

Front L-R: Katie Clemens, Krysten Wielgus, Chase Hines, Blake Wallace, Ryan Witt, Ciarra Stalbam, Shelby Yankauskas, and Sarah Witt Back L-R: Mr. Pastrick, Sydney Marrs, Natalie Kaczmarski, Jay Fieser, Tiffany Berdine, Miranda Fontecchio, Kayla Lewis, and Cody Penfold

Book Fair 2010

Shelby Yankauskas and Jay Fieser walking a "Path" by the Korean Memorial

Book Fair 2010

Superintendent's **Message**



A Responsibility to Inspire, Equip and Encourage

The MSD of Boone Township takes seriously its responsibility not only to educate the young people of our community but to

inspire them to become lifelong learners as well. John Dewey, American philosopher and educational reformer, said the main aim of education is to enable an individual to continue their education.

It's easy to think of education as something a person works toward and one day attains, rather than something that continues throughout life. We talk about how important it is to provide the children of our community with a quality education, but it is equally important to awaken within them the desire to continue learning long after requirements are met and diplomas awarded.

While the tenants of a good education have not changed, they have expanded. Today, teachers must know more, classrooms must have more, and schools must do more. We do not know what great advances lay over the next horizon, but we do know that we have a responsibility to inspire, equip, and encourage students to develop their

greatest abilities.

- 1. WE must inspire students to dream-to think outside the box. Someone once said that the dream of yesterday is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow.
- WE must equip students with necessary skills to succeed, while helping them find purpose and develop confidence, self-reliance and determination.
- 3. WE must encourage students to never give up. Thomas Edison said, "Genius is 1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration." We then commend our children for their efforts and celebrate their successes.

As educators we must stay abreast of change and adapt curriculum to prepare students adequately for life in the 21st century.

At MSD of Boone Township Schools we are blessed with dedicated administrators, a devoted teaching staff, a dependable support staff, a school board that thoughtfully serves the best interests of our students and a caring community. All are partnering together to fulfill our mission: to achieve excellence in academics and citizenship by providing a quality education for each student.

George Letz - Superintendent



Every Child - Every Chance - Everyday

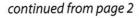
Governor Mitch Daniels and Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Bennett support a bill in the present state legislature (Senate Bill 258) which would require Indiana school districts to retain third graders who do not pass a standardized test (ISTEP+) to demonstrate mastery of third grade reading skills. The legislation is to ensure that third graders are promoted to fourth grade with these skills since third grade is the last grade where boys and girls "learn to read" and fourth grade is the beginning of "reading to learn" in the classroom.

From kindergarten through third grade, students learn to read. First, they master letters and sounds. Then, they learn words and begin to build a vocabulary. As their vocabulary grows, they become more fluent readers. As they gain speed, students begin improving comprehension of increasing complex material. There are a multitude of skills and processes students must demonstrate mastery in the classroom in order to achieve the above "general" standards.

The MSD of Boone Township has long supported the policy of having all our boys and girls able to read by the time they conclude third grade. We have supported various programs which assist the regular classroom teacher to achieve this goal with each student. The following programs support the classroom teacher as she or he instructs the children:

- 1. Title 1 federal reading program: grades K-3 (Mrs. Vann & Ms. Mowry)
- 2. Reading Recovery: first grade Mrs. Hunter
- Training of a "literacy coach" for grades K-3. This
 initiative was paid for by our membership in LASS:
 Lakeshore Alliance for Student Success.
 (See enclosed article) Mrs. Brooks

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We are using General Fund monies, Title 1 Grant Funds, federal stimulus funding and LASS to hire additional staff and to train staff to use effective instructional techniques in the classroom.

At the middle school level we have two instructors (stimulus funding) who are assisting students who require additional one-on-one attention with reading skills and other core standards/indicators through the purchase of two new software programs. (Mrs. Hernandez & Ms. Woods)

Finally, the greatest source of lasting self-esteem is genuine academic success. The best way to address self-esteem and low graduation rates in the long term is to improve student reading skills before fourth grade so that they are back on track to make progress in school. We strive to match readers with texts they can actually read with a high level of accuracy, fluency and obviously comprehension.

Statistics now indicate that one in four Indiana students completes third grade without having learned basic reading skills based on ISTEP+ tests. We don't want "one" MSD of Boone Township third grader to be in this category and as you can see we are taking measures to insure that trend with our resources and personnel.

George Letz Superintendent

Balanced Literacy at Hebron Elementary School

Becoming a Community of Readers and Writers

As a member of LASS - Lakeshore
Alliance for Student Success - Hebron
Elementary School has been able to
participate in a major initiative for the
improvement of literacy learning. The
process began three years ago when
LASS guided the school's Literacy Team
in a study of research-based models of
effective literacy practices. The 8 team
members - Mr. Martin and classroom
teachers from various grade levels studied the Balanced Literacy
framework of instruction, learning

about the instructional models that have shown to be the "best practices" for reading and writing.

In the fall of 2008, Mrs. Patrice Brooks, one of the school's Reading interventionists, was chosen to be the school's Literacy coordinator, attending training sessions to become the school's Literacy Coach. She has been assisting teachers in the processes, methods, and organization of the reading and writing activities. Teachers have been studying various ways to organize their Language Arts instruction around the research-based model of Balanced Literacy, which uses whole group, small group, and individual methods of instruction, based on the needs of the students in their classrooms. The model focuses on making connections between the processes involved in reading and writing, and helping students learn strategies to become independent in their reading and writing.

The professional development training has been through half-day sessions and in-class coaching - 40 hours total for this year. The coaching process involves Mrs. Brooks visiting classrooms to demonstrate the activities that were studied; she then observes the teachers as they are trying out some of the strategies, with a follow-up conference to reflect on their experience.

The Balanced Literacy training will continue for the 2010-2011 school year with 20 additional hours of professional development sessions and coaching, working toward the goal of early literacy success for all children.

Mrs. Brooks Balanced Literacy Coach

Mornings find Mrs. Hunter busy with literacy groups. As she meets with the RTI team and needs of individual students are assessed, decisions are made concerning which kindergarten, first, or second grade students will benefit from working with a small literacy group. As part of tier 2 interventions, she uses the Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention system which focuses on reading, writing, phonics and word work.

In the afternoon, Mrs. Brooks and Mrs. Hunter provide first graders with individualized lessons to help them develop effective reading and writing strategies. These lessons are based on Reading Recovery practices which they have implemented for several years.

Mrs. Hunter Reading Interventionist

WINTER SPORTS











Boys Varsity Basketball

Girls Varsity Basketball

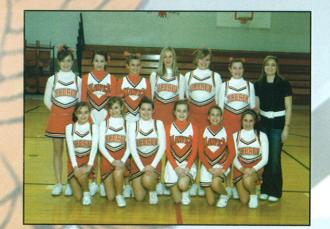
HS Cheer Squad

Boys 6th Grade Basketball





Girls JV Basketball



7/8th Grade Cheer Squad



Boys 7th Grade Basketball



Boys C Basketball



HS Wrestling



Has Has Has

6th Grade Cheer Squad



Boys 8th Grade Basketball

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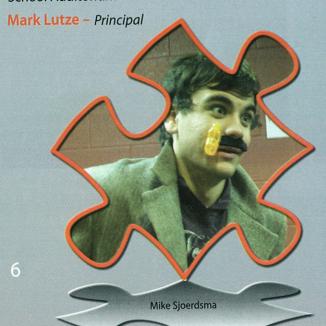


High School News Lights! Camera! Action!

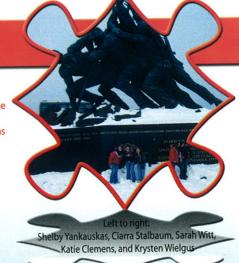
If only it were that easy! Students in Cindy Brown's PHETA class have learned that

video production is much more complicated than just lights, camera, action. Every two weeks the class produces a broadcast for their peers at Hebron High School. From sports coverage, to school information to comedy skits, the productions are always entertaining. The students begin the process by planning out content for the show. Students are assigned tasks: some write scripts, others are in front of the camera, a few are behind it. Once the students are done with shooting, the real work begins. Each segment has to be edited and sound and graphics added. As the Friday deadline approaches, the students work to tie all of the segments together, transitioning from scene to scene in a manner that will keep interest. "Getting it all pulled together in a timely fashion, getting the video clips from everybody, and working it into a theme is probably the hardest part," reports senior Austin Gearhart who has contributed to the productions since his sophomore year. Along the way students learn about working together as well as learning to use video software and equipment. Junior Hillary DeFries added, "It's stressful at first, doing the acting and learning to edit, and trying to get it done for the deadline, but getting really close with the other kids makes it fun."

Each year PHETA students work on a culminating project. Students work in small groups to produce a short video to be presented at the PHETA Film Festival. The public is invited to view the students' work. This year the festival will be held on May 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hebron High School Auditorium



Standing at the base of the Marine Corps Memorial, more commonly known as the Iwo Jima Memorial.





Middle School News

Over President's weekend, 15 eighth grade students had the opportunity to travel with Mr. Pastrick to our nation's capitol. Despite the tremendous amounts of snow the area received prior to us arriving, we were fortunate that most places were finally reopening. While there, the students visited many places such as: the Capitol building, the Holocaust Museum, the Museums of Natural History, American History, and Air and Space, Mt. Vernon (home of George Washington), the Lincoln Memorial, the Korean Memorial, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, the Iwo Jima Memorial, the FDR Memorial, Ford's Theatre, Washington Monument, National Archives, and many more. The students got to see many historical places and items up close such as our Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the actual flag that inspired our national anthem, and even the gun that was used to shoot President Lincoln. The students were also treated to a live performance of the comedy "Shear Madness" at the Kennedy Center for the Arts.

The Washington D.C. trip is 3-days and 2-nights over President's weekend. Hebron's students travel with groups from Thomas Jefferson and Ben Franklin, both middle schools from Valparaiso. In all this year there were 58 students and 4 chaperones. While in D.C. the students had their very own tour bus and guide that drove them to all of their destinations, and they stayed the night in an Embassy Suites just outside of the city. The cost of the trip includes everything, so any student going on this trip only needs money for souvenirs. The trip is open to any 8th grader; however, the one stipulation to any student going on this trip is that his or her behavior in school must be very good so that he or she can be trusted during the trip. Informational meetings about this trip typically occur at the beginning of the school year; however, you can always ask Mr. Pastrick if you have any questions about this trip.

Lori Pavell - Principal

Elementary School News



Teaching students to help others

Even though the Indiana Academic Standards remain the priority at Hebron Elementary, we also want our students to

learn empathy and compassion for others. Our School Mission Statement reads: Hebron Elementary School will provide a quality standards-based education in a safe environment that leads to responsible, lifelong learners. While the subjects are important, we also hope our students learn to be well-rounded individuals who are concerned about helping others.

One program we do at Hebron is called "Good Deeds Month." During the month of November, students donate coats and hats and boots for one drive while we also collect food drive items for the local food pantry. We want our students to be aware that there are others less fortunate than they are.

Mr. Wennmacher, 5th grade teacher, lead an initiative called "Help For Haiti." Mr. Wennmacher turned it into a fun competition where the grade level with the lowest amount of money in their jug won an extra recess and an ice cream treat. The grand total collected was \$651.74. The money was donated to the Catholic Relief Services (Haiti).

Every year we do a "Hat Day" for Emily Seramur and Mrs. Linder in their memory. Emily was a former student and Mrs. Linder a former teacher. Students donate money on the specified day and are allowed to wear a hat all day at school. The money goes to the Hebron Community Scholarship Fund in their honor.

James Martin - Principal



Dance Team

"A good dancer is not measured by the height of their jumps, but the span of their spirit." The Hebron High School Dance Team members keep their spirits high while working together through-out the year. Coach Hernandez states, "Having a solid foundation based on team camaraderie and talent allows for members to grow individually and as a team." The expansion of this program and the generosity of their sponsors, over the past five years, have afforded dancers the opportunity to participate in multiple events. Aside from school basketball games and marching in parades with the Hebron band, some team members also compete. The dance team has been affiliated with the Indiana High School Dance Team Association and with the National Dance Alliance (NDA.) They are currently active with the national organization. The team has had a very successful 2009-2010 season.

Highlights of the 2009-2010 season:

2009 NDA Camp Results

- · Team Dance Circle of Winners Bronze
- · Team Leader Circle of Winners Bronze
- Five NDA All-American nominations (Taylor Barton, Hillary DeFries, Ashley Harders, Erin Matheny, and Melanie Upchurch)
- Three NDA All-American 2009-2010 Team Members (Taylor Barton, Hillary DeFries, and Erin Matheny)

2010 Porter County Conference Dance All-Star program

- · Hebron choreographed and taught this routine
- Hebron All-Stars (Taylor Barton, Ashley Harders, and Erin Matheny)

NDA High School Dance Nationals in Orlando, Florida March 6-7

- The competing members are performing live on the Hard Rock stage at Universal Studios
- They are performing a high energy pom routine and a hip-hop ensemble

The 2009-2010 team will be ending their season marching with the band in Chicago's St. Patrick's Day parade on March 13. They are excited about and anticipating the start of their 2010-2011 season.

HHS Competitive Dance Team

Back row left to right: Emma Hamann, Hillary DeFries, Sarah Tallos, Melanie Upchurch & Brittanee Collier Front row left to right: Erin Matheny, Taylor Barton & Ashley Harders





MSD of Boone Township

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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.

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Our Web Address

www.hebronschools.k12.in.us

Congratulation bowlers!

The Hebron Bowling Club Teams were very successful this year. On January 30, 2010 Sectionals were held at Hebron Lanes with the girl's team winning the sectionals. Senior, Jayme Sherman was crowned sectional champion. This team advanced to the bowling regional's held at Camelot Lanes on February 6, 2010. The boys were a close second in sectionals with Sophomore Tony Urbanski also advancing to the regionals. Other honors include Emily O'Leary - All Conference and Co- Conference Bowler of the year, Jayme Sherman –All Conference and All State Academic Team, and Michael Fazzini – All Conference.

Members of the girl's team are: Jayme Sherman, Hayley Miller, Jenna Sarkey, Emily O'Leary, Emily Littell, Emily Casanova, and Tayler Sinkiewicz.

Members of the boy's team are: Michael Fazzini, Tony Urbanski, Michael Warren, Ryker Herma, Anthony Morales, Tim Victor, Zachary Henderson, Eli Mageria, Andrew Kammer and Mike Sjoerdsma. Printing by Russ' Print Shop - 219-996-3142

2010 School Calendar	
3/22 - 3/26 Spring Break - No School 4/2 Make-Up Day #2 or Vacation Day 5/28 Last Student Day	
2nd Semester Ends (92 days) 5/31	
6/1	
6/3Graduation	
MAKE-UP DATES:	
April 2, June 1 and on, if needed. GRADING PERIODS:	
3rd Quarter	
4th Quarter	
ISTEP DATES:	
March 1 - 10, 2010	
8/24Teacher's First Day	
8/25 Students First Day (1/2 Day AM)	
9/6Labor Day - No School	
10/25-10/26	
10/28 - 10/29 Fall Break - No School	
11/25 - 11/26 Thanksgiving - No Schol	
12/20 - 12/31	
1st Quarter	
2nd Quarter	
Approved by the Board of School Trustees	
2009 - 2010 Guidance Calendar	
ACT Registration Dates Juniors & Seniors	
ACT Test Dates Juniors & Seniors	
SAT Registration Dates Juniors & Seniors	
Register online: www.collegeboard.com/mysat	
SAT Test Dates Juniors & Seniors	
Free Application for Federal Student Aid	
(FAFSA) Seniors – Filed online February & March	
Freshman Scheduling	
8th Grade Students and Parents meet individually with counselor to set up a four-year plan	