

# OWL HOOTS

NOVEMBER/  
DECEMBER  
2013

## COUNSELING CENTER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Meet Our New Staff

We are happy to introduce to you to the new people in the Counseling Center. Julie Maugherman, Director of Guidance and Counseling, and Elise Chupp, Counselor for Students with High Abilities, welcome two counseling interns, Samantha Fitzjarrald, and Rebecca Hammons, as well as a new Counseling Center assistant, Johanna Hillgrove. Samantha Floyd returns as a CC assistant as well.

**Samantha Fitzjarrald** is a second-year graduate student pursuing her master's in school counseling at Ball State. She also attended Ball State University for her undergraduate studies, majoring in psychology. Samantha has a graduate assistantship in the Ball State University Counseling Center, which keeps her very busy throughout the year. Although Samantha has a background in psychology, her passion lies within the schools, which is why she wants to be a school counselor. She would like to work in a high school after graduation focusing on high ability students, divorce, LGBT issues and how these affect a student's achievement. Samantha does not have a lot of free time but when she does she enjoys reading, baseball (especially the Red Sox), and bowling.

**Rebecca Hammons** is a master's student in school counseling at Ball State University graduating in May, 2014. She is also a local business owner and manages Hammons Tree Care, a tree service company, with her husband. Rebecca's background is in education and psychology; she has worked as a substitute teacher for local public schools and as a teaching assistant in psychological science. Rebecca's passion is children – she has three of her own and loves working with students of all ages! Her son, Luke, is excited to be starting his first year at Burriss in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. ☺ Rebecca's professional interests include underserved student populations and exceptional students (those with behavioral, emotional, and/or academic challenges). She is also dedicated to helping close the achievement gap in our nation's schools. On a personal note, Rebecca enjoys the synergistic effect of being involved in many and various pursuits. She believes that personal and professional development interconnect, and that physical and mental health are imperative to working well. To that end, Rebecca works in the field in her tree service company as a certified arborist and enjoys playing music. You might hear about the guitars in her office from students this year. She is hoping to get some help from students in composing a Burriss song about study skills, social development, and positive peer pressure!

**Johanna Hillgrove** is a guidance assistant in the

Counseling Center. She is a senior at Ball State University studying marketing. Originally from Muncie, she attended Burriss Lab School K-12 and graduated in 2009. She plans to graduate school and get her MBA while working toward a career in PR/sales. Her interests include spending time with her son, Rowan, cooking, volunteering, and Pinterest projects.

Please stop by room 112 to meet this year's Counseling Center staff. We are very excited to have a group with such a wealth of different training experiences and professional interests. We're looking forward to another terrific year in the Counseling Center.

### Other Counseling Center Announcements

#### **Twenty-first Century Scholars Program** -

The Twenty-first Century Scholars Program's goal is to ensure that all Indiana families can afford a college education for their children. The program enrolls income-eligible 7th and 8th grade students. Students in the program pledge to remain drug, alcohol, and crime free; graduate from an accredited Indiana high school with a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale; and apply on time for college admission and financial aid. In return, students who keep this pledge and remain income-eligible will receive a tuition award from the state of Indiana. The Scholars program offers more than just tuition. It also provides tutoring and other academic supports, parent activities, college visits and career information designed to encourage students to stay away from drug- and alcohol-related activities and pursue higher education.

Burriss' school code for Twenty-first Century Scholars applications is 1441.

Twenty-first Century Scholars applications for seventh and eighth grade students are available online at [www.scholars.in.gov](http://www.scholars.in.gov). The deadline is June 30, 2014.

**PSAT** - The practice SAT (PSAT) was administered on Wednesday, October 16, 2013, in the Student Center to all Burriss sophomores and juniors. In addition to being *great* practice for taking the timed SAT, the PSAT will give students feedback on what areas they may need to work on before they take the SAT. Students will also be able to get information from colleges and college planning help by opting into several free programs through the PSAT. My College Quick Start and AP Potential are two great online tools offered

free to students who take the PSAT.

The PSAT also serves as the qualifying exam for the National Merit Scholarship program. Those juniors who score in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile for the state will be named National Merit Semifinalists and invited to apply to be National Merit Finalists during their senior year.

**PLAN** - The practice ACT (PLAN) will be administered to all sophomores on Tuesday, November 12, 2013, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in rooms 301-302 at the Student Center. In addition to allowing students to practice the questions on the ACT, there is an interest inventory portion of the PLAN that will provide career interest information to students and their counselor. There is no fee to students; Burriss will be covering the cost of this test for all students tested. All sophomores are automatically signed up for this test. An announcement will be made at school to let students know when they should come to the Counseling Center to pick up PLAN informational materials. Included with these materials is a Planning Guide for Students and Parents; students are encouraged to share these materials with their parents.

With both the PSAT and PLAN, **students will receive practice test scores, their answers, the correct answers, and their original test books about six weeks after taking the tests. Through the individual practice test results, students will know where they excel and where they may need to focus more energy. These are extremely valuable tools when preparing for college entrance exams. Parents, please assist your students in utilizing these helpful tools and by encouraging them to keep these items in a safe place where they will be able to find them again when they are ready to study.**

**Burriss CEEB code is 152470. This code is used to identify Burriss Laboratory School on many college applications and test registrations.**

**Keep in mind for 2014 calendars: Financial Aid Night for seniors and their parents will be presented at the end of January 2014. We'll meet with a financial aid professional in the Burriss auditorium. Details, date and time will be announced in the next Owl Hoots, as well as in the Senior Bulletin and Twitter, @BurrissCounselor.**



## IMPORTANT – STUDENTS WITH SEVERE NUT/PEANUT ALLERGIES

We have several students who have severe food allergy to peanuts/nuts. It is important that there is strict avoidance to this food in order to prevent a life-threatening allergic reaction. We are asking your help to provide these students with a safe school environment.

Any exposure to peanuts/nuts may cause a life-threatening allergic reaction that requires emergency medical treatment. To reduce the chance of this occurring, we are asking that you avoid sending any peanut or nut containing products to school with your child that will be eaten in the classroom or lunchroom. If your child has eaten peanuts/nuts before coming to school, please be sure your child's hands and face have been thoroughly washed before entering the school.

We appreciate your support of these procedures.

### Schedule of Events – November

November 27-29

NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving Break.

Office will be open on November 27 only.



### Schedule of Events – December

December 20

End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter for Elementary students

End of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester of for MS/HS students

December 23-31

Winter Break

December 24-25

School Office Closed



## Artwork chosen for IMA display

Congratulations to Burris seniors Chloe Newman, Datreon Book, Jessica Craig and Indiana Academy senior Risa Wang.

Their artwork has been selected to be part of the “Inspired by Matisse” gallery at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. Artworks were selected by to be entered into the Matisse: Add a Page, Tell a Story competition hosted by the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

Chloe’s artwork has been selected as first place winner by a panel of judges and will be on display along with original Henri Matisse works in the featured exhibition “Matisse, Life in Color”.

You can learn more about the exhibition at [imamuseum.org](http://imamuseum.org).

## CREATIVE WRITERS TO HOLD PUBLIC READING

Writing Across the Genres class will hold a public reading of student generated creative writing on Tuesday, December 10 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Writing will be read by the students who wrote each piece and will cross all genres: poetry, creative nonfiction, fiction, and others.

The reading will be free and open to the public and will be appropriate for all ages, though younger students may become restless during the reading.

## Help Burris Earn Free Equipment and You Could Win Free Groceries!!

**The more you shop at Marsh, O’Malia’s or MainStreet Market the more chances you have to win Free Groceries\*. Register by November 15, 2013 and receive an additional chance to win each time you scan your Fresh IDEA card, O’Malia’s CouponPlus card or MainStreet Market Reward\$ card.**

Log on to [www.marsh.net](http://www.marsh.net) to register the 12-digit card number on the back of your Marsh Fresh IDEA card, O’Malia’s Coupon Plus card, or MainStreet Market Reward\$ card for our school code is **29069**.

This automatically earns credit for our school, and earns you an additional entry every time you use your Fresh IDEA card, O’Malia’s CouponPlus card or MainStreet Market Reward\$ card.

*\*When you use your Marsh Fresh IDEA card, O’Malia’s CouponPlus card, MainStreet Market Reward\$ card and are enrolled in the Marsh Fresh Ideas for Education Program. No purchase necessary and void where prohibited. See official rules at [www.freshideasforeducation.com/rules](http://www.freshideasforeducation.com/rules).*



# ADDING EMPATHY TO OUR ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAM!

Kaylee Wilson  
Special Services Intern

We spent the month of October diving into a new aspect of our Anti-Bullying Program called Adding Empathy. All-school convocations were held for Middle School, High School, and Indiana Academy students. Elementary students learned about empathy at their first student council meeting. Representatives then delivered the message to their classmates with my assistance.

In accordance with the new Anti-Bullying Law in Indiana, all schools are required to hold training on bullying. Dr. Albrecht began our convocations with a brief overview of the new law. This included a comprehensive definition of bullying, categories of bullying, and bullying prevention strategies. I continued the training with information on how to use empathy as a positive strategy to stop bullying. We then held breakout discussions in which small groups could examine various bullying scenarios. Students discussed how they could use empathy to think about how they would feel if they were in these situations, as well as what they could do to help the victims in the scenarios.

Short, in-class presentations allowed the Elementary student council representatives to work on their public speaking skills and offered the opportunity for more one on one discussion between the students and myself. We began by reviewing what the students learned last year. This included what bullying is, what students should do if they witness bullying, and whom students should talk to if they witness bullying. Then we discussed what empathy is. Students learned how to "put themselves in someone else's shoes," or think about how they would feel if they were in the same situation as a

victim of bullying. We included a short activity within our presentation in which students could either draw a picture of someone being kind or write an example of how they would feel in a bullying situation and what they could do to help a victim.

Finally, we introduced our new symbol, which is shown below. This represents an imaginary light bulb that should turn on over our heads when we witness bullying. It should give us the idea that we should stand up for victims of bullying, because we would want someone to stand up for us if we were in their place.



Through these convocations and presentations, students have been reminded about the importance of reporting bullying and standing up for each other rather than standing by and letting bullying continue.

## \$\$ FEES \$\$

Elementary and Middle School fees have been billed for the year. High School fees have been billed for the fall semester only. You should have received a fee listing from Burris in September. If you have not paid your statement you should have received a past due invoice in October.

Do not send any payments to Burris Laboratory School. We CANNOT accept them.

Checks or money orders must be mailed to: Ball State University, Office of Bursar & Loan Administration, Muncie, IN 47306. All payments must include: payment a copy of the statement or a note indicating the student(s) name and ID number, and amount to apply to each account.



## ATTENTION SENIORS AND SOPHOMORES

The Herff Jones representative will be here to meet with Burris seniors from 9:00 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. on Monday, November 11. Seniors will be given information regarding ordering graduation announcements, caps/gowns, and other senior items.

Sophomores will meet with the Herff Jones representative from 9:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. to receive information about ordering class rings.



Both meetings will be in the auditorium. Class sponsors are welcome but do not have to attend.

*Note: The Herff Jones representative will return on Friday, November 15th to take orders. He will set up outside the HS student lounge from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.*

# LIKE YEARBOOK.

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## ONE YEAR. ONE BOOK. YOUR CHANCE TO PRESERVE IT ALL.

Burris Laboratory School

YEARBOOK NOW ON SALE. ORDER YOURS TODAY!

The administrator who took a pie in the face, the school play that received a standing ovation at the end of every show, your first crush. You are making memories every day and we want to help you preserve them forever.

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