



THE NORTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

MESSAGE

October 2013

North Central High School  
MSD of Washington Township  
1801 East 86th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46240  
[www.nchs.cc](http://www.nchs.cc)

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From the PTO . . .

The year is off to a great start thanks to many, many generous volunteers—and most of it happened even before the first day of school!

The school put on another successful PantherQuest with a record number of incoming students attending as well as record numbers of parents who came to our ParentQuest. A heartfelt "YOU ROCK!" to co-chairs Dena Rae Hancock and Kathy Brown, who came back to help for "one more time", as well as to the handful of parents who helped with check-in each day. And, of course, to Mr. Vermillion, Ms. Vinson, Mrs. Rodgers and all of the Student Leaders—PantherQuest ROCKS!

Thank you to all of the many enthusiastic volunteers that gave their time to help with Registration this year. We cannot thank Becky Volk (last year's PTO President, if the name sounds familiar!) enough for her awesome and tireless organization of the day. Also a big thank you goes out to our group of volunteers who set a speed record organizing and labeling almost 3500 student planners that are distributed to all North Central students. That ROCKS!

The dynamic team of Leigh Purcell and Karen Hamilton came back again this year to chair our Back-to-School Faculty and Staff Breakfast (Bless you!). The breakfast was fabulous thanks to Leigh and Karen and the many wonderful volunteers who donated fresh-baked food items and set up the buffet very early in the morning! We had rock-themed raffle prizes to show our appreciation for our teachers and staff because...THEY ROCK!

Melissa Keesling and her committee were organized and efficient making sure ID photos were taken of every teacher and student during the first few days of school.

We would also like to thank Cathi Wineland, our Volunteer Coordinator, for entering all of the information from your Count-on-Me forms and Mindi Kincade, our PTO Treasurer, for collecting and recording all of your generous donations to the PTO.

On Friday, October 18 at 7:30 am, all parents are invited to "Bagels with Branigan". Start your day at North Central with a cup of coffee and an informal chat with our Principal, Mr. Bryant Branigan. This is a great opportunity to ask questions or just listen to the latest NCHS happenings. We've also added two "Brownies with Branigan" to our schedule this year as a nighttime alternative to the "Bagels" meetings. Those meetings will be November 11 and March 10 at 7:00 pm.

If you purchased a bound copy of the student/parent directory, Panther Particulars, it will be distributed in late October. The book will come home with your eldest NCHS student, and you will receive an email notice on the day of distribution so you can be sure to ask for it. If you forgot to order your copy, you may purchase one in the bookstore while supplies last.

Thanks for all you do to support North Central! YOU ROCK!!

Sarah Combs and Stacy Lozer, PTO Presidents  
[Sarah.combs@att.net](mailto:Sarah.combs@att.net) and [stacylozer@mac.com](mailto:stacylozer@mac.com)

From the Principal . . .

Happy October North Central Families,

The newness of school has waned and summer is but a distant memory. School is in full swing and students and families have been taking advantage of the many activities hosted thus far. Our student athletes and coaches appreciate your show of support at our many athletic events. Those involved on the stage and behind the curtain appreciated your patronage at the fall play, *Almost Maine*, and at the Fall Band Festival which was a huge success. If you haven't had the opportunity to participate in any of our events thus far, I strongly encourage you to take a look at the North Central calendar and find an event that satisfies your interests and at the same time demonstrates your support for our students.

As an IB candidate school, I'm pleased to report that our students are demonstrating, but still learning, how to be *balanced* members of our learning environment. Balanced students understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve well-being for themselves and others. Although we take pride in our academic rigor and broad selection of course options, we're equally as proud of our club, co-curricular and extra-curricular offerings. Our students continue to demonstrate a sense of responsibility for their school and community.

Nine weeks grade reports will soon be arriving home and we hope you take the time to examine and discuss the content of the reports with your child. We utilize the nine week grade reports to provide a snapshot into student performance. Although we provide reports every nine weeks, as parents you have access to grades at any time through Edline. Never be surprised by a report card. By using Edline, you can institute interventions sooner or make contact with a teacher as needed. Beyond Edline, we also utilize Homework Hotline as a way by which to keep parents and guardians informed. If your child is absent from class, just dial Homework Hotline and your child can keep up with their assignments while absent.

Fall break is just around the corner, and I hope you and yours have a relaxing and rejuvenating break. Although a short month, October is a busy month. Be sure to check the school calendar for upcoming events.

On behalf of an appreciative faculty and staff, thank you for sharing the best of you with us.

Yours in Education,

Evans Branigan III  
Principal



This annual event showcases the best qualities of North Central and what it offers perspective students. This year's Open House co-chairs are Sarah Combs, [sarah.combs@att.net](mailto:sarah.combs@att.net), and Stacy Lozer, [stacylozer@mac.com](mailto:stacylozer@mac.com).

NORTH CENTRAL  
OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, November 3  
2 - 5 pm

Parent and student volunteers are needed to make the Open House a success. If you can volunteer your time for this very worthwhile event, please contact Cathi Wineland, [cathiwineiland@comcast.net](mailto:cathiwineiland@comcast.net).

## NOTABLE NEWS ITEMS . . .

### Upcoming Performing Arts Events

- ⇒ **October 5th**, King's Court Singers will perform at the Fishers Renaissance Faire at Saxony throughout the day.
- ⇒ **October 15th**, Marching Band Concert - The North Central Marching Panthers will present a concert in the NCHS Performing Arts Classroom at 7 pm, featuring the North Central Dance Team. This is a free concert.
- ⇒ **October 17th**, NC Band Parent Organization (BPO) Meeting. The meeting will be at 7 pm in room E168.
- ⇒ **October 18th**, Marching Panther Seniors Honored at Senior Night Football Game - The Panthers will take on the Dearborn Pioneers (MI). Kickoff is at 7 pm, and senior members of the football team, senior cheerleaders, and Marching Panther seniors will be recognized during halftime at the halftime ceremony.
- ⇒ **October 19th**, The Marching Panthers will perform at Butler University as featured guests during the pregame show. The halftime show will honor the career of Dr. Robert Grechesky, Director of Bands at Butler university. The Bulldogs will host Drake University - kickoff is at 1 pm.
- ⇒ **October 21st**, North Central Fall Jazz Concert, Performing Arts Classroom at 7 pm. The Jazz Lab Band and Jazz Ensemble will be featured at this concert, along with guest soloist Leonard Foy from DePauw University. Mr. Foy has been featured in both jazz and classical performance arts throughout the United States, Canada, France, Italy, Spain, Turkey, Finland, Argentina, England and Russia. Tickets can be purchased at the door: \$3 for adults and students, \$1 for children 12 and under.
- ⇒ **October 28th**, Fall Choir Concert, the Accents and the Rondos will present a program at 7pm in the Performing Arts Classroom. Tickets can be purchased at the door: \$3 for adults and students, \$1 for children 12 and under.
- ⇒ **October 29th**, Fall Choir Concert, the Varsity Singers and Descants will perform at 7 pm in the Performing Arts Classroom. Tickets can be purchased at the door: \$3 for adults and students, \$1 for children 12 and under.
- ⇒ **October 30th**, The Ambassadors and Allegros will present their Fall programs during their class periods in the Performing Arts Classroom.

### Senior Grad Ad and Yearbook Deadlines

Parents! Don't forget to order a Grad Ad for your senior son or daughter by Tuesday, October 15, 2013

Also, make sure you order a yearbook before the winter deadline. To order go to [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) or call 866-282-1516.

Questions?

Contact Tom Gayda, [tgayda@msdwt.k12.in.us](mailto:tgayda@msdwt.k12.in.us)

### Help our School Earn Free Equipment & You Could Win Free Groceries!

The more you shop at Marsh, O'Malia's or MainStreet Market the more chances you have to win Free Groceries.\* Register by November 15, 2013 and receive an additional chance to win each time you scan your Fresh IDEA card, O'Malia's CouponPlus card or MainStreet Market Reward\$ card.

Log on to [www.marsh.net](http://www.marsh.net) to register the 12-digit card number on the back of your Marsh Fresh IDEA card, O'Malia's CouponPlus card, or MainStreet Market Reward\$ card for our school code **28834**. This automatically earns credit for our school, and earns you an additional entry every time you use the above mentioned cards. \*See official rules at [www.freshideasforeducation.com/rules](http://www.freshideasforeducation.com/rules).

### Picture Retakes

Picture retake day for students and staff will be Friday, **October 4**, in the Upper Atrium from 7:00 am - 2:30 pm. This applies to those who have not had their picture taken and those who want a picture retake. If this is your first picture, you will need to complete an order form (available in Ms. Britain-Smith's office, D588, or at the Front Desk) and submit it to the photographer with payment. If you are having a retake, you will need to return the original portrait package to the photographer. If the original portrait package is not returned at the time of the picture retake, you will need to pay for another package.

**START**   
your day the right way  
with **School Breakfast!**

 School Breakfast will give you **MORE** energy, keep your body healthy and help improve your grades!

School Name: **North Central High School**  
Breakfast Times: **7:00-7:25 a.m.**  
Prices: **\$1.25 complete meal + ala carte items**  
Location Served: **NC Cafeteria**  
Other Info: **Meal Assistance includes breakfast for qualified students at free and reduced prices.**



### MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM (MYP) INFORMATION

Though NCHS has been an IB diploma school since 1988, we are in the process of becoming authorized to be an MYP school; the Middle Years Program involves all students in grades 6-10. As MYP coordinator, I have been overseeing the implementation of the program for the past two years. This November will be a very exciting month for us here at NCHS as an IB team will be visiting to assess our readiness for authorization. During their three-day visit, the team will not only talk to those of us who work and go to school here: the principal, teachers and students, but also they will want to talk with parents to ensure that the NCHS community as a whole supports and is committed to the pursuit of excellence in international education that IB demands. To this end, the Authorization Team will evaluate whether or not there is evidence that NCHS has embraced the philosophy, aims, objectives, standards and practices that comprise MYP. "Authorization" means that we have received permission from IB to call ourselves an MYP school and will thereafter be globally recognized as participants in the program.

Jocelyn Sisson  
MYP Coordinator  
[jsisson@msdwt.k12.in.us](mailto:jsisson@msdwt.k12.in.us)



# October 2013

(Events are subject to change.)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<b>1</b> <b>Nine Week Tests</b> 2-8pm, National College Fair, Indy Convention Center	<b>2</b> <b>Nine Week Tests</b> 7pm, Westside College Fair, Ben Davis H.S.	<b>3</b> <b>Nine Week Tests</b> 6:30pm, Hamilton County College Fair, Hamilton Southeastern H.S.	<b>4</b> <b>Nine Week Tests End of 1st Nine Week Period</b> 7am-2:30pm, Picture Re-takes, Upper Atrium	<b>5</b> SAT Test, NC King's Court - Development - Fishers Renaissance Faire at Saxony throughout the day
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<i>Fall Break: No School</i>						
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <i>Columbus Day</i>	<b>15</b> Marching Band Concert (PAC) 7 - 9pm  <b>Last day to turn in college forms to counselors for 11/1 deadline</b>	<b>16</b> PSAT Gr. 10 & 11, PLAN Gr. 9, during periods 1-3	<b>17</b> Journalism State Convention (Franklin College)  NC Band Parent Org. Mtg. 7pm E168	<b>18</b> <b>1st Nine Week Grades Distributed</b> 7:30am, PTO Bagels with Branigan, H193  9:00pm Senior Bonfire	<b>19</b> 9am, Zaps ACT Prep Seminar, L249
<b>20</b> 3pm, National Honor Society Induction, PAC	<b>21</b> 7 - 8:30pm Fall Jazz Band Concert (PAC)	<b>22</b> Homeroom - Grade 12, receive order info for cap/gown/announcements	<b>23</b>  <a href="http://www.wtsfoundation.org">www.wtsfoundation.org</a>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> ACT Test, NC Upper H Hall  2pm NYU Reception in Indy
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 7pm, Fall Choir Concert #1 (PAC)	<b>29</b> 7pm, Fall Choir Concert #2 (PAC)	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <i>Halloween</i>  2013-14 Book Rental & Lab Fees Due	October 29th and 30th - Senior orders for cap/gown/announcements due during lunch periods in the Student Center. 	

FIRST 9 WEEK GRADES OF THE SCHOOL YEAR!			COLLEGE VISITS		
Date	Time	College/University	Date	Time	College/University (Subject to change)
10/1	1:00 pm	Albion College	10/1	6:00 pm	Indy National College Fair -Convention Ctr.
10/2	7:25 am	Boston University	10/2	1:50 pm	University of Arizona
10/2	7:00 pm	Westside College Fair (Ben Davis HS)	10/3	8:21 am	Valparaiso University
10/3	9:17 am	Tufts University	10/3	11:52 am	Ohio University
10/3	6:30 pm	Hamilton Co. College Fair (HSE)	10/15	9:07 am	Indiana State University
10/24	8:21 am	Wittenberg University	10/24	12:54 pm	Manchester University
10/25	12:54 pm	New York University	10/26	2:00 pm	New York University Reception (TBD)
10-28	9:17 am	Otterbein University	10/31	12:54 pm	Earlham College
11/11	9:17 am	Chicago College of Performing Arts			

## Artistically Talented

The art teachers of Washington Township have designed a township-wide program for artistically talented students to study world-changing artists & artworks of different period & cultures. The program for the 2013-2014 school year will be an art experience from September through March including field trips, an artists' studio workshop and studio sessions with the art teachers.

The elementary school program consists of a full year session with a total of 16 students per school. The middle school and high school program consists of one session running September through March with 14 to 24 students all year depending on the school.

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

# GUIDANCE, Other Info . . .

## Preparing North Central Students

On **October 16**, North Central embarks on another adventure in test preparation and college entrance testing. All grade levels will be involved:

**Grade 9** students will take the PLAN, a combined career planning survey and practice ACT, the college entrance test based on achievement in reading, English, science, and math.

**Grade 10** students will take the Preliminary SAT (or PSAT) as practice for the SAT, the college entrance test based on problem-solving skills in critical reading, mathematics and writing.

**Grade 11** students will take the PSAT as their qualifying exam for scholarship awards from the National Merit Scholarship Program, the National Hispanic Recognition Program, and the National Achievement Program (African American).

The activity planned for Grade 12 students will be addressed in a letter mailed to senior parents.

**The CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE form is required by many private colleges and out-of-state universities for financial aid consideration. Students and parents may register online at: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)**

## ACT Scores Top National Norms — Again!

One of Washington Township's most exciting stories is our extraordinary record of achievement, year after year after year.

In the most recent round of SAT and ACT tests, taken by many juniors and some sophomores, North Central High School once again scored well above the state and national averages for 2013.

Here's another example of our students surpassing state averages, and we can all be proud of their hard work.

ACT Scores 351 Students	Average Composite	Mathematics	English	Science	Reading
North Central	23.1	23.0	22.9	22.5	23.6
State	22.7	21.9	21.0	21.4	22.1

**November 1st is an Early Action (non-binding) admission deadline at many colleges and universities.** Students planning to meet this deadline must have their college materials submitted to their counselors by **October 15th**.

## NAVIANCE Family Connection - <http://connection.naviance.com/northcentral>

NAVIANCE Family Connection is a comprehensive web-based college management product that will assist you with all things related to the college search and application process. This online system will help you identify possible colleges, keep track of the colleges you are considering, stay current on which colleges are visiting North Central and sign up to meet with their representatives, create a resume, find scholarships, and more. We need your student's email address to create an account.

**Seniors & Juniors** - Do all of your college research through NAVIANCE. Track colleges you are considering and applying to and search for scholarships. See what colleges are visiting North Central and sign up to meet with them. Contact Guidance if you need your registration code to get started.

## Colleges Visiting North Central

**Seniors, Juniors and parents:** The Guidance Office brings in admission representatives from more than 100 colleges across the country during the fall semester. Colleges scheduled so far for October are listed on the calendar page in this edition. The list is updated regularly and is posted on NAVIANCE (click 'College', then click "view all upcoming college visits") and in the Guidance Office. Students can **ONLY** sign up on NAVIANCE and must have a 2.0 cumulative GPA to participate. Passes must be picked up in Guidance before first period the day of the college visit. Students must go to class first to get their passes signed by their teachers before attending the college meeting. Parents are welcome to attend the college sessions.

## Send Electronic Transcripts through Parchment - [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com)

This is a safe, efficient, paperless way to send secured official transcripts for college and scholarship applications and to the NCAA Clearinghouse. Register with the site and add transcript requests as you determine where you are applying. (NOTE: You will be prompted for a code, but it is not required and you can continue to register without one.)

### NC's Forms for College Applications

Our college application processing forms are stocked on the wall inside the Guidance Office near the Student Center entrance. These forms are used by your guidance counselor in processing your college applications. Students must hand in these forms to their counselors **in person**.

1. The **REQUIRED** Pink Application Cover Sheet & Blanket Release Form (permission to release your records) - **turn in one for each college.**
2. The Yellow Counselor Recommendation Worksheet (OPTIONAL)
3. The WHITE Student Information Sheet (OPTIONAL)
4. The GREEN Teacher Recommendation Form (if your college requires teacher recommendations)

## College Entrance Exams Test Registration Information

Test	Test Date	Regular Deadline	Late Registration
SAT	October 5	September 6	September 7 - 20
SAT	November 2	October 3	October 4 - 18
SAT	December 7	November 8	November 9 - 22
ACT	October 26	September 27	September 28 - October 11
	December 14	November 8	November 9 - 22

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

**Testing Locations are first come, first served.**