

Dear Staff,

Tips of the Tiger's tail to the coaches, their staffs and the players who participated and who continue to advance in post-season competitions! Some teams are in Sectional play and others have Sectionals coming up. Best of luck to all. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Coach Mullin and the Boys Golf Team for taking the TEC Championship. Coach Gray and his boys track & field team advance 11 athletes to regional competition. Two of his track & field girls are headed to regionals as well. Whether its tennis, softball, baseball or any of the spring sports, it's fun to watch the kids learn to give it everything they've got. Go Tigers!



Nettle Creek Family of Schools

Speaking of giving something everything they've got, I hope you have your calendar marked for Monday afternoon at 3:15P.M. in the Jr./SR. high auditorium for the 2017 Nettle Creek Steff Recognition celebration. We will recognize and thank employee representatives from each of our departments for their hard work and accomplishments during this school year and take some time to celebrate the careers of our retirees.



The last week or so of school is filled with celebrations of student accomplishments at both schools. The Junior High staff held special celebrations last week recognizing their 7th and 8th grade students. Among the commendations were Pillars of Character Award, MAPs Super Star Award, Most Improved Student Award, along with sports recognitions. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to the Jr. High teachers for recognizing both student achievement and student growth!

"When the going gets tough, the tough lend a hand!" We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Sloniker, Ms. Hobson and Mr. Cadle for stepping in last week to assure students that the show would go on! Ms. Cline had the students ready to perform at the Jr./Sr. High Dessert Theater on Thursday night when her family needed her at home because of an unfortunate death in her family. Mr. Sloniker, Ms. Hobson and Mr. Cadle did whatever was necessary so that the students could still provide a fine performance. We send our condolences to Ms. Cline and supportive



thoughts to her family. All of us should know that there isn't a one of us who wouldn't step up when the need arises!



Ms. Isaacs deserves a tip of the Tiger's tail for trying something new this year. Accelerated Reader is an independent reading incentive program that she has been supporting at HES through the year. Earlier this month, she identified the final grand prize winners in a Battle of the Books competition. PTO provided both Battle winners with a Kindle Fire and \$50 to spend at the Book Fair. Thanks PTO! And thanks, Ms. Isaacs for promoting independent reading for pleasure and practice!

Ms. Hendrickson and her FFA students hosted a very successful FFA Annual Banquet recently. If you haven't been to one, you're missing a great time. Ms. Maddy and cafeteria staff provided quite a spread that featured meat from the students' Beef Farm as well as a lot of other great food. The students ran a business meeting after dinner where officers for the new school year were elected. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Hendrickson for all of the things FFA provides students all through the year!



Every year about this time, Ms. Sewell, Jr. high counselor, provides sixth-grade students and their teachers the opportunity to tour the Jr./Sr. high building and to ask questions of senior students. The transition to a new school building when students have been at HES for seven years can be a bit scary. Thank you Ms. Sewell, and we send you a tip of the Tiger's tail your way for easing this transition for our students!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to the teachers who presented Camp Lean-A-Lot at HES. This activity was designed to support summer learning for students at home through the summer. One of the obligations of receiving Title 1 funds is providing parents with development activities that encourage them to help their students learn at home. Right before the end of the school year is a bit (!) challenging for teachers, but it is a great time to help parents fight the "Summer Slide" that occurs for students without continued learning over the summer. Thank you, teachers, for making the evening worthwhile!



How do you celebrate the end of a school year? At the high school they will celebrate in many ways including the capstone experience of commencement. At HES after tearful good-byes in the classroom, teachers will line the sidewalks outdoors with black and white checkered flags. I'll be there! To each of you, THANK YOU for a very successful school year. Everyone plays a unique role, and each of you is sincerely appreciated! Have a wonderful summer, and we'll see you in August. Let's close out this year's staff newsletters with a portion of an email I received from Jefferson Township Trustee Mr. Joe Smith after he and a few community members spent the day hosting tours of the Hagerstown Museum for elementary and HJr./Sr.H students:

"Many from my generation including me have made statements expressing concerns with present day youth. Our frustrations are often expressed as, "Kids these days – What will they do when they arrive in the real world?"

Last week those concerns were put to rest as Jim Reed, Roger Luce, Roger Esker, and I had the privilege (Mr. Smith's emphasis) of conducting tours for a large portion of our local high school students. To top that off, on Thursday many of us were treated to local history lessons from Mrs. Doerstler's third graders.

As we (my generation), shared observations on our thoughts of the tours and presentations, we all agreed on two things. 1. The students were kind, courteous, and thankful. 2. The teachers and helpers were kind, courteous, and thankful. We are extremely pleased with the questions and comments. We were extremely pleased with the organization. We were extremely pleased with the compassion shown to Jim by both students and teachers when Jim experienced a health issue. There was no anxiety shown but calm rerouting of plans. As third graders were in the museum at the time, Mrs. Doerstler and Mr. Craig jointly agreed the high school students would listen to the reports from the third graders. Again, the kind, courteous, and thankful attitudes were on display as different age groups mingled. Mr. Blaase was so helpful in bringing expertise to an otherwise questionable situation. After Jim's recuperation within the hour, he was ready and eager to share some more of the local history. Having kind, courteous, and thankful students and teachers contributed toward Jim's insistence on continuing.

"Kids these days – what will they do when they arrive in the real world?" They arrived in the "real world" last week in the Hagerstown Museum and Arts Place.

They will do just fine!"

Thank you, Mr. Smith, for your kind words!

Yours for another successful YEAR with students!

WD



P.S. See you Monday afternoon at 3:15P.M. in the Auditorium!