

Schools will be closed on Thursday, December 21 and will reopen on Wednesday, January 3, 2018.



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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 2017

William Doering, Ph.D. - Superintendent
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Dear Parents and Nettle Creek Community Members,

The time between Thanksgiving and Christmas in schools is a pleasant combination of tradition and learning. The winter athletic season has begun with basketball, wrestling and swimming already underway with wins posted. Classroom instruction continues full steam ahead as students take midyear assessments to measure proficiency and to provide teachers with feedback necessary to fine-tune instruction in order to continue to meet student needs and make progress through the second semester. Time in December is also set aside to celebrate the season in ways that are traditional in the Nettle Creek Valley both in schools as well as in our community. I look forward to seeing you at many of these events as we celebrate our children and our community during this very special time of the year!



Nettle Creek Family of Schools

The Children Invite You To Celebrate The Holidays With Us!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Sanders, Mr. Sloniker and their students for starting the season off right with opportunities for parents and community members to assemble for evening Christmas programs. The K-2 program begins at 6:00P.M. in the HES gym on December 7th. Students will assemble in the cafeteria at 5:45P.M. Kindergarteners should dress in red and green with elf hats and ears if they would like. First graders can dress in red with reindeer antlers, and second graders can wear red and white with Santa hats. Students in grades 3-5 will perform on December 14th at 6:00P.M. in the gym. Students will assemble in the cafeteria at 5:45P.M. Sixth graders will be joining the Jr./Sr. high choir and band for their Winter Concert on December 18th at 7:00P.M. in the Jr./Sr. high auditorium. A \$1 discount from the \$5 admission will be given to everyone who brings a toy to share. Refreshments will be served. Whether you are a family member or a community member who needs a little boost to get into the holiday spirit, please join us as our students spread holiday cheer!



The Early Results Are In!

Our Jr./Sr. High students are the first to finish MAPS testing at their midyear check-up. MAPS tests are progress assessments that NCSC K-12 students take in December to see if learning is on track compared to national norms. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to the Math teachers and their students for impressive mid-year results. All grades 7-12 are performing at higher levels than they were a year ago, and all Jr./Sr. high grade levels except one are exceeding growth expectations in Math that were set in the Fall. Keep up the good work during second semester!



Fourth Graders Bring History To Life!

The LGI Room at Hagerstown Elementary School was filled to capacity by friends and family members of fourth-grade students as they brought historical famous and infamous characters to life. The Fourth-Grade Wax Museum has become a tradition at HES where students choose a person to research and then present a short monologue about their character's life including what makes them significant. Some famous individuals who appeared in the museum included well-know people such as Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Jr., Helen Keller, Benjamin Franklin and Amelia Earheart. Lesser known yet heroic characters included Edward John Smith who was the captain of the Titanic and Laura Ingalls Wilder who was a children's author. And while guests enjoyed each student's presentation that afternoon, it was very evident that much time was spent by the students in preparation for their guests' tour through the museum!



HJr./Sr. High Student Gives Back!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to HHS student Eli Halcomb for including his work for the Animal Care Alliance in Richmond as a part of his quest to become an Eagle Scout. Along with completing a significant community project, an Eagle Scout must earn a total of 21 merit badges. Eli's project included planning and constructing two enclosures for raptors. The Alliance was pleased to have the results of Eli's work on hand when a bald eagle spent some time in Richmond during its transport across the country. Thank you for your work, Eli. Becoming an Eagle Scout is quite an accomplishment!



Nettle Creek School Corporation Plans For The Future!

While NCSC works hard to assure every student reaches his/her highest potential every day, there are several groups of school leaders who are continuously planning for the future so that current Tigers and the next generation of Tigers will be well-served. Over the past three years, technology has successfully grown to be an important learning tool in every classroom. Finances were arranged so that once NCSC began growing with technology, we were able to make considerable progress. Classrooms obtained tech projectors to enhance instruction, and our 1:1 initiative put Chrome-books in the hands of every student in grades 3-12. Some school corporations increased book fees and then brought in their technology. NCSC chose to take a different route and used Capital Projects funds which we had accumulated to bring technology in so that it could prove its value. Since then, however, NCSC Capital Projects funds have been cut by the State by hundreds of thousands of dollars, and machinery -including computers- only last so long. We are looking at strategies to offset the cost of maintaining our technology program. Planning ahead is important, and we will pursue all options that make sense in this matter.



Thank You Chief!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Police Chief Folkner for coming to Hagerstown Elementary School to provide special lessons on bullying. Both schools have very active safety committees that help teachers and administrators follow up on every case when students report bullying. We appreciate Chief Folkner's participation in our educational program as we work to grow caring and compassion in our students.



Our Students Are Tops!

We received the following message from Maggie Hatter, Assistant Director of Admissions at IU East after Senior high school students returned from a fieldtrip arranged by Ms. Olinger: "I wanted to personally share with you that your students were wonderful. They were well-behaved, respectful, and engaged. They represented the Hagerstown community well; please pass along my compliments." Nice job, Seniors!

From everyone at Nettle Creek School Corporation, we wish you and your family the Merriest of Christmases and the Happiest of New Years!