

November
2021



BETTER TOGETHER

*Muncie Community Schools and Ball State University
Office of Teacher Education Services and Clinical Practice*

Partnership Perspective

Whether you are dancing with the stars or teaming up for a mixed doubles tennis tournament- your partner can make ALL the difference! The MCS-BSU College Connections partnership paired **West View Elementary** with the College of Communication, Information and Media, which includes the departments of Telecommunications and Communication Studies as well as the School of Journalism and Strategic Communications.

The college kicked off the academic year with a group of CCIM faculty and staff welcoming West View students on the first day of school for Muncie Community Schools in August. They directed students to their classrooms and passed out car line name cards to parents. Laura O'Hara, professor of Communication Studies, said it was a gift to help students navigate that first day of school.

Their college's influence didn't stop there. Members of the college are working to start a Journalism Club and volunteer to oversee the lunchroom and read with students during their daily 90-minute reading block. In the weeks prior to the holiday break, CCIM will hold a book drive, in partnership with the United Way of Delaware County. From an array of titles, students will pick out a book for themselves and a book for a family member. They will insert bookmarks that Ball State CCIM students have drawn with encouraging messages as well as bookmarks with media literacy tips that kids can color. Each interaction with the students, staff and families of West View forge a closer connection and make the partnership more meaningful!



INNOVATION IN ACTION

When Secondary English Language Arts Liaison Susanna Benko found out that Ashley C. Ford would be BSU's Writer-in-Residence in Fall 2021, Susanna knew that she wanted teachers to know about Ashley's work. Ashley C. Ford graduated from Ball State and her powerful memoir, *Somebody's Daughter*, tells about her experiences of growing up poor in Indiana with father incarcerated and complicated relationships with her mother and grandmother.

In August, Susanna led PD for secondary ELA teachers from **Northside Middle School, Southside Middle School, and Muncie Central High School**, and she shared about Ashley Ford's events on campus. Later, **Tammy Underwood**, a 10th grade ELA teacher at Central HS, talked about how powerful *Somebody's Daughter* was, and she asked if there was any way to bring the book to Central students. Susanna worked with the BSU English Department and Ashley to have copies of the memoir donated for each secondary ELA teacher as well as 25 copies donated as a class set for students at Central.

Finally, Central High School was gracious enough to host Ashley in the library for a chat with teachers and administrators from MCS and Burris. Teachers spent an hour with Ashley, listening to her talk about "being on kids' sides," on what it was like growing up in Indiana, and about writing *Somebody's Daughter*. Teachers also had the chance to have Ashley sign their books. Afterwards, Tammy Underwood wrote, "When I share a book with my students, I like to refer to the author by their first name. It makes the writer feel like a friend and seem more personable. It's rare when you actually do meet the author and it takes the book sharing to a new level. Ashley C Ford now feels like a friend, and sharing her memoir, all the more memorable!"



BSU began exploring the concept of Professional Development Schools in 1995 and started to organize schools into a network of Professional Development Schools in 1998. Since that time, their Clinical Practice Network has grown to include P-12 partner schools around the state of Indiana as well as in Aldine, Texas.

**DID
YOU
KNOW?**

LIAISON @ WORK

Dixie Denton is never far from good things happening with kids! Her role as PDS Liaison at **Grissom Elementary School** suits her to a T! In alignment with the goals of each school and according to the funding of the position under a grant from the Indiana Department of Education, PDS Liaisons at each elementary school in Muncie spend a good number of hours each week working with master teachers, classroom teachers and students targeting student learning in literacy. Dixie's weekly schedule gives her many opportunities to work one-on-one and in small groups with students to improve written communication with students in grades 4, 5 and 6 and mentor them as they learn different forms of writing. "Dixie is such a joy to work with. She is patient and such a good mentor to our student writers!" **Paul Farr**, 5th grade teacher

She also spends time with the younger students helping them to increase fluency, learn new decoding strategies, find text evidence, improve student vocabulary and increase their love of reading. All of this work is designed to target areas where students are struggling and lead to more effective readers. A lot of that might sound technical and dry- but you have to know Dixie! She looks for ways to keep students engaged and spends a good deal of time introducing students to a wide variety of literature, hoping to catch their interest and attention! Whether she is helping students learn to love June B. Jones or read to learn more about their favorite animal, Dixie's love of Grissom students and strengths as an instructor shine through!



In person performance of **MCHS** Band and Guard Halloween Concert. Keep up to date on ALL the happenings at MCHS by following [PrincipalWalker@Central_MCS](https://twitter.com/PrincipalWalker@Central_MCS) on Twitter.

GREAT NEWS!



North View Elementary students team up against drugs!

October 25-21

RED RIBBON WEEK 2021 GRISSOM ELEMENTARY

MONDAY 10/25 Red Ribbon Week Kickoff: Wear red clothing	TUESDAY 10/26 Wake up drug-free and achieve your dreams. Wear pajamas to school	
WEDNESDAY 10/27 Don't get "tied-up" in drugs Wear tie-dye to school	THURSDAY 10/28 Team up against drugs Wear sports wear or favorite team	FRIDAY 10/29 Have good character, remain drug-free Dress as a storybook character

DRUG FREE LOOKS LIKE ME

Grissom Elementary held a FULL week of activities to keep students off drugs!

WHO IS OTES-CP?

MISSION STATEMENT

OTES-CP STAFF

To foster a professional learning community within our sphere of influence that provides a dynamic network of research and professional development. We do this by identifying and partnering with those educational entities, which provide our students with vital clinical field experiences key to developing appropriate knowledge, skills and dispositions proven to have a positive impact on P12 learning.

Jon Dee-Director
Sari Harris-Assistant Director
Shelby Harris-Office Coordinator
Laura Brandt-Secretary
McKenzie Criswell-Field Experience Coordinator
Amy Gough-Post-Bac Licensing Coordinator
Jane Thomas-Licensing Advisor

CONNECT WITH US!

INTERESTED IN DIGGING DEEPER INTO ASSESSMENT?

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Facebook:
www.facebook.com/BSUOTESCP
Instagram: @ballstateotescp
Twitter: @ballstateotescp
Office hours: 7am-5pm
(Summer hours: 7:30am-4pm)

Check out this AERA (American Educational Research Association) sponsored lecture to learn more about optimal assessment in schools with Mark Lindquist. The lecture is free and open to the public by registering at

<https://www.aera.net/Newsroom/AERA-Highlights-E-newsletter/AERA-Highlights-September-2021/Mark-Wilson-to-Deliver-AERA-Lindquist-Lecture-on-November-15>