



THE NORTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

MESSAGE

January 2014

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

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From the PTO . . .

Happy 2014! The PTO is excited to share with you that our Teacher "Wish List" grants were awarded at the end of last semester. Giving out teacher grants is so rewarding. It is a good time to spark conversation with teachers about how we can help them. Teachers dug deep and we had a lot of great requests. The generous donations of parents and teachers alike make this process possible and resulted in over \$11,000 in distributions. That is \$11,000 of donated money straight from your generous pockets!

We granted wishes for a wide variety of items, such as art supplies to an English teacher trying to meet the new challenges of our district IB program, t-shirts to promote our students as they work in our community during MLK Day of service, teleprompters to train our morning announcers to deliver news in a more modern way, and a "silent" podium to replace the current squeaky podium for performing arts performances. We funded some extremely worthwhile programs and clubs as well as equipment such as digital cameras and hard drives. Unfortunately, there is never enough money to fund all teacher's wishes, but we feel like we made a big difference with what we were able to give. Whether by making everyday teaching easier, or by adding something innovative for students, we think you'll feel proud of how much we were able to give back to those who give so much to our students! Please see page four for a complete list.

Thanks to all who donated and helped first semester. YOU ROCK! If you would still like to donate, please send in a donation to the NCHS PTO in care of the school and we will continue our efforts to fund our teacher's wishes.

Remember, we are just half way through the school year and there are still plenty of opportunities to get involved. Let us know if you want to be added to the General Volunteer email list. We will add you to the hundreds of volunteers who receive our pleas for help on an as-needed basis.

ROCK ON, NC!

Sarah Combs and Stacy Lozer
PTO Presidents
sarah.combs@att.net, 250-2012
stacylozer@mac.com, 439-1889

From the Principal . . .

Welcome back North Central.

Happy New Year! Hopefully you've enjoyed your time with friends and family over the Winter Break. The two week reprieve from the daily schedule should have been the perfect time for you to relax and catch up on your fun reading and taking some time for you. At school, we were busy trying to get ready for the first day of the second semester. Rooms were given a good once over while upgrades were made to the building. After 20 years of service, we finally had to retire the fading wall mats in the gym. Once again we have North Central Red in the gymnasium. Little did we know that Mother Nature had alternative plans for the first day of school.

With the start of a new semester begins a new opportunity to reinvent one's self academically. Students have the opportunity to demonstrate their strengths and learn from past academic missteps as they move into the new semester. Both at home and school, we need to remind and reinforce to our students that the new semester should be viewed as a fresh start.

January is a busy time at North Central as we acclimate to the daily schedule and renew our commitment to social and academic excellence. Although January might be remembered for the school cancellations, I believe January will be remembered for Junior Spectacular 2014. This year we had more SPEC acts try out than many can remember. The junior class came out in droves to participate and support their prom fundraising efforts. Judges had a difficult time narrowing the field to just four acts but after much deliberation, four acts emerged to represent the class. Be sure to add Junior SPEC 2014 to your "to do" list this month. Performances begin January 23 and conclude January 25.

As a result of inclement weather, North Central had to be closed for 5 days during the month of January. In response, the school year must now be extended. In addition, the final exam testing schedule must be adjusted to accommodate the additional days of school. We will be delineating the new testing schedule as we get through the winter months. If in the future inclement weather causes the need to close school, the school calendar will have to be adjusted yet again. Current make-up days and end of school calendar are as follows:

Make Up Days

Monday, February 17 - Regular Day of School
Tuesday, May 27 - Regular Day of School
Wednesday, May 28 - Regular Day of School

Yours in Education,

Evans Branigan III
Principal

Class of 2014
Baccalaureate
North Central's Auditorium
May 27, 2014, 7 p.m.
Commencement
Indiana Convention Center
May 28, 2014, 7 p.m.



Thank-a-Teacher
(or any school staff member)

...Is the oldest and most appreciated opportunity for giving a gift to the Washington Township Schools Foundation (WTSF). A teacher, bus driver, secretary, principal or any other special person who touches the lives of children is a perfect recipient for this gift.

Visit the website to make your gift at ...
www.wtsfoundation.org/donations/thankateacher.asp

JANUARY 2014

(Events are subject to change.)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1 New Year's Day</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 7pm, King's Ct. sings National Anthem at Pacer's game
WINTER BREAK: DECEMBER 20-JANUARY 5						
<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 9am-1pm, Princeton Review SAT Practice Test (Cafeteria)
ENGLISH ECA TESTING: JANUARY 14- 17						
<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> 1st Day of 2nd Semester 7:25am, Students report to 1st semester homeroom to receive 2nd semester sched-	<i>14</i> 7pm, Grade 8 Curriculum Night (Auditorium)	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 7pm, Community IB Presentation (PAC)	<i>17</i> 8am, PTO Executive Board Mtg. (Pr Conf Rm) Last day to drop/ add a class without grade penalty	<i>18</i> 9am-1pm, Princeton Review Practice ACT Test (L249)
<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY NO SCHOOL	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 4pm, Jr. Spec (Auditorium)	<i>24</i> All State Orchestra, Jazz & Choir - IMEA Convention 7pm, Jr. Spec (Auditorium)	<i>25</i> All State Orchestra, Jazz & Choir - IMEA Convention 7pm, Jr. Spec (Auditorium)
<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> 7pm, Grade 9 Career & College Night (Auditorium)	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>	

****OPEN HOUSE SIGNS!!****

The PTO is short a number of signs from Open House in November. The signs are re-used each year to cut down costs. If you have a sign sitting in your garage or still standing in your yard, please send it to school with your student. The sign can be given to Linda Swift at the front desk. You may also contact Sarah Combs at sarah.combs@att.net to make plans to get the sign back. Thank you from the PTO.



GUIDANCE, Other Info . . .

Upcoming College Planning Programs

Tuesday, January 14

Grade 8 Curriculum Night

Monday, January 29

Grade 9 Career & College Night

Tuesday, February 4

FAFSA Day at North Central

Sunday, February 23

College Goal Sunday

Tuesday, Wednesday, March 5 & 6

ZAPS ACT Prep Seminar

Sunday, March 10

FAFSA Received-by deadline

(Indiana deadline for out-of-state applications, check individual state deadlines)

Wednesday, March 12

Greater Indianapolis College Fair

Wednesday, March 19

Junior Night

Saturday, April 26

ZAPS ACT Prep Seminar

June 4 - 6

College Admission Boot Camp
(Incoming Seniors)

2014-2015 Course Selection Timeline

January 24 - February 7

Curriculum information will be presented in English and US History classes.

Wednesday, January 29

Grade 9 parent and student meeting for career, college, and curriculum information night.

Friday, February 14

Course selection sheets and any applications (JELCC, Early Release, etc.) due in Period 3 and **signed by parents.**

Beginning in **February**, counselors will meet with students individually to plan courses that meet career and educational goals expressed by the student. Any adjustments in courses previously selected by parents and students will be made at that time. In **May**, students will receive a list of courses they have requested. Students will be allowed to make any changes by returning the course requests at that time. **After that time, requests for changes will not be allowed, except for semester failures and classes taken during summer school.**

Parents and students are asked to give careful attention to the classes requested this spring. Student requests determine the school's master schedule and staffing needs and fees are not adjusted for drop/add. Parents are encouraged to contact the assigned counselor for information or to make an appointment to discuss these important decisions.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

FAFSA is used by college and university financial aid offices to determine eligibility for grants, low-interest loans, college work-study program and sometimes scholarships. Indiana colleges generally require the form to be **filed by March 10 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 deadlines could mean loss of funds.

Filing Tips:

- Seniors and parents can request PIN's now (www.pin.ed.gov).
- Complete your tax forms early, you'll need them to file.
- File online: www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Read and follow the instructions.
- Print a copy for your college files.



NEED HELP COMPLETING THE FAFSA?

FAFSA DAY @ NCHS, February 4

Thanks to a generous grant from the Washington Township Schools Foundation (WTSF) and additional assistance from the PTO, staff from the National Center for College Costs will be at NC from **8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4** to help families complete this all-important form. Gather your **Social Security number, driver's license, income tax returns, bank statement, investment records**, and head to **FAFSA Day on Tuesday, February 4.**

NO APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY!



Advanced Placement Tests Dates

March 3-17 AP Test Registration
May 5-16 AP Test Administration

More information will be in the next Message.

Driver's Education Information

For information about driver's education, please visit www.driversafety.com.

**GRADE 8
CURRICULUM NIGHT
AT NORTH CENTRAL
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2014
7:00 P.M.**

**Grade 9 Career & College Night
Wednesday, January 29, 7 p.m.**

Freshmen and Parents: Please join the Guidance and Counseling Center staff for an evening of academic planning in North Central's Auditorium. This informative presentation will include the results of the PLAN and diploma criteria, plus some early college planning information – just in time to help make course selections for the sophomore year. Guidance counselors and Susie Bremen, the Coordinator for College Counseling, will be presenting.

CSS Profile Form

If you are applying to a college or university that also requires the College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile in addition to the FAFSA, you must file online at www.collegeboard.org.

SENIORS!

Just a reminder to Seniors, if you have not turned in your cap and gown, tassel and graduation announcement order, be sure to contact Herff Jones immediately to avoid late fees. You may call them at 244-2412.

Finding College Scholarships

The greatest amount of scholarship dollars are awarded by colleges and universities when students apply for admission, but there are thousands of scholarships available through sites like:

www.cappex.com
www.collegeboard.org
www.fastweb.com

You will receive ongoing email notification of scholarships tailored to your interests when you register with these sites.

You will also find scholarship information lists and applications in the Guidance Office, as well as on the Naviance site. The information is updated regularly.

College Entrance Exam Test Registration Deadlines

Test
SAT Reasoning & Subject Test
SAT Reasoning Test
ACT

Test Date
January 25
March 8
February 8

Regular Deadline
December 27
February 7
January 10

Late Registration
January 10
February 21
January 24

Testing is available on the Sunday after these national testing dates at the Hasten Hebrew Academy. First come, first served.

North Central High School encourages students to take both SAT Reasoning & Subject Tests and the ACT assessment. The website for the ACT assessment registration is: www.actstudent.org. The SAT Reasoning & Subject Test registration website is: www.collegeboard.org.

Other notable news...

PTO WISH LIST GRANTS

TEACHER	2200	REQUEST	STUDENT IMPACT	AMOUNT
AVID Teaching Team	AVID	Scholarships for College Entrance Exams	150	\$1000.00
Carla Sanford	Black History Club	Spring Break College Tour	40	\$1000.00
Andrew Braxton	Black History Club	Independent Lens: Hip-Hop	35	\$100.00
Sally Rascon	English	Hands On Approach to Encourage Learning	117	\$495.43
Tony Armstrong	English	DVD's in English	83	\$216.67
Janet Eichenberger	ENL/World Lang.	Watsons Go to Birmingham 1963 Book Library	75	\$472.00
Barbara Pauly	Health	Choices? Magazine Publication	600	\$90.00
Helene Achgill	Information Center	Apps for Science to Engage Students	1000	\$315.00
Gramelspacher, McCarthy, Achgill	Information Center	Day of Service	150	\$500.00
Tom Gayda	Journalism	Video Updates for Journalism	60	\$250.00
Sharon McCarthy	Learning Center	ENL Summer College Boot Camp	50	\$450.00
Doc Miller	NC News & Independent Study	NC News Makeover: Phase II	3500	\$1000.00
Joyce Click	Performing Arts	Knight School-A Performance Trip to Medieval Times in Chicago	43	\$500.00
Craig Ghormley	Performing Arts	European Tour with Orchestra	52	\$500.00
Rick Granlund	Performing Arts	Step Up to a New Level of Performance: Conductor Stand	450	\$790.00
Nathan Shewell	Performing Arts	Script	280	\$900.00
LeAnn Haggard	Physical Education	Making the IB Dance Connection	240	\$300.00
Julie Grissom	Physical Education	Cups, Clipboards, Carts & Goggles	600	\$450.00
Dave Wheeler	Humanities	National History Day	250	\$1000.00
Amy Ruschak	Special Education	Fundamental Math Program	45	\$135.95
Marcia Rigdon	Speech Team	Speech Team Development	40	\$250.00
Ann Guggenheim	Visual Arts	The Positive Power of Painting	75	\$391.86
Timothy Yarling	World Language	National German Exam	33	\$75.00
Tomoe Nakamura	World Language	Japanese Quiz Competition	15	\$280.00
Stephanie Schroeder	World Language	Visual Interaction - Connect Language & Technology Project	140	\$350.00
Traci Rodgers	World Language	The Language Educator	2200	\$332.00
TOTAL GRANTS			10,318	\$12,143.91

Attention Senior Parents

You may be asking yourselves, "What exactly is **Blast Off?**" It is a supervised lock-in event that culminates a week of graduation activities and features great food, entertainment, music, games and fantastic prizes. It is **totally** planned, funded and executed by parents of the senior class. This 3-hour event starts immediately following Grad Dance on Friday evening, **May 30, 2014**, from **11:59 p.m. until 3 a.m.** in the North Central gymnasium.

Look for more information in the next North Central Message about:

- Volunteering
- Donations
- Prizes
- Contact information

Two-hour delay ...

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

IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR ALL PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Students riding to school by private transportation are to be dropped off on the north side of the building at Doors 1 and 2. Students being picked up from school at 2:40 p.m. should be picked up from the north side of the building at Doors 1 and 2. Students are NOT to be dropped off or picked up on the east or west side of the building due to safety concerns. Students are only to be dropped off and picked up in the front of the building. After 2:50 p.m., only Door 2 should be used for students waiting for rides. Thank you for your cooperation.

Summer School Information

Session One: June 3- 23

Session Two: June 24 – July 15

(no school on **Friday, July 4**)

Class Times: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Registration: Mar 31—April 11 (NC students & Washington Township resident students)

North Central students should register during their lunch periods (between **10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**).

Note: If you are **not** a North Central Student, but live in Washington Township, **please register between 8:00–10:00 a.m.** You must present proof of residency (mortgage statement or apartment lease, signed by Lessor *and* Lessee, with parent/guardian's name/address, as well as a utility bill with same parent/guardian name/address). You will also need a letter from your sending school (at time of registration) stating what course the student needs to take.

Out-of-District: Friday, May 31 (9:00 a.m. - Noon)

First come, first served. There is an out-of-district fee of \$350.00 per session, plus course fee. Students must present a letter from sending school (at time of registration) stating what class the student needs to take.

Transportation: Bus service is not door-to-door.

The pick-up and drop-off locations for Summer School will be at a MSDWT middle and/or elementary school. Please ask for a copy of the bus schedule in the Guidance Department, download from NCHS website (click on icon for information about Summer School), or Summer School Office (once summer school has started).