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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 ! "



December 2016

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Dear Parents and Nettle Creek Community Members,

December is a magical month in our classrooms and in our community filled with family activities designed to make magical memories for our children, our families and guests,



and our neighbors! This past weekend, Hagerstown put out the welcome mat, and folks from across the area came to town to join in the many community-sponsored events.

GROW
THE CREEK @

Nettle Creek Family of Schools

The holiday spirit was contagious among those who enjoyed Breakfast with Santa, the Dance With Cindy Winter Recital and the Scout Spaghetti Dinner among other traditional activities which are all parts of our town's Hometown Christmas celebration. Between now and Winter Break, Nettle Creek students invite you to come back to school to enjoy Christmas programs, concerts and other special activities that they and their teachers have designed to warm your heart as you share in the fun of this holiday season. Please join us!

The Children Are Ready!

Students at Hagerstown Elementary School are anxious for you to join them this week as they present their holiday programs filled with singing, dancing and musical performances. Children in Grades K-6 have been working hard, along with Ms. Cline and Mr. Sloniker, to assure that everyone will enjoy the evening at the following events in the school gymnasium:

Grades K-3 Holiday Concert - Tuesday, December 6th at 6:30P.M.

Grades 4-6 Holiday Concert including the 6th-Grade Band - Thursday, December 8th at 6:30P.M.

The 4-6 concert will include some of the choral selections that the children included in their performance at the Arts Garden in Indianapolis recently.

More Seasonal Sounds Abound!

Students at the Jr./Sr. high are equally ready to open the doors and invite you in to attend their Christmas concert. The Jr. high choir and the 7th & 8th-grade band are including an element of community service by asking for a \$5.00 contribution at the door or a donation of a toy for the Toys For Tots program to spread the joy of the season to those children in our community who are less fortunate. Their performance begins at 5:30P.M. on Sunday, December 11th in the school auditorium.



NCSC Business Professionals Of America Students Host Competition!

Nettle Creek student members of BPA will host a regional competition this Saturday at the Jr./Sr. high. Students from high schools all around Eastern Indiana will compete in categories such as Advanced Accounting, Advanced Spreadsheet Applications, Parliamentary Procedure, and Advanced Interview Skills. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Dawson, Ms. Dennis, Mr. Snodgrass and the other teachers who have been busy all semester preparing NCSC students for Saturday's competition. Go Tigers!



The Jr./Sr. High School Investigates The Flipped Classroom Instructional Model!

Instituting a Condensed Day schedule has allowed staffs at both buildings to investigate new and better ways to deliver instruction to students. One instructional model that teachers at the Jr./Sr. high school are learning about is called the Flipped Classroom. In a flipped classroom, time is used differently than in traditional instruction. While everyone is familiar with class time being used for lecture by the teacher with related homework assigned for practice after the school day, in a Flipped Classroom, work at home by students precedes learning activities with the teacher at school. These flipped assignments are often online videos produced by the teacher and serve as warmup activities that orient students to learning activities that will come afterward with the teacher and the other students in class. And rather than being on their own to complete homework activities that students may not understand, in a flipped classroom these learning activities which often include discussion and group work are done in class under the teacher's guidance. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to teachers and administrators at the Jr./Sr. high for using their Condensed Day opportunities to learn how to better meet the needs of students! Best of luck with your innovation!



HES Teachers Share Their Expertise!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Corman, Ms. Doerstler, Ms. Lear and Ms. Walker who recently returned from Rhode Island where they spoke at a national Project Child conference about their experiences as teachers in the Project CHILD program at Hagerstown Elementary School. In the Project CHILD instructional model three teachers form cluster teams - one in reading, one in writing, and one in mathematics. Cluster teams work across three grade levels. Teachers work with the same students for three years (looping). Hagerstown Elementary School has six PC teachers and offers a primary cluster (Grades K, 1 and 2) and an intermediate cluster (Grades 3, 4 and 5).



Kelsey Zetzl Performs With The Richmond Symphony Orchestra!

Clarinetist and twelfth-grade student Kelsey Zetzl performed the Concertino for Clarinet and Orchestra with the Richmond Symphony Orchestra on Sunday as a result of being named their Young Artist Concerto Winner for 2016. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail Kelsey's way for providing a memorable performance. Kelsey is also highly involved with our school's extra-curricular programs serving as President of the HHS chapter of the National Honor Society and participating as a member of the Peer Helper program in addition to her musical activities. Kelsey plans on double majoring in college in math education and in music performance after graduation.



Nettle Creek School Counselors Are Preparing A Significant Grant Application!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Kaiser, Ms. Olinger and Ms. Sewell, NCSC school counselors, who are working on a team to write a significant Lilly Endowment Grant that, if obtained, will allow us to reconfigure our counselling program to better support K-12 students. Establishing a community steering committee is a part of the grant application process. If you are interested in supporting this effort, please contact one of our school counselors! Thank you!

From all of us at NCSC, to all of you, "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"

Winter Vacation begins on Monday, December 19th. School resumes on Tuesday, January 3rd.