



Mooreville PRIDE

Sept. 1, 2011

MCSC Vision: To become an Indiana premier school community devoted to the successful learning and maturation of every student.

Mooreville Schools Rated Exemplary

Give Us An “A”

Teamwork, focus and hard work are paying off for students, staff, and other members of the Mooreville School Community. Mooreville Schools received a grade of “A” (Exemplary Progress) through the Indiana Department of Education’s AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress).

The rating is another indicator of the improvement occurring across Mooreville schools. In addition, all five MCSC elementary schools received an “A” rating for the second year in a row.

For the first time in Mooreville history, every school, and in every state-measured category, made the AYP goals set by the state.

Building off of the greatest

single year growth in Mooreville schools’ history from spring 2009 to spring 2010 the Mooreville Pioneers did it again.

Student performance growth has now improved by 13% over the past two academic years in all students’ grades 3 – 8 English and math performance. (See July 20, 2011 Mooreville Pride edition).

Individual schools also scored extremely well at the AYP.

“Over the past two years, Mooreville schools have been recognized as one of Indiana’s most rapidly improving school communities and are making a rocket-like ascent to the top of Indiana school districts,” said Superintendent Brad Lindsay.

Indiana Department of Education Rankings:

- A - Exemplary Progress
- B - Commendable Progress
- C - Academic Progress
- D - Academic Watch
- F - Academic Probation

Mooreville schools now rank in the top 24% of Indiana school districts in ISTEP performance and are in the top four percent in high school graduation rates of all Indiana public, private, and charter schools. Grades 3-8 ISTEP, high school ECA (End of Course Assessments) and graduation rates are key categories measured for AYP.

Additional information about the AYP is available at: <http://www.doe.in.gov/pl221/welcome.html>

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We Are Mooreville . . .

**An “A” - Rated, Exemplary
School Community**

as named by the Indiana Department of Education

. . . This Is Our Time!



Jake Allen, PHMS Lead Principal

A Heartfelt Message from a Parent

With nearly 4,500 students and 500 staff members at seven different campuses on any school day, there is always the possibility of an accident or medical incident occurring.

While our staff does its best to insure students are as safe as possible at school, sometimes it is simply the actions of one person which make all the difference. The following is printed with permission from parent Susan Fines. It was also sent to and published in the *Mooreville Times*.

We thank the Fines family for sharing their story and of course recognize Mr. Allen for his quick thinking and lifesaving actions.

Please note: Mooreville schools do not release medical information or specific incident information about individual students. For this story, we received parental permission to explain a situation which occurred at school.

Thank You, Mr. Allen, For Saving Our Son

My name is Susan Fines, and our family would like to express thanks to Paul Hadley Lead Principal Jake Allen.

On Aug. 12, the second day of school, my son, Luke, was at lunch eating and as he took a bite of a breadstick. It immediately got lodged in his throat.

The kids sitting near him thought he was kidding, but it just so happened that Mr. Allen was walking by (staff members monitor the lunch room every day). He noticed Luke and went directly over to him to ask if he could breathe. Luke was shaking his head, no.

Mr. Allen picked him up and realized at this time he was turning blue, so he performed the Heimlich Maneuver on Luke several times. By the fourth or fifth time, the food came out.

When I received the call, my husband, Steve, and I headed to the school immediately and found Mr. Allen in his office shaking and praying. He looked like he had realized what had just happened. Of course, the nurse had checked Luke out, and he seemed fine, but mom and dad had to see for ourselves and that's when all the tears started falling.

Mr. Allen literally saved Luke's life, and how do you say thank you enough? My husband and I just wanted to let the community know how wonderful Mr. Allen is.

Luke is a twin and is also a heart patient. When Luke was born, he turned blue. To make a long story short, he was taken to Riley Hospital and was diagnosed with "transposition of the great vessels," which means his vessels were swapped or on the wrong side. So the start of his life was rough, but with many thanks to Riley Hospital staff, Luke was in and out in 21 days and lives a full life (with regular yearly visits to Riley). Luke has two sisters, Abbey and Emilly, and a twin brother, Nolen.

Because Mr. Allen cared enough to check on one student, our son is alive and well. Thank you, Mr. Allen, with all our hearts.

Susan Fines and family



Find us online at www.moorevilleschools.org
or www.facebook.com/moorevilleschools

Mooreville's 2011 Adequate Yearly Progress Scorecard

Student Group	English Performance				Math Performance				English Participation			Math Participation			Other Indicator			
	Student N	Pass %	Target Pass %	SH Made	Student N	Pass %	Target Pass %	SH Made	Student N	Tested %	Made	Student N	Tested %	Made	Type	Rate	Target Rate	Made
Overall,Elementary	827	86.0	76.2	Y	824	87.1	75.4	Y	1088	99.4	Y	1088	99.2	Y	Attend.	96.8	95.0	Y
Overall,Middle Schl.	896	80.8	76.4	Y	897	85.3	75.5	Y	1006	99.6	Y	1006	99.7	Y	Attend.	96.8	95.0	Y
Overall,High Schl.	321	72.3	74.2	Y	323	84.2	73.4	Y	341	97.9	Y	341	98.8	Y	Grad.	97.3	90.0	Y
White,Elementary	771	86.3	76.1	Y	769	87.4	75.3	Y	1016	99.3	Y	1016	99.1	Y				
White,Middle Schl.	863	81.0	76.3	Y	864	85.2	75.5	Y	966	99.8	Y	966	99.7	Y				
White,High Schl.	310	72.6	74.2	Y	312	84.0	73.3	Y	328	97.9	Y	328	98.8	Y				
F/R Meals,Elementary	317	80.4	74.2	Y	315	82.2	73.3	Y	439	99.1	Y	439	98.8	Y				
F/R Meals,Middle Schl.	277	71.8	73.8	Y	278	75.2	73.0	Y	330	99.0	Y	330	99.4	Y				
F/R Meals,High Schl.	87	66.7	69.4	Y	88	75.0	68.5	Y	93	98.9	Y	93	100.0	Y				
Special Ed.,Elementary	159	78.6	72.0	Y	158	79.1	71.1	Y	165	99.0	Y	165	98.7	Y				
Special Ed.,Middle Schl.	124	60.5	71.1	Y	125	67.2	70.2	Y	100	98.4	Y	100	100.0	Y				

“A” Ranking Puts Mooreville Among State’s Best

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Continuing Progress

At MHS and PHMS, the school buildings each received a ranking of “C” or “Academic Progress.” Both schools made gains in several areas of AYP and met all of their AYP goals, but are still working toward “A” status.

“Our staff was not satisfied with the scores we received last fall and intentionally focused on literacy as well as working with our free- and reduced-lunch population, two identified areas of need,” said MHS Principal Chuck Muston. “We had a concentrated and focused effort to meet each student’s needs and utilized additional materials, software and programs to fit those needs. These efforts, which were put into place by second semester, were led within our English department

but truly involved all departments, which I believe was key to our overall success.”

MHS has had other success as well. The school’s graduation rate places it in the top four percent of all Indiana schools, including public, private, and charter schools.

The Mooreville Way

Superintendent Lindsay is proud of the successes achieved by Mooreville staff and students over the past year.

“We are creating the ‘Mooreville Way’ by focusing on developing healthy relationships with our students, community, and one another, and motivating optimal learning through relevant, purposeful, and engaged lessons,” said Lindsay. “As our team moves forward, increased continuity across our district is what will

make the enduring difference in the lives of our students and across our total school community. We are Mooreville, this is our time, prepare for blast off!”

Upcoming Events

Sept. 5
-Labor Day - No School

Sept. 6
-Neil Armstrong PTO Room
Parents Meeting 7p.m.

Sept. 9
-9-week mid-term grades

Sept. 12
-PHMS Parent Meeting, 6p.m.

Sept. 15
-Waverly PTO Meeting 6p.m.

Taking on the 21st Century with a New Model

By Elaine Whitesides

Morgan County Business Leader

Superintendent of Mooreville Schools Brad Lindsay is steadfast. “We are preparing our students to go succeed and make a difference in the world; and we can’t do things the way we used to because the world has changed and the budgets have changed. The old model doesn’t connect with the new world.”

He says it is critical to reinvent systems that teach new skills because jobs are changing so fast. The skills of collaboration, written and oral communication, literacy, technology, problem solving, thinking and applying learning to situations are the key. “We believe developing those skill sets and a passion to learn is what is going to prepare them,” Lindsay says.

“We’re all in this together for the good of the community,” Lindsay says. One strategy is developing partnerships – with the parks, the police, the fire department, the town council and businesses to reduce expenditures and share resources.

The district has one of the lowest expenditure per student ratios in the state. At the same time, Mooreville has achieved one of the highest graduation rates in the state and overall ISTEP scores reached the top 24 percent of the state this year. He asks, “What business wouldn’t like to say that?”

By creating and modeling collaborative partnerships, Lindsay believes something else will happen. He says, “The outcome of the collective energies will be the example for students to take out into the world with them.”

Lindsay himself is a role model. He says, “I have a responsibility to serve. Whatever role I ever have, my goal is to serve and be the best I can be. I want to scout out what is out there being successful and producing. I ask, ‘why does that work?’ and then we work in teams to collectively share. There are some areas of expertise I can bring, but there are areas that the expertise comes from others; our teachers, our staff, business and community.”

“We are not in a status quo mode. We are keeping a healthy sense of urgency. We have a job to do and the stakes have never

been higher. The world is changing exponentially; therefore we have to have disruptive innovation to learning.”

One bold new innovation is the distribution of laptops to each eighth- and ninth-grader in the district, which is expected to be about 700 students.

Mooreville High School Principal Chuck Muston says, “The idea is to provide Internet access and access to our server to use technology and other tools that we have at our disposal to deliver instruction.”

Students and their families will be able to use the computers at home, but students are responsible for having them charged and ready for school every day. Lessons, assignments, collaboration and help will all be available 24/7 – whenever the student is ready to work. Because Internet access is through the school servers, it will be restricted – there will not be access to Facebook, Twitter and other such sites.

The administrators acknowledge the excitement of the staff, the students and their parents. They also understand the paradigm shift that is required since this type of methodology is far outside the educational experience of most parents. Their expectation is that engagement will soar since they believe students are more likely to have their laptop open than a textbook. They hope that engagement spills over at home to start conversations about learning that stimulates additional curiosity and the pursuit of knowledge for the whole family.

“It’s the future,” Muston says. “This is where

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Lindsay

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The MHS Learning Center was a hub of activity during laptop computer distribution at the beginning of August. Parents received important paperwork about the program and went through the initial laptop setup and network login with a member of the technology department.

Taking a Business Approach to a Goal that is Distinctively Mooreville

*By Elaine Whitesides
Morgan County Business Leader*

Not only was there a changing of the guard two years ago when Brad Lindsay was named Superintendent of Schools in Mooreville, there was a change in the trajectory of the education of young people in the community – and the purpose to make a dramatic change.

Following the example provided by his father, Dr. Larry Lindsay, Chief of Staff at Indiana Wesleyan University, Brad Lindsay studies leadership and what makes businesses sustainable. He says it is in the common mission, the common goals and collaboration; everyone engaged doing the best work possible and continuing to improve – and he is applying that approach in the district.

It began as a ripple when Lindsay was the Assistant Superintendent, Director of Curriculum and Instruction starting in 2008.

In 2010, he became superintendent and three new board members joined the existing board. The ripple became a wave when there was a decision to create a new structure. “We audited everything,” Lindsay says “to ascertain where the district was and then analyzing where we most wanted and needed to go.”

He says they wanted a broad-based team that included business leaders, the community and teachers

to develop a strategic map.

About 80 people participated and were divided into four executive advisory teams to share expertise in specific areas: the finance advisory team, the academic advisory team, the facilities advisory team and the communication/connections advisory team. Teams shared their expertise over a series of meetings and a 3-year strategic map resulted.

Principals began working with staff in each school developing curriculum that aligns district goals and objectives framed in the strategic map with state and federal curriculum standards and then applying best practices to meet those standards.

“When they graduate, we want all kids to be career and college ready or future ready today,” Lindsay says. Believing that elementary is the foundation; he says efforts have been concentrated first there. It has made a difference.

“What has happened by intentionally focusing, planning and sharing together over the last two to three years is that we have improved by 13 percent in English and Math of all students in grades 3 – 8 combined,” Lindsay says. “(Mooreville) is now in the top 24 percent of the state.”

The Mooreville High School graduation rate is now in the top 4 percent of the state of Indiana,

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The 21st Century

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education is going and we can't fight technology, nor do we want to.

Colleges and employers expect people to come to them technology ready."

Lindsay credits Robert Sendelbach, the chief technology officer, with finding resources to make the program possible for the schools. Sendelbach says the district is not the first to distribute laptops to students. But in Mooreville, the critical component was the aircard built into each of the Hewlett Packard notebooks because Mooreville is not Internet accessible in all places. In fact, a survey of high school students indicated that only 25 percent of them had high speed Internet access at home – it just wasn't available. That changes with the built in aircard and the affordable Verizon service.

You'll hear much praise for Hewlett Packard and Verizon in Mooreville right now. They are held up as businesses that stepped up and are providing an experience for a blue-collar family community that would not otherwise be possible. Muston says, "As technology changes, (the students) will have an experience to draw from,



Kyle Davis explains the new laptops and how to log in to the school network.

which will give our students a leg up as they compete in the career arena."

As Lindsay states, learning is first and foremost here and everyone has their eye on common goals. They are employing the strategic map developed by the board and advisory teams as a multipronged approach to education – one that includes the teachers and schools, the families, the parents, the students and the community, including business.

A Uniquely Mooreville Approach

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including all high schools – public, private and charter.

"We have to win with student growth, in the adequate yearly performance," Lindsay says. "We believe that the more successful we are, the more freedom we will have to create the tri-dimensional learning of students, which we believe is really the purpose to positively influence and impact the lives of our students."

The tri-dimensional learning

Lindsay refers to includes heart, mind and body. He says it harkens all the way back to 1959 when the new high school was opened. "Enter to learn – depart to serve" was the call to all Mooreville students and he says that is as relevant to students today as it was then.

"We aren't trying to be like any other school community," Lindsay says. "We want to be uniquely Mooreville, distinctly

Mooreville, so we can bring to our students what they need to be successful in the world. We are creating an environment that is the Mooreville way of effective instruction and learning by taking the best of what we do and developing a system that is uniquely Mooreville.

"We are proud of our Mooreville community and we know our best is yet to come!"