



**THE ADVANCING
SCIENCE NEWSLETTER**

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Supplementing Your Science Budget Since 1994 With the Generous Support of:
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Contact Your Legislators!

As you're aware, the state budget is bare bones this year and *Advancing Science/Science in Motion* was not included in the Governor's budget. This is nothing new; we were never included in the former Governor's budget. The legislators have always added us back into the budget during the negotiation period. In this tough budget year, there is going to be less that the legislators can add to the budget so they will need to pick and choose their favorites. Please help *AS/Science in Motion* become a favorite of your legislator. Please write to your legislators to explain what *AS* does for your students. In your letter, be sure to note that the *Advancing Science/Science in Motion* consortium is referred to in legislation as the Higher Education/Basic Education Science and Technology Partnership. You may also wish to include some of the equipment that you have used. For example, a class set of digital microscopes with computers costs about \$20,000; a class set of computers with LabPros and one of the sensors costs about \$8,000. Can your school afford to purchase this equipment? If your school did purchase the equipment, how often would it be used? Our digital microscopes have spent over 80 days in 20 schools this school year alone. One set of our

***Summer Workshop
Announcement - Filling Fast!***

We still have some spots left in our June workshop. On Thursday 6/16, we have space available for grade 5-12 teachers that are NEW to Advancing Science; please encourage your colleagues to join us. On Friday 6/17, we have space available for new and veteran grade 5-12 teachers. Veteran teachers are welcome to sign up for just Friday; however, new teachers must attend Thursday. For those of you that have already registered, please watch for confirmation letters to arrive at your home address in early May. Register and view the schedule here:

http://www.advancingscience.org/teacher_training/upcoming_workshops.htm

computers has spent over 100 days in 30 schools to date this school year. Help us keep busy next year!

A few helpful items for your letter:

- Legislator contact information:
http://www.advancingscience.org/About_Us/support_us.htm
- *Advancing Science* You Tube video (great program summary):
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FImlVitpATE>
- Don't forget the consortium is referred to in legislation as the Higher Education/Basic Education Science and Technology Partnership.
- Many thanks to the teachers that have already contacted their legislators to urge continued funding for *Advancing Science/Science in Motion*. Special thanks go out to the teachers that have invited a legislator into their classroom. Thanks to the hard work of these teachers, PA representatives **Glen Grell, Todd Rock, Sue Helm, Will Tallman, and Todd Platts (US House)** have all witnessed the impact of *Advancing Science* first hand.
- **Leslie Gentzyl and Leigh Foy** (York Suburban High School), **Craig Zerby** (Camp Hill High School), **Roger Coleman and Bob Walker** (Chambersburg High School), **Kelly Fringer** (Dauphin County Tech School), **Todd Smeltz** (Upper Dauphin High School) and **Bryan Beichler** (Hanover High School).

Chesapeake Bay Watershed Program

CBW teachers please keep an eye on your email watching for the year end paper work. You will be receiving an email requesting information regarding any watershed field trips or stream studies you may have done during the school year. Also, we will be requesting information on any independent Chesapeake Bay watershed activities you may have done with your classes. This information from you is very important for our NOAA funding report. Look for it around mid-May. Your time spent answering the survey questions is much appreciated. Thank you to the many CBW teachers that were able to complete the necessary number of CBW visits. We know that sometimes there are many factors guiding what you need to teach in the classroom. Educating our students about the Chesapeake Bay may one-day help in the Bay's recovery.



Val's Views

It's hard to believe that another school year is wrapping up. Thanks to everyone for helping to make it a great year. We appreciate the time that you take to write to legislators, complete surveys, attend our workshops, etc. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at our June workshop. Have a great summer!

The Editors Corner

Another school year winds down for us all. We have been very busy for most of the year. It seems like the program is gaining momentum once again. At this writing we look to the future with a great deal of uncertainty regarding funding. We have a new Governor who at this point is still unaware of our fine, efficient and effective program. Effort is being made to convince him to come in and see the program in action but he has not found the time to do so yet. We have great hope that Gov Corbett will see us before the year ends and he will find us to be the answer to efficiently teach the students of the Commonwealth high tech science with proportionate funding to do an outstanding job.

To conserve funds our offices will be closed for much of the summer. I hope to have a productive summer in the garden. Following this spring yielding substantial rain, we should have a nice growing season. By the way, I am good at mowing lawns, spreading mulch and preening gardens should anyone want to hire a handy man for the summer. I should have some time on my hands ☺

I enter a new phase of life this August as I will officially welcome a daughter-in-law into the family, courtesy of my third born. The Sipe household is excited about the first wedding. Daniel will be marrying Alexandra Bybel, his high school sweetheart as the two of them set up house in Carlisle. She is a law student at Dickinson.

Have a great summer, enjoy the times of relaxation and recharge those teaching batteries!

I hope to see you all next year.....*Jack-*

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Summer Schedule

Advancing Science offices will close 6/24 and we will reopen 8/15. You can start submitting your visit and loan requests online August 1st

Bird Watch

I would like to first send a big thank you to **Roger Coleman of Chambersburg High School** and **Leslie Gentzyel of York Suburban HS** for hosting visits by **State Representative Rock** and **US Congressman Todd Platts** in their classrooms. Both visits were very positive and will hopefully help us in the never-ending pursuit of funding. In addition, a thank you to the numerous teachers that were willing to make last minute changes in their request dates so we could fit those visits in. The change in one date usually affects four or five other teachers. Your flexibility is appreciated! I love having the summer off but wrapping up the year gets a bit tricky as the days come off the calendar. Each year I start off with a TO-DO list for the school year: rewrite some of the labs, better organize my files, better organize the equipment, write new labs, etc all of them are still on my TO-DO list as usual. This year the final wrap up will be a teacher workshop. While it is lots of work to set the workshop up I always enjoy the workshop days and seeing the teachers in a more relaxed atmosphere without their students.

The year always ends with me looking forward to vacation but wishing for just a few more days to wrap it up. Happy summertime.

~ Lisa

Welcome...to the folks who used our services for the first time in February, March and April:

Kelly Fringer.....Dauphin County Tech
Melisha Miller.....Shippensburg MS
Todd Miller.....St. Joseph School

Lesa's Van Visit Highlights

Our *eisenia fetida*, also known as red wiggler worms, have been making the rounds since being introduced at the January workshop this year. As the wigglers go about composting kitchen scraps in their mobile bin, students from all over south central Pennsylvania have been “yucking it up” with them. **Celeste Barnes'** classes from **Spring Grove HS** were my “guinea pig” classes for the “Worm composting: Finding Their Comfort Zone” activity. They were the first to use it in a classroom setting and helped me to fine-tune the monitoring CO₂ production of the worms. Their next stop was **Leigh Foy's** classes at **York Suburban HS**. Leigh's classes added an up-close look at the worm egg sacs before hatching, as well as CO₂ monitoring. **Kitty Monn's** 6th graders enjoyed a weeklong visit with the worms. The wigglers came back well fed after their stay at **St Andrew's School in Waynesboro**. Finally, the red wigglers had another trip to **York Suburban HS** to visit **Leslie Gentzyel' 9th grade** classes. During this York Suburban HS visit, **US Congressman Todd Platts** was on hand to enjoy the mix of “yuck” factor and technology that the worms provide to the classroom. Both Representative Platts and the students seemed to enjoy the red wigglers. They have plenty of adventures left before the school year ends.

How To Reach The Program

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Jack's Van Visit Highlights

In our day and age of rising energy costs and the desire to reduce emissions, I feel compelled to highlight one of our newest labs, **Energy Audit** which uses the computers, logger pro software, the new Vernier Watts Up Pros and any appliance you want to test. Our lab is written so that students can compare incandescent bulbs with CFL, determine how much it costs to boil a cup of water, make pot of coffee or heat a room with a small space heater. The software allows for the determination of the total watts consumed as well as the cost per usage. Students also test for air leaks within the classroom using our new IR thermometers. The “guinea pigs” for this new lab was **Todd Miller's** classes at **St. Joseph School in Dallastown**. The kids did a nice job getting the “kinks” out during our maiden voyage with this lab. **Leigh Foy** and her **York Suburban** biology classes also got in on the fun a few weeks later. They added a hair dryer to the list of appliances that have been tested. Not long after, I took this new lab to **Lynn Reinhart's 7th grade** classes at **Shippensburg MS**. Kudos to Lynn for actually making coffee for consumption!

Lost and Found

As the year ends please check your classroom for any *Advancing Science* equipment that may have slipped thru the cracks during pack up.

Lost:

Macroinvertebrate photo identification cards

Small silver ball in a string for Van de Graff Generator

Found:

Bausch and Lomb light source (looks like a white Christmas light on a stand-was found in a microscope supply tub)

Electronic News Digest Note

The *Advancing Science* Electronic News Digest (ASEND) is emailed approximately once a month. ASEND alerts teachers to *Advancing Science* updates, teaching ideas, and professional development opportunities. If you would like to receive ASEND, write to us at advancingscience@gettysburg.edu. Please let us know if you're already on the list and your contact information has changed.

Humor.....

This installment of our Humor comes from soon to be retired 6th grade teacher, Barb Lenker from Upper Dauphin MS. No more inservices for Barb! If you've had a cyber encounter of the humorous kind, send it along via e-mail, and you might get the thrill of seeing your offering in print!

What happens when teachers die?

A teacher dies and goes to Heaven. When she gets there, she meets Peter at the pearly white gates.

Peter says to her, "Welcome to Heaven. Let me give you an orientation first." So, Peter takes her to some beautiful mansions.

The teacher asks, "Who lives here in these

beautiful houses?" "These are for doctors. They did a lot of good on Earth so they get a nice mansion," replied Peter.

Peter takes the teacher to some more mansions. These were more magnificent than the first. "Wow, who lives here?"

"These mansions are for social workers. They did a lot of good on Earth but didn't make a lot of money so they get a better house."

Peter took the teacher to some more mansions. These were the most gorgeous homes she had ever seen. They had huge columns, well-manicured lawns, beautiful stained glass windows; the works!

"These are the most beautiful homes I have ever seen," exclaimed the teacher, "who lives here?!"

"Teachers live here." said Peter, "They did much good on Earth and received very little money so they get the best houses in all of Heaven."

"But where are all of the teachers?" inquired the teacher.

Peter answered, "Oh, they'll be back soon. They're all in Hell at an in-service."

Advancing Science Personnel

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