COMMUNICATOR

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From Our Superintendent

The single biggest problem in communication is the

illusion that it has taken place. - George Bernard Shaw

Communication in the 21st century should be a breeze. Smart phones and Facebook make contacting your friends, family, and acquaintances easier than ever with the touch of a button. Web pages store endless amounts of useful information, keeping it just a few clicks away at all times.

But an overabundance of information creates a scarcity of attentiveness. West Central and other schools must tackle the challenge of communicating meaningful information to parents and community members who are drowning in a flood of feeds, texts, emails, and junk mail. When information pours in from all sides, it's difficult to discern the important from the unimportant.

As a school leader, there is nothing more disheartening than hearing a parent say they "didn't know" something crucial they should have known - doubly so when it's something we felt we did a great job advertising! We need your help to do better.

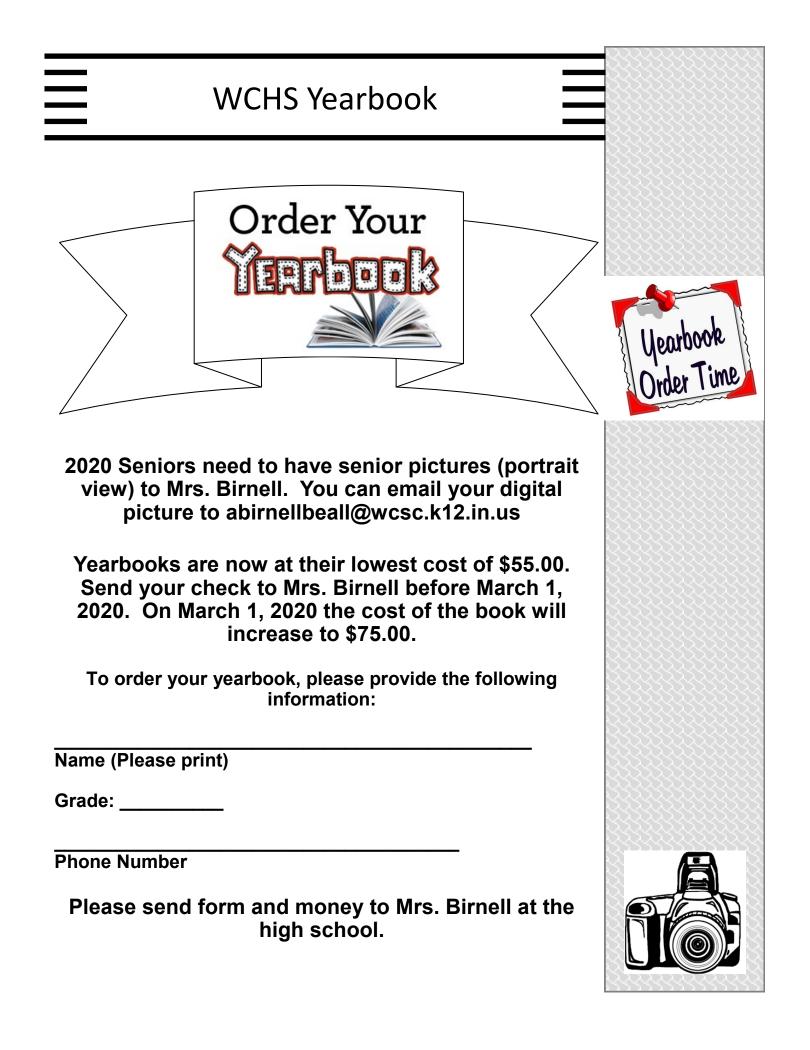
West Central is in the process of merging our disparate websites into one, cohesive site with all the information you'll need about our district in one place. We're working to combine calendars and provide more consistency with how our information is presented. We've invested in a new student information system and are continuing to refine its features to give you the information you need at your fingertips.

We want to hear from you! What is the best way to reach you? How can information stand out so it's meaningful and actionable? Do you follow our Facebook feed? Do you read the Communicator? You must if you've gotten this far, so call us and let us know you did!

Contact us to let us know how to best contact you. That way we're not laboring under the illusion that communication has taken place.

Sincerely,

Dan Zylstra, Superintendent West Central School Corporation 219-567-9161 or dzylstra@wcsc.k12.in.us



News from the School Nurse

Immunization Information

Parents, the Department of Health has revised the immunization requirements for certain school age groups. You can get an early start completing their immunizations now. These vaccinations will be required for your child to start school. Remember, if your child has a religious/medical objection to vaccines, an objection form must be signed yearly. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Mellon at 219-567-9741.

New Immunization Requirements for 2019-20:

Hepatitis A— Two doses of Hepatitis A is required for K-4 and 7th and 12th graders (new). The doses have to be <u>6 months apart</u>.

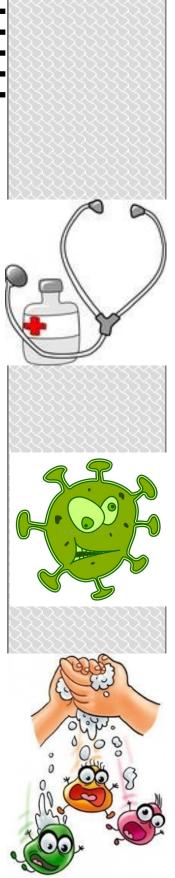
MCV4 (Meningococcal) and **Tdap** (Tetanus & Pertussis) needed for students going into **6th grade**.

2-MCV4's - required for 12th graders.

Take Everyday preventative actions to stop the spread of germs.

- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
- If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone for 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. After using a tissue, throw it in the trash and wash your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs like flu.

Please keep your child home from school if they have a fever, vomiting or diarrhea. This will help prevent the spread of germs to our students and staff. They must stay home and be symptom free for 24 hours without medicine before returning to school. We appreciate your cooperation!



Notes from the Guidance Office

Mark your calendar for the following events in early 2020:

Seniors and Senior Parents:

Scholarship season is in full swing. Please note the following and see Mrs. Kennedy if you have questions:

West Central Scholarship – available now and due March 13, 2020 – WCHS website Jasper County Scholarships – available now and due March 1, 2020(www.jasperfdn.org) Pulaski County Scholarships – available January 17 and due March 6, 2020 (www.cfopc.org)

Juniors and Junior Parents:

Thursday, March 5 at 6:30 p.m. - Informational meeting in the HS Media Center to prepare for the senior year.

We will discuss planning for college, trade and technical schools after graduation. SAT and ACT testing will be discussed as well as the application process for scholarships and colleges. Light refreshments will be provided.

Attention All 8th Grade Students and Parents!!!

You are encouraged to attend:

What: Freshman Orientation to High SchoolWhen: Monday, March 9, 2020Time: 6:30 p.m.Place: High School Cafetorium

Topics to be addressed:

- Diploma Types and Requirements
- Local Graduation Requirements
- Graduation Pathway Diploma Requirements
- Scheduling for High School
- Four Year Planning for High School
- College and Career Planning

High School Scheduling for 2020-21

We are only half way through the 2019-20 school year and it is already time to start scheduling for next year. Mrs. Kennedy began working before the Christmas Break on the scheduling process. Parents and students are reminded to contact the guidance office/student support services if they have questions concerning which classes to take, what is required for high school graduation, what is required for college, and what coursework is needed for each diploma type.



Please call and make an appointment if you would like to meet with Mrs. Kennedy to talk about your child's credits, schedule or future plans.

Minimum high school graduation requirements (Core 40) are: 40 Credits and passing the Core 40 End of Course Assessments.

- 8 Credits of English
- 6 Credits of Math
- 6 Credits of Science
- 1 Credit of Health
- 2 Credit of Physical Education
- 1 Credit of Preparing for College/Career
- 6 Credits of Social Študies (1 Ğov't, 2 U.S. History, & 2 World History/Geography, Economics)
- 18 Elective Credits

In addition, students must be enrolled in a Math or Quantitative Reasoning course each year of high school.

Students in the Class of 2023 and classes beyond this graduation year MUST earn a Graduation Pathway Diploma which has additional requirements to those listed above.

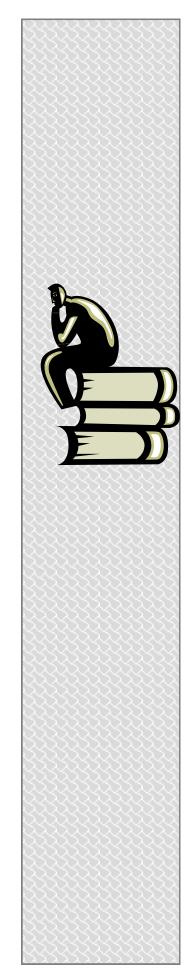
College requirements are increasing. Each college sets its own admissions requirements. State supported colleges are not required to accept Indiana graduates.

Some colleges have standard requirements for all students to meet in order to be admitted to the college. Other colleges have each department within the college establish their respective requirements. Purdue University has different admissions requirements for each department. Two years of a foreign language is a requirement for many fouryear colleges.

High Grades + High SAT/ACT Scores = More \$\$\$ in scholarships, grants and financial aid!! Students need to be encouraged to take high school seriously from the beginning of 9th grade and beyond.

College Costs Estimator is a fairly new tool for students and parents. Check it out at:

http://www.indianacollegecosts.org/calculate-your-college-costs



GYM & SWIM

Our Gym & Swim season will be coming to an end in February. Students have done a great job with learning new swimming skills. The pool area always enjoys this time of year. During the next few weeks students will be working on passing their level and hopefully advancing to the next color cap. Our safety portion is a success with students learning that water is fun but there are also dangers. Each week we go over what to do in an emergency and what is safe swimming. Great Job to all the students!

Just a reminder NO SCHOOL = NO POOL. Winter is here and the pool will not be opened when school is canceled or dismissed early. We also may need to close early due to weather conditions. We want everyone to stay safe! To check on the current status of the pool please refer to the West Central Facebook page.





Driver's Education 2019

AGE: 15 years old by June 1, 2020

REQUIREMENTS: Driver's Education in Indiana exists in two parts. There is a Classroom portion and a Driving portion. The State of Indiana requires that you complete 30 hours of classroom time or an equivalent online program. You will take your Classroom portion of Driver's Ed online through Driving Brilliance.com. You are also required to take 6 hours of in the car training to complete Driver's Ed. At West Central driving will be done during the month of June. You must be at least 15 years old in the State of Indiana to get your Learner's Permit. If you complete Driver's Education and hold your permit for 180 days, then you will be able to get your license when you are 16 years and 90 days old.

CLASS: The classroom portion of the class will be done online through Driving Brilliance. To access the registration go to **drivingbrilliance.com** and select register. Drive at my high school. Make sure to put West Central as the high school. Students may begin the online class after they turn 15, and must be completed to drive this summer. The online class may be done at home, on school computers during the school year, or students may also come to school to use computers during the first two weeks of June.

FEES; Total cost for the program will be \$275.00. A \$25 fee will be paid to Driving Brilliance for the online class. The fee must be paid online. A \$250.00 fee will be paid to West Central for driving. Out of corporation students will be charged \$350. Students not completing the class will be refunded \$150.00 (only if requested in writing).

PERMIT: Students will be given a CDE form once they turn 15 years old and have the \$250 fee paid. This form is what is needed to get the student driving permit. Students will take the CDE form and proper documents (found in Driver's Manual) to the license branch to get their permit. Students must take and pass a written test at the license branch over the driver's manual to get their permit. The manual can be found online at www.in.gov/bmv/ under the drivers education tab. I have also ordered manuals to be delivered to West Central.

DRIVING: Each student must drive for 6 hours. Driving groups will be assigned at the end of May. Driving will begin at West Central and students will be dropped off at West Central after driving.

VACATIONS: If there is a specific week a student cannot drive, please fill out the form below so we do not schedule the student to drive during that time. Remember there is only so much flexibility we will have to get all students scheduled. Please include any camps, 4-H fairs, and vacations.

Students Full Name_____ Date of Birth_____

_____ Phone_____

Address _____ Date of Vacation or camps_____

Parent Full Name _____

Parent Signature_____

Parent Phone

Contact Mike Harter 567-9119 School or 574-870-6605 Cell

Please return the bottom portion of this page to Mr. Harter with your payment.



NHS Valentine's Day Fundraiser

West Central High School's National Honor Society is organizing its annual Valentine's Day fundraiser. Students, staff, parents, and relatives can order assorted flowers, cookies, or fruit snacks for their loved ones: carnations for \$2.00 each, large cookies for \$1.00 each, or Fruit Snacks for \$1.00 each.

Sales begin Monday, January 20, and run through Wednesday, February 7. High school and middle school students can place orders during lunch. Elementary school students can place orders in the Elementary School Office. Alternately, you can send in the order forms below. The orders will be distributed on Thursday, February 13 (or Friday, February 14 if we have a make-up snow day. We are currently scheduled to be off that day).

Show your love for that special person, and thank you for supporting the West Central High School National Honor Society's scholarship fund!

NHS Valentines Order Form

Please enclose this order form with payment in a sealed envelope. You may copy this form. 0:

Where:	(First	name)		(Last name)		
□ K1 □ K2 □ k □ 1 st – 5 th Grade		Teacher (5A, 2C, etc.)	Teacher			
Middle School				6 th	7 th	
🗌 High School	Grade	_ Teacher(s): 5 th _		6 th	7 th	
From:						
What:	cookies \$1.0	00) + (flower	s \$2.00) +	(Fruit Snack	x \$1.00) = Total	
Message:						

NHS Valentines Order Form

Please enclose this order form with payment in a sealed envelope. You may copy this form. Tn

			_	
Where:	(First name)	(Last name)		
Middle School	G ☐ KR Teacher Homeroom (5A, 2C, etc.) Grade Teacher(s): 5 th Grade Teacher(s): 5 th	Teacher 6 th	7 th	
	cookies \$1.00) + (flowe	ers \$2.00) + (Fruit Snack x \$1.	00) = Total	



¡Destination Change! Travel 2022 to Spain and Italy



Sign up now for the next group travel opportunity, Spring Break, 2022!

Highlights include: Rome (Vatican, St. Peter's, Sistine Chapel), Florence Madrid, Toledo, Barcelona (Sagrada Familia), Valencia

Who can travel? Anyone currently in grade 7 and up, including adults. Friends and relatives from other schools welcome.

Want to know more?

Contact: Mrs. Rebecca Reed Or go to <u>www.eftours.com/2277199e</u>











Educational Foundation Donations

As we approach the end of the school year, please be reminded of the opportunity to donate to the West Central Schools Educational Foundation.

The foundation is a tax-exempt charitable organization under Section 501C(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and incorporated under Indiana Law as a not-for-profit corporation. Contributions are deductible for income, estate and gift tax purposes.

The purpose of the foundation is to provide scholarships for the youth of the West Central School Corporation. A secondary purpose is to promote educational excellence by raising funds for an endowment through which grants can be awarded for the purpose of strengthening educational programs.

If you would like to become a donor, please complete the form below. You may stop by the Central Office if you are interested in establishing an Advised Endowment Fund Agreement.

NAME	 	
ADDRESS_	 	

Contribution of \$	
--------------------	--

Please make checks payable to West Central Schools Educational Foundation

Mail to: WCSE Foundation P.O. Box 578 Francesville, IN 47946





WEST CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2020-2021 KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP INFORMATION

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS: Your child must be 5 by September 1, 2020, and you must provide a legal birth certificate. Your child must be fully immunized.

ROUND-UP DAY: Tuesday, April 7. Your Round-up session will last approximately two hours. During your session, your child will be given a kindergarten readiness screening and his or her vision will be checked. You will also have the opportunity to meet the principal, counselor, nurse, speech pathologists and kindergarten teachers. School registration forms will also be filled out at this time.

OTHER: The Kindergarten fee will be determined at a later date. Please complete the form below and return it to the school office by Friday, March 20. If you know of a family who has an eligible child that does not receive a copy of The Communicator or The Trojan News, please ask them to contact the school at 219-567-9741.

PLEASE SAVE TOP PORTION FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP REGISTRATION 2020-2021

Please complete this form and return it to the elementary school by Friday, March 20 so we can schedule your child for this exciting time.

Child's Name	Birth Date	Gender
Parent(s)/Guardian's Name(s)	Telephone Number	
Address of Parent/Guardian Child Resides V	Vith	
Is your child enrolled in the Medaryville Pres	chool? Yes No	
Is your child enrolled in Head Start? Yes	No	
Is your child enrolled in another program?		
Please check your preferred time for your Ro	ound-up session:	
Tuesday AM(9:00) Tuesday PM(1:	:00)	



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF PULASKI COUNTY ONLINE SCHOLARSHIP INSTRUCTION SHEET HOW TO GET STARTED

Go to the CF's very own website at www.cfopc.org and click on Scholarships.

You will see a list of all the scholarships. Begin by clicking on COMMON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION where you will create an account. This will require a user name and password.

~DO NOT SHARE YOUR PASSWORD INFORMATION~

The common application is used as a tool/shortcut and needs to be filled out only once. It will link your information to all other specific applications you apply for.

- Once the common application is complete, you will need to return to the list of scholarships and click on the links for the specific scholarships you wish to apply for until established. Once established you can log in and access them all through smarterselect.com.
- Complete the applications of your choice, making sure to fill in all appropriate information for each application -- each scholarship requires different information and attachments. MAKE SURE YOU SAVE YOUR INFORMATION.

Keep in mind that you can save and return later to complete applications at any time up until the scholarship deadline.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students are responsible for submitting applications online and turning in the signed agreement page by the March 1st, 3:00 p.m. deadline.

Students are responsible for providing the correct contact information for online recommendations. If recommender does not have email, include their first and last name on the online application and then print off the recommender section page and hand deliver. The form has instructions for the recommender to follow.

Check often with recommenders to make sure they have received your request and not sitting in their junk email. Give recommenders adequate time to respond before the deadline.

Students are responsible for informing the guidance office that their transcript needs to be emailed to the CF. GIVE THE GUID-ANCE OFFICE AT LEAST A WEEK'S NOTICE BEFORE THE DEADLINE!! Please wait until after February 2nd to request transcript submission.

VERY IMPORTANT: You must turn in a signature page checking off each specific application you are applying for. If student is under 18, the signature page ALSO needs to be signed by a parent and turned in to the guidance office before the March 1st, 3:00 p.m. deadline.

West Central FFA NEWSLETTER BY : Kayla Hornback & Miranda Thompson



Christmas Party

The Christmas party was on December 13 at Megablast . Members had a blast at laser tag. The members that went to the Christmas Party decided to do two different games. The two games that were decided on were a single player (free for all) and a game with two teams .

Winter Contest

On December 2, 6 members went to Winter Contest and 4 members competed in Winter Contest. Ryan competed in Essay , Jenna competed in Job interview, and Nate and Cameron competed in Small Engines.



REC NIGHT

On January 27, 14 members went to North Newton for Rec Night. Members competed in Basketball, Corn hole, Volleyball.

FFA WEEK

FFA week is the 24th through the 28th of February. This year for FFA week the West Central FFA Chapter will have a convocation along with dress up Days. The dress up days this year are: Monday = America day Tuesday= Official Dress/ FFA apparel Wednesday = Tractor day (Carhartt)

Thursday = Animal/Pajama

Friday= Western day Also on Friday is the petting zoo.

NATIONAL

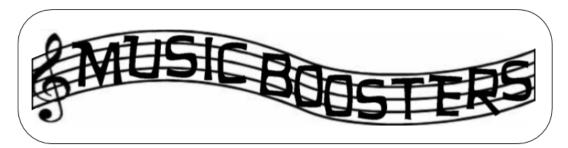
FFA WEEK





KEY DATES

FFA WEEK - February 24-28 Spring CDE - March 14



Middle & High School Band & Choir Director : Heather Straus

Music Boosters Officers:

President - Bobby G.J. Berrier Vice President - Estie Schultz Secretary - Joanna Thompson Treasurer - Angela Bolen Fundraising Coordinator - Donita Stimson

It's that time of year again! **Butter Braid sales begin on February 21st** and run until March 6th. If you are interested in purchasing Butter Braids any 6-12 grade Band or Choir student would be glad to take your order.

If you have an instrument at home that you are no longer using and would like to donate it to the Music program please contact Ms. Straus.

Attention Parents of 6 - 12 grade band and choir students: You are invited and encouraged to attend our monthly Music Booster meetings at 5:30 in the band room. Music Booster meeting dates for the rest of the school year are: February 17, March 16, April 20

Attention Fifth Grade Students and Parents: All 5th grade students will have a chance to try out different instruments during school on April 23. There will be a band sign up night on April 28 from 4-7pm for fifth grade students interest in being in 6th grade band next year. Quinlan & Fabish Music Company and Ms. Straus will be available that night to help students select instruments. Stay tuned for more details and information on this exciting event in April 2020.

*** Important Dates ***

February 1 Vocal/Piano Solo & Ensemble Contest at Valparaiso High School February 6 Pep Band February 8 Instrumental Solo & Ensemble Contest at KV Middle School February 17 Music Boosters Meeting 5:30pm February 21 Butterbraid Sales Begin February 21 Pep Band travel to North White February 22 Pep Band / Senior Night March 14 7th & 8th Grade Band ISSMA Group Contest @ Benton Central March 16 Music Boosters Meeting 5:30pm April 18 High School Band & Choir ISSMA Group Contest @ KV April 20 Music Boosters Meeting 5:30pm April 23 5th Grade instrument testing during school April 28 Band sign up night 4-7pm May 15 Spring Choir Concert 7:00pm in the Cafeteria May 17 Spring Band Concert 2:00pm in the Cafeteria May 18 Music Boosters Meeting 5:30pm May 24 Graduation







The Buy One Get One FREE (BOGO) Book Fairs are coming back to West Central in April! This is a perfect opportunity to stock up on some great books for your family.

Reading for pleasure unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps children discover who they are. Here's what you can do to help children develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading:

- Set the example. Let children see you read.
- Have a collection of books in your home. Update this collection routinely to keep up with changing tastes and reading skills.
- Support our school's Book Fair. Allow your children to choose their own books to read.

Our Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event that brings the books kids want to read right into our school. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable (Buy One Get One FREE) books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fairs and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits.

Book Fair dates & Shopping hours:

Elementary: April 3-9 April 3—8 am-3:15 pm April 6—8 am-3:15 pm April 7—8 am-3:15 pm (Kindergarten Round-Up parents welcome!) April 8—8 am-4 pm April 0—8 am-12:30pm ***Tentative times—Look for more info closer to the dates!***

> Middle & High School: April 20-24 7:30 am—3:30 pm





Track and Field Clinic and Competition

For Students in Grades 3-7

When: Saturday, April 11th Rain date: Saturday, May 16th



What: The clinic is designed to familiarize all participants with each track and field event, teach basic techniques and injury prevention, and encourage healthy competition, sportsmanship and fun.

Schedule: 9 am--check-in @ WC track 9:15 -12--Event Training 12-12:30 pm--Lunch (provided) 12:30-3 pm--Track Meet-all participants will compete (family and friends are encouraged to attend)

Pre-registration is required. Return the following form to the MS or Elem office by Tuesday, March, 31st with \$25 cash or check (made out to West Central). (Included with registration fee: t-shirt, lunch, water throughout the day, ribbons and awards, coaching)

For more information call, text, or email Coach Reed: 219.954.0321, breed@wcsc.k12.in.us

Student's nar	ne:				
Grade:	Room:	Age:	_Gende	er:	
T-shirt size:	YS-YM-YL-AS	S-AM-AL-A>	۲L		
Has student previously attended clinic? Y N # yrs?					
Name of Pare	ent/Guardian: _				
Contact Phor	ne #:			Text? Y/N	



Chill & Beat the Rush Baked Potato Bar

Saturday February 29th Pre-school and under eat free!

WHERE: West Central Cafeteria

WHEN: During Middle School/ K-5 wrestling invite 11 a.m—5 p.m.

Chili – Baked Potato Bar – Drinks – Dessert Pre-sale tickets \$7 At-the-door \$8

Contact Stephanie Thilges for more information at sthilges@wcsc.k12.in.us

Calendar Of Events	1 BVW-Sectional	8 GVBB– Sectional	1 .	22 BVBB-600 North Miami	29 7/8 GB- 10:00@Hebron Classic MSW-9:00 WC Invite
		7 GVBB-Sectional	14 BVBB–6:00 La Crosse	21 BVBB-6:00@North White	28
Ne C		6 BVBB-6:00 Frontier 7/8 GB-6:00 Caston	13 7/8 GB-6:00 North Judson MSW-6:00 Kankakee Valley	20 MSW- 6:00@Rensselaer	27 BVBB- 6:00@Covenant Christian 7/8 GB-6:30 Rensselaer MSW-6:00 Frontier
February 2020		Ŋ	5	6	26
		4 GVBB-Sectional	11 BVBB-6:00@North Judson	18	25 7/8 GB-6:00 Tri County MSW-5:00 Winamac
"STRIVING FOR EXCELLANCE"		3 7/8 GB-5:30 Knox	10 7/8 GB- 6:00@Pioneer	17 7/8 GB-6:30@North Newton	24
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Calendar Of Events	al BVBB-Sectional MSW- 9:00@Rochester Inv.	/C NJHS Rock-a- Thon	2	5	
	6 BVBB-Sectional	13 MSW-6:00 MWC	20	27	
	5 7/8 GB-5:30 Wanatah MSW-5:30@Knox	12 MSW- 6:00@Kankakee Valley VT-Purdue Indoor	0	A H S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	
March 2020	4	5	8	D 3	
	3 BVBB-Sectional	10 MSW- 6:00@Hebron	17 7:00-NHS/NJHS Induction	Z ⁴	31 VSB-5:30@Faith Christian
6 FOR NCE"	2 7/8 GB- 6:00@Winamac	9 6:00-Freshman Orientation	9	D N ³³	30
"STRIVING FOR EXCELLANCE"	~	σ	15	22	29

"STRIVING FOR EXCELLANCE"



April 2019



Calendar Of Events

4 VSB-11:00@Delplhi	11 VSB-10:00 North White	18	25 VSB-10:00 Westville	
ო	10	17	24 VT-5:30@North Miami Relays	
7	9 VSB-5:30 Covenant Christian	16 VT-5:30@North White MST-5:00 Caston VSB-5:30@ Washington Twp. BVG-6:00@Caston	23 MST-5:00 NJSP/ North White VSB-5:00 Winamac BVG-4:30@Tri County	30 MSR-5:30 Wanatah VSB-5:00 Tri County BVG-5:00@Frontier/ Carroll
~	ω	-1 2	22	29
	7 VT-5:00 Winamac	14 VT-4:30@Delphi VSB-5:30 Rensselaer BVG-4:30 Tri County/Carroll	21 VT-5:00 Tri County/ Covenant Christian	28 VT-5:30@North Newton/South Newton VSB-5:30@Kouts
	ω	13 MST-5:00@Tri County VSB-5:30 La Crosse	20 MST- 5:30@Rensselaer/ North Newton VSB-5:00@Argos BVG-5:00@Pioneer	27 MST-5:30@LaVille/ Pioneer VSB-5:00@Caston BVG-5:30@Culver/ Oregon Davis
	ъ	12	19	26





