



THE NORTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

MESSAGE

February 2013

North Central High School
MSD of Washington Township
1801 East 86th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46240
www.nchs.cc

Phone: 259-5301 Attendance: 259-5355 Fax: 259-5369 Guidance: 259-5946 Athletics: 259-5359

From the PTO . . .

From the Principal . . .

Hello North Central Families:

We are off to a good start for 2013 and the PTO is looking forward to another great semester!

As always, we thank you for your support, whether that is contributing your time, talents or monetary donations. If you didn't have a chance to donate to the PTO, it's not too late! Just send your contribution to NCHS, c/o PTO Treasurer, 1801 E. 86th St., Indianapolis, IN 46240.

A big thank you to Stacy Lozer and her team who organized and distributed the Panther Particulars last week. There are a few extra copies available for purchase at the Bookstore for \$5 each. An email was also sent out with instructions on how to access the FREE online version of the directory through ArkNet.

PTO volunteers serve in many ways at North Central and we are always looking for additional volunteers. Please email me if you have a particular interest or would like to be added to the general volunteer list.

Did you realize that every Friday you or any member of our community can take a tour of North Central High School? It's free, and all you have to do is ask. Sara Lootens and her tour guide group are trained to give a walking overview, all the while knowing the details that are often asked. This is no small task and they handle it beautifully, both for those interested in attending North Central, and for those with students already here who just want to learn more. A heartfelt thanks goes to these volunteers who take their time to show what most of us have already realized – North Central High School is a great place to be!

Please stop by North Central on Friday, February 15, for Bagels with Branigan in Room H193 at 7:30 am. This is an incredible opportunity to ask Principal Branigan any question and learn the inside scoop on what is happening at North Central.

Thanks for your continued support,
Becky Volk
PTO President
beckyvolk65@yahoo.com or 490-6001

North Central Families,

The short month of February is upon us, and we still have much to accomplish at North Central. Students are steadfastly preparing themselves for future opportunities and experiences as teachers continue to challenge and inspire. We must continue to foster the lines of communication between home and school to insure that we reach our shared goals. These goals include producing informed citizens, college and career ready graduates, and fostering students whom we can be proud of and celebrate. As partners in this process, I ask that we continue our collaborative efforts.

February is a busy month at North Central and our students will be showcasing their talents in a variety of realms. Athletically, sectional tournaments begin for our Winter sports teams. Bring the family out to watch and cheer on our Panthers as they pursue their collective dream of being state champions. Performing Arts competitions take place throughout the month. Take the time to witness one of our talented show choirs, bands, or orchestras as they prepare to display their talents against local and state competition. For the theatre buffs, One Act Plays provide a great opportunity to witness student directed and performed plays. February is a great month to be a Panther.

On many fronts we hear about student and school success. As educators and parents, we have our own interpretation of what we deem as a successful student and child. These goals, aspirations or even expectations related to success help guide and motivate our charges but let's not forget that success is relative to the individual. As we continue to provide the scaffolding and tools needed to be contributing members of society, I ask that we not forget those individual successes that might not garner much attention from the masses, but to an individual, it means the world.

"Success"

"To laugh often and much; To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; To earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; To appreciate beauty, to find the best in others; To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived.

This is to have succeeded."

Bessie Stanley

Continuing the Tradition of Excellence,

Evans Branigan III
Principal

Important Parent Information

You can track your student's grades and attendance, add lunch money to his/her account, pay book rental, purchase gym uniforms, find daily events on the school calendar and much more by visiting our website: www.nchs.cc. The website has a comprehensive directory along the top to help guide you to different areas of information:

- To find the **directory** for the faculty and staff at North Central, go to **Contact Us**, scroll to **Directories** and click **School Directory**. You will be able to view the Directory document by clicking **Here**.
- The online **school calendar** is located on the right side of the main page, it is updated daily.
- To access your student's grades, attendance and schedule, go to **Quick Links** on the top guide, click on **Parent Link (ARKNet)**, then click **"Sign me up."** You can also receive the monthly **North Central Message** newsletter via email when you sign up with Parent Link (ARKNet).
- The **North Central Message** is posted monthly on our main page, look for **NC Message**.
- A convenient way to communicate with teachers is through email. You can ask questions or set up an appointment to talk with a teacher or to visit their class without having to leave a voice-mail and wait for an answer. If you prefer to use the voice-mail system, the following information may help: dial 259-5355, press 9 for a directory, enter the first 3 letters of the person's last name, and press 2 to leave a message.
- You will find other important updated information, a showcase link of our school, and other featured links located towards the bottom of the website on the right side.

Please take advantage of this opportunity so North Central can keep you informed!

February 2013

(Events are subject to change)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Summer School 2013 Session One: June 4 - 24 Session Two: June 25 - July 16 (no school on Thursday, July 4) Class Times: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.					1 8am, PTO Executive Board Meeting, H193	2 Speech Team, State Congress, Kokomo H.S. 2-5pm, Black History Month Program, PAC
3	4 7pm, Band Winter Pops Concert, Auditorium	5 8am-7pm, FAFSA Day, PC Lab	6 2013-14 Course Selection Sheets Due during Period 3	7 7pm, Dick Dennis Concert, Auditorium	8 End of 3rd Interim Report Period 4:30-8pm, Best Buddies Spaghetti Dinner, Cafeteria	9 9:30am & 11am Tootsie Pops Concert, Auditorium
10	11 7pm, Grade 8 Parent Night, Auditorium	12 6:30pm, Performing Arts Choir Auditions, K211 6:30pm, Grade 8 Cohort Information Session Night, H178	13	14  <i>Valentine's Day</i> 8pm, Counterpoints Parent Preview Show, Auditorium	15 3rd Appraisal Report distributed, Pd. 3 Senior Blood Drive 7:30am, PTO Bagels with Mr. Branigan, H193 6-9pm, Latin Club Spaghetti Sauce Cook-off, Cafeteria	16 Show Choir Contest, Ben Davis Vocal & Piano ISSMA Solo & Ensemble Contest, Perry Meridian 5-8pm, Ladies First Club Fashion Show, Cafeteria
17	18 <i>Presidents' Day</i> NO SCHOOL, unless needed for make-up	19 7pm, Orchestra Parent Organization (OPO) Mtg., E168	20	21 7pm, BPO Mtg., E168 7pm, One Acts, PAC 7pm, IU Groups Meeting, Auditorium	22 4pm, One Acts, PAC 7pm, One Acts, PAC	23 Show Choir Competition, Mooresville Band & Orchestra ISSMA State Contest, NC Campus 7:30am-1:30pm, Saturday Science, N Hall
24 2pm, College Goal Sunday, Various Indy Locations	25	26	27 7pm, Methodist Sports Medicine Presentation, Auditorium	28		

Save the Date - Great North Run

Gather your friends, family and neighbors and join in the fun of the morning. Run or walk the 1K, 5K, or 10K course and help support the Washington Township Foundation and our schools.

The Great North Run will be **Saturday, March 9** at North Central High School. Races will start at 9:00 a.m.

Fitness Fair - 1K Fun Run - 5K and 10K Run/Walk

For additional details about registration and the day of the race, please visit www.wtsfoudation.org.

SAVE THE DATE

MARCH 20 JUNIOR NIGHT

More detailed and up-to-date calendar information can be found on our school website: <http://www.nchs.cc>.

GUIDANCE Department

College Scholarships

Mrs. Tracy Gilbert, College Assistant and Scholarship Liaison in the Guidance Office, will be receiving various scholarship materials throughout the year. Stop by the scholarship corner and help yourself to a variety of opportunities offered by institutions, corporations, and community groups. Also, seniors may access all scholarship information and any downloadable applications via **Naviance**. The following are representative of scholarships available with important deadline dates:

- Nancy Jaynes Memorial Breast Cancer Awareness Scholarship
www.breastcancerplate.org, Deadline Feb. 1
- Sallie Mae/Brandon Teacher Scholarship
Deadline February 15
- Indiana Pacers George Hill Scholarship
Deadline February 22
- NC Alumni Assoc. Merit Scholarship
Deadline March 1
- NC Alumni Assoc. Laikin Leadership & Diversity Scholarship
Deadline March 1
- Steven Drybread Memorial Scholarship
Deadline March 1
- Roberta Quandt Memorial Scholarship
Deadline March 1
- Greenbriar Elementary School Alumni Scholarship, Deadline March 15
- Central Indiana Community Foundation
www.cicf.org, Deadline April 1

Upcoming AP Testing

AP Testing Application for Scholarship forms may be picked up in the Guidance Office. Make a note of the following important dates:

- February 15 Planning Sheet & Scholarship Deadline**
- March 4-15 Registration for AP tests**

Keep these dates in mind and watch for more information as the time nears.

Please see Mrs. Meinert in the Guidance Office with any questions.

College Consultations for Juniors

The Junior year is the optimal time to start the college search process. Juniors are encouraged to schedule a meeting with Mrs. Susie Bremen, Coordinator for College Counseling, to talk about the college search process. The **"My College Search"** form **must be completed before a meeting can be scheduled**. Forms are available in the Guidance Office and may be submitted to Mrs. Gilbert who will then schedule an appointment during periods 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 or 10. Juniors may also drop by Mrs. Bremen's office after 3:00 p.m. with brief questions. Parents are encouraged to attend the meetings and participate in the process.

JUNIOR NIGHT

"Inside the College Admission Office"
Wednesday, March 20, 7 p.m.
North Central Auditorium

This meeting is for **ALL** juniors and parents!
Mark your calendars now!

Those in attendance will be the first to receive The College Handbook, specifically designed for the college and scholarship search process for North Central students.

ACT Test Strategy

ZAPS ACT Test Prep will be back at North Central soon. A two-day seminar will be held on **March 4 & 5** from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. each day. The cost is \$79 for the seminar. Some scholarships are available. Don't miss it!

Absent from school? Need homework?

Talk to the Teacher

Students should speak with teachers about where and how to get missed work (some teachers may have a box or file in the room where students can pick up any worksheets).

Contact the Homework Hotline

Students can verify homework assignments by calling their teacher's voice-mail at 259-5355 plus extension number. The directory is available online at www.nchs.cc.

If a student will be gone for several days, please ask teachers to leave homework in the Homework Collection Box located just outside of the Guidance Office, Door #L258.

Visiting College Campuses

Seniors and Juniors are allowed two school days annually to make official visits to colleges and universities. The process for scheduling these visits is outlined on page 103 in the North Central 2012-13 Student Calendar Handbook distributed to all students at the beginning of the school year. Students are expected to talk with teachers prior to a college visit to notify them of the upcoming absence and to discuss what is expected in order to make up missed class time and work. The **College Campus Visit Form**, available in the Attendance Office, must be completed and signed by a parent, the student, and an administrator prior to the visit. An official letter from the college admission office verifying the visit is also required. If you are planning a college visit, be sure to refer to the Student Handbook and follow the steps outlined. Failure to follow the procedure may result in an unexcused absence.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

www.fafsa.ed.gov

- The FAFSA is used by college and university financial aid offices to determine eligibility for grants, low-interest loans, the college work-study program and sometimes scholarships. Indiana colleges generally require the form to be filed by **March 1 of the senior year**, but some out-of-state colleges have earlier deadlines. Be sure to check the priority date for your schools of interest.
- Applying after their deadline could mean missing out on funds.

Filing Tips:

- Read and follow the instructions.
- File on-line; Seniors and their parents each need PIN numbers.
- Complete the FAFSA based on your 2012 tax forms, or use estimates and make updates once taxes are filed.
- File early.
- Make sure to print a copy for your files.

Need help completing the FAFSA?

- Thanks to the PTO and a generous grant from the Washington Township Schools Foundation (WTSF), we are again able to offer FAFSA Day.
- Experts from The National Center for College Cost (NCCC) will be on hand to assist all attendees in completing the FAFSA line-by-line.
- Gather your Social Security number, driver's license, income tax returns, bank statements, and investment records, and head to:

FAFSA DAY

at North Central High School
Tuesday, February 5
8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
in the PC Lab

No appointment necessary

College Cost Estimator for all Grades

The National Center for College Costs (NCCC) offers **free** services to all NC families as they prepare for college. You can complete the College Cost Estimator on their website, www.collegecosts.com, from which they can provide strategies and advice on how to pay for college. Their site also covers college selection ideas, timelines, financial aid, application and admission issues. This service was included in your Freshman Book Rental/Lab fees as Financial Plan (\$5 charge). Please take advantage of these services.

Tutoring Available

North Central's Information Center hours are 7 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The upper Information Center becomes the After-School Learning Center at 3:15 p.m. with paid adult tutors in major academic areas and is available free of charge! Students **MUST** show their current ID card to enter the Information Center or the After-School Learning Center. Take advantage of these great opportunities offered here at North Central.

College Entrance Exam Test Registration Deadlines:

Test	Test Date	Regular Deadline	Late Registration
SAT Reasoning	March 9	February 8	February 22
ACT	April 13	March 8	March 22

Testing is available on the Sundays after these national testing dates at the Hasten Hebrew Academy.

Mark your calendar . . .

Choir and Accompanists Auditions for 2013-14

North Central Choir Auditions for Singers and Piano Accompanists who are **not** currently enrolled in a North Central Choir:

2013-14 School Year
Wednesday, February 6
3:15 p.m., K211

Auditions are for in-coming 9th graders **not** currently enrolled in choir at Westlane, Eastwood, or Northview Middle Schools, upper grade level transfer and private school students.

2013-14 School Year
Tuesday, February 12
(Weather cancellation date, February 13)
6:30 p.m., K211
Enter Door #11

If you have any questions about our choral program, do not hesitate to contact us.

Pat Wiehe, Choral Director at North Central High School, pwiehe@msdwt.k12.in.us
Joyce Click, Choral Director at North Central High School, jclick@msdwt.k12.in.us

Seventh Annual Dick Dennis Memorial Concert

Thursday, February 7, 7 p.m.
NCHS Auditorium

This program will feature over 200 students representing all three of North Central's fabulous orchestras. The Hoffmeister Viola Concerto will be performed by North Central senior and Dennis Endowment Scholarship recipient, Evyon Lewis.

The end of the concert will pay tribute to Mr. Dennis with a Mancini Medley and a special encore. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$1 for children 12 and under. Questions, please contact Mr. Ghormley at 317-259-5301 ext. 45212 or cghormley@msdwt.k12.in.us

Frequently Requested Numbers

Attendance	259-5355
Transportation	254-5510
NC FAX	259-5369
JEL	259-5265

In honor of
Black History Month,
North Central's Black History Club
will present

"I Am The Dream", a program that will encourage students, their parents, and the community to learn from the past, live in the present, and plan for the future, on February 2, 2013, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Performance Arts Classroom. A donation of \$5 will be taken at the door, which will help fund the Spring Break College Tour. Please contact Kristy Jones for more information at kljones@msdwt.k12.in.us.

Annual Softball Flower Sale starting in February. Place your prepaid order with a softball team member. Flowers will be available for pick up in May...just in time for Mother's Day!

Two-hour delay...

School begins at 9:25 a.m. on Two-hour delay days. Be on the watch for MSD of Washington Township Schools with local media outlets.

North Central Band Honors

Indiana Bandmaster All Region Honor Band

Emma Breeze - French Horn
Owen Kraft - Trumpet
Sydney Roach - Tenor Sax
Owen Royal - Trombone
Luke Smith - Alto Sax
Nick Snider - Trumpet
Noelle Snider - Alto Sax
Sean Szolek-VanValkenbur - Clarinet
Lexi Wood - Bassoon

Indiana Bandmaster Jr. All State Band

Emma Freeze - French Horn Alternate
Owen Kraft - Trumpet
Sydney Roach - Tenor Sax Alternate
Luke Smith - Alto Sax
Nick Snider - Trumpet
Sean Szolek-VanValkenbur - Clarinet
Lexi Wood - Bassoon

Bloomington Jazz Festival

Ben Stueve - Outstanding Soloist Award

Indiana All State Orchestra

Sylwin Yang—French Horn

Tootsie Pops Concert Saturday, February 9 Two shows 9:30 and 11 am North Central Auditorium

This program is designed to introduce pre-school and elementary age children to the sounds and sights of orchestra music. Following the concert, young guests will have the opportunity to visit the musical instrument "petting zoo" where they will be able to try a string, percussion, or wind instrument.

Advanced sales: contact Leigh at 570-1653.

North Central Theatre will present the Annual ONE-ACT Plays

Thursday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, February 22, 4:00 & 7:00 p.m.
NCHS Performing Arts Classroom

This year we are proud to present the dark comedy Chamber Music by Arthur Kopit and the adventure drama The Lost World by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, adapted by John de Lancie. Chamber Music is being directed by Dan Lipson, assisted by Maggie Eickhoff. The Lost World is being directed by Lizzy Gering, assisted by Austin Kirch. Tickets will be available at the door for \$7.

Senior Dates to Remember....*mark your calendar!*

- **Ticket Sales for Parent Appreciation Luncheon, April 22-26, CASH ONLY**
- **Ticket Sales for Grad Dance & Blast Off, May 6-10, CASH ONLY**
- All arrears must be cleared by **May 15** to receive your cap and gown, **cash or credit card only**, checks will **not** be accepted.
- **Cap and Gown Distribution, May 22**
- **Senior Parent Appreciation Luncheon, May 22, 10:30 a.m., Ritz Charles**
- **Baccalaureate, May 22, 7 p.m., NCHS Auditorium**
- **Commencement Required Practice, May 23, 8 - 11:30 a.m., Indiana Convention Center**
- **Commencement, May 23, 7 p.m., Indiana Convention Center**
- **Graduation Dinner Dance, May 24, 7 - 11 p.m., TBA**
- **Blast Off, May 24-May 25, 11:59 p.m. - 3 a.m.** (following the Grad Dinner Dance) in the NCHS Main Gym (parent volunteers encouraged!) Co-chairs; Pam Freese at mhfreese@aol.com and Leigh Lazon at lazon@comcast.net

April 15, is the last day for Seniors to write checks for any purchase within North Central. Afterwards, only cash or credit card will be accepted.