

Newsletter**Special Interest Articles**

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Teacher Spotlight

For Nora Walsh (AP, Honors and On-level chemistry teacher at Reitz High School in Evansville), PRISM has been a game-changer. Students in Nora's classes log onto PRISM almost every day. Nora started using PRISM for the power it provides during assessment. Originally the draw was the ease with which questions could be imported and assigned, but the true power of PRISM comes from the available data. The chemistry PLC at Reitz now uses common courses in PRISM which makes data discussions very efficient. The entire science department at Reitz is using PRISM's Moodle LMS as of this year, and the chemistry teachers in the district are in the early stages of working together to produce question banks and activities that can be used district-wide. This collaboration across buildings is another massive benefit to PRISM.

This year, Nora has been working to expand the types of activities she uses on PRISM. Nora has used PhET simulations for a long time in her courses, but for the first time this year she imbedded a PhET sim into a lesson in Moodle. This combination solved a long-term problem that she had been struggling with – how to have student accountability with a digital activity. The students had to have success with certain situations in the sim (evaluated by inputting the data from the sim into PRISM) before they could move on in the lesson, which ensured that students were mastering all of the desired scenarios in the sim before attempting practice problems.

EVSC has been *textbookless* for several years now, and sharing materials in PRISM has allowed Nora to maintain structure and organization for her students that is beyond what she has found on other platforms. She will be presenting a Webinar on Wednesday, February 19th for the *American Association of Chemistry Teachers* on teaching *textbookless*. The webinar is free to watch live. Details are included below.

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Teacher Spotlight

In this webinar, the focus will be on how to gather resources, share those resources with students, and help students to see the flow of a course in a textbookless classroom. Different methods will be highlighted, including the use of LMS platforms, free online textbooks, and videos and simulations. In addition, techniques using principles of interactive notebooking will be presented.

To register, go to:

<https://teachchemistry.org/professional-development/webinars/teaching-chemistry-in-a-textbookless-classroom>.

Nora has been teaching chemistry for 16 years, 14 of them in EVSC. She has a master's degree in chemistry from Emory University and a master's degree in Secondary Science Education from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. She is married to Ken, an organic chemistry professor at the University of Southern Indiana. They have three children, and every other year travel to Ken's home of Dublin, Ireland for a few weeks.



SPARK! Competition at Rose-Hulman

Rose Building Undergraduate Diversity (Rose-BUD) is a networking and professional development organization focused on increasing women and underrepresented groups inclusion in the Rose-Hulman Computer Science and Software Engineering (CSSE) as well as the Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) departments. Rose-BUD will be hosting the annual Spark! competition on March 14th, a design competition created to increase high school students' interests in engineering, regardless of their current background or their future plans. This year's competition is based around music, to encourage interest in STEM and the arts (STEAM). To sign up for the Spark! competition visit the [Spark! page](#) and fill out the info at the bottom of the page. The deadline to apply is March 9th.

The Rose-BUD program also offers scholarships to increase the number of women and other underrepresented groups in CSSE and ECE. To apply for the Rose-BUD scholarship as a high school senior, visit the [Rose-BUD page](#). The deadline to apply is February 1st.

Resources for Teachers

doceri



doceri combines screencasting, desktop control and interactive whiteboards into one app. **Doceri** is an iPad-based presentation tool that includes screencast recording, an interactive whiteboard and graphics pad. Teachers can control their desktop files and resources from an iPad. They can launch their classroom presentations and other online resources with the touch screen on an iPad. Teachers can make annotations on presentations as they present and save the work for students. The recorded lessons can be viewed by students at home or in the classroom. The digital whiteboard can also be used by students in class. This is a tool that is enabling teachers to effectively “flip their classrooms” and enable higher levels of learning by their students.

To learn more, go to: [doceri](#).

ProWritingAid



ProWritingAid analyzes a person’s writing and is capable of proving over 20 different reports about the writing. Style, summary, overused words, clichés, all repeats of words or phrases, uses of pronouns, proper transition and proper diction are just some of the main types of things analyzed. Full chapters, entire reports, in-depth articles and sections of books can be analyzed with no word count limits. ProWriting Aid provides free access to a writers resource library with a paid subscription. There is a free version of ProWritingAid available for one year of use.

To learn more, go to: [ProWritingAid](#).

2020 Sustainable Alternative Energies Summer Boot Camp

An Intensive "Boot Camp" Teacher Training Combining Academic Professional Development with Vocational Site Visits to Alternative Energy Providers

Thanks to funding provided by: Frank and Becky Levinson

Where: Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Campus

When: July 12 - July 17, 2020

From July 12 - July 17, Rose-Hulman PRISM will be facilitating the Sustainable Alternative Energies Summer Boot Camp. The boot camp takes place on the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology campus. Secondary and Middle School (6-12) STEM teachers teaching units in their curriculum on sustainable energies are invited to submit an application. The purpose of this institute is to provide the teachers a true "boot camp experience" in sustainable alternative energies combining academic professional development with vocational site visits to some alternative energy providers in Indiana.

During the institute, teachers are to be developing standards-based, practical and comprehensive lessons for units on sustainable alternative energies. Time will be given each day to help guide the development of lesson plans. Teachers will also be given time to share their ideas and collaborate each day.

Upon completion, and after fully participating in the institute, each teacher will receive a kit of supplies containing materials for all the lab activities done during the institute. Teachers can also receive, upon completion of the institute, 45 Professional Growth Points (PGP's) to apply on their Indiana Teacher's License renewal.

All participants will be housed in a residence hall on the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology campus during the institute. Meals will be provided through the Food & Dining Services (Café Bon Appetit) in the student union.

Eligibility Requirements:

Teachers must be active Indiana Secondary or Middle School STEM teachers teaching units on sustainable energies.

Priority will be given to teachers that have 0-10 years of teaching experience.

Main Topics

U.S. Power Grid

Energy Conservation

Solar Energy

Wind Energy

Coal-fired Power Plants

Natural Gas Combined-Cycle Power Plants

Site visits could include:

Benton County Wind Energy Farms

Hoosier Energy Merom Power Plant, Merom, IN

MISO Headquarters, Carmel, IN

NIPSCO Power Plant, West Terre Haute, IN

Natural Gas Power Plants

Apply online at the [PRISM website](#). You must create an account on our website. After creating an account, you will need to click on Event Registration on the front page (left-hand side under Main Menu). Then, click on the drop-down menu and select: **Sustainable Energy Experience 2020**.

Professional Development Opportunities

49th Annual HASTI Conference

ALL IN: Sharing the Vision for Indiana Science Education

February 9 - 11, 2020
Wyndham Indianapolis West
2544 Executive Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46241

HASTI's 2019 Conference will convene in Indianapolis from February 17-19. The HASTI conference is the premier professional development and networking opportunity for science teachers in Indiana. Concurrent sessions are led by teachers, college faculty, staff at informal education institutions, and STEM education industry representatives.

Category	Pre-Registration Full	Pre-Registration One Day	Onsite Full Conference	Onsite Single Day
Member	\$99	\$69	\$119	\$79
Nonmember	\$149	\$109	\$169	\$119
Retired/Student	\$59	\$39	\$79	\$49
Guest	\$59	\$39	\$79	\$49

Field Trips, Workshops, and Award Banquet tickets are additional fees.

If 4 people from one school attend HASTI, your Superintendent or Principal will receive a complimentary registration!

HASTI Exhibit Hall Registration

[Register Here](#)

Contact: Exhibitsmanager@hasti.org for questions.

2020 SPARC Conference



Southwest Parke Schools would like to invite you to a day of fun, inspiration, and professional growth in our 7th annual SPARC Conference on Friday, February 14. The schedule will be filled with speakers, breakout sessions, food, and opportunities to grow your PLN. You may even win a great door prize! We hope you will join us as we work to awaken and redefine curriculum.

Please complete the form below to register for SPARC 2020 taking place on Friday, February 14.

\$50 Standard Registration

\$25 College Students

Free for SWP student teachers and TOTAL program students (please register)

Free for Presenters & Vendors sponsoring at \$100 or more (no need to register)

Free for SWP teachers (no need to register)

Questions may be sent through this form or at any time to porterr@swparke.k12.in.us.

Please visit <http://sparconference.com> for conference details and information.

What PRISM Can Do For You!

- Easily find the perfect teaching and learning resources from our library of over 5,000.
- Save a list of your favorite resources for quick retrieval.
- Create and share lesson plans that teach your subjects utilizing your favorite resources.
- Develop online classrooms with interactive assignments, lessons, quizzes and more!
- Store your classroom materials online so that they are available to you from any computer.
- Reach your students more effectively by using web media for the digital age.
- Earn PGP points by completing PRISM led online Moodle course – either Beginning Moodle or Intermediate Moodle courses are available to you at no cost several times throughout the year.
- Select from free learning resources that emphasize visualization, rich context, staged-problem solving, and electronically enabled collaboration / communication.
- Augment your own dynamic presence in the classroom with teaching tools that mirror the skills needed for success in higher education and the 21st Century workplace.

Through our strong support from the [Lilly Endowment](#) and others, we are constantly growing and improving. Check our site regularly to see what new resources you can use in your classroom.

www.rose-prism.org