

MCAS Communicator

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

September 2018

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

Chamber Educator (and Program) of the Year

The Michigan City Chamber of Commerce is again planning an "Educator of the Year" dinner on November 6th and is now seeking nominations for outstanding educator, lifetime achievement, and shining light (for an exemplary program). This is a wonderful way to honor our teachers and programs! Please consider making a nomination and please share. [The form is HERE](#); nominations are due October 12.

Unity Teacher Grants

It's time for teachers to apply online for Unity Foundation grants! There are opportunities for all grade levels. Deadline is October 12.

<http://uflc.net/grants/teacher-grants/>

Aesop Info and Link

A menu choice for "AESOP" has been added to the MCAS District web page under "Staff". Check this for a link to the Aesop (Frontline) login and also instructions and contact # for Kelly Educational Services tech support, last-minute changes, etc.

<http://educateMC.net/aesop>

Wolves Wear Opportunity

The MCHS Athletic Dept. is offering an opportunity to purchase Wolves Wear. To place your order, follow the link below. Deadline to order is September 9th.

https://citywolves18.itemorder.com/sale?read_message=true

Teacher Appreciation at Ames

THIS FRIDAY, September 7 is "Teacher Appreciation Night" at halftime during the City vs Valpo game. All teachers are invited to sit in a reserved area and will be honored at halftime. See below for the official invite:

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//August%202018/TeacherAppreciationNite2018.pdf>

Tailgate Party!

THIS FRIDAY The Wolves are also holding a "Game Day Tailgate Party" prior to the Valpo game. The event is at the Plant Planning parking lot across from Ames Field, from 3-7pm. Purchase a port-a-pit ticket for \$10 from the MCHS athletic dept or any fall athlete; call 873-2043 or contact Craig Shaman at cshaman@educateMC.net. Please share the flyer below:

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//August%202018/tailgateparty2018.pdf>

Shuttle to Ames

Due to reduced parking near Ames Field, the Wolves will be running a shuttle bus to and from Marquette Mall and Ames Field. The shuttle will run on all football game days from 6-7:30pm, and for 45-60 minutes at the conclusion of all games (approximately 9:30pm). The pickup/dropoff location at Marquette Mall is the south parking lot outside of the former

JC Penney. The pickup/dropoff location at Ames Field is the southwest corner of Wabash and Arthur streets. The shuttle is FREE!

City Seeking Feedback

The City of Michigan City is seeking thoughts and opinions on the Downtown Plaza. Follow the link below to complete a brief survey (available until September 15) and feel free to share with others.

<http://bit.ly/MCPlazaSurvey>

School Board Meeting Date Change

The regular monthly September MCAS School Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 18 (**not** Sept. 25).

Hurry! Register for the Trivia Contest!

Get your team together! Our "Future Wolves" program is having a Trivia Night to raise funds for MCAS elementary sports. This time it will be held at the Michigan City Senior Center on Friday, September 14th. Food and drinks available for purchase. Trophy and bragging rights to the winner! See the flyer below, and see you there!

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//August%202018/TriviaFlyer2018.pdf>

AND another Trivia Contest

Can't get enough trivia? The Chamber's Lakefront Career Network is hosting another Trivia contest on Thursday, September 27 at Fiddleheads, to benefit the Boys and Girls Club.

Details:

https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//September%202018/LCN_Trivia_Night_2018.pdf

CAR WASH TIME!

It's time to round up all dirty vehicles in Michigan City! MCAS is once again combining forces with the Michigan City Police and Michigan City Fire Departments for the greatest car wash known to humankind: the annual citywide Car Wash for the United Way will be held on Friday, September 28th at the Plant Planning parking lot across from Ames. We will again be offering the "executive wash" service for premium donors. Plus: Free hotdogs...and there will be mums for sale. Stay tuned for more details as the big day approaches!

We are CEP!

The Food Service Dept. is excited to announce that beginning with the 2018-19 school year we have extended the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) to ALL students at Michigan City Area Schools! This means all students receive meals at no charge. (Students still need funds in their cafeteria account for extra milk or a la carte items.) Because of this program, parents no longer need to apply for meal assistance. However, parents must still apply for textbook rental assistance, which is part of the online registration for all students. If families did not complete the form for this when registering, they can complete an application at any time by clicking the "Registration" tab in Parent Access. For more info, including the link to the new Titan system for online payments for a la carte items, visit:

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/Page/135>

Robotics Reminder

Reminder! Safe Harbor's Michigan City Robotics Program is starting for the school year. The middle school FIRST Tech Challenge Team begins with a parent meeting at AK Smith Career Center on Thursday, September 6 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Meetings will be held at AK Smith Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. The high school FIRST Robotics Competition Team starts with a meeting in Coach Ralph Gee's room-0105 on Tuesday, September 4th at 2:30. The team will meet at AK Smith every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. For more information call Sherri Silcox at 8740.

CPR for Certified Staff

A CPR class for certified staff in need of license renewal will be held Thursday, September 13th at 3:30pm at Mullen (100 Manny Court). The cost is \$50, cash or check, payable to Dolphin Solutions at the class. Class lasts approximately 2 hours. CPR books are available to borrow from any nurse's office, if you need to review prior to the class. Important: Please contact Linda Bechinski in advance to reserve your spot for this class, or with any questions - lbechinski@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:

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

EAP Newsletter - September: Boundaries

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//September%202018/September%202018%20Franciscan%20Employee%20Assistance%20Program%20Newsletter.pdf>

September EAP Webinar

Register for "Boundaries" and "Best and Worst Drinks for Your Health" on Sep 19, 2018 1:00 PM CDT at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1895461682341052674>

Healthy U @ Work September Newsletter

Dressing for your body shape, brown bag tips, bell peppers, and more:

http://images.franciscanhealthcare.org/PDFs/NWI/ww_newsletter_september2018.pdf

STEM Challenge for grades 6-12

Scholastic has announced the Lexus Eco Challenge, a national STEM competition for grades 6-12. It consists of three parts:

- Land & Water Challenge—Deadline: October 15, 2018
- Air & Climate Challenge—Deadline: December 10, 2018
- Final Challenge—by invitation only

Teams compete for prizes - up to \$500,000 in scholarships and grants are awarded each year to students, teachers and schools. More info is here:

http://t.message.scholastic.com/nl/jsp/m.jsp?c=%40uwN%2FR0sS6UI6jHsxWEU76rIeuw0yYDX6tn1VRgguvI%3D&ET_CID=20180822_SNP_Lexus_vB_ACQ_PK2_23606&ET_RID=1165746117

Recognition Opportunity

Are you an outstanding teacher who's at the cutting edge of integrating technology to support problem-based and/or inquiry learning in classrooms? The IU School of Education wants to honor YOU with the Jacob's Educator Award:

<https://education.indiana.edu/community/awards/jacobs/apply.html>

Elston YMCA Open House Saturday

Stop by the Elston Y this Saturday (9/8) from 10-2 ... free classes, activities, open pool, 3 on 3 and ping pong tournament, crafts, and much more. See you there!

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//September%202018/Elston%20open%20house%20fall%202018.pdf>

Discount at Outlet Stores

MCAS teachers and staff are eligible for a 50% discount at Lighthouse Place Outlets (stores #105 and 509) through 9/30/18. Show your MCAS staff ID and the coupon below for Hanes, Champion, Bali, Maidenform, Playtex, and DKNY. Visit any of HanesBrands, L'eggs-Hanes-Bali-Playtex, Maidenform, and Champion outlets nationwide to start saving. <https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//September%202018/TEACHER.jpg>

All Aboard...

Join Junior Achievement Thursday September 13th on the Emita II. The boat will depart at 6 pm for a 90 minute Sunset Cruise! Enjoy a cash bar, complimentary appetizers and a silent auction. Tickets are \$35 per person and Sponsorship opportunities are available. Proceeds from the event will provide kindergarten-12th grade JA programs which foster work-readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills to over 7,000 students in LaPorte County. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/leic> There is limited seating so don't wait!

Annual Craft Show

The Michigan City High School Parent Network will hold its annual Craft and Vendor Fair at MCHS on October 13. Interested in a booth? Visit the Parent Network Facebook page or email mchsparentnetwork@gmail.com. More info: <https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//September%202018/Craft%20%20Vendor%20Fair.pdf>

SUPPORT TEAM MCAS WITH THIS GIVE BACK!

- Buffalo Wild Wings - September 19 - for Pine Elementary
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/12LmkwpWkk0F0bD3y8DSS8t1HrHyUuIJs9EWdxSziAhI/edit?ts=5b7d85cc>

WAY TO GO!!

Lake Hills teacher **Kelley Gertner**'s classroom is featured in this ABC7 roundup of "gorgeous classrooms"... check it out: <https://abc7chicago.com/education/teachers-flaunt-gorgeous-classrooms-before-new-school-year/4104570/>

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

- Nfr Institute Robotic Competitions & Ingene Society
- Elston YMCA Open House
- Educator of the Year Nomination form
- And more!

Calendar Reminders:

- September 5 - MCHS Open House, 5:30-7:00pm
- September 7 - Teacher Appreciation Night at Ames; Game Day Port a Pit
- September 14 - 7:00pm (doors open at 6:00pm) Triviafest for Future Wolves at MC Senior Center
- September 24-28 - College GO Week
- September 28 - MCAS/MCPD/MCFD Car Wash for the United Way (at Plant Planning)
- October 5 - Homecoming
- October 17 - Secondary Parent/Teacher conferences
- October 18-19 - Fall Break (no school)
- October 25 - Howl O Ween at Ames Field, 6:30-8:00 pm