



School Spotlight: Connellsville Area High School

Connellsville Area High School is an impressive institution both inside and out. Upon entering, visitors are greeted with a piece of the World Trade Center North Tower, a powerful reminder of the school's dedication to patriotism and supporting military personnel through the CAHS Patriots, Inc. student volunteer group. The CAHS Wall of Honor showcases the accomplishments of past graduates.

The heart of the school is a bustling hub housing Falcon Productions studio, library (iMedia Center), and Fab Lab. Falcon Productions produces high-quality videos and live streams, while the library features a school coffee shop (Falcon Fuel) and a gaming center, alongside an interactive classroom and the Harold J. Betters recording studio. The Fab Lab offers state-of-the-art equipment, including 3D printers, wood soldering, vinyl cutters, heat presses, and more, allowing students to bring their ideas to life.

Connellsville School District's overall cleanliness, advanced technology, welcoming staff, and positive atmosphere make it an exemplary district for others seeking improvement.



Building Bright Futures: Connellsville Area CTC

Just up the hill behind Connellsville Area High School sits the Connellsville Area CTC, offering over 10 vocational programs, such as Automotive Collision Repair, Welding, HVAC, Heavy Equipment Operations, and more. Electrical Occupations partners with West Penn Power, leading to swift full-time employment for lineman course graduates. The Culinary Arts program provides catering options and a community café. In the Heavy Equipment Operations and Preventive Maintenance program, students master large equipment operation using innovative Caterpillar simulators. They also learn about soils, erosion control, paving, surveying, and grading. With industry certifications upon completion, numerous job opportunities await.

Powerful Partnerships: Literacy Council of Southwestern PA



The Literacy Council of Southwestern PA (LCSWPA) is on a mission to empower adults and families in Southwestern Pennsylvania through literacy skills, enabling them to lead successful and fulfilling lives within their communities. Established in 1985, LCSWPA has transformed the lives of countless adults and families, fostering economic opportunities, community engagement, and an improved quality of life.

In collaboration with Intermediate Unit 1, LCSWPA offers a range of adult tutoring services, including Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language (ESL), Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and Citizenship preparation, and GED Test Preparation. Now, IU1 is excited to announce the launch of a new ESL tutoring and ESL adult classes program in partnership with the Literacy Council to be held at the Presbyterian Church in Charleroi, addressing the significant need within the Haitian population in Charleroi.

This initiative is set to kick off on Tuesday, August 15 at 9AM. This marks a crucial step in meeting the educational needs of the Haitian community and will serve as an inaugural event for this much-anticipated program.

By extending its reach to Charleroi and focusing on the Haitian population, LCSWPA continues to embody its vision of promoting economic opportunity, community unity, and an enhanced quality of life through literacy. With this new ESL program, LCSWPA is not only providing essential language skills but also creating a platform for cultural integration and empowerment.



**Fusion Cyber Solutions
Website**



REMINDERS:

- September 5 - Week 1 of Fusion Courses
- Imagine Learning courses start time may vary
- August 28 - Arrange for computer pickup

Intelli- Sync option

Fill teacher vacancies for high school core courses with an online educator dedicated to your school.

Address Teacher Shortages

Discover support and creative solutions to address teacher shortages and vacancies. Imagine Learning can help across a variety of grades and subject matters.

Small Group Targeted Instruction

High-quality online interventions that support your students' learning goals. Give students the personalized, data-driven support they need and overcome staffing shortages and equity issues.

Ask about our valuable tools to empower your students and overcome the challenges faced in education today, whether you are an administrator, teacher, or education professional.

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



Recap of IU1 In-Service!

On August 16th, the IU1 Common In-Service day embraced the theme of "Operation Kindness." The day was brimming with morning and afternoon breakout sessions, all centered around enhancing physical, mental, and financial well-being.

The day began with some welcoming words from Dr. Kristin Szewczyk, Dr. Don Martin, and Jenny Lent, who prepared the audience for the days activities.

Mr. Thomas McMurray, a lifetime resident of Peters Township and a 30-year member of the Intermediate Unit 1 Board of Directors, was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding dedication and service to IU1.

The morning's keynote speaker, Allison Clarke, a dynamic motivator, captivated the audience with an exhilarating and engaging session centered around the transformative power of spreading kindness and effective communication. With infectious energy, Clarke emphasized the profound impact small acts of kindness can have on people's lives, encouraging attendees to approach every interaction with empathy and consideration. Through interactive exercises, she skillfully demonstrated how a simple gesture or a thoughtful word can potentially brighten someone's day. Clarke's session underscored the significance of recognizing that everyone is fighting their own battles and highlighted the potential to create a positive ripple effect by fostering genuine connections. Her inspiring message left the audience inspired to embrace kindness as a potent tool for personal and societal change.

Attendees then immersed themselves in a variety of sessions, ranging from rejuvenating activities like yoga, meditation, stretching, and mindful eating, to informative workshops on deciphering nutrition labels, creating healthier recipes, and learning about retirement and financial planning. Pilates, sound baths, zumba, essential oils, foam rolling, and stress management sessions provided a diverse and engaging experience.

A delightful assortment of food trucks, offering Mexican, Hibachi, American cuisine, and sweet treats, catered the lunch break, before staff resumed the afternoon breakout sessions.

The day concluded with inspiring talks from former IU1 students, Adam Blank and Jessica Little, reflecting on their experiences and journeys beyond IU1. Special awards were presented to dedicated IU1 staff members, and the day reached its exciting finale with the distribution of prizes, including a signed Sidney Crosby jersey and Amazon gift cards, through a raffle draw.



IUI McMurray Campus to Host Rural Arts Collaborative



Join us for an unforgettable artistic experience at the upcoming Rural Arts Collaborative, taking place on Thursday, September 14, 2023, at the IUI McMurray Campus located at 625 E. McMurray Rd. Canonsburg, PA 15317. In collaboration with Intermediate Unit 1 and Bricolage PGH, and proudly sponsored by the Fayette County Cultural Trust, EQT, Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, and Oglebay Institute, this event promises to be a celebration of creativity and culture. From 11 am to 2 pm, immerse yourself in a diverse array of artwork, demonstrations, and workshops that will showcase the immense talent and innovation of artists from the rural community. Whether you're an art enthusiast or a curious learner, there will be something for everyone to enjoy and be inspired by. Mark your calendars and don't miss this opportunity to be part of a truly enriching and engaging arts extravaganza!

Camp Tech Held at Washington and Jefferson College



Camp Tech is a week-long program that draws students from the IUI region and beyond. It offers diverse tech-related sessions for young learners in grades 3 to 8. The sessions cover Programming, Graphic Design, Aviation, and Video Production. This year, Camp Tech was held at Washington and Jefferson College, in Washington, PA.

In "Programming with Alice," students used coding to create games and animations. They learned logical thinking and programming fundamentals with Alice, a powerful tool for object-oriented programming.

"Graphic Design with Procreate" let budding artists explore their creativity using the Procreate App, with unique artistic features and intuitive tools for digital art creation.

The "Lights, Camera, Action: Video Production" session focused on filmmaking and storytelling.

Students collaborated to write scripts, handle camera work, and learn digital film editing, fostering critical thinking and creativity.

Aspiring aviators participated in the "Aviation in Action" session, learning about mechanical flight and gaining insights into the aircraft industry through flight simulator software and hands-on activities.

Camp Tech provides a dynamic and enriching environment for young minds to explore their interests and develop valuable skills. With captivating sessions to choose from, participants leave with newfound knowledge and unforgettable memories.



Variety Pittsburgh visited IUI on July 14 and August 24 for fittings and presentations of their adaptive bikes. Above, the proud new owners go for a test ride

IUI Hosts "Fresh Start Academy"

The IUI Fresh Start Academy achieved remarkable success, emerging as a pivotal week-long online workshop that has transformed professional development for local educators. With IUI's curriculum specialists at the helm, the academy's immersive ZOOM sessions, primarily focusing on Structured Literacy, garnered overwhelming participation, often reaching capacity or nearing it. As the state of Pennsylvania mandates the adoption of Structured Literacy approaches for improved student outcomes, the academy played a crucial role in equipping teachers with the essential Science of Reading knowledge and effective instructional strategies. Beyond literacy, the academy showcased its dynamic nature by addressing an array of topics including Artificial Intelligence, Curriculum Mapping, and Classroom Management. The IUI Fresh Start Academy stands not only as a triumph in knowledge dissemination but also as a testament to the commitment of educators towards enhancing their teaching methodologies and, in turn, elevating the educational landscape.



Brownsville Perennial Project is Making Headlines

The Perennial Project was founded in 2019 with the goal of planting flowers and improving the community of Brownsville, Pennsylvania. Since then, the project has grown into a community movement with hundreds of volunteers committed to year-round beautification efforts. The project has provided integrative art and design workshops for Brownsville students, using found and reclaimed materials to transform vacant lots, abandoned storefronts, and blank walls, encouraging the community to think creatively. The project also emphasizes the importance of preserving and repurposing the town's architectural heritage, including the use of cutting-edge digital preservation and documentation technology to create a 3D digital replica of the town's historic downtown streetscape. This technology is being used to create a high-school level design and technology course that teaches students to restore the town's historic buildings and to use the models to tell the stories of the community through digital rendering, animation, and virtual reality.

The Perennial Project has partnered with AutoDesk to share the downtown model worldwide with industry professionals in an educational software release, furthering education and strengthening workforce development within the community of Brownsville. Finally, the demise of the historic buildings has led to the creation of HOPE Park, an outdoor movie theater and public gathering space that incorporates education, art, design, and community engagement.

For more information and to see how you can get involved, please visit

<https://www.brownsvilleperennialproject.tech/>



IUI Central Office staff enjoy team building exercises during their July Professional Development session



Fall Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Courses

Fall CPE courses begin in September 2023 and meet Act 48 and Level II requirements.

- Social Emotional Learning
9/08/2023 - 11/04/2023
- Culturally Responsive Teaching
9/15/2023 - 11/11/2023
- Digital Literacy
9/22/2023 - 11/18/2023
- Technology Tools for the 21st Century Classroom
9/29/2023 - 11/25/2023
- There's An App for That, Integrating the iPad into the Classroom
10/6/2023 - 12/2/2023
- Project-Based & Challenge-Based Learning
10/13/2023 - 12/9/2023

REGISTER
IN
FRONTLINE
EDUCATION

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

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

BLENDED 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 & Human Relations

- Personal Relations Leader
- Community Relations Leader
- Family Relations Leader

June 20, 2023 - August 15, 2023

REGISTER

Leadership & Assessment Data Usage

- Assessment & Data-Oriented Leader
- Assessment & Data-Literate Leader
- Assessment & Data-Informed Leader

August 28, 2023 - October 16, 2023

REGISTER

Leadership & Instruction

- Quality Leader
- Instruction Leader
- Learning Leader

October 20, 2023 - December 18, 2023

REGISTER

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 IUI Web Reg catalog. If you haven't previously registered in the IUI Web Reg catalog, please create a new account to register.

Upcoming Kid-Friendly Events!



PRINTSCAPE ARENA COMMUNITY DAY
Sept. 9, 2023
Printscape Arena at Southpointe
114 Southpointe Boulevard
Canonsburg, PA 15317
12pm - 4pm
*FREE

Join in the grand opening of the second ice sheet at Printscape Arena at Southpointe on September 9, 2023! Enjoy free public skating, fun activities for all ages, and delicious treats from Bubba's Burghers and Johnny Waffle cafe!



GREENE COUNTY EARLY INTERVENTION (LICC) GOOD OLD FASHIONED HALLOWEEN PARTY
Oct. 24, 2023
Greene County Fairgrounds Arena Barn
107 Fairgrounds Road
Waynesburg, PA 15370
5:30pm - 7:30pm
*FREE

Join in a spooktacular Halloween party with a fun twist on traditional Trick or Treat! Experience classic delights like the Costume Parade, Apple Dipping, Pumpkin Bowling, and more. All ages and abilities are welcome to enjoy the event filled with treats, games, and the chance to win exciting prizes.



TRICK OR TROLLEY
Oct. 28, 29, 2023
Pennsylvania Trolley Museum
One Museum Road
Washington, PA 15301
10am - 4pm
*Admission fee

Celebrate fall at the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum with Trick or Trolley! Enjoy trolley rides, fall decorations, trick-or-treating, games, crafts, and refreshments. Fun for all!



TREE LIGHTING & SANTA'S ARRIVAL
Nov. 11, 2023
Tanger Outlet Center
2200 Tanger Boulevard
Washington, PA 15301
6pm to 8pm
*FREE

Join in the Holiday Tree Lighting & Santa's Arrival event! Enjoy FREE photos with Santa, horse-drawn carriage rides, giveaways, prizes, reindeer food, and festive music with a DJ! Don't miss this holiday fun!



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!

IU1 Early Intervention

IU1 Early Intervention services for the 2023-2024 school year will resume Tuesday, September 5th. We are looking forward to a fun and exciting year!

Please refer to our IU1 Early Intervention Facebook page for upcoming events, fun activities you can do at home with your children, and other useful information.



Other Important Updates

- Student forum begins on October 10th. Students will meet on the second Tuesday of every month from then until March.
- Innovation Showcase will be held at WVU Erickson Alumni Center on Wednesday Oct. 4, from 10-1.
- BotsIQ MFG (Manufacturing) Day at the IU1 McMurray campus will be held Friday, October 27 from 9:30am - 1:45pm. It is for middle school students in Washington, Fayette and Greene County schools.

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 the vibrant days of summer wind down and we prepare to embrace the crispness of fall, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful experiences and achievements highlighted in this edition of IU1 Insider. It's been a season of growth, exploration, and shared learning, and I'm truly excited for the approaching new school year. The energy and enthusiasm of our administrators, teachers, and students continue to inspire us as we eagerly anticipate the opportunities and challenges the coming year will bring. The collaboration between IU1 and the dedicated educators and families we serve remains the cornerstone of our success. As we prepare to embark on this new journey together, I am confident that our collective efforts will foster a rich and nurturing educational environment. Thank you for your ongoing commitment, and I look forward to working closely with all of you in the months ahead.

Regards,
Don

