

The

SINE Post



A Newsletter Dedicated to Lifelong Learners

Volume 1, Issue 5

November, 2002

from the Assistant Director

S.I.N.E. Launches Reading Renaissance

For a Lifelong Love of Learning

S.I.N.E. is pleased to announce opportunities for school districts in our nine county area to receive staff training and other support to launch Reading Renaissance. Accelerated Reader is an integral part of Reading Renaissance. Reading Renaissance adds to Accelerated Reader components of staff training, silent sustained reading, building vocabulary, assisting students to read at challenging levels etc. Many schools in our area are already using some aspects of Accelerated Reader. S.I.N.E. will provide opportunities for these programs to be enhanced with additional training and support materials.

Reading Renaissance is not meant to replace the core reading program in a school. Instead Reading Renaissance is a supplemental reading program which has created excitement in schools with students becoming

motivated to read both fiction and non-fiction literature. Research has indicated that language arts scores can be improved substantially with the proper implementation of this program.

S.I.N.E. is encouraging schools K-12 to participate in this program. Schools that participate will receive complete Renaissance Reading computer software including Accelerated Reader and STAR Reading, Accelerated Reader quizzes, one year of Renaissance expert help, comprehensive professional development training, access to Renaissance Web Learning courses, and data analysis services.



G.W. "Monty" Montgomery
Assistant Director/Professional Development Coordinator

Plans Underway for the Learning Exchange

by: Marti Thornbury - Warrick/Pike County Outreach Representative

S.I.N.E. supports the Learning Exchange, the purpose of which is to foster relationships between business, educators and students. The program is designed to demonstrate to youth the applicability of education to the business world/workplace. The process involves a combination of three components: teacher visitations to the workplace; business visitations to the classroom; and student visitations to the workplace. The entire process should take about 3-4 days.

Last spring S.I.N.E. hosted a fact finding meeting for all secondary schools in the nine county area. Many educators attended and gave input as to how the proposed Learning Exchange would be most helpful to them. Questions such as the levels most appropriate for the Learning Exchange to the forms of evaluation for the program were discussed.

S.I.N.E. staff members are currently working with local businesses to identify their needs and will have the plan design ready to go very soon. Participants will be given a guide to maximize creativity on both sides.

The Learning Exchange provides an avenue for education and business to learn from each other. For more information about the Learning Exchange contact Marti Thornbury at (812) 385-6577.

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Learning for Life.

Four Blocks

Two New Professional Development Opportunities

by: Angie Burch, Perry/Spencer County Outreach Representative

So many times teachers have attended a workshop on Four Blocks offered by S.I.N.E. or other agencies and returned to the classroom feeling overwhelmed by the enormous amount of strategies and information they acquired. They are very excited and motivated to apply the Four Blocks framework but don't know where to begin. If they had a trusted colleague to turn to for help and answers, they would be more successful. Implementation of all of the Four Blocks strategies by teachers requires continuous support of the principal and colleagues and on-going training and assistance.

S.I.N.E. hopes to accomplish this by assisting schools in implementing Four Blocks strategies at the highest level. Participants in this new leadership training include school teams of three to four members including the principal.

In order to qualify schools must have at least one-third of their teachers who have completed Four Blocks training and have qualified for S.I.N.E. sponsored classroom libraries. Participants in this workshop encourage and share their knowledge with their staff. These school teams receive training which enables them to facilitate learning new strategies and gather and analyze student data. Principals are required to be a part of this team and are taught skills of implementing Four Blocks in their schools and basic strategies of Four Blocks instruction. They need to learn what to look for when they visit teachers' classrooms and how to focus on what students are learning.

Another type of Four blocks training that will be offered by S.I.N.E. this year is an Advanced Four Blocks five day workshop. This training will deepen the understanding of all four blocks with a special emphasis on Writing and Guided Reading and assessment strategies integrated within the blocks. Our districts are in need of more training in these two blocks as evidenced by the number of schools who include them in their PL221 plans. These two workshop opportunities for teachers will enhance their skills and enable them to implement more fully the Four Blocks strategies.

Dr. Ruby Payne's Training of Trainers

by: Rhonda Hunt, Knox/Daviess County Outreach Representative

In July I was fortunate enough to attend the Dr. Ruby Payne Training of Trainers workshop in Indianapolis. The Training of Trainers workshop is offered to teachers, administrators and school faculty who have previously participated in an initial Dr. Payne Poverty in the Classroom workshop. By attending the workshop school staff members are prepared to go back to their individual school districts to train other teachers and school staff in Dr. Payne's methods.

There were many teachers and administrators from all around the United States attending. There were attendees from Maryland, Florida, Texas, the state of Washington and even a few all the way from California, as well as those from Indiana attending the four-day workshop.

It was an excellent workshop. It was such a joy to listen to Dr. Payne, in person, speaking of her experiences in education and about her experiences in life. She has a wonderful group of consultants that travel with her and they also shared their educational experiences. It is definitely a worthwhile conference to attend if the opportunity is ever available.

Because S.I.N.E. wants to continue to offer more of Dr. Payne's teachings, we will be offering "coaching" workshops for those educators who

attended the Training of Trainers or who have completed an initial Poverty in the Classroom workshop. These "coaching" workshops will be a follow-up training for school staff members and principals and will help them to develop a deeper implementation of the strategies taught in the initial poverty workshops.

S.I.N.E. will also offer a Bridges Out Of Poverty workshop for social and community workers. This will be a one day workshop covering strategies for professionals and communities.



Ruby Payne & Rhonda Hunt
Indianapolis 2002

For an updated list of SINE workshops please visit our website at www.sineonline.com.

SINE has new Board Members



ADULT LITERACY CLEARING HOUSE: *A Resource for Adult Learners*

The S.I.N.E. is prepared to launch the adult literacy initiatives in the nine-counties of Southwestern Indiana. Each county has developed a plan for adult literacy services and many have already begun programming. In discussing what was needed in each county and what obstacles prevent adults from taking advantage of opportunities, many times the lack of marketing was mentioned. A main concern of many of the adult literacy providers is that of creating awareness of the need for their programs and also informing adults about the services that exist.

In order to alleviate this issue, S.I.N.E. will be hosting the Adult Literacy Clearing House. A potential client desiring services would simply call a toll-free number(888-534-8450) and answer a couple of questions; the client would then receive a phone number, name of contact person, location of the class, setting of instructional delivery and what other, if any, services the provider offers. The rationale for such a service is to allow a student immediate access to information regarding adult literacy providers and the services which they offer. The client can also access this information on S.I.N.E.'s web site under the Adult Literacy Clearing House link.

Jan Beesley has joined the Board of Directors of the Southwest Indiana Network for Education as the Daviess County member. Jan brings with her a 20-year history in the banking industry, including President of United Federal Savings Bank and, following acquisition by National City Bank of Evansville (later Alliance Bank), Regional Manager. She became the VP and Manager of Integra Bank's Mortgage Processing Center after it acquired Alliance Bank. She has been the Operations Manager of the Nephrology Department at Good Samaritan Hospital in Vincennes since October 2001.

With an initial college degree in education, Beesley was motivated to join SINE's Board by her long interest in improving literacy in Southwest Indiana.

Jim Edwards has joined the Board of Directors of the Southwest Indiana Network for Education as the Spencer County member. Jim is the founder and President of Edwards and Associates, a management consulting firm located in Santa Claus, Indiana. His firm specializes in Total Quality Management and Workforce Training and Development. Jim is involved in workforce development activities at the state level. He received a gubernatorial appointment to the Indiana Workforce Proficiency Panel and was elected Chairman of that panel. For the past year, Jim has served as the Chairman of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce Task Force on Workforce Development.

Jim is a native of Harriman, Tennessee and attended the University of Tennessee, graduating with a degree in Industrial Management. After graduating from college, he entered the United States Navy and served four years of active duty as a naval officer.

In his illustrious career Jim has served such corporations as Alcoa, Soundesign Corporation and Thermwood Corporation where he led Thermwood into the formation of Spencer Industries and became the company's first President.

Jim was recognized in March of 1989 as the Indiana Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration. He was also honored with an appointment to the U.S. Small Business Administration's Indiana Advisory Council. In June of that same year he was the recipient of the Ernst & Young and INC. Magazine's 1989 Entrepreneur of the Year Award for Businesses Greater Than Five Years Old. As a result of winning this award, he was inducted into the Institute of American Entrepreneurs and the Entrepreneur of the Year Hall of Fame. Jim is also a member of numerous business, educational and charitable boards. Besides his business activities, he has devoted a substantial portion of his life to assisting the mentally, developmentally and economically disadvantaged.

For an updated list of Adult Literacy providers please visit our website at www.sineonline.com.

from the **Executive Director**

Broadway in Monroe city!

GED classes at a detention center!

Free or discounted child care to
Adult Basic Education Students!

Using the arts to teach basic
computer skills and Internet usage!

Whats the common thread?

These and many, many more
programs are being funded by S.I.N.E. -
\$2,590,000 throughout the nine counties served by S.I.N.E.

Within the nine counties of S.I.N.E., the delivery of adult literacy
education is being carried out by many dedicated people. However,
many times it is sporadic, under-funded and under-utilized. Changing
the culture for education includes changing the attitude of adults
toward educational attainment. The S.I.N.E. grant made provisions for
establishing or enhancing an Adult Literacy Center within each of the
nine S.I.N.E. counties.

S.I.N.E. recognized that due to the rural nature of our area, having only
one adult literacy site in each county would be counter productive to
effective delivery of services. S.I.N.E. staff facilitated the establishment of
an Adult Literacy Committee in each of the nine counties. In addition to
the adult literacy service providers the county committees consist of
business people, librarians, detention officers, local government officials,
social service agencies, chambers of commerce, pastors, school districts,
economic development professionals, Dept Workforce Development
representatives, probation officers and other concerned individuals.
S.I.N.E. allocated funding to each county committee based on
information from an Adult Literacy Needs Assessment, total adult
population, poverty rate and adult literacy rate.

The county-specific Adult Literacy Committees have spent the past nine
months in a collaborating and consensus building process to build a
plan to address the issues of adult literacy. The goal of the groups was
to create and manage the direction of the countywide plan to serve
adults in need of literacy and other related services. Each county has or
is in the process of completing a plan for the delivery of adult literacy
services. These plans enhance and expand the capacities of current
providers.

The committees are working together to create exciting, motivating
methods for teaching adult learners. They are breaking down barriers
that keep the citizens of Southwest Indiana from attaining their
potential.

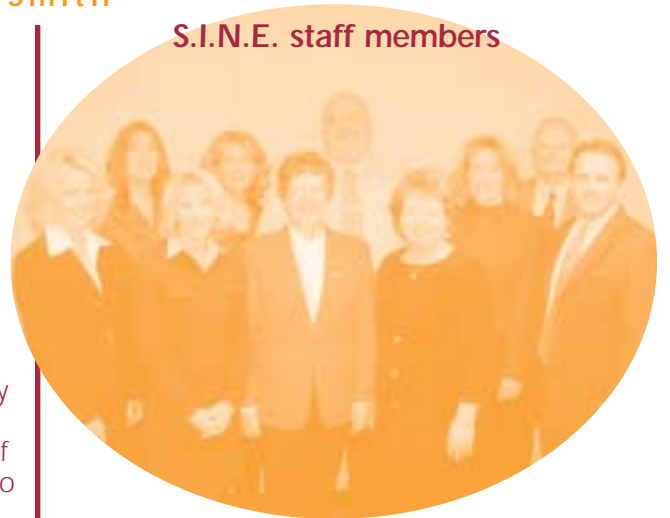
S.I.N.E.s mission is to enhance the culture for learning in Southwest
Indiana. We want to create life-long learners. And, we are doing it in
2,590,000 ways!



Mary K. Smith

*"If you think education
is expensive,
try ignorance."
-Derek Curtis Bok*

S.I.N.E. staff members



*"The bulk of mankind are
school boys through life."
-Thomas Jefferson*

Perry County Adult Literacy Check Presentation



S.I.N.E. of the Times

mission with a vision

by: B. Todd Mosby, Gibson/Posey County Outreach Representative

The mission is not impossible with twenty-twenty vision.

The mission:

S.I.N.E. will enhance the culture for learning by promoting learning for life throughout the Southwest Indiana counties of Daviess, Knox, Gibson, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Warrick, and Vanderburgh.

Through the numerous professional development workshops and grants and coalition building of literacy providers, S.I.N.E. has been working tirelessly to achieve the mission that was adopted April 15, 2002.

In addition, the vision for achieving that mission is just as involved.

The vision:

Secure Southwest Indianas educational and economic growth by partnering with the public, business and educational communities. S.I.N.E.s existence rests with funding from businesses, organizations and individuals that share in the effort to instill a lifelong love of learning throughout the population of Southwest Indiana.

Introduces proven programs to all public and private Southwest Indiana school systems and initiates adult literacy coalitions thus providing a value of learning for life to all ages. If a student is at-risk, an adult is undereducated or an instructor is in need of additional training, S.I.N.E. provides the resources to address the issue.

Neutralizes future barriers to learning by funding professional development for administrators and teachers thus breaking down those hidden walls that house the impoverished. S.I.N.E. is dedicated to improving the reading skills and future life skills for children from families unable, unknowing or unwilling to lead in their child's education.

Ensure continued improvement in the methodology of training for both educational and business cultures which when implemented increases the effectiveness of delivery.

With a mission and vision to accomplish the mission, time may be the only barrier. It will be years, perhaps even decades before the mission will be totally accomplished. But as a community we have to start somewhere and sooner is better than later.

At S.I.N.E. we are determined that Indiana will have a future unrestrained by a lack of opportunity for the attainment of knowledge.

Wilder Center
Route 3, Box 12C
Oakland City, IN. 47660
w w w.SINEonline.com

866.380.SINE (7463)
812.749.9341
FAX 812.749.4972

Mary K. Smith
Executive Director
Cell 812.385.6946 msmith@sineonline.com

Martha Carpenter
Administrative Assistant
Cell 812.385.6650 mcarpenter@sineonline.com

G.W. 'Monty' Montgomery
Professional Development Coordinator
Cell 812.385.6950 gwmontgomery@sineonline.com

Kevin L. Chattin
Technology Coordinator
Cell 812.385.6956 kchattin@sineonline.com

Angie Burch
Perry/Spencer County Outreach Representative
Cell 812.385.6975 aburch@sineonline.com

Rhonda K. Hunt
Knox/Daviess County Outreach Representative
Cell 812.385.6366 rhunt@sineonline.com

Marti M. Thornbury
Warrick/Pike County Outreach Representative
Cell 812.385.6577 mthornbury@sineonline.com

Holly Adams
Vanderburgh County Outreach Representative
Cell 812.385.6971 hadams@sineonline.com

Todd Mosby
Posey/Gibson County Outreach Representative
Cell 812.385.6973 tmosby@sineonline.com

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go to
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for 9 county news
complete stories

- Daviess County:**
 - Adult literacy advisory council requests funds.
- Gibson County:**
 - Adult literacy program ready to serve.
- Knox County:**
 - Substitue teacher workshop set for Executive Inn.
- Perry County:**
 - Check received for adult literacy plan.
- Pike County:**
 - The return of the "Student Teacher".
- Posey County:**
 - Two county educators honored.
- Spencer County:**
 - County receives check for adult literacy plan.
- Vanderburgh County:**
 - S.I.N.E. joins in Family Literacy day at mall.
- Warrick County:**
 - W.A.L.C. receives \$249,546.00.



Angela Burch
*Perry/Spencer County
Outreach Representative*

a b o u t
Our Staff

Angela's duties include acting as S.I.N.E.'s representative to the Perry and Spencer County school systems and facilitating teacher training in programs offered by S.I.N.E. including "Four Blocks" teaching methodology, "Accelerated Reader", and "bookadventure.com", an online program which also allows parents to work with their children at home. Training in programs for at-risk youth will also be provided. As well, Angela will collaborate with businesses and communities in establishing and promoting adult/family literacy programs.

With an MS degree in Curriculum and Instruction, Reading, and Language Arts from Southern Illinois University, Angela worked for 12 years as a public school educator in Indiana and Illinois, teaching grades 2-6. For the last five years she specialized in Title 1 services, teaching reading to identified at-risk youth within the school system.

Originally from Illinois, Angela lives in Santa Claus with her husband, son, and daughter. She enjoys traveling as well as sports and activities with her children.

Wilder Center
Route 3, Box 12C
Oakland City, Indiana 47660
866.380.SINE (7463) • FAX 812.749.4972

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Route 3, Box 12C
Oakland City, Indiana 47660

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