



SPOTLIGHT ON THE STUDENTS

Since mid-November, students from our Intermediate Unit 1 Waynesburg Campus were excitedly engaged in the creation of holiday decorations in the Fab Lab, utilizing reclaimed pallet wood for their artistic projects. Focusing their efforts on tasks such as dismantling the pallets, extracting the nails, and meticulously sanding the wood to enhance its aesthetic appeal, these students have demonstrated a commendable work ethic. They paid close attention to tracing intricate the patterns and applying paints to the pieces, which led to the final step: assembly! The students not only found joy in the process, but also excelled in producing some remarkable results. Way to go, Gryphons!

Fun fact: The holiday creations were presented as gifts to the IU1 Board members on Thursday December 14, 2023. Look for pictures in the January 2024 issue of IU1 Interconnected!



REMINDER ROUNDUP!

- Christmas break:
 - Friday December 22nd - Monday January 1st
- In-Service with Bentworth and Charleroi School Districts:
 - Wednesday January 3rd, 8am - 3pm, at Charleroi School District
- Central Office January Professional Development:
 - Friday January 19th from 9am - 11:30am in the Washington & Fayette Rooms

TECH-TIP! *BE SELECTIVE WHEN INSTALLING APPS!*

- Only install from trusted sources
- Read reviews and other sources to ensure it is safe before downloading
- Excessive unused apps and background services can negatively impact device performance and battery
- Installing from untrustworthy sources can put your devices security at risk



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EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

IU1 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Adrienne John, an IU1 school psychologist assigned to the Canon-McMillan School District, provides academic and behavioral services and interventions within the district's MTSS programming to support students, staff and families. She works across 7 buildings at the K-6 grade level. Adrienne meets with building staff to review and organize student level data. She facilitates team problem solving and decision making. She is a devoted professional empowering the growth and progress of her students. Adrienne is a change agent and leader in the field of education. Her dedication as a school psychologist is to be commended and recognized.



Adrienne John

FRESH FACES: GET TO KNOW OUR NOVEMBER NEW HIRES!

- Samuel Taylor – Math Curriculum Specialist – Central Office
- Sandra Ferry – Accounting Assistant – Central Office

≡Welcome≡

UPBEAT UPDATE



IU1 McMurray campus students are currently collecting clothes, toiletries, and non-perishable food items for the Lion's Den Donation Center, which was established in November of 2022. Initially in collaboration with the RENEW initiative, secondary students are now assisting in the collection and distribution processes. The goal is to teach the students about responsibility and give them an opportunity for positive recognition. Thanks to the generosity of the McMurray Campus staff, as well as other IU1 personnel, the project is still ongoing and successful. The items that are collected are housed at McMurray but are for any IU1 student in need. *If you know of a student who needs items, please reach out to Marissa Sacco, IU1 TaC at marissa.sacco@iu1.org.*



IU1 and the Literacy Council of Southwestern PA also collected gently used coats and winter accessories for our English as a Second Language students who take classes at the Presbyterian Church of Charleroi. The majority of our students are Haitian and most of them are walking to the class. The weather is getting colder and the teachers and tutors noticed some of the students did not have winter coats or accessories.

After collecting the coats during the first two weeks of December, the staff and tutors from IU1 and the Literacy Council of Southwestern PA distributed over 70 coats with multiple winter accessories on the morning of December 14. Many students were able to take a coat for his/herself and a coat for a family member.

POWERFUL PERSPECTIVES MIKE MINOR

SUPERVISOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION/MCMURRAY CAMPUS PRINCIPAL

As we move closer to the holiday season, we find ourselves reflecting and appreciating those things of great importance in our lives. This includes family, friends and colleagues who mean so much to us. Take these moments in the coming days to acknowledge and empower those around you including your peers, students, and families. Remind each other where we started, where we are, and where we are headed. It takes a focused team approach to accomplish our mission and goals as a system of educators. Communication and collaboration are essential. I wish continued health and happiness to all reading this newsletter. Keep the momentum moving forward as we provide high quality services and supports in our learning environments across the IU. Celebrate the end of the year 2023 and plan for the excitement of what is ahead as we embark on the year 2024.

