



# Wolves Wire

An e-mail newsletter from Michigan City High School

November 2020

Volume 13, Number 3

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## Contact Us

Comments? Suggestions?

Contact Joyce Westphal

jwestphal@mcas.k12.in.us

## From the Desk of the Principal...

Welcome to November, Wolves!

We've been back in in-person school for a few weeks now and everyone is starting to settle in to a new routine. It's great to have students back in classrooms learning and seeing and hearing smiles and laughter throughout the day. Our MCAS Online students continue to work hard in their online classes--connecting to students virtually through Zoom, Google Classroom and Blackboard.

November is the start of high school accountability and graduation testing. Eligible juniors and seniors complete the ASVAB test on December 9. All 11th grade students will complete the ISTEP+ in Math and English starting November 9th. In-person and online students are required to test in person. Both of these tests are crucial steps in the journey towards a high school diploma. Watch your email and our website for more logistical information regarding testing.

Throughout the fall, MCHS engaged in a school improvement process to help track our school journey and create a roadmap to pave the way for us to continue to offer a robust, rigorous and inclusive school experience to our students and families. As a results of our school improvement process, we have identified the following goals for MCHS:

1. *MCHS students in grades 9-11 will achieve a 3% increase in meeting mathematics college-ready benchmarks as measured by the PSAT assessments by the end of 2020-23 school year.*
  2. *MCHS students will achieve a 3% increase in meeting the English-reading-writing college-ready benchmarks as measured by PSAT assessments by the end of 2020-23 school year.*
  3. *MCHS will strengthen our diploma by increasing the percentage of honors diplomas earned by 3%.*
- MCHS will decrease the rate of chronic absenteeism by 2% during the 2020-21 school year.*

MCHS is committed to supporting our students and staff in our journey to achieving these goals. Staff are engaged in frequent conversations and work sessions to ensure we're delivering high quality instruction and we continue to provide additional supports and interventions to our students to help achieve college and career readiness for all students.

November also reminds us of the importance of gratitude. As Thanksgiving approaches, MCHS would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the entire Michigan City community, our families, students and staff. We know that navigating school during the global pandemic has been stressful and full of unknowns but our community has rallied around our families and our schools to help ensure that our students have the best possible school experience despite the new reality we're facing. We couldn't be more grateful for our community and the strength, resilience and pride that Michigan City has shown throughout 2020! Stay strong, stay healthy and GO WOLVES!

Julie Fregien  
Interim Principal



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## Counselors' Corner

The Counseling Department would like to thank you all for your continued support as we navigate through the many challenges wrought by Covid 19. It is more important than ever that we continue to work together to keep our students on track for graduation.

Utilizing Parent Access is key to staying up to date on your student's grades, attendance, etc. When checking grades did you know that you can click on a particular class to see where your student is at with turning in assignments and what grade they earned on an assignment or test? You can also email a teacher directly from Parent Access if you have a question or concern about a particular class. Attendance, whether in-person or on-line is extremely important for a student to be successful in a class. If you need assistance with Parent Access you can contact Mrs. Krachinski at 219-873-2044 x4340 or email her at [jkrachinski@mcas.k12.in.us](mailto:jkrachinski@mcas.k12.in.us).

Does your student need a transcript? Students have been notified that transcript requests are done through Naviance. For assistance with Naviance your student can email Mr. Garrett at [agarr01@mcas.k12.in.us](mailto:agarr01@mcas.k12.in.us).

The ASVAB is being held December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Passing the ASVAB meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> requirement of the Graduation Pathway for those students who have not passed ISTEP. Students who need to take the ASVAB will be notified prior to the 9<sup>th</sup> of December. Encourage them to review for the ASVAB by looking at an online study guide. Here is a link to one below:

<https://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/asvab/asvab-study-tips.html>

Remind them how important it is to do well for graduation.

The next SAT will be December 5<sup>th</sup> with a registration deadline of November 5<sup>th</sup>. Links can be found on the Guidance web page or students can go to [collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org).

We the Counselors are thankful for our students, staff, administration, and all of their families.



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## From the Treasurer

The 2020/2021 Textbook Rental Fees statements will be mailed out as soon as they are available. Once the fees are loaded and we are ready to accept payments, you will be able to pay by credit/debit in your Parent Access. When you log in, you will select the "pay here" located under your child's photo/Name. Be sure to enter your correct billing info when you enter your credit/debit. Other payment options are to mail a check or money order to MCHS/TEXTBOOK RENTAL or by check, cash, or money order at the treasurer's office.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONCERNING TEXTBOOK RENTAL ASSISTANCE!

All students at Michigan City Area Schools will receive meals at no charge because of the Community Eligibility Program (CEP)! Students still need funds in their cafeteria account for extra milk or a la carte items. Because of this program, parents no longer need to apply for meal assistance. However, parents **MUST** still apply for Textbook Rental Assistance.

The **Textbook/Curricular Materials Assistance application** is part of the online registration for all students. If you did not complete the form for this when registering your child, you can complete an application at any time. **To apply for Textbook assistance:** log in to Parent Access, select your child, and choose the Registration tab at the top of the screen. Click on the link for Textbook Assistance to enter your information.

Parents must apply for textbook rental assistance **EACH** school year. Because situations change, families may apply at any time during the year. If you receive Food Stamps or TANF you may already be pre-approved for Textbook Assistance. New students to Michigan City Area Schools must complete an application even if they were approved in their old school corporation.

### SENIOR PARENTS-IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR 2020/2021

Please watch for information for past due Textbook Rental and Chromebook fees. If you have past due fees you will receive a report of fees due in the mail soon.

If you have any questions, please call the treasurer at 219-873-2044 ext 4305.



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## Open Door



### Open Door Adolescent Health Center

#### **WE ARE OPEN!**

The Open Door Adolescent Health Center – school-based health and mental health clinic is open and available for in person and Telehealth Services. We understand with the current uncertainty of the 2020-2021 school year, our students might not know how to reach us. We are going to do our best to be open on the days that Michigan City High School has in person hybrid learning (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays). When school is in session for the full week in person, Open Door Adolescent Health Center will then be available every day except Wednesdays for all students regardless of whether they are in person or virtual learners. Please know that due to COVID-19, our clinic is now taking special precautions to keep our students and staff safe. Open Door has new procedures and protocols in place and is no longer doing walk in appointments. In addition, Open Door Adolescent Health Center offers mental health support services (in person and Telehealth by MSW Social Workers). Please call our office at **(219)873-2082** and we will send your student an email link to fill out Google Form requesting services. Service request can also be sent to [dbriggs@mcas.k12.in.us](mailto:dbriggs@mcas.k12.in.us)

**If you have not yet registered your student for our services, please go to the MCHS website under Open Door Adolescent Health Center and fill out the online registration - must be done by parent/legal guardian.**

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## Student Council



The Michigan City High School Student Council recently held elections for the 2020-2021 Student Council officer positions and the winners are as follows: President- Reese Attar, Vice-President- Aviana Garner, Secretary- Kayla Campbell and Treasurer- Nelly Serrano.

Our Student Council members have been meeting regularly via Zoom, and now in person, safely socially-distanced as well, and are working on many different things for this year including our Annual Canned Food Drive, Talent Show (hopefully in the spring), and a possible Winter Homecoming, as we did not have our traditional fall homecoming festivities. We have been writing letters for the Salvation Army to go along with our proposed monetary donation and are also planning on working with the Salvation Army once again for their Annual Bell Ringing campaign. Unfortunately, at this time, we will have to cancel or postpone our traditional Sadie's Dance, for the safety of the Michigan City Area Schools community, but we are still working on ways to promote school spirit, preserve school traditions, and promote community outreach.

Any student who still wants to join the MCHS Student Council can contact either Mrs. Elaine Rivich or Ms. Katie St. Germaine to be added to our Google Classroom page. We will also send out Zoom links for the meetings for those students who are remote learners. We would love to welcome new members who are interested in working together proactively as leaders in our school to make a difference.

## Music Department

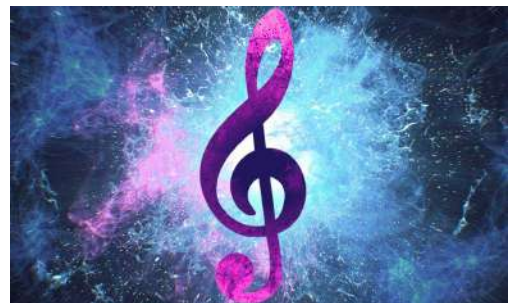
Mr. Gast and Mrs. Howisen are very excited to be back live with students! We are looking forward to creating music in the ensemble setting once again.

The choir and band students made great strides during virtual learning first quarter and were able to experience private voice and instrumental lessons.

We are adapting to the new policies for Covid mitigation in the music classroom and are doing everything in our power to keep every student safe during these trying times.

Stay safe and healthy!

Go Wolves!





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## Yearbook

*As the world adjusts to change, one thing that remains constant is the yearbook tradition.*

**We ARE producing a 2020-2021 yearbook!**

**Order yours today for only \$65.00!**

**jostens.com**

Would you like a pictorial documentation of an unforgettable, historical year? We have a limited supply of 2019-2020 yearbooks available for \$70.00. Email [lpoulin@mcas.k12.in.us](mailto:lpoulin@mcas.k12.in.us) to request yours today!

**SHOULD I BUY A YEARBOOK?**

**YES**

**also YES  
but in  
yellow**

**Some things are just obvious**

**JOSTENSYEARBOOKS.COM**

*Jostens*

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## FACS Department

The Intro to Culinary Class was excited about their first lab in the classroom. They practice their knife skills on some vegetables. Some of the vegetables were vac sealed to be used later. The rest were used to make this delicious tomato-cucumber salad.



### ***Tomato Cucumber Salad***

5 large tomatoes (tomatoes on the vine are best), quartered  
 1 English cucumber, peeled and sliced  
 1/2 large red onion, sliced  
 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley  
 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro  
 1 pinch kosher salt + 1 pinch black pepper

### ***For the dressing:***

1/2 cup olive oil  
 1/4 cup red wine vinegar  
 1 teaspoon kosher salt + 1 pinch freshly ground black pepper  
 1 garlic cloves, minced  
 1 teaspoon honey or brown sugar (optional for low-carb, Keto, or sugar-free diets)  
 1 teaspoon dried oregano

### ***Directions:***

1. To make the tomato-cucumber salad: In a large bowl, combine all ingredients for the salad: tomato, cucumber, red onion, parsley, and cilantro. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and toss to combine.
2. To prepare the dressing, throw all of the dressing ingredients into a small bowl or a mason jar and whisk together vigorously until well blended.
3. Pour the dressing over the veggies and toss gently. Cover the bowl with plastic and let sit at room temperature until ready to serve, for 1 to 3 hours. This will allow the flavors to meld together. Serve the tomato-cucumber salad when you're ready, enjoy!

The **online Advanced Nutrition and Wellness class** learned the importance of water. All the students were required to complete an online presentation of "The Importance of Water". The project included the benefits of water in the body and its functions, signs of dehydration, the water contents in various food, the daily re-

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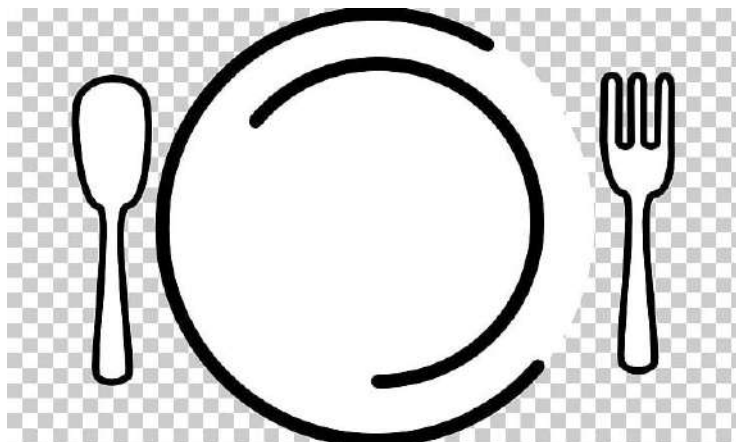
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quirements, and factors that affect how water is required. The students did a great job; they were very creative.

### **Nutrition and Wellness**

The students are currently learning about healthy meal planning. Planning begins in the kitchen, so we are familiarizing ourselves with the kitchen and its contents. The types of equipment in the kitchen are stocked with influences of meals you can plan and prepare. To become a successful cook, they need to understand the appliances and tools that are most useful for preparing foods.





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## Visual Arts Department

Submitted by Ms. Kedo

The Visual Arts Department teachers are working hard to get on-line classes and in-school classes moving smoothly. It has been a very interesting time for us, trying to get things going.

If your students are taking an on-line class, their Art teacher will contact their students with supplies information when ready. We ask that you pick up supplies in the Main Office or have a trusted in school friend pick up your student's supplies. Please email your student's Art teacher so we can inform the office of the information.

The classes will continue to ... Work to organize and develop artistic ideas that will help them experiment with forms, structures, materials, concepts, media and art-making approaches to enhance their own art. (Standard 2 of Indiana Academic Standards for the Fine Arts)

\*\*\*\*\*

-Submitted by Mrs. Whitler

Mrs. Whitler's Fiber Arts students created yarn paintings based on the photographs of Karl Blossfeldt. Blossfeldt is best known for his extremely close up photos of plants and other living things. Students chose a photo and used it as inspiration for their yarn paintings.



← By Kyra Bunsold

By Alyssa Denvit →



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## JAG Program

### JAG Indiana Region One Initiation and Installation Ceremony

On Wednesday, November 18, 2020 our Michigan City High School JAG Program will hold its annual Initiation and Installation Ceremony and it will be the 1<sup>st</sup> ever Virtual Ceremony. I & I is a national tradition where students are officially initiated as members of the JAG Career Association and where each program installs an officer for each position--president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. This year approximately 500 students across our region will be initiated into the JAG Career Association. Congratulations to all of our students who have joined and/or assumed leadership roles for this year's JAG program here at Michigan City High School.

#### JAG Program Michigan City High School Raymond Davis, JAG Specialist 2020-21 Officers

**Chapter President**-Theodore Mathias

**VP Leadership Development**-Davion Anderson

**VP Career Development**-Roselle Taylor

**VP Social Activities**-Ciara Russell

**VP Civic Awareness**-Amya Higgins

**Secretary**-Marissa Renteria

**Historian**-Jacob Owens

**Parliamentarian**- Sativa Santana

Special thanks to JobWorks Inc., Center of Workforce Innovations and the Michigan City High School faculty and staff for all of your support for our JAG Program!



*Photos and information provided by JAG specialists and students.*

**Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) - Indiana Career Ready**

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## JROTC

### MCHS MCJROTC PREPARES FOR CYBER PATRIOT, DRILL SEASONS



The cadets of the Michigan City High School (MCHS) Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC) are not allowing the pandemic to deter them from being ready for upcoming competitions in Cyber Patriot. This is the national youth cyber education program created by the Air Force Association to inspire high school students toward careers in cyber security or other science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines critical to our nation's future. . Conforming to masking and social distancing restrictions, the cadets are determined to be prepared to perform at their highest level. At the core of the program is the National

Youth Cyber Defense competition, putting high school students in charge of securing virtual networks.

"Since cyber security is an up and coming career field, offering great job satisfaction and high salaries, Cyber Patriot is a fantastic opportunity for cadets to obtain an orientation into this field," said faculty advisor Mr. Ralph Gee. Gee is also the Robotics and Engineering instructor at MCHS.

All of the cadets on the Cyber Patriot team are also members of the Military Drill Team. "Our goal is to qualify for and then win the National MCJROTC championship," said Senior Marine Instructor Major Tom McGrath. This school year's championship is being held in Miami Beach, Florida. That trip, like all MCJROTC activities, are done at no cost to the student or MCHS. It would be funded by the Marine Corps.

Master Sergeant Jeff Benak, the Marine Instructor, commented on the dedication of the cadets. "Once we obtain a firm word on future drill meets, we will start to practice before school, since it is the only time that we have access to the gym. It takes much dedication to be here every morning for practice at 5:45 am."

MCHS is scheduled to host a military drill meet on March 20, 2021. This could also be the Sectional qualifying meet for the National Championship meet. There are 21 schools in MCHS's section, encompassing the states of Ohio, Michigan, Illinois as well as Indiana. "It would be quite an event for us to host, but I know our cadets and Booster Club are up to doing it," said McGrath.



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### Dates to Remember

11/03	E-Learning Day
11/09	ISTEP testing starts
11/23-11/27	Thanksgiving Break (no school)
12/05	SAT testing
12/09	ASVAB testing
12/12	ACT test
12/21	Winter Break Begins
01/04	School Resumes

