

# MCAS Communicator

an e-newsletter for the staff of the Michigan City Area Schools

## June 2019

*(Please post for/share with those employees who do not check email!)*

### **School's Out for Summer!**

Congratulations to all on a successful year. Enjoy some time to rest, relax, recharge, and grow professionally. You are MCASincredible!

### **Donut Eating Contest Update**

Team M.C.A.S. will be represented by **Linda Meyer, Craig Shaman, and Dave Hack** in the 2019 Donut Eating Contest to benefit the Salvation Army of Michigan City! The contest takes place on Friday, June 7 at 10:00 am at the Salvation Army (1201 Franklin Street). Team M.C.A.S. will be competing against teams from the MC Police, MC Fire, and LP County Sheriff to see who can eat the most in 10 minutes. All are welcome to come and cheer on our team. Donations are needed -- Please contact any participant or Betsy Kohn to purchase a ticket for \$10 to support our team. (Two lucky winners will be drawn from all tickets to win a Spa Blue package or any Anytime Fitness one month membership.) **IMPORTANT NOTE:** M.C.A.S. has a secret strategy that will guarantee a big win this year!

### **Lilly Endowment Fellowship**

Lilly Endowment is pleased to announce its 33rd Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program. This renewal program supports Indiana educators to take intentional time to pursue their dreams and passions, explore new areas of interest and expand existing talents or develop new ones. Renewal times encourage new experiences, exploration, and reflection to discover renewed energy and enthusiasm, spark innovative approaches to teaching and leading, and reveal thoughtful ways to enhance creativity in students and classrooms. Up to 100 grants, each \$12,000, will be awarded in 2020. Learn more about TCFP at [lillyendowment.org](https://lillyendowment.org). Application deadline is Sept. 3, 2019.

<https://lillyendowment.org/for-grantseekers/renewal-programs/teacher-creativity/>

### **GO GUARDIAN Reminder**

For all teachers using GoGuardian, please archive your classroom or manually remove your students from the class. Questions? Contact Technology!

- Instructions for Archiving a GoGuardian Classroom
  1. From All Classrooms select the classroom you would like to archive.
  2. Click on the Settings tab
  3. Click Archive Classroom from the right of the page.
  
- Instructions for restoring or reusing a previous GoGuardian Classroom
  1. From All Classrooms click on Archived.
  2. Select the classroom you would like to restore.
  3. Click on the Settings tab.
  4. Click Restore Classroom from the right of the page.

### **Insurance Reminder for Teachers**

TODAY (Friday) is the last day for Insurance open enrollment. You must complete your selection of Health and Dental insurance through Employee Access for the 2019/20 plan year. If you have any questions, please contact the Payroll department.

### **Free and Confidential Mental Health Services**

As an employee of MCAS, you qualify for 6 FREE mental health counseling sessions for you and your immediate family members. This is part of our "EAP" (Employee Assistance Program). Click on the link below for more information on this important service:

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//August%202018/2018%20You%20are%20not%20alone%20poster.pdf>

### **June EAP Newsletter**

How to Express Negative Emotions

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/domain/85/june%202019/JuneEAP.pdf>

### **Patriotic Parade**

Save the date for Michigan City's Patriotic Parade: Saturday, June 29. MCAS will have a unit participating and we need staff members to march along with us! (Watch your email for lineup specifics...wear Team MCAS logowear and red/white/blue!) If your group or organization would like to take part in the parade as a separate unit, please complete the form below.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd4757XBSByzSD\\_D4VX3qzbH1s-6d746jd5JScs76CKq4m4XQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd4757XBSByzSD_D4VX3qzbH1s-6d746jd5JScs76CKq4m4XQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1)

### **South Shore Maker Faire**

Do you have a student group or individual who is a "maker"? It's not too late to **apply now** to exhibit at the June 22 Mini Maker Faire that is coming to Michigan City! Maker Faire is the "Greatest Show (and Tell) on Earth" and it will feature inventors, innovators, coders, artists, artisans, etc. of ALL AGES. Please take a minute to check out the Maker Faire website at the link below. Please contact Kevin McGuire if you have questions (or would like to bypass the online application!!)

<http://southshore.makerfaire.com>

### **Back to School Rally**

The annual Citywide Back to School Rally is Thursday, August 8, from 3-7pm. NOW is the time to sign up for an exhibit booth! Here is the link to register for a booth online...and to additional info about the Rally:

<http://educateMC.net/backtoschoolrally>

### **Summer - Info Central!**

Looking for information about summer school, "summer of innovation camps" for middle school students, summer food service, summer Wolves sports camps, summer community camps (including [Safe Harbor Summer Camp](#))... well, look no further. It's all here!

Bookmark and share the link below:

<http://educateMC.net/summer>

### **Safe Harbor STEAM Camp**

FREE!! Middle School STEAM Success Camp for students entering 7th or 8th grade in the fall still has a few openings. It takes place June 10th-14th at AK Smith Career Center from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm. This camp features morning STEM such as 3D printing, rocket building and robotics and afternoon active fun such as swimming, bowling, low ropes course, and more! For information contact Safe Harbor at 219-873-2026.

## **Summer PD**

Reminder: Here is the link for Summer 2019 Professional Development! Sign up today!  
<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/Domain/82>

## **Kids Cruisin' Cafe**

Exciting News... Food Service is retrofitting a school bus to be a mobile cafe this summer. It will make the rounds to four neighborhoods where there is no shelter for kids eating summer meals. It will be very colorful and is sure to be a huge hit! Last summer our Food Service Dept. served 39,940 meals at 22 sites, and this year there are 3 additional sites. Way to go, Food Service!

## **Graduation Info**

MCHS Graduation will take place at 12:00 noon in the high school gymnasium on Sunday, June 9th. A ticket is required for admission, and doors open at 11:00. You can also watch Graduation live on cable Channel 98 or on the MCAS YouTube channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP1-NT1MPzTtX8CDPQ4cLMw/featured>

## **Adult Ed Graduation**

In addition, 116 students from across LaPorte County will graduate from our Adult Education Program next week, receiving their High School Equivalency diplomas. Sixty of these graduates will participate in the Adult Education Graduation Ceremony on Wednesday, June 5th at 6:00pm in the Holdcraft auditorium at Elston and all are welcome to attend, no ticket required. Featured speaker this year is Kristin Patterson. This is always an inspirational ceremony!

## **Band Uniform Drive**

Drumroll, please: Our MCHS Marching Band is getting new uniforms! They are trading in their outdated 25-year-old threads for a sleek new look. But they need your help! This will cost \$70,000 and they are launching a massive fund drive to support this. Details are at the link below. Please share!

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//June%202019/UNIFORMS.pdf>

## **MC Conference on the Environment**

In celebration of Coastal Awareness Month, the City of Michigan City is holding a Conference on the Environment at Blue Chip on Friday, June 7. All are welcome to attend this FREE event! For an agenda and more information, follow the link below:

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//June2019/2019ConferenceEnvironment.pdf>

## **Community Backpack will become PEACHJAR**

Our online "Community Backpack" will undergo a transformation this spring. We'll be using a digital flyer service called Peachjar that will be much more visually engaging and will enable us to reach families (and staff) directly with school and community flyers through our mass notification system. Watch your email for MORE about this soon! But for now... consult our "Community Backpack" for the latest info:

<http://educateMC.net/communitybackpack>

## **Pine To Perform**

Save the Date: The Pine Elementary School Chorus will be performing with the Michigan City Municipal Band again this year on Thursday, June 6th at 7:30pm at the Washington Park Band Shell.

## **News from MCESP**

MCESP is excited to announce our 2019 Scholarship recipient, Chase Triplett! He is the son of Cynthia and Kerry Triplett. Cynthia is the EAP at Joy Elementary. Chase has been accepted to Purdue University and plans on majoring in Construction Management Technology in the Polytechnic Institute and minor in Business Management. He still dreams of playing professional football, but he'll start with playing for Purdue! He is very community and family oriented and we are very proud to add him to our family of scholarship achievers.

### **Master Gardeners**

Did you know that 31 Safe Harbor students (at Knapp, Edgewood, Marsh, and Joy) were certified as Junior Master Gardeners over the last two weeks? That brings the total of Safe Harbor certified JMG's to 189 since the program was started in 2014-2015! Thank you to Safe Harbor Master Gardeners John Tiedeman, Annette Young, and the other Safe Harbor staff who are involved in this project, which is keeping our courtyards looking great!

### **WAY TO GO!**

- Congratulations to Edgewood teacher **Michelle Sickles**, who has received the 2019 Rotary Club Service Above Self Teacher of the Year Award! She will be honored by Rotary in the fall.
- At Tuesday's School Board meeting, MCAS welcomed several Administrators to new roles with TEAM M.C.A.S. Congrats to: **Stacy Attar**, who was named Director of Student Support Services; **Heather Hodgson**, who was named Asst. Director of Student Support Services; **Holly Martinez**, who was named Principal of Knapp; and **Kristin Smith**, who was named Principal of Edgewood.
- Also on Tuesday, the Board welcomed a new Varsity Boys Basketball Coach for MCHS. Welcome to MCAS, **Tom Wells**, and Go Wolves!
- Congratulations to Krueger Middle School Environmental Science teacher **Daisy Lee**, who received the 2019 Jan Nona Environmental Stewardship Award through the Unity Foundation.
- Congratulations to Barker Eighth Grade Math teacher **Maria Surma**, who was awarded a "Future Leader Award" from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. The award funded her conference registration, travel, food, and housing for the council's 2019 National Conference in San Diego, which was held last month.
- The MCHS The Wolves Environmental Restoration Team has received another award for its work at Hansen Park and several other areas of the city: The first ever Dorothy Buell Youth Environmental Award. Congrats to MCHS teachers **Victoria Gray, Ashley Kohler, and Andy Jasicki**, who work with this group.