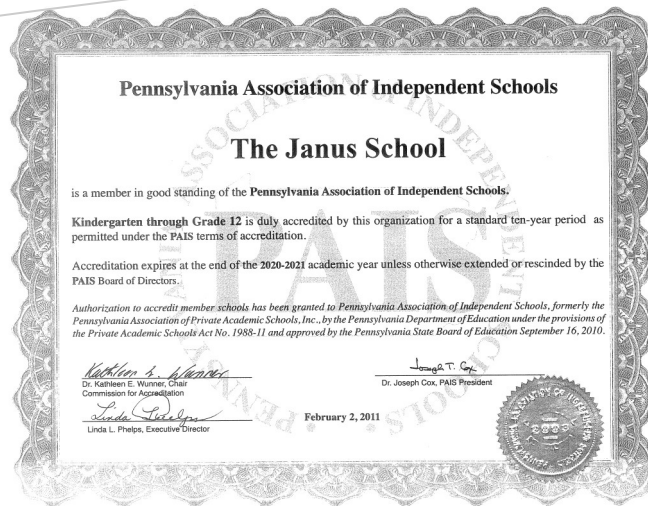


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The Janus School

Update

Helping individuals with learning differences access their potential by providing excellence in education, research, & community outreach.



HISTORY-MAKING ACCOMPLISHMENT AT THE JANUS SCHOOL

For the first time in the history of The Janus School, we received Accreditation with Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS). Janus is now dually accredited by PAIS and Middles States Association (MSA).

Congratulations to the Janus community on this accomplishment!!!

Service Learning Class Accomplishments

The Juniors of the second trimester Service Learning class, working with Student Council, successfully raised money and generally made a positive impact on their world. Between the coin drive and birdhouse sales, they raised over \$300 for Haiti Partners. During January and February they also collected approximately 500 cans for the Lancaster County Council of Churches Food Bank. In addition to these projects they made and handed out “Good Deed” bracelets to lower and middle division students caught doing good deeds. Members of the class included: Nick Zampelli, Kelly Brosey, Evan Brinkman, Nick Ports, Nick Graf, Andrew Wuerz, Nathan Kachel, and Katie Shingle.



It's not too late to register!

April 7, 2011

Jane Bluestein, Ph.D.

Creating Success with Non-Traditional Learners
by Accommodating Learning Differences

Educator's Workshop	1:30-4:30pm	\$75
Lecture	6:00-8:00pm	\$15


Come join us as Dr. Jane Bluestein, famous educator and author, presents a program that will explore a number of ways individuals learn. In addition to presenting dozens of practical strategies for accommodating a variety of learner preferences, we will also look at ways to teach children how to take responsibility for their own learning needs. This special event is open to the public and promises to offer something unique to all interested parents, educators, and other professionals.

A registration form is available on Edline. Walk in registrations are also welcome.

Library Book Sale Results

Thanks to all who supported the Library Book Sale in March. We sold \$97.00 worth of books. At a quarter a piece, that was 388 books! All the books were donated to the library. Several dozen of the donated books were added to the library collection. The money earned will be used to buy new titles that teachers have requested for the library. The best part of sponsoring a book sale is seeing the students excited about buying books they really want to read.

Remember...




May 6, 2011

is a

Snow Make-Up Day

12:30pm Dismissal



MAY LUNCH

ORDERS AND PAYMENT DUE

APRIL 25TH

*ORDER FORMS ARE IN THIS WEEK'S ENVELOPE
AND ARE AVAILABLE ON EDLINE*

April 2011



⑤= Cycle Day

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Reenrollment due Spirit Week	2
3	4 Laserdome 3-5pm	5	6	7 Dr. Jane Bluestein speaker event (see pg. 2 for more info.) Open House 9-11am	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Dental exams	15	16
17	18 Physical exams	19 Therapy dogs visit No Testing Day	20 All School picture day No Testing Day	21 LD & MD field trip to Refreshing Mountain No Testing Day	22 No School	23
24 	25 No Testing Day May Lunch Order Forms Due	26 No Testing Day	27	28	29	30

Theme of the Month: Courage

READ-A-THON

All lower and middle division reading classes participated in a month long Read-a-Thon beginning on March 2 in honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday. Each class set a goal for the number of minutes they thought they could read in the month of March. Many classes set lofty goals, but happily they were all able to meet their reading goals. As a reward, the students earned a movie party during reading class on Monday, April 4. In addition, Jen's reading class read the highest average number of minutes and won a pizza party. All students should be congratulated for their great effort and the additional time they put in to prove what hard working readers they all are.

Upcoming Community Events

April 9- The Greater Harrisburg Chapter of Autism Society is sponsoring *Logan's Run and Walk for Autism*. To register or for more information visit www.autismharrisburg.org

ARTISM- Throughout the month of April, the Mulberry Arts Studio, located at 21 North Mulberry Street Lancaster, PA 17603 is celebrating the creative works of local students on the autism spectrum. For more information contact (717) 295-1949.

May 21- Autism York is sponsoring *Walk for Autism*. To register as a walker or for more information visit www.autismyork.org

Summer Programs

June 20-July 29, 2011

Core Academic Program

Monday-Friday 8:30-11:45am

Assistive Technology & Study Skills

Tuesday & Thursday 9:30-11:30am

Afternoon Programs

Monday-Friday 12:00-3:00pm

(Afternoon Programs include Theatre, Intro. to Spanish Language & Culture, Photography, and Intro. to African Dance)

SAT Prep Course

Tuesday & Thursday 12:15-2:45pm

Refer to the Summer Programs brochure for more information about each Program. Brochures are available on our website at www.thejanusschool.org or at the front desk.

A message from the Director of Admission & Outreach...

Each month I speak with families who are desperately searching for a school to meet the academic and social challenges their children face on a daily basis. I am asking you to reflect on your Janus journey and consider joining me for panel discussions at these upcoming Open Houses :

May 5 (7-9pm)

Interested persons should contact Robin Payne at 717-653-0025 ext. 102 or rpayne@thejanusschool.org

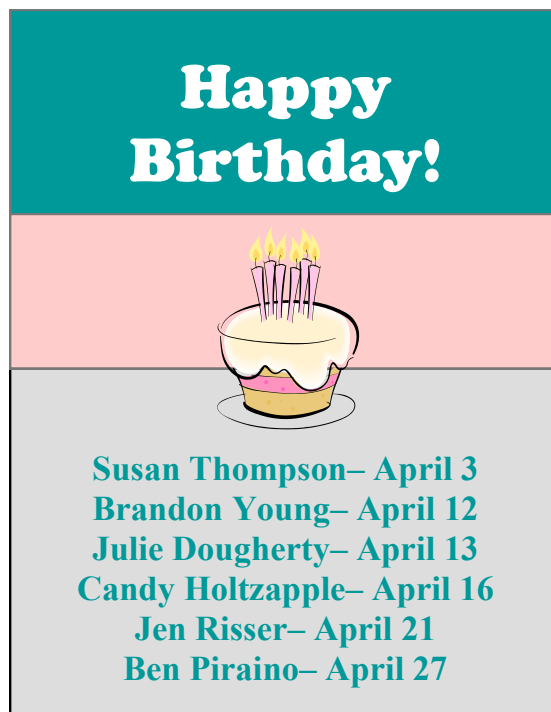
Janus Receives Video Conferencing Unit Through Act 183 Grant

Act 183 is a competitive grant program designed to create opportunities for schools to promote and accelerate broadband deployment in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. An annual \$10 million grant referred to as the E-Fund, Act 183 was established to assist schools with purchasing services, hardware, technical assistance, and distance education.

As you might remember from an article in the Fall 2010 edition of the *Journey*, after starting the grant process two years ago, Janus received an improved Internet connection this past summer. This past January, we received the second and final part of the grant— a Polycom HDX 6000 video conferencing unit. This unit gives us the ability to video-conference with other schools, institutions, groups, and individuals who also have a unit of their own. It involves using a powerful remote camera and microphone that works with a video network at the Lancaster-Lebanon IU 13 to connect to other videoconferencing units around the world.

This new unit opens up doors for a variety of improved programming here at Janus. This unit is already being used in other schools to increase their class options. For example, if there is an interest in learning Mandarin Chinese but the school is unable to afford employing a teacher for that subject, they can combine with other schools who also expressed that interest, and the group of schools employs one teacher who uses videoconferencing to teach to several classrooms at once. Video conferencing also gives schools the chance to take virtual field trips. The Smithsonian is one of the many organizations that offer free video conferencing field trips on various topics including science, history, and art.

This new equipment also gives us the ability to stream events live over the Internet, such as convocation or parent forums, for those who might not be able to travel to the school but who could watch it live from another location. We are excited about the opportunities this opens for us and look forward to exploring this technology.



2011-2012 FINANCIAL AID REMINDER

If you haven't already completed your financial aid application for the 2011-2012 school year, it's not too late!

Apply to Financial Aid for School Tuition (FAST) online at www.thejanusschool.org

- Click on Admission
- Scroll down and click on Financial Aid
- Click on FAST website

Congratulations to Owen Korich for recently earning his orange belt in karate!

Two Potential Summer Writing Workshops

The Janus School is looking at the possibility of providing two summer writing workshops as part of our 2011 Summer Programs. Look for more information and registration instructions to come home soon.

WRITING TO THE BEAT OF A DIFFERENT DRUMMER

JUNE 20th-24th, 12:00 - 3:00pm
Ages 6-12

Linda Oatman High is an author of more than 20 award-winning books for children and teens, as well as a playwright/poet/songwriter. Linda's children's play "Hansel and Gretel in the Big Apple" will be produced this summer by Mt. Gretna Theatre, and her newest children's book is "Dream Big, Little Pig," which Linda ghostwrote for Kristi Yamaguchi. The book debuted at #2 on the New York Times bestselling list on April 3, 2011.

Linda will present a weeklong writing workshop in which students spark their innate creativity with a combination of writing, art, music, and performance. Linda utilizes language, visual arts, music/drumming, and novelties to lead this exciting workshop that is not only kid-friendly and fun, but also assists students in achieving success with core curriculum standards.

Cost: \$290.00

Info on Linda and her work may be found on www.lindaoatmanhigh.com

RADICAL WRITING FOR TEENS

JULY 25, 27, and 29, 12:00 - 3:00pm
Ages 13-19

Linda Oatman High is an author of more than 20 award-winning books for children and teens, as well as a playwright/poet/songwriter. Linda's children's play "Hansel and Gretel in the Big Apple" will be produced this summer by Mt. Gretna Theatre, and her newest children's book is "Dream Big, Little Pig," which Linda ghostwrote for Kristi Yamaguchi. The book debuted at #2 on the New York Times bestselling list on April 3, 2011.

Linda will present a 3-day teen writing workshop in which students spark their innate creativity with a combination of writing, pop culture, art, music, and performance. Linda utilizes language, visual arts, music/drumming, and novelties to lead this exciting workshop that is not only teen-friendly and cool, but also assists students in achieving success with core curriculum standards. Linda has played bass guitar in several rock bands, and will utilize popular music for writing techniques in this workshop.

Cost: \$190.00

Info on Linda and her work may be found on www.lindaoatmanhigh.com

Professional Development

Read about the workshops that our staff and faculty have attended these past few months.

Keystone State Reading Association Region IV Literacy Conference

Debbie Staudt & Christine Koslosky

March 25, 2011

Whether teaching reading or writing, helping students build a strong vocabulary is paramount for

literacy teachers. Chris Koslosky and I had the privilege to attend the Keystone State Reading Association's Region IV literacy conference on Saturday, March 25. The topic was Comprehensive Vocabulary Instruction for Reading and School Success. The two speakers were leaders in the field of literacy education, Dr. John Pikulski from the University of Delaware and Dr. Shane Templeton from the University of Nevada who presented a comprehensive, research-based approach to vocabulary instruction for students of all ages.

In the morning, Dr. Pikulski started by noting that the best indicator for reading success, beyond second grade, is how large a vocabulary a student has. In first grade, the higher achieving students

Professional Development

(Continued from page 6)

know twice as many words as the struggling students. In high school, the gap is even larger: higher achieving students know four times as many words. Having a larger vocabulary obviously makes reading comprehension easier and more successful. Parents reading to their children was cited as one of the best ways to improve their vocabularies. The four major elements of a comprehensive program of vocabulary development include providing a rich and stimulating language environment that encourages reading a wide variety of topics. Next, teachers need to instruct students in the meaning of prefixes, suffixes, and roots. Introducing new vocabulary should include the word and many, if not all, of the related words in that word family. For example, *conquer*, *conquered*, *conquering*, *conqueror*, *conquest*, and *conquistador*. Additionally, words should be taught with other words that relate semantically, *river*, *creek*, *stream*, *rivulet*, *tributary*, and *brook*. Finally, teachers and parents should strive to create a keen awareness of and a deep interest in language and words with the goal of developing a strong word consciousness.

In the afternoon, Dr. Templeton began by insisting that every teacher is a teacher of language. He echoed the main principles of vocabulary instruction and went on to describe the necessary background a teacher needs to train students to understand the workings of our language. He gave many examples to clarify apparent inconsistent patterns in our language, which, by the way, has a considerably larger vocabulary than any other language. He said that if students know one word, by changing its prefixes and suffixes, they can know ten words; however, if students learn the meaning of a Latin or Greek root, they will recognize exponentially more words. He also said that 70% of all English words have a Latin or Greek root, but 90% of all words in books written

for middle and high school have Latin or Greek roots. Clearly, teaching Latin and Greek roots and the words they form should be an important part of any vocabulary instruction.

Polyvision Interactive Whiteboard Webinar

March 29, 2011

On March 29, 2011, RoseMary Walker, Gladys Doddamani, Michael Peterson, Maria Weaver-Hollowniczky, Michelle Styer, Kimberly Gladys, and Jen Risser attended a webinar training session run by a Polyvision trainer. During the hour and a half long session, we learned about the benefits and mechanics of using our new Polyvision Eno interactive whiteboards.

Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo and Conference

Jen Risser & RoseMary Walker
February 14-15, 2011

In early February, Jen Risser and RoseMary Walker attended the Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo and Conference (PETE&C) in Hershey. The conference is a statewide event that provides workshops focusing on technology in education. Some of the workshops attended included how to use voice threads in the classroom, which consists of a method of having conversations build around media allowing students and teachers to comment on text, pictures or video. Wikispaces were used throughout the conference by the presenters which allowed the presenters and others to access their information anytime. Wikis are simple web pages that provide the ability for all to view and edit as needed. Moodle was also explored at the conference. Moodle is used by educators to produce online web sites for their students. It is evident that our students are being en-

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tertained, educated and socialized in an environment different than their previous generations. They live in a world enmeshed in electronics, and it is their teachers' goal to take advantage of this opportunity.

In addition, there was the opportunity to visit many of the interesting exhibitors at their booths. Several free samples and website trials were given out during the course of the conference, and we all know how teachers love free "stuff"!

Congratulations to Gladys Doddamani on the birth of her daughter, Carolyn Mireille Guttedar, on April 5, 2011!

Panoramic Picture

On April 20th, LifeTouch is coming to do a panoramic group picture of all students, faculty, and staff. If you would like a print of this group picture, please fill out the picture form included in this week's Envelope and return with your payment on or before April 20th.

Dear Parents,

As you prepare your 2010 taxes, please read the following publication and pass it to your accountant, if appropriate. I can not answer your tax related questions, but want to make you aware that special education expenses may be deductible under medical expenses.

<http://www.irs.gov/publications/p502/ar02.html#d0e1426>

-Robin

SOCIAL STUDIES FAIR 2011

Congratulations to all students for their excellent Social Studies Fair projects!

