

MCAS Communicator

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

End of School Edition - 2016

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

Wall of Fame/Retirement Dinner

The MCAS Retirement & Wall of Fame dinner will be held tomorrow (Tuesday) at Blue Chip in the Stardust Event Center. Doors open at 6:00 and dinner is at 7:00pm. There is no reserved seating; please check in at the registration table. Congratulations to our 26 certified and classified retirees!

MCAS Summer Professional Development

Wow! Check out the MANY professional development opportunities scheduled for MCAS teachers this summer! Registration is online... also at the link below.

<http://educateMC.net/PD>

More Summer PD... from the IDOE

The Indiana Department of Education is offering regional summer professional development from content specialists at the Department. The half-day workshop will cover a variety of topics, allowing teachers to take a deep dive into their content. Specialists will provide resources, techniques, and practices that teachers can immediately implement in their classrooms. Administrators are invited to participate in a special workshop from the Division of School Outreach discussing current and upcoming requirements for schools and districts. For dates, more info and to register:

<http://www.doe.in.gov/ccr/instructional-best-practices-and-leadership>

IUPUI Summer Program

IUPUI will offer "Summer Edge Workshops," three non-credit workshops designed for professionals in education who are seeking opportunities for development and license renewal. The workshops are open to ANYONE. Students are not required to enroll at IUPUI. They can sign up, pay with a credit card, and begin. These workshops range from \$269.00 for a 30-hour workshop, and \$299.00 for a 45-hour workshop. For more info:

<https://education.iupui.edu/professional-development-licensing/professional-development/index.html>

Online Courses through Trine

VESi offers online, self-paced, continuing education courses offered cooperatively with Trine University. View a full course listing here:

http://www.virtualeduc.com/trine/index.php?utm_source=trine&utm_medium=email&utm_content=image&utm_campaign=casual

Math Textbooks - Last Call!

Since we are adopting a new Math series next year, there are currently an excess of brand new Textbooks and Workbooks for our current series of Everyday Math available. If anyone is interested in these materials, or knows of someone who would be, please contact Julie Bietry at the Admin. Building. (Teacher materials are also available). They must be picked up and removed from the Admin by June 30th at the absolute latest or they will be disposed of. Please bring boxes or crates to pack them in and be ready to take them with you.

Summer Feeding Program

Food Service will once again be participating in the USDA Summer Feeding program, June 6 - August 5. Visit the MCAS website for specific times and locations: <http://educateMC.net>

Summer School & Camps

Visit the MCAS web site for info on summer school, MCHS sports camps, and community camps. It's all here!

<http://educateMC.net/summer>

Human Rights Commission Luncheon

The Michigan City Human Rights Commission will honor several individuals connected to MCAS at its annual Humanitarian of the Year luncheon on June 2 at Krueger Memorial Hall on Liberty Hwy near Rt. 12. Edgewood and Springfield super volunteer **Jean Franke** will be honored with the "Unsung Hero" award for her 28 years of volunteer service to our schools. Michigan City High School senior **Elisha Martin** will be awarded the \$1,000 Judi Huber Scholarship and senior **Jessycka French**, will receive the \$1,000 Hawkins-Williams Scholarship. And last but not least, **Jo Ann Engquist**, former MCAS Director of Special Education, will receive Humanitarian of the Year 2016. Cost for the lunch is \$25, most of which contributes to next year's scholarship awards. Cash or check made out to "Michigan City Human Rights Commission" are accepted. For tickets, please contact Nancy Moldenhauer at nmoldenhauer@mcas.k12.in.us.

Horticulture Program Graduates Junior Master Gardeners

Safe Harbor elementary students participating in the Horticulture program at Edgewood, Knapp, Marsh and Joy honored students who earned their Junior Master Gardener's certification last week. Thanks to John Tiedeman, Annette Young, and other dedicated participants, students have transformed school courtyards and grounds into gardens that deepen students' understanding of various cultures. For example, Edgewood School now has a Southwest Garden, an Asian Garden, and a European Garden featured in three separate courtyards for the students to enjoy.

June First Friday Performance

Students participating in Safe Harbor's Dance enrichment program at Marsh Elementary School will be performing their routine at the Lubeznik Center during June's First Friday Celebration (June 3) at 5:00 pm. Come watch these Safe Harbor students share their talents and passion!

Safe Harbor Camp

Safe Harbor is accepting registration forms and fees for participants of the 2016 Summer Adventure Camp! Spread the word! (Forms are available from Safe Harbor staff or online at <http://educateMC.net/summer> - click on Community Camps)

Club Discovery News

The Technology Clubs at Barker and Kruger middle schools have completed filming their respective DVD projects. (Club members created a video of students engaged in school activities, set against the India Arie song "Just Do You". The song is one of encouragement, uplift, and self-motivation.) Club members at each site, under the tutelage of T'Andre Harris, Tech Club instructor, were responsible for planning, performing, and filming of the videos.

Safe Harbor Summer Scholars

Thanks to the College and Career Readiness Programs of Safe Harbor, 12 MCAS middle school and high school students have been accepted into the Ball State University Summer

Scholars Program. Summer Scholars is a free college prep program that gives students a realistic perspective on life as a college student. Students live in a campus dorm, take classes, learn keys to being a successful student, etc. The Summer Scholars recruitment project was coordinated by Allen Williams, Safe Harbor Team Leader, and Kathleen Walker, MCHS College and Career Readiness Instructor... both graduates of Ball State!

Free and Confidential Mental Health Services

Did you realize that 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, which is available to you all summer, not just during the school year: <http://educatemc.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85/Happy%20posterMCAS.pdf>

Save the Date

The Citywide Back to School Rally will be held on Thursday, August 11 @ Elston Gill Field, from 3-7pm. Watch the MCAS website or the Rally facebook page for more info, coming soon!

Free Eye Exams, Glasses for Kids in Need

"Sailing for Sight" will be in Michigan City again this summer, on Saturday, August 13th. This organization provides free eye exams and glasses for children and teens in need. If you know of a student who would benefit, contact Linda Bechniski, lbechinski@educateMC.net. More info is here: http://educatemc.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85/sailing_for_sight.pdf

Healthy U @ Work Newsletter

Managing stress, side effects of medicine, blood pressure, asthma, cooking with figs, and more!
http://www.workingwellsite.org/images/newsletter_may2016.pdf

Sleep Apnea

Are you at risk for a sleep disorder? Check out this helpful info (and offer for a free assessment) from Franciscan St. Anthony: <http://educatemc.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85/SleepApnea-Flyer-Horizontal.pdf>

CPR Class

A CPR class for teachers in need of license renewal has already been scheduled for fall; it will be held on Thursday, September 22. Training is at 3:30 at Mullen, which is at 100 Manny Court, adjacent to Lake Hills Elementary. The fee is \$40 cash or check, payable to Dolphin Solutions. The certification lasts two years. Important: Please contact Linda Bechniski (lbechinski@educatemc.net) to sign up. Also, the American Heart Association has written new workbooks and there will be one available in every school's nurse's office for review if needed. (Dolphin Solutions has provided these so that everyone who is taking the class does not have to purchase at \$16.00.) If you borrow one, please remember to return.

Runnin for Prestin- MCAS Discount

The 4th annual "Runnin' for Prestin" 5K and 10K race will be held on September 17, 2016 in Washington Park. (The run was initiated in support of Prestin Butcher, a LaPorte county boy who was diagnosed with an aggressive brain cancer at age 10 but is now cancer free; proceeds now support Riley's Children's Hospital's pediatric cancer research team.) MCAS employees can get a reduced registration fee of \$20 for the 5K and \$25 for the 10K by

entering the promo code HERO4ZERO at: <http://www.runninfoprestin.com>. Questions? Contact info@runninfoprestin.com or (219) 309-0572.

Bicentennial Parade Information

Schools, organizations, bands, musical groups, teams, etc. are invited to take part in the Michigan City "Star Spangled Bicentennial Parade" on July 2. Former Elston principal Warren E. Jones is grand marshal this year, and many units will honor Indiana's 200th birthday. Information is here:

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

Municipal Band Performance

The Pine Elementary Chorus will be performing on Thursday, June 9th for the opening concert of the summer season with the Michigan City Municipal Band in Washington Park @ 7:30 pm. The band will be accompanying students LIVE for an awesome concert!

Free Park Passes for 4th Graders

The "Every Kid in a Park" initiative for fourth graders in Indiana allows fourth graders to download a free pass from everykidinapark.gov for admission for them and their families to more than 2,000 national parks, national forests and marine sanctuaries nationwide. Indiana State Parks is honoring fourth grade passes in 2016 as a way to celebrate its centennial this year, which coincides with the National Park Service centennial.

MCESP Scholarships

The Michigan City ESP are proud to announce their two \$500 scholarship winners for this year. They include James Ohms, son of Michele Ohms, who is an IA at Pine. James is planning on going into the Business Marketing field, and continuing his dream of playing semi-pro soccer. Also, Grant Wyse, son of Karie Wyse, the secretary at Edgewood. Grant will be pursuing degrees in Business Management and Graphic Design. In addition, Hanna Westphal, grand-daughter of Joyce Westphal, the secretary at MCHS, was awarded the \$700 ISTA Foundation for the Improvement of Education scholarship.

Give Backs and etc....

- Tuesday, May 24 @ Pine. Papa John's will be selling Pizza, Bread and Cookie Pizzas at **Pine** prior to and following the school's artifact night/sixth grade showcase; people can drive into the parking lot - place and order, pay for it and leave. More info is here:
[http://educatemc.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85/Papa%20John Pine.pdf](http://educatemc.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85/Papa%20John%20Pine.pdf)
- "Rock 'n Wash" at a car wash in support of the **Barker PTO, Barker band and MCHS pep band** on Saturday, May 28 at Sweet Lou's (2913 U.S. 421 in Westville). Students will also be performing on June 4 at Sweet Lou's. Follow the link below for more information:
<http://educatemc.net/cms/lib5/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85/Feed%20The%20Soul%202016%20Flyer.pdf>

Community Backpack - New on <http://educateMC.net/communitybackpack>

- MCHS Cheerleading Try Out Info
- MCPD Leadership Camp for grades 7 & 8
- Robot Competition Boot Camp
- Farmer's Market SNAP Matching Benefits
- Spring & Summer Slam Basketball Leagues
- Beach, Water, and Pier Safet Expo on May 27

- MC Sports League Summer T-Ball, Baseball, Softball
- LaPorte County Parks Summer Programs
- And more!

THANKS TO ALL FOR YOUR PART IN ANOTHER GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!