

Dear Staff,



Daylight Savings Time requires us to give back the hour of sleep we gained in the Fall unless if we forego some late-night TV and get to bed earlier. While I don't prefer the change, one thing I am thankful for is that someone connected the "tradition" of adjusting our clocks with the necessity of testing our smoke detector batteries. I have to admit that I don't give them a minute of thought between times!

In case you haven't heard, the Winter Sports Banquet is scheduled for this Tuesday at 7:00P.M. in the Jr./Sr. high auditorium. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to all of the coaches, staff and student athletes for the work they put into developing fine character and athletic results!



Nettle Creek Family of Schools

Here is an FYI and an opportunity for employees who receive an annuity through NCSC. As many of you are probably aware, Mr. Green has retired from Lincoln Financial Group, and our account is being serviced by Darrin McAninch. I had the opportunity to meet Mr. McAninch briefly last week and set up an appointment with him to review my account on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Since he will be in town already, I asked him if he could open a few slots to meet individually with any employees who might want to meet him and review their accounts. He is happy to do this. There are a few slots available after 3:00P.M. and again after 5:00P.M. until about 6:00P.M. It came to mind because it's tax season and a natural time to "take stock". He said he'd need only about fifteen or twenty minutes to bring anyone who would like to see him up to speed with the progress of their investments. If you would like to take care of this while he's here, please respond to me with whether you'd like an earlier or later slot, and I'll make his schedule and confirm your slot with you.



Let's stay on the topic of finances for a minute! I have a great tip for you! We received a mailing some time ago from Curtis Hill, Indiana's Attorney General. I have to admit my blood pressure went up when I saw it was from him, but it turned out to be a pretty neat deal for Nettle Creek, and it might be a pretty neat deal for you! The letter explained that Indiana maintains an Unclaimed Property Division for financial assets that are due Indiana residents. As it turned out, this Division was holding about \$3,500 of our money that was some sort of rebate from an Illinois insurance company. They must have been holding it awhile because neither Ms. Cole nor I could remember dealing with such a company. I filled out the short form, and sure enough, we received the check and deposited it in the corporation's account. What I'm suggesting is that all of you follow this link and see if you had a rich uncle who left you money! While I was in there, I did happen to see that the Band Boosters and Mr. Sloniker have unclaimed funds... The address is

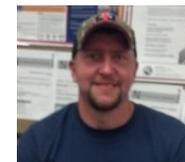


[www.indianaunclaimed.gov](http://www.indianaunclaimed.gov). The Division's phone number is 800.447.5598. I hope it works out for you like it did for us!

Two weeks or so ago, NCSC administrators spent a day at Brownsburg School Corporation. We chose to visit Brownsburg because we've noticed that this public school corporation routinely ranks among the top three school corporations in terms of ISTEP+ achievement in the State. And while we know the wisdom to learn from each other, we also recognize that there are benefits from looking outside The Creek to see what top performing school corporations are doing differently so that we can learn from them. As a result of our work with Growth Mindset we're reading work by Nussbaum & Dweck (2008) that found that people with a growth mindset chose to learn from people who had done better than them. But people with a fixed mindset seemed more interested in making themselves feel better. They look toward models of people who had done worse. All of us who visited Brownsburg came back with an enhanced view of what is possible. We were less interested in the details of how Brownsburg made their transformation because we aren't them, but we were looking more for the beliefs and the research-based best practices that they put into place that could translate into vehicles for growth and could be right for Nettle Creek! What we would like to do now is to invite teachers to an opportunity for us to describe what we saw and what we heard at Brownsburg. Ms. Hokey has offered to host a PreK-12 conversation on Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:30P.M. in the LGI Room. If you are interested in hearing about what we learned from our trip to these highly effective schools, please join us!



We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Kaiser and Ms. Swain for all of their hard work coordinating the first part of ISTEP+ testing. They both recognize that many people stepped out of their comfort zones to help this assessment happen successfully for kids! The next several weeks are the final window to put the finishing touches on what we provide students for ISTEP+ Part 2. Good luck!



Let's end this week's letter with a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Retherford! He is distinguishing his service to students on two counts. First, last week the State Highway Patrol completed their first bus inspection that looked very closely at Mr. Retherford's work. He is pleased to report that all of our school buses passed inspection! Second, our corporation mechanic is GROWING @ THE CREEK by undertaking coursework on bus electrical systems in a state-level training. Congratulations, Mr. Retherford. You serve our students at a high level!

Yours for another successful week with children!

WD

