

MCAS Communicator

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

September 2019

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

Our new MCAS App is LIVE!

The Michigan City Area Schools app has launched! Please take a moment to visit the app store and download it to your device. **(Shortcut: Scan the code here with an iOS or Android device and you will be taken to the appropriate location to download the app.)** Follow your school (and others you may want to follow) and take a look at the many great features. We'll be spreading the word about this to family and community later this month. Enjoy!



Team MCAS Polos SALE

Reprographic Arts (2824 E. Michigan Blvd.) has a lot of "Team M.C.A.S." polos available and has discounted the prices.

- New polos (grey and navy) are \$15.00 to XL and \$17.00 for plus sizes
- Last year's polyester polos (mainly plus sizes, light blue and navy) are \$12.00 to XL and \$14.00 for plus sizes
- Older cotton polos (light blue and navy) are \$7.00 for any (very limited quantity)

Questions? orders@rashirts.com or 219-872-9111 ext 3

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

A.K. Smith Career Center students in Fire Science and Law Enforcement, as well as Michigan City High School JROTC students, will be taking part in a community 9/11 Remembrance ceremony at the Elston YMCA on Wednesday, September 11 beginning at 7:30am. The ceremony will feature firefighters and fire science students performing a 110-flight stair climb in the Red Devil gym, in commemoration of the first responders at the World Trade Center. Guest Speaker is Becky Simmons of the Salvation Army of Michigan City, who was part of a disaster response team in NY City on 9/11.

Homecoming Reminder

MCHS Homecoming is early this year - September 20th! If your school/group would like to have a unit in the parade (which steps off from Elston parking lot at 6pm) please contact Katie St. Germaine (kstgermaine@mcas.k12.in.us) or Elaine Rivich (erivich@mcas.k12.in.us).

Teacher Appreciation Night Reminder

Teachers! The MCAS Athletic Department looks forward to hosting you for TEACHER APPRECIATION NIGHT! This will be held at our football game against Chesterton on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6. A couple of things to remember:

- The game kicks off at 7pm. There will be a section in the stands reserved specifically for MCAS teachers, but you can sit wherever you want. As always, your staff ID gets you in free!

- Teachers will be recognized at halftime on the field. We will call you down to get organized in the end zone a couple minutes before halftime, and then we will bring you out on the field to be honored.
- There is a tailgate party and port-a-pit chicken sale in the Plant Planning parking lot across the street from Ames Field from 3-7pm. Not only is this a great time to chill with your fellow faculty, but it is a great time to support the school by buying a \$10 port-a-pit chicken!
- Port-a-pit chicken tickets are available in advance from the Athletic Department, or from any student-athlete.

Please contact the Athletic Department with any comments or questions. Thank you, and looking forward to seeing you Friday!

Tailgate Party!

The Wolves are holding a "Game Day Tailgate Party" on Friday, September 6, prior to the Chesterton 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%202019/tailgateparty2019.pdf>

ALERT! ALERT! Unity Grant Deadline Approaching

The deadline for Unity Foundation teacher grants is Friday, September 13. Right now they have very few applicants for these mini-grants; your chances are GREAT! Apply today!

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

Food Service News

Food Service would like to give a shout out to employees who have reached significant years of service with the Department: Laura Morford and Connie Benedict with 25 years and Elaine DeVries with 20 years. "Thank You" for your service to the students of the Michigan City Area Schools! Food Service will be having another fundraiser for the "Random Acts of Kindness" fund to help families pay negative meal account balances. Information on the fundraiser will be sent out later in September.

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>

September EAP Newsletter

Psychological Well-Being

<https://www.mcas.k12.in.us/cms/lib/IN01001792/Centricity/Domain/85//September%202019/EAPSept.pdf>

September EAP Webinar

Please register for "Psychological Well-Being" and "Selecting Quality Long-Term Care: Home and Community Programs" on Sep 18, 2019 12:00 PM CDT at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/317505274439735553>

CPR for Certified Staff

A CPR class for certified staff in need of license renewal will be held Thursday, September 19th 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.

Trivia Contest

Get your team together! Our "Future Wolves" program is having another Trivia Night to raise funds for MCAS elementary sports. It will be held at the Michigan City Senior Center on Friday, September 27. Food and drinks will be 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%202019/TriviaFlyer2019.pdf>

United Way Update

The United Way Donation Deadline is September 13th!

Last year your generous United Way donations assisted in helping LaPorte County residents in many ways. Examples:

- 875 Vita tax returns were completed FREE of charge for LaPorte County residents earning \$64,000 or less,
- 3,601 residents saved \$205,000 in prescription drug costs using Familywise Discount Prescription Cards,
- 729,460 lbs of food were distributed and 165,983 meals were served to neighbors in need.

Thank you for your generosity in the past. Please consider a donation this year. All donations receive a gift. For more information or additional pledge forms, contact Sherri Silcox, ssilcox@mcas.k12.in.us, ext. 8740.

CAR WASH Countdown!

The much-anticipated annual Car Wash for the United Way is THURSDAY, September 12, 9am-6pm at Plant Planning across from Ames Field on Franklin Street. MCAS will be joining forces with the MC Police and Fire Depts. to raise much-needed funds for this worthy cause. Please stop by anytime (ideally, between 3-6 when MCAS will be washing!) Here's all you need to do:

1. Come with your dirty car.
2. Make a small (or large!) donation to United Way
3. Leave with a clean car and some mums! (Did we mention there is also a mum sale taking place?)

SEE YOU THERE!

Educators of the Year

Nominations are now open for the Michigan City Chamber of Commerce 2019 Educators of the Year. Teachers, administrators, programs, and community/business partners can all be nominated for various awards that are part of this event. Please consider making a nomination! Deadline is October 14 and the awards dinner is November 12. [Here is the nomination form.](#)

MC Citizens' Police Academy

The MCPD is now taking applications for its 9th annual "Citizens Police Academy." Several of our staff have participated in and enjoyed this hands-on opportunity to learn more about our police department. For details and the application, [CLICK HERE.](#)

Virtual Academy News

Did you know that MCHS has launched an online option for students grades 9-12? Read all about this new program here!

<http://educateMC.net/virtualacademy>

Upcoming Events

- September 11 - Remembrance ceremony at Elston YMCA/AKS/Elston
- September 12 - United Way Car Wash (MCAS Administrators' shift - 3-6pm)
- September 13 - Unity teacher grant application deadline
- September 20 - Homecoming (Parade 6pm, Game 7pm)
- September 27 - Trivia Night benefit for "Future Wolves," Senior Center (7pm)
- **September 30 - eLearning day**
- October 4 - Made in LaPorte County
- October 14 - Deadline for nominations, Chamber Educator of Year
- October 17-18 - Fall Break
- October 24 - Howl O Ween at Ames
- **November 5 - eLearning Day (Election Day)**
- November 6 - AKS Open House
- November 12 - Chamber Educator of the Year Awards
- November 15-17 - MCHS Fall Musical "Ghost"
- November 25-29 - Thanksgiving Break NO SCHOOL
- **December 9 - eLearning Day**
- December 12 - One City One Sound
- December 23 - Jan 3 - Winter Break NO SCHOOL

#MCASGiantLeaps