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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 ! "



January 2017

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Dear Parents and Nettle Creek Community Members,

Happy New Year! While we look back at 2016 with warm memories, 2017 started with much excitement as students and staff returned to school after Winter Break. Thankfully, the coming week promises a return to warmer than average temperatures. The freezing temps this past week served as a reminder to each of us that it is winter. As you can see, Lucy Stainbrook is ready for the cold! In January, classrooms are warm and toasty places fueled by friendships and enthusiasm for learning. We hope 2017 is a wonderful year filled with health and happiness for you and your family!



Nettle Creek Family of Schools

Little Things Mean A Lot!

Sometimes it's the simple things that matter most. Mr. Spencer, who works in the HES cafeteria, took a moment during his busy day to help out a Tiger Cub who needed a hand with her loose shoelace. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Spencer for his act of kindness.



Recycling Is Another Way We Show That We Care!

Intermediate grades classrooms are leading the way at Hagerstown Elementary School in a school-wide recycling project. Containers are available throughout the school to make it easy. Green containers are for markers - dry erase, permanent or highlighters - they want them all. White containers are for crayons. Blue containers are for paper, cardboard and water bottles. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to fourth-grade teacher, Ms. Corman, and her students for spreading the news that "Going Green" is a way to give back at HES! As a part of this effort, classes visited Perpetual Recycling Solutions in Richmond. Afterward, HES parent and PRS employee, Terry Mathews, sent a note saying, "All (employees) who helped give tours, instructed and escorted students around our facility had nothing but praise about both the students and their teachers. The students were very respectful, well-behaved, and cautious as instructed around the plant equipment." Thank you Mr. Mathews and employees of PRS for hosting our students' visit!



Please Check Your Mail!

Please check your U S mail for a survey distributed by State Senator Jeff Raatz. He is asking to hear about your priorities for legislators for 2017 including support for schools. You can mail back the card or complete the survey online at www.IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Raatz.

Two Tiger Students Step Up!

On a cold and windy day during Winter Break, I received news that 911 was responding to a situation involving one of our students in the field behind HES. I arrived at the scene and learned that the student was on her way home alone cutting across the cornfield when she turned her ankle, fell and was unable to get up. HPD responded as did Mr. Hillman and Culberson's. As the details of the story unfolded, I learned that seventh-grade students Brock Grose and Eli Neal were in the area and saw the student fall and struggle to unsuccessfully get up. They ran to her aid, assessed the situation, wrapped her in a jacket and called parents and 911. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Eli and Brock for making great choices, checking things out and calling for help. What could have turned into an even worse situation, didn't because of the quick thinking of these two students.



Every Minute Counts!



A productive, educational guideline calls for students and teachers to use instructional time wisely. This means that every minute counts during the school day. And while most interpret this to refer to the time during a class period or during an instructional block, first-grade teacher Ms. Bane takes the meaning to new heights when she quizzes her students using vocabulary flashcards as they transition through the halls from lunch in the cafeteria to their classroom. Innovative teachers are always looking for ways to get the most out of available resources. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Bane for making the most of the time she has with her students!

NCSC Initiates A K-12 Wellness Committee!

We're always thinking of new ways to support our students. Just as we educate students academically, we also need for students to learn the importance of developing healthy lifestyles. Our school nurse, Ms. Cash, has begun to assemble a group of interested persons to help review NCSC practices and procedures related to wellness. They will look at such things as the amount of activity time students are provided, breakfast and lunch menus and Board policies to assure that all align to best meet the needs of growing students. We are looking for a community volunteer as well as a parent volunteer to join this group. If you are interested in this type of work and would like to lend a hand, please contact Ms. Cash at 765.489.4555. Thank you!



Tiger Strong!

At their last meeting, the Nettle Creek School Board approved a generous donation that is earmarked to add equipment to the weight room at Hagerstown Jr./Sr. High. If you haven't been in the weight room recently, you will be amazed at how this facility has grown - made possible by a continuous stream of donations from former students, parents and community members! We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Drake for taking me on a tour and pointing out several pieces of equipment that have recently been purchased through the generosity of donors. The weight room is a co-educational facility and serves students in athletics as well as physical education classes. A donor wall recognizes those who are supporting our students in this special way. If you or your business would like to add your name to this team roster, please contact Mr. Drake, Mr. Keesling or any of the athletic coaches. They can stretch a dollar about as far as anyone I know!



A Word Of Caution!

Not long ago, a speaker at the Jr./Sr. high was featured who cautioned Grades 7-12 students about the risks of misusing the internet. While all Nettle Creek School Corporation technology including Chromebooks are protected by significant security for communications coming in and going out, students who use cell phones and other personal tech equipment are at risk of receiving inappropriate and sometimes illegal communications. We had a parent report last week that illegal content was sent to their daughter along with a list of six other NCSC students. Mr. Childs has contacted each of the families on the list. This occurrence is an important reminder to all parents to talk with their children about who they are communicating with online.