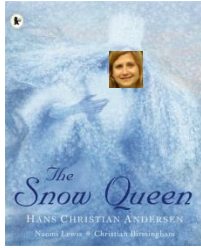


Dear Staff,

As I look outside, the snow is starting to pick up. I wonder what things will look like in the morning. I have a feeling it's going to be an early morning for superintendents and transportation directors. I know of only one NCSC employee, for the sake of anonymity let's call her 'the Snow Queen', who loves the snow. I've heard her say more than once, "The more the better." A week from now it will be less of an issue for me until school begins again in January.



Mr. Gentry hit the bull's eye this week when he observed that it was going to be a busy week at both schools. The winter season sports are in full swing. Basketball, swimming & diving and wrestling will all keep kids busy throughout their seasons. We wish each of the coaches well and send tips of the Tiger's tail to them as they develop students in ways that complement our academic programs.



It's a challenge to be a performing arts teacher in December! Ms. Cline and Mr. Sloniker rose to the occasion again this year by preparing over 600 students to perform in front of their parents and our community. Ms. Cline's



students performed in Indianapolis twice, her students presented a K-2 program and a Grades 3-6 program last week and their junior high students provided holiday entertainment this evening as well. I recall stopping in Ms. Cline's HES classroom during Halloween Week when I heard Christmas carols being sung. I know that it takes a whole lot more than most of us realize to prepare for these holiday programs! Mr. Sloniker has been busy with his students, too, helping them prepare for their winter concerts. Did you ever wonder what sort of support the HES students who learn at Dance With Cindy and perform in the HES Christmas concert receive during their portion of HES Christmas concert? I was at just the right angle last week to snap a pic. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Bane for coaching from behind the curtain!

lot more than most of us realize to prepare for these holiday programs! Mr. Sloniker has been busy with his students, too, helping them prepare for their winter concerts. Did you ever wonder what sort of support the HES students who learn at Dance With Cindy and perform in the HES Christmas concert receive during their portion of HES Christmas concert? I was at just the right angle last week to snap a pic. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Bane for coaching from behind the curtain!



This afternoon's concert that combined bands and choir was wonderful and showcased both the students' skills as well as the teachers'! Thanks to all!

It was a late evening for Ms. Bowman and her SGA students on Friday. Right after the conclusion of the Friday night game against Union County, which we won 57 to 49 (Nice job, Mr. Jones!), Ms. Bowman and her students began to transform the HHS gym into a winter wonderland for the Snow Ball Dance on Saturday night. They finished their incredible preparations at 4 o'clock Saturday morning and spent the rest of the morning sleeping in the gym amongst their handiwork. I dropped in at the dance on Saturday night and barely recognized the gym (or the students 'dressed to the nines'). There were several teachers and their spouses and Mr. and Ms. Cadle were there, too, to assure the students that they would have a good time. Thank you! We send tips of the Tiger's tail to everyone who went above and beyond the call of duty to make it a memorable evening for students!



I wondered how many of the SGA students who stayed all night to decorate the gym for Snow Ball also participated in the BPA regional competition hosted by Mr. Dawson and the Business Department on Saturday

morning. This is another activity that benefited from the participation of many, many NCSC staff members who helped judge events or facilitated the smooth operation of the day. As we continue to upgrade our facilities, buildings become better able to host regional student events such as the BPA competition. I would encourage teachers who are involved in taking our students to other places for activities to think about offering to host events at NCSC. The high school facility especially with ample parking, the largest gym in the area and with the new sound system in the updated auditorium makes them great spaces for groups. Bringing activities to our corporation helps spread the good news of the things we offer. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Dawson and the Business Department for doing that this weekend!



The HES PTO wrapped up their fundraiser recently. While the kids have traditionally sold candles at this time of year, the HES PTO officers decided to try a candy sale this time. A traditional part of most fundraisers is to hold an assembly at the conclusion of the event. During their assembly this year, top-selling students were given a can of silly string and had the opportunity to empty it on staff members of their choice. Ms. Hokey was an obvious target (one of those things they never tell you about in principal school) as were a crowd of teachers and other staff. Everyone had a great time, and Mr. Shepherd planned ahead and had the gym floor covered for its protection.

Last week as I visited the Jr./Sr. high, Ms. Overfield shared some exciting news! She was in the process of sending off some student artwork that is being entered in the national Doodle4Google contest. You probably have seen previous winners and not even known it. When you go to the Google search page, there is a rectangle where you type in your search words. Usually there are clever illustrations near the rectangle. Those are Google Doodles. Emilee Thackrey's entry is among those being submitted from Hagerstown Jr./Sr. High School. Ms. Overfield submits her students' work regularly to area competitions. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail her way for building her program's and our corporation's reputations for award-winning student work!



The closing of 2016 brings a change of leadership at Nettle Creek School Corporation. We send tips of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Blaase and Mr. Golliher who are leaving the Board at the end of December. Words cannot express the appreciation they deserve for their contributions to the success of our children and our school corporation under their guidance. We wish them the very best and thank them for everything they've done for our students!



Let's wrap up our letter this week with a tip of the Tiger's tail to the NCSC Bus Drivers, the bus aides, Mr. Irvin and to Ms. Toler! As we are drinking that last cup of hot chocolate in preparation to leave for school in the morning, bus drivers and aides are out there already battling whatever weather is at hand. Thank you bus drivers! We appreciate that you bring our students to school safely and then return them home safely afterward!



Merry Christmas to all school employees! I hope your time away from school is spent in just the way you find most enjoyable and is filled with the peace of the season!
Yours for another successful week with children!

WD

