

Fall 2015 Newsletter

Upcoming IPLI Events

- November 23, 2015
IASP Fall Conference
- January 25, 2016
Cohort #2 Seminar
- January 26, 2016
Cohort #3 Seminar
- April 11, 2016
Cohort #2 Seminar
Graduation
- April 13, 2016
Cohort #3 Seminar

Upcoming INALI Events

- November 20, 2015
IASP Asst Principals
Conference
- November 23, 2015
IASP Fall Conference
- February 9, 2016
Cohort #2 Seminar
Cohort #1 Graduation

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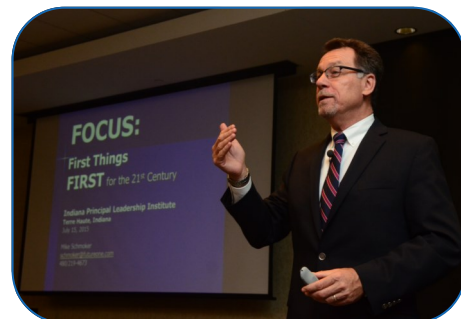
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Summer Seminar Recap

On Tuesday, July 14, 2015, IPLI's third cohort of principals consisting of 61 principals and 11 mentors began their two-year journey together at the IPLI Summer Seminar. The morning kicked off with an overview of IPLI and a keynote address from Dr. Todd Whitaker - *What Great Principals Do Differently*. In the afternoon, Dr. Nancy Dana introduced Cohort #3 to action research - *The Power and Passion of Inquiry*.

On Wednesday, July 15, mentors and principals from Cohort #2 along with over 100 teachers joined Cohort #3. After welcoming words from Dr. Kandi Hill-Clarke, Dean of the ISU Bayh College of Education, Indiana Senator Carlin Yoder received the IPLI Service Award. This award is given each year to honor an individual who is a champion of education here in the state of Indiana.

Morning keynote Dr. Michael Schmoker eloquently encouraged participants to focus on three core elements: what we teach, how we teach, and authentic literacy in his presentation - *Focus: First Things First for the 21st Century*. In the afternoon, Cohort #2 principals shared their year one action research projects with Cohort #3. Teachers heard from Melanie Beaver - *The Town of What If: Guiding Your School's Journey Towards Improvement*. Tony Sinanis and Amber Teamann provided tips for utilizing social media



Dr. Mike Schmoker gives his keynote address, *First Things First for 21st Century*, at the IPLI Summer Seminar

for branding and improving school communication. Cohort #3 finished the two-day seminar by designing their first mini AR project with Dr. Dana, and Dr. Terry McDaniel provided *Practical Tips for Principals*.

Dr. Tammy Heflebower provided Cohort #2 principals, teachers, and mentors with an outstanding interactive presentation on Thursday, July 16. *The Journey to Becoming a Professional Learning Community* allowed participants to assess their schools using the Marzano High



Pictured above (l-r): Dr. Steve Gruenert, Dr. Kandi Hill-Clarke, Senator Carlin Yoder, and Dr. Linda Marrs-Morford

Reliability surveys, engage in rich conversations centered on building the learning capacity of their schools, and identify key areas for potential growth in their schools.

The mission of the Indiana Principal Leadership Institute is to provide building-level principals with the skills and tools needed to increase their personal leadership capacities, as well as to increase the learning capacities of their schools.

Successful September Seminars



Cohort 2 Mentor, John Pearl arrives to the summer seminar in style.

"The only way to 'find out if it will work out' is to do it."
— Simon Sinek

The September IPLI Seminars were very successful. On Monday, September 28, Phil Warwick from Marzano Research worked with our principals, teachers, and mentors in Cohort #2. Principals and teachers reviewed and analyzed their High Reliability School Level 1 data – building safe and collaborative cultures, and they began work on developing an action research plan focused on increasing their schools' learning capacities. Teachers heard from Annette Breaux – *How to Impact Student Achievement and Behavior*.

On September 29, Cohort #3 principals and mentors shared the results of their mini action research projects. Annette Breaux presented a



Annette Breaux, author of the *10-Minute Inservice*, speaks to teachers at the September Seminar

keynote about how to conduct 10-minute inservices to improve student achievement. Principals also analyzed their IPLI leadership data and began work on their year-long action research projects.

Meet the IPLI Staff

The IPLI team is delighted to welcome their newest staff member, Maresa James. Maresa is an administrative assistant. She is also a graduate student in Communication Disorders at Indiana State University.

We are also pleased to announce that Lori Davis was recently promoted to IPLI Program Coordinator. Lori will take on more of the institute's marketing and communication tasks. For more detailed bios, visit www.Indianapli.org.



IPLI Staff Members (l-r): Dr. Linda Marrs-Morford, Director; Lori Davis, Program Coordinator; Mary Ray, Graduate Assistant; and Maresa James, Administrative Assistant

Visit us at
www.Indianapli.org

Spotlight on IPLI Action Research

Landis Elementary Goes To College



IPLI Cohort # 2 Principal, Rita McLochlin had a “wondering.” What would happen if she introduced a concept at Landis Elementary school that would have everyone else wondering?

Rita developed her wondering after reading the book *No Excuses University* by Damen Lopez. In the book, Lopez writes about the journey his elementary school took after the district implemented an initiative to promote college readiness. Lopez kept asking his superintendent, “What does that mean for an elementary school?” The reply was, “We don’t know. We haven’t done the research.” As the principal of Los Penasquitos Elementary School, Lopez accepted the

challenge and decided to “be the research.”

Rita “wondered” the same. What would happen to her school, Landis Elementary, if they started the college readiness journey? She challenged her faculty to think about that.

She initiated conversations with her staff focused around the concept of every child going to college! As she talked with faculty and ideas began to formulate, Landis Elementary School started their journey to becoming a “No Excuses University School.” Staff members started decorating the halls with college banners, first grade teachers got university t-shirts for their students, and conversations changed. No longer did you hear the comment of “if” you go to college but “when” you go to college. At the end of the first year, Rita had a parent ask her about this “college thing.” The mother stated that as she was watching her daughter and her cousin play one day, these second graders were playing “going to college.” This mother had never talked about college before to her children, but after her conversation with her child’s principal, her conversation at home changed as well.



Rita and her staff expanded the program this year. After writing to all of the colleges in the state of Indiana and all Big Ten universities, Rita started receiving boxes of souvenirs. Along with the boxes of awards for students came letters of thank you from the colleges to Rita and her staff for starting college readiness so early in the educational system. One little boy who was rewarded for good behavior went skipping out of Rita’s office with his treasure from his university of choice chanting, “I’m going to college!”

This K-5 elementary school of sixty percent free/reduced lunch with almost fifty percent diversity is changing their culture. By following the ideas in Lopez’s book, expectations and mindsets have changed.

IASP FALL PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE

Principals and mentors from both cohorts will join together at the IASP Fall Conference on Monday, November 23. They will hear from one of Solution Tree’s presenters, Dr. Luis Cruz, participate in an IPLI Edcamp, and meet in their regional focus-cohorts. More information on the Fall Conference can be found at <http://www.iasp.org/conferencesworkshops/fall-professionals-conference/>



Ideas to Ponder

The Student-Led Parent/Teacher Conference

How do you make students accountable and start to develop ownership for their work in school? Here's one idea: student-led parent/teacher conferences. The following links provide some great information on how to design effective student-led conferences:

- ASCD: <http://bit.ly/RkXBzE>
- Edutopia: <http://bit.ly/1eDVVFY>
- Scholastic: <http://bit.ly/1jQABa5>
- Teaching Channel: <http://bit.ly/1NndbDM>
- The Cornerstone for Teachers: <http://bit.ly/1GeTi1z>



It is never too early to start student-led parent/teacher conferences. Even your pre-kindergarten students can show parents their work and talk about what they are doing in school.

If your school is not ready for the student-led parent/teacher conference, here are some helpful websites with tips for traditional parent/teacher conferences:

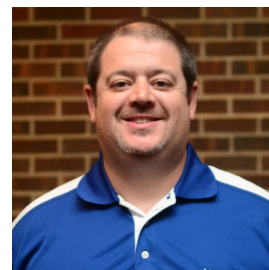
- Harvard Family Research Project: <http://bit.ly/1KkAXLq>
- Scholastic.Com Tips for Teachers: <http://bit.ly/1fZ3A3O>
- TeacherVision®: <http://bit.ly/1PCrsy9>



Schools in the News

Nominations for Cohort #4 of IPLI will open on Monday, November 23. Information will be available soon at www.indianapli.org

IPLI Cohort #3 mentor, Mike Sargent, Assistant Superintendent for Kokomo Schools, recently shared great news about his district. Congratulations to Kokomo High School for earning the 2015 AP-TIP IN (Advanced Placement, Training & Incentive Program) School of the Year Award. In addition to the award for the school, Kokomo High School AP Physics teacher, Tom Ferguson, was named AP -TIP IN Science Teacher of the Year and AP Literature and Composition teacher, Jennifer Scott was honored as the 2015 AP-TIP IN English Teacher of the Year.



Mike Sargent

Much credit is given to the students, parents, and staff of Kokomo High School. Dr. Sargent cited that both teachers, as well as the entire AP staff, find ways to both challenge and support students.

Indiana New Administrator Leadership Institute

INALI Welcomes Second Cohort

The Indiana New Administrator Leadership Institute (INALI) welcomed its second cohort on July 20, 2015. INALI is a two-year mentoring and induction program for new deans, assistant principals, and principals. The program began in 2014 and is a partnership between IPLI, the Indiana Association of School Principals, and the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents.

This year's cohort consists of 52 new administrators. Vicki Duncan, Mike Kelley, Tim McRoberts, Vivian Murphy,

Sharon Pitts, Randy Polston, Keith Puckett, and Debra Williams will serve as mentors for the cohort.



Rhonda Roos speaks at the INALI Conference

The New Administrators Conference kicked off the two-year program. On July 19th, INALI provided teacher evaluation training. July 20th and 21st provided time for mentors to meet with their regional groups and for participants to hear from a number of keynote speakers including:

- Ann Puckett-Harpold, Rooney Foundation: *Using Data for Improving Instruction*
- Jill Lambert, Asst. Director of Special Services, MSD Wayne Township Schools: *Special Education*
- Dave Emmert, Attorney at Law: *Legal Updates*
- Dan Layton, Zionsville Community Schools: *Technology for Administrators*
- Lizz Walters, Principal, Beech Grove High School: *Potential Hazards for New Administrators*
- Rhonda Roos, Director of Middle Schools, New Albany-Floyd County CSC: *Principal Leadership, Expectations for All*



INALI participants at the Summer Seminar

September 21st was another seminar day for INALI. Cohort #2 participants as well as a few members of Cohort #1 joined together to hear Michelle Walker from the IDOE provide an update on assessment. IASP's Executive Director Todd Bess provided information about the A-F Accountability Model. Dave Marcotte, Superintendent from Mooresville presented a session on *Teacher Evaluation and Improvement Plans*. Ann Puckett-Harpold and Rhonda Roos continued their work from the summer conference with INALI new administrators.

INALI members will meet during the IASP Assistant Principals Conference and the Fall Professionals Conference. In February, INALI will host its last seminar of the year, which will include the graduation ceremony for Cohort #1. Todd Whitaker will be the keynote speaker.

Registration for INALI Cohort #3 will open soon. Information will be available at www.iasp.org