



IU1

INTERMEDIATE UNIT 1
Fayette-Greene-Washington

INTERCONNECTED

October Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 6

SPOTLIGHT ON THE STUDENTS



The IU1 Innovation Showcase at the WVU Erickson Alumni Center was a lively celebration of creativity and ingenuity, uniting schools from Southwestern PA, the northern panhandle of West Virginia, and even Ohio. It highlighted the transformative impact of innovation grant money from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, EQT, and Equitrans.

The venue buzzed with excitement as diverse projects were displayed. One notable exhibit featured students proudly presenting their beekeeping uniforms and various honey-based products, showcasing both entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to sustainability.

Budding musicians showcased violins and ukuleles crafted with precision by a 3D printer, blending technology and artistry to captivate onlookers. Another group delighted sweet teeth with freeze-dried candy creations, adding a surprising dimension to the showcase.

Teachers and administrators from the tri-state area engaged with students, discussing the processes and stories behind each project. The IU1 Innovative Showcase served as a platform for students to exhibit their hard work and fostered a culture of innovation and collaboration across the region.



REMINDER ROUNDUP!

- Upcoming dates for the remainder of 2023 IU1 Central Office Professional Development days are:
 - November 15, 2023
 - December 13, 2023

All sessions will be held from 9am - 11:30am in the Fayette/Washington Rooms. Topics are TBD.



TECH-TIP! WIRELESS NETWORK SECURITY

- NEVER connect to a network that is not password protected. Anyone can get on, including cybercriminals who want to steal your information!
- Use only trustworthy networks you are familiar with
- Do not share Wi-Fi passwords with anyone

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EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

IU1 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Chelsea Snyder is one of the two Head Coordinators in IU1's Adult Basic Education and Career Readiness Program. In this role Chelsea wears many hats! She is a teacher, student support coordinator, head of the recruitment committee, orientation and assessment coordinator, and head coordinator of all the day-to-day operations of the adult basic education classes in Westmoreland and Greene Counties. She is an amazing and caring teacher, counselor, and coordinator who works tirelessly to make the IU1 Adult Basic Education program one of the best in the state. Jessica, one of Chelsea's previous students, spoke at this year's IU1 in-service and expressed how Chelsea helped to change her life. This October, IU1 held its 4th annual High School Equivalency Graduation Ceremony. This event was single-handedly initiated by Chelsea, and she does an amazing job organizing it every year. Thank you, Chelsea for your student-focused commitment to excellence!



Chelsea Snyder

FRESH FACES: GET TO KNOW OUR SEPTEMBER NEW HIRES!

- Anicia Boskovitch – School Counselor - Itinerant
- Lisa Bickerstaff – Early Intervention Teacher - Washington Park Early Intervention
- Joseph Lape – Supervisor of Technology Services - IU1 Central Office
- Elizabeth Meerdo – Career Readiness Coordinator - IU1 Central Office
- Laci Myers – Special Education Teacher - Carmichaels Elementary School
- Dakota Symons – Paraprofessional - IU1 Educational Campus at McMurray
- Sarah Worth – Speech Clinician - North Union Early Intervention

UPBEAT UPDATE

Mr. Robert Mitchell's election to the Pennsylvania State Board of Education is a crowning achievement in his extensive career dedicated to education. With a history of service as a School Director and treasurer on the IU1 Board, Mr. Mitchell has been a consistent force in local and regional educational development. His commitment is further demonstrated by his dual role as an Electrical Instructor at the Greene County Career and Technology Center since 1990. Holding a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education and a Vocational II Certification, Mr. Mitchell's expertise extends beyond traditional education. His versatility is highlighted by his certification as a PennDot Flagger Trainer for the Gas & Oil Industry. As he takes on this new role, we celebrate not only his accomplishments but also the dedication, knowledge, and passion he brings to shaping education policies for the benefit of students statewide. Congratulations, Mr. Mitchell!



POWERFUL PERSPECTIVES

*RONALD GALLAGHER
SUPERVISOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION*



As we approach the season of Thanksgiving, we are reminded of the importance of spending quality time with our family and loved ones. This time of year allows us to reflect on the blessings and joys that surround us, and we hope that you and your students find warmth and happiness in this holiday season.

Looking ahead, the Curriculum Department is excited about the opportunities that lie before us. We are committed to providing schools with the best Professional Development opportunities and resources, designed to empower educators and enhance the learning experience for our students. Together, we will continue to strive for excellence, ensuring that our schools and our region are at the forefront of education.

This season, let us cherish the time we spend with loved ones, and let that gratitude inspire us to continue making a positive impact on our students' lives. Wishing you all a joyful Thanksgiving, and may the coming year bring even greater success in our educational endeavors.