

March 2022

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March is Disability Awareness Month

Students have been exposed to various learning opportunities about disabilities this month. As we conclude the month, we are planning an "Autism Awareness" spirit week. The theme of the week will be "Exceptional Comes in Many Colors."

Monday – March 21st

Wear **yellow**

Tuesday – March 22nd

Wear **green**

Wednesday – March 23rd

Wear **red**

Thursday – March 24th

Wear **blue**

Friday – March 25th

Wear **purple**

John Wood Elementary School
6100 E. 73rd Ave.
Merrillville, Indiana 46410
(219) 650-5305
www.mvsc.k12.in.us/wood

The John Wood Parent Newsletter



Principal Petralia's Page

Dear Families,

It looks like Spring may be upon us! Thank goodness! Our students need to play outside in the fresh air! When the temperature is above 15 degrees and there is no rain or snow, students go out to play at recess time. Please take the temperature into consideration when getting ready for the day. Coats are still needed with hats, and gloves/mittens.

The end of the second trimester was on March 4. Paper report cards will not be sent home but they can be accessed on Skyward. If you need help accessing your child's grades, please call our office for assistance.

There's no time like Spring time to review some of our procedures:

- Please note that our doors do not open for car riders until 7:35. They close at 7:55. Please do not drop your child off before 7:35. We do not have staff available to watch your child, leaving them unattended outside. If your child is late and arrives after 7:55, please pull around to our front door (Door A). An adult **MUST** accompany them into the building.
- Please have your ID ready if you are picking up your child.
- Students who are car riders will be picked up in the East parking lot. Make sure to have your numbered sign in plain view. Do not get out of your vehicle but please move up as the cars begin to leave. If you do not have your numbered sign, please park and come into the building to pick your child up. You will need to show your ID.

Thank you for helping us do our best to keep your child(ren) safe!

Alison Petralia

John Wood School **BEST** Pledge

John Wood is the **BEST** of schools,
Spell out **BEST** you'll know the rules,
First is **B**, that's the way.
Be responsible every day.
Next is **E**, that's correct.
Everyone deserves respect.
Third is **S**. This is cool.
Safety counts when you're at school.
Finally, it's letter **I**.
We will **T**alk appropriately.

Mrs. Rassbach's Reflections

Mrs. Rassbach, Dean of Students

Here at John Wood we use SEWB (Social Emotional Wellbeing) to encourage students to do the right things at school. During the month of February, I challenged the students to do just that. Any student that did not receive a write up for any type of behavior went into a drawing for a chance to eat lunch with me – DINE WITH THE DEAN! I am super excited to eat lunch with the following students on Thursday March 17th.

Kindergarten

Josiah Correa and Riley Montgomery

1st Grade

Ayden Chhutani and Oren Mihail

2nd Grade

Alicia Byers and Marleigh Pohl

3rd Grade

Andwele Cook and Mason Sweet

4th Grade

Jaylon King and Sierra Eubanks

Congratulations to these winners from each grade level and I hope we can continue to be the best John Wood Students ever!!!

FACES

Mrs. Ooms, Family and Community Engagement Specialist

What does it mean to be "referred to truancy court?"

If your child is chronically truant, the school will make a referral to truancy court. When you first appear in court, a representative from Geminus Corporation will offer you the opportunity to sign up for their programs. If you sign up for this, participate fully in their programs, and your child's attendance improves, you may not even have to

appear before the judge. If you choose to appear before the judge, you will explain to him why your child has been truant. He will rule on how to handle the situation. You will always have a chance to improve upon your child's attendance before other penalties are assigned.

However, if you ignore the order to show up in court, you do not participate in Geminus programs, or your child continues to be truant, you may face legal punishment. Indiana laws IC 20-33-28 and IC 20-33-24 make it a Class B Misdemeanor to allow your child to be truant from school. Punishments can include a fine or jail time.

Attendance Policy

Unexcused - Referred to truancy court at 10 unexcused absences

- Any time a student misses school for illness without a doctor's note (after their 5 allowed sick days).
- Any time a student misses school without a phone call or note.

Tardy - Referred to truancy court at 20 tardies

- When your child arrives to school after 7:55 without a doctor's note.
- When your child leaves school early (missing less than half-day) without a doctor's note.

Excused

- Your child can be excused for 5 sick days in total before a doctor's note is required.
- The school will accept a doctor's note from a dentist, family doctor or pediatrician, specialist, eye doctor, or therapist.
- Funerals are excused if there is an obituary or prayer card shown to the school.

*****Tardies and absences may be excused for other reasons after being considered by administration.**

*****ALWAYS call the school if your child is going to be absent.**

Good Citizens February 2022

ECD

Serenity Williams –
Miss McCorkle (Miss Kati)

Kindergarten

Riley Montgomery – Mrs. Anderson
Antwaun Hill – Mrs. Scott
Guillermo Rivas – Mrs. Shalla

1st Grade

Aysia Fitzgerald – Mrs. Pace
Violet Wardlow – Miss Welsh
Aria Yakovetz – Miss Wiley

2nd Grade

Peter Moore – Mrs. Carney
Alicia Byers – Mrs. Foster
Hyde Smith – Mrs. Marshall

3rd Grade

Brody Finnearty – Mrs. Busch
Isaiah Watson – Mrs. Cseke
Damian Zamora – Mrs. Mahy

4th Grade

Aerionna Byers – Miss Jongsma
Anastasia Gonzalez –
Miss Vlassopoulos

Multi-grade

Jarell Williams – Ms. Hannigan
Mason Sweet – Mrs. Spoolstra
Mario Valadez – Mrs. Gates
Jackson Mican – Mrs. Mansfield

Winner of the Chick-fil-A Family Meal

Peter Moore

February Attendance

As we continue to encourage good attendance, we would like to recognize the class who had the best attendance during the month of February. Mrs. Mahy's 3rd grade class had 98.21% attendance! They have the honor of keeping the "Beary" attendance award in their room for this month and received a small prize!

Curt Hoffman Scholarship

A \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior from MHS who also attended John Wood Elementary School for a minimum of three years. Students who were in the Honors Program are eligible provided they lived in the John Wood School district during those years.

Interested students can apply online at:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc4Ztq2bJATt0LT4CKkTx_YLRvs3Xxm2kN7v5zU10dpfQWlpA/viewform.
The link can also be found on the MHS Guidance Department page. The deadline to submit applications is April 29, 2022.

This scholarship was created in memory of Mr. Curt Hoffman. Mr. Hoffman was principal of John Wood School from 1989-1998, when he lost his battle with cancer

Spring Pictures

Inter-State Studio will **only** be photographing those students who **order online before picture day**. This is a pre-pay program and will be the **only** opportunity for your child to participate in spring pictures this year. If you do not order online, your child will **NOT** be photographed. Online orders are accepted until 11:59 p.m. the night before pictures. Please direct all questions to the Inter-State Studio office at (219)662-4036. **All orders are 100% satisfaction guaranteed.**

Picture Day
March 22, 2022

Order Code
67691G

Link to order
<https://inter-state.com/FlyerEntry/67691G>

3rd Grade Honor Roll 2nd Trimester

Mrs. Busch
A Honor Roll
Zane Theodorakos

A/B Honor Roll
Jaxx Anoman
Jayden Carr
Brody Finnearty
Kaelyn Kitchens
Alexander Nawrocki
Mason Russell

Mrs. Cseke
A Honor Roll
Rylan Dworak
Isaiah Watson
Isabel Whittinghill

A/B Honor Roll
Andwele Cook
Stella Finnearty
Kayden Jeffries
Mason Sweet

Mrs. Mahy
A/B Honor Roll
Samantha Gonzales
Arturo Briano-Dominguez

4th Grade Honor Roll 2nd Trimester

Miss Jongsma
A/B Honor Roll
Yuleimi Barajas Licea
Aerionna Byers
Maite Aylin Gomez
Makayla Denson
Bailey Larson
Tori Muiser

Miss Vlassopoulos
A/B Honor Roll
Amy Avila
Antoni Babel
Savannah Cabrera
Laim Parker
Kaylee Shooltz
Atlas Theodorakos
Johnathan Williams

Perfect Attendance 2nd Trimester 2021-2022

Kindergarten
Colby Jacobs
Harlee Schumaker

1st Grade
Lucas Boord
Cherish Ford
Egypt Lee
*Dominic Richard

2nd Grade
Adam Alsamawi
Mason Boord
*Arianna Hughes
Aerion Nash
Alaysia Parker
Jennalyn Roop

3rd Grade
Amber Brown
Andwele Cook
Rylan Dworak
*Kamarion Flakes
Issac Mendoza
Isabel Whittinghill

4th Grade
Antoni Babel
D'Adansi Bush
*Kimora Flakes
Tori Muiser

* - denotes Perfect Attendance for both trimesters.

Reminder
It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to call and let the school office know why a child is not in school. Make sure you call 650-5305 then press 2 before 9 a.m. if your child will not be in school.

PTO News

Our next PTO meeting will be on Thursday, April 7th at 6:00 p.m. We will recognize the March Good Citizens and discuss plans for possible events for the end of the school year.

Coca-Cola Codes

Continue sending in Coca-Cola codes. Codes can be found under the cap of most Coke products. Codes can also be found on the tear-off flap on cases and inside the bottom of the shrink wrap on Dasani Water cases. We recently received a check for \$83 for the past quarter! Those nickels add up!

Box Tops for Education

Box tops are now digital. You will very rarely find a product that still has physical clips to turn in. For us to get credit for your box top purchases, you now need to download the free Box Tops for Education app. Then, when you get home from shopping, just scan the qualifying purchases and we will get credit instantly.

Strack & Van Til/ Apples for the Students

This is the LAST MONTH to collect Strack receipts! All receipts must be dated no later than March 31, 2022. Please turn in any receipts ASAP. Once we mail in the receipts, we will receive a final total of how many points we have earned. We will then be able to "purchase" items for our building using the points earned. There is a collection box in our front foyer or you can send the receipts with your child and they can turn them in to the office.

Popcorn has returned!

As the COVID numbers go down, we are once again welcoming our parent volunteers to come into our building. This past Friday was our first popcorn day as we begin to return to a more "normal" world.

Each Thursday, your child will bring home a ½ page note reminding you that Popcorn Friday is coming. If you would like your child to receive a bag of popcorn at lunch, you will need to return the form with .50¢ attached. No change will be made. Anything over .50¢ will be considered a donation to

the PTO. Students will only receive one bag of popcorn. All students will receive their popcorn during lunchtime. kindergarten students who do not finish their popcorn will have their bag stapled shut and they will be told that it needs to stay in their backpack until they get home. Students in grades 1-4 who don't finish their popcorn during lunch will be able to take it to recess to finish if recess is outside.

Three volunteers are needed each Friday to pop and bag the popcorn. If we do not have volunteers on Friday morning, the money will be sent back home and there will be no popcorn that week.

Spirit Wear

A spirit wear sale is currently in progress. The online store is open now through March 23rd. Orders will be delivered approximately three weeks after March 23rd.

Use this link to access the online store:
<https://jwespring2022.itemorder.com>

Spring Book Fair

March 14-22

The Spring Scholastic Book Fair is currently going on in our school library. This is no longer a PTO event, but is now sponsored by the library with all profits going towards purchasing materials for our library.

While the book fair will take all forms of payment, the safest way is to use our **eWallet**, a safe and secure alternative to cash. Simply create a free account to add funds and/or invite family and friends to contribute so your child can select their own books. Any unused funds can be spent at The Scholastic Store Online or to fund a future eWallet.

Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with eWallet and online shopping:
<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=homepage&url=johnwoodelemetaryschool>

Social Media

Did you know that there are several ways that you can keep updated about what is going on in our school and in the corporation? In addition to Class Dojo, Seesaw, Skyward, emails, phone calls and paper notes that go home with students, there are social media sites.

Twitter

MCSC Superintendent

Mr. Nick Brown

@MerrillvilleSu3

John Wood Principal

Mrs. Alison Petralia

@PrinPetralia

Facebook

Merrillville Community School Corporation

www.facebook.com/merrillvilleschools/

John Wood PTO

www.facebook.com/johnwood.pto

Student Council

During Kindness Week in February, our student council asked students to fill in hearts with simple ways to be kind. The hearts were put on display in the hallways.



Student Council Kindness Project



Small Card, BIG Results

2022 Merrillville Education Foundation Major Saver Campaign

The Merrillville Education Foundation is excited to be offering Major Saver cards for sale through the Merrillville schools. These \$10 cards are "Buy One, Get One" offers for many local restaurants. Students will receive the sales packets starting **Tuesday, April 5, 2022**. The sale will last approximately two weeks. Proceeds from the sale of Major Saver cards directly support all the schools and the activities of the Merrillville Education Foundation. **All the money generated from this fundraiser goes back to the children.** In this way John Wood School can fund innovative and creative projects in the classroom and school and allow students to have broad educational experiences.

From 2002-2021 since the Merrillville Education Foundation started, John Wood School has been awarded \$44,951.07 in teacher grants and Major Saver fundraising.

Major Saver cards can be purchased via cash, check or online at www.majorsaver.com for \$10 each. The online sale can be credited back to a particular student and school. All cards purchased online will be **mailed** directly to the customer.

Administrators, Teachers, and MCSC Employees can also purchase cards to support this initiative.

The Major Saver App is now LOADED with THOUSANDS of offers valid NATIONWIDE!! Your Major Saver card will come with a code so you can download and access these deals. You're no longer limited to just savings in the Merrillville area. Going to Chicago or Indianapolis for the weekend? Open your app and take advantage of savings there too!!

Major Saver is making online sales easier for friends and family! On our homepage you are able to enter the student information to create a CUSTOM LINK for your child that can be shared via social media or email. This link will automatically credit the online sale to your student when friends and family use the link to make their purchase!

Major Saver stresses safe selling and discourages door to door campaigning. The company encourages students to sell to family members, church patrons, neighbors, or other adults the family may know; and to always make sure their parents are involved.

Please consider purchasing one or more Major Saver cards this year to help benefit the Merrillville Education Foundation and the students within the district.

Thank you for your continued support! Be ready for the Major Saver 2022 card coming soon!

Dress Code Reminder

As we begin to have warm days, we are all excited to shed our coats and start wearing warm-weather clothing after the long and cold winter. However, please remember that we have a dress code at John Wood.

The dress code includes no shorts or skirts shorter than fingertip length, no sheer or see-through clothing, no "spaghetti strap" or strapless tops, and no bare midriffs. Also, we ask that the children do not wear flip-flops, sandals, or open-toe shoes. If a child is wearing these, he/she will go outside for fresh air, but will not be allowed on the playground equipment.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Pop Tab Collection

John Wood School is still collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House of Indiana. Simply remove the pop tab from the aluminum can and put them in your favorite collection container. When you are ready to send them to school, just put them in a Ziploc-type bag and send them with your child.

Upcoming Events

Every Thursday ***Buddy Blue Day***

Wear blue to remind you to be a buddy!

Every Thursday ***Early Dismissal***

1:15 p.m.

Please plan for your child to be home approximately one hour earlier on this day.

Every Friday ***Pirate Pride Day***

Wear John Wood spirit wear, Merrillville spirit wear, or even just purple to show support for our school community! Everyone who wears purple will have their name in a weekly drawing. One winner will be pulled from each grade level to win a small prize.

March 7-18 ***IREAD Testing Window***

Third-graders will be taking the IREAD test during this time period. We would like to remind you that attendance is important on these days. One of the best things you can do to prepare your child for this test is to make sure they get a good night's sleep and eat a nourishing breakfast. Most testing will be completed during the first week, with the second week being used for make-up tests.

March 14-22 ***Book Fair***

Our annual Spring Scholastic Book Fair is now under way. See the article on page four for more information.

March 21-25 ***Autism Awareness Spirit Week***

The theme of this week is "Exceptional Comes in Many Colors". See page one to see the list of spirit days for the week. The spirit days are also on the green calendar/menu that was sent home at the beginning of the month.

March 22 ***Spring Pictures***

Photographers will be at John Wood this morning. **Only** students who have pre-ordered online will have their photo taken. Go to: <https://inter-state.com/FlyerEntry/67691G>

March 28-April 1 ***Spring Break***

No school for all students. Have a restful break! School resumes on Monday, April 4th.

April 4 ***2022-2023 Kindergarten Preregistration***

See the article on page 8 for more information.

continued on page six

Girls on the Run

We are excited to announce that we have 20 third- and fourth-grade girls who have registered to join the spring session of Girls on the Run. The girls are meeting with the coaches twice a week. They are learning positive life-skills and preparing for a 5K run in May.

Good luck, girls!

Coaches

Mrs. Pace
Mrs. Robbins
Mrs. Rassbach
Mrs. Mansfield
Mrs. Spoolstra
Mrs. Green

Participants

Amy Avila
Amber Brown
Aerionna Byers
Nyah Cook
Makayla Denson
Stella Finneary
Kimora Flakes
Anastasia Gonzalez
Elizabeth Granville
Tamera Green
Olivia Gutierrez
Tanya Johnson
Brooklynn Phillips
Gabriella Rusk
Saiyah Scott
Kaylee Shooltz
Isabel Whittinghill
Alani Williams
Mariah Williams
Haley Wright

2-22-22

Our students recently had a special day of fun activities. On February 22nd ("Twos" day, 2-22-22), students were encouraged to wear a tie, tiara, tie-dye, or tutus and teachers had lots of fun "two" activities prepared. Lots of life-long memories were made on this once-in-a-lifetime date.

Reminder from Nurse Julie

Recently, we have been getting a lot of fevers and confirmed cases of Influenza. Hopefully, after spring break things will get better. In the meantime, I just want to remind everyone of some actions that can help to protect yourself and our students to help stop the spread of germs.

1. Encourage the students to cover their mouths and nose with a tissue or cough in their sleeves.
2. Continue to wash hands frequently, use hand sanitizers if soap and water is not available.
3. Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth.
4. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, especially when someone is ill.
5. Encourage good health habits: get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage stress, drink plenty of fluids and try to eat nutritious foods.
6. Encourage to stay home when ill (staff and students)

Even though masks are no longer mandatory, if your child attends school with a lingering cough, a mask is recommended.

Upcoming Events – Cont.

Continued from page five

April 13-14

Spring Music Programs

Pencil in these dates for tentatively scheduled spring music programs. At this time, we are planning for 2nd grade to perform the evening of the 13th and 3rd and 4th grade to perform the evening of the 14th. Please watch for more information as plans are finalized and we get closer to these dates.

April 11

Major Saver Fulfillment Begins

Today is the first day that a rep will be at the school to begin filling orders. Do not send orders before this day. Remember that payment must be included before a card will be sent home. See the article on page 4 for more details.

April 15

No School – Good Friday

April 18-May 13

ILEARN Testing Window

All third- and fourth-graders will take this state-wide standardized test. We would like to remind you that attendance is important on these days. One of the best things you can do to prepare your child for these tests is to make sure they get a good night's sleep and eat a nourishing breakfast.

April 7

PTO Meeting

6:00 p.m., Cafeteria

Join us as we finalize plans for the end-of-year event. See the article on page 4.



Staff members had fun making 2-22-22 memorable!

Updates from the Staff

You already get regular updates in the form of notes and newsletters from your child's classroom teacher, but what about other staff members your child may see? In this section, you will get updates each trimester from various staff members in an effort to keep you informed about what is happening throughout the school.

The Art Loft

Mrs. Lattimer

The students will be working on a lot of fun art activities this spring. These will include things they can take home and use, like a cool keychain!

This year, I have grown to know many of the students. They have been such sweethearts! Each day I go to work, I think how blessed I am to work at John Wood and to teach your children. I just love seeing their Mona Lisa Smiles! (You can ask them what I mean!)

Notes from the Music Room

Mr. Colakovic

Black History is American History, but Black History Month tends to give music class direction at the start of each year. We'd begun to prepare in January, and in the first week of February, we got the opportunity to sing together during our monthly Pirate Power celebration: Lift Every Voice and Sing, Wade in the Water (in the style of Mary Mary), Dream Keeper (Rollo Dilworth's melody of Langston Hughes' poem), We Shall Not be Moved, Go Down Moses, and a few others.

In music class, we have been finding time to **play games, dance, read/sing lead sheets, play instruments**, and prepare students to complete **Nearpod** and **Seesaw** assignments on their devices. The **dancing** started with Just Dance videos: I'm Blue, Dance Monkey, Take on Me by AHA, Happy by Pherrell, and Butter by BTS. We're now playing a creative **dance game** called Down in the Valley which allows individuals to create/demonstrate the way we all move our bodies. The playing of **instruments** has also evolved as we have been teaming up to play simple chord progressions

together with boomwhackers and xylophones: Glory (From Selma Soundtrack), Little Do You Know, Dance Monkey, and Faded by Alan Walker.

Our virtual music room (Google slide presentation that can be found in Google Classroom) has expanded as we've begun to include more **lead sheets** to songs familiar to our students. We strive further to offer most of the songs found in the virtual classroom as recording opportunities in **Seesaw**. Ask your child to show you their Seesaw portfolio or the class journal in Seesaw. I recommend not trying to complete every activity, but just do one you know, and do it well. If you don't know it, use the practice link to prepare BEFORE recording yourself.

Nearpod is the platform for our music literacy assignments. The Nearpod assignments show up in the form of links in our music Google Classroom, under classwork. They can serve as an alternative to recording your voice in Seesaw, which can be unappealing, scary or even too difficult for some students.

As we head into the third trimester, I look forward to creating music with each class, demonstrating Nearpod assignments to reinforce music literacy content, and offering feedback to help students strive for excellence in their Seesaw recordings.

Daily Reminder

Remember each day to send the following with your child:

- Charged device
- Device charger
- Water bottle
- If your child is still wearing a mask, consider keeping a spare in their backpack as office supplies are low.

The Fitness Forecast

Coach Butler

This trimester we will begin studying the different food groups. We will also start learning different basketball skills and increasing our abilities to work together safely to complete tasks. Lastly, we will begin our process for preparing for field day by practicing the skills necessary to do these tasks and to have fun while doing them.

Parents if you all have questions or concerns feel free to ask me via email at: jbutler@mvs.c.k12.in.us

The Book Nook

Mrs. Echols

The library recently celebrated "Read Across America". This is a nationwide event that is celebrated every year at the beginning of March. We had various guest readers from our school corporation that read to our students. Our students were excited to be read to and we are extremely thankful that the guest readers took time out from their busy days to participate.

The John Wood Library department is currently hosting our Annual Spring Scholastic Book Fair. The students are excited about buying books and other materials from the Book Fair. See the article on page four for more information.

National Library Week starts April 3rd. Our John Wood students will once again experience a host of various guest readers, just as they experienced during "Read Across America."

You can look forward to visiting the "Merrillville Book Bus" in your neighborhood this summer. Information will come home before summer with information about the Book Bus times and locations.

Have a Safe and Happy Spring Break!

2022-2023 Kindergarten Preregistration

Merrillville Community School Corporation will hold kindergarten preregistration online beginning April 4th.

Parents with children age 5 either on or before Aug. 1st, can preregister by visiting the corporation website www.mvsc.k12.in.us and entering the requested information. The last day of kindergarten preregistration is May 30th.

Once parents preregister their children online, school staff will contact parents to schedule an appointment to come in and complete the registration process.

Parents will need to bring the following documents to their appointments:

- ✓ Certified birth certificate (exceptions will be made for foster children-see below)
- ✓ Immunization records
- ✓ Parent/guardian current license or state ID
- ✓ Proofs of residency (see below)

If applicable, you will also need the following:

- ✓ DCS foster information
- ✓ Any and all documents that affect your child's educational placement (Example: IEP, 504, or Psychological Evaluation)
- ✓ Special Needs Transportation (SNT)
- ✓ Any legal or custodial papers

Required Proofs of Residency

Homeowners

Two (2) of the following:

- Utility bill (either NIPSCO, water, or sewer)
- Deed, Contract, or Mortgage Statement
- Lake County Tax Bill

Pending Homeowners

Pending is defined as 30 days prior to occupancy

- Letter, on realtor letterhead, of pending purchase and projected date of move-in. Must include the name and address of purchasing family.
- Letter, on contractor letterhead, validating pending construction of home and projected move-in date. Must include the name and address of purchasing family.
- Offer to Purchase/Purchase Agreement/Contract

Renters/Leases

One (1) of the following is required:

- Lease Agreement – Must include:
 - Parent/Guardian name on the agreement
 - School-age children on the agreement as tenants
 - Name and phone number of the manager/landlord
 - Beginning and ending date of the agreement
- Rent Agreement – Must include:
 - Parent/Guardian name on the agreement
 - School-age children on the agreement as tenants
 - Name and phone number of the manager/landlord
 - Beginning and ending date of the agreement

In addition, one (1) of the following items is required

- Utility Bill (either NIPSCO, water, or sewer)
- Vehicle Registration
- TRANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) letter from the State of Indiana

The school maintains the right to contact the landlord to confirm residency.

ADDENDUM (living in the home of another family or individual)

- Ross Township resident/owner completes addendum form in person in presence of school resource officer (SRO)
- Ross Township resident provides proof of residency (refer to proof of residency for homeowners, renters/leasers listed above)
- A photocopy of the resident's driver's license is to be taken and placed in the student's file along with the parent/guardian's driver's license.

In order to attend Merrillville schools, families must live within the boundaries of Ross Township, which includes Merrillville and portions of Hobart and Crown Point.

For more information, call 219-650-5300.

Feel free to share this information with anyone you know who may need it.