



The bi-weekly newsletter of the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit

MCIU CONNECTION

www.mciu.org

August 20, 2010

MCIU Hosts 1st PowerSchool Academy

More than 50 educators turned out for the MCIU's first "PowerSchool Academy" -- two days of informative sessions for PowerSchool users including administrators, technical support and office staff. As a strategic partner with Pearson School System's PowerSchool Student Information System (SIS), the Technology and Information Services Division (TIS) offers a wide range of SIS services, including project management, training and customizations. Over the past couple of years, TIS has assisted a number of school districts successfully transition to PowerSchool.

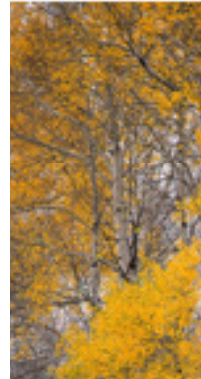
TIS staff, including Anne Draus (pictured below), Troy Sosnovik, Karthik Ganesh, Linda Bealer, Diane Miller, Mike Whisted, covered a number of PowerSchool topics including:

- ▶ Attendance Administration & Reporting
- ▶ PowerSchool & PDE State Reporting
- ▶ Prerequisites & Teacher Recommendations
- ▶ Supporting PowerTeacher 2.0



This June, Nonpublic School Services staff successfully ran 11 one-week summer camps for nonpublic school students. The staff pictured on the right worked with first graders in the camp called "Jump Start to First Grade" held at the French International School. One of the art projects for the students included making visors which the staff are proudly wearing. Pictured top row, left to right: Ann Fogarty, Maryanne Fisher and Karen Durante. Bottom row: Janet Selber, Joanne Riehl and Terri Williams.

Hold the Date Foundation Fall Social & Wine Tasting



Wine enthusiasts are sure to enjoy the 3rd annual Fall Social to benefit the MCIU Education Foundation. This year's popular fundraiser will feature wine tasting from Boyd's Cardinal Hollow Winery in North Wales. Mark your calendars to enjoy a good time and support a good cause!

**Tuesday, November 9, 2010
4:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Lower Providence Fire Company Hall**

Tickets are \$25 a person, which includes a light dinner, wine tasting, and three raffle tickets! Bottles of wine will also be available for purchase. Prize baskets and silent auction items make great holiday gifts!

Proceeds benefit the MCIU Education Foundation which supports opportunities for students in Montgomery County, including various academic competitions, camps and post-secondary scholarships for children with special needs and cultural diversity initiatives.

To purchase tickets, please contact Cindy Waters at cwaters@mciu.org or Anita Watson at awatson.mciu.org





MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT

An Educational Service Agency Supporting School Excellence

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**Montgomery County
Intermediate Unit**

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**Questions? Comments?
Story Ideas?**

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Talk like a Techie

Do you know the meaning of these tech terms?

Trojan Horse: Trojan horses are software programs that masquerade as regular programs, such as games, disk utilities, and even antivirus programs. If they are run, these programs can do malicious things to your computer.

Videoconference: Two or more sites that can communicate with two-way audio and video. Videoconferences can utilize ISDN connectivity, which costs money for the connection (similar to making about 6 simultaneous phone calls) or can utilize IP (regular Internet or Internet2) connectivity at no cost.

Virtual Reality: This is a computer simulation of reality.

Virus: Computer viruses are small programs or scripts that can negatively affect the health of your computer. Software is available to scan your computer to help protect against known viruses. It needs to be updated regularly in order to be effective.

Conversational Tactics

A Continuing Series on Teachings from the Jorgensen Learning Center

Dr. Ray Jorgensen emphasizes the importance of using the following tactics in all conversations:

- Stay out of “judgment”
- Don’t attack the person; attack the idea
- Don’t use “right”/ “wrong” language
- Treat others with respect and dignity
- Acknowledge the other’s perspective
- The only thing you control is your response
- Dig deeper into the conversation – use Inquiry
- Leaders should help the organization see the big picture through transparency
- Leaders have to model the behavior – ask yourself, “How do I look and sound?”

MCIU Teacher Participates in U.S. Department of Education Event



Itinérant Vision Support Teacher, Missy Garber, was invited to the U. S. Department of Education to participate in its July 30th “Let’s Read, Let’s Move” event. Joining the group of children, parents, and teachers were U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, Kareem Dale (Special Assistant to the President for Disability Policy), Congressman Jim Langevin (D-Rhode Island), and actor Quinton Aaron (who

starred with Sandra Bullock in “The Blind Side”). The emphasis on this meeting of the “Let’s Read, Let’s Move” summer enrichment series was on accessible instructional materials for students with print disabilities. Special guest reader, Kareem Dale, read to the children a braille version of the book *If I Ran for President*. Also present at the event were Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Alexa Posny, as well as representatives from Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic, Bookshare, and American Printing House for the Blind.

Pictured: Missy Garber, MCIU Vision Support Teacher, and Kareem Dale, Special Assistant to the President for Disability Policy.



The two temporary summer warehouse helpers celebrated their last day by baking a cake for the rest of the warehouse staff - complete with the MCIU book and flame. Not bad for two guys! Pictured left to right: Dale Roberts, Jim Zurek, Andy Miller and Russ Barber (temp. helpers), Howard Foose and Jeff Hathaway.