



## What's Happening at the MCSESC

MARCH 30, 2010

VOLUME 10, NUMBER 14

# 2010 Homer B. Smith Teacher of Excellence Award

Garth Gucker, Cloverleaf High School Biotechnology and Honors Biology Teacher, was presented with the 2010 Homer B. Smith Teacher of Excellence Award at Monday night's Cloverleaf Board of Education Meeting.



Mr. Gucker was giving a presentation on biotechnology to the Cloverleaf Board of Education when after a few minutes, Mr. Daryl Kubilus, Cloverleaf Schools Superintendent, interrupted the presentation by introducing Mr. William Koran, Superintendent of the Medina County Schools' ESC and Mr. Homer B. Smith former Superintendent and founder of this prestigious award.

Upon presenting the award to Mr. Gucker, the Cloverleaf High School Principal Ron Tisher, who nominated Mr. Gucker for the award, said, "Mr. Gucker has developed the respect of his colleagues and represents the highest standard of educational professionalism at Cloverleaf High School. He holds his students to high academic and ethical standards in all settings. I believe that our school district is fortunate to have Garth on our teaching staff."

This is the 26<sup>th</sup> year for The Teacher of Excellence Award being presented and 11 of the past recipients were from Cloverleaf. The very first recipient in 1984 was also a biology teacher from the Cloverleaf Schools.

*Michele Wargo, Gifted/Talented Consultant  
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### **Mission Statement:**

**The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center will be the leader in providing services and products that promote excellence in education.**

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## ACADEMIC CHALLENGE

### High School Academic Challenge Tournament

Medina High School's Academic Challenge team advanced through seven rounds of competition to win the first-place trophy at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Medina County Academicians' Tournament on Friday, March 12, 2010, held at the Medina County University Center. Mr. Doug Smith is the advisor of the winning team. As the first-place winner, Medina will advance



Wadsworth High



Brunswick High



Medina High



Cloverleaf High



Buckeye High



Revere High



Columbia High



to the regional Ohio Academic Competition on April 24, 2010. Regional winners and runners-up will be invited to the state competition on May 1.

Eight high schools (including Brunswick, Buckeye, Cloverleaf, Columbia, Highland, Medina, Revere, and Wadsworth) participate in the Medina County Academic Challenge League. This year four league matches were played to determine a league winner, and the final all-day double elimination tournament designates a tournament winner. The Revere High School team won the league title and trophy and was presented with the traveling trophy at the tournament.

Revere High School's Academic Challenge Team also won the second-place trophy at the tournament. The team's advisors are Ellen Friery and Jeff Fry. In addition, the team from Medina High School won the 2009-2010 Sportsmanship Award. The Cloverleaf High School JV team, coached by Mr. Cameron Flint, won first place in regular season JV competition.

Medina County University Center provides an outstanding host and location for the tournament. Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center is the sponsor of the Medina County Academic Challenge League. Gifted Coordinators Brenda Magier, Michele Wargo, and Jacinda Yonker organize the event.

## Middle School Academic Challenge Tournament

The eighth annual Middle School Academic Challenge Tournament was held on Saturday, March 20, 2010, at the Medina County University Center. Teams from Brunswick, Buckeye, Cloverleaf, Medina, and Wadsworth districts participated in the academic rivalry contest.

Cloverleaf Middle School placed first in the competition. The team advisors are Jim Dombroski and Brenda Thayer, and Sean Osborne is the principal. Claggett Middle School received the second-place trophy. The team advisor is Stacy Hawthorne, and Craig Komar is the principal.



Thank you to our coaches for planning and advising our middle school teams. We also wish to thank the Medina County University Center for hosting the tournament; Denise Testa, Associate Director of Student Services at the University Center, for her guidance and support; and Debbie Ruhe for the tournament setup accommodations. Our readers were Julie Krueger, Amy Lloyd, Tom Magier, and Michele Wargo. A special thank-you goes to Mitch Keller, Gifted Education Coordinator for Medina City Schools, for her assistance with registration.

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center sponsors the Middle School Academic Challenge League to provide middle school students an opportunity to test their knowledge in friendly academic

competition and to encourage increased participation at the high school level. For more information, please contact Gifted Consultants Brenda Magier, Michele Wargo, and Jacinda Yonker, organizers of the event, at the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center.

*Jacinda Yonker, Gifted/Talented Coordinator*  
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## Annual Nurses Convention

Lori Hogue, Director of Nursing at Medina County Schools' ESC, attended the 13<sup>th</sup> [Annual Conference of the Ohio Association of School Nurses](#) (OASN), entitled "Healthy Schools: Directed by & Starring Ohio's School Nurses" on March 12-14, 2010 at the Dayton Marriott.



Lori was among 200 school nurses who work with school health issues on a daily basis that attended the conference. The school nurse conference was hosted by the South Western Ohio School Nurse Association.



School nurses attending the full conference could obtain 16.5 contact hours to meet the requirement of 24 contact hours required for RN license renewal every two years in Ohio. A variety of continuing nursing education sessions were provided over the two and one-half days, including a viewing of posters depicting evidence-based school health programs and research developed by Ohio's licensed School Nurses.

Keynote speakers included Dr. Greg Ramey of Dayton, Dr. John Studebaker of Greenville, and Dr. O'Dell Owens of Hamilton County. Several licensed school nurses from southwest Ohio were speakers as well.

OASN's mission is to promote optimal wellness among Ohio's school children and their communities by supporting their educational success and providing leadership, education and support for the practice of school nursing.

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## "Ed's Tech Tip"

*Hello everyone and welcome to Technology Today.*



### Locating Service

How do you locate service for a piece of electronic equipment? This week let's take a closer look at some of the most common ways to search for proper service.

- I always begin by opening up the owner's manual and checking the service section. You can find phone numbers, web addresses, and service center information here. It is always a great place to start!
- Calling for technical support, make sure you have the model number, serial number, service code, and the problem and

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suspected area identified. Sometimes there may be a fee but most manufacturers will provide you with some kind of support at no charge.

- You can use the internet and visit the manufacturer's site. They have all the information you would need to locate service centers, troubleshooting techniques, and product updates. You can even send their service department an e-mail in regards to your problem.
- When doing a general search on the internet, type in the model number of the equipment you are researching. I use Google and Yahoo for my searches. The service history and what the other consumers are saying about the product could be listed. See if your problem is common and how other people are dealing with.
- Ask someone who is using the same kind of equipment to find out if they had problems and how did they resolve the issue.
- Visit your schools technology department website for assistance. These sites have help pages and other information to assist you.

Remember many times it is the simplest things that can go wrong such as weak batteries, operator error, need to push the reset button, or in my case, I forgot to plug it in!

### **Protect your electronic equipment**

Always use a surge protector to protect your electronic equipment from sudden voltage surges. Many times your area could be subject to brownouts or rolling power interruptions. When selecting a surge strip, a higher joule rating will mean better protection for your equipment. An *uninterrupted power supply* known as a **UPS** will allow time for your computer to shut down properly.

Thank you for reading this week's newsletter. Have a great day!

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## **Thank You**

We appreciate the opportunity to share with you the events and the latest services our ESC offers. Through this newsletter, you are learning about our ESC and what type of services we can provide to you, our customers.

***What's Happening at the MCSESC!*** is a service of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center and may be copied and distributed to everyone.

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