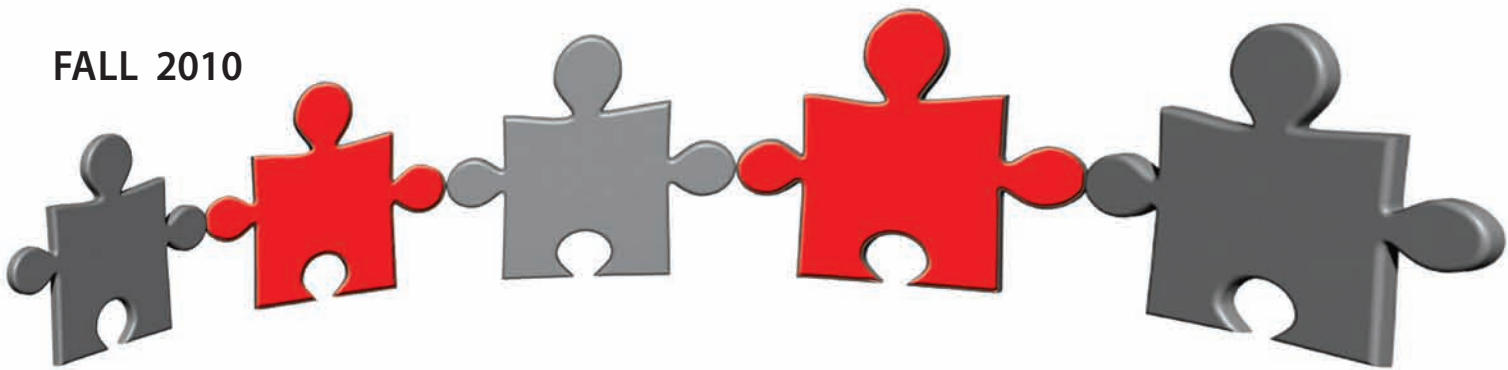


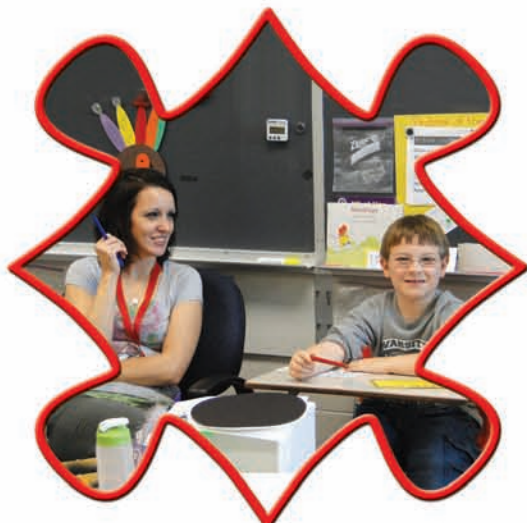
FALL 2010



MSD of Boone Township
A Place of Learning

BRIDGES

Connecting the Pieces of Life



Mrs. Chavez and Alex Monise
take time out for a picture.



Hebron Middle School Book Store is open for business.
Kelly Steffan, Rachel Young, and Jourden Bixenman work on Grand Opening Day.



Brianna Dapkus and David Anleitner
share lunch at the high school



Faith Lloyd and Anthony Jaroszewski
each enjoy a good book in the elementary library.

Superintendent's Message



District Accreditation
AdvancED/NCA District Accreditation

NEED PARENT AND COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE ON COMMITTEES

As you may be aware the MSD of Boone Township is pursuing "district" accreditation through the NCA/AdvancED Accreditation Association. This association is the world's largest education community, representing over 23,000 public and private schools and districts in 30 states. With this action our district will have achieved both state accreditation and NCA/AdvancED accreditation which means we will have met the requirements of two separate accreditation organizations. We have already begun the NCA/AdvancED process by seeking parent and community input with the "KEYS" survey which was provided to parents at the schools during parent/teacher conferences and also an "on-line" opportunity to do the survey at home following those conferences.

The accreditation process will allow our staff members to review our overall operations based on seven standards that the NCA/AdvancED association requires all school districts to meet. The areas covered in the evaluation include the following: Vision, Governance and Leadership, Teaching and Learning, Documenting and Using Results, Resources and Support Services, Shareholder Communications and Relationships, and finally Commitment to Continuous Improvement. Each standard will have school employees, parents and patrons involved in discussions to develop plans for the future.

The goal after completing the process of accreditation is to develop a district-wide strategic plan which will be used to guide our actions for many years in the future. There are numerous directives coming from the Indiana Department of Education and the district strategic plan will not only map a course of action for our corporation but will also direct our response to these Indiana Department of Education mandates.

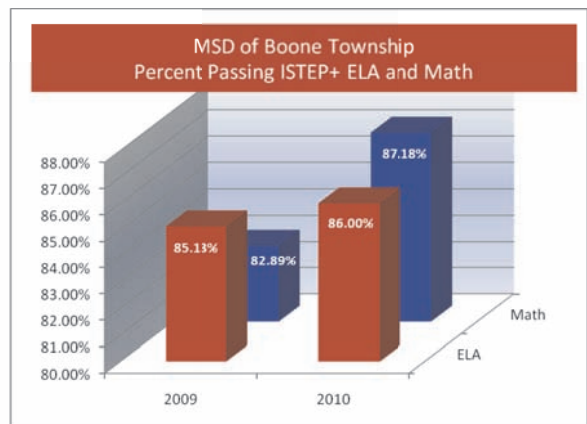
We need parents and patrons (community members who do not presently have children in school) to participate in this process. Please call the offices of the three schools or the central office if you wish to volunteer to serve on one of the committees attached to a particular standard. The amount of time needed to complete this task is very minimal (two/three hours) and the experience of serving on a committee will increase your understanding of how school districts operate and the challenges each school faces on a daily basis.

Thank you in advance for serving on these committees.

Central Office: 219-996-4771 Ext. 121
High School: 219-996-4771 Ext. 115
Middle School: 219-996-4771 Ext. 136
Elementary School: 219-996-4771 Ext. 102

George Letz – Superintendent

The 2010 MSD Boone Township English/Language Arts (E/LA) scores and Math scores comparing 2009 to 2010 overall scores are listed in the bar graph below this paragraph. We continue to have better success each year the students take the ISTEP+ exams in the core areas of Mathematics and English/Language Arts.



These scores reflect the district's goal to continuously improve the achievement level of our students each year by providing our instructional staff with many opportunities to learn new instructional techniques as well as how to better use technology in the classroom for instruction. Our teachers participate in inservices at the Northwest Indiana Educational Service Center as well as seminars and job embedded activities directed by the Lakeshore Association of Student Success. The district also sends teachers to a variety of workshops outside these two organizations orchestrated by the Indiana Department of Education. The work of the teachers with the assistance of the school corporation continues to provide our students with excellent instruction and improved student achievement.



FALL SPORTS



Boys Varsity Volleyball



Girls Varsity Volleyball



Boys Cross Country



Girls Cross Country



Boys JV Volleyball



Girls JV Volleyball



MS Girls Softball



MS Boys Cross Country



MS Girls Cross Country



7th Grade Girls Volleyball



8th Grade Girls Volleyball



MS Boys Baseball



Boys Soccer



Girls Soccer



High School News

As Ms. Brown looked on, her students taped rolls of newspaper together in the gymnasium's mezzanine. Not long into the period, the framework for towers was apparent. The students in Ms. Brown's class were competing to build the tallest structure from the simple materials. Groups of two had spent time deciding on designs, but all they brought to class were rolls of newspaper and tape. Within the period, among cries of success and frustration, the students discovered whether or not their theories for construction were practical; some towers reached over ten feet, some would not stand at all.

This is just one of the laboratories for Ms. Brown's class that takes her students out of the classroom. Barbie dolls going bungee jumping or student-made propeller cars rolling across the floor pique student interest and add relevance to the curriculum. "Competition and movement create an environment that enhances learning," reports Ms. Brown. "Students look forward to the activities, and I enjoy them too. Research shows that associating feeling and learning increases the likelihood that students will remember concepts."

Hebron High School graduates can testify to the truth of that research. When former students are asked about concepts from physics, the out-of-classroom labs are sure to be recalled.

Mark Lutze – *Principal*



6

Laura Mikulich and Rachel Mullins building their newspaper tower.



Middle School News

The last decade was dominated by left-brain thinkers; the computer programmers who crank out code, the lawyers who crank out contracts, and the MBAs who crunch numbers. These people are still needed, but the future will belong to those people who can create—design and creativity cannot be outsourced or automated! To prepare our students for this fast paced, ever changing world, the middle school has added some exciting 5th hour classes that give students a chance to try their hand in creativity.

In this day and age of testing, testing, testing, we are taking time out of our day to focus specifically on the creative side of learning. Students are exploring different topics and are guided according to their identified "multiple intelligences" and interests in Mrs. Davis' Project-Based Learning class. Mr. DeFries is encouraging students to think outside of the box in an art class where students are designing cartoon characters and creating comic books. Mr. McLindon and Mr. Yost are teaching the art of debate while discovering current events. Can you say, "C'est magnifique"? Mrs. Vaughan's 5th hour students are learning to speak and read Spanish and French using Rosetta Stone. Mrs. Stephens' students are enjoying the world of technology, investigating web tools like Google Apps, Skype and many others. Students are using webcams, mobile devices, cameras, and game systems. And who would have thought that playing board games would be allowed in school? Games like Chess, Backgammon, Risk, and Battleship allow students to work in teams and process information to solve problems while still having fun.

Students in science classes are approaching science in an inquiry method. Our goal: to develop citizens who can use scientific knowledge and critical thinking skills to innovate, discover, answer questions, and make decisions based on evidence. The old adage states, "Tell me and I will forget, Show me and I will remember, Involve me and I will understand" best describes the inquiry learning approach to science at Hebron Middle School.

While our students are having fun, they are still working very hard! The Middle School staff continues to measure academic progress every day using NWEA, Acuity, and ISTEP results, and our staff is developing challenging activities for our high abilities students. No day passes that teachers are not discussing ways to increase student achievement. Your middle school staff members are putting your children first. I am very proud of each and every one of them and know that you are too!

Continue to help us make Hebron Middle school students the very best they can be. Continue to stress how important it is to be in school, continue to insist on good study habits, and continue to be THE parent (the one in charge). So that together, we can continue to help our students achieve success.

Lori Pavell – *Principal*



National Honor Society

Membership in National Honor Society is based on scholarship, leadership, service and character!

Fifteen new members were inducted into the Hebron Chapter of the National Honor Society during a candlelight ceremony on Wednesday evening, October 20, 2010.

New Members are . . .

Sydnee Bartz, Nathan Bateman, Cory Cox, Emily DeFries, Jacob Grant, Hailey Hernandez, Briana Lewin, Allison Lewis, David Lucas, Elijah Magiera, Kyle Meznarick, Jenna Sarkey, Rylie Shrum, Christopher Sobczak, Michael Upchurch.

Current Members are . . .

Cassie Carroll, Krista Cheek, Jamie Dowdy, Emma Hamann, Jordan Hanaway, Anneliese Kieper, Hayley Lindemer, Brittany Long, Anna Loosemore, Laura MacNeill, Hayley Marshall, Rachel McCullough, Angela Medrano, Laura Mikulich, Rachel Mullins, John Pauer, Christy Reick, Jessica Ruschak, Alex Shrum, Bethany Sodo, Ashley Spurr, Jessica Stockman, Brent Tomb, Melanie Upchurch, Michael Warren, Ashlyn Wheeler, Travis Ziegler.



Officers are . . .

Brent Tomb, President
Travis Ziegler, Vice President
Hayley Marshall, Secretary
Anneliese Kieper, Treasurer

NHS Adviser . . .

Mrs. Barbara Kraker



Front Row: Jenna Sarkey, Briana Lewin, Emily DeFries, Hailey Hernandez, Rylie Shrum, Allison Lewis

Back Row: Kyle Meznarick, Elijah Magiera, Christopher Sobczak, Jacob Grant, Sydnee Bartz, Michael Upchurch, Nathan Bateman, Cory Cox, David Lucas

Elementary School News



Congratulations to Hebron Elementary teachers, staff members, students, and parents for our school being labeled "Commendable Progress" under P.L. 221 for student performance. Determinations are made each year from the previous year's ISTEP performance.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce our new Resource Teachers and our new RTI (Response To Instruction) teacher at Hebron.

Resource Teachers



Julia Perkins is originally from Evansville, Indiana and graduated from Purdue University. Her teaching career began in Carmel, Indiana. She taught for thirteen years at Indianapolis Public Schools, teaching every elementary grade except third. Prior to coming to Hebron, she taught special education in Portage at the elementary level for eight years and the high school level for one year. Julia is very pleased to be at Hebron Elementary School.



Dawn Tharp is from Westville, Indiana and has been in education in one form or another for the last 25 years. She has spent the last 7 years as the In-School Suspension supervisor at Westville Schools. She holds an elementary teaching license with an LD and MIMH endorsement. She went to Ball State for her undergraduate work and has completed her endorsements at Valparaiso University.

RTI Elementary Instructor



Elizabeth Levrio is from Valparaiso, Indiana and graduated from Purdue University in December of 2009. From January to June 2010 she worked at the Duneland Alternative Learning Center as the 7th-12th grade math and science teacher. Elizabeth is very excited to teach at the same elementary school that both of her parents attended.

James Martin – Principal



MSD of Boone Township
 Administration Office
 307 S. Main Street
 Hebron, IN 46341

Board of School Trustees

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Feedback is Welcome!

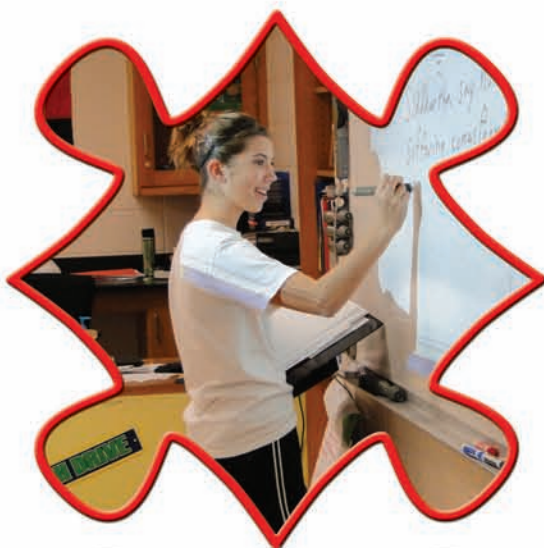
Boone Bridges welcomes its readers' letters, comments and critique. Write to us at Editor, BRIDGES, MSD of Boone Township, 307 S. Main St., Hebron, IN 46341, or call (219) 996-4771.

Phone/Fax Numbers

Superintendent's Office 996-4771
 Fax 996-5777
 Hebron High School 996-4771
 Fax 996-5777
 Hebron Middle School 996-4771
 Fax 996-5777
 Hebron Elementary School 996-4771
 Fax 996-5777

Our Web Address

www.hebronschools.k12.in.us



Jewel Elam using the "Mimeo" in Mr. McLindon's classroom.

2010 - 2011 School Calendar

11/25 - 26 Thanksgiving - No School
 12/20 - 12/31 Christmas Break - No School
 1/14 1st Semester Ends (88 days)
 1/17 2nd Semester Begins
 2/18 Make-Up Day #1 or Vacation Day
 2/21 President's Day - No School
 3/28 - 4/1 Spring Break - No School
 4/22 Make-Up Day #2 or Vacation Day
 5/30 Memorial Day - No School
 6/6 Last Student Day
 2nd Semester Ends (92 days)
 6/7 Last Teacher Day
 6/9 Graduation

MAKE-UP DATES:

February 18, April 22, June 7 and on, if needed.

GRADING PERIODS:

1st Quarter 8/25 - 10/22 (42 days)
 2nd Quarter 10/25 - 1/14 (46 days)
 3rd Quarter 1/17 - 3/18 (43 days)
 4th Quarter 3/21 - 6/6 (49 days)

ISTEP DATES:

February 28 - March 9, 2011 ISTEP+ Applied Skills
 April 22 - May 4, 2011 ISTEP+ Multiple Choice Assessment

Approved by the Board of School Trustees

2010 - 2011 Guidance Calendar

ACT Registration Dates Juniors & Seniors 1/7, 3/4, 5/6
 ACT Test Dates Juniors & Seniors 2/12, 4/9, 6/11

Register online: www.actstudent.org

SAT Registration Dates Juniors & Seniors 12/23, 2/11, 4/8, 5/11
 SAT Test Dates Juniors & Seniors 1/22, 3/12, 5/7, 6/4

Register online: www.collegeboard.com/mysat

SAT Subject Test Dates Seniors 1/22, 5/7, 6/4

Register online: www.collegeboard.com/mysat

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

(FAFSA) Seniors January, February & March

File online at www.fafsa.gov Deadline March 1st

College Goal Sunday 2/20

Seniors - Parents can obtain help in completing the FAFSA located at Valparaiso University at 2:00 pm

www.collegegoalsunday.org

Porter County Career & Technical Center

Open House Juniors & Sophomores 1/27, 2/9

Incoming Freshman Orientation TBA in January or February

8th Grade Students and Parents receive information about high school

Freshman Scheduling February & March

8th Grade Students and Parents meet individually with counselor to set up a four-year plan



21st Century Skills

Indiana is moving from the current “Indiana state standards” to using the “Common Core Standards” endorsed by the Indiana Department of Education and the Federal Department of Education. This will lead to a “national curriculum” and a “national exam(s)” to assess achievement over these core yardsticks. There are discussions currently being held to decide the “content” taught at each grade level and/or course in mathematics and English/language arts; the other subject areas of science and social studies will follow as Indiana “cross-walks” the current standards to the new Common Core Standards and Indicators. This whole process is occurring over a relatively short time as compared to educational changes in the past.

These discussions center on content not about the skills necessary for our students to cope in the 21st century. While content is “very” important and should not be lowered as to its importance so also is the ability of our students to use 21st century skills so our students can be successful in future jobs and professions which are changing every day.

Educators all over the nation are dissecting standards and tests to understand how to help each subgroup (possible 37 subgroups – No Child Left Behind Federal Law) population pass the state standardized exams. (ISTEP+) Does passing these tests ensure that our students are ready to move forward in the 21st century with the skills for college and career readiness that are needed for the global economy in which we live?

In Tony Wagner’s book, *The Global Achievement Gap: “Why Even Our Best Schools Don’t Teach The New Survival Skills Our Children Need-And What We Can Do About it”* he states how our schools are obsolete and, instead of teaching students to be critical thinkers and problem-solvers, we are asking them to memorize facts for multiple-choice tests. He says, “our teens leave school equipped to work only in the kinds of jobs that are fast disappearing from the American economy. Meanwhile young adults in India and China are competing with our students for the most sought-after careers around the world.”

Mr. Wagner has discovered through interviews with business leaders and observing classes in some of the nation’s most highly regarded public schools a disconnect between what potential employers are looking for in young people today (critical thinking skills, creativity, and effective communication) and what too many schools are providing (passive learning environments that focus on test preparation and reward memorization).

The Seven Survival Skills for Careers, College and Citizenship include:

- 1. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**
- 2. Collaboration Across Networks and Leading by Influence**
- 3. Agility and Adaptability**
- 4. Initiative and Entrepreneurialism**
- 5. Effective Oral and Written Communication**
- 6. Accessing and Analyzing Information**
- 7. Curiosity and Imagination**



Mrs. Stephens assists middle school students in the computer lab.



21st Century Skills

The following statements from business consultants and vice-presidents from various companies reflect the need to teach the 21st century skills in all our courses and at all grade levels.

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving: “The idea that a company’s senior leaders have all the answers and can solve problems by themselves has gone completely by the wayside...The person who’s close to the work has to have strong analytic skills. You have to be rigorous: test your assumptions, don’t take things at face value, don’t go in with preconceived ideas that you’re trying to prove.” – *Ellen Kumata, consultant to Fortune 200 companies*

Collaboration Across Networks and Leading by Influence: “The biggest problem we have in the company as a whole is finding people capable of exerting leadership across the board...Our mantra is that you lead by influence, rather than authority.” – *Mark Chandler, Senior Vice President and General Counsel at Cisco*

Agility and Adaptability: “I’ve been here four years, and we’ve done fundamental reorganization every year because of changes in the business...I can guarantee the job I hire someone to do will change or may not exist in the future, so this is why adaptability and learning skills are more important than technical skills.” – *Clay Parker, President of Chemical Management Division of BOC Edwards*

Initiative and Entrepreneurship: “For our production and crafts staff, the hourly workers, we need self-directed people... who can find creative solutions to some very tough, challenging problems.” – *Mark Maddox, Human Resources Manager at Unilever Foods North America*

Effective Oral and Written Communication: “The biggest skill people are missing is the ability to communicate: both written and oral presentations. It’s a huge problem for us.” – *Annemarie Neal, Vice President for Talent Management at Cisco Systems*

Accessing and Analyzing Information: “There is so much information available that it is almost too much, and if people aren’t prepared to process the information effectively, it almost freezes them in their steps.” – *Mike Summers, Vice President for Global Talent Management at Dell*

Curiosity and Imagination: “Our old idea is that work is defined by employers and that employees have to do whatever the employer wants...but actually, you would like him to come up with an interpretation that you like-he’s adding something personal-a creative element.” – *Michael Jung, Senior Consultant at McKinsey and Company*

As you can see business leaders want employees to think differently than employees did in the past. We, as educators, must be sure we are assisting our students to understand these skills and how to use them now and in the future. We will continue to expose our teachers to this formula for success.

George Letz,
Superintendent



Chris Steffan in the middle school computer lab.