



East Washington School Corporation

"All for One - One for All"

Our Vision is to achieve
Excellence in Education

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Relax, Refocus, & Retool

July is a great time to enjoy the three "R's" of summer: relax, refocus energy, and retool for the coming school year. Teachers and staff at East Washington School Corporation do just that! Our staff and teachers enjoy time vacationing, spending time with their families, and learning new instructional strategies (formally or informally through professional learning opportunities) to better equip themselves for student learning. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to find time to spend with your child(ren) investigating, learning, or discovering new adventures before school begins again on August 5 for students.

The Indiana Department of Education reported to school corporations in June that results from last spring's ISTEP+ assessments will not be available to parents and schools until November. This is due, in part, to new Indiana academic standards implemented this past school year along with a new ISTEP+ test to measure student

learning of the new standards. If you recall, the total time of the assessment your child experienced this past spring was much longer. It appears that the Indiana Department of Education will use this summer and fall to determine which of the questions your child answered will be used for the final results from the testing for last year, determine new passing scores for all grade levels, and create a revised mathematical method of determining individual student growth from the prior year on ISTEP+.

Throughout Indiana, teachers and administrators are bracing themselves for lower scores overall due to the new testing format and new Indiana academic standards being measured. Regardless of the outcome, remember this assessment is ONE measure, taken during ONE time, for ONE specific purpose. At East Washington School Corporation, student learning and success with grade or course level Indiana academic standards is measured in a *variety* of ways and through *multiple measures* throughout the *whole school year*.

Education of every student is the most important part of what we do at East Washington School Corporation. We take that job seriously. Each and every year, dedicated teachers and staff work with our students to ensure they receive the BEST education possible at all three of our school buildings within the corporation. Excellence in education is not just something we say. It is something we provide.

Enjoy the remaining weeks of summer. I look forward to seeing our students in August!

Steve Darnell
Superintendent



Five of the students with perfect IREAD scores were at the June Board Meeting. Front Row: Dylahn Coats, Gracie Mauck, Brooke Sease, Whitney Perry, and Paige Fleming. Photo Credit: Kate Wehlann with The Leader

IREAD Students Receive Perfect Score

Ten EWES third grade students were recognized at the June 9 meeting of the East Washington School Corporation Board of Trustees. These students scored a perfect score on the Indiana Reading Evaluation and Determination (IREAD-3) assessment.

The purpose of the IREAD assessment is to measure foundational reading standards through grade three. The IREAD is a summative assessment based on the Indiana Academic Standards being used in all classrooms. This assessment was developed in accordance with House Enrolled Act 1367 (also known as Public Law 109 in 2010), which "requires the evalua-

tion of reading skills for students who are in grade three to ensure that all students can read proficiently before moving on to grade four."

This is the largest group that EWES has had to this date to reach this remarkable accomplishment. It is a wonderful reflection on our students, staff and parents. Congratulations to the following students: Samantha Blanken, Dylahn Coats, Paige Fleming, Braydon Gaynor, Gracie Mauck, Dagon Odd, Whitney Perry, Caidence Pickerill, Brooke Sease, and Peyton Stewart.

-Mrs. Esarey

Dates to Remember:

July 14
School Board Meeting

July 30 8:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.
Registration

July 31 8:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.
Registration

August 5
First Student Day

August 11
School Board Meeting

September 7
Labor Day (No School)

September 8
School Board Meeting

Student Achievements

The 2014-2015 school year is history. As I reflect on the many student achievements, I consider this past school year to be a HUGE success. Below are just a few of the accomplishments that were achieved throughout the year.

- EHS received a \$10,000 grant from Monsanto to expand our Math, Science, and Agriculture curriculum.
- EHS football team won its first sectional game in the program's short history.
- The Marching Band competed in the Scholastic State Finals competition.
- The Cross Country team qualified for Regional.
- FFA Soil Judging Team competed in the National Soil Judging contest in Oklahoma City.
- Boys Basketball defeated

Crawford County to win the 2015 Sectional.

- EHS received accreditation from AdvancED for the next five years.
- The Leadership Project earned the honor of having the Most Outstanding Community Plan for the My Community, My Vision project which was sponsored by Ball State University. The plan consists of a variety of projects to improve Washington County.
- Ben Prindle, Olivia Baker, and Bailey England were selected as the 2015 Society of Plastic Engineers Essay Contest Winners.
- A school wide video to promote school spirit was filmed and received over 4,000 "hits" on YouTube.
- The EHS Dance Team competed in the 2015 State Competi-



Essay Contest Winners: Bailey England, Olivia Baker, and Ben Prindle

tion.

- Many students participated in numerous volunteer activities to improve our community.
- End of Course Assessment scores continued to improve this year.

- *Algebra I increased by 14% from the previous year
- *English 10 increased by 2% from the previous year
- *Biology I increased by 6% from the previous year

These success stories would not be possible without the hard work and dedication from our students, teachers, support staff, families, and other stakeholders. I want to thank everyone for a great year, and I look forward to more success next year. Enjoy the summer!

-Mr. Farris

Looking Forward to the 2015-16 School Year

Hopefully all of our middle school Musketeers are enjoying a restful and pleasant summer break! The new school year will be here before we know it, and while the students may be enjoying some time off, our staff is working hard to make sure that 2015-2016 will be the best school year yet!

Last year the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) adopted College and Career Ready Standards to ensure that Hoosier students would be equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed after graduation. Since this implementation, schools across Indiana have struggled to realign curriculum, recreate lesson plans, and monitor student progress of the new standards.

Here's the good news: I can say with confidence that East Washington has been progressive and successful in making the neces-

sary changes to not only meet the requirements of the IDOE, but to ensure a top notch education for our students. During the 2014-2015 school year, East Washington teachers used Mastery Connect to track student understanding of the new standards as they were taught. For each standard, teachers received immediate and timely feedback for every child. Students who mastered the standard were given enrichment activities to take them to the next level, and students who didn't master the standard were retaught. After all, we want EVERY child to reach their highest potential!

Here's the even better news: During the 2015-2016 school year, we will be opening the Mastery Connect Parent Portal, and parents will be able to see which College and Career Ready standards their child has mastered and which ones they

are still struggling with. Many already access Harmony on a regular basis, and we still want parents to do that in order to check grades and assignments, but now parents will also be able to view detailed summaries of their child's progress on the specific standards. We want to keep parents in the loop and assure you that your child is receiving an excellent education at East Washington Middle School!

More information will be coming soon on how to access the Mastery Connect Parent Portal. Make sure you "like" the middle school Facebook page for updates and news, and don't forget we'll be welcoming our incoming 5th graders at orientation on July 28th at 6:00. Registration for grades 6-8 will be on July 30th and 31st. We look forward to seeing you then!

-Ms. Sater

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