



THE NORTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

MESSAGE

December 2012

North Central High School
MSD of Washington Township
1801 East 86th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46240
www.nchs.cc

Phone: 259-5301 Attendance: 259-5355 Fax: 259-5369 Guidance: 259-5346 Athletics: 259-5359

From the PTO . . .

It's exciting to see what can happen when students, parents, teachers, coaches and administrators work together. Few events demonstrate that better than the North Central High School Open House. Each group worked in tandem, and the result, was an afternoon that could not help but fill you with Panther Pride! The school brimmed with North Central students proudly giving tours, representing their clubs and sports, and performing as beautifully as always. Teachers, administrators and coaches were everywhere, proudly explaining all the wonderful opportunities North Central has to offer. Lastly, parents proudly stepped in facilitating the afternoon in so many ways.

Our PTO Open House Chairs, Janine Bercovitz and Jennifer Skulski, deserve a huge "thank you!" for contributing so much to the day's success with their countless hours of planning. A heartfelt "thanks" to every parent who devoted time before, during or after that fall afternoon, to proudly show off our school.

I would like to thank all our terrific "office" chairs and volunteers who take on the day-to-day workings of the North Central PTO. Thanks to chair Hope Power and the Bookstore volunteers, to chairs Ginat Wintermeyer and Leigh Lazaron and the College Counseling Office volunteers, to chair Lee Vriesman and the Fine Arts Gallery volunteers, to chair Shannon Farrell and the Heath Center volunteers, and to those who help in the Learning Center and Information Center! What an amazing group of volunteers. I am so proud to be part of this parent group. These committees make such a daily difference; thanks to everyone who gives time to make North Central even better.

The online version of the "Panther Particulars" will be available soon. Watch for an email with directions on how to easily access it. If you ordered a printed copy, your eldest North Central child will be receiving it. Creating the directory is a painstaking process requiring lots of "steps". Many thanks to Amy Isaacs, who did an outstanding job finding advertisers and to Stacy Lozer and her volunteer team who will be sorting, labeling and distributing the bound copies. Once distributed, extra copies of the directory will be available at the North Central Bookstore for \$5.00 each, while supplies last.

Thanks for all you do to support North Central!
Becky Volk, PTO President
beckyvolk65@yahoo.com or 490-6001

From the Principal . . .

At the end of last month on Thanksgiving Day, we all paused to take a breath, assess our good fortunes and give thanks for what we value in life. In education, we are thankful for the opportunities to impact young lives and help our students prepare themselves for what is sure to be a bright and successful future. Our students are the reason we are here, and their learning and progress is the joint mission of North Central High School and our community.

As this semester comes to a close, starting on Monday, December 10, North Central will begin the process of administering ECA's (End of Course Assessments) to students retesting in the content areas of Algebra I, English 10, and Biology. Your student's graduation and academic future depends on his/her success in passing these external, summative state assessments, and the importance of passing these exams cannot be overemphasized. We have many students who are currently taking advantage of review sessions and utilizing study packets to prepare for taking these assessments. If you should have any questions regarding ECA's, please do not hesitate to contact our Guidance Department at 259-5346 for assistance.

Additionally, this is also the time of year when first semester finals are administered; that being during the week of December 17-20. Teachers will be reviewing and assisting students as they prepare for these finals which can count for up to 20% of their overall grade in each class. From a student's perspective, this is a very busy, important, and high stakes time of year, and it is critical that everyone work collaboratively to make sure all students are doing everything possible to be successful by getting enough rest at night, eating regular and nutritional meals, and allocating enough uninterrupted study time each evening to prepare for upcoming exams.

Lastly, on behalf of the faculty and staff of North Central High School, we wish you and your family a joyful holiday season filled with warm and lasting memories. Best wishes for good health and happiness in 2013 as we look forward to seeing students on Monday, January 7, 2013, when classes resume at 7:25 a.m. in home-room.

Yours in Education,

Evans Brainpan III
Principal

School Dismissal/Delay Procedures

If Washington Township Schools have to be dismissed because of a mechanical breakdown or adverse weather conditions, and we know before school begins in the morning, this information will be broadcast over several of the Indianapolis television and radio stations. On rare occasions, the start of school may be delayed 2 hours. On such days, if a high school student is normally picked up by a bus at 7 a.m., the 2-hour delay would move the pick-up time to 9 a.m. The high school day will begin at 9:25 a.m. If school has to be dismissed during the day, the local media will be notified. If school is cancelled due to inclement weather, all activities are automatically cancelled. Local radio and TV stations will be notified of any closure or delay. We will also make use of our automated calling system in an attempt to notify families in a timely manner of unexpected changes to the school day.

December 2012

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

						1 SAT Test (Upper H Hall, NC) 6:15 pm , Madrigal Dinner (Pilgrim Lutheran Church)
2	3 7pm , Band Holiday Concert (Auditorium)	4 7pm , Sophomore College Night (Auditorium)	5	6 7pm , Winter Play (PAC)	7 7pm , Winter Play (PAC)	8 Bloomington Jazz Festival ACT Test (Upper H Hall, NC) 4 & 7pm , Winter Play (PAC)
CANNED FOOD DRIVE COLLECTION ENDS DECEMBER 7						
9	10 ECA Testing 7pm , Choral Holiday Concert (Auditorium)	11 ECA Testing 7pm , Messiah Concert (Auditorium) 7pm , College Cost Estimator Workshop (L249)	12 ECA Testing	13 ECA Testing 7pm , Orchestra Holiday Concert (Auditorium)	14 ECA Testing	15
16 3pm , Counterpoints Show, More Joyful Sounds of the Season (Pilgrim Lutheran Church)	17 First Semester Exams	18 First Semester Exams	19 First Semester Exams	20 First Semester Exams, End of 1st Semester Winter Break begins at the close of school	21 No School for Students Teacher Report Day	Winter Break December 21 - January 6 Return on Monday, January 7, at 7:25 a.m. Students report to Homeroom for 2nd Semester Schedules
Textbooks for first-semester-only courses returned to teachers on day of final.						

Communicating With Students During School

To avoid the interruption of classes, **the receptionist cannot send a pass to a student** to let him/her know an item has been delivered to the front desk. If a student is expecting something to be delivered by a parent, **it is the student's responsibility to come to the front desk** either during their lunch period or between classes to collect any delivered items. Also, any food brought to the front desk will be disposed of at the end of the school day if it has not been picked up by the student.

The school cannot accept faxed homework assignments for students. Students expecting homework assignments delivered to school should plan to stop by the front desk either during their lunch period or between classes to see if anything has arrived.

Messages will be delivered to students only in **emergency situations**. If an emergency arises, the parent must communicate with an assistant principal or the student's counselor to have the message delivered.

If it is necessary for a parent to see a student during the school day, the parent should go to the Attendance Office (or the Dean's Office in some cases) and explain the situation. An attendance officer can then locate the student and send a pass for him/her to come to the Attendance Office. Passes are sent during the first ten minutes of class, not during class time to avoid class interruptions.

In order to keep our school safe and free from distractions, your assistance is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

A more detailed and up-to-date calendar can be found on our school website: <http://www.nchs.cc>
Events are subject to change.

GUIDANCE, Other Info . . .

Applying to College – North Central Forms Required

North Central's college application processing forms are stocked on the wall inside the Guidance Department, near the Student Center entrance. Students must personally hand these materials to their guidance counselors for processing.

- The **BLUE** Blanket Release Form is required *before* we can release your materials to colleges.
- The **PINK** Application Cover Sheet must be completed for **EACH** application submitted, including applications filed online. (There's a \$1 fee for each pink sheet.)
- The **YELLOW** Counselor Recommendation Worksheet helps your counselor write about you.
- The **WHITE** Student Information Sheet includes your activities, honors, & volunteerism.
- The **GREEN** Teacher Recommendation Sheet is given to teachers who are writing your recommendation letters.

PLUS: Request electronic copies of your North Central transcript for college through www.parchment.com.

College Campus Visits

Students are strongly encouraged to visit colleges of interest before deciding to enroll. Visits should be made prior to **May 1**, the National Candidate Reply Date, when college enrollment deposits are due. Seniors are entitled to two excused absences for college visits, but visits can also be made on Saturdays and when North Central is not in session.

Procedure for excused absences:

- ⇒ Pick up the green College Campus Visit Form in the Attendance Office.
- ⇒ Get signatures on the form from Mrs. Payne, all of your teachers, and your parents.
- ⇒ Have a parent notify the Attendance Office **prior to your visit**.
- ⇒ Obtain a letter from the college's admission office on official letterhead verifying your visit (the date of your visit and with whom)
- ⇒ Return the green form and the letter to the Attendance Office the following day. **Both documents must be received for the college visit to be considered an excused absence.**

Please refer to North Central High School's Student Handbook 2012-13 for more detailed information.

College Resource Room, L258B See your counselor first!

College-bound students and their parents are invited to take advantage of the college resources available in the Guidance Department. Flip through helpful college guides, review college catalogs from all over the country, access the MyRoad.com software program from the computers, and help yourselves to college information, filed by state, in the file cabinets. The College Resource Room is accessible throughout the school day and after school until 4:00 p.m., but you will need a pass from your counselor for access to the room.

College Cost Estimator Workshop

Remember the \$5 Financial Plan fee you paid as a Freshman? At no additional cost you can attend this workshop sponsored by the National Center for College Costs (NCCC). NCCC will be at North Central for a general presentation on paying for college, followed by individual reviews of your worksheet if you filed a cost estimator. The workshop will be located in room L249 at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, December 11**.

Once you have received a report from NCCC, you will have their ongoing advice at no cost. You may contact them at info@collegecosts.com or by calling 1-877-687-7291.

Take advantage of this opportunity to plan for college.

FINANCIAL AID

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Parents of seniors: You cannot file the FAFSA prior to January 1, but you can get ready for it! Review the process at www.fafsa.ed.gov and register for your PINs now (one for you and another for your student). Prepare your 2012 taxes as soon as possible. Complete the **FREE College Cost Estimator** with the **National Center for College Costs** at www.collegecosts.com to get an early idea of what you may be expected to pay for a year of college.

Other useful websites include: www.studentaid.ed.gov

Federal Government Resources for education: www.studentaid.gov

**Get expert help filing your FAFSA at
NORTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
Sponsored by the PTO and the
Washington Township Schools Foundation**



**FAFSA DAY
at North Central
Tuesday, February 5
8 a.m. - 7 p.m.**



College Scholarships Available

Stop by the College/Scholarship Corner in the Guidance Department to learn about outside scholarship opportunities offered by various institutions, corporations and community groups. Scholarship listings will be updated on **Naviance**, as well, as they become available. Contact our scholarship liaison, Mrs. Tracy Gilbert, with any questions. What else can you do? Register with such sites as fastweb.com, zinch.com, cap-pex.com and finaid.com for additional scholarship opportunities.

SAT & ACT Tests - Try Both!

North Central High School encourages students to take *both* the SAT Reasoning & Subject Tests AND the ACT assessment with Writing. Colleges will accept the results of either test, and will use the higher scores if both tests are taken. Register for the SAT at www.collegeboard.org and the ACT at www.actstudent.org.

21st Century Scholars - Class of 2013

If your child signed up for the 21st Century Scholars program in the 7th or 8th grade, and you have not yet been contacted about signing the Affirmation form for students graduating this year, please see Mrs. Jonique Burton in the Guidance Department. Mrs. Burton can also be contacted at 259-5301, ext. 45313, or at jburton@msdwt.k12.in.us

College Entrance Exam Test Registration Deadlines:

Test	Test Date	Regular Deadline	Late Registration
SAT reasoning & subject tests	January 26	December 28	January 11
ACT	February 9	January 11	January 18

Testing is available on the Sundays after these national-testing dates at the Hasten Hebrew Academy.

In the News...

2012 Advanced Placement Scholars

North Central is proud to announce the results for this year's Advanced Placement Scholars. 175 students have earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP exams. The number of scholars illustrates the strength of our AP Program at North Central.

83 Students - Qualified for the **AP Scholar Award** by completing three or more AP exams with grades of 3 or higher.

35 Students - Qualified for the **AP Scholars with Honor Award** by earning an average grade of 3.25 on all AP exams, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more exams.

41 Students - Qualified for the **AP Scholars with Distinction Award** by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on five or more exams.

1 Student - Qualified for the **State AP Scholar Award**. This designation is granted to one male and one female in each U.S. State with grades of 3 or higher on the greatest number of AP exams, and then the greatest average grade on all AP exams.

15 Students - Qualified for the **National AP Scholars Award** by earning an average of 4 or higher on all AP exams taken, and grades of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

175 Students - Earned **AP Scholar Awards** in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP exams.

North Central offers 28 Advanced Placement courses for grades 9 - 12. For more information about the AP/IB program, contact William Gulde at 317-259-5345 or by email at wgulde@msdwt.k12.in.us.

Looking Ahead...

**Grade 8
Curriculum Night
at North Central
Tuesday, January 15, 2013
7:00 PM
Auditorium**



Performing Arts Events

Choral Holiday Concert: 10 Choirs, along with the bell choir, will perform on **December 10, 7 p.m.**, in the Auditorium. Admission is free to the public; our gift to the community!

Symphonic Orchestra & Performing Arts Choirs, will be performing choruses and solos from the **Messiah** on **December 11, 7 p.m.**, in the Auditorium. Admission is free to the public.

More Joyful Sounds of the Season, featuring the Counterpoints, will be on Sunday, **December 16, 3 p.m.** at the Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 3850 W 106th Street, Carmel. There will be a reception following the concert and a free-will offering. Come join us and get into the holiday spirit with the Counterpoints. For more information contact Pat Wiehe by email at pwiehe@msdwt.k12.in.us.

Upcoming Performing Arts Events

The **Annual Northernaires Praise Fest** will be **Friday, January 11, 2013, 7:00 p.m.** in the North Central auditorium. There will be many wonderful community and high school gospel choirs performing including the Harris Sisters (graduates of NC) and many more exciting groups. Admission is \$5.00 and the proceeds will go to Restoring Lives West Youth Shelter. You don't want to miss it!

Choir students who made All-State Choir are:

Adam Breese	Emma Breeze	Eitan Geller-Montague
Katherine Jones	Nasair Plane	Ethan Smith
Benjamin Sparrow		Ian Thomas

They will be performing at the IMEA Convention in Ft. Wayne **January 19 & 20, 2013**. Congratulations!

SUMMER SCHOOL 2013

SESSION 1: JUNE 4 - 24

SESSION 2: JUNE 25 - July 16

(NO SCHOOL Thursday, JULY 4)

Look for more information regarding Summer School Registration for current and out-of-district students in the next Message.

First Semester Examinations Schedule

December 17 - 20, 2012

Monday, December 17

Pd 2	7:25 am	8:39 am	Study/Break
	8:39 am	10:23 am	Exam
Pds 4-10	10:29 am	2:40 pm	Reg. Schedule
Buses depart at 2:50 pm			

Tuesday, December 18

Pd 1	7:25 am	8:30 am	Study/Break
	8:30 am	10:15 am	Exam
Pd 3	10:25 am	11:45 am	Study/Snack
	11:45 am	1:30 pm	Exam

Buses depart at 1:40 pm

Wednesday, December 19

Pds 6, 7, 8	7:25 am	8:30 am	Study/Break
	8:30 am	10:15 am	Exam
Pd 9	10:25 am	11:45 am	Study/Snack
	11:45 am	1:30 pm	Exam

Buses depart at 1:40 pm

Thursday, December 20

Pds 4, 5, 6	7:25 am	8:30 am	Study/Break
	8:30 am	10:15 am	Exam
Pd 10	10:25 am	11:45 am	Study/Snack
	11:45 am	1:30 pm	Exam

Buses depart at 1:40 pm

NOTICE

Policy regarding changes in schedule if there is an unforeseen closing of school: If school is closed during semester examinations, the following policy will be in effect: The examinations scheduled for the first missed day will be administered on the first day school is re-opened. A decision regarding the remainder of the examination schedule will be made as needed. This may mean some courses, some periods will not have a final examination. Teachers would have to figure grades without including the final examination in said courses.