



# Invitational Education

Newsletter of the International Alliance for Invitational Education

January 2018

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## A Message from the Executive Director



Happy New Year! What an exciting time to be part of the International Alliance for Invitational Education. As part of our efforts to communicate and celebrate IAIE, I will be publishing a newsletter throughout the year to provide updates and information about the amazing work that transpires around the world. I encourage you to email me information pertaining to your work and the impact of Invitational Education in your school, business, or life. I want to share your success stories.

As life-long learners, we can all benefit from one another's struggles, accomplishments, research, and practice. I look forward to making this "our" newsletter. Hope to hear from you soon.

## News and Updates:

### World Conference 2017

*Having just completed the final work of the 2017 World Conference and now planning the 2018 World Conference, I am more convinced than ever that our organization is making a positive impact on our world. Thanks to Kim Arrington and the wonderful staff of Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce and Carlsbad Municipal Schools, the 2017 was the extremely successful. The number of guest and members in attendance totaled 173 and the conference evaluations praised the choice of keynotes, presentations, award ceremonies, and excursions.*

### New Board of Trustees

This year also brings new members on to the Board of Trustees. These new members include:

James Botts, Nicholasville, Ky.

Sally Butzin, Tallahassee, Florida

Ed Nelson, Grove City, Ohio

Peter Wong, Hong Kong, China

John Young, Clarkson, Australia

These leaders bring a wealth of experience and expertise to our board.

### World Conference 2018

During the January Board of Trustee meeting, the decision was made to hold the **2018 World Conference in Georgetown, Kentucky, October 9-11**. Georgetown was the



conference site of the World Conference in 2007 and offers a wealth of opportunity for school visits, beautiful excursions across the Bluegrass and Commonwealth of Kentucky. Many IE long-marchers and leaders will be joining me in planning an outstanding and applicable experience. Begin making plans now to attend. Pre-conference sessions will be held on Tuesday, October 9 and the opening session will begin on Wednesday, October 10. More information will follow regarding our conference theme, requests for presentations, registration, hotel accommodations, and fun-filled excursions.

### *The Betty Siegel Benefit for Children Auction*



**BETTYSIEGEL**

Again this year the 2018 World Conference will continue the silent auction held to support the Betty Siegel Benefit for Children. This auction, which began in 2017, is held annually in honor of Betty Siegel, co-founder and staunch supporter of Invitational Education. Proceeds from this auction will go to support Florida Hospitals Sharing Smiles Project. This non-profit project supports teams of fully-equipped medical professionals to travel through central and South America and perform plastic surgery on children with cleft palates. As you begin to make plans to travel to Georgetown, Kentucky this fall, please plan to bring an item to share in this auction.

### *New Advisory Council Chair*

Dr. Jetta Tarr, life-long educator and IE supporter, has assumed the leadership role as chair of the Advisory Council. Jetta will be working with the advisory council members to complete the charges of the Board of Trustees to move our organization forward. Particularly, the advisory board will be dealing with issues pertaining to growing our membership, sustaining our mission, and keeping our organization financially solvent. We currently have 20 members who serve on this council. Thank you, Dr. Tarr for stepping up to lead this important work.



### *Update on Dr. William Purkey*

So happy to report that Dr. William Purkey is home and recovering from the fall he experienced just prior to Christmas. Dr. Purkey has expressed gratitude to each of you who extended well wishes during his time of recovery.



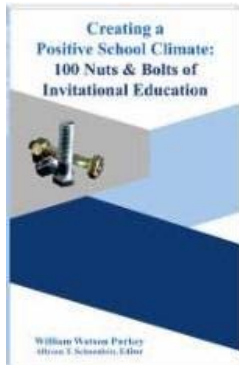
**WILLIAM PURKEY**

### *Welcoming Schools and Blue Cards*

Many of us remember the first time we heard Dr. Purkey speak about the invitational "blue" cards needed for an invitational climate. **Dr. Vickie Wilson**, Chair of Welcoming Schools Committee, stays on the cutting edge of "blue" and sends the following message:

Happy New Year, everyone! I hope you're safe and warm as we weather a bitterly cold and snowy January in the Midwest and East Coast! I've attached a special preview for you. Many of us have struggled as we tried to integrate the tenets of Invitational Education--caring, optimism, respect, and trust--into our schools and organizations. Dr.

William Purkey's new book gives us many, many concrete ways in which to put IE into immediate action. I hope this little sample will inspire you to get a copy of the book--a real treasure for your IE bookshelf!



***Blue Card: Gems from Creating a Positive School Climate:  
100 Nuts & Bolts of Invitational Education***

***International Alliance for Invitational Education, 2017***

*In this book, Dr. William Purkey (with editor Allyson Schoenlein) has "operationalized" Invitational Theory with practical ideas to make your school or organization even more inviting.*

***People***

*Think and speak like an optimist! Use "opportunity" instead of "problem," "may" instead of "should," and "seldom" instead of "never."*

*Recharge your own batteries: join a book club, take a walk, throw a party.*

*Use inviting comments: thanks, congratulation, how may I help?*

***Places***

*Revamp your signs: "Visitors must report to the office" becomes "Please start your visit in the office."*

*Use directional signs to help your visits find what they're looking for.*

*Make the teachers' lounge an attractive haven.*

***Programs***

*Create a wellness program.*

*Reach out to the community by hosting a senior citizens open house or a realtors breakfast.*

*Establish a recycling program.*

***Policies***

*Promote safety with name badges for all workers.*

*Organize a parent safety patrol.*

*Treat every phone call as important.*

### ***Processes***

*Be intentionally caring, optimistic, respectful, and trusting.*

*This is just a tiny sample of the many ways to integrate Invitational Education into your school or organization. Dr. Purkey's book is available at the IAIE website [www.invitationaleducation.net](http://www.invitationaleducation.net)*

### ***Website Updates***



Tim Fields, IAIE Webmaster, is currently conducting multiple revisions and updates to the website. It is his mission to build upon the current site, making it more user-friendly and accessible from mobile platforms. Tim is working through patches and changes in the evenings and weekends to help offset any interference with services. Should you experience issues with on-line membership or purchasing, please contact:

[Kathy.fields@invitationaleducation.net](mailto:Kathy.fields@invitationaleducation.net), [Sylvia.decker@invitationaleducation.net](mailto:Sylvia.decker@invitationaleducation.net) or [timfie@microsoft.com](mailto:timfie@microsoft.com).

### ***Ways to Communicate with IAIE Administration and Staff***

As administration and staff of IAIE, Sylvia, Tim and I are always happy to help with your membership, purchasing, registration, or information needs. Each of us keep different office hours, as we are only IAIE part-time employees. However, each of us seek to be as helpful and attentive as possible. Don't hesitate to email us individually or call the IAIE office phone, 859-881-8388. Should I be out of the office, please leave a recorded message.

Membership renewal or registrations are always accepted via US mail. Checks may be made payable to IAIE and mailed to PO Box 594, Nicholasville, KY. 40356-9407.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve the IAIE membership and board and look forward to a wonderful 2018.

