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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 ! "



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Dear Parents and Nettle Creek Community Members,

You may or may not have heard about the Indiana Department Of Education's quest to replace its annual, standardized assessment (ISTEP+) with something less cumbersome and more useful. While educators at Nettle Creek School Corporation recognize the important role standardized assessment plays in measuring learning progress and guiding instruction, we are using K-12 MAP testing at NCSC to obtain this information. Map test results are received within 24 hours after a student finishes the test, results arrive along with clear indications of what a child is ready to learn next, and individual MAP tests are shorter and administered three times over the course of the year so the teacher can adjust instruction accordingly. The IDOE will release the results of 2015-2016 ISTEP+ scores and our schools' letter grades based partially on ISTEP+ soon. We will send this information to you when we get the green light to release it. NCSC will celebrate the strengths ISTEP+ and our school letter grades indicate as well as learn what we can from both pieces of information.



Success By The Numbers!

Several times each year I provide the School Board with a snapshot of the progress our schools are making as we Grow @ The Creek! The latest report included the following information:

MAP Scores summary: After September testing, all grade levels except Kindergarten report MAP grade-level scores in Reading, Language and Mathematics at or above the average scores of students in the same grade levels across the country who take MAP tests.

IREAD-3 Passing Rate: 94.5%

Advanced Placement: Number of students who earned 1,2 - 42 3,4,5 - 8

Student Enrollment: Elementary School - 587 Jr./Sr. High School - 524 An increase by 8 from Spring '16

Student Attendance: 97.17%

Office Referrals: Elementary School - 38 Jr./Sr. High School - 21

Suspensions: Elementary School - 13 Jr./Sr. High School - 7

Expulsions: Elementary School - 0 Jr./Sr. High School - 0

School Letter Grades: (2014-2015) Elementary School - A Jr./Sr. High School - B Corporation - B

Some Interventions Being Used To Increase Student Achievement:

Elementary School: Dual Stream Instruction (Project Child & Traditional Classrooms), Reading Recovery, iReady Math intervention, extra support in 3rd grade, after-school tutoring, organizational support for 6th graders

Jr./Sr. High School: Study Island, Sustained Silent Reading, ALEKS, Flipped Classroom, faculty/student mentoring, On-Track To Graduate mentoring, AP Prep, individual remediation plans



Congratulations And Thanks To Tiger Athletes And Coaches!

Nettle Creek Athletes in every sport distinguished themselves during the Fall season! While the rest of us are thoroughly entertained during games and matches, we send tips of the Tiger's tail to the students and their coaches who obtained their levels of success by working hard at each practice and during each competition. Tiger athletes in Fall sports performed superbly in sectional, regional, semi-state and state competitions. Along with building our community's tradition of Tiger Pride, our students learn that skill can be developed and that effort, perseverance and teamwork are key ingredients of success! Please join us at our Winter sports competitions. We guarantee you more Purple & Gold excitement!



HES Students Learn Outside Of The Classroom!

Eight students and a parent volunteer were guests of Ms. Hokey and Dr. Doering last week on a Tiger Trip to Earlham College to hear a performance of the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra. Students reported that they enjoyed the evening that included various jazz selections from the 1920's. Viewing the performance from the balcony was initially unnerving to some of the students. Tiger students identified riding in the Tiger minibus, getting over their fear of heights and seeing and hearing a real harp as their favorite moments of the evening. Student travelers did a fine job representing NCSC at this event!



Nettle Creek School Corporation Celebrates Our Veterans!

You are invited to join students and staff at Hagerstown Elementary School on Thursday, November 10th as we recognize and thank the veterans in our community. Ms. Cline and the children have prepared a program of patriotic songs that they will present at 7:00P.M. in the school gymnasium.



A Tidbit From The Cafeteria!

Students were the first to notice that portion sizes have been adjusted to fit within the latest government guidelines delivered to school corporations around the country. Ms. Maddy sent home an informational flyer via students to parents that describes the new guidelines. It says in part, "Each day, your child is offered a lunch containing the following: meat or meat alternate, grain, fruit, vegetable and milk." It goes on to acknowledge that some students choose to decline a part of the day's menu, and that some of the menu choices may count as two food groups such as pizza, nachos, cheeseburger or chef salad. The cafeteria has surveyed students at HES and plans to survey HJr./Sr.H students so that the day's menu keeps favorites as they investigate new options students will enjoy. Active students and student athletes often



choose to supplement the hot school lunch with items from home. With athletic practices and after-school activities for students, it can be a long time between breakfast and dinner! We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to the Food Services staff for continuing to offer our school-raised beef in our lunches. While it took a little trial-and-error to get the fat content right, the latest shipment from Ms. Hendrickson, Mr. Williamson and their Ag students couldn't be more juicy and delicious and returns hamburgers to the top of the list of requested meals! You can read more about the Nettle Creek Beef Farm in *Farm Indiana* at: <http://www.farm-indiana.com/2015/10/26/campus-cows/>.

Hoosiers In Harmony!

Nettle Creek Players will present "Hoosiers In Harmony" by Heartland Vocal Artists at 7:30P.M. Friday, November 18th on the Opera House stage in the Historic Hagerstown Museum in downtown Hagerstown. Tickets are \$15 and are available at www.nettlecreekplayers.com. The group will also provide a professional workshop for music and theater students at Hagerstown Jr./Sr. High School on that day. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to the Nettle Creek Players and are very glad for their partnership as we assure that all students GROW @ THE CREEK!

