school students are involved in this production. Discounted tickets are available at The Arts Partnership; limited tickets will be available at the door, based on availability.

Students in grades 1-12 can participate in age-appropriate theatre workshops on November 21, 2009 at First Presbyterian Church. Space is limited; pre-registration is required.

The Youtheatre spring play for elementary students, Humpty-Dumpty is Missing! or The Mysterious Case of the Fallen Egg, is March 5, 6, 7, 2010. (Auditions are January 13 and 14).

For additional information or to register for programs, please contact Peggy Grandbois, Director of Education at 419-422-3412, extension 24 or education@artspartnership.com or visit The Arts Partnership website at www.artspartnership.com.

SYMPATHY

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

Jody Combs and Dennis and Sharyn (Combs) McPheron’s mother(in-law) passed away on October 23rd.

Teresa Line’s (Millstream Tech) mother passed away on October 28th.

New Arrivals

Becky (Whittier) and Brad Ellerbrock welcomed twins Morgan and Collin to their family! Morgan and Collin were born on Friday, October 16.



Sara (Whittier) and Keith Brickner welcomed their first child, Aiden Matthew. Aiden was born on October 22.

Kyle (Glenwood) and Kelly Lacy welcomed their daughter, Kennedy to their family on October 24.

For Sale

34 Hurricane Globes and Candles—Great for centerpieces Call 419-957-8100



Items Needed:

Size 12 months for a boy - winter coat, long sleeve shirts/t-shirts, socks, pajamas, jeans/pants

Size 4 for a girl - winter coat, long sleeve t-shirts, socks, underwear, pajamas, jeans/pants

Call 419-425-8296

Kudos to the following buildings and departments that were accident free for the month of October!

Chamberlin Hill, Bigelow Hill, Jacobs, Jefferson, Lincoln, Northview, Washington, Whittier, Wilson Vance, Central, Donnell, Glenwood, Grounds/ Maintenance, Custodial and Transportation!

Keep up the safe work!!!!

Tip of the Month

◆ Remember use a step ladder not a chair or desk to get to items out of your reach.