



# Wolves Wire

An e-mail newsletter from Michigan City High School

December 2021

Volume 14, Number 4

## In This Issue

- From the Co-Principals
- Counselors' Corner
- From the Treasurer
- Open Door
- From the Nurse
- Music Department
- Student Success Coaches
- Art Department
- Early College
- Science Department
- JROTC
- Honor Roll
- Way to Go!
- Dates to Remember
- Wolf Pack Roundup
- Food Drive
- Yearbook



## Contact Us

Comments? Suggestions?

Contact Joyce Westphal

jwestphal@mcas.k12.in.us

## From the Desk of the Co-Principals...

Greetings Michigan City High School Families,

It is truly the most wonderful time of the year. It is hard to believe 2021 is almost over. The school year continues to move at a rapid pace as we are entering the month of December. We only have a few weeks before we go on Winter Break from December 20th-December 31st. Students will resume classes on January 3rd. The first semester ends on January 14, 2021. The second semester will begin on January 18th, as there is no school on Monday, January 17th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

As we close out the first semester, please pay special attention to your student's grades and credits. All students must accumulate as many credits as possible each semester. Remember if your student fails a class, no credit is awarded. Students must accumulate 44 credits in specific content areas to graduate, as well as fulfill additional requirements. When we return from Christmas break we will be moving into a block schedule. We are going to start this process during finals week so students have additional time to review and take their finals. They will have no more than two finals on the same day. There will also be built-in days for any makeup exams that need to take place, and for students to work with teachers on any additional work that needs to be completed for the semester. We will be sending out this schedule to parents and students soon. Please remember you can always check PowerSchool to see any assignments that your student might be missing. Contacting the teacher directly is always the best way to get the most accurate information about anything happening in class.

The Weekend of November 12-14, our Thespians performed "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." We want to congratulate all of our students and staff who put in countless hours to make this show a success. It was such a fun night filled with music and comedy, all who attended enjoyed the performance. We have an amazingly talented group of students! If you didn't make it to this show you will want to put the next one on your calendar!

We want to send a heartfelt congratulation to the Michigan City High School Football Team, Coach Mason, and his entire Coaching Staff for an outstanding season. Friday, November 19th was an amazing day and night to witness. While the scoreboard didn't reflect the outcome we all wanted, it was no doubt that the City was brought together to cheer on the Wolves. Those that were in attendance could feel the pride in our team. The same feeling was felt by students and staff at the end of the school day as we watched the team march through the halls while the Band played, and cheerleaders cheered.

We were honored to have U.S. Representative Frank Mrvan in at-

# MCHS

## Wolves

### Wire



tendance at our Veteran's Day Program. We want to commend our JROTC, vocal, and band students as well as Major McGrath, Sgt. Benak, Michelle Howisen, and Frank Gast. The program was superb and a special thanks go out to all who contributed.

The MCHS winter athletic teams have begun their seasons. Please check the schedules and come out and support our student-athletes this winter. Congratulations go out to all our fall athletic teams for the time and effort that all of our coaches and athletes put into their seasons.

As we head into the winter months, please pay special attention to social media for any school closings or delays.

**From all of us at MCHS to all of you have a wonderful holiday season and a happy New Year.**

**Sarah Hendricks and Kyle Dean  
Co-Principals**



*Starts December 20th*

*Return to school on January 3rd*



# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



## Counselors' Corner

The end of the first semester is January 14th. It is of utmost importance that students finish strong and pass their classes to earn the required credits toward graduation! We encourage students to work hard, stay focused and begin preparing for their final exams. Students should talk to their teachers with any questions or concerns.

Dates to remember:

1. ISTEP retests for seniors will be on November 30th (Math) and December 1st (English).
2. The SAT will be held at MCHS on December 4th. Remember to bring your photo ID and printed admission ticket, or you will not be permitted to test.
3. The ACT will be held at MCHS on December 11th. Remember to bring your photo ID and printed admission ticket, or you will not be permitted to test.

Seniors: Remember to submit transcript requests through your Naviance account. Mr. Garrett sent numerous emails on how to do this, along with scholarships and other opportunities. He also provides a list of scholarships on Naviance under "Scholarships and Money." We urge students to frequently check their school email account for important messages.

Your counseling team would like to encourage all students to check their Powerschool accounts frequently to monitor their grades and progress.

Winter break will begin on December 20th. We hope you will take time to rest, rejuvenate and study for finals!



*Be sure to  
get to know  
your school  
counselor.*

*They are  
your biggest  
advocate*



# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



## From the Treasurer

### TEXTBOOK RENTAL FEES

The 2021/2022 Textbook Rental Fee Statements have been sent home via mail and email, if we have a current email on file for the guardian. The statements are for the **school year**, not by semester. You may make payments throughout the year with check, cash, or money orders. Online payments are not available this year. We would like all fees to be paid by the end of the school year. Contact the treasurer if you have any questions.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONCERNING TEXTBOOK RENTAL ASSISTANCE!

All students at Michigan City Area Schools will receive meals at no charge because of the Community Eligibility Program (CEP)! Students still need funds in their cafeteria account for extra milk or a la carte purchases (*all cafeterias are cashless*). If you need more information visit the food service website at [educatemc.net/food](http://educatemc.net/food).

Because of this program, parents no longer need to apply for meal assistance. However, parents **MUST** still apply for Textbook Rental Assistance.

The Textbook Assistance and Other Educational Benefits application is part of the online registration for all students. If you did not complete the form for this when registering your child, you can complete an application at the Titan Family Portal at [family.titank12.com](http://family.titank12.com).

Parents must apply for assistance **EACH** school year. Because situations change, families may apply at any time during the year. If you receive Food Stamps or TANF you may already be pre-approved for assistance.

New students to Michigan City Area Schools must complete an application even if they were approved in their old school corporation.

### SENIOR PARENTS-IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PAST DUE FEES

Please watch for information for past due Textbook Rental and Chromebook fees. If you have past due fees you will receive a report of fees due in the mail soon.

### CHROMEBOOK INSURANCE AND OTHER CHARGES

We are again offering an optional insurance program for Chromebooks. We **highly recommend that all families purchase this insurance as soon as possible!**

The insurance plan is \$30 for each device and is good for **ONE** year. It will cover two (2) accidental repairs that require part replacement throughout the school year. Equipment that is misused, abused, vandalized or repeatedly damaged through carelessness or neglect will **NOT** be covered by this plan and the full cost of parts will be charged to the student/parent/guardian.

### Please note: Insurance does not cover lost or stolen equipment.

If you decline to purchase the insurance, your family is responsible for all costs involved with the repair or replacement of the device. When a repair or service is performed and the device is not insured, you will be invoiced. If the invoice is not paid by due date, you will be turned over to a collection agency and a \$30 fee plus court costs will be added to your balance.

The replacement/repair costs of the Chromebooks/Tablets are as follows:

Entire Chromebook/Tablet - \$180

LCD screen repair/replacement - \$80



# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



Keyboard repair - \$45

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact the MCAS Technology department at 219-873-2000 ext 8327.

### **PARKING PERMIT INFORMATION**

Students need to complete the application using the link below and upload their driver's license and registration. After submitting the application they can pay for the permit at the treasurer's office. They will receive a receipt and their permit for their designated parking spot.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc8vUt3Qaw5niYEoWRDBIRbgcw54YiTRgpovjpQT1Fa00m1mg/viewform>

### **AUTOMOBILE REGULATIONS**

The use of motor vehicles for travel to and from school by students is an assumption of responsibility on the part of those students. It is a responsibility in the care of property, the observation of safety rules, and the display of courtesy and consideration toward others. Therefore, students are expected to abide by the following rules, and drive safely and defensively when approaching and exiting the school.

- All students interested in possessing a parking permit at MCHS must be in good standing (not on social probation and GPA of 1.5 or above).
- All vehicles must be registered annually with the school and **display a parking permit**.
- Parking permits may be purchased from the Treasurer's Office. The \$20 fee is non-refundable.
- Parking is strictly limited to each student's designated parking spot.
- The school is not responsible for a vehicle or its contents.
- Students are not to go to their vehicles or to the parking lot at any time during the day without permission from an administrator. Students are asked to exit their vehicles once they arrive and not remain sitting in them.
- Speeding or any form of reckless driving to or from school or on school grounds is prohibited. Drive slowly!
- Student vehicles may be subject to search if there are reasonable grounds to believe that drugs, alcohol, stolen property, or other contraband might be present in that vehicle.
- All cars should be kept locked during school hours.
- Students parked illegally will be subject to disciplinary action and the car may be towed.
- Non-handicapped students are never to park in designated handicapped areas.

Please note: By bringing a vehicle onto school property, it is implied that the student consents to a search of the vehicle and its

contents by a school administrator with a reasonable suspicion that the search will produce evidence of a violation of law, a school rule, or a condition that endangers the safety or health of the student driver or others. The student shall have no expectation of privacy in any vehicle or in the contents of any vehicle operated or parked on school property.

Students who do not abide by MCHS automobile regulations face possible sanctions under the Code of Responsible Behavior, as well as the following: warning ticket, ticket with fine, suspension of driving privileges, and towing of the vehicle.

If you have any questions, please call the treasurer at 219-873-2044 ext 4305.

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## Open Door Adolescent Health Center

### Meet our New Mental Health Counselors



**Julie Leonard, BA, MC**

Julie Leonard is a Master Level Mental Health Counselor. Licensed in Illinois (LPC - Licensed Professional Counselor), Julie has experience in running group counseling, individual counseling, and the facilitation of educational information surrounding Healthy Relationships and Healthy Sexual Practices. Previous to ODAC, Julie was a Wraparound Facilitator at The Swanson Center. While in Illinois, Julie worked with Pregnant and Parenting Teens through individual and group counseling as well as prenatal and parenting classes. Additionally, Julie delivered Relationship/Sexual Health fact based education to classrooms in several school districts in the suburbs of Chicago. Julie loves Michigan City and is thrilled to join ODAC. Her focus at the clinic will be primarily on those students who are experiencing anxiety, depression, difficult life changes, and relationship issues. In her spare time, Julie teaches a Parenting Course for divorcing couples for the State of Indiana, visits her kids at their schools, and enjoys the beach and outdoor life with her husband and two crazy dogs, Sammy and Genoa.



**Cynthia Rupp, MS**

Cynthia has experience providing support and guidance to adolescents and young adults struggling with mental health issues and substance abuse. Cynthia has worked in various settings, Cook County Adolescent Drug Court as an Adolescent Addiction Counselor, residential and day school counselor, and assisted with one-on-one job training for students with disabilities in a school setting. Cynthia's counseling philosophy is student-centered and solution focused. She believes in a comprehensive counseling program that addresses the academic, career, and personal/social development of all students. She received her Master of Science in Counseling from Concordia University Wisconsin and undergraduate education through Purdue University. Cynthia enjoys spending time with her husband and four children, Ben, Anaia, Audrey and Will. They love to explore new areas, hiking and spend a lot of time outdoors. She also enjoys attending her children's sporting activities and theater productions.

# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



### From the Nurse

COVID is still spreading heavily. We have seen an increase in positive cases throughout the county as well as at school. If your student is not feeling well please keep them home to prevent the possibility of spreading COVID as well as any other illnesses. This is also flu season and that is easily spread as well. The district policy continues to be that if a student has two or more COVID symptoms while at school we have to send them home for a 10 day quarantine unless they test negative for COVID. The best preventative for spreading any illness is frequent hand washing and covering your mouth when coughing and sneezing.

Dawn Forney RN  
School Nurse



**Please cover your  
mouth when you  
sneeze or cough**



**Use a tissue or your  
sleeve. Throw tissue  
away straight away!**

### Music Department

Congratulations to **Vivian Taylor** (tenor saxophone) who was accepted into the Indiana Bandmasters All Region Honor Band. She performed in this band at Portage High School on November 14. Another huge congratulations to **Ashley Sparks** (oboe), **Kyra Krachinski** (flute), and **Sophia Barczak** (clarinet) who were accepted into the Indiana Bandmasters All District Honor Band. These ladies performed in this band on November 21 at Kankakee Valley High School.

Due to the pandemic, the **One City One Sound Concert** is going to be a little different this year. The concert will be **live streamed on the MCAS YouTube Channel and on local Channel 98 on December 23, 2021 at 7 pm.** Our music students have worked very hard to put together this concert for you and we hope that you will tune in and celebrate the holiday season with the MCAS Music Department. Students in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade choir from all 8 of our elementary schools, Barker and Krueger Middle School bands and choirs and the high school bands and choirs will all be featured during this event.

## One City One Sound



# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



## Student Success Coaches

### Executive Functions

What are executive functions? They are skills that help you organize and execute everyday tasks. An example of an executive function is planning your daily schedule in order to complete assignments on time, attend school events, and participate in extra-curricular activities. Being aware of things that you have to do keeps you on task and helps you be successful.

Keeping a planner is a good way to keep track of your time. If you don't have a planner, you can make a daily list of things you need to do and check them off each time you complete a task. At the end of the day look at the list and see how many things you accomplished. If you were not able to complete all of your goals for the day, simply add the unfinished items to the next day. By the end of the week you will have completed many things which will inspire you to achieve new goals every day.

### Caught You Being Kind

The recipients of Gift Certificates to the Student Store this month are:

#### Students

**Kierra Newsome**

**Lux Westphal**

**Mo Osorio**

#### Teachers

**Ms. Bormet**

**Mr. Layman**

Thank you to all those who have submitted names of persons demonstrating kindness in our school. Keep those names coming!





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## Art Department

Mrs. Whitler's Photography I students are working in the darkroom printing black and white film photos. Here are a few great photos by our talented students:



**Joey Zook**



**Ky'Reonna Finch**



**Lesley Avina-  
Ruiz**

# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



## Early College

### Early College Freshmen:

Each Grading Period, the Michigan City Early College freshmen team selects outstanding students for the ALPHA and WOLF Awards. The ALPHA Award goes to the student who had the highest grade out of all of the freshmen in the four core Early College classes. The WOLF Award goes to the student who not only has shown academic success but also integrity, grit, kindness, helpfulness, and is an all-around exemplary Early College student. The following students were the recipients for the First Grading Period.

Congratulations to the following students:

#### ALPHA Award Recipients

**Algebra** - Kaitlyn Milligan

**Biology** - Lamarreail Wilson

**English** - Brianna Bonds

**AP Human Geography** - John Zaknoun

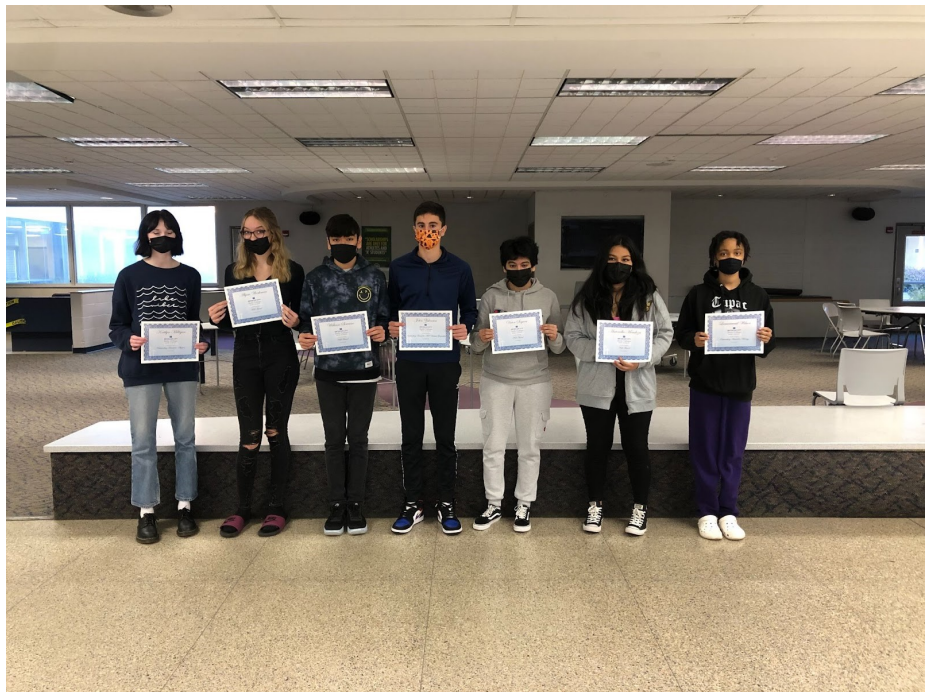
#### WOLF Award Recipients

Antonella Mendoza

Victor Segura

William Serrano

Alyssa Workman



# Congratulations!

# MCHS

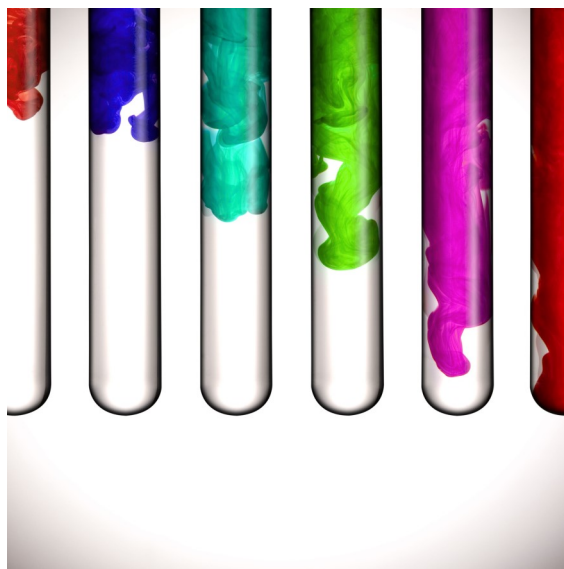
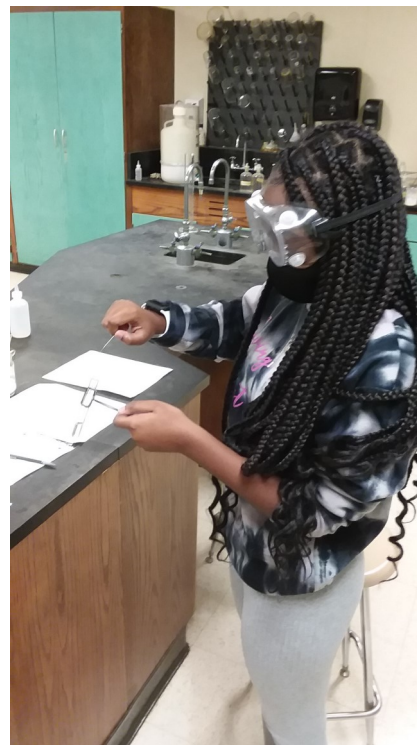
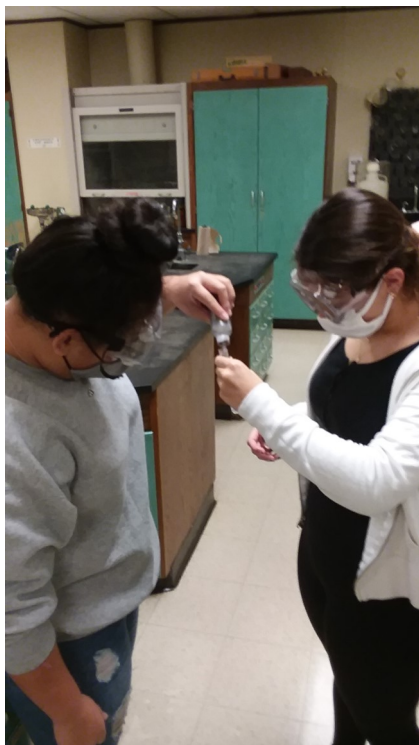
## Wolves

## Wire



## Science Department

Mr. Marz's Chemistry students performed experimental tests during a Qualitative Analysis Lab in order to identify 12 substances using a flow chart.





# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



## JROTC

### MCHS HONORS VETERANS

Michigan City High School (MCHS) conducted a ceremony honoring veterans on November 10th in the high school gym. It was done the day before Veterans Day because November 11th was a scheduled E Learning Day for the school. The ceremony was a modified military parade, featuring the MCHS band, choir and Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC). The guest speaker was Northwest Indiana's US Congressman Frank Mrvan. Congressman Mrvan recognized the sacrifices of veterans, of how they put "service over self." He also noted the performance of the band, choir and MCJROTC students as an example of the outstanding young men and women being educated at MCHS. Among the highlights of the event was the band playing the Armed Forces Medley, where veterans of their respective services were recognized when their service song was played. Another highlight was the choir singing the National Anthem and other patriotic songs. After echo taps, where those who died in the service of our country were remembered, the MCJROTC cadets marched in "pass and review" to conclude the ceremony.

The students who conducted the ceremony have no time to rest until the holiday break. The band and choir will be preparing for and performing in the One City One Sound holiday concert. Unfortunately, due to Covid concerns, the concert will be virtual. The MCJROTC cadets will host a military drill competition on Dec 4th at MCHS. JROTC schools from Illinois and Indiana will compete, with the judges being midshipmen from the University of Notre Dame. Admission is free and is open to the public. The cadets will then compete the following Saturday at Portage High School.





# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



### MCHS MCJROTC SUPPORTS THE SALVATION ARMY

While most Michigan City High School (MCHS) students were sleeping off the tough semi-state playoff football loss to Zionsville and starting their Thanksgiving break, the cadets of the MCHS Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC) were up early on Saturday morning, November 20th, to assist Michigan City chapter of the Marine Corps League with the Salvation Army's bell-ringing campaign. "Our cadets realize how many people the Salvation Army helps throughout LaPorte County, to include many MCHS students," said Senior Marine Instructor Major Tom McGrath. "These are the same cadets who are at the school daily at 5:45 am for military drill team practice. They also worked the football playoff game the previous night. They are truly unselfish kids."

Master Sergeant Jeff Benak, the Marine Instructor, said that this dedication to the school and community was typical of the cadets. "I am impressed with the work ethic that our cadets show in the classroom, on the drill deck, and supporting our community."

MCHS will be hosting a military drill meet on December 4th in the school gym. It is free and open to the public. Schools from throughout Indiana and Illinois will compete, with the judges coming from the University of Notre Dame ROTC. This meet is a precursor to the MJROTC Regional competition to be held at Purdue University in West Lafayette. The winner of that meet will be fully funded by the Marine Corps to compete in the National Championship meet in Daytona Beach, FL. This, like all MCJROTC activities, are done at no cost to the student.



Back row (l-r) Private First Class (PFC) Marcus Mantel, PFC Keith Hawley, PFC Matthew Wilson, PFC Dawson Cole.

Front row is Gunnery Sergeant William Tate (I) and PFC Damien Swartz. Cadet Major Declan Rice took the photo and led the cadets.

# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



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## Principal's Honor Roll

Congratulations to the 94 students that made the Principal's Honor Roll for the 1st grading period. To qualify for the Principal's Honor roll you must have all A's in every subject.

Check our website for the names of these students.

24 - Freshmen

18 - Sophomores

27 - Juniors

25 - Seniors

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## Academic Honor Roll

Congratulations to the 397 students that made the Academic Honor Roll for the 1st grading period. To qualify for the Academic Honor Roll students must have a 3.0 grade point average. A student will not be eligible for the Academic Honor Roll if they earn a grade of below a C on their report card.

Check our website for the names of these students.

128 - Freshmen

82 - Sophomores

98 - Juniors

89 - Seniors



# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



### Way to Go!



**Devyn Folino**, Early College senior, was honored at the November Exchange Club as their Student of the Month. Congratulations Devyn!



### Nicole Bormet, Rotary Club Teacher of the Year!



**Congratulations to Nicole Bormet**, English and Special Education teacher at Michigan City High School, who was selected to receive the 2021 Service Above Self Award for Teacher of the Year from the Michigan City Rotary Club!





# MCHS

## Wolves

## Wire



### Dates to Remember

12/02	Wolf Pack Round-Up - 5:00-6:00 pm
12/04	SAT Testing
12/04	JROTC Drill Competition - 8:30-3:00 pm
12/10	Foreign Language International Dinner - 5:00 pm
12/11	ACT Testing
12/11	Drive Through Canned Food Drive - 8:30-12:00 pm
12/20	Winter Break Starts
12/23	One City One Sound - Live Stream, 7:00 pm
01/03	School Resumes
01/14	End of Grading Period 2 (1st Semester)
01/14	Frozen, Jr. - 7:00 pm (Theatre)
01/15	Frozen, Jr. - 7:00 pm (Theatre)
01/16	Frozen, Jr. - 2:00 pm (Theatre)
01/17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday - No School

# MCHS



Calling all 8th graders and families: Public, private, charter, and homeschoolers!

Michigan City High School

# Wolf Pack Roundup!



Thursday, December 2  
5:00 p.m.

Michigan City High School  
8466 W. Paks Road



**TAKE A TOUR**

**MEET COUNSELORS & PRINCIPALS**

**LEARN ABOUT CLASSES, ATHLETICS, and CLUBS**

- ✓ Find out about our four "schools within a school": Honors College, Early College, Core Academy, and P.A.C.K. Academy
- ✓ Get the scoop on Career & Technical Education and Graduation Pathways
- ✓ **PLUS:** Information on the "Michigan City Promise" Scholarship

**Attention, Athletes!**  
Meet coaches for all teams at Wolfpack Round Up and get info on playing sports in high school!



- ✓ Discover how you will save **THOUSANDS** of \$\$\$\$ on college through dual credit, AP, and Early College
- ✓ Hear about our JROTC program, our in-school health clinic, and more!

*So much to howl about!*



District Office for Title I Services

## # ONE CITY ONE PACK!

Discover what's in store for **YOU** as you take it to the next level in high school!



*Attention, Michigan City!*

**CAN WE DO IT?**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2021**

**9:00 am - NOON**

**Drive-through and donate food at Ames Field**

*Nonperishable items only, please! Food collected will be provided to the Salvation Army of Michigan City food pantry.*

**Which MCAS school can collect the MOST?**

*Community members encouraged to donate...  
you can designate your donation on behalf of your favorite school.*

*Last December, MCAS donated 2.9 TONS of food.*

*CAN we top that this year?*

***Sponsored by MCHS Student Council***



*It's the most **wonderful** time of the year....*  
**to purchase a 2021-2022 yearbook!**

*Give the **gift** of **memories***  
*and order now at*  
**Jostens.com.**

