



School Spotlight: Jefferson Morgan Jr./Sr. High School

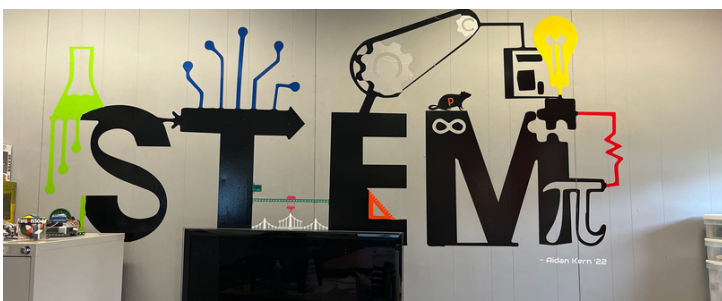


Jefferson-Morgan Junior Senior High School has undergone significant transformations in recent years. The physical changes are evident, with a fresh look in the hallways, upgraded facilities, and modern equipment like 3D printers and vinyl cutters. These improvements create a university-like atmosphere for students.

But the changes go beyond cosmetics. The curriculum has been revamped to emphasize community involvement and post-graduation preparation. Courses like "College and Career Exploration" help students explore their interests and college/career options, resulting in high acceptance rates and scholarships. The Gifted and Talented Education program (GATE) challenges high-achieving students with unique opportunities and experiences.



Students are actively engaged in improving their school and community. Classes like "Marketing Internship," "Entrepreneurship," and "Rockets Launching Leadership" connect students with local businesses, encourage entrepreneurship, and address important community issues, such as mental health and violence prevention. The creation of the Serenity Space demonstrates their dedication to these causes.



Even the elementary school has embraced innovation, with the use of virtual reality systems and interactive audiovisual projection systems to enhance learning and engagement.

Overall, Jefferson-Morgan is committed to providing resources and opportunities to its students and has a positive impact on the community. The future looks promising for these Rockets.

Powerful Partnerships: PaTTAN (Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network)

Collaborating closely with the Bureau of Special Education (BSE) within the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN) offers a comprehensive range of professional development opportunities and technical support services designed to enhance educational outcomes for students. PaTTAN's commitment to meeting the diverse needs of its stakeholders is reflected in the various forms of professional development and technical assistance it provides.

As part of the broader PaTTAN West network, which includes Intermediate Unit 1 (IU1) and other regional educational entities, PaTTAN ensures that schools across Pennsylvania receive tailored guidance and support to help them achieve improved student outcomes. This collaborative effort encompasses hosting week-long summer institutes, organizing ongoing professional development series, conducting webinars, offering on-site assistance to schools, and extending personalized support to individual students and teachers. By delivering this diverse array of resources and assistance, PaTTAN West, in partnership with IU1 and other regional entities, plays a pivotal role in empowering schools to excel in their mission of fostering student success.



Professional Institute for Leadership, Learning & Results (P.I.L.L.A.R)

BLENDING LEARNING STRUCTURE

- 45 Act 45/48 Credit Hours per course, designed for school or district level leadership
- 15 hours online instruction via MOODLE, virtual classroom environment
- 20 hours job-embedded assignments/tasks and 1 self-selected Culminating Project
- COST: \$300 per Course for 45 Act 45/Act 48 Credits
- COURSE FACILITATOR: Mr. Joseph Garrity

Leadership & Curriculum

- Cultural Leader
- Accountable Leader
- Curriculum Leader

January 8, 2024 - February 26, 2024

REGISTER

If your district uses Frontline Education for Absence Management, those credentials are not valid with the IU1 Web Reg catalog. If you haven't previously registered in the IU1 Web Reg catalog, please create a new account to register.

IU1 McMurray Campus Hosts Rural Arts Collaborative

On Thursday, September 14th, the Intermediate Unit 1 campus in McMurray buzzed with artistic fervor as it played host to the Rural Arts Collaborative (RAC) Fall Institution. From 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, educators, artists, and supporters converged to celebrate the fusion of art and education, paying tribute to RAC's Founder and Manager, Carmelle Nickens, for her unwavering dedication to the cause.

This dynamic event owed its success to the generous support of sponsors like the Benedum Foundation, Chevron, EQT Foundation, Fayette County Cultural Trust, Grable Foundation, Hillman Foundation, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Community Foundation of the Alleghenies, Community Foundation of Fayette County, and of course, Intermediate Unit 1.

Guiding the day's proceedings was Michele De La Reza, co-founder of Attack Theater, who skillfully orchestrated a seamless flow of activities and kept the energy levels soaring.

The Rural Arts Collaborative Fall Institution served as a vibrant canvas, spotlighting the diverse arts tapestry woven across Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Local educators immersed themselves in a plethora of artistic mediums, from clay sculpting to the world of watercolors. The enchantment of sound effects in productions captivated their senses. Bricolage PGH showcased collaborative works with IU1 McMurray students, and throughout the day, Calvin Stemley, a talented RAC artist, serenaded attendees with spellbinding jazz music, expertly played on his saxophone.

Educators eagerly interacted with artists at their stations, gaining valuable insights into integrating these creative projects into their school curricula. The event was a fertile ground for the exchange of ideas, empowering educators with innovative approaches to enrich their students' learning experiences.

A delightful intermission in the day was provided by Hog Fathers BBQ from Washington, PA, offering a mouthwatering lunch that not only satisfied appetites but also facilitated connections among participants.

As the event drew to a close, attendees departed with a newfound passion for the potential of artist residencies in their schools. To add a memorable touch, IU1 student Kaison Hector joined Calvin on the saxophone, creating a harmonious finale to a day filled with inspiration. IU1 extends heartfelt gratitude to all participants, sponsors, artists, and educators who joined in this day of artistic expression and creativity.



Innovation Showcase Held at WVU Erickson Alumni Center



The IUI Innovation Showcase at the WVU Erickson Alumni Center was a vibrant celebration of creativity and ingenuity, bringing together schools from Southwestern PA, the northern panhandle of West Virginia, and even reaching into Ohio. The event was a testament to the transformative power of innovation grant money, generously funded by the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, EQT, and Equitrans.



The atmosphere buzzed with excitement as diverse projects were showcased at tables throughout the venue. One particularly fascinating display featured students proudly presenting their beekeeping uniforms and the myriad products crafted from the honey they harvested. From beeswax candles to honey-infused treats, the students demonstrated not only their entrepreneurial spirit but also their commitment to sustainable practices.



A group of budding musicians showcased violins and ukuleles that were not crafted by traditional means, but rather with the precision of a 3D printer. This fusion of technology and artistry highlighted the intersection of innovation and tradition, captivating the attention of onlookers.

For those with a sweet tooth, another group proudly displayed their freeze-dried candy creations. The imaginative use of technology in preserving and transforming treats added a delightful and unexpected dimension to the showcase.



Teachers and administrators from across the tri-state area traversed the venue, engaging with students and immersing themselves in the wealth of creativity on display. Conversations flowed freely as educators learned about the processes, challenges, and triumphs behind each project. The IUI Innovative Showcase served not only as a platform for students to exhibit their hard work but also as a catalyst for fostering a culture of innovation and collaboration across the region.

IU1 Board Member Mr. Mitchell Elected to State Board of Education

Mr. Robert (Bob) Mitchell's election to the Pennsylvania State Board of Education marks a significant milestone in his illustrious career dedicated to shaping the future of education. Having served as a School Director at Jefferson-Morgan since December 2009, Mr. Mitchell has been a steady and influential force within his local educational community. His involvement with the IU1 Board since March 2014, where he currently serves as the treasurer representing Greene County School Districts, speaks volumes about his commitment to regional educational development.

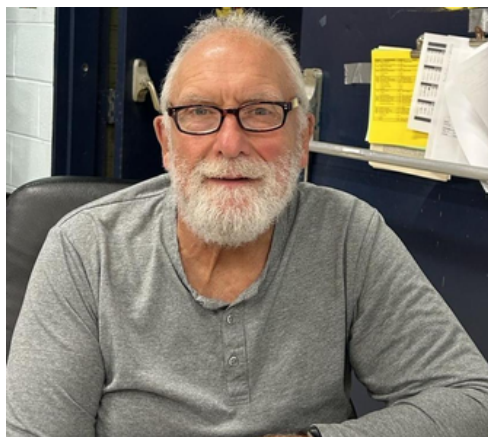
Residing in Jefferson with his wife Charlene, Mr. Mitchell is not only a professional but a personification of family and community values. His two older children, Josh and Kirsten, now thriving in the Pittsburgh area, stand testament to the enduring impact of his guidance and support.

In addition to his administrative roles, Mr. Mitchell has been an invaluable asset to the Greene County Career and Technology Center since 1990, where he imparts his knowledge as an Electrical Instructor. This dual role of educator and administrator underscores his holistic understanding of the educational landscape. Academically, Mr. Mitchell holds a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education from California University of Pennsylvania, demonstrating a strong foundation in pedagogical principles. His commitment to professional development is evident in his attainment of a Vocational II Certification (Permanent Instructional Certification) from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Beyond the confines of traditional education, Mr. Mitchell's certification as a PennDot Flagger Trainer for the Gas & Oil Industry showcases his adaptability and versatility in addressing the evolving needs of the workforce.

As we celebrate Mr. Mitchell's well-deserved appointment to the Pennsylvania State Board of Education, we recognize not only his individual achievements but also the embodiment of dedication, expertise, and passion that he brings to the broader educational landscape. We eagerly anticipate the positive impact he will continue to make in shaping policies and initiatives that enhance the educational experience for students across the state.

Congratulations, Mr. Mitchell!



Brownsville High School's Wood Theory and Fabrication Class in Action



At Brownsville High School, the Learning Support and Life Skills students are immersing themselves in the intricate world of woodworking through the Wood Theory and Fabrication class. Engaged in the hands-on experience of milling logs, these students are not just learning about the technicalities of the process but also grasping the importance of safety during every cutting maneuver. It's a unique blend of skill development and safety awareness, providing these students with practical knowledge that extends beyond the classroom.



Stepping inside the woodshop, the passion and dedication of the students became visible as they proudly showcased some ongoing projects. One standout creation is a table in the making, destined to be sealed with a layer of epoxy. Witnessing the transformation from raw timber to a crafted piece is not only a testament to the students' craftsmanship but also an embodiment of the school's commitment to fostering diverse skills and talents. The Wood Theory and Fabrication class instills a sense of pride and accomplishment in these students as they turn a tree into a work of functional art.



IUI Fusion Cyber Solutions meets Imagine Learning to take your online learning options to the Next Level! Students remain in the district and are allowed to participate in school-sponsored and athletic activities all while completing their course requirements online.

This month, Fusion is highlighting the Intermediate Unit 1 Tech Department, which is the backbone behind the operation. Scan the QR code to view a video with more information about Fusion Cyber Solutions and to learn more about the team that makes the whole thing possible!



For more information, contact the Principal/Supervisor of Online Learning Programs Lisa Mauro at 724-938-3241 x225 or via email at lisa.mauro@iu1.org

Upcoming Kid-Friendly Holiday Events!

SANTA TROLLEY

Nov. 24, 25, 26; Dec. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 2023
Pennsylvania Trolley Museum
One Museum Road
Washington, PA 15301
9am - 5pm
*Admission fee



Experience the magic of the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum's Santa Trolley! Meet Santa aboard a restored streetcar, enjoy a Yuletide Shuttle ride, view toy train layouts, and savor complimentary hot chocolate and cookies. Don't miss this festive holiday celebration!

WAYNESBURG HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Dec. 2, 2023
Downtown Waynesburg
10 East High Street
Waynesburg, PA 15370
4pm - 8pm
*FREE



Don't miss the 14th annual Holiday Open House at Downtown Waynesburg on December 2, 2022! Enjoy family-friendly activities, Santa photos, Holiday Market, tree lighting, and more!

We Are Hiring, and Want YOU to Join Our Team!

Make sure to regularly check the job listings and apply for positions that match your qualifications. Certain jobs are continually posted throughout the year to attract candidates for positions with high turnover rates. The available positions include substitute teachers, special education teachers, social workers, outpatient therapists, school psychologists, paraprofessionals, and more!



Access the current available positions via the QR code, or at <https://www.applitrack.com/iu1/onlineapp>

From the Desk of Dr. Don Martin

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude and extend warm wishes to each and every one of you. Thanksgiving is a time to reflect and be thankful. I am truly grateful to be a part of such a dedicated and talented group of individuals.

This year has presented its share of challenges, but together, we have overcome them and achieved great success. Your hard work and commitment have been essential components to our accomplishments, and for that, I am sincerely thankful.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I encourage each of you to take a well-deserved break to spend quality time with your loved ones, recharge, and enjoy the festivities. Whether you're sharing a meal with family, connecting with friends, or simply taking some time for self-care, I hope you find joy and relaxation during this holiday season.

On behalf of Dr. Szewczyk and the entire administration, I thank you for all that you do for IU!

