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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 ! "



February 2019

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Dear Parents and Nettle Creek Community Members,



Nettle Creek Family of Schools



Even with last weekend's snow, early signs of spring abound. The sun is coming up a little earlier every morning, and sometimes a little sunshine as students wait for the bus pushes the needle to having school as scheduled. We've already seen robins out and around. Learning in classrooms progresses at a productive clip, perhaps the best time for learning of the whole school year, and last but not least, Girl Scouts have set up their card tables around town for their annual cookie sale. It didn't take much convincing by the youngsters set up in the IGA for me to get my annual fix of Thin Mints. I wish the girls well as they work to support their worthwhile organization. The cookies are a bonus!

Our Bus Drivers Are The Best!

We are very thankful for our Nettle Creek bus drivers! Twice this past week I received tips of the Tiger's tail



that I'm proud to share and confirm the notion that our bus drivers are one of a kind. We've all taken driver education at one time or another. In it, we learned about defensive driving strategies. This week, the idea of defensive driving took on a whole new level of meaning when we learned that Mr. Reed's driving skills were given the ultimate test when a car driver was headed North in the same lane as Mr. Reed's bus which was headed South. Mr. Reed's quick decision to drive on the shoulder averted an inevitable collision. As Mr. Catey, who was a chaperone on the bus, put it, "Mr. Reed very calmly steered us out of the path of the oncoming vehicle and allowed us to reach our destination safely."

Thank you, Mr. Reed. We are indebted to you. The second example of bus drivers who earned their stripes this week are a husband and wife driver combination. Mr. Gray sends a tip of the Tiger's tail to Mr. and Ms. Waggener who drove buses to Indianapolis for the eighth-grade English classes to see *Diary of Anne Frank*. Mr. Gray shares, "Their work was excellent, keeping us safe and secure under tough driving conditions: fog, hard rain, heavy semi-traffic, oversize loads, and downtown construction and congestion. We couldn't have been in better hands." As an aside, Mr. Gray shared that our eighth-grade students were on their best behavior and made everyone proud to be Tigers. ALL of us recognize that when we see this exemplary student behavior, it is in a large part due to the expectations Nettle Creek parents have for their children. Everyone at NCSC is incredibly grateful for this understanding!



More Good News From The Indiana Department of Education!

We received word this week from the Office of School Accountability & Accreditation that Nettle Creek School Corporation has received the status of a Performance Qualified School District for the 2019-2020 school year. This distinction was earned as a result of NCSC's A corporation rating. As a result of this attainment, NCSC has the option to vary the number of days students must attend school in a year. While the number of days can vary, the number of instructional minutes offered students throughout the year must continue to meet state standards. Teachers and administrators will talk this option over and make a recommendation regarding the 2019-2020 school year calendar to the Board of School Trustees for their consideration. I know parents are very anxious to know next year's school calendar so they can make family plans. We ask for your patience as we look at the potential for this rare opportunity to serve students at the highest level possible.



A Little Creativity Goes A long Way!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to parent Bruce Carter whose son, Brody, is in Ms. Young's class at HES. Mr. Carter earns his tip for using information Ms. Young provided him about regrouping in mathematics. It is common for teachers to use Base Ten Blocks to translate regrouping into a kinesthetic activity that some children find more enlightening. In the picture, you will see Mr. Carter's creative translation for his child accomplished by making a set of homemade blocks. Good job! Beyond confirming in my mind that every problem has a solution, I'll bet the quality time spent between Brody and his dad was icing on the cake for them both!



It's All about Our Kids!

It's not often that I receive correspondence from the chairperson of a college Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, but I did! Dr. Crowder, of Miami University, sent a tip of the Tiger's tail to the members of the HJr./Sr.H Swim Team. Evidently, Dr. Crowder was an OHSAA official at a recent swim meet held at MU, and he shared that our students showed exemplary sportsmanship particularly toward a student with special needs on an opposing swim team. "The actions of your team members embodies what is great about swimming, and these swimmers demonstrated that Hagerstown High School not only produces great swimmers but also great people. Thank you, Swim Team! You make us all proud.



Check This Out!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to student Jackson Linderman for a project he recently completed to help drivers understand that violating bus stop arm procedures is not only dangerous for our students, it is illegal as well. Jack created a video utilizing local folks to send a strong message on an important topic. You can view his video on our website or by clicking this link:



School Make-Up Days!

Due to inclement weather and school closings, Nettle Creek School Corporation will be in session on Monday, February 18th; Monday, March 25th and Tuesday, March 26th.

Tic-Tac-Roar!

The Nettle Creek Lions Club is sponsoring a Full Court Tic-Tac-Toe event during halftime at the Boys Varsity Basketball Game on February 16, 2019. To enter for a chance to play, bring a personal hygiene item to donate at the Lion's table in the North Lobby. This might include Chap Stick, Bars of Soap, Toothbrush, Shampoo, etc. Items will be donated to the Communities In Schools programs in NCSC schools. Thank you, Lions Club, for supporting our students!

