

Get your Outback tickets, see page 7.

Findlay Enrichment Programs, Inc.

Jan./Feb., 2012

Vol. 25, Issue 3



Coordinators of Gifted Services

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**MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT...**

Nichole Callicut, President
419-889-1663

Continue the Excellence For Findlay City Schools

Get it Straight About ISSUE 8

Findlay City Schools Renewal Levy:

- **Does not increase your taxes.**
- Renews a previously approved 4.9-mill levy for an additional five years.
- Maintains existing programs.
- Protects approximately \$4.1 million our schools are currently receiving for educational programs.
- Supports day-to-day operations such as staff salaries, utilities, textbooks, educational materials, transportation and equipment.
- Allows district personnel to responsibly plan for educational services for the next five years.

For more information on the levy:

Dr. Dean Wittwer • DWittwer@findlaycityschools.org

Mike Barnhart • MBarnhart@findlaycityschools.org

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Your YES vote on March 6 is important and appreciated.

Paid for by Citizens for Findlay City Schools, Inc. – Chuck Stumpp, Treasurer, 551 Lake Cascades Parkway, Findlay, OH 45840

Elementary Enrichment...

Need LEGOS and Dominoes for science communities. Please call Judy Withrow at 419-425-8296 if you have any to donate.

The FIND Classroom . . .

FIND NEWS FROM WILSON VANCE

Patty Majors

Questions, Questions, Questions

On the first day of FIND this year, we read *The Philosophers' Club* by Christopher Phillips. In this book children ponder questions and wonder about everyday things. By the end of the book, students were joining in with the repetitive line, "Questions, questions, questions."

Since then, students have had a running "I Wonder..." list in their notebooks. This served as a springboard for the much anticipated Independent Studies. The 3rd grade FIND students started off filled with excitement about their Independent Studies. As they progress they are learning about perseverance and time management along with a bit of nervousness over what they have taken on. In the end, it is hoped that they will savor their new knowledge and accomplishments.

Each student is following a problem-solving approach to research. From a general topic of interest, each student has molded a question, which he/she is interested in answering and solving. The diversity of the students is reflected in the spectrum of topics and questions. I hope you enjoy reading their questions and wondering about their answers.

- Would I prefer to train therapy dogs or service dogs?
- What needs to be done to protect Georgia's marshland?
- How can we build roads and bridges to survive earthquakes?
- How would a chameleon need to change its body to live in Findlay, Ohio?
- Do LED lights last longer and shine brighter than other lights? If so, this would prove the point that we should switch.
- What do I need to do to protect myself from the dangers of climbing Mt. Everest?
- When Earth is too old to live on, can we move to Mars and live there?
- How can Fijians best prepare for tsunamis?
- How can we predict and give more notice to people about an imminent tornado?
- How can we make it possible for humans to live on Mars?
- How can I help animals and their habitats from tornadoes?
- How can we stop the Blanchard River from flooding in Findlay?
- Should wild animals be kept as pets? Should there be better rules?

- How can you stop ghosts?
- How can Nascar decrease its impact on the environment?
- If I had a brain injury, which lobe would I prefer it to be in and why?
- How can we decrease the mistreatment of ball pythons?
- How can we decrease the amount of water pollution?
- How can we decrease the need for animal shelters?
- Which brand of batteries is the best deal based on life length and cost?
- Do I think it is important to become an Eagle Scout?
- What would happen to the Earth if we didn't recycle?
- How can I educate people about sharks, so they have less negative feelings toward sharks?
- How can we get people to respect (stop destroying) animals' homes?
- Do I prefer hieroglyphics or English to communicate?
- How can we decrease the use of steroids in athletes?



FIND NEWS FROM WILSON VANCE

Kristin Woodhull

Mystery or Mysterious?

The fourth and fifth grade FIND classes are enjoying analyzing works of fiction, as well as creating their own. During a study on mysteries, the students have worked to recognize elements of a mystery story. Some common themes they have found include: sleuths, witnesses, crimes, red herrings (false clues), alibis, deduction, victims, clues and the list goes on.

Our unit has included an author study on Mr. Chris Van Allsburg. You may recognize his name as the author of *The Polar Express* and *Jumanji*. We enjoyed many of his works and determined that his stories have a mysterious element to them. He keeps us on the edge of our seats with a twist or unexpected surprise in each story.

In one of his favorite works, *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick*, Mr. Van Allsburg published 14 intriguing sketches that were supposedly dropped off at an acquaintance's home. The pictures are deliberately thought provoking and open-ended as to the meaning. As a follow up, students chose a favorite sketch and wrote either a mystery containing at least five elements of a mystery or a mysterious story.

An unexpected surprise came to us in the form of another book called *The Chronicles of Harris Burdick*. Mr. Van Allsburg took the original 14 sketches and invited famous authors to write a story for each picture. Some authors you may recognize are Stephen King, his wife Tabitha King, Jon Scieska, and Kate Di Camillo. Our classes are in the process of enjoying the stories as told by these creative artists.

REACH NEWS . . .

CENTRAL

Kate Winger

6th grade

The first semester has ended and the students and I are very impressed with what they have accomplished this school year. We are amazed at their new knowledge of grammar. They are able to identify the eight parts of speech and parts of a sentence with a little help. Also with practice the students are starting to recognize the phrases and clauses of a sentence.

Our last unit that we studied in class was based on futuristic books. We read *The Giver* as a class, and the students selected another book to read in small groups. While reading their literature circle book, the students created their very own Utopia. The types of Utopias were amazing, and the students' creativity was phenomenal. Next, we will be turning into Greek gods and goddesses as we read *The Adventures of Ulysses*. Each student has already selected a person to research and become in our own Greek world.

8th grade

Every day is an adventure in the Language Arts classroom. If we are not working hard on learning new stems, we are writing. At the end of the quarter some of the students created a Facebook page to represent a character from their futuristic book. Another assignment we worked on in class was responding to an editorial or writing an editorial of their own. It was fascinating to see the variety of topics that were interesting to the students. They ranged from school snow days to political opinions. In the future we will be debating about Edgar Allan Poe's death.

GLENWOOD

Beth Ann Nissen

"Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered weak and weary..."

Those words echoed in the 8th grade REACH room as groups of students recited the poem "The Raven" as a choral reading. Students used volume, pace, and expression to create the mood and tone of Edgar Allan Poe's most famous piece. We even dimmed the lights and used battery-operated candles to add to the ambiance. This is the first of our study of ten of Poe's most famous works. Students are finding them to be a challenging and appealing way to learn major literary devices such as figurative language that evokes a strong feeling and understanding of tone. The culminating Poe Festival will serve as a time for students to showcase their research and creative projects.

The 7th grade REACH students spent a few days as forensic investigators testing and analyzing evidence left

at a crime scene. The young sleuths tested the pH balance of liquids, analyzed fingerprints and identified handwriting samples. Then using the crime scene evidence, the suspect's account of what happened, and the story of the victim, the students drew conclusions to identify the culprit. This kicked off our study of the mystery genre and our first mystery *The Westing Game*. Soon students will be writing their own mystery story to share with the class.



The crime scene stimulates interest.



Hannah Clinger & Johnna Richter analyze fingerprints on cups.

Power of the Pen

7th Grade Glenwood earned first place at the regional Power of the Pen competition at Tiffin Middle School on January 21. Eleven schools in the region competed. Students wrote three creative stories in forty minute sessions. The three writing prompts were: "Your thoughts begin to wander in a boring class. About what?"; "The main character of your story is an alien"; "Write about what awakens you in the middle of the night."

The following students placed with individual trophies: Jake **Bohland**, Gabbi **Calvert**, Baylee **DeMuth**, Grace **Dickmann**, Becca **Hedrick**, Carter **Fox**, and Maggie **Loarca**. Jake **Bohland** won the "Best of the Best" for the first two prompts. The individual overall placements were Jake **Bohland**-8th Place, Gabbi **Calvert**-6th Place, Baylee **DeMuth**-10th Place, Becca **Hedrick**-9th Place and Grace **Dickmann**-7th Place.

ROBOTICS

Eighteen students in grades 6-8 began Robotics class on Tuesday, January 24. The class, which meets for ten consecutive weeks, will finish on March 27. Mike Wilson, Glenwood seventh grade science teacher, is teaching Robotics.

Findlay HS NEWS . . .

HONORS CAREER MENTORSHIP PROGRAM (HCMP)

This school year three sessions of HCMP have been scheduled, serving nineteen to twenty-three students each time. Students and mentors participating in **Group II** are:

Students & Mentors	Students & Mentors
Jarred Aller Mechanical Engineering Brian Brown Dow Chemical Co.	Catherine Longo Child Psychology Cathy Giedeman Pathways Christian Counseling
Abby Arnet Nursing/Medical Cathy Meier BV Medical Associates	Eric Manning Pharmacy Stan Scarbrough Scarbrough Pharmacy
Brandon Baucher Computer Engineering Todd Michael Plumbline Consulting	Brian May Family Practitioner Dr. Frank Cosiano Findlay Family Practice
David Blaser Engineering/Architecture Ryan Leonard Whirpool Corporation	Lea McCleave Business-Marketing Dave Heppner Marathon Petroleum Co.
Ben Carnes Anesthesiologist or Anesthetic Nurse James Padgett Blanchard Valley Hospital	James Rooney Corporate Law Woody Gearhart Marathon Petroleum Co.
Meghan Donelson ER Nurse Carol Roche, RN BV Hospital	Kelly Rowe Surgical Assistant Trevor Schmiedelbusch BVH, Surgery Dept.
Ashley Goldacker Zoo Veterinarian Steve Oswanski Toledo Zoo	Cara Schaefer Prosecution Attorney Mark Miller Hancock Co. Prosecutor's Office
Nicole Huber Gynecology Dr. Lorie Thomas BV Women's Care	Katyayini Sharma Orthopaedic Surgery Dr. Jeff McMath Ohio Ortho & Sports Medicine
Philip Jewett Aerospace Engineering Robin Brown NASA-Glenn Research Center	Taylor Tweed Athletic Trainer Fiona Hanks University of Findlay
Nicole LaNeve Accounting Brian Kreinbrink Rogers Sports Management	Zoe Wahbeh Generic Research Dr. Michael Edelbrock Univ. of Findlay, College of Science
Ginny Lee Language Translator Ken Shenk Nissin Brake	Sarah Yeo Architecture Tim Bechtol Peterman Associates
Joshua Long Civil Engineering Chris Long Hancock Co. Engineer's Office	

COLLEGE SEMINAR SERIES

February 15, 2012

"Illustrating as a Career," prds. 3-5
Mazza-Gardner Pavilion, University of Findlay
Teacher Sponsor: Nancy Frankenfield
Counselor Sponsors: Mary Burget, Kristyn Bishop, Greg Distel, and Ray Elbin

April 24, 2012

"Sports & Event Management," prds. 3 & 4
University of Findlay
Teacher Sponsor: Judy Withrow
Counselor Sponsors: Mary Burget, Kristyn Bishop, Greg Distel, and Ray Elbin

COLLEGE PLANNING SERIES

April 17, 2012

"College Comes Sooner Than You Think," Prds. 2-8
Ohio Northern University, (**Freshmen Only**)
Teacher Sponsor: Bill Barberree
Counselor Sponsors: Mary Burget, Kristyn Bishop, Greg Distel, and Ray Elbin

March 6, 2012

"Twenty-First Century Careers," Prds. 3 & 4
University of Findlay (**Sophomores Only**)
Teacher Sponsor: Barb Tardibuono
Counselor Sponsors: Mary Burget, Kristyn Bishop, Greg Distel, and Ray Elbin

March 8, 2012

"Competitive Colleges/The Admissions Process"
Prds. 7-9, FHS Library (**Juniors Only**)
Teacher Sponsor: Maribeth Geaman
Counselor Sponsors: Mary Burget, Kristyn Bishop, Greg Distel, and Ray Elbin

GOOD NEWS FROM THE ACADEMIC BOOSTERS CLUB...



MINI-GRANTS AWARDED

Academic Boosters has granted nearly \$1000, in the first half of the year, for use in the classroom to support students and teachers in their academic endeavors. Among the awards, ABC will purchase iPods for use in ESL classrooms. A Kitchen on Wheels will be provided for life skills teaching in the special education classrooms. Mini-grants will awarded again in the spring.

SCHOLAR MUSICIAN T-SHIRTS

ABC co-sponsors (along with Music Boosters) t-shirts for musicians who earn a 3.5 or above during their season. Forty-seven percent of marching band members were awarded t-shirts for maintaining academic excellence while participating in the co-curricular activity. In addition, **Abby Carlson** and **Trenton McBeath** were each awarded \$25 for their winning designs of the new scholar musician t-shirt.

SCHOLAR ATHLETE T-SHIRTS

ABC co-sponsors (along with Trojan Club) t-shirts for athletes who earn a 3.5 or above during their season. This fall 180 student athletes were awarded t-shirts for maintaining academic excellence while participating in their sport: 33 in Cross Country; 64 in Soccer; 14 in Tennis; 13 in Golf; 24 in Volleyball; 14 in Football; 2 Student Trainers; and 16 Cheerleaders. In the spring a contest will be held for students to design the new scholar athlete t-shirt.

SMART COOKIE PROGRAM

Following the 1st and 3rd nine week grading periods ABC provides students who have a 3.5 or better GPA a coupon for a free cookie at lunch. This fall 576 students earned a Smart Cookie: 201- 9th; 126 -10th; 128-11th; 121- 12th.

ACADEMIC DISCOUNT STICKERS

At the end of each semester ABC, in conjunction with generous area businesses, provide students who have a 3.0 GPA or better with an Academic Discount Sticker. Students can see a listing of all the businesses, and the discounts they offer, by logging on to the ABC website (accessible on the school website).

ADDITIONAL BOOSTER PROGRAMS

The Boosters continue to provide support and recognition of academic excellence for Findlay High School students. The following programs are funded and implemented by the Academic Booster Club: **STAR-Special Teacher Appreciation and Recognition** is an opportunity for students to send thanks to a favorite teacher; **Congratulatory cards**-Cards are sent to students in the news. ABC is a co-sponsor of **Junior Scholars** and other **Findlay Enrichment Programs**. Funding for academic extra-curricular activities such as **Quiz Bowl, We the People and Mock Trial** is also provided by the Academic Booster Club.

ACADEMIC BOOSTER CLUB MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Academic Booster Club relies on the financial support of its members to sustain these important programs. Your monetary support is vital to helping reward and encourage our students both in and out of the classroom. **Please consider becoming a supporting member of the Academic Booster Club.** Visit our website at <http://abc.findlaycityschools.org> or contact Sandy Stanton, Membership Chair at 419-420-7737. Thank you for your support!
<http://abc.findlaycityschools.org>

SELECTIVE COLLEGE PANEL

On January 3, 2012, Findlay Enrichment Programs and the Academic Booster Club co-sponsored the FHS Alumni Selective College Panel held at Coffee Amici. A panel of six former Findlay High School students shared their experience and gave advice about what it takes to get into a selective college and what college life has been like for them. ABC and FEP thank panelists **Tyler Copus** (Vanderbilt), **Sarah Heminger** (Kenyon), **Maddy Herron** (Texas A & M), **Emily Lentz** (Marquette), **Derek Schadel** (Case Western Reserve), and **Nick Taylor** (Notre Dame).

Of Interest To All. . .

Glorious & Triumphant...

Alex Harada, a sophomore at Findlay High School, entertained students and senior citizens at lunch on January 11, 2012 with several musical numbers on his violin.



MARTIN ESSEX

Jr. Scholar, **Anissa Pulcheon**, is the high school's nominee for the Essex School for the Gifted held at Otterbein College June 17-23. Good luck Anissa!

Reach student, **Richmond Salanga**, is the spelling bee finalist at Glenwood and **Mason Clouse** is the spelling bee finalist at Central. Both students will represent their school at the county-wide spelling bee on Feb. 9th.



Nick Blackburn received an Economics for Leaders award for his high test scores at the College of Wooster economics camp.

TOLEDO ZOO OUTREACH

Findlay Enrichment Programs is bringing Toledo Zoo Outreach to all five primary buildings during the 2011-12 school year. Schools chose their program from these offerings: Habitats, Adaptations, Food Webs, and Animal Coverings. Jacobs Primary chose Habitats for the December 6, 2011 presentation. Following are pictures of Jacobs students interacting with Josh from the Toledo Zoo Outreach.



SCIENCE COMMUNITIES

This group is practicing communication from the Space Shuttle to Mission Control. Students are giving instructions about how to create a paper airplane.



ENGINEERS



Mr. Dittman is the engineer helping students create windshield wipers and a drumming machine. Students were learning about levers. Once they made the machine, they were challenged to make each one go faster or slower.

Alex Ervin, President of JSA, accepted an ECLIPSe grant to purchase materials for the 2011-12 clean water for Africa project.



FEP Donations Tax-Deductible Contributions

FEP acknowledges the following people/businesses who have made generous donations: **Emily and Gary Johnson, Kroger, Marathon Petroleum Company, Dan May and Cheryl Cape, Meijer, and Kristin and Patrick Woodhull.**

JSA COMMUNITY DINNER

The annual Community Dinner for the Junior Statesmen of America (JSA) service learning project will be April 12, 2012 from 5:00-7:00 at First Presbyterian Church. Vino's will cater the event. You can purchase tickets from a JSA member or Judy Withrow at 419-425-8296 or jwithrow@findlaycityschools.org. The cost is \$8.00 with \$4.00 from every ticket going for wells/clean water in Tanga, Tanzania (Africa).



Camp Discovery '12 will be held June 11-15, 2012 from 8:30-3:00. The theme for the day-long camp for students currently in grades 1-5 is "Creativity in Science." Cost for the week-long camp is \$150.00 which can be taken as a child-care deduction on your taxes.

Registration for Camp Discovery is March 22 from 8:00-1:00 and 3:00-4:30 at the TLB Corporate Center, 1219 W. Main Cross, Suite 102.

Camp items needed for Inventions class: milk cartons, empty thread spools, lids, ice cream buckets, carpet scraps, Tinker toys, material scraps, old dishes (plastic), and foil pie pans. Camp items needed for Takeapart class: small appliances (nothing will be returned). Please deliver items to Judy Withrow, Findlay City Schools, TLB Conference Center, 1219 W. Main Cross, Suite 102, Findlay or call 419-425-8296.



Camp World '12 will be held July 30 to Aug. 3 from 8:30-3:00. The theme for the day-long camp for students currently in grades K-5 is "Ancient Civilizations." Cost for the week-long camp is \$150.00 which can be taken as a child-care deduction on your taxes. For Camp World, the second child registered in the same family gets a \$25 cost break.

Registration for Camp WORLD is March 22 from 8:00-1:00 and 3:00-4:30 at the TLB Corporate Center, 1219 W. Main Cross, Suite 102.

Please remember to visit Findlay City Schools' Gifted website www.findlaycityschools.org/gifted.htm to see the Summer Opportunities 2012 available in the community and Ohio for your child(ren). The website will be updated as additional area camp information is received.

OUTBACK FUNDRAISER

Outback has given us 300 tickets to sell for March 5, 6 or 7 takeout-100 tickets March 5, 100 tickets March 6 and 100 tickets March 7. Cost of an adult meal is \$15 with \$11.50 of that amount going into the Findlay Enrichment Programs treasury. Cost of a child's meal is \$5 and FEP makes \$3 on each child's meal. Adult meal: chicken or steak, garlic mashed potatoes, bleu cheese chop salad and cheesecake. Child's Meal: chicken fingers and Aussie chips or large portion of macaroni and cheese. If you need tickets, please call Karen

Herold at 419-423-7135 or Judy Withrow at 419-425-8296. Hope you can help with this great fundraiser!



FEP CONTRIBUTIONS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT FINDLAY'S ACADEMICALLY TALENTED STUDENTS, YOU MAY BECOME A MEMBER OF FEP BY ATTENDING MEETINGS, VOLUNTEERING, AND/OR PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

✂

Name

Address

City, Zip

Daytime Phone Evening Phone

Email address

I would like to be involved by:

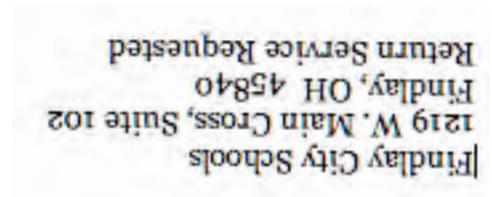
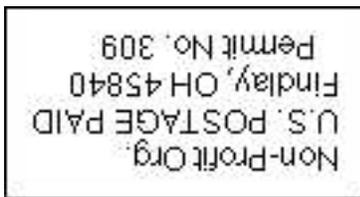
Becoming a supporter of FEP with a tax deductible amount of: (Please circle)

\$100	\$75	\$50
\$25	\$10	\$ _____

Donating time for FEP programs

Please return to:
 Heidi Kiffmeyer, Treasurer
 Findlay Enrichment Program, Inc.
 Findlay City Schools
 1219 W. Main Cross, Suite 101
 Findlay, OH 45840





Calendar of Events

<p>Tues., Feb. 7 Wed., Feb. 15 Tues., Feb. 21 Thurs., Feb. 23 Fri., Feb. 24 Tues., March 6 Thurs, March 8 Tues, March 20 Tues., March 27 Thurs., March 29 Thurs., April 12 Tues., April 17 Wed., April 18 Wed., April 18 Tues., April 24 Fri., May 4 Tues., May 18</p>	<p>Honors Career Mentorship, Group III, Seminar I, 2:45 PM, FHS, Room 30 “Illustrating as a Career,” prds. 3-5, Mazza-Gardner Pavilion, Univ. of Findlay Honors Career Mentorship, Group III, Seminar II, 2:45 PM, FHS, Room 30 “Magic School Bus,” 8:45-1:30, Franciscan Center, Grades 4 & 5 FIND Grades 4 & 5 FIND Independent Study Showcase, time, Wilson Vance Gym “21st Century Careers” (Sophomores Only), Prds. 3 & 4, University of Findlay “Competitive College/The Admissions Process,” (Juniors Only), Prds. 7-9, FHS Library Honors Career Mentorship, Group III, Seminar III, 2:45 PM, FHS, Room 30 HCMP Breakfast, Group III, 6:45 AM, FHS Stage 3rd Grade FIND Independent Study Showcase, 6:30-8:00 PM, Wilson Vance Gym JSA Community Dinner, 5:00-7:00 PM, First Presbyterian Church “College Comes Sooner Than You Think,” (Freshmen Only), Prds. 2-8, Ohio Northern “Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters,” 8:45-1:30, Franciscan Center, Grade 3 FIND 3.75 GPA Honor Roll Banquet, 6:00-9:00 PM, FHS Cafeteria “Sports and Event Management,” prds. 3 & 4 University of Findlay Challenger Space Station field trip for Science Community participants FIND Banquet, 6:00-8:00 PM, Wilson Vance Gym</p>
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RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

If you would like to receive our newsletter by email, please email us your request at: bkodor@findlaycityschools.org.
 Please include your street address so we can remove you from our mailing list.

Read the FEP Newsletter online at ...
www.findlaycityschools.org/districtinfo/gifted