

# MCAS Communicator

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

## June 2014

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

### **Boundary Changes**

At a special meeting on Friday, [May 30](#), the School Board approved new boundaries for all MCAS elementary and middle schools. (The boundary changes are the result of budget cuts previously adopted by the Board that repurpose Elston and Niemann and move grade 6 back to elementary buildings.) Letters will be mailed this week to all families district-wide whose students are impacted by the boundary changes. Visit the MCAS web site to view maps of the new boundaries: <http://EducateMC.net>.

### **A Special Invitation from Niemann**

Past and present staff, friends, volunteers, and community members of Niemann are invited to a special "Niemann Farewell" reception on [Thursday, June 5](#), from 4-5:30pm. Please stop by to share a memory, visit with friends, and see the school one last time. Yearbooks, articles, and etc. will be on display. Please forward the invite below to anyone you know who may be interested!

<http://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85/NiemannInvite.pdf>

### **Summer Professional Development**

Save the dates! The following professional development opportunities are planned for summer. Registration will be online (coming soon!) - choose the "Professional Development" menu option under "Staff" on the MCAS web site!

1. Everyday Math (for teachers new to EDM or new to grade). All sessions will be 8am - 3pm in the Ad Building Board Room.  
[August 12](#) - Kdg  
[August 13](#) - Gr. 6  
[August 14](#) - Gr. 1-5
2. Indiana Science Initiative Kit Training (for teachers new to ISI or new to grade), [August 14 & 15](#), 8am - 3pm, Michigan City High School
3. Springboard - ELA Quickstart (for middle and high school teachers). [August 11-12](#), 8am-3pm. Location TBA.
4. Math & Science Partnership "Mastering Videos" for grades 4,5,6. [June 16-20](#) and [July 28-Aug 1](#) at Barker. (Only one spot remains for the stipend and free iPad...however anyone wishing to attend without stipend/iPad is still welcome.)

### **CPR this Summer**

Opportunity Enterprises in Valpo will be offering CPR classes all summer for teachers in need of license renewal. Classes are held at Opportunity Enterprises (2801 Evans Ave. in Valparaiso) every other [Wednesday](#) from 8 am - 9:30 pm ([June 4](#), 18 & [July 2](#), 16, 30). The cost is \$35 per person. This will include CPR, AED, and Choking. To register, email Jason C. Kegebein, [jason.kegebein@oppent.org](mailto:jason.kegebein@oppent.org) or call [219-464-9621](tel:219-464-9621) EXT. 280.

### **Kids Wanted: Kindergarten Countdown**

Please spread the word - there is still room in the "kindergarten countdown" summer school program. This program (funded by the United Way and I. U. Health) helps children feel comfortable in the school environment and focuses on academic and social skills they'll need for kindergarten. The registration form is below... even though it says the deadline is **May 9**, registrations are being accepted until the classes are full!

[http://educatemc.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/domain/86/curriculum%20home/su/mmer%20school/K\\_Countdown\\_Registration\\_2014.pdf](http://educatemc.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/domain/86/curriculum%20home/su/mmer%20school/K_Countdown_Registration_2014.pdf)

### **Safe Harbor Summer Camp**

There is ALSO still room in the Safe Harbor summer program! Please pass along the flyer below to anyone you feel may be interested:

<http://educatemc.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/86/Summer%20Camp%20flyer%202014.pdf>

### **Robotics News**

Safe Harbor's awards banquet for the Michigan City Robotics team was held at Mullen on May 22. MCHS students Matt Nevorski won Most Valuable Player, Rishi Verma won the Gracious Professionalism award and Guendolyn Mark won the Spirit Award. Coach Ralph Gee led the team to a highly successful season which resulted in an invitation to the State Finals. If you know a student interested in joining the team (or if you are interested in volunteering to assist the team!) contact Herb Higgin at [873-2026](tel:873-2026) x8740 - [hhiggin@mcas.k12.in.us](mailto:hhiggin@mcas.k12.in.us)

### **Back to School Rally**

Save the date - the annual Citywide Back to School Rally will be held on Thursday, **August 14** from 3-7pm at Elston's Gill Field. This is a wonderful opportunity to reach more than 2,000 students and families. If you know anyone interested in exhibiting, sponsoring, or volunteering at this event please visit the Rally web page:

<http://educateMC.net/backtoschoolrally>

### **For Our Retirees...**

With close to 50 MCAS staff members retiring this year, we thought you might enjoy this video from the Clarksville-Montgomery County (Tennessee) School System. They asked some of their younger students to share what they think retirement is... and got some interesting responses.

<http://cmcssfocus.net/2014/05/15/what-is-retirement/>

### **Summer Job Opportunity**

Centurion Industries of Garrett, IN, has been contracted to replace the roof at the Indiana State Prison and they are seeking individuals (age 18+) who can assist with manual labor such as removing shingles. Must be willing to climb ladders/ride in scissorlifts and work on a multi-story building (cannot be afraid of heights!). All personal protective gear provided except steel-toed boots. Six week temporary job (no benefits), \$17/hr. Must pass drug screen, E-Verify and Federal Contractor Criminal Background Check. E-mail resume (or any questions) to Dotty Miller of Centurion Industries, [careers@centurionind.com](mailto:careers@centurionind.com)

### **Bus Drivers Wanted!**

MCAS is still seeking bus drivers (and subs) for next school year. Summer training will be provided and will include assistance in obtaining the required CDL license. If you know of anyone who might be interested please have them contact Val Skwiat at Transportation, [873-2127](tel:873-2127) or email [vskwiat@mcas.k12.in.us](mailto:vskwiat@mcas.k12.in.us).

## Community News

Michigan City Public Library and Purdue North Central will hold a **"Poetry Slam Camp"** June 16-20 at the Michigan City Public Library. This is a week-long program of poetry activities for middle-schoolers, focusing on self-expression and slam-style writing and performance. Registration is only \$5, which includes all activities, lunch and camp t-shirt! PNC students and professors are volunteering their time to create and lead the program. Performance night will be **Friday June 20** at 6:00pm and is open to the public. Call [219-873-3049](tel:219-873-3049) to register or for more information.

The **2014 Relay For Life** will be held at the LaPorte County Fairgrounds this year, **Saturday June 21** – **Sunday June 22**. Relay For Life is one of the American Cancer Society's largest organized events; there will be many activities taking place at the Relay, and many MCAS students will be involved. The Relay Committee is in the process of sending out invitations to any cancer survivor. If you know of any cancer survivor, they encourage you to have them sign up on the Relay For Life-LaPorte County website. You may also submit their names and addresses to Katie St. Germaine at MCHS, and/or they may also sign up the day of the Relay event. (Survivors signing up in advance will receive a special t-shirt.) Some of the special ceremonies/activities that will be taking place at Relay include: a Survivor Lap, a Caregiver Lap, and a touching "luminaria" ceremony that takes place at 9:00pm, honoring cancer survivors and those who have passed away. For more information about Relay for Life, or to make a donation/dedicate a luminaria, email MCHS teacher Katie St. Germaine at [kstgermaine@mcas.k12.in.us](mailto:kstgermaine@mcas.k12.in.us).