

MCAS Communicator

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

September 2017

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

Flu Shots

Walgreens will be at the high school (faculty lounge area) on Thursday, Oct 5th from 1:30 to 4pm to administer flu shots. The cost is \$31.99 if you don't have insurance. Otherwise flu shots are free and Walgreens will file with your insurance. Sign up in advance with the nurse or secretary in your building. Questions? Contact Linda Bechinski, lbechinski@educatemc.net.

CPR Training for Certified Staff

A CPR class for teachers in need of license renewal will be held Thursday, September 14 and Thursday, November 16. Training is at 3:30 at Mullen, 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 Bechinski (lbechinski@educatemc.net) to sign up.

A.K. Scissorsy September Special

Support our cosmetology students... this month's special is eyebrows:

https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//Sept%202017/AKScissorsy_September.pdf

Car Wash for United Way

The annual MCAS/MCFD/MCPD Car Wash for United Way will take place across from Ames Field on Friday, Sept 22 from 9-6. This extravaganza includes free hot dogs, a mum/pumpkin sale, live radio broadcast, and car wash. We have raised between \$5,000 and \$8,000 each year for this great cause! Please save the date and plan to stop by to have your vehicle washed - administrators (with some help from student volunteers) take the MCAS shift, which is from 3-6pm. Safe Harbor staff assist all day with the mum/pumpkin sale. No rain date... we wash rain or shine!

ABC7 "Friday Flyover"

Exciting news...MCHS has been selected for ABC7 Chicago's "Friday Flyover" on Friday, September 15th from 5:00 - 7:00 a.m. The event basically consists of ABC7 sending a helicopter and news team out to film our students as they make formations on Ames Field. It also involves the news team interviewing students and in general capturing the excitement of school and community. All are welcome to stop by Ames to join in the fun. FYI here are a couple examples of what this is:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8W5X5Bblv00>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UbbYFSO1Dts>

Use "Fun Express" Instead of Oriental Trading

For those who place orders with Oriental Trading... you can save \$\$ by ordering through their subsidiary, Fun Express. Visit this link and create an account with the business name Michigan City Area Schools - they will send you a password. <http://www.funexpress.com/corporate>

Questions? Contact Brenda Runnels, brunnels@educateMC.net

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>

September EAP Newsletter: Discovering Joy

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//Sept%202017/2017%20September%20Franciscan%20Employee%20Assistance%20Newsletter.pdf>

September EAP Webinar

Please register for Finding Joy and Long Term Care Planning on Sep 20, 2017 12:00 PM CDT at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/774142326702936322>

MCHS Homecoming

Homecoming is Friday, September 15th! Any schools or organizations that would like to be in the annual parade are welcome... email Student Council advisor Elaine Rivich & Katie St. Germaine at mchsstudentcouncil@mcas.k12.in.us to register or for more info.

Apply NOW for Unity Teacher Grants

It's time to apply for small grants for K-12 teachers from the Unity Foundation... Michigan City Education Foundation, Teacher Innovation Fund, and Barbara A. Carmen grants are now online with October deadlines: <http://ufic.net/grants/teacher-grants/>

Safe Harbor Info

Safe Harbor supports daytime learning with out-of-school time programs for MCAS students at all levels. All programs include homework help, academic support, recreation, STEM activities, arts enrichment, and much more. For information call 873-2026.

- Safe Harbor- Lake Hills, Knapp, Edgewood, Joy and Marsh Elementary
 - \$20 per month per student,
 - 3:00 to 6:00, Monday through Friday
- Club Discovery-Barker and Krueger Middle Schools
 - \$5 per year per student
 - 2:15-5:30, Monday through Thursday
 - Bus transportation home
- Club Inspire-Michigan City High School
 - \$5 per year per student
 - 2:15-5:30, Monday through Thursday
 - Dinner served
 - Bus transportation home

Mentoring Update

Another year of Safe Harbor's Hours for Ours Mentoring program begins this month. Please contact Abby May at amay@educatenc.net to refer a student to the program, refer a mentor to the program, or become a mentor. Mentors needed for elementary, middle school and high school students.

Citizens' Police Academy

Beginning October 5th the Michigan City Police Dept. will be sponsoring an opportunity for members of the community to become closely acquainted with the roles and responsibilities of the Police Department. The Michigan City Police Citizen's Police Academy (MCPA) brings the police and the community close together in a setting that offers a sample of police training to each participant. More info about this unique opportunity and an application form: <https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//Sept%202017/citizens-academy-2017.pdf>

Volunteers and Donations Needed

This Saturday, Sept 9th, is the "Stuff a Bus" event at Al's supermarkets, where our school buses will be parked all day. The goal is to fill them with donated items for the Salvation Army Food Pantry. Please consider stopping by to donate canned items/a pre-made bag of staple items from Al's. Also: Help is needed at the Salvation Army at 3:00pm to unload all of the donations. Students, staff, and friends are all welcome to volunteer!

Teacher Grants

The Indiana Retired Teachers' Foundation offers small grants for school or classroom projects each year. The brief application is due Sept. 30th:

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//August%202017/IRTF%20Active%20Teacher%20Grant%20Final%202016.doc>

Field Trip Grants

Target Corporation is accepting applications for its Target Field Trip Grants program, designed to bring K-12 students to museums, historical sites, and cultural organizations. Grants are intended to fund visits to art, science, and cultural museums; community service or civic projects; career enrichment opportunities; and other events or activities outside of school. Funds may be used to cover field trip-related costs such as transportation, ticket fees, food, resource materials, and supplies. Grants of up to \$700 will be awarded in January 2018. Program guidelines and the application are here:

<https://corporate.target.com/corporate-responsibility/grants/field-trip-grants>

Sumdog Math Contest Starts September 8

Sumdog's Northwest Indiana math contest starts September 8, ending the following Thursday. The contests are suitable for all students in grades K - 8, as they adapt to each individual's level. Students can play online either at school or at home using the website or the app. Visit <https://www.sumdog.com/contests> to enter. Questions? Contact Mara Young at mara@sumdog.com. Note: Additional contests will be held February 2 and April 13, 2018.

Support Group for Parents of Kids with Special Needs

The Michigan City Parents Support Group offers parents of children with disabilities a safe environment to connect, share and learn how to advocate for their children. Meetings take place on the last Thursday of each month from 5-6 p.m. at Galveston Steakhouse in Michigan City. For more information contact Joanne Tedesco (573)355-7855 OR tedescofamily@outlook.com

Athletic Boosters Need You!

The Athletic Boosters have begun their annual membership drive and invite you to join! Please note that MCAS employees interested in becoming members can return the form and membership fee to the MCHS Athletic Dept.

https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/domain/85/sept%202017/MCHS%20Booster%20App_5_0_MCAS.pdf

Give Backs

Holly's on September 19 - support Pine Elementary:

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/15/hollys.docx.pdf>

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

- Making Right Choices presentation for teens at Elston (5:30pm, Sept. 8)
- Creekness Stakes canoe race benefiting MCAS students involved in "Trail Creek Week" (Sept. 30)
- Community Cookout sponsored by area police, fire, and EMTs at Gill Field (Sept. 9)
- And more!

Calendar Reminders:

- September 15 - ABC7 Flyover (5-7am) and MCHS Homecoming
- September 22 - MCAS/MCPD/MCFD Car Wash for United Way
- October 18 - Parent/Teacher Conferences for Barker/Krueger/MCHS
- October 19-20 - Fall Break NO SCHOOL
- October 26 - "Howl O Ween" at Ames
- November 15 - Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences
- December 14 - One City One Sound