



What's Happening at the MCSESC!

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Volume 14 Issue 10

February 15, 2013

2013 Medina County Spelling Bee Results



Congratulations to all 43 Spelling Bee participants who competed at Medina High School on Wednesday, February 6, 2013.

Students from Wadsworth City, Buckeye Local, Cloverleaf Local, Medina City, Sacred Heart School of Wadsworth, Highland Local, Ohio Virtual Academy, St. Francis Xavier of Medina, St. Ambrose and St Mark schools (both of

Brunswick) assertively competed throughout the two-hour match.

The six finalists will compete in the Akron Beacon Journal Regional Spelling Bee on March 9, 2013, at 1p.m. at the Akron-Summit County Public Library. Congratulations and good luck in the next round!



Daniel Johnson
Sacred Heart School
Grade 8

Hannah Webb
Highland Middle
Grade 8

Larkin Cleland
Highland Middle
Grade 8

Chris Wright
Highland Middle
Grade 8

Gabby Pickens
Buckeye Junior High
Grade 7

Collin McInnes
Highland Middle
Grade 7

Inside This Edition

2013 Medina County Spelling Bee Results

Back-to-Back Champions

Special Education Forum

Inspirational Quote

Did You Know...? Nurses' Corner

Special Needs Initiatives Corner

SUPERINTENDENT William J. Koran

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Janice Good Member

Back-to-Back Champions

In the final regular season meet on Monday, February 11, the Cloverleaf High School varsity Academic Challenge team, coached by Cameron Flint, won the Medina County League regular season title for the second year in a row. The team claimed its second title in two years, an accomplishment that no other team in Cloverleaf school history has done. The team (consisting of seniors: Kellianne Rinearson, Elizabeth Han, and Mariah Wood; and juniors: Brian Easterling, Meka George, Jacob Kaus, Dignity Rubensaal, and Joseph Winnicki) has again qualified for the Ohio Academic Competition regional playoffs. This follows the team's Divisional Championship at the Cloverleaf Invitational on January 28.

The Medina County High School Academic Challenge League varsity teams will meet once more on Friday, February 22, at the Medina County University Center for a double elimination tournament. Cloverleaf High School varsity team will be presented with the traveling trophy at the county tournament. The JV team from Revere High School, coached by Ellen Friery and Jeff Fry, will also be presented with a trophy for finishing first place among JV teams. The Medina County High School Academic Challenge League also includes teams from Brunswick, Buckeye, Columbia, Highland, Medina, and Wadsworth High Schools.

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center will sponsor the Cloverleaf varsity Academic Challenge team (2013 league winner) and the team that wins the county tournament on February 22 to compete in the Ohio Academic Competition Regional Tournament, which will be held at Cloverleaf High School on Saturday, April 20.

Special Education Forum

The Medina County Educational Service Center offers a special education forum to bring together special educators in our area five times a year to learn the newest laws and techniques in special education. The topics scheduled for this year include:

- Legal update
- Common core overview
- Juvenile court system overview
- Deaf education services
- Principals as special education leader

Topics from past years were social skills, autism, supporting children with mental health disorders, functional behavior assessments, transition services, and positive behavior supports.

This professional development opportunity enables school district personnel to share best practices in the field and to communicate with each other about different topics in special education. Educators also have the opportunity to ask presenters questions and gain insight on district-specific issues. The classes support school districts in improving special education services across the shared services area through the use of multiple means of representation.



Inspirational Quote

A teacher affects eternity; he/she can never tell where his/her influence stops.

Henry B. Adams

Did You Know...?

Nurses' Corner

Concussion in Youth Sports: Ohio's Return-to-Play Law

****Ohio's Return-to-Play Law goes into effect on April 26, 2013****

There are additional requirements being added to the "return-to-play law" **starting April 26, 2013.**

- Parents and athletes are required to receive a concussion information sheet annually for each sport.
- Coaches, referees, or officials must remove an athlete from play if the athlete is exhibiting the signs and symptoms of a concussion during practice or a game.
- The athlete **cannot** return to play on the same day that the player is removed.

The following information has been added to the law per ORC 3707.52 as enacted by [Ohio HB 143 of the 129th General Assembly](#)

- The athlete **is not permitted** to return to play until he/she has been assessed and **received written clearance by a physician or any other licensed health care provider** approved by the youth sports organization.

For further information, the Ohio Department of Health's Violence and Injury Prevention Program is pleased to announce the revised youth concussion web page that will help you understand the new Ohio's new Return-to-Play Law.

www.healthyohioprogram.org/concussion.



Special Needs Initiative Corner

Define Behavior

It is important to use an operational definition when talking about behavior.

Nuisance behavior, annoying behavior, agitation, hyper, reads at second grade level, etc., are not good descriptors for behavior. Better descriptors are: taps his pencil on desk during seat work, leaves her seat during teacher-directed instruction, talks out when the expectation is to raise hand before talking, is able to read a passage with 90 percent accuracy from the second grade reading level.

Feature Article written by: Nancy Rishar (Granger Elementary)

A day in the life of a Special Education preschool can be quite adventurous, to say the least. Every day is a new day, with new experiences and attitudes. Techniques that have worked well in the past all of a sudden need to be altered, tweaked, or just plain re-invented. That's where team collaboration is vital.

I have the distinct honor to be working among some of the most dedicated, caring, and highly devoted teachers and therapists within this field. The techniques are abundant, but one that is going on currently is for a nonverbal child. We are using cue cards with words and/or phrases that are relevant throughout our day. This child has the opportunity to say the letters to spell out what he would like or need. For example, he enjoys the marble game, so instead of just pulling a teacher's hand and leading him/her to the toy...he takes the cue card and using magnet letters, spells out the word "marbles"! Another example is when playing with peers, the child is offered the cue card with "my turn" and "your turn" spelled on them. He will point and say each letter while teacher recites what action was spelled and passes the toy accordingly. Turn taking at its best!

It is amazing how all those involved can benefit from such techniques. It is not a one size fits all technique. What works one week may not the next, but when it does and progress is made...it was worth the adventure!