



THE NORTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

MESSAGE

February 2015

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: 259-5346 Athletics: 259-5359

From the PTO . . .

From the Principal. . .

From the Presidents....

We've had a bit of a slow start to 2015 due to the weather, however PTO is looking forward to a ROCKING good second semester!

We thank you for your support, whether by contributing your time, talents or monetary donations. If you haven't had a chance to donate to PTO, it's not too late! Just send your contribution to NCHS, c/o PTO Treasurer, 1801 E. 86<sup>th</sup> St., Indianapolis, IN 46240.

PTO volunteers serve in many ways at North Central and we are always looking for additional volunteers. Please email Cathi Wineland at [cathiwineand@comcast.net](mailto:cathiwineand@comcast.net) if you have a particular interest or would like to be added to the general volunteer list for the rest of this year. Senior parents, there are many ways to get involved with all of the Senior-specific events around Commencement.

We would like to say a Rocking Big THANK YOU to everyone who donated hot chocolate for the teachers at North Central. We were receiving hot chocolate the day after we sent out the request! We have the best volunteers anywhere! The teachers were so appreciative. We are so lucky that when we ask for help there are so many people out there willing to jump right in and help. Thank you all so much!

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

Please stop by North Central on Friday, February 13, 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. Mr. Branigan ROCKS!

A big **YOU ROCK** to the following PTO parent volunteers who answered the call for hot cocoa packets and helped Mr. Branigan fill every NC mug for faculty, staff and administration with not one... but TWO packets of hot cocoa. Your generosity is amazing!

Lisa Clarke, Christi Forrest, Maria Madar, Monica Kozlowski, Kim Price, Judith Thomas, Cindy Shamo, Kristen Nicolson, Anita Silverman, Janice Kaefer, Becky Klee, Kevin Wente, Emily Burke, Linka Pace, Charlie Wissler, Pam Williams, Leesa Hertz, Cheryl Plunkett, Sandy Brinkman, Christina DeLeon, Christie Call, Teri Morton, Bridget Parker, Lori Curtright, Charla Hooks, Lisa Walter, Jacqueline Myers, Cynthia & Bill Baten, Rachel Glore, Nikola Johnson, Cheryl Guieb, Leslie Page, Jo Schumacher, Angi Stueve, Julie Snider, Jackie Haines, and Marcy Major

KEEP ON ROCKING NORTH CENTRAL!  
Christie Call and Stacy Lozer, PTO Co-Presidents  
[ccall60@hotmail.com](mailto:ccall60@hotmail.com) and [stacylozer@mac.com](mailto:stacylozer@mac.com)  
317-371-2988 and 317-439-1889

North Central Families,

To quote Charles Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities*, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." Every generation is faced with defining moments in time. As parents and educators, we constantly strive to prepare our students for the world outside North Central that exists all around them, that which is seen and that which is yet to be seen. We teach them how to read. We teach them how to write. And we teach them how to calculate. Then, of course, there are the less tangible skills we teach such as how to work in a team, think critically, and develop curiosity about what they encounter each day.

We want to prepare students to lead productive and successful lives once they leave us and enter into adulthood. But what lies ahead? Did educators of twenty years ago know that so much of our world would heavily involve many facets of technology? Could they have known what skills would be necessary in today's job market? Doubtful, yet they had to do their best to prepare the youth for a yet to be seen world. And today? Educators are still charged with the same complicated task – preparing students for the unknown.

As we enter the second half of another school year and prepare another graduating class of North Central to enter an unpredictable, yet exciting world of challenges, let us remember that even though the future remains unknowable, we must be certain that we as parents and educators are doing our best to prepare our youth for what will certainly be the best of times and the worst of times.

We know this much to be true. Tomorrow will be here soon enough, and we cannot know what the future holds.

Continuing the Tradition of Excellence,

Evans Branigan III  
Principal

**North Central High School: Achievement through Scholarship, Honesty and Respect.**

From Mrs. Sisson.....

January was an exciting month for the MYP as it was the month in which we began the personal project pilot. 15 students have committed to participating and 12 teachers have been assigned to these students as their supervisors; some students are working in pairs. We are hoping that the pilot will help us identify what is needed to ensure that all goes smoothly when the entire 10th grade is involved in 2016-2017. In order to guide both supervisor and student alike, a team has created a Personal Project Handbook. This handbook will be available on the NCHS web page, as hard copies and on My Big Campus.









The key pieces of the personal project are the process journal documenting students' process and progress over the course of their project, a final report and an exhibition during which students display and discuss the final product/outcome they have created. Both the process journal and the report can be completed in writing, as an audio entry or even as a film. Thus, students can choose to use a variety of mediums or just one. In next month's *Message*, I will indicate the types of projects that the students are pursuing as well as how they are managing their projects along with all their other activities and commitments both academic and extra-curricular.



# February 2015

(Events are subject to change)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Groundhog Day 	3 8am-7pm, FAFSA Day, (PC Lab)  2015-16 Course Selection Sheets Due during Period 3	4	5 7-8pm, Dick Dennis Concert (Auditorium) 	6 End of 3rd Interim Report Period  7-9pm, Tootsie Pops Concert (Auditorium)	7 8:00am-4pm, Band & Orchestra ISSMA Solo & Ensemble Contest (Ben Davis)
8	9 7pm-9pm, Jazz Extravaganza Concert (PAC) 	10	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday 	13 7:25am-2:40pm Senior Blood Drive (Main Gym)  7:30am, Bagels with Branigan (H193)  3rd Appraisal Reports distributed, Pd. 3	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 
15	16  <i>Presidents' Day</i>  Last day to purchase AP/ACP 2nd semester English Textbooks at Discounted Prices	17 7pm, OPO Meeting (E165)  7pm, TOPPS Meeting (L241)	18 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	19	20	21 5:30-8pm, Ladies First Club Fashion Show, Cafeteria
22 Washington's Birthday 	23	24	25	26 7pm, One Act Play (PAC)	27 4pm and 7pm, One Act Play (PAC)	28 7:30am-1:30pm, Saturday Science, N Hall  8am, Band & Orchestra ISSMA Contest (NC Campus)  8am, Show Choir Contest (Away)
<p><b>SAVE THE DATE</b></p> <p><b>MARCH 18</b></p> <p><b>JUNIOR NIGHT</b></p>		<p><b>Save the Date - Great North Run</b></p> <p>Gather your friends, family and neighbors and join in the fun. Run or walk the 1K, 5K, or 10K course and help support the Washington Township Foundation and our schools.</p> <p>The Great North Run will be <b>Saturday, March 14</b>, at North Central High School. Races will start at 9:00 am.</p> <p><b>Fitness Fair - 1K Fun Run - 5K and 10K Run/Walk</b></p> <p>For additional details about registration and the day of the race, please visit <a href="http://www.wtsfoundation.org">www.wtsfoundation.org</a>.</p>				

North Central High School: Achievement through Scholarship, Honesty and Respect.

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

# GUIDANCE Department

## College Scholarships

The Guidance Office receives 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 fast approaching deadline dates:

**-Martin Luther Scholarship**

Deadline February 14

**-Jackie Robinson Foundation**

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

**-Sciencetech Foundation**

Deadline March 1

**-Greenbriar Elementary School Alumni Scholarship, Deadline March 13**

**-Central Indiana Community Foundation**

www.cicf.org, Deadline April 1

## Upcoming AP Testing

AP Testing Registration will take place from February 28 - March 15, 2015. Make a note of these important dates!

Please see Mrs. Meinert in the Guidance Office with any questions. Please visit [www.TotalRegistration.net/AP/151717](http://www.TotalRegistration.net/AP/151717) to register.

In case inclement weather causes a 2 hour delay for the start of school, classes begin at 9:25 am. Buses follow the same schedule but 2 hours later than normal. Listen to your local tv channels for school information.

## 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. Juniors may also drop by Mrs. Bremen's office after school with brief questions. Parents are encouraged to attend the meetings and participate in the process.

## JUNIOR NIGHT

**"Inside the College Admission Office"**  
**Wednesday, March 18, 7 pm**  
**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 9 & 10** from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. each day. The cost is \$79.99 for the seminar. Some scholarships are available. Register at [www.zaps.com](http://www.zaps.com).



## The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://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 2014 tax forms, or use estimates and then make updates once taxes are filed.
- File early.
- Make sure to print a copy for your files.

## FAFSA DAY

**at North Central High School**  
**Tuesday, February 3**

**8:00 am - 7:00 pm**  
**in the PC Lab**

**No appointment necessary**

## 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 the PC Lab.

## 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](http://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). Take advantage of these services as early as the freshman year.

## Tutoring Available

North Central's Information Center hours are 7 am - 4:15 pm, Monday through Thursday. The upper Information Center becomes the After-School Learning Center at 2:40 pm 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. A pass is required if arriving after 2:55 pm.

## 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](http://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 2014-15 Student Calendar Handbook distributed to all students at the beginning of the school year.

**The College Campus Visit Form, available in the Attendance Office, must be completed and signed by a parent, the student, and an administrator and each of their teachers 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.

## College Entrance Exam Test Registration Deadlines:

Test	Test Date	Regular Deadline	Late Registration
SAT Reasoning	March 14	February 13	February 27
ACT	April 18	March 13	March 27

Testing is available on the Sundays after these national testing dates at the Hasten Hebrew Academy. Seating is on a first come first served basis.



## Mark your calendar . . .

### Choir and Accompanists Auditions for 2015-16

North Central Choir Auditions for NC singers and piano accompanists who are **not** currently enrolled in a North Central Choir:

2015 –16 School Year  
Mon., Jan. 26 & Tues., Jan. 27  
2:50 pm, K213

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

2015-16 School Year  
Tuesday, February 10  
6:00 pm, K211  
Enter Door #11

If you have any questions about our choral program, do not hesitate to contact us:  
[www.nchschoirs.com](http://www.nchschoirs.com)

Michael Raunick, Choral Director at North Central High School, [mraunick@msdwt.k12.in.us](mailto:mraunick@msdwt.k12.in.us)  
Joyce Click, Choral Director at North Central High School, [jclick@msdwt.k12.in.us](mailto:jclick@msdwt.k12.in.us)

### Ninth Annual Dick Dennis Memorial Concert

Thursday, February 5, 7 pm  
NCHS Auditorium

This program will feature over 200 students representing all three of North Central's fabulous orchestras. Mozart's, Violin Concerto No. 3 will be performed by the North Central Symphony Orchestra featuring senior violinist Adrienne Beck.

The end of the concert will pay tribute to Mr. Dennis with Mancini's Peter Gunn and Charade featuring the bassist for the Mancini Orchestra, Steve Dokkem. 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](mailto:cghormley@msdwt.k12.in.us)

### Frequently Requested Numbers

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

### Recent North Central Choir Honors

**Indiana All-State Choir:** Aquarius Durden, Chris Giden, Tommy Nguyen, Benjamin Sparrow, Dylan Williams, Emma Nickel, Caroline Short, Davone Graham, Matthias Murphy, Gabe McGill, Richard Dunn, William Blakely, and Issac Weber.

Thank you for representing North Central in this prestigious All-State organization.



**Jazz Extravaganza Concert**  
Monday, February 9, 7:00 PM  
NCHS Performing Arts Classroom  
\$3 Adults/\$1 Children

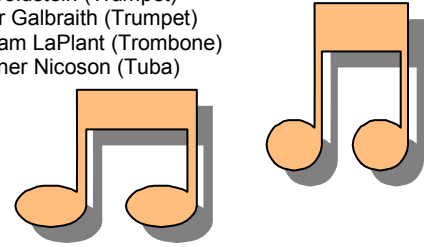
Featuring the Freddie Mendoza Jazz Quartet, with the NCHS Jazz Ensemble & Jazz Lab Band. Students will work with members of the Freddie Mendoza Quartet throughout the day in workshops, clinics and rehearsals. The quartet will join both bands on stage for the evening concert.

**Comcast Essentials is a program for low income families to purchase computer and internet service at a low cost. Check out Comcast Essentials at:**  
<http://www.internetessentials.com/about>

### North Central Band Honors

#### Indiana Bandmaster Jr. All State Band

Elise Granlund (Clarinet)  
Marissa Meadows-McDonnell (Bassoon)  
Eli Goldstein (Trumpet)  
Tyler Galbraith (Trumpet)  
William LaPlant (Trombone)  
Conner Nicoson (Tuba)



Thank you to our Performing Arts students for representing North Central and MSDWT in these prestigious All-State organizations.

### Tootsie Pops Concert Friday, February 6, 7 pm 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. Tickets sold at the door for \$5.

Advanced sales: contact Leigh at 570-1653.  
Tickets will be sold at the door for \$5.

### North Central Theatre will present the Annual ONE-ACT Plays

NC Theatre will present its annual Winter One Acts in February. Three shows will be presented, *Love, Death and the Prom* directed by Nathan Shewell; *The Girl in the Mirror* directed by Vacketta Herzog and *Bobby Wilson Can Eat His Own Face* directed by Aaron Johnson. The three shows are a sure fire hit with comedy and tragedy alike. Performances are Thursday Feb. 26 at 7:00 PM and Friday Feb. 27 at 4:00 PM and 7:00

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

- **Ticket Sales for Parent Appreciation Luncheon, April 20-24, CASH ONLY, seniors may purchase a total of THREE tickets - one for him/her + 2 parental guests.**
- **Ticket Sales for Grad Dance & Blast Off, May 4-11, 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 26**
- **Senior Parent Appreciation Luncheon, May 22, 10:30 am, Ritz Charles**
- **Baccalaureate, May 26, 7 pm, NCHS Auditorium**
- **Commencement Required Practice, May 27, 8 - 11:30 am, Indiana Farmers Coliseum, IN State Fairgrounds**
- **Commencement, May 27, 7 pm, Indiana Farmers Coliseum, IN State Fairgrounds**
- **Graduation Dinner Dance, May 29, 7 - 11 pm, Ritz Charles**
- **Blast Off, May 29, 11:59 pm - 3 a.m. (following the Grad Dinner Dance) in the NCHS Main Gym (parent volunteers encouraged!) Shannon Farrell, sfarrell@comcast.net**

\*\* All dates are subject to change due to snow make-up days. \*\*

**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.**