

Dear Staff,



Someone at the elementary school has one heck of a green thumb! Everyone who stopped in the office this past week was treated with a sunny welcome by someone who shared a vase of sunflowers from their garden. And by my count, this is at least the



third year they have brightened our day this way. Whether it's a smile, a wave or a cheery "hello", these simple gestures are uplifting and might be just the thing to make a coworker, a parent or a student smile.

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to the varsity and JV volleyball teams who are both 3-0 on the season. Volleyball coaches and their players put in a lot of time practicing between games, and that is paying off in big ways. Boys' tennis defeated Tri and BRV this past week and play at New Castle on Monday. The cross country team travels to Monroe Central on Tuesday for their next meet. We wish them continued success. Girls' golf is doing very well this year with a more experienced team and a win over Monroe Central at home this past week bringing them to 7-3 for the season.

It was a late night, but the Tigers took the bone away from the Centerville Bulldogs on Saturday night at Scheumann Field on the Ball State University campus. Because of weather delays, the series of three games being played on Saturday were all pushed back by a couple hours. Our game started at about 9:00P.M. which made for a late night. Regardless; the lights, the artificial turf and a whole lot of practice beforehand paid dividends for our Tigers. The final score was 32-26.



We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Tyner, Ms. Schaeffer, Ms. Oliger and Ms. Swain for the fine job they did updating the Board on the Jr./Sr. high school's progress last year and the direction their School Improvement Plan and 5-Year Plan will take them this year and on into the next several years. The group pointed out the high number of dual credits earned by students, continuously exemplary math achievement throughout the year at most grade levels and the implementation of power strategies to continue to address student reading that is



supported building-wide by all academic departments. This year and moving forward, the school will continue to utilize goal setting, will investigate planning supported by curriculum maps and will raise their awareness of Professional Learning Communities as a tool to support teachers supporting students. Ms. Hokey and Ms. Morgan will make a similar presentation at the Board's next meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30P.M. in the LGI Room. You are welcome to attend to celebrate the successes at the elementary school and to learn where HES is headed.



We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Hendrickson for adding six calves to the Beef Farm



now that the school year is underway. While this project is an added responsibility, learning by doing is also a big opportunity for our Ag students and distinguishes the education our Jr./Sr. high school students receive. I recall more than one HHS graduate deciding to head off to Purdue to continue studies with an interest in agriculture as a result of the start they had here at the Beef Farm.

Do you have a special classroom project that needs a helping hand? The Indiana Retired Teachers Foundation is once again offering their Active Teacher Grant program to support classroom innovation. This is a competitive grant that can bring up to \$500 your way. The application is quite straight forward. If you are interested in more information, I have the application and will be glad to share it with you. The deadline to apply is September 30. Awards will be announced by October 31.

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Limburg and her husband for opening their hearts and their home to area foster children who are in need. They have been taking classes since March in preparation for this responsibility. We wish them both the very best. We hope to hear very soon that you have taken some young ones from the area in! Please keep us posted.

Let's wrap up this week's letter by shining a spotlight on Mr. Drake and the leadership



seminar he is providing students. This course for girls focuses on three key concepts: 1) Foundation – the foundation is built on a trusted environment, people are responsible for results, and people need to feel they have a chance for personal growth; 2) Corner Stone – Leaders are the corner stone, they set the tone, and everyone matters; 3) Family – built on mutual respect, protects, and helps influences proper choices. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. Drake for helping our students explore these universal truths!

Yours for another successful week with children!

WD

