

Happy Holidays IMSA FUSION Partner Schools!

IMSA FUSION *Quarterly Program Updates* are designed to inform you of important FUSION news, information and deadlines. Please read these updates and contact our team-at any time-if you have any questions!

IMSA FUSION Online Application

Are you interested in adding another FUSION program in your school at the 4-5th grade or 6-8th grade level? If so, apply here:

<https://www3.imsa.edu/programs/fusion/application>

Current FUSION partner schools do not need to fill out an online application for program continuation. To continue with the IMSA FUSION program for 2012-13, you will only need to submit a new MoU and payment of fees (\$800) in late spring. Schools/districts running two or more programs can contact Jami Breslin at jbreslin@imsa.edu for discounted fees.

The FUSION W.A.L.L.

Attached you will find the winter version of our FUSION W.A.L.L. which brings you up-to-date grant opportunities for K-12 teachers focusing on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). This resource offers information on awards, fundraisers, professional development opportunities, field trips and even "freebies". The W.A.L.L. is also located on our website for your reference: <https://www3.imsa.edu/programs/fusion/whatsnew>. Please let us know how can support you in any of these, or other, grant opportunities to help fund your FUSION program!

STEM Career Webinars

Mark your calendars for *TWO remaining* interactive online FUSION STEM Career Webinars through CoolHub.IMSA, a collaborative network to fast forward innovation in STEM teaching and learning. Meet real scientists and learn about exciting research and work being done today!

Thursday, February 23, 2012 3:00 PM to 4:15 PM

Thursday, April 26, 2012 3:00 PM to 4:15 PM

Congratulations to our Problem of the Month Winners!

September Derek Dodson - Fearn Elementary and Amber Ogden - Capital College Prep Academy **October** London Burgess - Coretta Scott King Magnet and Jonah Goughnour - Bloomington Junior High **November** Benjamin Bruchhauser - Highland Elementary and Emily Cosler - Jerling Junior High

Congratulations to Laura Pruitt: Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award Recipient!

Laura Pruitt, FUSION teacher at St. Jacob Elementary, has been selected to receive the Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award for the Triad School District. This outstanding educator teaches a 4th and 5th grade multiage level class. According to her colleagues, "she embraced the multiage concept as a catalyst to explore and use research-based best practices in an educationally rich environment. Mrs. Pruitt is known as a leader and well regarded among her colleagues as an expert of instructional practice that leads to student growth and achievement. She is innovative and eager to try new practices in her classroom." We are proud of you, Laura (and we LOVE your parent newsletter)! Kudos!

IMSA FUSION POP WORKSHOPS: Mark your calendars now!

All FUSION teachers will need to attend ONE POP Workshop for 2012-13. These workshops will be held:

Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at IMSA

Thursday, June 21, 2012 in Springfield

Thursday, June 26, 2012 at IMSA

IMSA FUSION is seeking innovative ideas, expertise and creative curriculum extensions from our teachers in FUSION partner schools across the state. We are excited to bring new breakout sessions to the format again this year! Can you help new teachers plan for an engaging parent event? Can you share the ways in which you and your FUSION students have served as leaders in math and science in your school? Can you teach teachers how you use technology to enhance FUSION activities and parent communication? Have you tried an amazing unit extension that worked effectively with your students? If so...consider being a POP presenter this year. Teacher-presenters are needed for 45 minute POP workshop break-out sessions, and will be paid a stipend for each 45 minute session provided. Selected teacher-presenters must complete paperwork to become temporary employees of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy.

*Online proposals must be completed and submitted **by February 15, 2012 at***

<http://tinyurl.com/POPpresentationrequest>

IMSA FUSION Photos and Video

Please REMEMBER, we NEED video clips and photos of your FUSION programs. Provide these directly to Amanda Lee amlee@imsa.edu OR to your site support specialist! Many thanks!

News from the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy...

*****The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy is celebrating 25 years! Learn more about this amazing milestone at <http://www.imsa25.com/>.***

*****IMSA's Multi-County Professional Learning Day is March 2, 2012! Please join us for an amazing array of workshops for tremendous professional development with IMSA faculty and staff! Learn more and register online at: <https://www3.imsa.edu/programs/statewideeducatorinitiatives/professionaldevelopmentday>***

*****The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA) is seeking an energetic, collaborative and creative, self-starting individual to serve as a Specialist for IMSA Statewide Student Initiatives (SSI) for IMSA Kids Institute®, Summer@IMSA and student enrichment initiatives. This specialist would work directly with IMSA students to deliver engaging, hands-on science to students across the state. Please pass this job opportunity along if you know of anyone that may be qualified and interested in working at IMSA! The IMSA SSI job posting is attached!***

*****IMSA is accepting applications for admission (Class of 2015) up until March 1, 2012. Have your students apply online at <https://www3.imsa.edu/admissions/apply>.***

Thank you for all you do to ignite and nurture the talents of our FUSION students across Illinois! Happy Holidays! Enjoy a much-deserved



break! igniting teaching and learning

The IMSA FUSION Team