

# MCAS Communicator

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

## May 2018

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

### **THANK YOU, Teachers**

May 7-11 is a very special week for teachers, as schools nationwide celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week. THANK YOU to our outstanding classroom teachers and other certified staff members for all you do. Team MCAS is second to none!

### **THANK YOU, Food Service Staff**

On Friday, May 4th, Food Service will kick off School Nutrition Employee Week, which is May 7 - 11, by celebrating "School Lunch Hero Day." Between preparing healthy meals for America's students, adhering to strict nutrition standards, navigating student food allergies, and offering service with a smile, our school nutrition professionals are true heroes. Please thank your school nutrition staff for their hard work and dedication!

### **THANK YOU, Nurses**

May 9 is National School Nurses Day! We greatly appreciate all that our nurses do to keep our students healthy and ready to learn. Be sure to give your school nurse a special shout out next Wednesday!

### **Reminder: Week of Code Weekend May 4 and 5**

Don't miss this! This Friday (May 4) kicks off our Week of Code at the First Friday "Shop and Learn" in the Uptown Arts District. Visit 10 locations in the UAD to see students and staff in action with robots, coding, and so much more. Stop by our tent at 7th and Franklin first to say hello and to register for cool prizes (Raspberry Pi, Ozobots, Chromebooks and more.) Also, please remember to register for the FREE Week of Code "Maker Fest" on Saturday, May 5. Prizes, PGPs, and so many fun techie gizmos and activity ideas you can use with students! The registration form is at this link: <http://educateMC.net/code>.

### **Please share this flyer about Week of Code Weekend with anyone who may be interested:**

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/3192/weekofcodeweekend2018.pdf>

### **Retirement & Wall of Fame Dinner**

It's time to send in your reservations for the 2018 Wall of Fame & Retirement Dinner. We'll be honoring 19 retirees and 5 new inductees to the Wall of Fame (Cheryl Bohlim, Stan Holdcraft, Dianne Lindenmeyer, Jane Malott, and Charmaine Tompkins). VERY IMPORTANT: Deadline to register for the dinner is Friday, May 18. Also please note that checks should be made payable to MCEA (not MCAS). The required form is here:

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/retirementdinner>

### **Last Chance to Enjoy Careers Cafe at Elston**

The Career Cafe will be open May 2 and 9 normal hours; they will be closed May 4 and 11 due to large catering orders. After May 9 they will be closed so they can wrap up the school year.

### **Summer Professional Development**

The Summer 2018 professional development page has been updated. Please click the link below to sign up!

[educatemc.net/pd](http://educatemc.net/pd)

### **Happy Birthday, Coolspring!**

Coolspring Elementary School invites current and former students and staff to join them for a reunion event in celebration of the school's 80th year. The event will be held at Coolspring on Friday, May 18th, from 5-8pm. There will be food, games, and a scavenger hunt -- along with a tour of the school, which was originally designed by John Lloyd Wright, son of Frank Lloyd Wright and inventor of Lincoln Logs! Alumni are encouraged to RSVP by calling school secretary Kathy Schroll at (219) 873-2073.

### **Wellness Screenings**

MCAS was unable to book a date to offer wellness screenings on-site this year. However, you can still go to Working Well on Franklin Street for the tests. Please follow the links below for the required voucher/forms to complete in advance. They will provide you with an itemized receipt to submit to your insurance for reimbursement. Questions? Contact Linda Bechinski at [lbechniski@mcas.k12.in.us](mailto:lbechniski@mcas.k12.in.us).

MCAS screening voucher:

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//May%202018/WorkingWellTestMCAS%20voucher%202018.pdf>

MCAS lab slip:

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//May%202018/WorkingWellMCAS%20lab%20slip%202018.pdf>

### **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:

<http://educatemc.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85/0816EAP.pdf>

### **EAP Newsletter - April: 75 Things You CAN Control**

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//May%202018/EAPAprilNewsletter.pdf>

### **EAP Newsletter - May: Dealing with the Agony of Defeat with Hope and Optimism**

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//May%202018/EAPMay%20Newsletter.pdf>

**EAP Webinar:** Dealing With The Agony Of Defeat With Hope and Optimism & Finding Time To Exercise Easier Than You Think on May 16, 2018 1:00 PM CDT at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5531073842676614659>

### **May is Mental Health Awareness Month**

May is Mental Health Awareness Month! Remember, Franciscan Employee Assistance Program cares about you and your family, and they are a confidential phone call away. Below is some special information from our EAP program on mental health; please take a moment and read it and share it with your family. The May calendar below also includes helpful tips; consider posting this where you will be able to see it each day, in your office, on your department bulletin board, or on your refrigerator.

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/domain/85/may%202018/EAPMentalHealthAwareness.pdf>

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//May%202018/EAPMentalHealthCalendar.doc.pdf>

### **Healthy U @ Work April Newsletter**

Probiotics, sunscreen tips, keeping fit on vacation, and more!

[http://images.franciscanhealthcare.org/PDFs/NWI/ww\\_newsletter\\_april2018.pdf](http://images.franciscanhealthcare.org/PDFs/NWI/ww_newsletter_april2018.pdf)

### **Donors Choose Palooza!**

WOW! Congratulations to the teachers and staff at Marsh Elementary, who have raised over \$85,000 in grant funding over the past few years through DonorsChoose.org. Gym equipment, healthy snacks, art supplies, school supplies, books, cool chairs... so much has been funded. Log on to donorschoose.org to get started. Need advice? Contact Marsh kindergarten teacher Susan Shell, who is now a Donors Choose ambassador. (Note: a reminder that due to state auditor requirements, you'll need to fill out [Form 256](#) when you post to this and similar sites. This form is easy to complete and can be processed by your principal.)

### **Back to School Rally**

Do you work with an organization that would like to have a booth at the Citywide Back-to-School Rally on Thursday, August 9th? More information about the event and a link to the online form for a booth is here: <http://educateMC.net/backtoschoolrally>

### **Summer School/Camp Info**

Looking for information on summer school, community summer camps, and sports camps? Visit our website and click the picture of the big sunflower - or the shortcut "summer school" on any school home page. Please note that Future Wolves Sports Camp info will be updated as info is available. ALSO within a day or two information about a summer Manufacturing Camp for students entering grades 7 and 8 will be available (the camp runs June 4-8). Here's the direct link: <http://educateMC.net/summer>

### **Safe Harbor Summer Program**

For info on the Safe Harbor summer program please view the flyer below... it's also listed under Community Camps above. Feel free to forward to anyone you know who may be interested!

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//May%202018/SafeHarborSummerCamp.pdf>

### **Nielsen Purchasing Program**

Nielsen Automotive in Michigan City has created a special discount program for employees of MCAS. Information on this program (which includes all new and used vehicles) has been sent to all schools and departments. This also includes our Sodexo staff. More info is also here:

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//May%202018/NielsenPurchasing.pdf>

### **Donut Eating Contest!!!!**

Please support Team MCAS as we support the Salvation Army of Michigan City through their annual donut eating contest! Two of our School Board members (**Beth Pishkur** and **Beryle Burgwald**) will join MCAS Transportation Dept Operations Manager **Dave Hack** as our team of three in the contest. They will take on teams from the MC Fire Dept and MC Police Department to see who can eat the most donuts in 10 minutes. This will take place on the last day of school, June 1, at 10am at the Salvation Army. Anyone available to stop by is welcome to come and watch the fun - BUT the key is to sponsor our team! Tickets are \$10, and regardless of whether we win or lose in the donut eating, your ticket will be entered

into a drawing for a Blue Chip Spa Blu gift card. Purchase your ticket from any participant (Transportation Dept has a large supply) or Betsy Kohn.

### Way to Go!

- On May 10 Rotary Club of Michigan City will be presenting its first-ever "Service Above Self Award" for Teacher of the Year to Coolspring 2nd grade teacher **Brianne Covington!**
- Congratulations to MCHS Biology teacher **Stephanie Dege**, who continues to bring in major grants for the award-winning Wolves Environmental Restoration Team...recent grants are from the National Education Association Foundation, the Lake Michigan Coastal Program, the National Environmental Education Foundation, and NIPSCO. The Team will present at the Michigan City Conference on the Environment on June 8 at Blue Chip.
- Congratulations to Krueger Science Teacher **Kate Triemstra**, who was notified by the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project that her students' energy education project: Krueger's Green Team goes Energy Conscious will receive a national award: Krueger was selected as Indiana Junior School of the Year and National Junior Rookie of the Year. Kate and students will travel to Washington, DC in June to accept the award.
- Congratulations to MCHS JROTC instructors **Major Tom McGrath** and **Master Sergeant Jeff Benak!** JROTC students earned first place in the Unarmed Basic Platoon category at the National Marine Championship held in Tennessee in April.
- Safe Harbor's MC Robotics Team finished the season as State Champions and advanced to Worlds in Detroit last week. Congrats to Coach **Ralph Gee, Sherri Silcox** and all of the other mentors working with the team!

### Give Backs and Other Fun - Please support!

1. Support MCHS Girls Tennis at **Holly's TONIGHT!** Please use this coupon: <https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//May%202018/GirlsTennisHollys.jpg>
2. The Michigan City High School History Club is sponsoring a Give-Back Night at **Sonic Drive-In** in Michigan City on **Thursday May 17th from 5:00-9:00 pm.** Please come out and support History Club in our efforts to raise money for our 2019 Rome/Paris Trip. No flyer needed! Grazie and merci beaucoup!
3. Back by popular demand: The MCHS Marching Band is having a **mattress sale** again! Text Mcityband to the number 67076 for a link to the Facebook page for the event. It's set for **May 20th!**
4. Pine Elementary School is having a **Pint-Size Hero Blood Drive at Pine** on Thursday, May 24th from 11:30-5:30. The drive code is pineelem or it can be found by searching by the zip code. <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>

### Community Events/Announcements

The **Michigan City Patriotic Parade** will be held on Saturday, June 30th. If your school, group, or organization is interested in participating, here is more information: <https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/domain/85/april%202018/PatrioticParade.jpg>

The **Salvation Army** is seeking volunteers to provide/prepare dinner for its men's shelter this summer. This would involve selecting one or more evenings (April - October) and purchasing food/cooking/delivering dinner for 25 people to the Salvation Army in Michigan City. Serving the dinner is optional. Interested? Contact Jessica O'Brien at [Jessica\\_O'Brien@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Jessica_O'Brien@usc.salvationarmy.org) for available dates.

### **New Urgent Care: Michigan City Care Express**

LaPorte Physician Network has opened a clinic in Michigan City at 3777 Frontage Road. TheCareEXPRESS Walk-in clinic offers care for illnesses, injuries, sports physicals and more. On-site lab and X-ray services; open 7 days a week, 9am-9pm.

### **New Hours: Working Well**

Franciscan Working Well on Franklin Street has new hours: Monday-Friday, 7am-5pm. Coming Soon: Franciscan Express Care and a new entrance for Working Well at 4111 S. Franklin.

### **Community Backpack** - NEW on <http://educateMC.net/communitybackpack>

- "HEY U.G.L.Y." anti bullying contests - deadline May 31
- Pop Warner Cheer Clinic
- Xtreme Elite Cheer signups
- Shatter the Stigma mental health event at HOPE Center
- Mother's Day Screenings at HealthLinc
- YMCA, MCPD, Bricks Track opportunities for kids
- And more!

### **Calendar Reminders:**

- May 4, 11, 18, 24 - "Living History" days at Krueger
- May 4-11 - "Week of Code"
- May 7, 8, 10, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22 - "Field Days - Birds/Forest Trails" at Krueger
- May 7-11 - Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 9 - School Nurse Day
- May 11 - MCHS Prom, Blue Chip, 6pm (post prom at City Lanes)
- May 18 - Coolspring 80th Birthday Celebration (5:00-8:00pm)
- May 18 - MCHS Showcase choral concert, 7pm, MCHS Auditorium
- May 31 - **SCHOOL IN SESSION, SNOW MAKEUP**
- June 1 - **SCHOOL IN SESSION, SNOW MAKEUP** (Last Day of School, senior picnic)
- June 4 - Retirement & Wall of Fame Dinner at Blue Chip, 7pm
- June 4-8 Manufacturing Camp at AK Smith for grades 7 and 8
- June 6 - Adult Education Graduation, 6pm, Holdcraft Performing Arts Center at Elston
- June 10 - Graduation Ceremony, 12 noon, Wolves Den
- June 11- July 19 - Summer School
- July 2-5 - NO SUMMER SCHOOL week of July 4
- July 24 & 25 - Rollover
- July 26 - Online registration opens
- August 2 - On Site Registration (2-8pm)
- August 3 - On Site Registration (8am - 1pm)
- August 9 & 10 - New Teacher Orientation
- August 9 - Back to School Rally (3-7pm)