

**from the  
Executive Director**



Greetings! Another school year is underway, and the Southwest Indiana Network for Education (SINE) is working diligently to continue enhancing the culture for education in our region.

I am excited to report that SINE is partnering with the Indiana Association of Adult and Continuing Education to host the first Professional Development Conference for Adult Learning Educators on Friday, October 28 at the Airport Marriott in Evansville. The purpose of the event is to provide relevant information and training for licensed teachers, qualified paraprofessionals and trained volunteers involved with adult basic education, GED and English as a Second Language.

Those in attendance will include members of SINE's nine county Adult Literacy Councils, adult literacy tutors and teachers, volunteers, social service agencies, chambers of commerce, program administrators and many other participant groups. If you are interested in attending you can register online at [www.sineonline.com](http://www.sineonline.com) or by calling 1-866-380-7463.

The day will include breakout sessions on the following topics: training teachers/tutors to communicate with the public, systematic approaches to partnering with businesses, teaching strategies, working with community corrections, English as a Second Language (ESL) (using technology, marketing ESL programs and selection of materials) and becoming aware of organizations that can offer assistance to adult learners.

SINE is also planning to present awards to several individuals and groups to recognize their achievements in promoting adult literacy over the last several years. Awards will include: Learner of the Year (ESL, GED and Adult Basic Education), Tutor/Teacher of the Year (ESL, GED and ABE), Program of the Year (ESL, GED and ABE) and Supporter of the Year (Business and Individual).

I hope you will join SINE in recognizing the tremendous efforts thousands of individuals in the region of southwest Indiana have put forth to promote adult learning over the last several years. Together, we can continue to realize the benefits these efforts have on the educational and economic future of our communities.

Sincerely,  
Mary K. Cardinal

**Consultants have  
wealth of knowledge  
to share with local  
educators**

SINE's cadre of Consultants in Education (CIE) spent the summer increasing their expertise by attending a number of trainings and workshops in order to best serve the needs of area educators and schools.

Members of CIE attended the Indiana Reading First Academies which is sponsored by the Department of Education. Reading First is a scientifically researched, data-based program that addresses the emergent reader. It is compatible with and enhances the Four Blocks methodology.

The CIE consultants will be sharing these research-based methods as they work with teachers in SINE schools throughout the school year.

Additionally, the CIE consultants attended the national Model Schools Conference in Nashville, TN where they studied the effective schools model which is identified by five characteristics:

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# Adult Literacy Councils eagerly anticipating a bright future

Adult literacy is essential for our communities and state to be successful. SINE supports local Adult Literacy Councils which provide adult learning programs that include beginning literacy, basic skill attainment, English as a Second Language, GED and basic computer literacy. The first SINE grant reports revealed that the Adult Literacy Councils in SINE's nine counties achieved 196% of goal attainment with over 5,000 adults participating in a learning program throughout those counties.

As the Adult Literacy Councils begin work in their next grant period, the council coordinators are looking forward to higher expectations and great results.

Kaye Kleeman, Coordinator of the Perry County Learning Network, said she is most proud of her council's success in helping 95 adults receive their GEDs during the last grant period. She also noted that business representatives from the area have been recruited and are active participants in the council's efforts to promote lifelong learning.

Kleeman said she is excited to continue the council's efforts to work with small businesses, retail and food service during the next grant period. "We are eager to empower additional community partners to participate in our Lifelong Learning Network," she said.

The Perry County Learning Network program's goal is to help 105 adults receive GED certification.

Rose Castle, Coordinator of the Warrick County Adult Literacy Council said she is most proud of the fact that the Warrick County Adult Literacy Council was able to extend literacy services to outer areas of the county during the last grant period. A GED class was opened in Elberfeld and a basic computer literacy class was offered in Newburgh. They were also able to offer more evening opportunities for individuals who work during the day.

Castle said over the next grant period, the Warrick County Adult Literacy Council has a goal of providing 75 adults with Adult Basic Education assistance, 180 adults with GED preparation and 180 adults with Basic Computer Literacy skills. The council also has a goal to market available literacy services throughout Warrick County.

Dawnelle Brown, coordinator of the Gibson County Literacy Coalition, said the coalition has creatively and collaboratively addressed the needs for adult literacy in Gibson County. "Agencies working together benefits everyone," she said.

## Educational Quotes

*"Upon the education of the people of this country, the fate of this country depends."*

– Benjamin Disraeli

*"Education is more than a luxury; it is a responsibility that society owes to itself."*

– Robin Cook

*"It is a greater work to educate a child, in the true and larger sense of the word, than to rule a state."*

– William Ellery Channing

*"I am still learning."*

– Michelangelo

*"Learning is like rowing upstream: not to advance is to drop back."*

– Chinese Saying

*"When asked how much educated men were superior to those uneducated, Aristotle answered, 'As much as the living are to the dead.'"*

– Diogenes Laetius

*"Education is the best provision for old age."*

– Aristotle



# Resurrection School and SINE partner together in Model School Program

According to principal, Angie Johnson, the goal of Resurrection School's Model School Program, funded in-part by SINE, is to integrate technology into the curriculum in all subject areas and to continue growing in the area of Four Blocks instruction.

"We are a model to other schools, whose teachers often come to observe the Four Blocks instruction as well as take computer classes from our technology coordinator to learn technology integration," she said.

The Vanderburgh County school's plan for implementation is to continue professional development in Four Blocks and Integrating Technology by attending workshops and conferences and carrying out research.

"Grants such as the Te@ch grant, SINE's Model Schools Grant and Toyota grants have enabled us to move closer to our technology goals of improving language arts instruction and integrating technology into all subject areas," Johnson said. "We have sharing time at faculty meetings to learn new programs and teaching strategies, and our technology coordinator is constantly giving us new ideas to think about. Many of our teachers have presented at conferences and offered workshops for other teachers. In the future we would like to be able to send more teachers to the Indiana Computer

Educators Conference and to the Model Schools Conference in Florida," she said.

Choosing technology as an area of focus for its Model School Program was a relatively easy decision for Resurrection School. Many of the school's teachers were already quite competent in the use of technology, and the staff enjoys working together learning new things.

One particular way Resurrection School was integrated technology at the school is by using Edline - an Internet platform where each teacher has his or her own site within the school's main homepage. Parents can check daily, weekly and monthly calendars and view grades using Edline.

Resurrection School also chose Language Arts, and more specifically the Four Blocks method, as another area of focus for its Model School Program because faculty could see some room for improvement as they studied ISTEP testing results, Johnson said. "Our Language Arts instruction continues to improve and become more individualized as teachers learn to teach to various learning styles," she said.

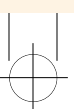
Johnson said she is confident the Model School Program will have huge benefits for the school's students including improved ISTEP scores, students enjoying school more and parents staying informed of their children's progress.



First grades at Resurrection School are busy using the technology that is integrated into their curriculum.

The implementation of the program is an ongoing process for all teachers as well as the principal at Resurrection School. "We have the Four Blocks teaching method and technology integration in place now, but we continue to develop our skills in these areas," Johnson said. "We can always include more information for parents on Edline and get more comfortable using this software."

Each teacher can continue developing his or her instruction to fit the particular class, Johnson said. The Model School Program is yet another way for schools to carry out SINE's mission of enhancing the culture for learning in southwest Indiana.



## Schools in the News

### Vincennes Rivet Middle School

Vincennes Rivet Middle School has been working hard to raise money for the Red Cross to help victims of Hurricane Katrina. Rachel Richardville is the student coordinator behind the fundraisers. The middle school started with a bake sale that raised nearly \$200. There has also been a collection can for donations that have brought in about \$125. The last major fundraiser was a raffle with items donated from local businesses. The school would like to thank all of those donors for making the raffle so successful. The final amount has not been tallied, but all of the money will be donated to the Red Cross in care of Rivet Middle School. It is estimated that \$400 will be given to help the hurricane victims. Mrs. Hitt would like to thank all of the teachers, staff, and the students for their hard work and kindness. The 8th graders who put the raffle together did a great job. It is great to see students work for a good cause to help others!

### Pike Central Middle School

Pike Central Middle School students in Mrs. Karen Hill's and Mrs. Rhonda Anderson's classes participated in the first electronic fieldtrip in the school's history. The title of the fieldtrip was "Indiana Lake Michigan Coastal Program: Diving into Indiana's Maritime History" and was provided by Aquatic Research Interactive, Inc. The program content consisted of an investigation into the development of the Calumet Region, including the role of shipping and industry in the past and present. A short history of how the Great Lakes were formed was presented along with statistics about depths and sizes of the lakes and lengths of shorelines in Indiana. Actual video of areas where Lake Michigan flooded forests, showing tree trunks still standing, was shown. Students learned about the construction of sailing vessels and the species of wood used to construct them. They saw pictures of the largest wooden sailing vessel, the David Dows, to ever sail the Great Lakes. She was a 5-masted schooner, 256 feet in length with a 37-foot beam and a gross weight when loaded of 1418 tons. The three

gentlemen shown on the monitor at the time this photo was taken were all experienced divers and scientists. Students were shown actual footage of a dive where the David Dows was being explored after its demise over 100 years ago. Pictures of aquatic life were shown and a history of some of the exotic, invasive species was given. The Indiana State Standards for Education that were covered consisted of: data translation; computation and estimation; and manipulation and observation. A special thanks goes out to the Department of Natural Resources for paying all charges for this program.

### Boonville Junior High School

Boonville Junior High is now offering a Parent and Faculty Resource Room for parents with students attending the school. Parents are welcome to use books, magazines, videos, games, and other instructional materials available in the Parent and Faculty Resource Room. Internet access and computer usage will also be featured in the near future. Parents are encouraged to come in, relax and go through the items that are available to help with the daily challenges of parenting.

\*\*\* If you would like to have your school's news included in the S.I.N.E Post please mail information to S.I.N.E. Route 3 Box 12C Oakland City, IN 47660 Attn: Newsletter.



Students at Pike Central Middle School participate in the school's first electronic fieldtrip.

## Consultants have wealth of knowledge to share with local educators (continued from cover)

- strong administrative leadership
- focus on basic skills
- high expectations for student success
- frequent monitoring of student performance
- safe and orderly schools

The model school action plan emphasized the need to raise expectations among educators and parents and develop the basic reading and writing skills in all subject matter.

Consultants from CIE will be assisting teachers throughout the area in utilizing skills and strategies from the Model School Conference to incorporate the basic reading and writing skills into all subject areas.

Later this year, the CIE consultants will be attending the Texas Great Source Conference which is a national reading and writing conference.

If you are interested in finding out more about how Consultants in Education can serve your school, please contact Sandy Nixon at [snixon@sineonline.com](mailto:snixon@sineonline.com).

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\*SINE employees' cell phones  
can also be accessed through  
the toll-free number.

## Adult Literacy Councils eagerly anticipating a bright future

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One of the things Brown said she is most proud of is that the Gibson County Literacy Coalition assisted 13 individuals in getting their GEDs while in jail through the GED is the jail initiative.

Brown said she is eagerly anticipating the new space that the Adult Literacy Program of Gibson County now occupies that will allow it to offer more services and become a "Literacy Center" for residents of Gibson County. She is also looking forward to offering Fast-Track GED classes all around the county and marketing them through the employment agencies which will allow job applicants to get their GEDs and then get better jobs.

The Adult Literacy Program of Gibson County's goals for the upcoming grant program include increasing the GED in the jail project to offer classes three times per calendar year with a projected enrollment of 18 learners each year. Brown said another goal is to offer the Fast-Track GED classes at least six times per year around the county.

Among other goals for the Adult Literacy Program of Gibson County is the summer program which will offer summer classes during each year of the grant period. Each of the enrolled students will have the opportunity to improve their computer skills by using the computers for class work, job applications, etc.

According to Brown, the Adult Literacy Program of Gibson County will also continue to recruit and train volunteer tutors and expand literacy services to adults from all areas of Gibson County. It is projected that the Adult Literacy Program of Gibson County will recruit a minimum of 8 new tutors per year and accept a minimum of 20 new clients each year. Additionally, it is projected that 90 percent of the adult learners will achieve at least one reading level during the course of one year.

Finally, by the end of 2005, the Adult Literacy Program of Gibson County hopes to establish a GED testing site in Gibson County.

For more information about any of SINE's nine Adult Literacy Councils feel free to contact Susanne Wilson at 812-459-6123.





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# You and SINE

## Partners in a Stronger Future



SINE has had a very good beginning ... but this is just the beginning. SINE has made a profound impact on the lives of countless individuals in Southwest Indiana ... not only through direct contact, such as the many training programs, but also through the impact that these trained professionals, successful students, and achieving adult learners will have on the lives of those around them.

Your generous contribution aids SINE in developing and sponsoring the much-needed programs that partner with education and businesses to improve our workforce; assist us in underwriting costs for programs that aid our at-risk and underachieving youth, creating brighter opportunities for their future; help us establish or enhance adult learning opportunities that include literacy services, basic computer training, ESL, GED or high school completion programs; and allow us to increase the contributions that SINE makes to such programs as our classroom libraries.

Yes, I want to become a SINE partner. Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution that will enable SINE to develop and support much-needed programs in our communities. I understand that through my generous gift, I will contribute to building a better future for Southwest Indiana.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Company/Organization/School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

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 the Southwest Indiana Network for Education, Wilder Center, Route 3, Box 12C, Oakland City, IN 47660.