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to receive this
newsletter electronically.

Don't miss **"Parenting and Teaching for Students' Lifetime Achievement"** with Susan Winebrenner at Glenwood, Feb. 16, 7- 8:30 p.m.

Findlay
Enrichment
Programs, Inc.
Jan./Feb. 2015
Vol. 28, Issue 3



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Dear Parents, Students, Teachers, Friends and Supporters,

"A day without learning is a day wasted. There is so much to learn and so little time to learn it."

~ Albert Einstein

Have you learned anything new today?

Perhaps you are reading this newsletter first thing in the morning, and you haven't had enough time yet to learn anything new. But, how often do you seek to learn something new?

At one time it was common practice for many people to give up active learning once they graduated from school and had their diploma in hand. But today for most in the professional world, that time is long gone. This is the Age of Continuing Education ~ so much so that in many cases annual renewals of professional registrations and licenses are tied to requirements to strengthen expertise and sometimes to keep a job. And that's a good thing! It separates those who seek to expand knowledge from those who sit back and pompously assume they know it all already.

Of course, the desire for lifelong learning is limited to no one social class....or age group for that matter. Plus the joy of learning can be taught. And cultivating it leads to success in life no matter what your income level! There has been a great deal of negative criticism over the years about the downfalls of the Internet. But if you use it wisely, just like any other resource, it is an endless source of knowledge. Many can remember when the rumors of the Information Highway were only science fiction. And now access to unimaginable amounts of knowledge is not only portable but voice-activated as well. Just imagine what the great minds of past centuries could do with this resource at their fingertips!

So it is only right to pass the love of lifelong learning onto the next generation for their edification as well. That is one of the underlying goals of Findlay Enrichment Programs here in Findlay City Schools: to foster curiosity in students to become active lifelong learners. That is part of Susan Winebrenner's message, the nationally acclaimed author and consultant for high achieving students coming to Findlay to speak on February 16. Her presentation is free to all area parents and teachers and is geared mainly toward adults who seek to assist their children to become more than they may believe they could. Attend this evening of learning and bring your friends along to fill the house.

So learn something new today! And then share what you've learned with others to make this world a better place!

Serving with you,

Timothy Kent Bechtol
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Elementary Enrichment...

ELEMENTARY ENRICHMENT CLUSTERS NEED VOLUNTEERS

Enrichment Clusters need adults who would like to work with K-5 students this school year in reading, math, social studies or higher level thinking skills. The volunteer decides when to start and end the cluster. Training and materials are provided. Several enrichment clusters have already formed and more are being requested. Please email Laura Metz to volunteer at lauraometz@icloud.com.



Fourth graders show their edible metamorphic rocks.

The STEM Classroom . . .

STEM News from Bigelow Hill, Chamberlin Hill, Lincoln & Wilson Vance Stacy Douglas Kristin Woodhull

4th grade....

Earth Science and Civil Engineering have been key focal points for fourth graders during the past several weeks. The inquisitive students began their quest for knowledge by traveling through the rock cycle in an interactive manner by randomly moving to different stations throughout the classroom. At the end of their quest, the students had their choice of creating visual representation of their travels through the rock cycle. Their first choice was to create a comic strip of themselves as a rock, recreating how they traveled through the rock cycle. The second option was to create a travel brochure and highlight the luxurious places a rock travels to during its cycle. Once the students had an understanding of the rock cycle we turned our attention to the composition of individual rocks.

While investigating the various compositions of rocks, the students made edible metamorphic and igneous rocks. The picture provided shows what the edible rocks looked like prior to the students enjoying the taste of them.

After gaining an appreciation of rocks and the rock cycle, the students moved in two directions with their learning: the earth's crust and how mountains and land formations were formed; how civil engineers take rock formations and structures into consideration when building roads and tunnels through mountains and around land formations. The students used the engineer design process to create a model of a tunnel, and complete a three-part experiment to investigate how sturdy their structure was. Students are continuing to work with the big concepts of earth science and engineering. We are turning our focus, however, to new topics within the field.

5th grade....

An Earthquake in Ohio?

The fifth grade STEM students are working as seismologists during our Civil Engineering unit to try to detect the next earthquake in northwest Ohio. Students are designing and creating a seismograph sensitive enough to detect a man-made earthquake in the classroom. The student teams worked to design the seismograph and determine the scale that should be used to measure movement. Following testing, students analyzed results and worked to improve their design.

Findlay is located on a minor fault line called the "Findlay Arch." The fault runs through the county from northeast to southwest and has possibly contributed to some minor tremors in the county. Northwest Ohio has had some notable earthquakes although they are much smaller than many West Coast earthquakes. In 1937, a 5.4 magnitude earthquake struck in Shelby County, just south of Hancock County. In the 1950s, a 4.0 magnitude quake was centered about halfway between Arcadia and Fostoria.

The STEM students were interested to learn that we have measurable earthquakes with Ohio being so far away from the Ring of Fire, an area surrounding the Pacific Ocean where many major quakes occur.



Emily Meier, Ethan Ernst, Carson Young, and Bridget Feldman construct a seismograph.



REACH NEWS . . .

**Kate Winger, Donnell
Jenna Potteiger, Glenwood**

6th grade....

Is there such a place as a perfect world? The students have been reading about a utopian society in *The Giver* by Lois Lowry, and trying to answer that very question. The kids will then create their own utopian society. Planning out their government, educational system, and entertainment, they will create their own personal utopian societies. After reading the book, the students will then be exposed to the companion novel, *Gathering Blue*, by reading a single chapter. The students will then piece together the novel by discussing in detail the story elements found in their assigned chapter.

7th grade...

Crime Scene Investigators will be on high alert over the next month. We are reading *Down the Rabbit Hole* by Peter Abrahams and learning how to look critically at clues within the text. The students will have the opportunity to learn about fingerprints, handwriting samples, and solve a mystery about a missing millionaire. Creating their own newspaper article about the mystery, they will be able to put their own twist on the crime and evidence they collected about the guilty person. Future forensic scientists are in the making.

8th grade...

Another book full of small details and clues which add up to a shocking conclusion is *I am the Cheese* by Robert Cormier. This book will leave the students wondering how a boy can question everything he thought was true about his life. The eighth grade students will learn about how brain disorders can distort reality and be life altering. After completing a short research paper on a disorder of their choice, the students will participate in a novel in an hour activity based on a historical fiction book. This will lead into our final unit of the year about the Holocaust.



Donnell Middle School students model the Edgar Allan Poe t-shirts they created.



Anna invented an app to help people read with dyslexia. The glasses have a built-in camera which takes a picture of the board and then translates it into headphones.



FINDLAY HS News . . .

HONORS CAREER MENTORSHIP PROGRAM (HCMP)

The first Honors Career Mentorship breakfast was January 15 with twenty-one students in Group I sharing their experiences at the breakfast. The second session breakfast will be held on January 29 with nineteen students participating. Thank you Jenne Cairns, Terri Hooper and Wendy Davidson for finding the mentors for these students. A big thank you to Findlay Enrichment Programs and Academic Booster Club for sponsoring the mentorship breakfasts.



Jenna Burget shares at the Mentorship Breakfast her experience working with her mentor, Dr. Chris Roberts, in the orthodontic field.

COLLEGE SEMINAR SERIES

Feb. 25, 2015

Math Competition, 6 p.m.

University of Findlay

Teacher Sponsor: Judith Lentz

Counselor Sponsors: Mary Burget, Jenny Coulter, Ray Elbin and Kristi Gerdeman

COLLEGE PLANNING SERIES

March 11, 2015

"Competitive Colleges/The Admissions Process," Periods 6-8, FHS Library (**Juniors Only**)

Teacher Sponsor: Maribeth Geaman

Counselor Sponsors: Mary Burget, Jenny Coulter, and Ray Elbin

March 25, 2015

"Twenty-First Century Careers," Periods 3-5A, (**Soph. Only**)

Jan Taylor, Director of Career Planning, Univ. of Findlay

Teacher Sponsor: Barb Tardibuono

Counselor Sponsors: Mary Burget, Jenny Coulter, and Ray Elbin

April 15, 2015

"College Comes Sooner Than You Think," Periods 2-7

Ohio Northern University (**Freshmen Only**)

Teacher Sponsor: Matthew Best

Counselor Sponsor: Kristi Gerdeman

MEETING OF THE MINDS

April 17, 2015

"Sam Rhine Genetic Conference," Periods 1-8

Clay High School Auditorium

Teacher Sponsor: Stephanie Toland/Mike Ruthenberg

Counselor Sponsors: Mary Burget, Jenny Coulter, Ray Elbin, and Kristi Gerdeman

SELECTIVE COLLEGE PANEL

On December 30, 2014, twenty Findlay High School Junior Scholars had the opportunity to hear from students who got into their "dream" schools and are doing well. The panel consisted of **Sarah Barkey**, Smith College; **Olivia Bair**, U.S. Naval Academy; **Nick Blackburn**, Wharton School of Business/University of Pennsylvania; **Katie Orr**, Miami of Ohio; **Josh Orr**, Virginia Military Institute; **Amanda Reynolds**, Penn State; **Rebekah Shaffer**, Clemson University; and **Lydia Stump**, Washington University in St. Louis.

Panelists responded to a list of prepared questions such as: What process did you use to make your final selection of college to attend? How manageable is the workload at a selective college? What help is available if you are having trouble academically? What is your typical class size and how accessible are your professors? Is study abroad available? Are there internships and/or research opportunities at your university? They also entertained questions from the FHS students.

The panel was honest about the academic rigor of a selective college but felt it was worth all the extra work to pursue their passions in an academic setting that challenged and encouraged them.

Thank you Findlay Enrichment Programs for sponsoring the Selective College Panel at Coffee Amici. It was a cold night, but the hot drinks and lively conversation "warmed" everyone.

ENGINEERING COMPETITION AT UT

On December 12, 2014, nine FHS students participated in an Engineering Competition at the University of Toledo. The students competed on three different teams. Those participating were Devan Kline, Marcus Lawson, Mitchell Lichtinger, Jacob Logsdon, Garrett Schrum, Reid Teatsorth, Shane Hessling, Zane Wahbeh, and Jared Whitman.



Students work to "figure it out" at the UT Engineering Competition.



Good NEWS from the Academic Boosters Club...

The ABC Club will hold a fundraiser at City Barbeque on Tuesday, February 10, 2015. You may dine in or carry out and 25% of your purchase will be donated back to us. You must take our flyer (see page 7) with you and present it at the time you order. Thank you for your support!

OF INTEREST TO ALL...



Glorious & Triumphant

AP EXAMS Scholars Award

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) provides motivated and academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school and to earn college credit for successful performance on the AP exams.

In 2014, there were 35 students at Findlay High School who earned AP Scholar awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP exams.

Nicholas Goldacker and Liza Praprotnik qualified for the National AP Scholar Award by earning an average score of at least 3 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams. The following students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 of all AP exams taken, and a grade of 3 or higher on 5 or more exams: Olivia Bair, Nicholas

Goldacker, Hiromasa Harada, Samuel Majors, Eliana Neufeld Basinger, Liza Praprotnik, Emily Schaefer, and Adam Seitz. The AP Scholar with Honor Award is earned by receiving an average grade of at least 3.25 of all AP exams taken, and a grade of 3 or higher on 4 or more of these exams. Students qualifying for this award were: Boden Fisher, Victoria Fisher, David Hoban, Hannah McClellan, Aditya Sharma, and Emily Stahl. FHS also had 19 students qualify for the AP Scholar Award by completing 3 or more AP exams with a grade of 3 or higher. Those students are: Rasheed Ajala, Jordan Amann, Sarah Barkey, Kaitlin Coward, Samantha Deckard, Jackie Dong, Bradley Dufek, Payton Evans, Bethany Giedeman, Tanner Graves, Noah Keppers, Celeste LaFleur, Marcus Lawson, Aaron Long, Timothy Polelle, Jarrett Quanrud, Alexis Simmermeyer, Benjamin Templin, and Zachary Zimmerman.

Congratulations to these students for outstanding performance on the Advanced Placement exams!

JSA COMMUNITY DINNER

The annual Community Dinner for the Junior Statesmen of America (JSA) service learning project will be April 16, 2015 from 5:00-7:00 at First Presbyterian Church. Cedar Valley Café will cater the event. You can purchase tickets from a JSA member, Mr. Barkey or Judy Withrow at 419-425-8296 or jwithrow@fcs.org. The JSA African project for 2014-15 is a maternity wing at a clinic in Tanga, Tanzania. The cost of the dinner is \$10 with \$4 from every ticket going to this project. Carryout is available.

BEGINNING CHINESE

Fourteen students enjoyed learning to write and speak Chinese first semester. Students met after school on Mondays for ten weeks. Congying Chen (Cathy), a University of Findlay student working towards a Master's in Education, taught the course. Yu Xia (Rose) taught an intermediate Chinese class to four students first semester on Wednesdays.

Qian Wang (Fiona) will combine the two Chinese classes second semester beginning on January 27.

ROBOTICS

Craig Perry taught High School Robotics to several students first semester and will teach another class second semester. Laura Finney will teach Robotics I at Donnell and Ryan Lindahl and Josh Huber will teach Robotics II second semester at Glenwood.

ELEMENTARY ENGINEERING I AND II

Engineering I and II classes began Saturday, January 17, 2015 and will end March 21, 2015. The classes that

teach engineering concepts using Legos are from 9:00-11:00 at Donnell Middle School. Kyle Watts is teaching Engineering I and Laura Finney is teaching Engineering II. Area engineers also help. The teachers welcomed many students to this excellent STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) program for students in grades 3-5. Call 419-427-5495 to be put on a list for contact in the fall about the engineering classes offered.



Camp Discovery will be held June 8-12, 2015 at Donnell Middle School. The theme for the day long camp will be "Dinosaurs: Extinct or Not?" Camp Discovery prides itself on "being a happening place" where children have fun learning.



Camp World will be held July 20-24, 2015 at Donnell Middle School. The theme for the daylong camp will be "Global Markets" with classes focusing on the cultures of these five countries: the Congo, Cuba, Japan, Spain and New Zealand. Here's an opportunity for students to find out about these five countries' food, music, art, sports, and language.

The camp hours for both camps are from 8:30-3:00 daily with lunch, t-shirt, and all materials included in the cost.

Watch for flyers on both camps coming home with your child soon.

Signup day for both camps is March 18, 2015 from 8-1 and 3-4:30 at Washington Admin. Building, 1100 Broad Ave., Findlay, Ohio.

OUTBACK FUNDRAISER

Outback has given us 300 tickets to sell for March 2, 3 or 4 takeout only—100 tickets March 2, 100 tickets March 3 and 100 tickets March 4. 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 chopped salad and cheesecake. Child's Meal: chicken fingers and Aussie chips or large portion of macaroni and cheese. If you need tickets, please email Karen Herold at kherold@fcs.org or Judy Withrow at jwithrow@fcs.org. You may also call Judy at 419-425-8296. Hope you can help with this great fundraiser!

SCIENCE COMMUNITIES STUDY SPACE

Sixty-five fifth graders, sixteen from each of the intermediate schools, have been studying Space once a week after school since November. These students,

chosen for their ability and interest in science, will culminate this study with a field trip to Oregon, OH May 20 to the Challenger Space Center. All the students will work in teams in the afternoon on April 14 at Chamberlin Hill to prepare for the simulation on May 20. Students have assessed their strengths in order to determine which team they will be on (data collection, communication, et cetera) in order to land a spacecraft on the moon in a viable place on May 20. Thank you to the teachers who are giving their time and skills to Science Communities: Kim Betts (Bigelow Hill); Tina Gephart (Chamberlin Hill); Danielle LaFountain and Kelly Ruhe (Lincoln); and Kerri Harmon (Wilson Vance).

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS (VAPA) IDENTIFICATION

VAPA identification in art, dance, drama and music will be held April 18, 2015 at the University of Findlay.

If you would like to refer a student, referral forms are available from Gifted Services at 1100 Broad Ave. (419-427-5495) or any school office.

Gifted Services must receive the completed referral forms by March 21, 2015.

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

As the parent or guardian of a gifted child, you are already familiar with the challenges and joys of living with this unique person. We want you to know there are many resources available locally, statewide, and nationally to meet your child's needs.

Locally:

- Check Findlay City Schools' web site for specific information about programming and opportunities offered during the school day as well as after school and in the summer.
- Join Findlay Enrichment Programs, a parent group. Call Judy Withrow for more information at (419) 425-8296.
- Plan to attend the Susan Winebrenner presentation on Feb. 16 at Glenwood from 7-8:30 p.m. (more information on page 7).

Statewide:

- The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) has many educational resources on its website. Go to ODE's Homepage at www.ode.state.oh.us and click on "Families" (found at the bottom of the page). Then click on "Gifted Education." Alternatively, search for "Gifted Education." If you don't have web access, call (614) 466-2650 to speak with a state Gifted Consultant.
- The Ohio Association for Gifted Children (OAGC) has information about what is happening in gifted education in Ohio, and how we can improve gifted education. Visit <http://www.oagc.com/> or call (614) 337-0386.

- The OAGC Parent Handbook, "What to Expect...When You're Raising a Gifted Child" is available free for download on the "Parents" page. <http://www.oagc.com/?q=parent>.
- At this website you can also find information about the OAGC Parent Division, which provides support and information for parents and families of gifted students. Or call (614) 337-0386.
- Find links to other gifted information at <http://www.oagc.com/?q=links>.

Nationally:

- The National Association for Gifted Children has hundreds of wonderful resources; you can find them at <http://www.noagc.org/> and click on the special page for parents, or call (202) 785-4268.
- The website <http://www.hoagiesgifted.org> is beloved by many parents as an easy-to-read, user-friendly resource, with interesting things for parents and kids.

This information is provided by the Parent Division of the Ohio Association for Gifted Children.

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 or money for FEP programs

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 Findlay City Schools
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Calendar of Events



Tues., Feb. 3	HCMP, Group 3, Seminar 1, FHS, Room 271, 2:45 p.m
Mon., Feb.16	Susan Winebrenner Presentation, Glenwood cafetorium, 7-8:30 p.m.
Tues., Feb. 17	HCMP, Group 3, Seminar 2, FHS, Room 271, 2:45 p.m
Wed., Feb. 25	Math Competition, Univ. of Findlay, 6 p.m.
Wed., Mar. 11	College Planning Series, "Competitive Colleges/The Admissions Process," periods 6-7, FHS Library (Juniors only)
Wed., March 18	Signup for Camp Discovery and Camp World, 1100 Broad Ave., 8:00-1:00 and 3:00-4:30
Wed., March 25	College Planning Series, "Twenty-First Century Careers," periods 3-5A, Univ. of Findlay
Tues., April 7	HCMP, Group 3, Seminar 3, FHS, Room 271, 2:45 p.m
Wed., April 15	College Planning Series, "College Comes Sooner Than You Think," periods 2-7, Ohio Northern
Thurs., April 16	HCMP Breakfast, Group 3 , Millstream Café, 6:30 a.m.
Thurs., April 16	JSA Community Dinner, 1 st Presbyterian Church, 5-7:00 p.m.
Fri., April 17	Meeting of the Minds, "Sam Rhine Genetic Conference," periods 1-8, Oregon Clay High School

Please remember to visit Findlay City Schools' Gifted website www.findlaycityschools.org/gifted.htm to see the Summer Opportunities 2015 available in the community and Ohio for your child(ren). The website will be updated as additional area summer opportunities are received.

Read the FEP Newsletter online at ...

www.findlaycityschools.org/districtinfo/gifted and join FEP! Call Judy Withrow for more details at 419-425-8296.

If you would like to receive our FEP Newsletter by e-mail ...

Please e-mail your request to mclarke@findlaycityschools.org and we will add you to the list.