

N

ETTLE CREEK SCHOOL CORPORATION

"Our mission is to provide an exemplary educational experience that maximizes each student's highest potential."

" P E O P L E A R E I M P O R T A N T H E R E ! "



April 2016

William Doering, Ph.D. - Superintendent
wdoering@nettlecreek.k12.in.us

Dear Parents and Nettle Creek Community Members,

After a particularly mild winter, one might have guessed that we would have seen our last snow of the season some time in March, but we all know now that that isn't how things worked out. Last week we had a brief reminder of what the yard looks like with a blanket of the white stuff. Now, have we seen our last

snow? Keep in mind, we've seen snow in May before. Student standardized assessment from the State level is in the middle of an uncertain time just like our weather last week. Without a doubt, the IDOE will provide a standardized system of student assessment just as sure as snow will eventually end. Unlike the weather however, IDOE is giving all of us a chance for input to help determine ISTEP's replacement. As the assessment puzzle

is being assembled in the coming school year at the state level, Nettle Creek School Corporation will initiate a standardized assessment plan that we've been working on for the past year that calls for the administration of NWEA in grades K-12 three times throughout the 2016-2017 school year to assure student learning is on track and growing for all students. Teachers will use NWEA results to determine the effectiveness of past instruction as well as to determine what students are ready to learn next focusing on the Indiana Academic Standards. NWEA results will also be shared as they come in through the year with students and parents. In fact, NCSC students and parents are already familiar with NWEA (MAPS) tests because K-6 students have taken them here, for years. Eventually, the state will complete their work with a standardized testing program. In the mean time, the students and their teachers at NCSC are ahead of the curve and will lose no time receiving this important assessment information throughout the coming school year to assure all students are GROWING @ THE CREEK!



Nettle Creek Family of Schools



Tiger Cub Round Up!

Hagerstown Elementary School will be holding Kindergarten Registration on Thursday, April 14th from 8:30A.M. to 7:00P.M. by appointment. Any Tiger Cub who will turn five years old on or before August 1, 2016 should plan to attend with a parent or legal guardian. Please call Ms. Warvel at 765.489.4555 X402 to schedule an appointment. An opportunity to register for Kindergarten will continue after this date at your family's convenience up until the first day of school next year. Please give us a call to make arrangements. Early registration helps us plan. We are very excited to meet our upcoming Kindergarten students!

Boys & Girls Club Youth Of The Year!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Zach Burton for being named B&G Club Youth of the Year! Zach is a Sophomore and the first Nettle Creek student to ever receive this honor!



HES Makes A Great Community Connection!

Talk with anyone around, and you will find that one of the unique characteristics of our area is the close relationship and the loyalty our citizens have for our community's schools. This connection is very valuable, and the strength of this link is measured by the countless hours parents, community volunteers and members of civic organizations dedicate to the success of our children. While Nettle Creek School Corporation's first priority is to assure that all of our community's children get a great academic education, we



take very seriously our commitment to provide our students with a sense of place, so that as they grow up and follow their own life's paths, they take with them a strong foundation built right here in our community. We call it Tiger Pride! One recent event that forges this link was a third-grade project Ms. Doerstler provided her students. It's not unusual for students to write reports in school, in fact, the Indiana Academic Standards require it, and Ms. Doerstler framed the activity so that each student chose a part of the Nettle Creek community to research. Projects ranged from models of historic, family homes in the area to a video about Abbott's Candy Shop. The students took the project to the next level by each presenting their written work aloud to an assembly of their parents, grandparents and community members. Ms. Doerstler took the project even higher by arranging to hold these presentations in the evening, upstairs, at the Hagerstown Museum on East Main Street. Picture student Brock Senese who learned about Philip Belt,

a Hagerstown resident who became internationally famous for crafting 46 Mozart-era pianos and who donated one of them to the Hagerstown Museum, making his presentation before a standing-room-only crowd. When Brock finished teaching us what he had learned about Mr. Belt, he pointed down from the stage and said, "And there is one of his pianos, right there!" We send tips of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Doerstler and to all of her students for connecting learning with our heritage and our town museum!



They Call Them Community Assets, We Call Them Community Gifts!

The teachers and Mr. Childs continue to build a powerful learning opportunity for students at Hagerstown Junior/Senior High School. Working in partnership with two other rural Indiana high schools along with facilitators from North Carolina and the University of Indianapolis, Nettle Creek continues to initiate a grant-funded Early College program locally. This week,



the facilitators came to town to build capacity among school staff and to facilitate a meeting between school personnel and county-wide community leaders to identify regional assets, opportunities, and threats as our team continues their two-year building process. Their work is developing possibilities for our high school students to become college and career ready in new and different ways upon their graduation from high school. Folks from Wayne Bank, Ivy Tech Community College, Reid Health, Dot Foods, New Castle Career Center, Wayne County Economic Development Corporation, and Wayne County Health Department were among several other community representatives who worked with the Jr./Sr. high Leadership

Team to advance the project. We send tips of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Childs and his staff as well as to all of our community partners who support our students!

April Is Autism Awareness Month!

Autism Spectrum Disorders are five, complex, brain-based disorders that affect a person's behavior as well as social and communication skills. This month we recognize the S.O.S. Team members at HES who support children in need. If you would like more information about Autism, please call Ms. Roberts! 765.489.4555

Spring Is Here! The Community Garden Is Up And Growing!

If you are looking for an inexpensive opportunity to spend time in our community together as a family, and if you are looking for a way to add healthy food to your dinner table, plots are now available in the Community Garden! A class on Small Space/Container Gardening will be held on April 26 and Pest Management will be the topic on May 24th. Call Gary Keesling to reserve your growing plot on South Perry Street. 765.993.7339.