

TIS in the Loop



A Spirit of Community / A Standard of Excellence / The Opportunity to Thrive



This Issue

- HEADlines..... 1
- Graduation Guest Speaker:
Dr. Duncan, M.D.... 2
- Board Brief.....3
- Lower School Update.....4
- Middle School Update.....6
- Upper School Update.....8
- Fine Arts.....14
- Athletics..... 15
- Class Notes.....16

Dear TIS Families,

It is so hard to believe that the school year is winding down. This past year has been an incredible journey, together with your support, and I am so pleased to be here at The Independent School. As our Upper School graduation ceremony approaches, how fortunate I am to have been able to get to know these fabulous students, even for a short time span. The Class of 2011 will be our honored guests at our first annual alumni/newly admitted families luncheon scheduled for May 14. Recently, I spoke briefly with the soon to be TIS graduates, to let them know that I want to “show them off” to our newly admitted families.

In every school, we admire and hold up the upper class students as our role models. The younger students watch their every move and cannot wait until they can fill those shoes. This year’s class certainly leaves big shoes to fill. In every way, they are magnificent. If you have not already done so, please check out the college admittance map on our website, or the direct link here. These students have exemplary college choices, in terms of local and out of state options. They are involved in all areas of our school; academic, fine arts, athletics, and community service. In my opinion, they have experienced so many changes during their high school years, but they have shown amazing resilience. In spite of all the changes, they have remained true to the ideals of The Independent School, and loyal to each other and their teachers.

Please join me in celebrating and congratulating the Class of 2011. We wish them much good fortune and happiness. TIS is their home base, and I am confident they will always return to us with great life adventures and accomplishments! In this addition of the Loop, please find a biography on our graduation speaker, Dr. Michael Duncan.

Sincerely,
DR. MARY DICKERSON, HEAD OF SCHOOL

Introducing our Class of 2011 Graduation Guest Speaker Dr. James Michael Duncan, M.D.

Prior to beginning a NASA Headquarters rotation in the Office of International and Interagency Relations in October 2010, James Michael Duncan, M.D. was the deputy chief medical officer, Space Life Sciences Directorate, at NASA/Johnson Space Center. He began his work with NASA when he joined Wyle Laboratories in January 1999 to provide medical coverage to astronauts in training in Star City, Russia. Subsequently, he became a NASA flight surgeon in October 2000. He participated as deputy crew surgeon for STS-104 and STS-108 before being named the crew surgeon for Expedition 6. He served as Manager, Medical Operations from February 2002 to December 2004. He served as the acting chief of Space Medicine from December 2004 until he was named permanently to that position in April 2005. He became the deputy chief medical officer at JSC in January 2009. Dr. Duncan led the NASA team that went to Chile in September 2010 to support of the rescue of the 33 trapped miners. Awards include the JSC Superior Achievement Award, the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal, and the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal.

Dr. Duncan is a native of Wichita, Kansas. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering from Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS. He received his Doctor of Medicine degree at the University of Kansas School of Medicine, Kansas City, KS. Dr. Duncan is a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine and is certified in Internal Medicine (permanent), Pulmonary Disease (permanent), and Critical Care Medicine (1987-2007). He is also a Senior Aviation Medical Examiner, a Fellow in the American College of Chest Physicians, and an instrument-rated private pilot. Dr. Duncan and his wife live in Bethesda, Maryland.

We are looking forward to meeting and hearing Dr. Duncan's words of wisdom as he speaks at our Class of 2011 Graduation Ceremony.

BOARD BRIEF

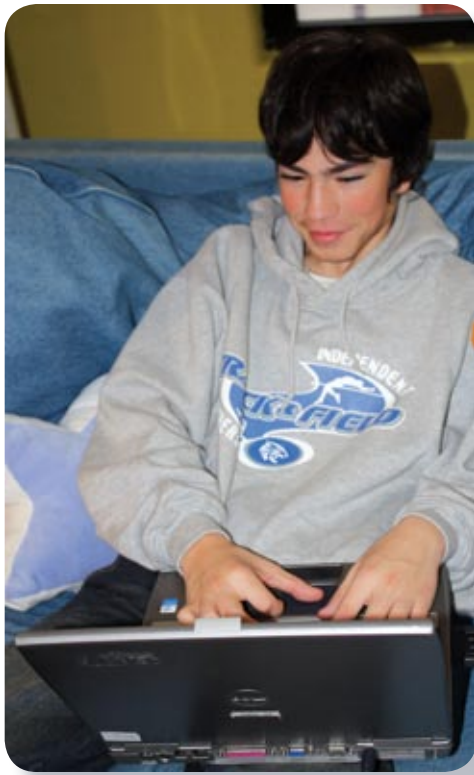
Reviewing Progress

As this school year winds down, we want to take this opportunity to communicate with you an overview of the BOT activities that have taken place over the past eight months.

As previously shared, the Board has focused on three major initiatives identified in the ISACS accreditation report delivered to TIS last spring. These major initiatives focus on Development, Safety and Security, and Facilities. Much progress has been made in each of these three areas as well as in other areas based on ISACS and NAIS best practices for Independent schools.

In addition to the annual campaign, increased efforts have been made to connect with families, and communicate the importance of individual giving to meet the needs of TIS. The dessert events in homes with Dr. Dickerson, the article discussion round tables, the Table Is Set culinary dinners, and kicked up coffees with new and existing families continue to provide new opportunities to learn more about TIS, our new head of school, and school goals. The board desires to lead by example, and donated the funds to tile the upper school lower level. A comprehensive development plan will result in a coordination of all school fundraising events.





In the fall, the Safe and Secure committee was formed to identify areas of concern and potential solutions for the TIS campus outside of the school day. Some of those solutions resulted in operational procedures, while other situations called for new policy, resulting in an even safer and secure school environment.

At mid-year, a policy development committee was established to identify and coordinate development of needed strategic policies and procedures. New policies have been approved; all current policies have been updated and revised; many policies are still in process. A goal is to post policies for TIS family access on the website this summer.

In response to the ISACS recommendations, the Facilities committee was re-established. Groups of teachers, administrators and parents focus on the needs of each specific division to help prioritize and identify actions. The facilities recommendations from the ISACS report have all been addressed and are in some level of progress.

A drainage study of the campus is being conducted that will result in suggestions to minimize water risk to our campus. Solutions are being investigated to address the lack of lighting in the back parking lot, as well as addressing the reoccurring paving problems in the parking lot with long term solutions. Three architecture firms are in the process of submitting proposals for a process to develop a Master Facilities Plan with focus on optimal use of all spaces on campus. In addition, preventative maintenance schedules are being updated and work order processes are being refined.

Throughout the year, efforts to update and expand the school Strategic Plan have been taking place. The strategic plan will be complete before the start of next school year and it will guide school and board initiatives in the future. Thanks to those of you that completed the recent community survey. Your feedback will be integrated into strategic and operational plans.

It has been a very busy year. Dr Dickerson has brought great innovation, vision and energy to TIS. We have been able to focus on strategic issues that this board was designed to address. It is our duty to protect and promote the school's mission and future. We will continue to focus on tasks that provide the framework upon which TIS can continue to develop and grow... for the next 30 years.



LOWER SCHOOL UPDATE



What an Amazing Month!

Stunning artwork created by Lower School students was on display in the Lower School Art Show this April. Inspired by their studies of the techniques of notable artists, students emulated them in their own art. In addition to the captivating displays of student art, interactive child-led demonstrations encouraged visitors to explore their own artistic talents.



Have you visited a rainforest lately?

The First Grade hallway has been transformed into a rainforest complete with plants, animals and sounds found in a rainforest habitat. First Grade students researched various animals and did excellent work reporting on all they learned.



Integrating their learning into community service, First Graders designed and painted canvas bags with pictures of rainforest animals. They sold each bag they created and will send the proceeds to the World Wildlife Fund. The rainforest bags were truly works of art!

It has been very exciting in Kindergarten. Duck eggs are in their brooders, caterpillars have spun cocoons and ladybugs have changed into pupas. Students are busy hypothesizing what color everything will be when wings have finally sprouted and eggs hatched!



In celebration of Earth Day we challenged ourselves to teach, learn and work in the Lower School without paper and using only natural light. Smart-Boards, white boards, hands-on materials, and cloth hand towels were used throughout the school. Beginning the day with JK students sweetly reciting "Good Morning Dear Earth" for the Lower School community, children were

later found in the garden taking advantage of glorious weather to find the perfect spot to grow strawberry plants.

On the afternoon of Earth Day, it was a delight to watch our children at the Second Annual Kids Helping Kids Walk-A-Thon.

In response to numerous Lower School students who wanted to help those affected by the trauma of Japan's recent disaster, JK through 5th graders participated in our Kids Helping Kids-Walk-a-Thon. The whole Lower School walked an amazing 1,657 laps and 414.25 miles around the Upper School Track. For that outstanding feat, a donation of \$1500 will be sent in the names of Lower School children to UNICEF to protect children from harm.

The concept of children helping others is clear enough for our youngest to understand and powerful enough for our most sophisticated fifth graders to appreciate. It was a great community event down to the popsicles that everyone enjoyed. Our families generously made the event a special one and supported our students' desire to help a global world. And, that is no small task!

Teams of Lower School students are planting flowers around the Lower School and helping to maintain the grounds. Working together with cross-grade level buddies, our children continue to show they care!

Enjoying the life of spring,

MRS. KAREN FALK, HEAD OF LOWER SCHOOL

Bowling For Kids' Sake



3rd Grade Panthers raised \$1,650.00 for Big Brothers Big Sisters at the 2011 Bowl For Kids' Sake event at Northrock Lanes on April 3.

On April 3, third grade students, parents, and teachers from The Independent Lower School met at Northrock Lanes to Bowl For Kids' Sake with the Big Brothers and Big Sisters organization. The students gathered sponsor donations and then bowled two games. Bumpers on the bowling lanes helped raise our scores but our spirits were higher as we raised \$1,650.00 for this worthy cause. Students enjoyed pizza and goodies while they spent the afternoon helping children in our community.

Thanks to our sponsors and families for all of your support.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

April 29 @ 7:00 p.m. and April 30th @ 2:00 p.m.- LS Music Show

May 9th @ 7:00 p.m.- All School Band Concert

May 17th Field Day

May 18th Last Day of School

MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATE



May and Beyond

Our students continue to excel, participating in the CPMSL music fest, track meets and tennis matches. Grade level field trips and 8th grade camp are scheduled for May and the 8th grade students will make their traditional visit to Mrs. Garvey's house to share lunch and reminisce about their Middle School years.

While wrapping up a productive year, we plan for the future. Scheduling our incoming 6th grade through 8th grade students for elective classes begins this week. I am thrilled to offer such a variety of electives, including classes taught by our Upper School faculty. Mrs.

Ottaway is scheduled to teach Introduction to Theater, Mr. Swenson and Mr. Fowler are offering a Basic Strength and Conditioning class, and Mr. Watkins is developing a Robotics class in addition to Computer Applications and Technology Education. Our goal is to complete this part of the scheduling process by mid-May. However, student schedules are generally not finalized until late summer.

We welcome a few new faces in the Middle School for the upcoming school year. In July, Mrs. Margaret Floyd begins her role as Head of Middle School (please see her letter at the end of the Middle School update), and in August, Mr. Jarrod Hibler becomes part of the 6th grade teaching staff. These additions bring talent and perspective that will enhance our Middle School.

Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us!

MRS. KAREN KOCH, HEAD OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Notable Middle School Scores on the ACT and SAT

Congratulations to Thomas Kieu, Jenny Kroeker, and Sarah Mayer. All three students were Duke Talent Search qualifiers and earned State recognition from DukeTIP for their high ACT or SAT scores. This distinction enables them to participate in state recognition ceremonies and summer programs sponsored by DukeTIP.

3RD QUARTER HONOR ROLL

Even with a plethora of activities distracting our students maintain high academic standards. The following students received third quarter honor roll distinction:

6TH GRADE HIGH HONORS: Tyler Anderson, Drue Bhula, Mary-Carol Davis, Abbey Kolbeck, Alec Lonson, Lindsey Loveland, Faith Northcutt, Megan Perez, Anna Riedmiller and Rachel Watson.

6TH GRADE HONORS: Daphne Bacci, Eric Blonigen, Kenny Bradburn, Ethan Brennan, Robert Bundy, Grant Daily, Neema Fathi, Sophie Golti, Justin Gordon, Emma Gunderson, Colin Harmon, Riley Jackson, Ethan Mitchell, Andrew Marsden, Abigail Parker, Olivia Riedmiller, Cenzo Rudy, Cami Saville, Garnett Tate, Meghan Tokala, Cameron Vance, Dylan Vance, Christian Vergnes, Matt Walter, and Brady Wolken.

7TH GRADE HIGH HONORS: Kevin Chang, Daniel Kamen, and Jenny Kroeker.

7TH GRADE HONORS: Travis Biehler, Ayden Bolin, Walker Chandler, Cade Dotson, Matt Fox, Emme Goodin, Hannah Hutchinson, Brenden Jantzen, Thomas Kieu, Matt Link, Sarah Mayer, Cathy McCurley, Alexis Mijares, Justin Newman, Preston Roberts, Connor Sevier, Casey Shaw, Robby Steere, Quade Truby, and Patrick Womack.

8TH GRADE HIGH HONORS: Cydnee Bacci, Kennedy Kolbeck, Natalie Noakes, and Sean Smith.

8TH GRADE HONORS: Carson Boorigie, Alise Coccetella, Anna Farmer, Christiane Fox, Megha Gangadhar, Blanca Garcia, Talisa Hernandez, Nadine Jaffal, Elizabeth Jarvis, Evan Olson, Rachel Packebush, Marcette Perales, Sarea Recalde-Phillips, Emily Rix, Bryant Robertson, Bryonna Stacey, Adrian Valmont, and Malak Youssef.

With Much Gratitude

There is no way to offer the thanks due to the many parents who help our school run smoothly. From the parents who drive to Tennis, attend sporting events, sell Panther gear, bring cupcakes and ice cream for special events, donate food for faculty luncheons, look out for the well being of our students, and share their creative or professional talents. While we cannot begin to list the many people who have helped make this year successful, we can highlight a few of these folks. Cindy Jantzen is a never-tiring supporter of TIS, the parent group leader in the MS and the ultimate organizer of the RRR sale. Thank you, Cindy. The three grade representatives, Amy Banta, Monique DeBroeck, and Kirti Buela coordinated drivers, snacks, special events, and a world of other activities for their respective grade levels. Thank you, Amy, Monique, and Kirti. Several parents enhanced specific programs. Dr. Diane Steere organized and led programs on adolescent development and safe decisions. Thank you, Diane. Natasha Exline organized every very appreciated faculty appreciation luncheon. Thank you, Natasha. Patti McCurley is our book fair guru. Thank you, Patti. Jackie Smith and Ria Farmer help our budding artists shine by setting up student displays and supporting our music and drama productions. Thank you, Jackie and Ria. There are so many ways in which Greg and Jill Sevier have supported the athletic department and Terri and Kris Newman have supported the parent group, the faculty is humbled. Thank you, Terry, Kris, Justin, Levi, Greg, Jill, and Connor. The sheer time and energy our families donate is awe-inspiring.

An Invitational Letter



Dear TIS Community,

I look forward to becoming a member of The Independent School family in July. Ron and I have begun the process of moving to a home in an area near the school. I visited Wichita a few times this spring, and in encountering some of the personal stories of those who lived here in earlier years, I became enthralled with the history of the city. I am also very eager to learn more about the many personal stories and traditions that make TIS what and who it is - a diverse educational setting, exceptionally attuned to the uniqueness of each of its students. If you are on campus anytime beginning in July, I hope you will stop by and say hello!

Sincerely,

MRS. MARGARET FLOYD, INCOMING MS HEAD

UPPER SCHOOL UPDATE

These Are the Days

Ahhh, Spring! If I were able to recite poetry, I'd share one that captures the satisfaction of accomplishment, the excitement of celebration, and the optimistic anxiety of being at the precipice of great things yet to come. However, despite my appreciation for poetry, it is well beyond my skill set. Therefore, I will stick with prose to expound on some of our recent highlights and happenings in the Upper School.

A few weeks ago, I was fortunate enough to be invited by Mr. Andra and Mr. Ruth to help chaperon 37 students who were making the annual trip to participate in the Pittsburg State Math Relays. Though I have been on several student trips before, I had never been to an academic competition, and I came away from this one with a renewed appreciation for the breadth and rigor of our math program. We took almost a quarter of our student body to compete—there's the breadth—and placed at or very near the top in every one of the 32 individual and 5 team events—there's the depth. To be specific, we competed against 30 other schools of comparable size, and took away 19 gold medals, 19 silver medals, 19 bronze medals, and 23 other Top Ten places. In addition to dominating academically, by watching our students throw Frisbees and footballs in the Quad and make new friends by inviting strangers to play "Ninja," I got to see first-hand how brightly our students shine when appearing on a public stage.



More recently, our Junior and Senior students (and their dates, if they chose to bring one) had a chance to shine at Prom on April 16. The Junior Class and their sponsor, Mr. Hanne, along with a host of parent and friend volunteers, did a tremendous job of planning a beautiful evening at the Boathouse. The dinner was delicious, the dancing was enthusiastic, and the event went off without a hitch. Despite my worry about whether or not I could stay awake throughout After Prom at WSU's Rhatigan Center, I found it to be the highlight of my evening. We bowled, shot billiards, threw darts, and played video games until 3:00 a.m. Simply put, it was a great, safe way to end a fantastic evening! As a final word on the subject, I simply have to give special thanks to Mrs. Karri Wolken, who worked very, very hard to organize After Prom and get so many great raffle prizes donated on behalf of TIS.

Now, at the end of April, we turn our attention to ending the semester, preparing for final exams, and steeling ourselves for Graduation and sending the Class of 2011 off to begin the next chapter in their lives. As so many parents and teachers have remarked to me lately, each year seems to go by more and more quickly. And as I think back to the start of the year, not knowing exactly what lay ahead, nothing could be truer. I can honestly say it feels like it was just last month that we gathered together for the All-School Picnic, passed out yearbooks, and speculated about the great things

yet to come from the 2010-2011 school year. But now that I reflect on what a wonderful year we've had—the 30th Anniversary of The Independent School—the more I think that reciting something poetic is exactly the right thing to do, skill set or not. So, with all appropriate apologies for risking being overly cheesy, I offer the following lyrical sentiment from 10,000 Maniac's "These Are Days":

*These are days that you'll remember
When May is rushing over you
With desire to be part of the miracles
You see in every hour
You'll know it's true
That you are blessed and lucky
It's true that you are touched
By something that will grow and bloom in you*

MR. BRENT SPICER, HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL



with the best prevention tools possible to deal with the issues of underage drinking, other drug use, impaired driving and other destructive decisions. The goal is to support positive peer pressure, role modeling and environmental strategies to help teenagers set a healthy and safe course for their lives.

One of the ways SADD will complete this mission, is to organize, plan, and host a variety of events both during the school year, and throughout the summer. Our first SADDurday Night Life (SNL) event was held recently at Laser Quest. We had over forty students attend, and support our SADD standard of only being “Under the Influence of FUN!” Everyone seemed to have a terrific time. Our next SNL event is still in the planning stages. Look for more information to come regarding a paintball event, and a World’s of Fun trip coming this summer! Join our TIS SADD group on Facebook to keep up with all the news.

Mock Trial Takes State, AGAIN!!

The Independent School’s Mock Trial team was undefeated at the Kansas State Championship tournament in April and won the Kansas State Championship. They will represent the State of Kansas at the National High School Mock Trial Championship Tournament in Phoenix May 6-8 against other state champion teams from around the country. The Independent squad prevailed over teams from Shawnee Mission East, Shawnee Mission Northwest and Sunrise Christian Academy. Jordan Speed, Anya Pierson and Jennifer Steere acted as the teams lawyers on the team. Emily Ramseyer, Mariya Chulichkova, Danielle Allen, Will Gunderson and Sam McCoy played witness roles. Two Independent students earned individual awards. Anya Pierson won the award for most outstanding opening or closing statement, and Mariya Chulichkova won the award for most outstanding witness.

This is the second straight year that The Independent School has won the State Championship and it has won six times in the last ten years competing against much larger high schools from around the state. The mock trial tournament is sponsored by the Kansas Bar Association and held at the Sedgwick and Johnson County courthouses.

The Independent School team is coached by Mr. John Steere. Mr. Steere was a litigation attorney for eleven years before joining The Independent School. Mr. Steere is the social studies department head, teaches history and government and coaches debate.

S.A.D.D.

A new and exciting addition to our Upper School this year, has been SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions). This group has been formed by our Dean of Students Jenifer Pence, and Counselor Alyssa Donnelly. The group’s mission is to provide students



The Adventure of the Traveling TIS Art Journal

BY MRS. DEBRA COLE

The sophomores in Mrs. Cole’s Humanities Exploration fall elective were given a challenge. Create a personalized art journal and send it out into the world, wait patiently to see if it would return, and then...wait some more.

Sophomore Wynn Hukle does not have to wait any longer.

The story started with Mrs. Cole’s project “TIS Journals”, an Upper School, collaborative art adventure, which was inspired by the art project that started in the year 2000 by a graphic designer in San Francisco who calls himself “Someguy.”

The artist “Someguy” took 1000 blank journals and challenged strangers that found a journal to take it, add something to it, and send it on to someone else until it was full. Then, the journal would return to “Someguy.”

According to www.1000journals.com, "Someguy left the first one hundred journals at random places all over the San Francisco Bay Area, or handed them to co-workers, friends, and strangers. He sent the batch of a hundred journals to people who had heard about the Project and offered to distribute them where they live: Australia, South Africa, Denmark, England. As word really started to spread, and more and more people began to write Someguy and ask for journals, he mailed them, one at a time, to those who had given him their addresses." Soon, one journal after the next came back full of expressions and art from average people around the world.

TIS sophomore, Wynn Hukle, along with fellow classmates Will Gunderson, Kate Cohlmaia, Emily Hernandez, and Brian Wise, left their art journals at various places around Wichita. Wynn picked her drop zone as The Donut Whole on Douglas, a favorite stop for many TIS students.

"Leaving the book at the Donut Whole was much more difficult than I had expected," said Wynn. "Making myself vulnerable for disappointment was also very liberating at the same time. I think I set the book on about four different coffee tables in the back room that afternoon before I could finally get the nerve to let go of it."

Sophomore Brian Wise received an email through Mrs. Cole showing 2 different pages of his journal as it moved around the state. But Wynn and the others heard nothing as the months passed. And then, an unexpected delivery was made to the Upper School office last week.

An anonymous man came into the office after school to say that he had a delivery. He explained that he had found an art journal and had moved it himself from artist to artist to complete the pages. He wanted to



make sure that the owner, a high school student named "Wynn" received it back. To Wynn's surprise and joy, the man had tenderly logged each page with its artist's name and date of completion. Pages varied with different techniques, poetry, and messages.

One page was completed by local artist and Fisch Haus co-creator, Patrick Duegaw. His fire extinguisher contribution is a study for many of his featured pieces in the current show, "Fisch Haus 21: An Artists' Collaborative Comes of Age" currently on display at WSU's Ulrich Museum.

As for how Wynn feels about her treasure, "Receiving the journal back was one of the most enthralling experiences I've ever had. When Brian Wise texted me that my art journal was waiting for me in the office, I ran over to my track coach and pleaded for him to let me go to the office, stating that it was "an absolute emergency." I sprinted back to the office where I saw a little brown package waiting for me. I couldn't believe it."

Wynn does have a message for the mysterious man and all of his artistic friends, "For those who participated, thank you so much for helping make this experience so special. I will treasure this book for the rest of my life. It is a true artifact."

POST SCRIPT:

Four remaining fall journals as well as 5 journals from the spring elective are still out there in the world. If TIS community members find one.....PLEASE CREATE SOMETHING!

To look at all of Wynn's Traveling Art Journal pages, go to: <http://wynnsjournal.blogspot.com/>

ACADEMIC AWARD NIGHT REVIEW

On Wednesday, April 20th, the Upper School held the end of the year Academic Award ceremony. The following awards were presented to the following outstanding students:

LANGUAGE ARTS AWARDS

Freshman Outstanding Literature Portfolios: Julianne Fisher, Michael Kay and Rachel Swank

Freshman Outstanding Humanities Portfolios: Jessica Kieu and Jordan McEntaffer

Sophomore Outstanding Literature Portfolios: Mackenzie Cole and Alan Liu

Junior Outstanding Literature Portfolios: Matthew Kaufman and Jennifer Steere

Senior Outstanding Literature Portfolios: Kelsey Eklund and Jordan Speed

SOCIAL SCIENCE AWARDS

Outstanding Performance in AP Government: Kelsey Eklund
Outstanding Performance in AP US History: Jennifer Steere and Andrew Parker
Outstanding Performance in US Government: Priya Gangadhar
Discussion Leader Award in Honors World History: Danielle Peterson
Writing Award in Honors World History: Kaitlin Mar
Discussion Leader Award in United States History: Emily Vayda
Writing Award in United States History: Chris Grossardt
Outstanding Student in World History: Lueke Anderson and David Watson
Outstanding Student in Geography: Codey Davis and Cara Anderson

MATHEMATICS AWARDS

The mathematics department presented acknowledgement to the following students for the Pittsburg State and Emporia State Math competitions.

RESULTS AT PITTSBURG STATE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

TEAM RESULTS

Calculator—Gold: Colten Anderson, Dietrich Johnson, Adam Pierson, and Thomas Tremain
Algebra Word Problems—Silver: Matt Hartenstein, Austin Jester, Alan Liu, and Brian Wise
Trigonometry—Silver: Koosha Daneshi, Sam Dunne, Hal McCoy, and Josh Werner
Geometry—Bronze: Mackenzie Cole, Michael Kay, Sam McCoy, and Andrew Parker
Algebra Medley—5th: Kelsey Eklund, Cassie Heflin, Kaitlin Mar, and Emily Vayda

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS GRADE 10 EVENTS:

Mackenzie Cole: Bronze—Graphing; Silver—Alg Simp; 6th—Geometry
Kyle Harper: 4th—Programming
Matt Hartenstein: 5th—Comp. Math
Austin Jester: Silver—Alg Wd Prob; Bronze—Potpourri
Brendan Jester: 5th—Alg Simp
Rebecca Johnson: 5th—Programming
Michael Kay: Gold—Geometry
Alan Liu: Silver—Alg Wd Prob; Gold—Potpourri; Gold—Comp Math
Kaitlin Mar: Bronze—Geometry; Bronze—Alg Eq/Ineq; 5th—Alg Simp
Jack Mitchell: Bronze—Potpourri; 10th—Comp Math
Lakshmi Nagireddy Silver—Alg Eq/Ineq
Jonny Richmond: Silver—Geometry
Ben Strickfaden: Bronze—Graphing
Brian Wise: Bronze—Alg Wd Prob
Jeffrey Yoder: Silver—Programming

GRADE 11 EVENTS

Alex Blonigen: Silver—Geometry
Matt Hartenstein: 5th—Analyt Geom; 5th Alg Eq/Ineq
Cassie Heflin: Silver—Trig; Silver—Alg Simp; Gold—Functions
Ryan Malone: Gold—Alg Simp; Silver—Functions; 4th—Potpourri
Sam McCoy: Bronze—Alg Eq/Ineq
Andrew Parker: Gold—Geometry; Silver—Comp Math
Adam Pierson Bronze—Functions
Jonny Richmond: 5th—Programming
Morgan Schreiner: Bronze—Trig
Emily Vayda: Silver—Graphing; Silver—Trig; 4th Programming
Josh Werner: Gold—Analyt Geom; Gold—Potpourri
Brian Wise: 9th—Analyt Geom
Amy Yeskie: Silver—Alg Eq/Ineq; Silver—Programming
Jeffrey Yoder: Bronze—Graphing

GRADE 12 EVENTS

Colten Anderson: 6th—Prob/Stats

Koosha Daneshi: 4th—Trig; Bronze—Geometry; 7th—Comp Math

Sam Dunne: 8th—Trig

Kelsey Eklund: Gold—Alg Eq/Ineq; Gold—Functions; Gold—Analysis

Priya Gangadhar: Gold—Marathon; Bronze—Alg Simp; 4th—Functions

Brendan Jester: Bronze—# Theory

Dietrich Johnson: Gold—Marathon; Bronze—Alg Simp; Gold—Prob/Stats

Rebecca Johnson: Bronze—Logic/Set Th

Ryan Malone: Gold—Analyt Geom

Hal McCoy: Gold—Trig; Gold—Potpourri; Gold—Comp Math

Sam McCoy: Silver—Logic/Set Th; Silver—Geometry

Lakhshmi Nagireddy: Bronze—Analyt Geom

Andrew Parker: Gold—# Theory

Anya Pierson 4th—Alg Simp

Jamie Robinson: 5th—Analysis; Silver—Programming

Thomas Tremain: Bronze—Geometry; 4th—Potpourri; Bronze—Programming

Josh Werner: Gold—Logic/Set Th

Amy Yeskie: Bronze—# Theory

Leila Youssef: Bronze—Prob/Stats; Bronze—Potpourri

RESULTS FOR THE EMPORIA STATE MATH COMPETITION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Algebra Team - 1st Place: Kelsey Eklund, Hal McCoy, and Jordan Speed/ Geometry Team - 4th Place: Koosha Daneshi, Prya Gangadhar, and Andrew Parker/ Algebra Individual Results: 1st - Josh Werner, 3rd - Kelsey Eklund

SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT:

Academic Excellence in

Physics: Nicole Fox

Academic Excellence in

HONORS Physics:

Dakota Pellegrino

Academic Excellence in

Astronomy:

Dakota Pellegrino

Academic Excellence in

AP Chemistry:

Josh Werner

Academic Excellence in

Chemistry:

Casey Kolbeck, Lueke

Anderson, and

Grant Campbell

Academic Excellence in

Chemistry II: Kaitlyn Mar, and Andrew Parker

Academic Excellence in Biology: Erin Courington, Codey Davis, Julianne Fisher, Jake Maddox, Chhaya Patel,

Johny Richmond, Rachel Swank, and Richard Zirkle

Academic Excellence in AP Biology - Kelsey Eklund and Colleen Zirkle

Academic Excellence in Anatomy and Physiology: Anique Valmont



FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT:

Outstanding Performance in Latin I: Jordan McEntaffer

Outstanding Performance in Latin II: Chris Lohnes, Dakota Pellegrino, Brian Wise and Brendan Jester

Outstanding Performance in Latin III: Dan Gebhart, Rachel Manning and Koosha Daneshi

Most Improved Latin Student: Will Hukle

Outstanding Student in Spanish I: Renee McBride

Outstanding Student in Spanish II: Rachel Swank
Outstanding Student in Spanish III: Michael Kay
Outstanding Student in Spanish IV: Lakhshmi Nagireddy
Outstanding Student in AP Spanish: Casey Kolbeck

DEBATE

Most Outstanding Debater: Anya Pierson
Outstanding Novice Debater: Colleen Zirkle

SCHOLARS' BOWL

Most Outstanding in Scholars' Bowl: Thomas Tremain
Most Outstanding in JV Scholars' Bowl: Matt Hartenstein

The next section of listed awards are students who have achieved expectations beyond minimum requirements, and have represented themselves as an outstanding young adult to be emulated by others. To be nominated by the faculty is a tremendous honor.

BRYNN MAWR BOOK AWARD is presented in recognition of an intense intellectual commitment, a purposeful vision of life and a desire to make a meaningful contribution to the world. The awardee: Jennifer Steere

KSHSAA CITIZENSHIP AWARD is presented to a Senior girl and boy who have proven to be outstanding citizens. They show respect for the flag, for other students, for adults, and for private property. They work to build school pride through active participation in projects that publicize, honor, or beautify the school. They display good citizenship and good sportsmanship whether as a participant or as a spectator. Nominees: Anique Valmont, Kelsey Eklund, Emily Ramseyer, Corban Aspegren, Jordan Speed and Colin McMaster. Honored are Emily Ramseyer and Corban Aspegren

CIVITAS AWARD is given to an Upper School student of any grade who demonstrates outstanding community service. Nominees: Corban Aspegren, Wynn Hukle, and Emily Vayda. Honored is Emily Vayda.

ASHLEY O'ROURKE COMMEMORATIVE AWARD is given to a junior boy and girl who live life to the fullest, who enjoy being active in school, who are good students and are spiritual and positive in their outlook. Nominees: Allison Comiskey, Tori Ciniglio, and Danielle Allen/ Glenn Cox, Ryan Malone and Morgan Schreiner. Honored are: Tori Ciniglio and Ryan Malone

JORDAN PALMER MEMORIAL AWARD is for a junior boy who is a good student, has an interest in science, but most importantly does what he knows to be right and is not easily influenced by his peers. Nominees: Daniel Gebhart, Andrew Parker, Josh Werner. Honored is Josh Werner.

2011 OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

Freshman Nominees: Erin Courington, Codey Davis, Jessica Kieu, Ian Gebhart, Jonathon Richmond, and Michael Kay.

Honored are Ian Gebhart and Jessica Kieu

Sophomore Nominees: Mackenzie Cole, Wynn Hukle, Kaitlin Mar, Lueke Anderson, Sam McCoy, and Ben Strickfaden.

Honored are Mackenzie Cole and Sam McCoy

Junior Nominees: Danielle Allen, Emily Grainger, Colleen Zirkle, Quinn Kastner, Andrew Parker, and Morgan Schreiner.

Honored are Danielle Allen and Andrew Parker

Senior Nominees: Kelsey Eklund, Emma Faus, Anya Pierson, Hal McCoy, Jordan Speed, and Thomas Tremain.

Honored are Kelsey Eklund and Jordan Speed.



FINE ARTS UPDATE

Upper School CPL ART Competition



Twenty-three of our Art students attended the CPL Art Competition at Douglass High School on April 28. Out of the 229 total pieces entered, we submitted 33 pieces in the show. Our students returned to TIS with 15 awards. Highlights included dominating awards in Glass and Pencil Drawings. Congratulations to Mr. Dale and the following artistic students:

1ST PLACE:

Caroline Lincoln – Glass
Rachel Manning – Pencil Drawing

2ND PLACE:

Kelsey Eklund – Ceramics
Bethany Emerson – Acrylics
Cassie Heflin – Pencil Drawing
Rachel Manning – Pencil Drawing
Cale White – Glass

3RD PLACE:

Daniel Poynter – Glass

HONORABLE MENTION:

Alex Harmon – Mixed Media
Shauntel Moore – Sculpture
Corey Palmer – Glass (2 pieces awarded)
Jillian Poynter – Scratch Board (2 boards awarded)
Misha Yakubovich – Jewelry

Lower School Variety Show!

This year, the 4th and 5th grades will present “A Salute to Richard and Oscar” a celebration of two giants of Musical Theatre: Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein III. This creative team helped revolutionize Broadway and the American theatre.

The show will feature musical selections from some of the most iconic shows in history, including *The Sound of Music*, *Carousel*, *South Pacific*, and *Oklahoma*. Soloists and small ensembles will be featured, with full costuming and lighting effects, as well as several large production numbers featuring the entire company.

Tickets will be available both in advance and at the door. The performances will be on Friday, April 29th at 7:00 p.m., and on Saturday, April 30th at 2:30 p.m. The shows will run in the Auditorium. Running time will be approximately two hours.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 30 US State Music Competition
- May 3 MS Vocal Music Concert 7:00 pm in auditorium
- May 4 US Remix 8:00 pm in auditorium
- May 7 US State Forensics Competition
- May 9 AS Band Concert 7:00 pm in the auditorium
- May 13 US Drama Celebration and Star Awards
- May 20 Music Theatre of Wichita Jester Awards 7:00 pm at Century II

ATHLETIC UPDATE

Harrison Park Field Serving Six Independent Teams

April 11th at 6:00 p.m., the celebration of our refurbished baseball field at Harrison Park at 1300 South Webb was held.

The Harrison Park baseball field is home to six Independent Lower through Upper School teams. Through generous contributions made by Independent supporters, the Harrison Park baseball field has been greatly improved. Dirt was hauled in to repair the infield, new dugouts have been built, and a new outfield and backstop fence has been installed. In addition, brand new signs representing The Independent School will be displayed on the backstop and in the outfield.

All six Independent School teams were dressed in their baseball uniforms at this ceremony. Dr. Dickerson, cut the ribbon and the boys ran the bases in celebration of their newly refurbished field. Read the Wichita Eagle's article covering this event [here](#).



UPPER SCHOOL SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

GIRLS' SOCCER- The Girls' are off to a good start with a 6-3 record. This exceeds the team's win total from last year. The girls have 6 games left to play.

GIRLS' SWIMMING- The team placed 1st at the TMP Meet, 3rd at the Emporia meet and 2nd at Campus.

BOYS' TENNIS- The team finished 1st at the Andover Central, Andover, Goddard and Salina meets this year. They will be playing the CPL meet on May 2nd @ WSU. Jake Norman was the KAKE Athlete of the Week and you can see his [interview here](#).

BOYS' GOLF - The team has finished first at Nickerson and Burrton. They also finished second at Andover and Chaparral. They will be playing their CPL Tournament on May 12th.

BASEBALL- The team is 3-3, and TIS will be hosting the Baseball Regional on May 18th and 19th at Dumont.

TRACK- The girls' Track team finished 3rd at both the Sterling and Marion meets, while the boys' finished 4th at Sterling and 5th at Marion. This week, at Herrington, the girls placed 1st and the boys 2nd. Their CPL meet will be on May 12th.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

BOYS' TENNIS- The team has had victories over Collegiate and Parsons, and has had several great individual performances.

TRACK- The 7th grade boys finished 1st at Bluestem and 3rd at the TIS Track meets. The 7th grade girls finished 6th at the TIS meet and 5th @ Bluestem. The 8th grade boys finished 4th @ Bluestem and 5th @ TIS, while the girls 8th grade finished 6th @ TIS and 5th @ Bluestem.

We encourage you to get out this spring and support all of the TIS athletic teams.

CLASS NOTES



Alyssa Penner, Class of 2006, graduated from Grinnell College with a BA in Sociology in May 2010 and now lives in Seattle, where she is serving a one-year term with Menonite Voluntary Service, which is affiliated with AmeriCorps. As part of Alyssa's service term, she lives in community with 7 housemates who are also participating in the program. Together they share a tiny, tiny budget for food and bare essentials. Each of them volunteer full-time at a local non-profit organization. Alyssa's placement is with Treehouse, a state-wide organization serving foster youth of all ages. She serves at Treehouse as a College and Career Planning Coordinator, working primarily with high school youth aging out of the foster care system to ensure they graduate on time and have a feasible post-graduation plan. Alyssa claims that

this work has been the most challenging and rewarding endeavor she has undertaken since graduating from Independent.

Next fall Alyssa is excited to return to school to begin a Master's degree at the University of Washington in Social Work. She intends to concentrate in Policy and Administration and eventually hopes to work in Higher Education Administration and Student Affairs.



HILLARY PFEIFFER MAKENS, CLASS OF 2004, was married in Wichita on April 2nd and honeymooned in Vancouver, Canada.

Hillary's husband, Matt Makens, is a meteorologist at Channel 7 news (the ABC affiliate) in Denver. They met while Hillary was working at KAKE news in Wichita. In 2008, they moved to work at a TV station in Orlando. Currently, Hillary is working at Fox 31 news in Denver.

Wedding attendance included many TIS alumni from the Class of 2004: Matt Metz, Marc Mason, Jeff Sollo, Kodie Jolly, Jake Hill, Katy Beth, Jennifer Haynes, Hillary Pfeiffer Makens, Mallorie Owens, and Aubrey Ramsey.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Please join us for our Alumni/Senior/New Family Luncheon in the TIS commons on

May 14th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We would love to see you! Please RSVP to Danielle.Dankey@TheIndependentSchool.com

Also, if you have not joined our The Independent School Alumni Association on Facebook, please look us up today! We are posting all kinds of great information, events and invites.

We want to hear from you! Tell us if you are graduating, have a new business, setting a wedding date, or starting a family- We want to know!! Contact Abby.Koch@TheIndependentSchool.com or Michelle.Bolin@TheIndependentSchool.com with your update.

