



Promising Futures



2009-2010 Annual Report

THIS YEAR AT ISUS

We take the classroom
into the **real-world** using a
hands-on approach
to help students learn and
keep them **energized**.



Dr. Jerry Farley
Superintendent

With an emphasis on
innovative technologies,
our graduates are well-prepared to
compete for
cutting-edge jobs.



Ann Higdon
Founder and President

In 2008, the Ohio Legislature
designated ISUS as a
5-year demonstration project.
We successfully completed our
second year in this effort.



Al Dunn Chair, Board of
Trustees

Our teachers go the
extra mile to provide
unique learning opportunities
that concentrate on a student's
individual educational needs.



Malaika Dedrick
Interim Principal

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Saint Aloysius Orphanage through a partnership with Charter School Specialists provides guidance, technical assistance, compliance monitoring, and oversight of statutory and contractual requirements. We are pleased to report that your school was substantially compliant in their operational and academic requirements for the 2009-2010 School Year.



Photo courtesy of the Dayton Daily News
Jan Underwood, Photographer

Big Community Impact

AS STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT RENEWABLE ENERGY

Construction students are green building replica homes while training for 21st century jobs. Three of six proposed cutting-edge homes are now underroof in the Wright-Dunbar neighborhood. In this Dayton Daily News picture, construction student Onelia Puig replaces a fence around the replica of the Thomas Edison Menlo Park Laboratory. Behind him are the family homes Neil Armstrong and John Glenn. Each replica home will be themed to a famous aviation pioneer. In 2011, students will break ground on the homes of Amelia Earhart, Bessie Coleman, and Wilbur Wright.



Competency-Based, Personalized Education

We teach students how to function, long after high school graduation is over, as professionals in the construction industry. A student demonstrates competencies through cognitive (academic learning), psychomotor (practical application), and affective (attitudinal and behavioral) performance. Ultimately, this proven ability to perform becomes a part of the student's portfolios as they seek employment.

The length of enrollment at the ISUS Institute is flexible to allow students to gain competency as they are able. We emphasize personalized instruction to meet the needs of

the individual and to allow for diverse learning styles. Students in the ISUS Construction Institute earn OSHA and University of Florida, National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) certifications. They can also earn Backhoe and Forklift certificates.

Students learn carpentry, electrical, masonry, landscaping, building and property maintenance; all in the real world context of building new homes in Dayton, Ohio.

OUR APPROACH

- Establish high standards, expectations, and personal accountability and improve students' interpersonal skills.
- Encourage critical thinking and give students daily practice in solving classroom and work-related problems.
- Show the relevance of academic and technical coursework, and provide frequent positive feedback and regular performance incentives.
- Require Service Learning where students practice skills, learn citizenship, and give back to the community.
- Address the overlapping disciplines of youth development, workforce development, community development, and economic development.

OUR GOALS

- Meet or exceed State of Ohio education requirements.
- Assess students twice annually in reading and math to demonstrate progress.
- Require graduates to be proficient in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.
- Improve recruitment, student retention, service project progress, and graduate placement.
- Track attendance, discipline, academic progress, vocational performance, employment/job seeking skills, and student satisfaction.
- Measure employment skills through curriculum competencies and evaluation of work projects.
- Achieve the following benchmarks:
 - ⇒ 93% attendance rate
 - ⇒ 2 year increase in academic performance each year
 - ⇒ 50% reduction in recidivism among court-involved youth
 - ⇒ 80% of students employed, in the military, or enrolled in additional education/ training upon graduation

Exciting Curriculum

Because we operate on a longer school day and year, students generally advance 2 grade levels per year and can complete their course of study in two years. This is one innovation that allows ISUS to successfully reclaim youth who have fallen out of the educational mainstream.





Focused Staff & Students

We meet the requirements of No Child Left Behind and the Ohio Department of Education by assembling a staff of highly qualified academic, vocational and construction instructors, youth development counselors, and intervention specialists. ISUS hires craftsmen from business and industry, and supports instructors to attain vocational education certifications at Wright State University.

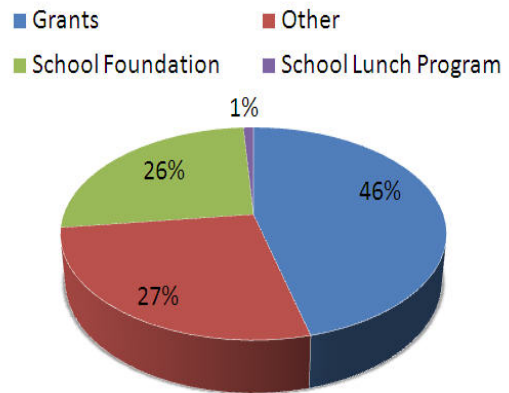
Did you
KNOW?

ISUS students have constructed
more than **54 residences**
in Dayton.

Financials

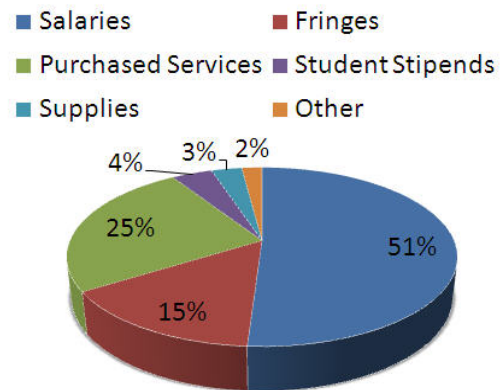
REVENUE YEAR END 6/30/10

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| School Foundation | \$ 668,388 |
| Grants | \$ 1,204,134 |
| School Lunch Program | \$ 35,624 |
| Other | \$ 716,608 |
| Total Revenues | \$ 2,624,754 |



EXPENDITURES YEAR END 6/30/10

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Salaries | \$ 1,398,275 |
| Fringes | \$ 413,113 |
| Student Stipends | \$ 123,588 |
| Purchased Services | \$ 683,486 |
| Supplies | \$ 83,532 |
| Other | \$ 45,578 |
| Total Expenditures | \$ 2,747,572 * |



** unaudited financial figures*

Student Information

| Ohio | 10 th | 11 th |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Graduation Tests | Grade | Grade |
| Reading | 52.9% | 52.2% |
| Mathematics | 68.8% | 54.2% |
| Writing | 75.0% | 47.8% |
| Science | 33.3% | 45.8% |
| Social Studies | 46.7% | 34.8% |

Demographics

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Economically Disadvantaged | 94.4% |
| Special Education | 24.6% |
| Attendance Rate | 85.3% |
| Graduation Rate | 33.8% |
| Caucasian | 45.0% |
| African American | 44.4% |
| Other | 9.6% |



Learning by Doing Good

Typically, student-built homes are 1700-2100 square feet, with three or four bedrooms and two baths. Often students build designs with two-story living rooms, vaulted ceilings, recessed lighting and wrap around porches. With the students now building green, visitors leave impressed with the ability of our students to contribute a wonderful service in a wonderful way. ISUS students appreciate the support of benefactors like the Rotary Club of Dayton, Associated Builders and Contractors, and the Montgomery County Commissioners.

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