

Dear Staff,

The Board has been actively working through the input they received on school safety measures from buildings' Safety Committees and the community at recent meetings. At the last Board meeting, the Board members in attendance identified doors for upstairs classrooms and a PA system



at the Jr./Sr. high school and the reconfiguration of the entrance at HES



Nettle Creek Family of Schools

that will require visitors to enter the office before they can proceed to the rest of the building as priorities for the school corporation. Mr. Hillman and Mr. Logston are working together on design considerations and the associated costs. While other safety strategies were discussed, right now, we are going to work on these three. Maintaining safe schools will continue to be a corporation priority. You will continue to see some of the lower level suggestions made by Sherriff Ritter after his tour of both buildings being put into place. Please remember that the human element of school safety is very important, too. Please do not prop doors or let friends, family or other persons in back doors. Everyone without a key should use the schools' main entrances. With your cooperation, our schools will continue to be safe places to learn and work!

We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to our Tiger students and their accomplishments particularly this weekend! First, we recognize Ms. Stinson's son, Jake, who represented Tiger athletes at the State Wrestling Meet at Banker's Life Fieldhouse. Ms. Stinson shared a heart-felt note to staff as she reflected on the support Jake has received all through the years that she believes is an important part of her son's success even beyond the wrestling mat.



Congratulations to the Fourth and Sixth-Grade students who made us all proud at the Ball State Science Fair this weekend! Madisyn Shook: honorable mention; Avery Slaven: 1st place;



Cale Schmitz: State Qualifier. Cale is the first 4th grader to qualify for The State Fair! 6th grade (junior division)..... Emma

Jarrett got 3rd place in Behavior and Social Science category. Max Cabrera got an honorable mention in the Plant



Sciences category and AJ Shilling got 1st place in Plant Sciences category. AJ was also picked to go to State. Two other awards were given to our 6th grade students. Max Cabrera received an "Excellence in Botany" award from the Ball State University Biology Department, and Lola Ullery received the "SAIC" award

(Science Applications International Corporation) from the United States Navy/Marine Corp. We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to Ms. Muller and Ms. Arnold for preparing our students well and supporting fine, science education for all of their students at HES, and to Ms. Cardenas and Ms. Ullery for helping out at Ball State on Saturday.

You have probably noticed the new sign that is displayed above the main door at the Hunt Transportation Center. A little warmer weather last week allowed A Plus Signs to get the sign mounted.



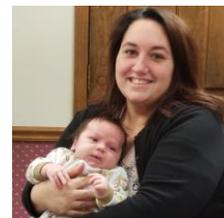
We send a tip of the Tiger's tail to the moms who were preparing for Valentines' Day at HES. This group of parents do much to keep school fun which allows teachers to focus on lessons – which are fun, but in a different way. I know there are a lot more parents and community members for both buildings who would like to help out. If you have a particular need whether it's on a regular schedule or only now and again, please let Ms. Ullery or Ms. Williamson know.



The Tiger Machine that is our Math Bowl Team continues to rack up points in the win column! It was fun to observe a recent area competition in the elementary school gym. Those math problems were no walk in the park! The announcer reads each math problem aloud, and students who are actively participating come up with their best answer. Every once in a while, other teammates are rotated in to the group of active competitors. A point is scored for each correct answer. HES scored another win at their hosted event. Thanks to all of the teachers who help coach these students as they flex their Math muscles and beat their competition.



The Ag Department at HJr./Sr.HS is bringing back a tradition this week that has been on hiatus the last few years there. Friday, February 22nd is National Drive Your Tractor to School Day. I think it would be cool if staff members supported our Ag students by joining in on the fun. If the weather turns snowy toward week's end, extra points can be obtained by having a blade attached and coming early!



And finally this week, Ms. Chew brought her youngest son, Daelen, to the Administration Bldg. to say hello and to fill out some paperwork. Daelen was born on December 27 and is, as they say, Bright-eyed and bushy-tailed. Congratulations to the Chew Family!

Yours for another successful week with children!

WD

