



**From the Principal . . .**

Welcome to December North Central Families. Although it may seem like a few short weeks since you were in receipt of the Welcome Back letter, the school year is half over and the semester is almost at a close. With so much happening in the first semester, it's easy to see how the year has seemingly flown by in the blink of an eye. The only group that may disagree with this assessment are members of the senior class who openly assert, "this year will never end." Well thank goodness this year isn't over. The Talent Pool is deep at North Central and we have many opportunities remaining for our community to showcase academic, athletic and civic talents. North Central students, and those who support them, are integral in setting the tone, tempo and expectations of our community.

Before we close the chapter on this semester, I remind all that we must finish this semester as we started.... strong! Although thoughts of Winter Break creep into the back of our minds during a lull in the day, we can't forget future and continued success are dependent upon what we accomplish now. The time spent communicating with teachers or seeking supports before/after school will prove beneficial in fulfilling goals.

With only 3 weeks in the semester remaining, it's important that we pay close attention to the calendar. Both the daily school calendar and activities calendar will prove beneficial in staying abreast of school efforts. After school activities will be a buzz as Performing Arts and Visual Arts students showcase their talents through a variety of during and after school events. Show your support by attending one of the many activities or by simply taking a tour of the student work on display.

North Central, this has been an amazing start to the school year. Although the world we share may seem to bring only adversity, North Central serves as an example of what can and is right in the world we share. Yes, that's a bold assertion but on a daily bases North Central students demonstrate a compassion for learning, a dedication to excellence, and a strong sense of WE. Meaning, WE share this space with people who may have different values. WE are part of a common effort to see others succeed. WE want our space to be safe for all to express themselves as part of a group or as an individual. WE care about others. WE are part of a great community, which takes pride in our successes and supports our efforts when we fall short.

WE are NC.

Evans Branigan III



**From the PTO . . .**

The North Central Open House is a fantastic way to show the pride we have in our school. Few events combine students, teachers, administrators, coaches, staff and parents, all working together for a common cause. The result was an afternoon of spreading Panther Pride! The school was teeming with over 100 students giving tours, while others proudly represented their clubs, sports, or performance groups. Teachers, administrators and coaches filled the gym, touting all the wonderful opportunities North Central has to offer, while parents voluntarily stepped up to help wherever they could. **NORTH CENTRAL ROCKED!**

PTO volunteers deserve a huge "Thank You!" for contributing so much to the day's success with their *countless* hours of planning. Our Co-Chairmen this year were amazing with all of the organizing, planning and execution - a very big thank you to Marta Carter and Amy Johnson for their leadership. A heartfelt "Thanks" to every parent who devoted time before, during or after Open House to make our school shine. A special "YOU ROCK!" to the frontline, particularly Susan James - who helped make sure everything got done!

The online version of the "Panther Particulars" will be available soon. Watch for an email with directions on when and how to access it through Skyward. If you ordered a printed copy, your eldest NCHS child will be receiving it. Creating a directory is a painstaking process, requiring lots of steps. Many thanks to Natalie Pearce for gathering and entering the student information, Heather Anthony for finding advertisers, and to the volunteer team who will be sorting, labeling and distributing the bound copies. Once distributed, extra copies of the directory will be available at the NCHS Bookstore for \$10.00 each, while supplies last.

Thanks for all you do to support North Central High School!

Christie Call and Betsy Biederstedt  
2015-2016 NCHS PTO Presidents  
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[ccall60@hotmail.com](mailto:ccall60@hotmail.com)

**NCHS King's Court Singers present Wassail!**

Featuring: Ye Madrigal Brass ~Ye Madrigal Handbells ~ Ye North Central Accents Choir  
For tickets: [kingscourt.nchschoirs.com](http://kingscourt.nchschoirs.com) or contact Joyce Click, Director [jclick8@gmail.com](mailto:jclick8@gmail.com)  
Performances at the Knights of Columbus Ballroom, 71st & Keystone.  
Friday December 4th 6:00—8:00pm Saturday December 5th 12:00—2:00pm Madrigal Dinner



# In the News...



## MYP Information from Ms. Sisson

This year's personal project pilot is proceeding well. There are the expected pitfalls of student volunteers choosing to drop out and students having difficulty identifying what project they wish to pursue. However, as with last year's pilot, a core group of students remain committed to completing the project.

The key question that continues to be raised by faculty and staff is what will motivate next year's students to complete the project if there is no grade attached and no repercussions for failing to do so. The answer: intrinsic motivation is the "what" that must motivate students to complete their projects. Students are trained their entire school career to work for a grade; thus, it is the achievement of the grade that inspires hard work not the desire to understand, not the desire to know.

However, as most adults are aware, we are not rewarded monetarily when we do more than what is required. We do more because we are intrinsically motivated to do so. It is my hope that the personal project gives students a taste of what it is like to achieve when the only reason to do so is personal.



**Interested in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program?** Attend an informational meeting in the Performing Arts Classroom @ 7pm on January 7, 2016. Current IB students and Mr. Gulde will be present to answer questions. Enter through Door #24.

### Performing Arts Events

**Holiday Band Concert & Silent Auction:** On **Wednesday, December 2** the North Central concert and jazz bands will present their annual Holiday Band Concert at 7:00 pm in the North Central Auditorium. Prior to the event, please visit the NCHS Student Center to view the variety of items available at the NC Band Parent Organization "12th Annual" Silent Auction.

**Congratulations to the NC Band members that were selected to be in the Indiana Bandmaster All Region Honor Band.**

Manuel Alarcon—Oboe	Julia Mann—Bassoon
Liah Townsley—Clarinet	Mitchell Remington—Trumpet
Collin Stonebraker—Tuba	Dylan Green—Percussion
Sophie Opferman—Percussion	Sarah Griffith—Trumpet

**Choral Winter Concert:** Ten choirs, along with the bell choir, will perform on **Monday, December 8 at 7 pm** in the Auditorium. Admission is free to the public; our gift to the community!

**North Central's Symphony Orchestra & Performing Arts Choirs** will be performing choruses and solos from the Handel's *Messiah*, Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Haydn's *Creation* on **Tuesday, December 8 at 7 pm** in the Auditorium. The Symphony Orchestra will also be playing works by Brahms and Tchaikovsky. Admission is free.

**Orchestra Concert,** North Central's Concert, Philharmonic, and Festival Orchestras, will be performing in the North Central Auditorium on **Thursday, December 10 at 7 pm**. Admission is free.

**More Joyful Sounds of the Season,** featuring the Counterpoints, will be on **Sunday, December 13 at 3 pm** at the St. Luke's Methodist Church, 100 W 86th St., Indianapolis. A reception will follow this event. Come join us and get into the holiday spirit with the Counterpoints. For more information, contact Mike Raunick by email at [mraunick@msdwt.k12.in.us](mailto:mraunick@msdwt.k12.in.us).

Choir students who made **All-State Choir** are: Ben Sparrow, Aquarius Durden, Caroline Short, Emma Nickel, Gabriel McGill, Matthias Murphy, Davon Graham, William Blakely, Richard Dunn, Dylan Williams, Isaac Weber, Tommy Nguyen and Chris Giden. They will be performing at the IMEA Convention in Ft. Wayne in late January. Congratulations!

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## 2015 Advanced Placement Scholars

North Central is proud to announce the results for this year's Advanced Placement Scholars. 176 North Central students earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP exams. The number of scholars illustrates the strength of our AP Program.

**85 Students** - Qualified for the **AP Scholar Award** by completing 3 or more AP exams with grades of 3 or higher.

**29 Students** - Qualified for the **AP Scholars with Honor Award** by earning an average grade of 3.25 on all AP exams, and grades of 3 or higher on 4 or more exams.

**52 Students** - Qualified for the **AP Scholars with Distinction Award** by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on 5 or more exams.

**14 Students** - Qualified for the **National AP Scholars Award** by earning an average of 4 or higher on all AP exams taken, and grades of 4 or higher on 8 or more of these exams.

**166 Students** - Earned **AP Scholar Awards** in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP exams.

North Central offers 28 Advanced Placement courses for grades 9 - 12. For more information about the AP/IB program, contact William Gulde at 317-259-5345 or by email at [wgulde@msdwt.k12.in.us](mailto:wgulde@msdwt.k12.in.us).

## Examinations Schedule December 14 - 17, 2015

### Monday, December 14

Pd 2	7:25 am	8:39 am	Study/Break
	8:39 am	10:23 am	Exam
Pds 4 - 10	10:29 am	2:40 pm	Reg. Schedule

### Tuesday, December 15

Pd 1	7:25 am	8:30 am	Study/Break
	8:30 am	10:15 am	Exam
Pd 3	10:25 am	11:45 am	Study/Snack
	11:45 am	1:30 pm	Exam

**Buses depart at 1:40 pm**

### Wednesday, December 16

Pds 6, 7, 8	7:25 am	8:30 am	Study/Break
	8:30 am	10:15 am	Exam
Pd 9	10:25 am	11:45 am	Study/Snack
	11:45 am	1:30 pm	Exam

**Buses depart at 1:40 pm**

### Thursday, December 17

Pds 4, 5, 6	7:25 am	8:30 am	Study/Break
	8:30 am	10:15 am	Exam
Pd 10	10:25 am	11:45 am	Study/Snack
	11:45 am	1:30 pm	Exam

**Buses depart at 1:40 pm**

### NOTICE

If school is closed during semester examinations, the exams scheduled for the first missed day will be administered on the first day school is re-opened. Decisions regarding the remainder of the examination schedule will be made as needed. Some courses or some periods may not have a final examination. Teachers will factor grades without the final.



# December 2015



SUN

MON








TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

		1	2 7 pm, Band Holiday Concert & Silent Auction (Auditorium) 	3 7 pm, College Cost Estimator Work Shop (L249)	4 6:00 pm, Madrigal Dinner (Knights of Columbus) 	5 7:30 am, SAT Test (Upper H Hall, NC)  12 pm, Madrigal Dinner (Knights of Columbus)
CANNED FOOD DRIVE COLLECTION ENDS DECEMBER 4						
6 2 pm, NHS Induction Ceremony (PAC)  Hanukkah 	7 7 pm, Winter Choir Concert (Auditorium)	8 7 pm, Messiah Concert (Auditorium)	9 7 pm, Sophomore College Night (Auditorium)	10 7 pm, Orchestra Holiday Concert (Auditorium)	11	12 7:30 am, ACT Test (Upper H Hall, NC)
Algebra ECA Re-Takes Dec. 8 - 17						
13 	14 First Semester Exam - P. 2	15 First Semester Exams - P. 1 & 3	16 First Semester Exams - P. 6/7/8 & 9	17 First Semester Exams, P. - 4/5/6 & 10, End of 1st Semester  2:50 - 4:15 pm, King's Court Concerts (CEC, Hilltop & Forum)	18 No school for Students  Teacher Report Day	19
Textbooks for one-semester-only courses returned to teachers on day of final.						
20 5 pm, King's Court (Highland Country Club)	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas 	26 Kwanzaa 
<b>Winter Break - Dec. 21 - Jan 3</b>						
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve		
Save the date: FAFSA Day is February 2, 2016!						

### School Dismissal/Delay Procedures

If Washington Township schools are dismissed due to a mechanical breakdown or adverse weather conditions, and we know before school begins in the morning, the information will be broadcasted over several television and radio stations. If school is delayed 2 hours, the 2-hour delay would move the pick-up time to 9 am. School would begin at 9:25 am. If school must be dismissed during the day, the local media will be notified. If school is cancelled due to weather, all activities are cancelled. Local radio and TV stations will be notified of any closures or delays. We will also make use of our automated calling system in an attempt to notify families of unexpected changes to the school day.

### Happy Holidays

Visit the Spirit Shop at North Central during lunch 10:20 am - 12:50 pm to purchase holiday presents!

Best Wishes!!



# Go Panthers!

# GUIDANCE, Other Info . . .



## Applying to College – North Central Forms Required

NCHS college application processing forms are stocked on the wall inside the Guidance Department, near the Student Center entrance. Students must personally hand these materials to their guidance counselors for processing.

- The **PINK** Application Cover Sheet must be completed for **EACH** application submitted, including online applications. Complete the **Blanket Release Form** on the back of the first Pink Sheet you submit. There's a \$1 processing fee for each pink sheet.
- The **YELLOW** Counselor Recommendation Worksheet helps your counselor write about you.
- The **WHITE** Student Information Sheet includes your're activities, honors, & volunteerism.
- The **GREEN** Teacher Recommendation Sheet is given to teachers who are writing your recommendation letters.

**PLUS:** Request electronic copies of your NCHS transcript for college through [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com).

## College Campus Visits

Students are strongly encouraged to visit colleges of interest before deciding to enroll. Visits should be made prior to **May 1**, the National Candidate Reply Date, when college enrollment deposits are due. Juniors and Seniors are entitled to 2 excused absences per school year for college visits, but visits can also be made on Saturdays and when North Central is not in session.

Procedure for excused absences:

- ⇒ **Pick up the green College Campus Visit Form in the Attendance Office.**
- ⇒ Get signatures on the form from your parents, Mrs. Payne and all of your teachers.
- ⇒ Have a parent notify the Attendance Office **prior to your visit.**
- ⇒ Obtain a letter from the college's admission office on official letterhead verifying your visit (the date of your visit and with whom).
- ⇒ Return the green form and letter to the Attendance Office the following day. **Both documents must be received for the college visit to be considered an excused absence.**

*Please refer to North Central High School's Student Handbook 2015-16 for more detailed information.*

## College Resource Room, L258B See your counselor first!

Students and parents are invited to take advantage of the college resources in the Guidance Department. Flip through helpful college guides and help yourselves to college information on the magazine racks. The College Resource Room is accessible throughout the school day and after school until 4:00 p.m., but you will need a pass from your counselor for access to the room.

## College Cost Estimator Workshop

The **National Center for College Costs (NCCC)** will be at North Central for a general presentation on paying for college, followed by individual reviews of your worksheet if you filed a cost estimator. The workshop will be located in room L249 at 7:00 p.m. on **Thursday, December 3.**

Once you have received a report from NCCC, you will have their ongoing advice at no cost. Contact them at [info@collegecosts.com](mailto:info@collegecosts.com) or by calling 1-877-687-7291.

Take advantage of this opportunity to plan for college!



## FINANCIAL AID

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

Parents of seniors: You cannot file the FAFSA prior to January 1, but you can get ready for it! Review the process at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) and register for your FAFSA ID now (one for you and another for your student). Prepare your 2015 taxes as soon as possible. Complete the **FREE College Cost Estimator** with the **National Center for College Costs** at [www.collegecosts.com](http://www.collegecosts.com) to get an early idea of what you may be expected to pay for a year of college.

Other useful websites include: [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)



### FAFSA DAY

**Get expert help filing your FAFSA @ NCHS**  
Sponsored by the PTO and The Advancement Center  
**Tuesday February 2**  
**8 a.m. - 7 p.m. in the PC lab**

## Finding College Scholarships

Stop by the Guidance Department to learn about outside scholarship opportunities offered by various institutions, corporations and community groups. Scholarship listings will be updated on **Naviance** as they become available. Contact Mrs. Laurie Stroke with any questions. Check out: [cappex.com](http://cappex.com), [finaid.com](http://finaid.com), and [collegeboard.org/scholarships](http://collegeboard.org/scholarships) for additional scholarship opportunities.

## SAT & ACT Tests - Try Both!

We encourage students to take *both* the SAT AND the ACT with Writing. Colleges will accept the results of either test and will use the higher score if both tests are taken. Register for the SAT at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) and the ACT at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org).

## 21st Century Scholars - Class of 2016

Mark your calendar for Thursday, January 14, for a special presentation about 2016 scholars. Hear about important changes impacting current seniors.

WE'RE KIND OF A  
**B16 DEAL**

## College Entrance Exam Test Registration Deadlines:

Test	Test Date	Regular Deadline	Late Registration
SAT Reasoning & Subject Tests	January 23	December 28	January 12
ACT	February 6	January 8	January 15

**For students who cannot test on Saturdays for religious reasons, testing is available on the Sundays after these national testing dates @ the Hasten Hebrew Academy. Seating is available on a first come, first served basis.**