



THE NORTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

MESSAGE

November 2015

North Central High School
MSD of Washington Township
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www.nchs.cc

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From the Principal...

As a chill in the air indicates fall is near, I hope my November message finds everyone to be not only warm, but also happy, healthy, and eagerly awaiting time with family and loved ones during the upcoming holiday season. In stepping back to count my blessings as the Principal of North Central High School, and father of two Washington Township students, I am grateful to be part of a school community that is committed to serving and caring for others, especially those who may be less fortunate.

By the end of this semester, many of our students will have participated in student-led humanitarian efforts: Penny Wars, Stuff-A-Bus, Canned Food Drive, Trick-Or-Treat for Toiletries, and Shoe Drive. These to name only a few. More importantly, in January students will pick up where they left off in December by coordinating and leading events throughout second semester: Racing for Riley, Best Buddies, Senior Blood Drive, and Pink Out to Support Cancer Awareness. Folks, too often we hear about the misguided behaviors of today's youth. I can say firsthand that it is imperative that we not only acknowledge the good that they do, but also celebrate the greater good in which our student body surpasses any wrongdoings we hear about teenagers as promulgated through the internet and social media. When it comes to newsworthy stories, it has been my experience that good news trickles out slowly, even then only becoming a back page story. While on the other hand, bad news travels instantly, dominating headlines. Unfortunately, the media has discovered that there is money to be made by focusing on strife and angst.

What's the reward for students engaged in philanthropic activities? Academic credit? Special certificates? Trophies? Medals? The answer to all of these questions is simply, no. Students do much of this because they want to. They feel good about themselves after doing good deeds for others. What students receive in return cannot be learned from a book. It can only be experienced.

In closing, I'll leave you with this. Many, MANY years ago, a former teacher of mine said to me, "I have faith in humankind." Fast forward some 30 years later, I now understand what she meant. I, too, have faith in humankind because of what I see here at NC. I believe that the young adults of today will continue to do what's right as their future unfolds.

Yours in education,

Evans Branigan III
Principal

(Be sure to follow Principal Branigan on Twitter @ NC_Principal.)



**NORTH CENTRAL
OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER
1st**

From the PTO . . .

North Central families... **You keep rocking!!!** A big thank you to everyone who made a financial contribution to the PTO this year! Thanks to your donations we will be able to grant a little over \$10,000 to our teachers for classroom needs and special projects. If you haven't had a chance to make a contribution to the PTO, there is still time. You can pay online when you pay your book fees – just scroll down past the book rentals and classroom fees to PTO Donations. You can also drop off a check at the front desk or mail it to NCHS, c/o PTO Treasurer, 1801 E 86 St., Indianapolis, IN 46240. Your name will be included on our Donor List which will be posted on the "Parent Resource" bulletin board (outside the PTO Office), the rounder by the front desk and on the PTO web page. Special thanks to Mindi Kincaide, our PTO Treasurer, for all the hours she has spent compiling the list of donors and depositing checks.

The Panther Particulars Directory is in the final stages of production. If you purchased a bound copy, it will be sent home with your eldest North Central student near the end of November. Watch for an email with directions on how to access the free online version soon. Take a moment of your time and go through the directory. Please support the businesses that advertised; and when you do - be sure to tell them thanks! A big **THANK YOU** goes out to **Heather Anthony** who headed up our Panther Particulars Ad Campaign this year!

Mark your calendars and spread the word for the North Central Open House on Sunday, November 1, from 2-5 pm. We want to give a big **THANK YOU** to all of our volunteers! We couldn't do this without you and we are so lucky to have so many great people that are excited about North Central and ready to display our amazing school. Invite your neighbors and friends to tour the school and hear about all of the wonderful and interesting things going on at North Central.

We ALL Rock NC!

Betsy Biederstedt and Christie Call
PTO Presidents

rbieder@sbcglobal.net and cball60@hotmail.com



NOTABLE NEWS ITEMS

MYP Information from Ms. Sisson....

Though the MYP continues with the development of new MYP units, this year's particular MYP focus has been on training the staff in the teaching and learning strategies involved in Inquiry and on introducing the staff to the requirements of the personal project. The personal project will be rolled out in full next year to all 10th grade students.

At the heart of the MYP is inquiry. One goal of inquiry is to develop students' ability to create their own questions thereby taking ownership of their own learning. When this occurs, the classroom is transformed from a passive learning environment to an active, dynamic space in which all participate and share ideas.

Inquiry is difficult to define as it is a stance and a concept rather than a practice and a skill. Inquiry informs how teachers approach their teaching and their curriculum. In an inquiry classroom, curricular understanding does not become an end in itself. Instead, understanding piques curiosity and raises more questions. Further, inquiry emphasizes the big ideas- the concepts- to which the curriculum points. Concepts have interdisciplinary and real world application. The result: students see how what they do in a particular class not only relates to other classes but to the world outside of the classroom as well. The ultimate goal of inquiry is for students to be problem-posers as well as problem-solvers. Thus, NCHS students will be well equipped to manage the complex world at large.

The personal project allows students to research a topic of personal interest. The personal project is the culminating event of the MYP. 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. Last year we had a personal project pilot that involved 13 teacher volunteers and approximately 11 students. This year, all NCHS department chairs and administration including our Principal, Mr. Branigan, as well as volunteers from CEC are working with two student volunteers each for a total involvement of approximately 56 students.

In the next message I will explain what the training involves and update you on the progress of this year's personal project pilot.



IMPORTANT DATES NOVEMBER

NOV 1 OPEN HOUSE 2-5 PM

NOV 4 MYP IB EARLY RELEASE

NOV 9 BROWNIES WITH BRANIGAN 7PM

NOV 23-27 THANKSGIVING BREAK



UPCOMING PERFORMING ARTS EVENTS....

Nov. 3 - Symphony Orchestra Concert - The NC Symphony Orchestra will present their annual Side-by-Side Concert Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the NCHS Performing Arts Classroom. Due to limited seating, please contact Craig Ghormley at cghormley@msdwt.k12.in.us if you would like to attend.

Nov. 6 - Autumn Winds Concert - The NC Wind Ensemble will present their annual Autumn Winds Concert Friday, Nov. 6 in the Northview Middle School Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased at the door - \$5 per ticket, \$3 for those 12 and under.

Nov. 13, 14 - November Fall Musical - Catch Me If You Can - based on the incredible true story and hit film, Friday, November 13 at 7 p.m. Saturday, November 14 at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for kids 12 and under. Tickets are on sale now and available at northcentraltheatre.org.

Nov. 16 - Sounds of Autumn with the Symphonic Winds - The NC Symphonic Winds fall Sounds of Autumn concert will be Monday, Nov. 16 in the NCHS Performing Arts Classroom at 7:00 pm. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$3 per ticket and \$1 for those 12 and under.

Dec. 4, 5 - King's Court Singers Madrigal Dinner and Luncheon Tickets are now on sale for the King's Court Singers Madrigal Dinner, Dec. 4 at 6:00 pm and Dec. 5 at noon. The dinners will be held at the Knights of Columbus at 71st and Keystone. For more information contact Joyce Click at jclick@msdwt.k12.in.us. Order early. The dinner will sell out!



MSDWT PARENT COUNCIL

Parent Council is a group of parent advocates of MSDWT students (K-12) who represent a diverse community in Indianapolis and believe that quality public education is an investment in the future.

MSDWT Parent Council meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (excluding December) at 7:00 pm at the H. Dean Evans Community and Education Center (the CEC) located at 8550 Woodfield Crossing Blvd.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

November 18 2015

January 20, 2016

February 17, 2016



November 2015



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						Turn your clocks back one hour before bedtime!
1 <i>Open House</i> 2 - 5 pm	2 	3 Herff Jones Orders due during lunch and after school. 7 pm, NC Symphony Orchestra Concert (PAC)	4 MYP IB EARLY RELEASE DAY	5	6 End of 2nd Interim Report Period 7 pm, Autumn Winds Concert, (Northview Auditorium)	7 7:30 am, SAT Test (Upper H) 7 pm, MSDWT Bash - Old National Centre Egyptian Room
PENNY WARS: Collection November 2 - 6						
8	9 7 pm PTO's Brownies with Branigan (H193) 	10	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i>	12	13 2nd Appraisal Reports Distributed 7 pm, Fall Musical 9 pm Senior Bonfire	14 9:00 am, Princeton Review, Practice SAT (cafeteria) 11:00 am, Winter Sports Parent/Athlete meeting (PAC) 2:30 pm & 7 pm, Fall Musical
CANNED FOOD DRIVE: Collection November 9 - December 4						
15	16 7 pm, Sounds of Autumn Concert (PAC)	17	18	19 4 - 6:30 pm, Jr. Spec Cuts (Auditorium) 7 pm, Financial Aid Night (L249)	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	27	28
Thanksgiving Break: No School - November 23 - 27						
29	30 					

GUIDANCE . . .

**Sophomore College Meeting
for Students *and* Parents
Wednesday, December 9, 7:00 p.m.
North Central Auditorium**

- What are college admission decisions based upon?
- Are strong SAT or ACT scores more important than classroom achievement?
- Will a "C" student have college options?
- What can sophomores do now to enhance their college options?
- What can sophomores & their parents be doing now to stay on track?
- What types of college search resources are available to North Central students?
- How is Naviance used?

Our program will address these questions and more!

College Visits for November

- Nov. 2 @ 9:17 a.m. – University of Indianapolis
- Nov. 2 @ 12:54 p.m. – Illinois College
- Nov. 5 @ 12:54 p.m. – Lincoln College
- Nov. 20 – School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) – Visiting three art classes:
 - @ 8:20 a.m., H188
 - @ 10:50 a.m., H183
 - @ 11:52 a.m., H183



College Resource Room

Students and parents are invited to take advantage of the college resources available in the Guidance Department. Flip through helpful college guides, access college search site programs from the computers, and help yourself to college information in the magazine racks. The College Resource Room (L258B) is accessible throughout the school day and after school until 4:00 p.m.



SENIORS - College Scholarships



- Pick up a list of available scholarships in Mrs. Stroke's office in Guidance
- Register with scholarship websites listed in your College Handbook (page 32)
- Find additional scholarship opportunities in NAVIANCE

College Cost Estimator Program & Workshop: For parents of all grades!

Don't miss this opportunity to receive FREE personalized financial aid consulting through the **National Center for College Costs (NCCC)**. Complete the estimator online at www.collegecosts.com, then attend the **NCCC Estimator Workshop on Thursday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m. in room L249**. You are welcome to attend whether you complete the form or not. Questions? Contact Susie Bremen, Coordinator for College Counseling. **Take advantage of this tremendous planning resource!**

APPLYING TO COLLEGE.....

Our processing forms are available on the south wall of the Guidance Office near the Student Center entrance. Turn them in to your counselor **IN PERSON**, allowing at least **TWO WEEKS** for your counselor to process your materials.

- **PINK SHEET** – Submit one for EACH college application, with a parent/guardian signature on the back of the first one; there is a \$1 processing fee for each Pink Sheet.
- **WHITE SHEET** – Student Information Sheet detailing honors, activities, work, etc.
- **YELLOW SHEET** – Counselor Recommendation Worksheet
- **GREEN SHEET** – Teacher Recommendation Worksheet (this one goes to your teacher)
- **TRANSCRIPTS** – Register with www.parchment.com and have your transcripts sent electronically
- **TEST SCORES** – Arrange to have them sent directly from the testing agencies to the colleges



College Entrance Exam Test Registration Deadlines

Test	Test Date	Regular Deadline	Late Registration
SAT reasoning & subject tests	December 5	November 5	November 23
SAT reasoning & subject tests	January 23	December 28	January 12
ACT	December 12	November 6	November 20
ACT	February 6	January 8	January 15

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

