August 2015

- 2015-16 school year – Child Care sites of five – Eisenhower, Lake Street (MacArthur students attend), Solon Robinson, Timothy Ball, and Jerry Ross (Winfield students attend) Elementary Schools “running well” - Recognized the following people and appreciated their effort and commitment to support the expansion of the Child Care Program - Site Leaders Cathy Kish, Carolyn Lawson, and Cathy Morrow
- September 8, 9, & 14, parent meetings on use and care of devices
- Recognized the following Technology Department and Media Department staff and others for their hard work during the summer months preparing computers for distribution to staff and students for the 2015-16 school year – all devices will be distributed by the first week in September: Doug Taylor, Ruth Schramm, Kim Ferraro, Vicki Dykstra, Nick Friday, Sean Dzenawagis, Derek McKee, Pat Maggi, Matt Hawes, Brent Barber, Julie Woodburn, Fiona McCarroll, Sue Kerr, Jan Andretich, Linda Muir, Kim Winter, Lisa Vandenberg, Judy Einikis, Jennifer Manz, Carey Govert, Gene Williams, Jeanne Lange, Susan Bateman-Boswell
- Recognized the following people for their participation in the 2015 New Teacher Orientation and appreciated their effort and commitment to support our 50+ new teachers: Deb Ciochina, Kendra Daves, Sheri Tokoly, Chantel Pierce, Ruth Schramm, Doug Taylor, Milan Damjanovic, Jim Burggraf, Cara Bonich, Jeanne Lange, Gene Williams, Laurie Cooper, Diane Sprehe, Sheri Lautzenheiser, John Williams, Vicki Dykstra, Kim Ferraro, Derek McKee, Pat Maggi, Jeremy Walker, Matt Ruess, all principals and assistant principals, Carol Lowe, Sean Dzenawagis, Susan Bateman-Boswell, 10 2nd year teachers—Brian Jones, Reena Foster, Erin Rawls, Lauren Piattoni, Nathan Shellhaas, Stephanie Harnew, Allie Bickel, Brooke Robinson, Dustin Shurlow, Lynsey Brucato
- Selected as one of 40 successful applicants of 1,200 members to participate in the inaugural 2015-2016 Indiana School Business Officials Leadership Academy (just funded in the 2015 Legislature)
- Recognized Mr. Jim Hardman and Mrs. Deb Ciochina for a very successful 7-day orientation for our 50+ new teachers getting them well prepared for their start at CPCSC – others involved: Chantel Pierce, Sheri Tokoly, Kendra Daves, Ruth Schramm, Doug Taylor, Milan Damjanovic, Jim Burggraf, Cara Bonich, Jeanne Lange, Gene Williams, Laurie Cooper, Diane Sprehe, Sheri Lautzenheiser, John Williams, Vicki Dykstra, Kim Ferraro, Derek McKee, Pat Maggi, Jeremy Walker, Matt Ruess, all principals and assistant principals, Carol Lowe, Sean Dzenawagis, Susan Bateman-Boswell, 10 2nd year teachers—Brian Jones, Reena Foster, Erin Rawls, Lauren Piattoni, Nathan Shellhaas, Stephanie Harnew, Allie Bickel, Brooke Robinson, Dustin Shurlow, Lynsey Brucato
- Recognized the Crossroads Regional Chamber for sponsoring a “Welcome Luncheon” at the Lighthouse Restaurant for our 50+ new teachers
- Attended and presented at the 2015 Bulldog Rush, August 14, 2015, program for our 700+ incoming freshmen – facilitated by Mr. Mark Gianfermi, Freshman Principal
- Recognized Mr. Jim Hardman and Deb Ciochina for another successful Welcome Back Program kicking off the start of the 2015-16 school year – cheers to everyone involved in making this a great day – Kendra Daves, Sheri Tokoly, Brent Barber, Kit Degenhart, Susan Bateman-Boswell, Kevin McBride, Jennifer Myers, Nathan Shellhaas, Pat Radanovich and staff, and Pam Maloney…special thank you to Wavelength for an outstanding performance
Recognized Julie Elston, high school teacher, for serving as an instructor this summer for the 69th annual High School Journalism Institute at Indiana University...this is a summer workshop for high school students – Mrs. Elston taught Newspaper Editing

The 2015 Schoolhouse News, the corporation newsletter, was out to the community in time for registration. Thanks to Diana Green, as editor, for her hard work.

Safewise.com, a home safety and security system review site, ranks Cedar Lake (#29) among the safest communities in Indiana

Attended the 6th grade Bulldog Rush, August 17, 2015, at Robert A. Taft Middle School and Colonel John Wheeler Middle School (second year)...a special thanks to those who facilitated this great event at both of the schools – Colonel Wheeler: Principal Tim Vassar, Assistant Principal Dave Vode, Joe Balind, Patti Croell, and Grace Santos; Robert A. Taft: Principal Michael Hazen, Assistant Principal Nick Ciochina, Liz Franklin

Dr. Eineman’s photo and name will be part of a special display, “Our Graduates, Leading the Way in Indiana’s Schools” at Ball State University’s Teachers College honoring former BSU graduates who are serving as superintendents or assistant superintendents in Indiana – acting an inspiration for current undergraduate students

Recognized Matt Ruess for coordinating the inaugural Crown Point Community Schools Foundation Golf Outing at Youche Country Club, August 3, 2015...special thank you to the sponsors: Skillman Corporation – Title sponsorship; Ice Miller – Lunch sponsorship; Pinnacle Insurance – Awards sponsorship

Recognized Pam Maloney and her staff for the delicious dinner for our new teachers welcoming them to the corporation

Attended CPHS Football Moms’ Club annual Summer Luncheon and Silent Auction event, August 8, 2015 with Mrs. Karen Schrum, School Board member...great event

Express Leadership Team meeting, August 4, 2015 – first LT meeting of 2015-16 preparing for the new school year...welcomed Nick Ciochina to his first Leadership Team meeting and wished him well as the new assistant principal at Robert A. Taft Middle School

Attended the Crown Point Rotary Picnic, August 12, 2015 - a member of Rotary and representing Crown Point Schools along with the CPHS Interact Club as Junior Rotarians coming together to develop their leadership skills to improve their school and community

AP scores for 2014-15 are in – CPHS compared to local league schools, Munster and Lake Central...CPHS had highest number of total exams taken (1156), Munster (989), and Lake Central (1109); CPHS 10% points higher (69%) than Lake Central (59%) and almost tied Munster (70%) for score of 3+ in all subjects; subjects earning high percentages of CPHS student success: AP Biology – 82%; AP Calculus AB & BC – 80%; AP Chemistry – 83%; AP Comp Science – 83%; AP English Language – 93%; AP Human Geography – 80%; AP Macroeconomics – 100%; AP Vergil – 80%

Recognized Buildings & Grounds Director Jim Burggraf and the maintenance and custodial staff for a great job in completing the summer projects and getting all the schools ready for the first day of school; and completing the CPCSC Learning Center having it ready for students on time and under budget

Attended Winfield Elementary Open House August 17, 2015
• Third article, “The American Dream” in the ISBA magazine, The Journal, featuring Crown Point Community School Corporation
Hello again. I am so excited to be back with you sharing the third article of my tetralogy about the metamorphosis of Crown Point Community School Corporation. Year-by-year, we are better able to meet the academic, physical, and psychological needs of each one of our 8,200 students. My first article, "FIT for LIFE," explained the process of our metamorphosis including a comprehensive strategic plan, The Key Work of School Boards operating standards for our School Board, the research to guide our Leadership Team in Good to Great and Great by Choice, earning international accreditation by AdvancED, and bringing distinctive clarity for the meaning of our mission, vision, and beliefs to maturity for all internal stakeholders.

My second article, "INcalculably INDEBTed," touted the benefits and necessities of each confident graduate walking from Crown Point High School leaving childhood behind and entering adulthood with an empowered self-identity. Our performance standards compel school principals to engage community stakeholders as partners in each school's mission and corresponding continuous improvement strategies.

Principals communicate goals, action plans, and timelines for evidence of continuous improvements. Progress reports with measurable results are posted on our schools' websites. A positive relationship with each partner evolves within a strong sense of mutual responsibility for the welfare of our hometown communities.

The theme of my third article is the "elephant" in the room - MONEY. Show me the money! Actually, the Indiana School Boards Association told me to "find the money" in this article. I decided to go back to elementary school for reference books. I instead a book of a different kind. It is called Through the

Cracks by Sollman, Emmont, and Paolli. It is targeted toward the level of a fifth grader in text and illustration; but in fact, the book contains some thought-provoking ideas for adults. The story is told from the perspective of two young students detailing what they see and feel in their lives and schools. What they see is a plethora of problems, large and small, in the community and the schools that have a negative impact on both the present and their futures. The author says these problems as cracks in the floor through which not only do these fictional kids fall, but through which many kids in America fall today. The kids suffer, yet the adults are to blame.

After reading the book, I began to think about those cracks in our own schools and how they related to our own search for answers. One crack portrayed in the story is the inability of a school to challenge its high ability students to achieve at the level they should. Without this challenge, some students find themselves distracted and disinterested in classroom activities. They mentally drop out or drop through the crack in the floor.

Another crack the story identifies is the inability of some students to focus on learning because they live in poverty. For example, some are hungry and are physically inactive. Attention is on their bellies instead of books or physical health, and the results are predictable. Some cracks are caused by dysfunctional parenting. Without proper parenting, children turn to less fulfilling activities such as television, electronic games, social networks on the Internet, and illegal or harmful substances. A lack of discipline at home spills over into school further impacting the learning experience as more cracks appear.

Positive outcomes can be fewer in a classroom environment less than engaging; thus another crack through which to fall. Without the encouragement of classroom teachers and the use of high impact (researched) teaching strategies, many children drop out of the lessons. Passive teaching and passive learners do little to promote attention and motivate creativity, so distracting behaviors replace learning.

Cracks... Cracks... Cracks...
In some schools, a narrow focus on academics frequently discourages otherwise engaged students. *Through the Cracks* unabashedly defines yet another crack as the absence of fine and performing arts. Participating in music, theatre, or art frees the creative mindset of many students, allowing them to excel in different ways and to approach academic subjects from an engaged perspective.

These, along with other issues presented in the book, caused me to think about our strategy of moving our schools toward excellence. In particular, I began to consider exactly what it is that defines the phrase “excellence for all” and what those ubiquitous cracks have to do with it.

To illustrate my thinking, I thought I would use an analogy. Imagine, if you will, Mount Everest. To reach the peak of the mountain, you must begin at base camp several thousand feet below. Between the camp and the peak is an area known as the Khumbu Icefall. The icefall is a minefield of crevasses and cracks capable of swallowing a trekker whole. But to reach the peak a trekker must first negotiate the obstacles.

To be successful, a trekker needs all the help he or she can get: clothes, boots, ropes, pitons, and especially ladders to cross the crevasses; as well as staffs to probe for cracks. With hard work and a little luck, half the average group may make it to the peak. In a good group, maybe three-fourths will succeed. In an excellent group, everyone will make it to the top of the mountain. No one will plunge into a crevasse; no one will fall through a crack. If the trekkers are our students and the peak is successful graduation with diplomas of value, then to reach excellence all the time for all our students we must make sure all our students successfully negotiate those pesky cracks, have basic supplies, and help from community partners. Within the school corporation, great teaching is the number one factor in meeting this challenge. Outside the school, great parenting is the key. A supportive community is the third factor. The sealant, if you will, that seals the “great” work of teachers and families is money in bundles of adequacy and equity.Luck must be replaced by supportive communities at the local, state, and national levels.

The “American Dream” becomes the “American Nightmare” if adequately financing public education is no longer the sealant. Additional equitable resources are essential for a stronger bonding agent in the sealant to overcome the plethora of problems many children carry into the schoolhouse.
As David Kamp eloquently wrote, "The American Dream should not require 80 hours a week to work, and parents who never see their kids from across the dinner table. The American Dream should entail a first-rate education for every child, but not an education that leaves no extra time for the actual enjoyment of childhood...above all, the American Dream should be embraced as the unique sense of possibility that this country gives its citizens—the decent chance...to scale the walls and achieve what you wish."

Principals Marian Buchko, Douglas MacArthur Elementary School, and Mary Ann Chapko, Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary School shared with me their treks to becoming National Blue Ribbon Schools and how their schools are committed to ensure that all students have the same opportunities to achieve the "American Dream" and that no students fall through the cracks.

**MACARTHUR** - Take out the pink ribbon, "IT'S A GIRL!" Wait a minute. Take out the blue ribbon, "IT'S A BOY!" Seriously? Let's try this one more time. Take out the Blue Ribbon because it is a National Blue Ribbon School! Yes, that is right; in 2012 MacArthur Elementary School was recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School. The road to achieving a National Blue Ribbon title was definitely a trek. The Mac team is extremely proud of this honor. The impetus to work hard and to do whatever was necessary in moving forward to achieve Four Star Status in 2012 and become a National Blue Ribbon School, was anything short of a miracle. Over the course of several years, the team worked hard at closing the achievement gap between the free/reduced students as compared to the general education students, and that gap tremendously narrowed. The goal was not only to narrow the achievement gap within the four walls of MacArthur School, but also to continually raise the bar and achieve with all schools in the state of Indiana and our country.

High expectations for all students form the umbrella under which all our decisions are made. MacArthur is a Title I school with a 46% poverty rate, and despite some of the obvious obstacles and hardships the MacArthur students encounter, they are succeeding. The hardships are turned into strengths. Now MacArthur students typically score above the state average on the ISTEP+ test,
whereas low cognitive scores, poor attendance, mobility, and poverty should be indicators to the contrary. MacArthur has high expectations for its students and will continue to challenge each student to achieve his/her highest potential toward becoming lifelong learners.

It is a team effort to ensure the academic and affective success for all students. Working together, the team creates a community that goes above and beyond for all students. Initiatives that drive the school provide unique opportunities (i.e. head custodian works with students, the secretaries partner with at-risk students, principal chaperones grades with at-risk students, etc.) to help ensure that no child fails. There are numerous traditions that have been established over the years for students (student/staff basketball game, Camp Tecumseh, Honor Roll Dinners where former MacArthur students come back as special guests, etc.). The positive energy created by the team is a symphony of cohesion felt upon entering this school.

Every decision made is an informed decision based on what is best for all students. Teachers utilize data to drive instruction, interventions, remediation, and enrichment programs at Douglas MacArthur Elementary School.

Numerous systems are in place to help guide the teachers with their analyses of student data. Every Wednesday, teachers have sixty minutes of time to analyze data, brainstorm how to tailor instruction to address areas of concern from the data results, and share data that indicate which instructional practices are most effective. Another opportunity to collaborate and analyze assessment results is through weekly Thursday meetings. These meetings are designed to share successful strategies, analyze and review data, and ensure the individual needs of all students are being met. Perhaps the greatest approach the team utilizes is the elimination of a "wait to fail" situation because students get help promptly within the general education setting.

The staff is kept abreast of research and encouraged by the principal to implement strong, effective instructional practices. MacArthur’s staff is unified and works together to incorporate these best practices in the classroom. Student test results are just one measure that highlights success. To ensure success for each student and avert reading failure, the team employs continuous monitoring of each individual student's growth at all grade levels. Key literacy areas are assessed through RTI, Auxly, mClass, Star Reading progress monitoring, as well as weekly vocabulary, spelling, and phonics assessments.

Numerous resources are utilized before, during, and after school to help students beyond their ninety-minute literacy block, including a reading specialist, LRE instructors, classroom teachers, RTI interventionist, and Title I tutors just to name a few.

Douglas MacArthur Elementary School takes great pride in the successful instructional practices implemented over the course of the past several years to best meet the differentiated needs of all student learners. Everyone learned to be dynamic and to begin where the students are, not static where a curriculum guide dictates. Everyone engages students in instruction through different modalities by appealing to differing interests and by using varied rates of instruction, along with varied degrees of complexity. MacArthur’s instructional practices are based on sound research. There is one key book, Visible Learning: A Synthesis of Over 800 Meta-Analyses Relating to Achievement by John Hattie that helps guide instructional decisions. Looking at the “effect size” of the instructional practices and then deciding which instructional practice or strategy is most effective toward student achievement is constant.

So when you analyze everything stated above, you are probably thinking, “My school does that.” However, the key factor to MacArthur’s success is the development of the “whole child.” Everyone makes sure students feel a personal connection to school through a teacher, trusted adult, or peer. It is all about relationships – and relationships matter! According to Ruby Payne, author of A Framework for Understanding Poverty, there are basically two things that help one move out of poverty: education and relationships. At MacArthur, a grand investment into developing strong relationships with students and families is essential. When students feel a personal connection to school, their chances of doing well academically increase, and MacArthur has proven that to be true. The moment anyone walks into this school, they feel a sense of family, and this sense of family is intentional in practice. As the principal, Ms. Buchko makes an intentional effort to invest in relationships with her entire team. “The nature of the relationships among the adults who inhabit a school has more to do with its quality and character and the accomplishments of its pupils than any other factor,” according to Roland S. Barth and often quoted by Ms. Buchko.

When Ms. Buchko became principal, it took the first several years to create a complete cultural change at MacArthur, and it was accomplished and remains
I would like to take the opportunity to thank all at MacArthur Elementary for the opportunity given Charlie to join the fourth grade on the field trip to Camp Tecumseh. He had a fantastic time (as did I) and it was heart-warming to see him so involved and enjoying himself with his schoolmates.

I would like to offer a special thanks to the teachers (Mrs. Copeland, Mr. Lallier & apologies to the names missed!), parent helpers, and the gentlemen from Cedar Lake Police who went out of their way to ensure Charlie was included in all activities and constantly engaged him with shouts of encouragement and high fives.

As a parent of a child with special needs, it is an ever present concern on how he will be treated by his peers at school and play; children generally take their lead from the adults they see so I could not have asked for better role models than this group of people. I would also like to commend the fourth graders themselves as a great bunch of kids. A number of them asked me questions about Charlie and were really sweet to him (Cady is a name that springs to mind, but it is probably unfair to single one child out because the group as a whole was wonderful with him). MacArthur Elementary should be very proud of its student body if the fourth grade is any indication.

I also understand that special travel arrangements had to be made to allow Charlie to attend, so again, I would like to express heartfelt appreciation on behalf of Dona, Charlie, and myself.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all at MacArthur Elementary for the opportunity given Charlie to join the fourth grade on the field trip to Camp Tecumseh. He had a fantastic time (as did I) and it was heart-warming to see him so involved and enjoying himself with his schoolmates.

I would like to offer a special thanks to the teachers (Mrs. Copeland, Mr. Lallier & apologies to the names missed!), parent helpers, and the gentlemen from Cedar Lake Police who went out of their way to ensure Charlie was included in all activities and constantly engaged him with shouts of encouragement and high fives.

As a parent of a child with special needs, it is an ever present concern on how he will be treated by his peers at school and play; children generally take their lead from the adults they see so I could not have asked for better role models than this group of people. I would also like to commend the fourth graders themselves as a great bunch of kids. A number of them asked me questions about Charlie and were really sweet to him (Cady is a name that springs to mind, but it is probably unfair to single one child out because the group as a whole was wonderful with him). MacArthur Elementary should be very proud of its student body if the fourth grade is any indication.

I also understand that special travel arrangements had to be made to allow Charlie to attend, so again, I would like to express heartfelt appreciation on behalf of Dona, Charlie, and myself.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all at MacArthur Elementary for the opportunity given Charlie to join the fourth grade on the field trip to Camp Tecumseh. He had a fantastic time (as did I) and it was heart-warming to see him so involved and enjoying himself with his schoolmates.

I would like to offer a special thanks to the teachers (Mrs. Copeland, Mr. Lallier & apologies to the names missed!), parent helpers, and the gentlemen from Cedar Lake Police who went out of their way to ensure Charlie was included in all activities and constantly engaged him with shouts of encouragement and high fives.

As a parent of a child with special needs, it is an ever present concern on how he will be treated by his peers at school and play; children generally take their lead from the adults they see so I could not have asked for better role models than this group of people. I would also like to commend the fourth graders themselves as a great bunch of kids. A number of them asked me questions about Charlie and were really sweet to him (Cady is a name that springs to mind, but it is probably unfair to single one child out because the group as a whole was wonderful with him). MacArthur Elementary should be very proud of its student body if the fourth grade is any indication.

I also understand that special travel arrangements had to be made to allow Charlie to attend, so again, I would like to express heartfelt appreciation on behalf of Dona, Charlie, and myself.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all at MacArthur Elementary for the opportunity given Charlie to join the fourth grade on the field trip to Camp Tecumseh. He had a fantastic time (as did I) and it was heart-warming to see him so involved and enjoying himself with his schoolmates.

I would like to offer a special thanks to the teachers (Mrs. Copeland, Mr. Lallier & apologies to the names missed!), parent helpers, and the gentlemen from Cedar Lake Police who went out of their way to ensure Charlie was included in all activities and constantly engaged him with shouts of encouragement and high fives.

As a parent of a child with special needs, it is an ever present concern on how he will be treated by his peers at school and play; children generally take their lead from the adults they see so I could not have asked for better role models than this group of people. I would also like to commend the fourth graders themselves as a great bunch of kids. A number of them asked me questions about Charlie and were really sweet to him (Cady is a name that springs to mind, but it is probably unfair to single one child out because the group as a whole was wonderful with him). MacArthur Elementary should be very proud of its student body if the fourth grade is any indication.

I also understand that special travel arrangements had to be made to allow Charlie to attend, so again, I would like to express heartfelt appreciation on behalf of Dona, Charlie, and myself.
For the Good of the Cause

The journey to be a National Blue Ribbon School was a long road and a tireless trek. It took the team several years to change the culture and mindsets of students and families. Starting with a vision that all students can succeed, MacArthur provided the structure for that to happen. Once behaviors were under control, teachers focused on academics. Developing the whole child is an evergreen process each year, each month, each week, each day, and each moment. Today, teachers implement practices that have what is best for the students always on the forefront. They are developing one student at a time, and take great pride in that endeavor. Everyone at MacArthur School is a teacher, and that is what helps make this school so special by beating all the odds against children living in poverty.

EISENHOWER—This principal believes all principals’ leadership dreams are to elevate their schools to the top of the academic pyramid. As the newly appointed leader at Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary School, Mrs. Chapko inherently sensed that her team and school community had the raw talent to reach the highest pinnacle of success. The question emerged as to how to convince everyone in the Eisenhower family to share her lofty vision. The answer took years to come to fruition, and can be summed up in three little words: teamwork, climate, and consistency.

No leader can survive, or thrive, by leading in isolation. The first leadership step is always to begin the process of building a team from day one. Eventually, when a principal feels there is a point of almost total cohesion among grade level numbers, an effective leader still realizes the need for continuous motivating, monitoring, and maintenance to ensure positive momentum will continue to direct the educational ship’s course. A complete team effort is definitely required to attain a level of high

“The funding formula the state develops every two years has many moving parts. This version of the formula brings the state closer to funding schools based on specific characteristics without limitations. Formulas that use transitions allow for gentle landings when changes are made; however, they also create irregularities that do not allow schools to be funded at the level the formula intends. The natural trend to look at winners and losers each year the formula is developed does not give a true review of the formula. If every school corporation stayed exactly the same as previous years, then looking at winners and losers based on additional dollars would make sense. However, we all know every school corporation has a different make up every year. We also know that no two districts are the same and there has to be a way to fund districts based on those differences.”

- Matt Russ, CFO

To see the review of the new funding formula go to www.cps.k12.in.us
achievement, such as the National Blue Ribbon School designation. All eyes must be focused on the prize of individual student growth, no matter what amount of effort that takes. As difficult as this is to attain, what is even harder, is remaining on top of that pinnacle of academic success. No leader would ever want to be a flash in the pan or a one-hit wonder! Once your team and school community has tasted success at the state and national level, the desire to remain at that level of achievement becomes insatiable. What was once thought to be the unattainable score or level of achievement has now morphed into what is the norm and expected by students, parents, community, and administration. Motivating, monitoring, and maintaining the quality of the educational team in conjunction with the parents and school community becomes an everyday necessity, and must be the principal’s prime focus. Student achievement must not be compromised.

Intimately connected with team quality is the climate of the school itself. A positive climate should be tangible to all individuals entering the schoolhouse within the first several seconds of their arrival, and all stakeholders should know and be able to assist in achieving that perception. Children need to like their teachers and principal to enable them to perform at their best levels. Teachers need to like their principal and leaders to enable them to each consistently give their very best, every day and every minute. Principals have to like their schoolhouse, as well and be happy within those walls. Every effort must be made to avoid the strains and drains of negative energy that usurp precious energy needed by the principal to control and direct the “base camp” and all its teddlers down the slippery obstacle course of individual student achievement, state and federal mandates, corporation policies, professional development, team building, and parent expectations without losing control. It is well-known among students, teachers, and parents that in a schoolhouse, the principal must feel like coming to Disneyworld every day. None of us can prevent life’s difficulties from getting in the way of a strong positive climate, but we can fight back by consistently assuming the attitude that we will get through any adversity and stay the positive course that drives individual student success.

Finally, educational leaders must demonstrate and emulate consistency in every action, plan, and vision they undertake with their teams. The overarching goal of consistency in all things academic must become an ingrained and intrinsic behavior for every teacher, staff member,
student, and parent. Consistency equates to high expectations, goal setting, academic achievement, and academic growth. Each member of the education entity must consistently remain focused on the goal while consistently assessing each member’s progress and achievement towards it. It is relatively simple for educational leaders to dream up new ideas and initiatives for their teams. The hard part is fleshing out the desired best practice proposal while promoting and earning the team’s complete acceptance and buy-in. Step two is facilitating that initiative and working cohesively with the team until it comes to fruition. Only then has the leader consistently stayed the course and made a significant and sustainable change in instruction which should guarantee individual student growth and success long term. In Eisenhower’s case, these steps earned them that National Blue Ribbon status!

The demands of leading a school and corporation to excellence are varied, challenging, and at times overwhelming. Your family and private life must hold an essential role within the tricky balance required by your educational workload. The ability to be able to step back and have the time to reflect and ponder is vitally necessary for any leader. A clear purpose for all that is required in this leadership role is also a necessary component. The personal growth of each student always provides the motivation needed to keep on improving, maintaining excellence, and attempting to become ever better, educationally speaking, with each.

---

**Indiana Constitution - ARTICLE 8. Education**

**Section 1. Common school system**

Section 1. Knowledge and learning, general, diffused throughout a community, being essential to the preservation of a free government, it should be the duty of the General Assembly to encourage, by all suitable means, moral, intellectual, scientific, and agricultural improvement; and provide, by law, for a general and uniform system of Common Schools, wherein tuition shall without charge, and equally open to all.

---

2015-16 For the Good of the Cause

**ALL CROWN POINT COMMUNITY SCHOOLS** - It is this “human desire to make a difference for children” that is our currency, buying our constant focus on impactful educational programming. Without my prompting, you read nothing about “money” making a difference to these two principals of National Blue Ribbon Schools; even though our school corporation is among the lowest funded in the state. We are proud all ten schools and school corporation earned As this year; whereas, only 36% did so eight years ago. You may quickly think our successful General Fund referendum was a contributing factor. It was not. Both schools were named back-to-back honorees just prior to receipt of these monies. These monies are essential now to maintain our current educational programming within passing school year. Most recently, however, the focus on educational excellence has expanded for Mrs. Chaploa with the start of formal schooling for her oldest grandchild in Eisenhower Elementary. Sometimes, we are so focused on the present day it is easy to forget the legacy that all educators leave with their students and families. It is this human desire to make a difference for children, including our own, that guides this principal in all decisions and keeps this educator’s heart ever young (and competitive).

On a clear summer evening a young boy sat gazing at the stars dreaming of his future. “Someday, people are going to go up in space. And I’m going to be one of them,” he said. Twenty-eight years later in 1985, his dream came true...astronaut Col. Jerry L. Ross took his first flight in space on the Space Shuttle Atlantis.

Crown Point Community School Corporation’s newest school, Jerry Ross Elementary, pays tribute to the American Dream as seen through the eyes of our hometown boy, Jerry Ross.
all 10 schools and for 8,200 students who were threatened with the “American Nightmare” rather than offered the “American Dream” after the broad-brush state cuts curing the recession exacerbating inadequacies and inequities in financing a school system “without charge.” Does this “charge” of additional referendum taxes on Indiana citizens to overcome inadequate funding of a common school system violate the law?

Whereas, the federal Title I program provides additional resources to schools across Indiana fighting the ravages of poverty (which remains a critical funding source for higher poverty schools, including one of our National Blue Ribbon Schools), federal funding accounts for only 5% of total funding as States bear the full responsibility financially, ethically, and with moral certainty.

To its credit, Indiana’s financing of public education is one of only nine states to be judged an “A” in 2010, 2011, and in the 2012 most recent Report Card by the Education Law Center at Rutgers Graduate School of Education. This report measures equity between school districts for various levels of additional funding to the Foundation proportionate to higher levels of poverty. The more recent years show a decline in Indiana’s effort to fund its school districts adequately and equitably earning an embarrassing ‘C.’ Let us keep the American Dream a real and protected possibility for each child. Our hope (and expectation) is that the progressive components of the new funding formula (which were not available at the time of the Rutgers National Report Card) will continue to expand with more “effort” and unity to reinvest in public education after declining investment years witnessed during the last recession as state and national priorities. The trek to a valued high school diploma must be without cracks beneath the feet of each little boy and girl dreaming of reaching the peak of Mount Everest, or becoming an astronaut just like Jerry Ross and be the first American to land on Mars. 🚀
• IREAD-3 Corporation Results (state mandated reading test for 3rd Grade) – must pass to be promoted to 4th Grade – All schools in CPCSC are scoring 96-100% pass rates for the state required reading test – kudos to the principals and teachers in grades K, 1, 2, & 3 for a great job!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principals</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Mary Ann Chapko</td>
<td>Eisenhower</td>
<td>96.97%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Marian Buchko</td>
<td>MacArthur</td>
<td>96.30%</td>
<td>98.77%</td>
<td>97.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Jennifer Stolarz</td>
<td>Jerry Ross</td>
<td>95.29%</td>
<td>99.41%</td>
<td>98.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Cindy Wise</td>
<td>Lake Street</td>
<td>89.47%</td>
<td>96.05%</td>
<td>93.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Barb Merrill</td>
<td>Solon Robinson</td>
<td>97.96%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Arthur Equihua</td>
<td>Timothy Ball</td>
<td>93.81%</td>
<td>97.96%</td>
<td>98.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CPCSC</td>
<td>95.02%</td>
<td>98.882%</td>
<td>98.899%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• August 20, 2015…first student day – visiting schools, welcoming students
• The Times special insert, “Welcome to Crown Point” compliments Crown Point Schools as the #1 attraction to coming to Crown Point…one of the best school districts in the state
LearnMore Indiana magazine from the Indiana Commission for Higher Education and the IDOE selected our corporation this year to have students featured in all four guides, and three of our students are pictured on the covers…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>Kaylee Basiaga</td>
<td>Solon Robinson</td>
<td>pg. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adrian Cardenas</td>
<td>Solon Robinson</td>
<td>pg. 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Ariana Martinez</td>
<td>Solon Robinson</td>
<td>Cover and pg. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Christian Golden</td>
<td>Taft MS</td>
<td>Cover and pg. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bailey Brumbaugh</td>
<td>Taft MS</td>
<td>pg. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hannah Brownd</td>
<td>Taft MS</td>
<td>pg. 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-10</td>
<td>Sarah Hautzinger</td>
<td>CPHS</td>
<td>Cover and pg. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saym Imtiaz</td>
<td>CPHS</td>
<td>pg. 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Recognized Grant Gelon, CPHS senior, for receiving a basketball scholarship from Indiana University…Grant is IU’s first NWI recruit in 27 years.
- Recognized Tre Manchester, film producer and former CPHS graduate, for his full-length, made for Hollywood feature film, “The Things We’ve Seen” that will be filmed in the region beginning in September
- Recognized the Crown Point Football Moms’ Club for the Summer Luncheon & Silent Auction, August 9, 2015 – an outstanding event…thanks to club president, Renee Fuller, and all who were involved

September 2015
- Recognized Mrs. Rhonda Marsh for being instrumental in assembling personnel files for the 50+ new teachers and staff this year
- Recognized Douglas MacArthur art teacher Agnes Isailovich for the outstanding student art display at Central Office for the month of September – over time the artworks evidence more skill mastery for many students
- Preliminary enrollment count shows continued growth
- Recognized the Crown Point Rotary for sponsoring the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for children in our school district – the Dolly Parton Imagination Library is a program that provides a 60 volume set of books to children ages birth to five at no cost to the family. For each child that is registered in the program a new, carefully chosen book is mailed to the child’s home in his/her name every month. We are extremely grateful to Melissa Johnson, Project Chairperson, the Crown Point Rotary Board members: Brad Belush, Katherine Chariton, Jim Cuffia, Julie Bieszczat, Cory Liss, and the entire Rotary membership for sponsoring this wonderful program. It will elevate early literacy and reading skills of student entering kindergarten (huge impact)
- Hall of Fame astronaut Jerry Ross visited Jerry Ross Elementary on September 18, 2015 and encouraged students to pursue their dreams during a morning presentation – Mr. Ross motivates students to “reach for the stars”
- Recognized Crown Point Police Officer Sergeant Benson for spending the day with 5th grade students at Timothy Ball Elementary to kick off the DARE program. His education program is a favorite of our fifth grade students.
- Former NFL players William Green and Keith Davis led an anti-bullying presentation on September 16, 2015 at Colonel John Wheeler Middle School in the morning and at Robert A. Taft in the afternoon – Kudos to Kim Doolin at Colonel Wheeler and Danielle Wiremen at Taft for organizing this memorable event
Represented CPCSC attended the 2015 Patriot Brunch on September 13 hosted by the Crown Point Court House Foundation...Gary and Shar Miller (husband-and-wife duo own and operate Prompt Ambulance) were honored as the 2015 Patriots of the Year – special thank you to Marty Wheeler and committee members for a wonderful event - Lou Martinez, Theresa Badovich, Cal Bellamy, Robin Carlascio, Bruce Woods, and Alda Velluntini

Recognized the Crown Point Community Foundation for the numerous grants and scholarships awarded to CPCSC – Douglas MacArthur PTO, MacRobotics Program; CPCSC Dept. of Exceptional Learners, $3,150; Winfield Elementary School, $1,500; Scholarships $122,600+ (We would be “less of a great school corporation without this essential support from CP Community Foundation – Board members: Gregory Forsythe, Linda Armstrong, Ben Ballou, John Barney, Mark Bates, David Batusic, Jeff Bryner, Mike Dexter, Nancy Cowan-Eksten, Larry Geisen, Marilyn Kaper, Jim Larsen, Tom Liss, Pam Lowe, Darryl Miller, Karen Raab, Daniel Root, and Dick Sauerme…thank you.

Constitution Day event, September 17, 2015 - as part of the Indiana Supreme Court’s Courts in the Classroom program, Judge Julie Cantrell gave students at Solon Robinson Elementary a crash course on the ins-and-outs of jury selection – Thank you Judge Cantrell

Joanne Haley-Borodine, CPHS Choir Director, shared how several of our CP alumni are keeping their love of music and the performing arts alive – CJ Pawlikowski (‘07), touring with the Broadway company of “The Book of Mormon” performing all over the country; Zac Colby (‘06), member of well-know a cappella group “Canus” touring nationally and international; Natalie Pollison (‘07), Christopher Johnson (‘07), Blake Zolfo (‘10), Anna Bucci (‘10), and Todd Aulwarm (‘11) performing in regional theater; Derek Hutchison (‘11), Casey Kitchen (‘12), and Jordan Trump (‘12) singing in college a cappella groups (CPHS Choral Dept. is highly regarded statewide.)

Supported the Crown Point Volunteer Fire Department’s annual fundraiser and the St. Jude House Chicken/Rib Dinner fundraiser…both events provide tremendous benefits to our community

Recognized Schmidt and Associates, architects, and Skillman Corporation, project management, for finishing the new CPCSC Learning Center on time and within budget

Recognized the Exceptional Learners Department for their hard work in getting the new CPCSC Learning Center in order and ready to welcome students for the start of school – Cynthia Dewes, Director; Gigi Geimer, Assistant Director; Secretaries: Liz Espinoza and Lori Schuljak; Secretarial Associate: Shaun Dunn

Recognized the following CPHS teachers for being chosen as presenters at Advanced Placement Workshops hosted by the Northwest Indiana Education Service Center at CPHS in September, 2015 and for having high 3+ percentage pass rates for students taking AP exams – Elizabeth Laba & Chloe Hoffman, AP Chemistry – 83%; Rebecca Magee, AP Psychology – 79%; Nick Ciochina, AP Human Geography – 80%

Recognized Neises Construction Company for the public service announcement on their electronic sign reminding the community that school has started and to drive safely

October 2015

Recognized the staff at Timothy Ball Elementary and the Crown Point Police Department, Fire Department, and EMT’s for their quick response to an unfortunate vehicle accident on the front lawn of the school in the afternoon– school staff’s response ensured no disruption to the school day…students were unaware of the accident and had a normal dismissal at the end of the day
Final article in the ISBA magazine, *The Journal*, “RUMORS: gossip, hearsay, tittle-tattle, whispers, loose lips, grapevine” featuring Crown Point Community School Corporation emphasizes the negative impact rumors have on individuals, the community, and society; and the importance of not perpetuating the untruths by showing integrity of character and following a strong code of ethics... special thank you to Julie Elston, Lindsey DeBroux, and Cooper and Seamas Malaski for their special contribution to this article.
"It ain't so much the things we don't know that get us in trouble. It's the things we know that just ain't so," said 19th century humorist Josh Billings. Often what "ain't so" is the result of rumors. Google Dictionary defines a rumor as "a currently circulating story or report of uncertain or doubtful truth, being circulated as an unverified account."

What is left undefined is the unpleasant consequence of this misinformation; a shattered life.

Even worse, a rumor (supposition, hearsay, innuendo, and half-truth) is magnified and distorted by repetition. A 1947 study, "The Psychology of Rumor" found that "about 70 percent of details in a message were lost in the first 5-6 mouth-to-mouth transmissions."

A rumor is like a verbal anonymous letter. Its original source is unknown. Its content is suspect. There is no opportunity to refute the inaccuracies stated or implied in the words. The intent whether for personal attention, political gain, or sheer manipulation, is frequently malicious.

Yet, where most people will simply toss an anonymous letter into the wastebasket, far too many people will repeat rumors as if they were reading from an encyclopedia.

"Rumormongering" is not a victimless crime. Obviously, the target of the rumor is a victim. But so are the innocent people who hear the rumor and pass it along, unaware they are being used in the process, often for purposes for which they have no knowledge.

Imagine my surprise, for instance, when I recently read a local newspaper article in which a reporter bragged about hearing a rumor (giving it unwarranted credibility), and had the audacity to pass it along to the entire readership. Imagine the compounded damage when Internet bloggers do the same, reaching millions of people purporting information that cannot be substantiated! Rumors are a sad fact of life. However, they need not victimize in infancy. If each person in a rumor chain will confront the rumor head-on, damage can be minimized.

For example, three proactive students from Robert A. Taft Middle School express a powerful message to their peers. Have a heart for each other by being of good thoughts, words, and behaviors. Much like the proverb, "beware of evil, fear no evil, see no evil," these girls communicate integrity also as "not looking the other way" when peers use words and behaviors to hurt each other.

A genius on their side is Albert Einstein who is revered as one of the most influential scientists of all times. He died of heart failure, yet his heart is felt today linking science to the emotional human being. For example, Einstein connected science and the human heart of emotions by explaining his theory of relativity this way: "When you sit with a nice girl for two hours, it seems like two minutes. When you sit on a hot stove for two minutes, it seems like two hours. That is relativity." Indeed, our wise students are pretty smart too. Heartless gossip, hearsay, little-tattle, whispers, loose lips, and grapevine communications of just a few minutes can forever cause heartbreak to the innocents, and deterioration of the quality of life within a community.
All this was made possible for our students under the tutelage of master teacher, Julie Elston. This teacher is exemplary in the knowledge, skills, and disposition of great teaching for the personalized learning of each student. I asked her to share with me her story of being named Indiana Adviser of the Year and the nexus between her, her students, ethics, and Inklings. You will enjoy this story.

One hundred years ago, during the era of WWI and President Woodrow Wilson, the students of Crown Point High School printed its first publication, The Oracle. Though much has changed, now, in the year celebrating a century of CPHS print journalism, the school newspaper Inklings is thriving, achieving top state and national recognition as a publication and for individuals.

Indiana's current student Journalist of the Year is 2015 Inklings editor Alan Abdellah, and adviser Julie Elston is Indiana's 2013 Adviser of the Year. Inklings joins the ranks of top newspapers from around the country by earning highest honors from every national press organization; Inklings has also been named a Hoosier Star, the pinnacle of state honors, numerous times.

Sustainability and success of a century-old program involves many factors, and the legacy is one that not only attracts students to participate but encourages them to bond on it.

"Inklings actually is like a family. I feel a connection with those who are a part of the paper now even though I'm three years removed from high school," Sam Beishuizen, 2015 editor said. "I still read the paper every time it publishes and try to stay in touch with the editors and staff. You can graduate from Inklings, but you never actually leave it. You just stop writing for it. The networking and connection never actually goes away."

That connection and collaboration provides valuable real-life learning and insight in addition to the obvious skills of writing, editing, and design that one gains from the newspaper experience. Students often point to newspaper as having given them proficiencies they rely on nearly every day.

The skill building begins in the prerequisite journalism class which stresses the fundamentals of media literacy, interviewing, objective and subjective writing, visual presentation, advertising and business, and civics, including an extensive unit on law and ethics.

Elston strongly believes that learning about the First Amendment and the role of freedom of expression in a democracy provides tremendous value for any student in becoming an active, informed citizen.

"Time on the Inklings staff breeds creativity and a desire to challenge the status quo. These are good qualities," Caitlin Johnston, 2007 editor said. "They are even stronger when balanced with an ethical foundation rooted in truth. Mr.
Elston encouraged us to pass the envelope, but only if we could explain the facts behind the work and why the story was important, not just sensational.

Students research current issues to provide examples of the First Amendment’s applicability and relevance. In the age of technology when a message can be sent out to millions of people in an instant, Elston stresses the importance of weighing its reliability and effects, and using ethical decision making in the process. This enables students to exercise critical thinking every time they publish. In addition, these stories provide a history of Crown Point High School that is not found elsewhere.

“Mrs. Elston was the first person to teach me not just how to report and write but how to question. Whether Inklings students go on to become journalists or not, that ability to study the world around them and ask why is invaluable,” Johnston said.

In fact, a 2008 study by the Newspaper Association of America Foundation found that students who work on their high school newspapers earn higher grade point averages, score better on the ACT college entrance examination, and demonstrate better writing, grammar skills, and higher freshman grades in college.

Beishuizen credits his time on Inklings with helping him transition to college and quickly climb the ranks as a writer and editor at Indiana University. He said in two years, while other hopefuls were struggling, he accomplished everything he sought to do with the college newspaper and then landed a job as a writer for IU Athletics, all while majoring in business at the renowned Kelley School.

“I would not have been able to climb the ladder so quickly had it not been for Inklings. I am a firm believer that communication is the key to success. Technology is shrinking the world, and being able to communicate is becoming more and more valuable. Ironically, it appears people are becoming less able to write properly despite being around technology all the time,” Beishuizen said.

“I find it incredibly disheartening to see how poor the student writing skills are across the board. Fortunately, the skills I developed as a writer, speaker, and leader in Inklings have given me a leg up on the rest of my colleagues in the college classroom.”

Other Inklings alumni echo his views and credit the competencies achieved and experiences afforded through newspaper to later success, both in and out of the classroom.

“My time in newspaper gave me communication skills, a valuable asset not many high schoolers are exposed to early on,” Abdallah said. “Being on the Inklings staff taught me what it meant to step out of my comfort zone, to be professional, to make connections. It taught me how to seek out information and contact reliable sources and how to be proactive.”

Abdallah, currently at IUPUI studying science and journalism, continued, “Most importantly, journalism gave me a vision. Even if I walked out of high school unsure of what career path I wanted to pursue, I knew I had the skills I needed to be successful in any field. Newspaper gave me confidence. I didn’t know I had, belief that I could achieve anything I set my mind to. The lessons newspaper taught me are applicable in everything and anything I do.”

Beishuizen agreed. “I can say without a doubt that my three years in Inklings shaped me into the person I am as a student, professionally and socially. Although it was technically a class, the lessons extended way past the typical classroom,” he said. “I was able to grow as a writer, leader, mentor, friend, speaker and student in all those areas.”

Elston encourages the Inklings students to take advantage of every opportunity. Both Beishuizen and Abdallah were top winners in the state’s
For the Good of the Cause

sports writing competition, enabling them both to attend the Indianapolis 500, and Super Bowl Media Day and an Indiana Pacers game, respectively. Biethuisen wrote an article about NFL player Jim Cordle, which was published in Cordle’s hometown paper, and Abdellatief shadowed Pacers announcer Mark Boyle during a game. In addition, for six consecutive years, the Inklings editors have been finalists for Indiana’s student journalist of the Year with Abdellatief taking the title in 2015.

“Inklings teaches soft skills in a way I don’t think high school students can learn anywhere else. When you’re in a leadership position in Inklings, you become the teacher,” Beithuisen said. “Julie Elston is there to advise and run the ship, but it’s the students making the decisions that shape the paper. You can talk about leadership until you’re blue in the face but until you’re actually in a position to lead, you don’t know what it really feels like. Inklings gave me the chance to experience real leadership.”

Johnston, currently writing for the Tampa Bay Times, said that her success, including landing a job with the largest newspaper in the southwest, winning Indiana Collegiate Journalist of the Year and a first place in the Heart Journalism Awards Program wouldn’t have happened if it weren’t for Inklings.

“That’s not an exaggeration. Despite having an inherent desire to be a journalist, and studying journalism in college where I learned from some of the best, Mrs. Elston was the first person to show me what that really looked like. My dream of being a journalist crystallized in the journalism lab at Crown Point High School,” Johnston said.

The Inklings legacy doesn’t end when students reach college. Elston’s first Inklings editor, 1993 graduate Jeff Vrabel, a journalist who works for Nickelodeon and has been published in GQ, Men’s Health, Time, Indianapolis Monthly and the Chicago Sun-Times, keeps in contact and visits to talk to the high school journalists. Family friends of his have suggested establishing a CPHS journalism scholarship in honor of his mother, Paula Hendrickson, who passed away this spring.

“You hear people talk sometimes about how they’re not sure why they fell into their professional fields, that it was some sideways accident, or some subtle push by a parent, or a chance meeting with a stranger. I got lucky. I can point exactly to when I found my job, and it was the first week of my senior year, in my sixth hour high school newspaper class,” Vrabel said.

“Suddenly I was editor-in-chief, and we had a young, bright, sharp new adviser pushing us to try new things, and we were in this hybrid class/hot class that felt partly like school and partly like a club but not at all like work, and I looked forward to getting there every day.”

“But what I remember most about the school paper was the sense of community, which, if you’ve ever been to high school, is something that happens all the time. The newspaper — and my adviser, Julie Elston — not only afforded me the first sense that I might be OK at writing, but also provided that little sandbox group of kids who, even in the weird unformed context of high school, worked together on something that felt important. It was pretty great; it’s not every high school student (or teacher) who volunteers to stay until 10 p.m. on a Tuesday working on editorials and page layouts,” Vrabel said.

“Newspaper were and will always be my favorite places to work...all these people, friends, colleagues working toward a shared purpose, staying until
DO LIST:
ISBA Code of Ethics – Note: I recommend you meet with an outside consultant frequently to evaluate progress until you are following these ethics in spirit and practice in all the things you say and do for children and their families. Then once or twice a year will keep you head of the class.

A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER SHALL HONOR THE HIGH RESPONSIBILITY THAT MEMBERSHIP DEMANDS:

DO think always in terms of children first.

DO understand that the basic function of the school board member is policy making and not administrative, and by accepting the responsibility of learning to distinguish between these two functions.

DO accept the responsibility, along with fellow board members, to assure that adequate facilities and resources are provided for the proper functioning of schools.

DO refuse to play politics or the traditional partisan sense, or in any petty sense.

DO represent the entire school community at all times.

DO accept the responsibility to be well-informed concerning the duties of board members and the proper function of public schools.

DO recognize the responsibility as a state official to seek the improvements of education throughout the state.

A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER SHALL DEMONSTRATE RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

DO recognize that authority rests only with the board in official meetings and that the individual member has no legal status to bind the board outside of such meetings.

DO recognize the integrity of previous board members and the merit of their work.

DO refuse to make statements or promises as to how you will vote on any matter that should properly come before the board as a whole.

DO make decisions only after all facts bearing on a question have been presented and discussed.

DO respect the opinion of others and graciously conform to the principle of majority rule.

DO refuse to participate in irregular meetings which are not official and when all members do not have the opportunity to attend.

DO work with fellow board members and the administration to fairly determine the present and future educational needs of the community.

A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER SHALL MAINTAIN DESirable RELATIONS WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS AND OTHER EMPLOYEES:

DO strive to procure the best professional leader available for the head administrative position.

DO give the superintendent full administrative authority for properly discharging the professional duties of the position and the responsibility to achieve acceptable results.

DO act only after consideration of the superintendent's recommendations on matters of school governance.

DO have the superintendent present at all meetings of the board except when his or her health or salary considerations are under review.

DO respect proper communication channels, referring all complaints to the proper administrative office and considering them only after failure of an administrative solution.

DO provide adequate safeguards around the superintendent and other employees so that they can perform their responsibilities.

DO present criticisms of an employee directly to the superintendent.

A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER SHALL MAINTAIN COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY:

DO develop and adopt a mission and a vision statement for the school corporation.

DO conduct all school business transactions openly.

DO vigorously seek adequate financial support for the schools.

DO refuse to use the school board position for personal gain.

DO refuse to discuss confidential board business anywhere other than when attending a properly advertised board meeting.

DO earn the community's confidence that all is being done in the best interests of school children.

DO NOT LIST:

How Not to Be a Terrible School Board Member
by Richard E. Mayer

DISTRICT TEAMWORK

DO NOT humiliate a district employee in public.

DO NOT negotiate for the district.

DO NOT attack the administration in print.

DO NOT micromanage the superintendent.

DO NOT remain silent when you have some questions.

DO NOT solicit complaints from teachers and staff.

DO NOT ask for special treatment.

BOARD TEAMWORK

DO NOT disrespect a fellow board member.

DO NOT speak for the board.

DO NOT build coalitions.

DO NOT abstain on tough votes.

DO NOT be the decisive and unwilling to compromise.

DO NOT come unprepared to board meetings.

DO NOT do too much homework.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

DO NOT represent your supporters.

DO NOT ignore your policy in public input.

DO NOT run your own district survey.

DO NOT argue with a hostile speaker.

DO NOT confide in a reporter.

DO NOT garner public support for your personal position.

DO NOT sign a petition.

PERSONAL STYLE

DO NOT ignore minor conflicts of interest.

DO NOT take political stands.

DO NOT use the district's credit card.

DO NOT remember your political party.

DO NOT do a favor.

DO NOT accept gifts.

DO NOT radiate negative energy.
2 a.m. working on editorials and page layouts, on something that felt important," Vrabal said. "My high school newspaper was integral in pointing me to my work, but well more instrumental in pointing me to the rest of my life."

As the print publications of CPPs commemorate their centennial, Elton hopes that the strong "Inkling" legacy will continue.

"Inkling staffs graduate with strong writing and editing skills, but, more importantly, an understanding that whatever they do in life, they should do with integrity. Their work should mean something," Johnston said. "I can think of no greater lesson to impart to our students."

GOVERN WITH INTEGRITY - This advice from our alumni is the moral foundation of School Board service. In reality, solid ethics make the path easier to breakthrough student achievement and exemplary performance as a School Board if you seek and follow expert advice, performance standards, quality research, interpretation of data, and the Indiana School Boards Association Code of Ethics. Rumors are few, isolated, and inconsequential. Communication is strong and trustworthy. Your story is factual with load of good news. This is very hard work, yet it is essential for our students. I close my final article with a Do List and a Do Not List (see page 25) of advice learned from my honor to serve families for twenty-three years as their Superintendent of Schools. I wish all the best for you and your schools filled with happy children and teachers! 

Crown Point Community Schools Corporation, a partnership of students, families, staff, and community, empowers all students to become accomplished lifelong learners through the highest quality of education programs. With ethics and integrity as our foundation exemplifying the culture within our school: We Ask: What makes a good person? Cooper (3rd grade): "When I think of a good person, I think of someone that probably has a good family filled with other good people. They must be caring and helping others." Symmes (4th grade): "When I think of a good person, I think of a good listener and someone who pays attention to you when you are talking to them. I think of someone who works together instead of just having one person do all the work and someone who doesn't judge someone by their skin or what they look like."
Recognized Solon Robinson Elementary art teacher Lyn Czapla for the outstanding display of student artwork at Central Office during the month of October…artwork was enjoyed by all

Recognized the CPHS Volleyball Team for being Regional and Sectional Champions and strong contenders at Semi-State – Team: Ulyssa Hernandez, Alyssa Hill, Alaina Chacon, Morgan Chacon, Rylee Beason, Lexy Oppenhuis, Alex Equihua, Hannah Bauner, Reece Kral, Peyton Yelich, Jessica Yukich; Coach: Alison Duncan; Assistants: Shelley Evers, Ashley Plumley, Kate Chance

Recognized the Crown Point Community Foundation for the many grants awarded the Crown Point Community School Corporation during the September grant cycle – CPHS Best Buddies Program - $1000; Col. John Wheeler and Taft Middle Schools - $5000 each for a Challenger Learning Center field trip; CPHS RoboDogs, - $3,500; MacArthur Elementary MacRobotics program - $2,500

Attended and enjoyed the Fall Choir Concert October 16, 2015…wonderful evening of beautiful music showcasing our talented choral students – Choral Director: Joanne Haley-Borodine

MacArthur PTO “Sweet Thanks” reception on October 1, 2015 to thank sponsors (financial) of ECA’s such as MacRobotics

IHSAA Commissioner and Review Committee for the appeal ruled in favor of CPHS - athlete ineligible (Munster)

Recognized the following teachers/staff for serving on their school’s PTO’s – Lake Street Elementary: Melanie Pociask, Kelly Anthony, and Krystin Blimm; MacArthur Elementary: Jan Andretich; Solon Robinson Elementary: Kate Sletto and Kelly Wool; Timothy Ball Elementary: Colleen Campbell, Leah Holding, and Sue Kerr; Winfield Elementary: Janet Miller, Julie Olenik, Brandy Sims, and Jennifer Manz

CPHS Athletic Department 2014-15 DAC Boys All-Sports Champions and DAC Girls All-Sports Runners-up

Thanked U.S. Congressman Pete Visclosky for his assistance with E-Rate Funding and request for waiver of FCC Rules for data usage on cellular service

Recognized CPHS teachers Erin Rawls and Amanda Campos for their participation in the “Color Run” fundraiser for St. Jude on Sept. 28, 2015…raised $4,000

Contract negotiations settled – two-year contract…teacher contract is model throughout the state

2015-16 September ADM Count– 8,376…enrollment up 274

Clothing Our Children Charity Benefit, October 11, 2015 - Merrillville Rotary presented 95 Kohl’s gift cards valued at $75 each to Crown Point Schools for families in need to purchase clothes and shoes for children of CPCSC and Merrillville Schools – cards are distributed to all schools based on percentage of Free/Reduced Lunch numbers. - Mr. John Williams and Dr. Eineman…thank you to the Merrillville Rotary for this wonderful project

Riley Children’s Foundation recognizes CPCSC for achieving Riley Corporation Status for the 2014-15 school year for raising at least $1 per student enrolled in the corporation…CPHS Student Council sponsored a Dance Marathon raising $11,000, and Robert A. Taft Middle School Student Council sponsored a Candy Cane Sale and Valentine’s Day Dance raising $1,000 to benefit children and families receiving care at Riley Hospital for Children – CPHS Student Council Sponsor – Colleen Fano; Robert A. Taft Student Council Sponsors: Melinda Weiss and Joyce Zembillas

Recognized MacArthur Elementary cafeteria manager, Anna Mackey, retiring at the end of the 2015-16 school year after 29 years of service…great lady
Recognized Lake Street teacher Kelly Anthony for being a Camp Director for Camp Invention at Lake Street Elementary this summer leading a team of outstanding teachers and students through a week of exciting, STEM-based activities

Recognized Dr. Eineman for her final article in the ISBA magazine, *The Journal*, “RUMORS: gossip, hearsay, tittle-tattle, whispers, loose lips, grapevine” featuring Crown Point Community School Corporation

In memory of Carl Traicoff, former basketball coach, for his contribution to students/youth in Lake Ridge (Calumet) Schools and surrounding community

Recognized the CPHS Volleyball Team and Coach Allison Duncan for being named the Class 4A Sectional and Regional Champions (first regional title in more than 20 years!)

Recognized the MacArthur PTO for the outstanding reception “Sweet Thanks” they sponsored October 1, 2015

**November 2015**

- L.E.A.R.N. Academy - Deb Ciochina coordinates and manages the enrollment and courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEARN ACADEMY, FALL 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ENROLLMENT BY PERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN COURSES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CLASS HOURS AND LICENSE RENEWAL HOURS EARNED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CPCSC TEACHERS/ADMINS AS INSTRUCTORS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INSTRUCTORS TEACHING MORE THAN ONE COURSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INSTRUCTORS NEW THIS SESSION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Gallup 2014 - 2015 Hiring Report Statistics show CPCSC new hires are increasingly the best applicants. This top talent pool consistently indicates the excellent reputation of the school district is the primary reason for choosing CPCSC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District Summary of Hires…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean of Hired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance – no increase to premiums
- Recognized Lake Street Elementary art teacher June Wylie for the outstanding display of student artwork at Central Office during the month of November…artwork was enjoyed by all
- Attended the CPHS Theatre Fall Production of “Fools” directed by Kit Degenhart…outstanding student performances
- Fall Scholar Athletes – 3.5 GPA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2009 (Baseline)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>56%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Attended the Crown Point Community Foundation 2015 Gala, November 7, 2015 celebrating 25 years of giving to the community...the event brought together donors, businesses, nonprofit organizations and community leaders – great evening
- IDOE Office of Special Education ranked CPCSC as - Meets Requirements 100% - of Part B of The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Attended the St. Jude House 20th Anniversary Gala, November 20, 2015 – honoring the 20 years of service that St. Jude House has provided families affected by domestic violence...also attending in support of St. Jude House – Cindy Wise, Lake Street Principal; Russ Marcinek, CPHS Assistant Principal/Community Partnership Leader; CPHS Teachers: Erin Rawls and Amanda Campos, Sponsors - National Honor Society
- Recognized CPHS VEX Robotics Team 1223A for finishing as tournament finalist, receiving the Excellence Award at the VEX Robotics State Qualifying Tournament and advancing to the state competition – Team 1223A: Julia Fleszewski, Jami Pryde, Robert Ponziano, Ralph Knipper, Margaux Scott, Zach Otano, Will Stratton; Coach Sponsor: Mark Querry
- Attended the 2015 Crossroads Regional Chamber of Commerce Gala, Shaken NOT Stirred, November 21, 2015 – congratulations to our ten Inspiring Educators who were honored at the gala - Overall winner: Ashley Plumley, CPHS; Individual school winners/Chamber finalists: Traci Geer, Taft MS; Grace Santos, Wheeler MS; Kathleen Lucht, Eisenhower Elementary; Kelly Anthony, Lake Street Elementary; Sarah Scott, MacArthur Elementary; Kelly Wool, Solon Robinson Elementary; Suzanne Hufford, Timothy Ball Elementary; Kelly Elsey, Winfield Elementary; Dustin Miller, Jerry Ross Elementary
- Veteran’s Day, November 11, 2015 - Kudos to the hundreds of students at Colonel John Wheeler Elementary that offered a hero’s welcome to local veterans as they arrived for the Veteran’s Day celebration at the school – 40 veterans participated in the event
- Recognized Jerry Ross Elementary teacher Abbie Perkovich for being featured in the Chicago Tribune and the University of Chicago Medicine website for her lesson in courage - As a master teacher, students adore Mrs. Perkovich. She used everything she teaches her students (as attributes needed to be successful) to push herself to accomplish good health after a serious diagnosis. These attributes are knowledge-seeking, courageous, creative, committed, and wise decision-making. CPCSC is quite proud of Mrs. Perkovich
- Recognized Lake Street Elementary for winning the “Reading with Friends” Category in the 2015 Time Out for Reading contest sponsored by the Northwest Indiana Literacy Coalition – students reading on new PTO funded playground
- Ready NWI - Graduate to Success, November 13, 2015 – Keynote speaker, Teresa Lubbers, Indiana’s Commissioner for Higher Education, addressed the issue of Dual Credits and the extension of the deadline for teachers to meet qualifications to teach dual credit courses at the high school level
- Recognized the Boys & Girls Clubs of NWI for the “Steppin’ it up for Great Futures” event, November 2015…new CEO, Anne Flannery…great event
- Recognized the Crossroads Regional Chamber for sponsoring the annual Reality Store at Colonel John Wheeler Middle School, November 13, 2015…approximately 600 8th grade students from Robert A. Taft and Colonel John Wheeler Middle Schools participated and found it to be a great life lesson... thank you to all of the volunteers and contributors to this event – Guidance Counselors, Kim Doolin, Coordinator, and Michelle Berger, Assistant Coordinator, worked with Chamber organizing event; Head Custodian, Joe Burke and his custodial staff, setting up/tearing down the venue booths; Cafeteria Manager, Cathy Spencer, provided food/drinks for event; 8th grade teachers preparation
and follow-up with students for event: Susan Whitehouse, Stephanie Olson, Jim Lemon, Darleen Maas, Mark Croell, Cherie Staples, Erin Charpentier, Megan Kienzle, Nick Bruno, Tammy Betz, Michelle Magiera, Dennis Bunda, and Brian Popiela; Secretaries, Laura Newman and Lynnette Barker greeted Chamber volunteers and directed them to locations; Assistant Principal, David Vode, greeted guests...great TEAM effort

- CPHS work-based Learning and Internship Program – over 220 CPHS seniors are participating in this program giving them the opportunity to see the kind of career they would like before they go to college or trade school – Program Director: Ginny Zega; Job Coaches: Lawanda Duvall, Maryann Dwan, and Scott Rettig
- Recognized seniors Paul Dawley and Kaitlin Rich for being the Presidential Scholar Nominees for CPHS
- Recognized CPHS Inklings newspaper and Excalibur yearbook for earning Hoosier Star status – the highest award – from the Indiana High School Press Association for the fourth year in a row – Advisers: Inklings – Julie Elston; Excalibur – Lisa Keene
- Wished everyone Happy Thanksgiving
- Recognized Bryce Bonin, CPHS junior, for being named Post-Tribune Boys Tennis Player of the Year
- Recognized Kit Degenhart and the Theatre Department for their production of the Fall Play, Neil Simon’s Fools, - applause to the whole cast and crew…outstanding job
- Recognized the Athletic Department for the Fall Sports Award Banquet – Kudos for a great program
- Happy Thanksgiving to all

December 2015

- Recognized Robert A. Taft art teachers, Darren Clauss and Ane Talevski, for the outstanding display of student artwork at Central Office for the month of December
- Recognized Liam O’Brien, Taft 8th grader, for earning 36 merit badges and achieving the rank of Eagle Scout…also earned all of the STEM NOVA awards…outstanding!
- Recognized the CPHS Orchestra for the wonderful performance at the Crown Point Rotary Luncheon on December 16, 2015 and the three outstanding performances for the community on December 13, 2015…our talented student musicians performed beautifully celebrating the holiday season – Orchestra Director: Mr. Tom Reed
- Attended the Crossroads Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual Installation and Awards Luncheon, December 11, 2015 – serving on the 2016 Board of Directors representing Crown Point Community School Corporation
- Housing market continues to grow in the region …up 6.3% in Lake County – number 1 driver of families choosing South Lake County is the good school districts…kudos to CPCSC!
- Recognized CPHS Band Director Johann Sletto for the wonderful Holiday Concert on December 9, 2015…student musicians performed to perfection…thank you for sharing this beautiful gift of music at the holidays
- Recognized the CPHS Thespian Society Troupe 3187 for their food drive collecting hundreds of canned and dry goods for St. Clare’s Food Bank in Crown Point
- Recognized the instructors that provided instruction for the Fall 2015 L.E.A.R.N. Academy – Instructors: Susan Bateman, Jori Dusseau, Jennifer Menear, Jeremy Walker, Deb Ciochina, Brent Barber, Kelly Loving, Jerome Flewelling, Kevin McBride…Thank you for being great role models and teachers and for teaching our teachers
- IDOE Department of Special Education: Status of Compliance on Federal Indicators for FFY 2014 (SY 14-15) – We are pleased to inform you that Crown Point Community...
School Corporation has been found to be compliant on the federal indicators as described in the Compliance Report. No further action is required.

Compliance Report FFY 2014 (SY 14-15)
4660 Crown Point Community School Corp
December 8, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>LEA STATUS FFY2014 (SY14-15)</th>
<th>Area(s) of Non-Compliance:</th>
<th>Non-Applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indicator 9</td>
<td>Disproportional representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education that is the result of inappropriate identification.</td>
<td>Compliant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicator 10</td>
<td>Disproportional representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification.</td>
<td>Compliant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicator 12</td>
<td>Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who were found eligible for Part B, and who had an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays.</td>
<td>Compliant</td>
<td>LEA Percentage Compared to Target (100%): 100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- CPCSC State Certified - Emergency Preparedness Plan review and site visit - Timothy Ball Elementary met and exceeded emergency preparedness/school safety requirements under Indiana Code…IDOE appreciated professionalism of staff and impressed with commitment to safety exhibited by the school safety specialists – Arthur Equihua, Principal; Milan Damjanovic, Safety and Security Director; John Williams, Personnel Director
- Congratulations again to our 2015 Inspiring Educator Award Winners for receiving this prestigious recognition from the Crossroads Regional Chamber of Commerce and being honored at the 2015 Annual Gala, November 21, 2015 – School Winners: Tracie Geer, Taft; Grace Santos, Wheeler; Kathleen Lucht, Eisenhower; Kelly Anthony, Lake Street; Sarah Scott, MacArthur; Kelly Wool, Solon Robinson; Suzanne Hufford, Timothy Ball; Kelly Elsey, Winfield; Dustin Miller, Jerry Ross; and Ashley Plumley, CPHS - School Winner and overall Corporation Winner
- Recognized the Crossroads Regional Chamber of Commerce for presenting a check for $1000 to Dr. Eineman for our Education Endowment Fund at the 2015 annual gala…thank you for your continued support
- Attended the CPHS Holiday Choral Concert on December 16, 2015…wonderful evening filled with voices of our talented students…special thank you to all who pitched in to make sure “the show goes on” as Mrs. Borodine was unable to direct program – Bobbie Kvachkoff, Kit Degenhart, Andrew Robinson, and Rochelle Kreykes
- Recognized Athletic Coaches and Director Bill Dorulla – all 96 coaches currently certified – 5 achieving professional level – a noteworthy accomplishment of skill and continuous learning…exceptional department – Coaches/Professional Level: Jon Haas, Ginger Britton, Chris Seibert, Brian Elston, Brandon Lorek; Coaches/Certified: Melissa Beach, Allison Adank, Mindy Pearson, Ryan Bishop, Michelle Hamstra, Chloe Pugh, Annie Vassar, Mike Holobawski, Josh Goeringer, Amber Beezhold, Kevin Enright, Sean Granger, Mike Depta, Josh Graegin, Nick Ciochina, Vince Lewis, Brian Jones, Dan Downes, Kurt Wermers, Michael Bork, Tom Gulbrandsen, Dan Knaga, Scott Vlink, Alison Duncan, Keith Iddings, Lori Slosson, Ashley Plumley, Natasha Polianto, Ken Witt, Bryan Trippeer, Scott Rettig, Stephen Gill, Lindsay Moskalick, Hayley Borowski, Ami Pysh, Robert Grimes, Mike Bazin, Chelsea Bowman, Christina Lundy, Ken Mikrut, Chris Korzeniewski, Chris Damjanovic, Steve Strayer, Joey Davis, Chris Mikrut, Allison
Bickel, Michelle Evers, Morgan Kleinaman, Jennifer Easton, Kate Chance Danielle Frankovich, Clint Swan, Leo Bonin, Bryon Angerman, Debbie Iddings, Heather Mikrut, Jennifer Vinovich, Trey Fankhauser, Andrew Wrecsics, Todd Larson, Nicole Szypczak, Brooke Hruby, Scott Anderson, Robin Hofer, Alex Tsikouris, Jim Tucker, Kyle Hanaway, Kim McRae, Nancy Phillips, Keven Thomas, Andrew Gross, Amanda Moore, Matt McCaleb, Nikola Pusara, David Hoffman, Jim Eaton

- November issue of the Curriculum/Instruction Department newsletter, C/I News and Notes, focuses on Marzano’s Element 18: Examining Reasoning, and is filled with useful strategies to support student learning – Deb Ciochina, Editor
- Recognized CPHS teacher Jeremy Walker for presenting a special $500 grant from the Crown Point Community Foundation to the CPHS Latin Club - Mr. Walker donates monthly to the Crown Point Schools Endowment Fund and his name was randomly selected in the donor drawing for the month of September…he chose this special grant to support the Latin Club
- Recognized Lauren Ashby, CPHS junior, for being a tremendous leader role model for the students at CPHS – Vice President of the Key Club; state position of Lieutenant Governor of the Arrowhead Division; and President of the German Club…thank you for a great job representing Crown Point High School and our community
- Recognized the CPHS VEX Robotics Teams 1233A, Excellence Award, and 1233D, Tournament Champions, at the Warren State Qualifying Tournament 2 on December 5, 2015 – Team 1233A: Jami Pryde, Ralph Knipper, Margaux Scott, Zach Otano, and Robert Panziano; Team 1233D: Alex Kadah, Brendon Larson, Alexis Werner, and Zach Carpenter; Coach: Mark Querry
- Recognized Alison Duncan, CPHS Girls Volleyball Coach, for being named the Post-Tribune 2015 Girls Volleyball Coach of the Year – Bulldogs defeated both Valparaiso and Lake Central to with the regional title…first since 1992!
- Happy Holidays to all!

**January 2016**

- Successful state readiness test this month in preparation for the online ISTEP test in April and May
- Recognized 3rd grade teachers Mrs. Linda Johnson and Mrs. Ashley Legg, who were at the meeting, as representatives of all third grade teachers and all of our teachers in the corporation for their hard work in preparing students for the upcoming ISTEP testing
- Kudos to Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Legg, and all of our teachers for their hard work in getting our students ready to take the ISTEP test in April and May
- Recognized CPHS art teachers, Karen Cox, Lindsay Cox, Dorothy Duffala, and Lindsey Harris, for the outstanding student art display at Central Office for the month of January
- Attended Dwight D. Eisenhower’s National Elementary Honor Society Formal Induction, January 14, 2016 and assisted with the induction of the students. Thank you to Mrs. Chapko, principal, Mrs. Dusseau, Chapter Advisor, and Mr. Equihua, keynote speaker, for an inspiring evening to all involved – proud parents and honor students.
- ISTEP 2015 ‘Hold Harmless’ 11 A’s – Corporation A (9 of 11 A’s) without ‘Hold Harmless’ – Corporation A…Best in Lake and Porter County
- Recognized Mr. Williams, HR Director, for handling a difficult situation
- Housing industry across region in upswing – south Lake County shows more building than north Lake County or Porter County – Crown Point still one of the hot towns for new home construction
- Met with Congressman Pete Visclosky and his Chief of Staff on MLK Day, January 18, 2016…E-Rate and DC/Internships – Congressman Visclosky was the keynote speaker at the Crossroads Chamber Luncheon, January 19, 2016
- Recognized CPHS and the entire corporation for a graduation rate of 96.8% which is in the top ten among our league corporations and exceeds the state average of 88.7%
- Recognized Coach Scott Vlink and the CPHS Wrestling Team for winning the 2015-16 Duneland Athletic Conference out right by defeating the Valparaiso Vikings on Wednesday, January 20th 36-16…this is coach Vlink’s 8th DAC title since CP joined the conference in 1994
- Recognized CPHS teacher Liz Hanlon, the special needs team, and students for a special night as they supported and participated in the boys’ basketball game against Chesterton on January 22, 2016. Students Michael Baltensberger and Michael Gregoline did an outstanding job in their performance of the National Anthem to start the night off…in addition to the Bulldog Blazer Cheerleaders assisting the CPHS Cheerleaders, and the Dogs Basketball Team cheering on the CPHS Boys’ Basketball Team
April 2016

- Recognized the volunteers from the Lion’s Club who administered vision screening to the incoming kindergarten students during EPFS testing. Lion’s Club members: Richard Day, Ron Gang, Bev Huber, Vicky Klein, Chuck McKeen, Coleen McKeen, Sandy Nadolski, Jon Nadolski, Bob Vanek, Chuck Wirtz, Alex Kleemann, and Donna Worst
- Recognized Mrs. Kendra Daves for coordinating the EPFS Kindergarten Testing for another successful year of screening incoming kindergarteners.
- Recognized Mrs. Sheri Tokoly for her role in the preparation for this year’s ISTEP testing.
- Highest 2016 IREAD-3 scores on first run – Eisenhower, 99%; Lake St., 95%; MacArthur, 96%; Solon, 99%; Timothy Ball, 92%; Jerry Ross/Linfield, 96%...best scores yet
- Recognized Timothy Ball Elementary art teacher Suzanne Hufford for the outstanding display of student artwork displayed at Central Office for the month of April.
- Recognized the cast and crew of the CPHS Theatre Department for their outstanding performance of Oklahoma...they were phenomenal
- A Tree Grows at Central… This beautiful tree will be a place of recognition for our Inspiring Teachers. A special “Thank You” to Ed Topp, Karen Topp, Brian Trapp, Dan White, and Larry Tetzloff for designing and crafting this exquisite work of art. The following poem is etched in the knot, “Teaching is the greatest of all the arts, for the teacher creates many masterpieces all at the same time; education is the foundation of intellect, and intellect is the foundation of genius; and the student with the inspired mind, who will one day rise above everyone’s expectations to lead his or her own life and possibly our nation and the world, owes it all to you--the teachers!” – Michael Barringer

The names of our 2015 and 2014 Inspiring Educator Award Winners receiving this prestigious recognition from the Crossroads Regional Chamber of Commerce will be mounted to this display - 2015 School Winners: Tracie Geer, Taft; Grace Santos, Wheeler; Kathleen Lucht, Eisenhower; Kelly Anthony, Lake Street; Sarah Scott, MacArthur; Kelly Wool, Solon Robinson; Suzanne Hufford, Timothy Ball; Kelly Elsey, Winfield; Dustin Miller, Jerry Ross; and Ashley Plumley, CPHS - School Winner and overall Corporation Winner; 2014 School Winners: Scott Reid, Taft; Joe Betz, Wheeler; Linda Johnson, Eisenhower; Amy Hochbaum, Lake Street; Joe Bysiek, MacArthur; Julie Gasparovic, Solon; Lynn Carlson, Timothy Ball; Amanda King, Winfield; Abbie Perkovich, Jerry Ross; and Liz Hanlon, CPHS – School Winner and overall Corporation Winner

- Attended the Crown Point High School Alumni Banquet, April 16, 2016 approximately 150 friends and family members attended and enjoyed a great evening...congratulations to all - Hall of Fame Teachers: Jerry Caravana, Charlotte Johnsen, David Schaeffer, and Scott Vlink; Alumni Hall of Fame: Eston “Bud” Perry – 1954; Keith Perry – 1956; Dr. Joseph Kacmar – 1968; Michael Toman – 1972; Barbara Toman – 1979; Andrew Dillon - 1986
- Timothy Ball’s National Elementary Honor Society Formal Induction, February 18, 2016. Thank you to Mr. Equihua, principal, and Mrs. Owczarzak Chapter Advisor, for an inspiring evening to all involved – proud parents and honor students. Inductees: Madison Brown, Mike Bennett, Amyah Chandler, Kiley Cholewa, Katelyn Dabrowa, Annie Davidson, Jason Devaney, Dain Ellman, Sidney Anne Hamelin, Heaven Irish-Fyke, Isabella Knipper, Anna Kostelnik, Abby Lee, Sarah Leitzel, Gabriella Lilovich, Rajinder

Dr. Eineman presented at Crossroads Regional Chamber of Commerce “State of the Region” event, March 3, 2016, at the Radisson

Recognized CPHS Assistant Principal Robert McDermott for completing a three-year term on the Indiana Association of School Principals’ Board of Directors

Recognized the Col. Wheeler Middle School Art Club for winning 3rd place for their Disney themed chair in the CHAIRish the Children Contest – Student Artists: Chloe Fridrich, Morgan Hawkins, Reina Mendoza, Mady Hall, Zoe Weeks, Kaitlyn Dubek, Teri Carter, Lucas Liapes, Ana Duleva, Allie Drake, Kamen Siner, Katy Pavich, Tyler Kuss, Mirra Coronado, Maddie Schiesser, Jade Buckner; Club Sponsor: Becky Springer

Recognized MacArthur Student Council for sponsoring a pet drive and being named the Lake County winner in the Kids Caring for the Community winning $500 for their school – Student Council: Evan Howard, Regan Eddy, Carly Sloan, Tymon Koelmel, Aubrey Wroble, Savannah Fields, Lauren Riordan, Bryan Burandt, Josie Menz, Lily Cribari, Brooklyn Botma, Veronica Alonso, Samantha Rasmussen; Student Council Sponsor: Mandy Wenglarz

Recognized Mrs. Pat Huber, Crown Point Community Foundation President, on her retirement at the end of 2016 after 17 years of service to the CPCF and the Crown Point community

CPHS Music Boosters hosted their annual gala fundraiser, A Noteworthy Night 2016, on February 12…the CPHS Band, Choir, and Orchestra performers were fantastic…thank you to the families for contributing resources

A group of administrators from Franklin Township School Community School Corporation visited CPCSC February 18, 2016 to learn what makes us an Indiana High Performing School Corporation

Indiana Department of Education celebrates Indiana’s bicentennial by recognizing 200 promising practices from schools all over the state and selects Douglas MacArthur Elementary and Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary as schools that exhibit the use of promising practices that foster equity and high quality systems – Congratulation to principals Marion Buchko and Mary Ann Chapko and their staffs

Recognized the CPHS Thespians for receiving 2nd place at the Indiana Thespian Regional Competition at Bethel College and qualified for the Indiana State Thespian Competition with their performance of FOOLS…this was the first state appearance for CPHS Thespians – congratulations to cast and crew – Director: Kit Degenhart; Cast: Thomas Kvachkoff, Caleb Scibbe, Sophia Holt-Wilson, Sydney LaTurner, Noah Scibbe, Andrew Gianfermi, Tiffany Curtis, Faoilean Cosgrove, Carlton Rager, Caleb Smoot, Katie Mojica, Emily Reed, Emma Werkowski, Alex Drakulich
• Crown Point Community Foundation awards grant to fund AP tests – students receiving AP grants this year: Natalie Brigham, Karlie Carpenter, Ann DeMars, Nathan DeMars, Kailee Erdelac, Lauren Feder, Antonio Gaeta, Andrew Gianfermi, Jacquelyn Ham, John Hanlon, Alessandro Italiano, Kyle Kuiper, Andrea Kutemeier, Sara Kwiatkowski, Lindsey LaBuda, Josh Lindeman, Andrew Loewe, Francesca Metlov, Christopher Newlin, John Sakareros, Noah Scibbe, Taylor Smith, Amber Stutler, Kaitlyn Szpak, Sarah Thompson, Julie Tran, Hannah Wylie, Leo Zdanowicz

• CPHS ranked among the top twenty of 2016 America’s Most Challenging High Schools – 40% highest percentage to date: includes only seniors passing an AP test (does not include all our dual credits earned/passed by our seniors – actually 77% of our seniors take (and pass college tests) AP/Dual Credit classes

• CPCSC and all 10 schools receive “A” grades in 2015 state accountability standards from the IDOE

• Recognized CPHS senior Lily Sharp for being named the winner of the Amaco Ceramics Installation contest for her ceramic tile design for the new Amaco building…her glazed tiles will be used as a long lasting installation as part of a Classroom to Community Outreach program with schools throughout Indiana and Amaco Headquarters – her completed installation can be viewed at the outside entrance to the new Amaco building in Indianapolis beginning mid-May 2016

• Recognized CPHS senior Andrea Kutemeier for being named a 2016 Tri Kappa Award winner with a Best of Show

• Featured in the February 3, 2016 edition of The Times new column, “NWI is #RegionProud” sharing her pride and love for her community – Crown Point

• Attended the 2016 NSBA Annual Conference in Boston, April 9-11, 2016 where CPCSC was formally recognized as a 2016 Magna Award Grand Prize winner for taking bold and innovative steps to improve the lives of their students and their communities. CPCSC is the first Indiana school corporation in history to receive this category distinguished award and selected the CPHS Summer Engage Program in relation to the Freshman School within a School to represent the district. Thank you to the group of teachers and support staff, Annie Lorek, Amanda Carlson, Vince Bauters, James Twardy, Brian McClanahan, Amy Sansone, Brandon Lorek, Lori Gramenz, Melanie Hardman, Kristi Pawlus, and Sabrina Ramirez, that work with Mr. Mark Gianfermi, freshman principal, to create the Summer Engage program that remediates necessary core subject skills while also providing students with opportunities to make mature decisions, demonstrate leadership skills, and advocate for themselves. In addition, thank you to the entire freshman team for the significant contribution each of them makes every day to ensure the success of our freshman students. Freshman team: Teachers: Clint Swan, Annie Lorek, Jennifer Easton, Allison Bickel, Jennifer Bianchi, Lisa Keene, Amanda Carlson, Steve Gill, Jon Haas, Carole Lambersie, Susan Mender, Amanda Moore, Bruce Sharp, Diane Tournis, Dominique Bowman, Kristi Pawlus, Amy Sansone, James Twardy Melissa Beach, Kelly Chevalier, Mike Depta, Kelly Nelson, David Hoffman, Chris Mikrut, Kristen Szafasz, Kevin Thomas, Brooke Yeager, Heidi Polizotto, Amy Berchem, Heidi Marek, Jackie Morenzoni, Carol McMichael, Angie Keaveney, and Sara Wietbrock; Counselors: Kim Swan and Kim Wilkinson; RtI: Ken Miller, Lori Gramenz, and Kyle Hanaway. A special
thank you to Chris Gloff and Brent Barber for their hard work, diligence, and expertise to assist in the production of a professional, high-quality video highlighting the Crown Point Community School Corporation that was part of the Magna Award presentation at the NSBA Conference in Boston

- Congratulations to the staff members at each of the schools for creating quality yearbooks that are filled with memories and are keepsakes for life. Eisenhower, Mary Ann Chapko; Lake Street, Karen Forajter; MacArthur, Brenda Yoithment; Solon Robinson, Lisa Hovanec; Timothy Ball, Tammy Loosemore; Winfield, Jennifer Hall; Jerry Ross, Amanda Parker; Taft, Joy Murphy; Col. Wheeler, Jennifer Deal and Michelle Berger

- Recognized CPHS senior Grant Gelon for being selected to play on the 2016 Indiana All-star basketball team

- Attended the 2016 NSBA Annual Conference in Boston, April 9-11, 2016…a phenomenal conference…honored to represent Crown Point Community School Corporation accepting the 2016 Magna Award Grand Prize – congratulations to everyone at CPCSC

- Recognized the Crown Point Community Foundation for continued support to CPCSC -$11,450 in grants for the February 2016 cycle…thank you

- Well wishes to Mr. Hoffman for a speedy recovery

- Recognized the CPHS Gymnastics Team for placing 4th at the IHSAA state tournament…congratulations – Team: Emily Kamleiter, Megan Czamecki, Emily Russell, Ashley Woods, Kaleigh Stack, Sydni Weisbrodt, Autumn Chandos, Shannon Harrison, Amber St. Germain, Natalie Thiel, Hannah Best, Lainey Kowalczyk; Head Coach: Ami Pysh; Assistants: Nancy Phillips, Karen Charters

- Recognized the CPHS custodial staff for setting up for the Board Meeting and CPHS students David Chapa and Devyn Duerig for running the sound system during the meeting

May 2016

- In early May, the Crown Point Community Foundation notified us that our application for the “Big Idea” grant was one of 4 moving to phase 2, the “Big Blueprint” phase.

Our “Big Idea” centers around literacy, language and math, and child development during the first 1800 days of life prior to entering kindergarten, especially those who do not have the opportunity to enroll in pre-school. We believe that education begins at birth and want to provide a suite of applications and activities that would help parents and caregivers know more about what kind of learning needs to occur at home and/or at any caregiver location.

Our Big Idea grant would provide:

- parents and other caregivers access to a suite of digital literacy content and strategies for their pre-school age children
- parent and caregiver awareness and education about best-practice activities for child development to do at home or at the place where children are cared for
- pre-school and daycare centers with additional free resources to use with their enrollees
- a scope, available electronically, of early learning activities that could be accessed by parents and caregivers to enhance all CP future students’ chances for success in school
- Recognized Colonel John Wheeler Middle School art teachers Ane Talevski and Becky Springer for the outstanding display of student artwork displayed at Central Office for the month of May

**Best Place to Live in NWI**

May 15, 2016

Crown Point is consistently voted the number one Best Place to Live in Northwest Indiana. It’s no surprise to Mayor David Uran.

“It’s a team effort, as we strive to build a stronger community from within,” Uran says. “It takes a committed government, a solid school system, a vibrant business foundation, and an involved residential community.”

One of the main features that families look for when selecting a place to live is a highly rated school system, and Crown Point Community School Corporation has been named an Indiana Performance Qualified School District by the Indiana Department of Education for multiple years. The Indiana Department of Education gives the CPSCS and all ten schools an “A” for exemplary achievement.

“Our strong school system attracts people to Crown Point,” Uran says. “So does our low crime rate. People feel safe in our town, and the annual statistics bear that out.”

The North Street Corridor Plan is a prime example of the town’s forward thinking. It will support pedestrian access, provide linkage to the adjoining neighborhoods, and enhance environmental sustainability and design.

“We average 200 newly built homes every year,” Uran adds. “That tells you all you need to know about where people choose to live.”

Second Place: Valparaiso
Third Place: St. John

- Attended the CPHS Internship/Work-Based Learning Program Employer Appreciation Luncheon on May 18, 2016 with Mr. Scott Angel, Board President, honoring the community business partners in the program…over 400 attended this 1st banquet. Four years ago the Internship/WBL Program began with 11 students and 5 business partners – now, there are over 220 students working with 125+ community business partners – WOW! Thank you to the faculty and staff responsible for such a wonderful program and huge success. Faculty/staff: Ginny Zega, Scott Rettig, Lawanda Duvall, and Maryann Dwan
U.S. News & World Report names CPHS one of 2015-16 “Best High Schools” in America – Gold Award

Congratulations to our 2015-16 Retirees: Mildred Drinski, Dorothy Duffala, Barbara Fricke, Joanne Haley-Borodine, Anna Mackey, Kathleen Rosdil, Scott Vlink, Carol Whiteside, Barbara Wittenhagen, and Brenda Wolski…combined total of 213 years of service to Crown Point Schools

Attended the Latin Award Ceremony May 18, 2016 – great evening recognizing students’ achievements – shout out to Latin teachers, Sara Wietbrock and Jeremy Walker


District Administration names Crown Point Community School Corporation a 2016 District of Distinction and featured is the March 2016 edition of District Administration for our innovative CP 2.0 Personalized Learning – Anytime, Anywhere initiative

Recognized Col. Wheeler Middle School art students for their outstanding achievements at the Annual Tri-County Junior/Senior High School Art Exhibition at South Shore Arts in Munster - Chaqwan Williams received the Award of Distinction for "Face Jug" - Ceramic; and Khloe Stover was awarded the Best in Media for "Glacier National Park" - Watercolor.

Indiana Department of Education and The College Board recognizes CPHS at the 2016 Indiana Advanced Placement Recognition Ceremony on June 8, 2016 for having at least 25% of the graduating class cohort score 3 or higher on at least one AP exam

CPHS string quartet performed at the Stand-up for St. Jude House event on May 13, 2016 – Student musicians: Nick Burrell, Lauren Massow, Maddie Edwards, Vanessa Garcia

Attended the spring choir concerts – Colonel John Wheeler Middle School, May 16, 2016, “Top 40 Legends!” Stephen Dean, Director; Robert A. Taft Middle School, May 17, 2016, “Billboard Top 100” Lindsey DeBroux, Director; CPHS, May 18, 2016, “Spring Sing” Joanne Haley-Borodine, Director…3 nights of great music and outstanding performances

CPHS Scholarship Awards Program, May 11, 2016…Class of 2016…numerous academic scholarships awarded to our outstanding seniors

21st Century Scholar Progress Report – 95% of CPHS students on track to earn 21st Century Scholarships for four years paid college tuition…only 8% of students statewide on track to have four years of paid college tuition

CPHS Bulldog Workshop Program Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, May 6, 2016 – thanking those in the community for their support

Attended the CPHS Music Department Contest Countdown, April 28, 2016 – a preview of the CPHS Advanced Orchestra performing ISSMA music selections in preparation for the Indiana State School Music Association Organizational Contest, April 29, 2016 – Tom Reed, Orchestra Director

CPHS National Honor Society Formal Induction, April 27, 2016. Thank you to Mr. Pettit, principal, Mrs. Campos, and Mrs. Rawls, Chapter Advisors, for an inspiring evening to all involved – proud parents and honor students. Inductees: Rachyl Adams, Maria Agoris, Casey Akers, Dakota Alessandriini, Sophia Alessia, Sunjay Anekal, Desiree Aririeri, Kelsi Artim, Isabella Badzovski, Sarah Banks, Ashlee Barton, Caleb Basting, Hannah Bauner, Delaney Benich, Phoenix Bergner, Danielle Biancardi, Gianna Bilotto,
- Recognized Deb Ciochina for organizing end-of-the-year meetings, May 17 & 18, 2016, for this year’s new teachers as a follow-up of their first year with Crown Point Community School Corporation
- MacArthur started a new running club, Boys Run 2, for boys grades 3 – 5…club members practiced twice a week February to April and participated in their first Crown Point Hub Run, April 9, 2016 – Team members: Joshua Miller, David Miller, Bryce Borkowski, Preston Kalil, Boedy Burandt, Bryan Burandt, Caleb Kuiper, Ryland Hochstetler, Isaac Maynard, Ashlin Flavin, Nicholas Haage, Lucas Sekuloski, Cody Layman, Anthony Perry; Coaches: Mandy Wenglarz, Joe Bysiek, Tommy Wise
- Recognized the CPHS Business Professionals of America (BPA) chapter for qualifying to participate at the State Leadership Conference in Indianapolis, March 6-8, 2016 – Students that participated at the state competition: Hannah Carter, Alycia Pappenheim, Alexia Wojciechowski, Lauren Costello, Anthony Kendall, Nick Winter, Haley Grubbs, Amy McNally, Jessica Yukich, Celeste Otano, Griffin Beemsterboer, Matt Frechette, Kyle Venditti, Giulio Bracco, Adam Duda, Nate Hanlon, Luke Billeck, Daniel Guzman, Mike Krapf, Mark Mazure, Garrett Shoemaker, Nick Grothaus, Blake Macke; Advisor: Mary Bachnak
- Recognized former CPHS graduate, Geoffrey Slaughter, for being named to the Indiana Supreme Court by Governor Mike Pence
- Recognized the CPHS Latin Club for the Awards Celebration—several awards were presented to the students in the Latin Club and it was an inspiring evening for all involved – proud parents and honor students
- Recognized the CPHS Internship/Work-Based Learning Program for sponsoring an Employer Appreciation Luncheon on May 18, 2016 to honor the community businesses that are partners in this program. Over 125 community businesses provide extraordinary work-based learning opportunities to the 200+ students in the Internship/WBL Program. It was inspiring to see how poised and professional our students presented themselves and how committed the business partners are to this program…outstanding event! – Teacher/staff sponsors: Ginny Zega, Scott Rettig, Lawanda Duvall, and Maryann Dwan

June 2016
- ISTEP results are expected to be out June 30, 2016
- State Board of Accounts site audit for audit period through June 30, 2015
  - No Federal findings
  - Food Service
    - Special Education
    - Title One
      - Federal grants reviews with no findings
      - Internal controls are effective
      - Compliance with laws, regulations and rules where documented for this audit
- 2016 State Bus Inspection 96-98% …new examiner gave thorough inspection – clean and mechanically sound buses, among best fleet in the state – noteworthy accomplishment
- Recognized Kit Degenhart and the cast and crew of the first annual Summer Theatre Production on June 17 & 18, 2016…students in grades K-12 performed three one act plays with school related themes…very successful start to a great summer program
- June 7, 2016 – Graduation a show to behold and a memory for a lifetime for 720 graduates…excellent work by CPHS, Principal Pettit, Karen Rodd, and Gail Smith
- Recognized Colonel John Wheeler Middle School for another outstanding Wax Museum program, May 25, 26, & 27, 2016…this is the 7th annual presentation and students
worked very hard on their projects portraying 105-110 famous characters from history…great job to all the students who participated…thank you to all involved

- Condolences to the Villars family on the passing of Gene Villars. Mr. Villars was a former teacher and coach for the school corporation.
- Recognized Douglas MacArthur Elementary for being recognized by the Indiana Department of Education for effective implementation of the Promising Practice of Building Positive Relationships…congratulation to faculty and staff for MAKING IT HAPPEN!
- Recognized CPHS for a successful, celebratory graduation…an evening of pride!
- Recognized CPHS junior Hannah Kukurugya for her participation in the Olympic Trial in swimming
- Recognized CPHS senior Miranda Elish for being names the Times Softball Player of the Year…this is Miranda’s third straight year earning this title.
- Recognized Brian Jones, science teacher, and a group of 150 seventh grade students from Colonel John Wheeler Middle School for filling bags (Bags of Hope) with blankets, stuffed animals, games, books, school supplies, nightlights and other miscellaneous items for foster kids. They surpassed their goal of 50 bags filling 65 bags to help 65 kids in foster homes.
- Recognized Karen Rodd and Gail Smith for their hard work in organizing/ticket sales this year’s graduation

July 2016

- Professional Development – 53 teachers in grades 3, 4, and 5 participated in keyboarding training sessions. The training sessions provided direction on teaching students the literacy skill of keyboarding.
- Orientation for 34 new teachers begins on Monday, August 1, 2016…7 days of essential information to give our new teachers a great start
- Welcome Back to School Celebration - August 16, 2016, at 8:00 a.m. at CPHS in the auditorium
- Welcomed Mrs. Kathleen Dowling to Crown Point Community School Corporation as the new CFO
- Recognized Diane Sprehe, Accounts Payable, Pam Mattox, bus driver, Susan Bateman Boswell, Blended Learning design specialist, and art teachers – CPHS: Karen Cox, Lindsay Cox, and Lindsey Harris; Taft/Col. Wheeler: Ane Talevski and Becky Springer; Solon Robinson: Lyn Czapla; and Winfield/Jerry Ross: Darlene Vassil, for displaying their wonderful artwork here at the Administrative Service Center during the summer months and sharing their talent with us
- The 2016 Schoolhouse News, the corporation newsletter, has been mailed out to the community in time for registration. Thanks to the following contributing authors of the newsletter…Mr. James Hardman, Mr. John Williams, Mrs. Cynthia Dewes, Mr. Chip Pettit, Mr. Bill Dorulla, Mrs. Karin Toth, Mrs. Pam Maloney, Mr. Jim Burggraf, Mr. Milan Damjanovic, and Diana Green, as editor, for her hard work
CPCSC was asked to be the sample representing suburbs in Indiana on National Assessment of Educational Progress-NAEP…impressive national results for Indiana
Mathematics-Results from 2015 In 2015, Indiana 8th grade suburb students achieved the 7th highest ranking in the nation on the NAEP mathematics assessment. Indiana’s suburb school student average score (294) is 5 points lower than the proficient cut-off score (299). In 2015, the percentage of suburb school students who scored at or above proficient was 46%. In each consecutive mathematics administration given since 2011, Indiana’s 8th grade suburb students have collectively doubled their percent growth in students scoring at or above proficient. Indiana leads the nation in increasing the percentage of students who scored at or above proficient on the mathematics assessment since 2011 (36%). Indiana’s Improvement, in 2015, to 46% of suburb students scoring at or above proficient was an 11% increase over 2011. The state with the second highest increase was Nebraska with an 8% increase. (Fig.A)

Reading- Results from 2015 In 2015, Indiana 8th grade suburb students’ average score was 274, which is 7 points away from the collective proficient score (281). Iowa, Maine, and Massachusetts are the only states to each achieve a proficient suburb student score on the NAEP reading assessment in its history. Since 2007, Indiana has the third highest student proficiency growth rate. Only Idaho and New Hampshire have had a higher growth rate during this time. (Fig.B) However, Indiana’s average student score was higher than Idaho’s in 2015. Indiana also had higher inclusion rates compared to at least three of the other states with the highest growth proficiency percentages. Consistently higher student inclusion rates on the NAEP reading assessment each administration should be taken into consideration when examining Indiana’s year-to-year proficiency growth trend compared to the growth trends of other national NAEP participants that do not consistently include all students. No state includes 100% of both students with disabilities or English language learners; however, it is every state’s goal to include as many students as possible in the NAEP assessment so the most reliable data can be reported.
Recognized recent CPHS graduate Kyle Venditti for being the recipient of a National Merit Northeastern University scholarship

Well wishes to the CPHS Latin Club as they head to Bloomington to participate in the National Latin Convention