

MISHAWAKA HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

February 2020

74 Scholastic Art Awards to 46 Students

Mishawaka High School was once again one of the top three schools in the region for visual arts. Seventy-four awards were given to forty-six Mishawaka High School students. This is all possible because of outstanding Art Department Teachers: Ryan Sergeant, Abigail Bill, Mike Buchmann, Jessica Marsh, and Kathryn Smith. Each one of these teachers encourages students to practice self-expression, explore their hidden talents, and wants the students to learn new things and have fun doing it. To view all of the winning artwork and a complete listing of the winners visit MishawakaSchools.com

View more Gold Key artwork on page 4



Kyla by Emmelia Barstow, Gold Key Photography



*Celtic Knot Bottle by Alicia Katzelis
Gold Key Ceramics & Glass*

From the Principal

A New Year, New Opportunities and New Challenges

The school year is flying by. The vast majority of our students are doing great and are on the right path for graduation. We are working closely with those students who need extra help so they can walk across the stage with pride having successfully graduated from Mishawaka High School. There are aspects about the graduation process that might be confusing so let me explain how it works. Current seniors, juniors and sophomores can use the...

- Traditional graduation process (**earn the right 40 credits** and passing the graduation qualifying exam) or use the new
- Graduation pathway process (**earn the right 40 credits**, demonstrate employability skills *and* have post-secondary competencies).

They both have the same core requirement: earn the right 40 credits. If we look at the other requirements, we find that some students can easily complete the traditional process while others will find the pathway process a better fit. Our administrators, counselors, and teachers are working with your students to help them navigate through this process, but we need your help, because some students will face challenges in meeting the requirements and may need a waiver. Here are the basic requirements for a waiver:

- A 1.67 GPA in those 40 required credits to graduate and
- 95% attendance, i.e., fewer than 5% unexcused absences or trancies (on average, nine absences per year)

You can help by making sure they are attending, checking their grades regularly and talking with them to keep them moving toward graduation.

If you have questions or concerns, call your student's counselor or dean.

Now, here are some other things happening at MHS.

Academics: Early College students in the class of 2020 will be the first in Mishawaka High School history to earn Associate's degrees before graduating from high school. Rachel Gomez and Payton Engdahl are projected to be the first Mishawaka students to achieve this impressive goal. Over 20 other Early College students are expected to earn their Statewide Transfer General Education Core certificates this year (equivalent to the freshman year of college). Ivy Tech graduation is on May 8th at 6:00 at Notre Dame's Joyce Center. Mark your calendar and come out to celebrate this milestone in MHS history.

Several academic teams have had particularly good seasons this year. The Quiz Bowl team continues to develop its skills

and beat other area teams. They are becoming a powerful adversary in their league. The robotics teams are all doing exciting things: the program is growing and improving all the time. This year at competition, the Robo Ducks won the Collins Aerospace Innovation Award, and Team 12130 was a district honorable mention. The MHS FRC is excited about their competition season. The team invites all Mishawaka students and families to come see them compete at Penn High School on March 14.

Arts: It has been an exciting year in our Fine Arts department with lots of new activities. In the fall we saw the premier of our brand new Show Choir. Our students sang and danced with great enthusiasm and put on an outstanding show. The Show Choir also went on tour and performed at all of the elementary schools who loved their dancing and singing. Also, Mr. Diller, our new orchestra director formed a new Color Guard group. These students will be dancing to choreographed routines using flags and props. The premier of this group was at the boy's basketball game halftime on February 11th. Come out and support this new and exciting group! Visual arts continues to dominate the region with an impressive array of Scholastic Arts Awards.

Athletics: The 2019–20 school year is the end of an era for Mishawaka in the Northern Indiana Conference, but plenty of memories have been made for our Cavemen. In the fall, the football team won their 8th sectional in the last 11 years. Cross Country Senior Casey Quintana was the champion of the NIC, while Rachel Gomez won the prestigious Soccer MVP Award for the NIC South. This winter the wrestling team has led the way winning the Plymouth Invite, placing 4th at the Al Smith, 7th at Team State and earning the NIC and Sectional Championships! Joe Walker was named the NIC MVP while Steve Sandefer was tabbed the NIC Coach of the Year. Basketball Coach Ron Hecklinski hit a major milestone with his 400th career victory, and it has been a great year for student athletes signing their National Letters of Intent. So far this year we have Ryan Watt, Baseball, Western Michigan, Paishence Johnson, Track, Northern Iowa, Joe Walker, Wrestling, University of Michigan, Jacob LaPlace, Wrestling Indiana Tech, Rachel Gomez, Soccer, Holy Cross College, and Jordan Holland, Volleyball, Manchester University. To keep up with your favorite Mishawaka teams, go to: <https://cavemensports.com/> The athletic website was ranked 4th in the state during the month of December with over 39,000 views. Our Cavemen will move to the Northern Lakes Conference in August, a move that will create new rivalries with 7 other quality schools in Northern Indiana.

There are many opportunities at MHS. We are currently scheduling students for next year. It is the perfect time to get the schedule you and to get involved in extra-curricular activities. Keep in mind; most extra-curricular activities count toward graduation pathway requirements.

Go Cavemen!

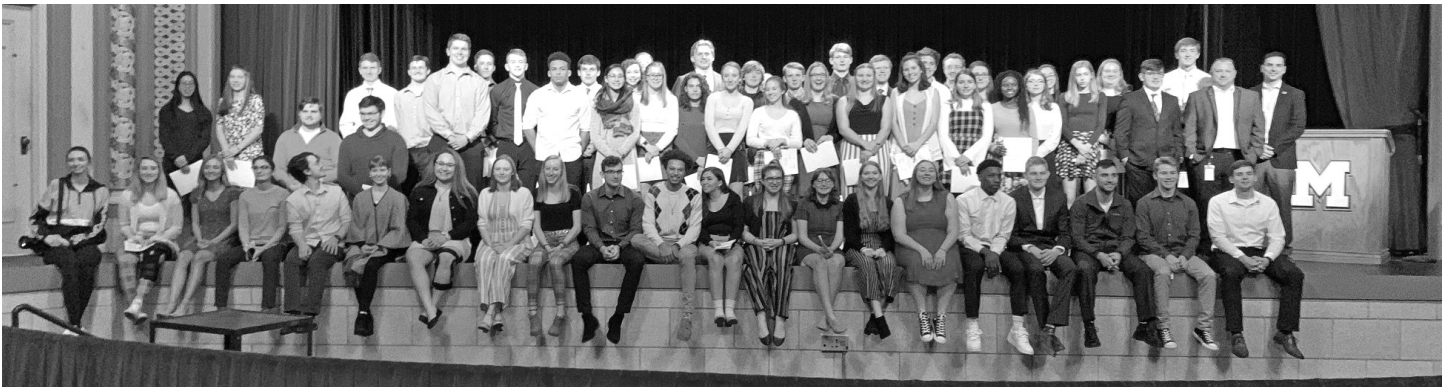
National Honor Society

On Monday, January 27, Mishawaka High School hosted the 135th National Honor Society Induction Ceremony. This organization is sponsored and supervised by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and was established in 1921 for the purpose of recognizing and fostering academic achievement while developing other characteristics essential to American citizens. Membership is both an honor and a responsibility, granted only to those selected by the faculty council and a rigorous selection procedure. Junior and senior students with at least one semester of residency are eligible for consideration. Members must have an academic standard of excellence; each nominee must have a cumulative 3.5-grade point average.

The ceremony began at 6:00 p.m. by Jacob Beshara, president of the National Honor Society. Each of the officers; Jacob Beshara, Payton Engdahl, Taylor Stanton, and Rachel Gomez gave a speech on the four pillars of the National Honor Society. These four pillars are scholarship,

leadership, character, and service. The newly inducted members for the class of 2020 (seniors) were; Mia Guerra, Nathan Spencer, Joseph Walker. The newly inducted members for the class of 2021 (juniors) were: Tyler Ackerley, Connor Addison, Kaitlin Ankeney, Aislin Bailey, Kylie Blake, Yasmin Brahim, Caydence Carmack, Brooklynn Ciesiolka, Mikayla Colburn, Megan Conn, Mark Crooks, Troy Crooks, Macklin Curtis, Joaquin DeVries, Allison Gordon, Elijah Hamilton, Trevor Heintzberger, Alexander Kincannon, Lindsey Kreil, Lydia Muturi, Kerynne Pletcher, Natalie Scott, Jessica Stewart, Olivia Suiter, Emma Taff, Emma Welch, Rachel Williams, Matthew Witt, and Lucas Yohe.

This year's guest speaker was Matt Carroll from Edward Jones. The National Honor Society would like to thank guest speaker Matt Carroll, Advisor Gregg Smith, and MHS secretary April Hathaway with their help on another successful induction ceremony.



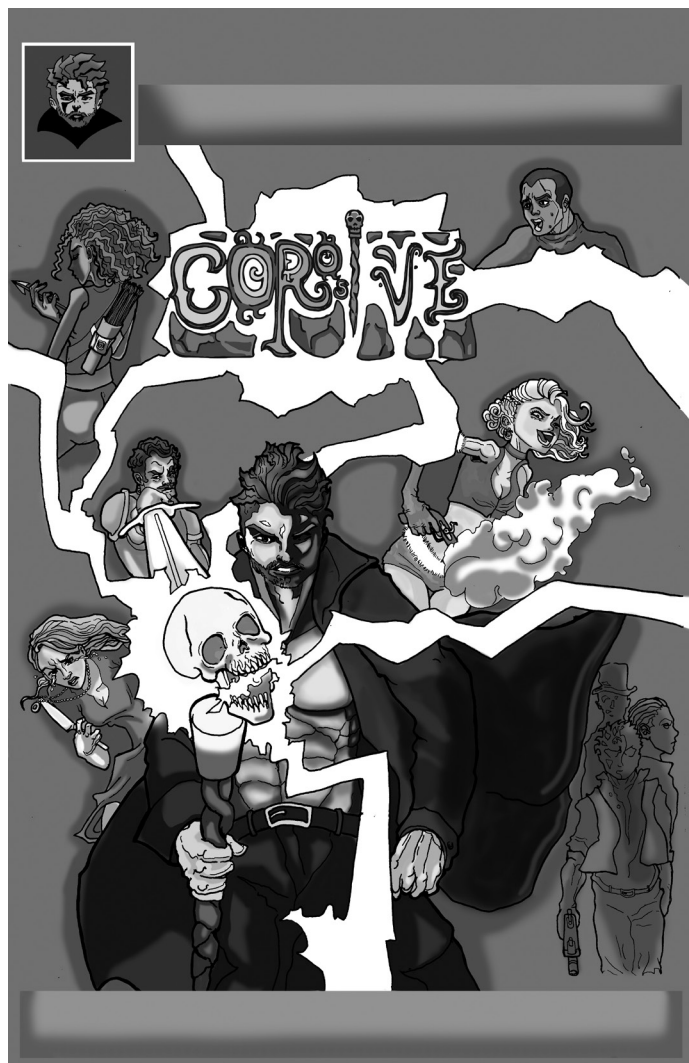
Food Drive

The 2019 School City of Mishawaka Food Drive was once again a great success. We greatly appreciate the support from students, staff, and the community. Together we were able to help over 100 families in our district get through what can be a difficult part of the year. We look forward to continuing the great success in 2020.





Julia Rising by Joli Alberts, Gold Key Painting



Corrosive 20 by Ethan Sergeant, Gold Key Comic Art



Hunter in Stroller by Shaylyn Frashetti,
Gold Key Drawing & Illustration



Jurassic Bite by Kaylee Martino, Gold Key Drawing & Illustration

To view all of the winning artwork and a complete listing of the winners visit MishawakaSchools.com

From the Health Office

Parents of all current 9th and 10th grade students:

State requirements for immunizations for the 2020–2021 school year:

- **3 Hep B**
- **2 Hep A (a series of two separated by 6 months)***
- **2 Varicella**
- **5 DTaP**
- **1 Tdap (Tetanus & Pertussis)**
- **4 Polio**
- **1 MCV4 (Meningococcal conjugate)**
- **2 MMR**

We suggest you make appointments now to get the needed immunizations before next fall. The local health departments and area physicians are extremely busy in the spring and summer, as well as at the beginning of the school year.

When you submit documentation on time, you prevent interruption to the start of your child's 2020–2021 school year. Once your child receives the immunizations listed above, please send in documentation to the school health office. We will record the information and send it to the appropriate middle school.

**Note: Hepatitis A: the minimum interval between 1st and 2nd dose is 6 calendar months. 2 doses are required for all grades pre-K–12. This is a new state requirement for 2020–2021.*

Please note that if this isn't taken care of by the first day of school year 2020–2021, you will receive a letter notifying you of the possibility of exclusion from school.



For **Senior year 2020–2021**, your student will be required to have:

- ***A booster of the meningococcal vaccine(MCV4).***
- ***2 Hepatitis A Vaccines (a series of two vaccines separated by 6 months)***

These are requirements by the Indiana State Department of Health for your student to remain in school. It is also recommended that your student have the Meningococcal B vaccines and the HPV vaccines. In order to not interrupt the start of your student's senior year, we are encouraging you to get this taken care of as soon as possible. Please talk to your health care provider to schedule an appointment NOW! You may turn in a copy of the updated immunization record to the Mishawaka High School health office. This would then be one thing to mark off of your list before next school year! If you have questions or need a current copy of your student's immunization record, please call the health office 254-7302. We are happy to help you expedite this process. Records can also be emailed to the school nurse at klemczakl@mishawaka.k12.in.us or faxed to #254-7481.

Please note that if this isn't taken care of by the first day of school year 2020–2021, you will receive a letter notifying you of the possibility of exclusion from school.

World Language

French News

The French Honor Society will have its Induction Ceremony on Tuesday, March 31. Students studying French have this great opportunity to become a part of a national organization of high achieving leaders. Students use these skills to share French culture with the student body and assist in school community projects.

Travel News

A STEM Trip to France and Germany is scheduled for June, 2021. Anyone interested should email Mrs. Herman (hermanc@mishawaka.k12.in.us) or Ms. Dambrauskas (dambrauskask@mishawaka.k12.in.us)!

PSO

Absenteeism

Please remember to call the attendance line when your child is absent for any reason. The number is 254-7309 and you can leave voice mail any time of the day or night.

MHS is now making attendance calls automatically using Skyward. If you get a call that your student is absent from school, please call the high school and provide a reason for the absence. Remember, students are only allowed four call-ins. After that, state law requires a doctor's note to excuse an absence. Unexcused absences may affect a student's graduation status, as waivers can only be given to students with 95% or higher attendance. Help your student stay on track for graduation by calling in all absences.



It's been an exciting winter for Cavemen Athletics! For the first time in 10 years the Mishawaka Wrestling Team won the NIC Championship. Champions for the Cavemen were Xavier Chavez, Brodie Fogarty, Brendon Mark, Cody Timmerman, Joe Walker, Jacob LaPlace and JT Thomas. While Walker was named the MVP of the Northern Indiana Conference, Mishawaka graduate Steve Sandefer was named the NIC Coach of the Year. "It's really cool. Everybody did their part. We got a ton of falls which pushed us to the front of the pack early on and everybody finished the day strong."

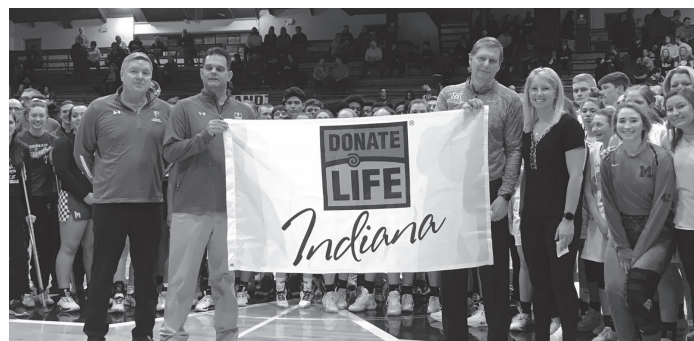
The wrestling team beat Penn in a thrilling dual earlier this season 37-35. It took 4 straight pins by the Cavemen in the final 4 matches to get the victory. A video on Mishawaka's athletic Twitter account @CavemenSports got over 200,000 views from wrestling fans around the world. To view the link go to: <https://youtu.be/qSCqKhF1wag> So far this season, the wrestlers have won the Plymouth Invitational, the Henry Wilk Classic, placed 4th in the Al Smith Invitational and 7th at the IHSWCA Team State.

Former Cavemen Wrestler and 3 time State Champ (2006, '07, '08) Josh Harper will be inducted into the Indiana High School Wrestling Hall of Fame on February 23rd.

In January, Mishawaka hosted 8th graders at an open house called, "My Choice". 2015 grad Anna Rohrer served as a keynote speaker while current athletes Joe Walker, Jordan

Holland and Justin Fisher helped educate next year's freshmen and their parents.

The Mishawaka boys basketball team won 5 out of 6 games during a stretch at the end of December and beginning of January. Coach Ron Hecklinski hit a milestone as he picked up career win #400. Hecklinski ranks in the top 25 for active coaches in Indiana for career victories. The Hoopsters have also been giving back to the community with their annual Teddy Bear Toss, benefitting St. Joe Hospital, and Organ Donation Night helping out the Indiana Donor Network. Here is a story featuring Coach Hecklinski: <https://cavemensports.com/2020/01/09/organ-donation-saved-his-life-mishawakas-coach-hecklinski/>



To keep up with your favorite Mishawaka teams, go to: CavemenSports.com The athletic website was ranked 4th in the state during the month of December with over 39,000 views.



Swim & Dive

The MHS Swimming & Diving teams are finishing up a successful season! The Girls Sectional Finals were Feb. 8, and Boys Sectional Finals are Feb. 22! Best of luck to all those competing! Our swimmers & divers posted Personal Best times/scores in every competition this winter! They've worked so hard, and it shows in their performances. Congrats on a great season, swimmers & divers!

Spring Training Baseball Camp

The Mishawaka Baseball Program is holding its 16th annual Spring Training Baseball Camp for players in grades K through 8 in the west gym at Mishawaka High School. The camp will be held on February 8th, 15th, and 22nd. Each camp day will consist of two sessions. The first session will be for campers in grades K-4 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. The second session will be for campers 5-8 from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. Each session is \$10. If a camper is able to attend all three sessions, he or she will receive a \$5 discount with a total of \$25. Campers will work on their hitting, fielding, and pitching skills. Registration forms can be found on the Mishawaka Athletic web site or at the registration table at the camp. Campers are welcome to attend any of the camps even if they miss the first day. If you have any questions, please contact Coach Huemmer at 574-514-1811 or via email at huemmerj@mishawaka.k12.in.us.

Freezin' For A Reason



Our Champions Together Team at Mishawaka High School will be participating in the 2020 Michiana Polar Plunge at Four Winds Field on February 29. The Polar Plunge is Special Olympics Indiana's biggest fundraiser. Please help us to reach our goal of \$1500 by donating. Just go to the link to make a donation. <https://www.firstgiving.com/team/398281>

Signing Letters of Intent



Ryan Watt, Baseball, Western Michigan



*Paishence Johnson, Track,
University of Northern Iowa*



Joe Walker, Wrestling, University of Michigan



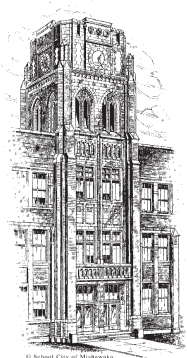
Jacob LaPlace, Wrestling, Indiana Tech



Rachel Gomez, Soccer, Holy Cross College



*Jordan Holland, Volleyball,
Manchester University*



Mishawaka High School
 an affiliate of School City of Mishawaka
 1202 Lincoln Way East
 Mishawaka, IN 46544
 [574] 254-7300

Non-Profit Organization

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Dates to Remember

MARCH

- 11 Winter Sports Awards, 6:00 pm
- 13,14,15 Spring Musical *Shrek*
- 25 Senior Excellence Dinner, 6:00 pm
- 31 French Honor Society Inductions, 6:00 pm

APRIL

- 2 Spring Music Concert, 7:00 pm
- 6-10 Spring Break
- 16 Spring Band Concert, 7:00 pm
- 21 Jazz Concert, 7:00 pm
- 27 Band Banquet, 7:00 pm

MAY

- 2 SAT Testing
- 2 Prom 8-11:30 pm
- 13 Senior Academic Awards, 6:00 pm
- 26 JYMS Academic Awards, 6:00 pm

JUNE

- 1 Last day of school
- 3 Spring Sports Awards, 6:00 pm
- 7 MHS Graduation, 4:00 pm

We're Here to Help

Don't hesitate to ask for our assistance if you have any questions or concerns.

John Ross, *Principal* 254-7305

Chad Brugh, *Associate Principal* 254-7306

Dave Troyer, *Assistant Principal 12th grade* 254-7307

Jessica Mann, *Dean of Students 10th grade* 254-7314

Laura Sigler, *Dean of Students 9th grade* 254-7312

Sean Steinkellner, *Dean of Students 11th grade* 254-7313