



 **Safe Schools
Healthy Students**

**Volume 3
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**Special points of
interest:**

- Fourteen parents completed the 2011 CIS Parents As Leaders program
- Project Director & Five Program representatives participated in May training
- CIS Coordinators participated in Realty Store at Kuhlman Center

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Communities In Schools Engaging Parents

Communities In Schools (CIS) passionately works in public schools to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

One of the components involves parent engagement. Coordinator, Kris Lopresti is the primary Parent Recruiter. She recruits Community volunteers for bonus period and special events at Richmond High School. Dia Hogg and Rick Wedlow help recruit parent tutors.

Currently there are 50 parent volunteers. They help chaperone dances, judge projects and assist with other school activities. Next year parent volunteer opportunities will greatly increase.

Girls, Inc., Youth As Resources, and Greg Pyle Photography are three current Community volunteers. They each are in charge of specific programs offered to RHS students during bonus period.

Kris is also in charge of recruiting parent and com-



munity volunteers for the “Kick Off Mentoring” (KOM) program. This program offers mentors to Freshmen from either the Junior or Senior class. During Bonus period, all Freshmen meet in their home room. There is one mentor for every four to five Freshmen.

The KOM council are 15 Junior and Senior students who are in charge of two home rooms each. These students determine what each classroom KOM group does each session. In total, there are approximately 150 KOM mentors. Teachers supervise their classrooms but the program is student driven.

Next year, Kris hopes to recruit parents to adopt KOM classes. If there is a snack day, the parent makes sure they are provided and assist in other ways too. They would participate similar to

“Room Mothers” on the elementary level. Kris will be looking for churches or organizations to adopt KOM classes next year as well.

Besides her volunteer recruiting responsibilities, she monitors the Parent and Community Center area. Students come and go freely from that room.

Kris is a very active and involved CIS coordinator. She is involved in many projects such as Ice Cream Day, Bonus Periods, teacher appreciation activities and teacher support projects.

For more information on volunteering call 765-973-3352.





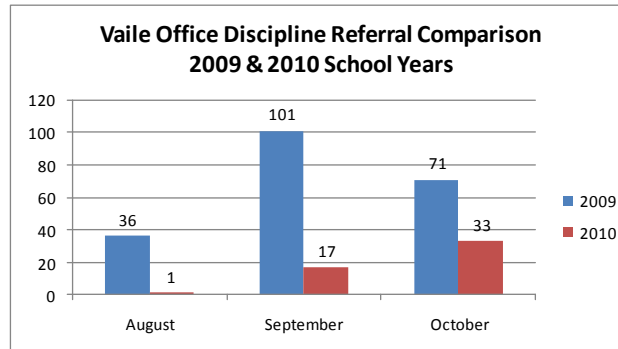
Positive Behavior Intervention & Support Success At Vaile

Positive Behavior Intervention & Support (PBIS) experienced great success at Vaile Elementary. There has been tremendous decrease in office referrals. They attribute this to the hard work of the universal PBIS team, Administration and staff working together to create a more positive culture in their building.

Staff bought into the program and implemented classroom matrices for expected classroom behavior. This program defines every behavior, while providing strategies to handle the non-desired behaviors. PBIS helps teach students the desired behaviors for their school through modeling and role play, while acknowledging students for displaying these behaviors. These acknowledgements range from all school parties, indi-

vidual “caught you being good” cards, and specific verbal praise. Students are re-taught appropriate behavior throughout the year as suggested by office discipline referral data collected by the PBIS team.

ing more strategies to handle negative behaviors in classrooms, office referrals have been greatly reduced at Vaile. The graph shows the progress in the first 3 months of 2009 versus 2010 school year. That success has continued.



Specific lists of behaviors were made for teachers to respond to the child versus a list of behaviors for which a child would be referred to the office. As a result of students learning more ways to exhibit appropriate behavior and teachers develop-

Every school has a PBIS team. Each school has seen some progress in Set & Bench scores. There are 2 Evaluation Tools: Set & Bench For Quality scores. These evaluation tools measure the fidelity of implementation of PBIS at the universal level in each building. A score of 80% or higher shows that a building is fully implementing PBIS at the universal level, which means that all students are consistently receiving those services. The PBIS team looks forward to greater success in other schools as further implementation increases.

Second Steps Curriculum

Second Steps Curriculum is an empathy based social skills curriculum to teach pro social behavior.

Second Steps Material

- **Listening, Learning, Making Friends-Kindergarten and Grade 1** begin with skills for Learning and Listening Rules, which set the stage for future academic success and later lessons on identifying feelings, managing strong emotions, solving problems and getting along with others.
- **Paying Attention and Getting**

Along-Grade 2 and 3 hone their ability to pay attention, listen, and ignore distractions, how to respond to others with empathy, calm down, manage strong feelings, and solve problems.

- **Managing Emotions and Working Together-Grades 4 and 5** will strengthen their empathy, emotion-management, and problem-solving skills while learning to use them in social and academic settings.
- **Promote School Success and Prevent Risky Behaviors-**

Middle School students learn the protective skills to make good choices and stay engaged in school despite the pitfalls of substance abuse, bullying, cyber bullying, and peer pressure.

This curriculum has been implemented in every classroom at the Elementary level. Both middle schools have been trained and hope to implement next year. It is exciting to see the success and hear students using language that they have learned through this program.

Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant purchased the Second Steps Curriculum for Richmond Community Schools & helps fund some of the PBS team.



Birth-To-Five Staff Changes

Birth-To-Five is a service organization dedicated to maximizing the social, emotional, intellectual, language and physical development of young children in Wayne County. This also includes Kindergarten readiness.

Three new board members have been added due to former position terms ending. They represent Social Service/Mental Health, Adult Learning Center, and Health Care areas. They are great additions and will make the board stronger. Greg Lardi, is the new Birth-To-Five Board President.

The Parents As Teachers program of Birth-To-Five is working toward meeting the 2014 stringent requirements that program requires. One requirement is having an advisory board consisting of people from Social Service/Mental Health, Adult Learning Center, and Health Care. As a result of the addition of the new board mem-

bers, they are already meeting this part of the requirements.

As new Director of Birth-To-Five, Portia Villafuerte brings two years of Parent Educator experience and seventeen years of previ-



ous executive experience. She is excited about her new

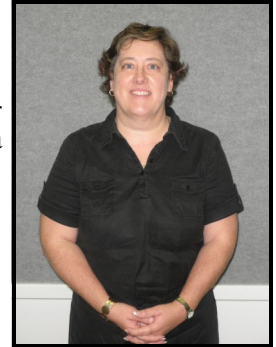
position that emphasizes “family first”.

Her new responsibilities include grant writing, seeking funds, community outreach and managing the supervisors in Parents As Teachers and Healthy Families.

Linda Irwin became the new Parents As Teacher Supervisor/

Program Manger. She previously was a Parent Educator, Teacher for 25 years and Principal for 3 years.

Linda continues to serve a few families as well as supervising four parent educators. She is really excited about her new job promotion.



Recently Lynnandria Diamond and Denise Ballard were hired as additional parent educators.

As a result of the staff changes, Birth-To-Five will be able to enhance their programs which continue to provide successful services to young children and their families.

SS/HS Grant helps fund Birth-To-Five Parents As Teachers program for the City of Richmond.

2011 Sustainability Planning Meeting

A group of required partners representing Safe Schools/Healthy Students from Richmond, Indiana attended a Sustainability Planning Meeting for programs associated with the current grant.



Those in attendance included:

*Robb Backmeyer, Centerstone
Sheriff Jeff Cappa, Wayne County Sheriff Dept.
Kory George, Wayne County Probation Dept.*

*Misty Hollis, Safe Schools/Healthy Students
Sgt. Curt Leverton, Richmond Police Dept.
Mark Millis, Richmond Community Schools*

While participating in the SS/HS meeting, the partners reviewed data reported from two years of the grant, began formulating recommendations on programs to sustain and even discussed expanding current partnerships between Juvenile Justice, Law Enforcement, Social Services and Richmond Community Schools. “It was great having time to be focused on our grant’s successes,” stated Misty Hollis. “I believe we began a strong strategic and planning document for our grant’s site.”

We're On The Web!
www.cpywayne.org



COUNTYWIDE
PARTNERSHIP
FOR YOUTH

cpywayne.org

Formed in 2004, the Partnership's Youth Development Plan provides a vision for enhancing positive factors in a child's life. CPY consists of volunteers from all areas of the county. Business, Non-Profits and Individuals alike are stepping up to make a stand for the youth of Wayne County.

CPY supports the work of Wayne County partners who bolster positive youth development. By working collec-

tively we will have better outcomes for our youth and more effective use of our resources. Come, connect, share and empower – for the sole purpose of giving the youth in our community the opportunity to excel.

You are welcome to view our web site at www.cpywayne.org for past meeting notes or materials related to Positive Youth Development.

Safe Schools Healthy Students is a Federally funded initiative under the umbrella of the Countywide Partnership for Youth. For more information on the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant, please call Misty Hollis at 973-4930 or email: mistyd@rcs.k12in.us.

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