

# WOLVES WIRE

**VOL. 16 NO. 8**



## **MCHS 2023 - 2024 QUICK FACTS**

**05/01 - Early Release Day**

**05/02,09,22 - Graduation Practices**

**05/03 - Prom**

**05/20,21,22 - Finals**

May 2024

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# PRINCIPAL'S POST

## A Time of Achievements and Anticipation

It is hard to believe that we have just over three weeks remaining for the 2023-24 school year. Students and staff are eagerly anticipating AP testing, end-of-year activities, and summer vacation. We have enjoyed and achieved many wonderful things this year. Soon, our seniors will step out into the world after high school, and our underclassmen will advance a grade. It's an exciting and very busy time. Now more than ever, it's crucial for your students to be here and on time every day. Attendance plays a significant role in your students' academic and social successes at MCHS and beyond. Our teachers are delivering rigorous content in every class, preparing students for their final exams.

### Final Exam Schedule

- ▶ Wednesday, 05/20 - Senior Finals (Gray)
- ▶ Thursday, 05/21 - Finals for Grades 9-12 (Blue)
- ▶ Friday, 05/22 - Underclassman Finals (Gray), Senior final graduation practice, and Senior Picnic

### Celebratory Events

Juniors and Seniors will celebrate Prom on May 3rd at Blue Chip Casino—an exciting evening indeed! Graduation is scheduled for June 2nd at 12:00 pm. Senior class letters, along with the final exam schedule, have been emailed home. Timelines and important dates are listed in the letter. If you have any questions regarding graduation, please contact your student's counselor.

### A Wolf in the NFL

With the 39th pick in the 2024 NFL draft, the Los Angeles Rams have selected Braden Fiske from our own Michigan City High School class of 2018. On behalf of the entire MCHS family, we are so proud of Braden and excited to watch him excel at the highest level of professional football. We couldn't be prouder of his achievements.



### Stay Connected

As always, please continue to follow us on our various social media platforms, or call 219-873-2044 for more information about the excellent programs at Michigan City High School.

Kyle Dean Principal

One City! One Pack! Go Wolves!



# Computer Science

## Innovating CS Education at Michigan City High School

Michigan City High School's Computer Science department has recently advanced significantly, thanks to a generous monetary donation from Harbour Trust. This funding has been used to purchase a classroom set of Sparki robots, enhancing the learning experience in the school's Principles of Computing course. With these robots, students are now able to engage in hands-on programming activities, such as commanding the robots to draw lines or pick up objects. This initiative aims not only to deepen their understanding of programming concepts but also to demonstrate the transformative power of coding in addressing real-world challenges.

The department has further extended its impact by creating a group dedicated to inviting speakers to discuss real-world applications of computer science. This effort spans both the Principles of Computing and Cybersecurity courses, aiming to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. This prepares students for

the varied challenges and opportunities they will encounter in the tech industry.

### *Principles of Computing:*

In the Principles of Computing course, students have been actively working on their final projects, choosing between creating a Python GUI Game or a Python GUI Inventory System. These projects are designed to challenge students and enhance their skills in Python development, reflecting real-world software applications.

### *Computer Science 2:*

In the Computer Science 2: Cybersecurity course, students have recently completed a vulnerability assessment as part of their final project. This involved identifying and evaluating potential security weaknesses within selected corporations. This phase helps students understand the importance of prioritizing vulnerabilities based on their impact and exploitability.

Currently, they are engaged in Strategic Defense Implementation. Utilizing Cyber.org's virtual machine (VM), students simulate the application of cybersecurity measures tailored to the identified risks. This includes designing defensive architectures, developing cybersecurity training simulations, and potentially simulating a network environment to test their strategies in a controlled, virtual setting.

### *Exploring Emotions through Computer Illustration and Graphics*

In the Computer Illustration and Graphics course, students are finalizing projects that involve creating original characters based on selected emotions. These characters are featured in stories with a clear narrative structure, including a beginning, climax, and conclusion. The culmination of these projects will be showcased in a video compilation on Mr. Melendez's YouTube channel, offering a platform for students to share their creative work.

### *A Community Committed to Growth*

Thanks to the support from Harbour Trust and the innovative strategies employed by Michigan City High School's faculty, students are not just learning about computer science—they are experiencing its applications first-hand in ways that engage both their creative and practical skills. This comprehensive approach prepares them for a future of innovation and problem-solving in the technology sector. As the school year progresses, we eagerly anticipate the continued success and innovative contributions of these promising young minds.



# Early College

## 9th Grade

As we move closer to the end of the year, we encourage all of our students to continue to work hard and do their best and finish freshman year strong!

Students went on a college visit to the University of Notre Dame this month. They had a wonderful time learning about the college and the campus. It was an amazing experience for all!

Students continue to compete in the Early College Olympics which is a team building effort for 9th and 10th graders. It's been an exciting competition and everyone is eager to see which class comes out on top!

### ALPHA & WOLF AWARD RECIPIENTS

Each Grading Period, the Michigan City Early College 9th Grade team selects outstanding students for the ALPHA and Shining Star Awards. The ALPHA Award goes to the student who had the highest grade out of all of the freshmen in the four core Early College classes. The Shining Star Award goes to the student who not only has shown academic success but also integrity, grit, kindness, helpfulness, and is an all-around exemplary Early College student. The following students were the recipients

for the Third Grading Period.

#### ALPHA AWARD RECIPIENTS:

##### ALGEBRA:

- ▶ Kaylee Robinson

##### BIOLOGY Pauer:

- ▶ Jameelah Taylor

##### ENGLISH:

- ▶ Kaeli Lagrand

##### GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY OF THE WORLD:

- ▶ Aiden Taylor

#### Shining Star AWARD RECIPIENTS:

- ▶ Haley Barnes
- ▶ Charlie Biela
- ▶ Ramia Duncan
- ▶ Rachel Jones



# Fine Arts

## Students Earn Awards

Congratulations to Bella Ketchum and Meshak Luncsford for earning an award at South Shore Art's Tri-County Secondary Showcase. The exact award will be announced at the Awards Ceremony on May 5th. Bella's photogram, titled "Love", and Meshak's abstract macro digital photo diptych, titled "Bubbles", were chosen by the judges among hundreds of students' artworks submitted to the show. Michigan City High School is one of the few area high schools that has an extensive film and digital photography program, which offers a unique opportunity to students not found elsewhere.



Bella Ketchum photogram "Love"

Meshak Luncsford macro digital photo diptych "Bubbles"



# Fine Arts

## Achievements at ISSMA

On Friday, April 19, the Concert Band and Wind Ensemble travelled to Elkhart High School to compete in the ISSMA Organizational Contest. Concert Band performed in Group IV and received a Gold Rating with a Gold in Sight Reading. Wind Ensemble performed in Group II and received a Silver Rating with a Gold Rating in Sight Reading. Congratulations to all of our band students!

On Saturday, April 20, Treble Chorale and City Singers travelled to Northridge High School to compete in the ISSMA Organizational Contest. Treble Chorale performed in Group II and received a Gold Rating with a Gold in Sight Reading. City Singers performed in Group II and received a Gold Rating with a Gold in Sight Reading. Congratulations to all of our choir students!

## Upcoming Concerts

The music department will present three concerts during the month of May. Pops Night will be held on Tuesday, May 7, at 7 pm in the high school auditorium. This concert will feature the Freshman Chorus, Concert Choir, Concert Band, and Wind Ensemble. The Jazz Band will present their Jazz Night on Thursday, May 9, at 7 pm in the high school auditorium. Showcase will be held on Friday, May 17, at 7 pm in the high school auditorium. This concert will feature the Treble Chorale and City Singers. There is no admission charge for any of these performances. The choral and band students have worked extremely hard all year, and we are very proud of all of their

accomplishments. Come out and celebrate some great music during the last three concerts of the year!

## Support and Fundraising

Thank you so much to everyone who supported the band and choir students with their discount card fundraiser. If you are still interested in purchasing a discount card, please contact Michelle Howisen at 219-873-2044 x4401 or [mhowisen@mcas.k12.in.us](mailto:mhowisen@mcas.k12.in.us).





# MCJROTC

## *April Events*

The Michigan City High School (MCHS) Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps continued to support MCHS in April. They provided support for all of the home track meets, both boys and girls, as well as helping set-up for the Career Fair held at the school gym.

## *Academic and Physical Training Focus*

As is their tradition, the cadets are not just “limping to the finish line” to complete the school year. Rather, they are making an all-out sprint, with rigorous academic instruction leading to the final exam, as well as training for and running the MCJROTC physical fitness test.

## *Community Engagement and Service*

Regarding community service, the cadets will be supporting the Salvation Army food drive, the LaPorte County Veterans Motorcycle groups Rolling Thunder ride to Washington, DC, and the Michigan City Memorial Day parade and ceremony during May.

## *Summer Conditioning and Competitions*

The cadets have a busy summer planned. The Raider Team will be conditioning to prepare for that very

physically challenging activity. The Raider competition events are based on the Ranger School curriculum, which requires optimal physical fitness and teamwork. Two cadets will also be attending the MCJROTC Senior Leadership Camp (SLC) in the summer near Shanksville, PA, which will facilitate them leading the Raider Team. Their goal is to qualify for the National Raider Championship, located at the same location as the SLC.

## *Leadership Camps and National Goals*

The MCHS military drill team will be working to prepare themselves for the upcoming drill season. Two cadets will be attending the National Drill Camp near San Antonio, TX. As with the SLC, this camp will prepare cadets to lead the Drill Team. The Drill Team is aiming to qualify for the National Drill Championship near Washington, DC. Two cadets will also attend the National Cyber Patriot camp at Randolph Macon University in Virginia. MCHS competes in CyberPatriot, the national high school competition for cyber security. All costs associated with the camps are like all other MCJROTC activities- they are funded by the Marine Corps, with no expense to either the cadet or MCHS..





# EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



# Bring Change 2 Mind

## *Success Coaches*

The Student Success Coaches were very busy during April. Based on results from the fall needs assessment, ninth grade students participated in small groups where they learned coping strategies, relationship-building, and improved their social and emotional.

## *Bring Change 2 Mind*

The Bring Change 2 Mind club visited the Anam Cara Equine Therapy stables to learn about animal-assisted therapy to improve mental health. The students interacted with a horse, donkey, and miniature pony who were all eager to meet the students.

The Bring Change 2 Mind club hosted author Sierra Harris who wrote and illustrated two children's books on anxiety and depression. Several Wolf Pack classes came to the presentation and listen to our guest share her story and inspiration for the books.

## *Life Lessons and Skills*

The Walking into Womanhood and Walking into Manhood programs, held on Saturdays, have had record high turnouts for the most recent sessions. Students received life lessons from presenters who imparted wisdom and life skills to the attendees.

## *Vincennes Trip*

Twenty seven students attended the College and Career Caravan to Vincennes University Aviation Technology program in Indianapolis. It was an inspiring trip that showcased many career paths for interested students. Several MCHS students have already been accepted and will enroll this coming fall, and a few more are considering applying to enter this growing and well-paid career field.

# Esports

## IEN Finals at Ball State

### Quarter Finals Unlocked

This year, the Michigan City High School Wolves Esports program demonstrated significant progress in competitive play, showcasing the teams' growth and commitment. Notably, both our Rocket League and Super Smash Bros teams advanced to the Quarter Finals, marking a substantial improvement over last year's performance, where we were eliminated in the first round. This progress highlights the dedication and strategic efforts of our students and coaches, who are already focusing on how to reach the finals next season.

### Learning and Networking

While our teams did not compete in the state finals, they attended the event at Ball State University. This opportunity allowed them to observe top-level play and participate in various educational sessions. These sessions ranged from introductory to advanced game mechanics and included valuable information on esports scholarships, enhancing our students' understanding and engagement with the broader esports community.

### Chess Victory

One of the most memorable moments

of the finals was witnessing our own Carlos Serrano receiving the 3rd place medal in Chess among 55 competitors. His achievement was a proud moment for our school and an inspiration to his teammates and peers.



### Building Community: Beyond the Competition

The finals also offered a unique chance for our students to meet with competitors they had faced online throughout the year. This meeting helped them to

strengthen bonds and forge lasting friendships, emphasizing the community aspect of esports.

### Special Thanks

Special thanks go to Madam LaFrance for chaperoning the bus from MCHS to Ball State. It was a long day, from 6 AM to 9 PM, but she enjoyed her time immensely. Madam LaFrance shared, "Busy day Saturday! I helped chaperone the Esports team en route to Ball State in Muncie for the state finals and conference. Lucie (her 8th grader) even got an impromptu campus tour. It was exhausting, but tons of fun." Her efforts made the trip both possible and enjoyable for everyone involved.

### Awards Banquet

The excitement within our program continues to build as we approach our annual Esports banquet and awards ceremony scheduled for May 8th. We have a few surprises planned for our students that evening, and we anticipate a fantastic celebration of this year's achievements.



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# Esports



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[Twitter](https://twitter.com/mcwwolvesesports)  
@mcwwolvesesports



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION



# Counselor Corner

## Student Awards Season

As the academic year at Michigan City High School draws to a close, the anticipation for the annual Student Awards season is in full swing. This year, the school is set to honor its students' achievements in a series of ceremonies held during Wolfpack sessions in the auditorium. These events are designed to celebrate the hard work and success of students across all grades, with a special emphasis on seniors, whose awards ceremony will be streamed live for parents and families to partake in the celebration remotely.

### Awards Schedule and Recognitions

The awards ceremonies are scheduled as follows, ensuring each grade has its moment in the spotlight:

- ▶ May 6th: Grade 9
- ▶ May 8th: Grade 10
- ▶ May 14th: Grade 11
- ▶ May 16th: Grade 12

During these sessions, students will receive a variety of accolades, including Department Awards, Honor Roll Pins, and Community and University Scholarships. These recognitions are a testament to

the dedication and achievements of the students throughout the school year.

### Key Events in May

The month of May is packed with important dates and activities that highlight the end of the school year:

- ▶ AP Exams (May 6th-17th): Students taking AP courses can consult Mr. Turley for more information on their scheduled exams.
- ▶ May 2nd: The first graduation meeting will occur during Wolfpack in the auditorium, marking the beginning of the graduation countdown.
- ▶ May 3rd: PROM, a highlight for many students, especially seniors.
- ▶ May 9th: Senior march, including a picture session and visits to local grade schools.
- ▶ May 15th: Graduation practice to ensure everything is set for the big day.
- ▶ May 22nd: Last day of school, final graduation practice, and the Senior Picnic, providing a fun and relaxing day for the graduating class.
- ▶ May 30th: The Distinguished Graduate Banquet, celebrating top-achieving students.

### Graduation Day

The culmination of these events will be on June 2nd, when the graduation ceremony takes place, marking a significant milestone in the lives of our senior students. This day not only represents the completion of their high school education but also the beginning of their future endeavors.

Michigan City High School is proud to support and celebrate its students' accomplishments and milestones. These events serve not just as a recognition of student success but also as an inspiration for continuing achievement in the years to come.



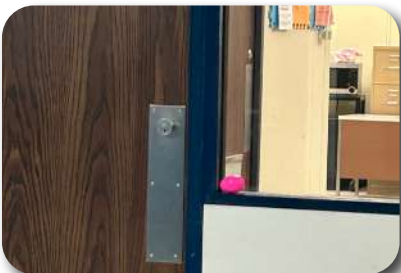
# Healthy Culture

## 1st Annual Easter Egg Hunt at MCHS

Michigan City High School hosted its inaugural Easter Egg Hunt the week before spring break, organized by Healthy Culture. The event took place inside the school, with eggs hidden throughout the hallways. Each egg contained a note directing students to a specific teacher's room where they could claim their prize, ranging from candy to gift cards.

This creative approach transformed the school into an interactive treasure hunt, promoting engagement and interaction between students and faculty. The inclusion of gift cards as prizes added an exciting twist, boosting participation and enthusiasm.

The successful event not only provided a fun activity but also strengthened the school community, setting a festive precedent for future celebrations at MCHS.



# Open Door

## MCHS Care Closet

*Open House May 16 (during lunches)*

*Room #O-109*

*Come visit the Care Closet and  
stock up on items you might  
need over the summer!*

# Yearbook

## 2024 YEARBOOK



*Don't miss out!  
Reserve your copy today!*

\*\*\*\*\*



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# MAY CALENDAR



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

## May Events

- ▶ 5/01 - Early Release Day
- ▶ 5/02 - Graduation Practice (9:15-10:15)
- ▶ 5/03 - Prom
- ▶ 5/06 - Freshman Awards (9am)
- ▶ 5/07 - Pops Night (7pm)
- ▶ 5/08 - Sophomore Awards (9am)
- ▶ 5/08 - JROTC Awards
- ▶ 5/09 - Graduation Practice (7:25-10:30)
- ▶ 5/10 - International Olympics (2:15-4:30)
- ▶ 5/14 - Junior Awards (9am)
- ▶ 5/15 - Graduation Practice (7:25-10:30)
- ▶ 5/16 - Senior Awards (9am)
- ▶ 5/17 - Early College 10 year Celebration
- ▶ 5/17 - Showcase (7pm)
- ▶ 5/20 - Senior Finals (Gray)
- ▶ 5/21 - Finals 9-12 (Blue)
- ▶ 5/22 - Underclassman Finals (Gray)
- ▶ 5/22 - Final Graduation Practice & Senior Picnic
- ▶ 5/22 - Last Day of School
- ▶ 5/27 - Memorial Day
- ▶ 5/28 - Spring Athletic Awards
- ▶ 5/30 - Distinguished Banquet

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