

# MISHAWAKA HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

November 2019

## New Show Choir Features Music and Dance



Our MHS music department is very proud to be premiering our brand new Show Choir this fall. Our students have been working very hard over the last two months to put on a show which will feature music and dance from the motion picture "La La Land." This show is a throwback to the classic days of Hollywood and features a beautiful love story and heart-wrenching music. Along with our new auditorium sound system, live MHS jazz band, and stunning costumes and set design.



NETWC

## From the Principal

Welcome back staff, students, and parents. I am excited to take over as building principal from Mr. Calderone and am glad he is a phone call away as the Director of Human Resources and Student Services at central office.

Here are a few notes about my background: I grew up in Key West, Florida. I graduated with a Bachelor's of Fine Arts from Florida Atlantic University, a Master's of Science in Management from Troy State University, and I have a host of graduate credits from Bethel College and the University of Notre Dame. I served as a Naval Flight Officer for 24 years specializing in reconnaissance and electronic warfare. Notable assignments included being in charge of a special projects unit involved in worldwide intelligence collection operations, working at the National Security Agency, and finishing my career as executive officer of Navy ROTC at the University of Notre Dame. I have worked at Mishawaka High School for the last 20 years as a teacher and administrator.

There are some significant changes for this school year to include staffing, grade level teams and the advent of graduation pathways as a graduation requirement for the freshmen class (2023).

### ***Staffing changes:***

**Administrative staffing:** Mr. Brugh replaced me as the associate principal and Ms. Sigler, an experienced middle school administrator, replaced Mr. Brugh as the freshmen dean.

**Counselor staffing:** Ms. Raffelock replaced Ms. Susan Piper as counseling department head. Ms. Nina Spitznogle comes to us from Elkhart schools and replaces Ms. Raffelock as the senior counselor.

**Teacher staffing:** Mr. Brown is the corporation's first Coordinator of Fine Arts, K-12 and is still teaching some of the advanced choir classes. Ms. Sutch replaced Mr. Brown as the choir director. Mr. Kinder replaced Ms. Lewinski as the MEC/MLC teacher. Mr. Gardner came in as both a new English teacher and as the drama director. Last, but not least, Ms. Kovacs came in as a new math teacher.

Grade-Level Teams have three basic components, an administrator, a counselor, and about 15 advisory teachers all of whom should loop with their students for four years. Parents should check Skyward and communicate with the advisory teacher and other team members regarding their student's progress.

Graduation pathways are required for the class of 2023 and beyond. There are three basic steps to meeting pathway requirements: earning credits, demonstrating employability skills, and post-secondary readiness.

**Credits:** There is no change here. Students have to earn a minimum of 40 credits, the right credits, for a Core-40 diploma and 47 credits for an honors diploma.

**Employability skills:** There are three ways a student can demonstrate employability skills, complete a capstone or research class (project-based learning), work outside of the school day (work-based learning), and participate in a significant volunteer project or extracurricular activity (service-based learning). All three of these steps must be thoroughly documented to meet both state and local requirements.

**Post-secondary readiness:** There are several ways to accomplish this ranging from scoring well on specific tests to completing a career and technical education (CTE) pathway. Look at page 7, it is directly from the IDOE web site and outlines the requirements.

These are important changes that provide some great opportunities for our students. One of these opportunities is for a much greater number of our students to earn a technical honors diploma. All that is required for this is to complete CTE pathway and maintain a 3.0 GPA with no D's or F's.

Please feel free to call grade level team members and myself if you have questions.

Go Cavemen!

John Ross  
Principal

## Congrats!

Big congrats are due to the following students who had work make into the Chicagoland 4x5, a huge show with over 50 Chicago area schools (and one Indiana school) competing.

**Connor Ellis** Honorable Mention Digital Photography

**Cecelia Urbansky** 2nd place Analog Photography

**Taft Spiess** Honorable Mention Drawing

**Theresa Salay** Honorable Mention Drawing

**Alexis Cunningham-Gloster** Honorable Mention Painting

**Hailey Buchner** Honorable Mention Computer  
Generated Art



## Art

Congratulations to the Connor Ellis, Izzy Barstow and Tasia Grzenia for getting their photography work selected for the 20th Annual Millrace Photography Contest in Goshen. Our first contest of the year and MHS students have started things off strong. If you have these three talented students in class, let 'em know good job!



*Drums N Drag* by Izzy Barstow



*Hanky* by Connor Ellis



*The World is my Jungle* by Tasia Grzenia

## Fine Arts

### Music Department

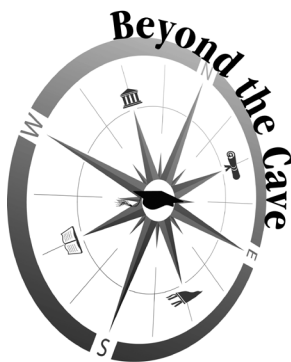
Our MHS Fine Arts Team has been busy with a flurry of activity this fall. We are pleased to welcome several new staff to the team: Rachel Sutch - new choir director, AJ Diller - new orchestra director, Jimmy Gardner - new drama director, and Miram Houck - new accompanist. There is a tremendous amount of new energy in all of these departments and the excitement is genuine and very positive.

Our Marching Band had a great fall season and recently placed a Gold Rating at the ISSMA contest in Crowne Point. They also had a very special performance at one of our home games in which they honored our military personnel and first responders while presenting a large American Flag on the football field (see picture). Our Chamber Choir also sang a wonderful rendition of the National Anthem.

Our Art Department continues to flourish as several students were recently selected for the 20th Annual Millrace

Photography Contest in Goshen. Connor Ellis, Izzy Barstow and Tasia Grzenia were all honored for their excellent work in photography.





Beyond the Cave is a partnership between School City of Mishawaka and the Mishawaka Education Foundation.

Beyond the Cave is a resource for families and students to use while investigating their futures after life as a Caveman. That investigation should start earlier rather than later.

If you and or your student have questions about any of the following than I invite you to schedule a Beyond the Cave meeting.

- Researching career path- both college dependent and career paths without a college degree.
- Researching colleges, majors, and placement rates into the workforce
- Planning for, preparing for, and understanding the role of SAT/ACT scores
- The college application process and timetables
- Ways to minimize the cost of a college degree including grants and scholarships
- Understanding the financial aid process
- Understanding Financial Aid Award Letters
- Obtaining official transcripts

Initial Beyond the Cave meetings are held on Monday and Wednesday afternoons with 3:15, 4:30, and 5:45 start times. Meetings are held in the Guidance Office. The first meeting takes about 1 hour, 15 minutes and you and your student will leave with a better understanding of the path forward and the tools/resources necessary to walk that path. You and your student will have access to a shared document that contains lots of tools for achieving their next step.

To request a Beyond the Cave meeting please send an email to [beyondthecave@mishawaka.k12.in.us](mailto:beyondthecave@mishawaka.k12.in.us) with the subject line "Appointment Request". You will receive an email back that allows you to open a calendar and pick a date/time that work for you and your student.

Brian Baumer  
Director - Beyond the Cave  
Teacher- Math Department

## Guidance News

### Biology 101 to be Taught at MHS Summer 2020

Early College students working on their Statewide Transfer General Education Core Certificate or Associate's degree will soon have the opportunity to take Ivy Tech Biology 101 as a summer course. Both the STGEC certificate and AGS degree require that students take a college-level lab science class. During the school year, MHS offers three courses that fulfil that competency: Chemistry 101, Physics 101, and Physics 102. Students who have not been able to schedule these classes or qualify for the college credit will now have the option to take Biology 101. The prerequisite for this course is either a 40 on the Elementary Algebra Accuplacer, a 24.5 on the Math section of the PSAT, or—for juniors or seniors—a 2.6 GPA. Keep an eye out for the summer school schedule in the spring.

### Many Dual-Credit Classes Have Prerequisites

For students to be able to earn dual credits from Ivy Tech, they have to show that they are college and career ready. For most freshmen and sophomores, these scores come from the Accuplacer. This is a nationally-normed standardized test that was given on Oct. 16. PSAT scores can also be used to show college and career readiness; the PSAT was given to all sophomores and juniors on Oct. 16. Once students have achieved college and career readiness, they qualify for dual credits in classes like Spanish III, Pre-Calculus Honors, and Chemistry 101. Not all dual-credit courses have the same prerequisites though, so see the MHS Course Offering Guide for specific information.

## PSO

### Absenteeism

School attendance matters. The Indiana Department of Education reminds us that, "Every day a student is absent is a lost opportunity for learning. Too many absences not only can affect achievement for the absent student but also can disrupt learning for the entire class." When students are absent and then reenter a class, it means the pacing of the entire learning environment shifts to accommodate one learner who has to catch up, not the other learners who are ready to move forward.

Moreover, absenteeism is linked to lower academic achievement, lower test scores, and even dropping out. Even a few absences really adds up. Missing two days a month quickly amounts to 18 days a year—that's more than an entire marking period of classes at MHS where students have each class 15 times in a term.

### Tardiness

Mishawaka High School needs your help to combat tardiness. School starts at 8:00 a.m. The morning hours are the most critical for student learning, since that is the time when students are the most alert and attentive. Moreover, the



beginning of classes are often the most crucial: that is when teachers make important announcements, begin teaching new concepts, or give quizzes to assess student learning. Studies show that students who are late to class have lower GPAs, lower scores on standardized assessments, and lower graduation rates.

Tardiness is also a negative behavior that impacts discipline and employment. According to the National Center for Education Statistics 2007 Indicators of School Crime and Safety, teachers surveyed reported that students who are frequently tardy have higher rates of suspension and other disciplinary measures. Tardiness causes students to feel disconnected with school, leading to behavior problems and dropouts. When tardiness becomes not just a bad habit, but a character trait, it carries over into the workplace. Job tardiness is a major cause of dismissal from the workplace.

**Please remember:** Mishawaka High School classes begin promptly at 8:00 a.m. On Wednesdays, classes begin at 8:35. This is the time students are expected to be in their seats and ready to learn. We appreciate your support of regular and on-time student attendance.

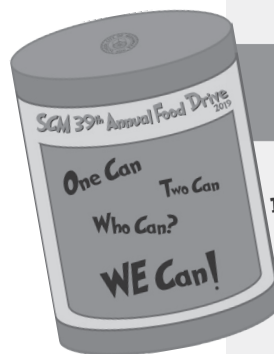
## From the Health Office

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](mailto: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.**



## SCM 39th Annual Food Drive



Help over 100 Families  
at School City of Mishawaka

Each family receives:

Food certificate to Kroger for perishable food

Several boxes of non-perishable food items

Many families are sponsored for gifts for the holidays

Collections October 16 - December 13, 2019

Distribution December 14 at MHS

### How You Can Help

Donate: Money for food certificates, non-perishable food items  
Items may be dropped off at schools or Ad Center

Stop by our Stuff-the-Bus event November 16 and 17th  
at Kroger on Merrifield

Questions Contact:

Vincent Ferro

[ferrov@mishawaka.k12.in.us](mailto:ferrov@mishawaka.k12.in.us)

Mary Staniz

[stanizm@mishawaka.k12.in.us](mailto:stanizm@mishawaka.k12.in.us)

or Heidi Peebles 574.254.4523

## PBIS-Positive Behavior Intervention Support

**Cavemen ROCK** stands for being Respectful, On Time, Care for Others, and Keep Engaged. These expectations are shared with students through the MiHi Guide, Classroom Teacher reminders, TV announcements, and at Grade Level Meetings. PBIS is a system of support that uses specific behavior expectations, similar responses and reactions from staff, acknowledgements, and rewards. It is a behavior management system and we expect the best out of our students. At this time one of our biggest issues is being on time. Please stress the importance of being on time with your son or daughter. Promptness is a key to being Career Ready. So again keep those four expectations in mind; Respectful, On Time, Care for Others, and Keep Engaged...put them into practice and you will be successful at Mishawaka High School.

## Skyward SIS

Do you want to check on your child's grades, absences, or tardies? As a parent/guardian you should have received an email with your Skyward Family Access Username and a link to login. Please check the email you provided to your child's school. If you did not receive an email (remember to check your SPAM folder), please visit Skyward Email Update to update your email. You will receive an invitation to your updated email to activate your account. Please allow time to process the updates.

If you no longer have the email that was sent initially or you need to update your email address, visit the School City of Mishawaka homepage at [MishawakaSchools.com](http://MishawakaSchools.com) in the middle of the page there is a Skyward login logo you can click on. This will allow you to login or update any information in the system so that you can log in and access your child's information.



# MHS ATHLETICS

by Dean Huppert, Director of Athletics



## Gomez Achieves All of Her Goals

Rachel Gomez was named Early College Student of the Month for October 2019. Gomez, a senior, is projected to earn her Associate's degree in General Studies in May of 2020. By the time she graduates, she will have earned over 60 college credits!

A high achiever, Gomez attends MHS in the morning and the Elkhart Area Career Center in the afternoon. There, she takes courses in the Health Sciences pathway. During junior and senior years, she has taken classes in science, biology, cardiology and more. She will earn two certificates by the time she graduates: EMT and EKG. Gomez plans to work as a paramedic while in college to help pay for her schooling.

Gomez dominates in athletics as well as the classroom. She has played on the Mishawaka soccer team all four years of high school, and joined the tennis team as a junior. She is a star forward and her goal work regularly propels the girl's soccer team to victory.

Congratulations to Rachel Gomez! Mishawaka is proud of all your hard work!

## The Cavemen Have Had a Tremendous Fall Season

The football team knocked off undefeated Elkhart Central 27-22 while losing a pair of close games early on to #1 ranked New Prairie and East Noble, who after 7 weeks were both undefeated.

Senior Casey Quintana has been a shining light for the x-country programs. Last year's state qualifier won the first race of his career in September, the County Clash. And then he became the Northern Indiana Conference Boys MVP by becoming the individual winner of the boys race out of all 13 teams. His time of 16:16 was impressive to watch. Sophomore Sarah Beshara paced the girls at the NIC race with a 5th place finish. The boys finished 3rd overall while the girls were 4th at the conference championships.

The girls soccer team has broken a number of records this season. They tied the most wins in-a-row with 7 during one stretch. They broke the record for most wins in a season by going 10-4-2. Senior Rachel Gomez is now the all-time leading scorer in Mishawaka history. The NIC South MVP broke her own record of 27 goals last year with 32 this season. She now has 81 in her career going into the postseason. And freshman Franny Parks was named 1st team NIC as well with the 3rd most goals in Mishawaka history with 24 this year.

Speaking of soccer. John Young Middle School sported both boys and girls teams this Fall for the first time in school history. Both teams came up with victories during the course of the year. And more importantly, they gained experience that helps provide solid feeder programs for Mishawaka High.

Our Mishawaka High School Athletic Trainers, Matt Harmon and Anna Roberts from St. Joe Health Systems, earned a First Team designation for making Mishawaka a "Safe Sports School" They are being honored at the Penn football game for their hard work and dedication.

Mishawaka was the host for the Sectional Volleyball Tournament on October 17th and 19th. Teams that participated were Mishawaka, Michigan City, South Bend Adams, Plymouth, LaPorte and South Bend Riley.

Overall, our teams and student athletes have been working hard and representing Mishawaka with great pride.







# INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## GRADUATION PATHWAYS PANEL

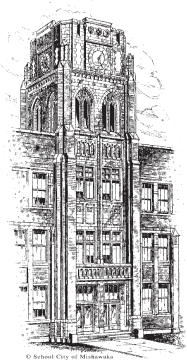
(Updated 11/16/2018)

The purpose for this Panel is to establish graduation pathway recommendations for the State Board of Education that create an educated and talented workforce able not just to meet the needs of business and higher education, but able to succeed in all postsecondary endeavors. To account for the rapidly changing, global economy, every K-12 student needs to be given the tools to succeed in some form of quality postsecondary education and training, including an industry recognized certificate program, an associate's degree program, or a bachelor's degree program.

These recommendations seek to ensure that every Hoosier student graduates from high school with 1) a broad **awareness** of and **engagement** with individual career interests and associated career options, 2) a strong foundation of **academic** and **technical skills**, and 3) **demonstrable employability skills** that lead directly to meaningful opportunities for postsecondary education, training, and gainful employment.

Students in the graduating class of 2023 must satisfy all three of the following Graduation Pathway Requirements by completing one of the associated Pathway Options:

Graduation Requirements	Graduation Pathway Options
1) <b>High School Diploma</b>	Meet the statutorily defined diploma credit and curricular requirements.
2) <b>Learn and Demonstrate Employability Skills<sup>1</sup></b> (Students must complete <u>at least one</u> of the following.)	Learn employability skills standards through locally developed programs. Employability skills are demonstrated by <u>one</u> the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Project-Based Learning Experience</b>; OR</li> <li>• <b>Service-Based Learning Experience</b>; OR</li> <li>• <b>Work-Based Learning Experience</b>.<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>
3) <b>Postsecondary-Ready Competencies<sup>3</sup></b> (Students must complete <u>at least one</u> of the following.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Honors Diploma</b>: Fulfill all requirements of either the Academic or Technical Honors diploma; OR</li> <li>• <b>ACT</b>: College-ready benchmarks; OR</li> <li>• <b>SAT</b>: College-ready benchmarks; OR</li> <li>• <b>ASVAB</b>: Earn at least a minimum AFQT score to qualify for placement into one of the branches of the US military; OR</li> <li>• <b>State- and Industry-recognized Credential or Certification</b>; OR</li> <li>• <b>Federally-recognized Apprenticeship</b>; OR</li> <li>• <b>Career-Technical Education Concentrator<sup>4</sup></b>: Must earn a C <u>average</u> in at least two non-duplicative advanced courses (courses beyond an introductory course) within a particular program or program of study; OR</li> <li>• <b>AP/IB/Dual Credit/Cambridge International courses<sup>5</sup> or CLEP Exams</b>: Must earn a C <u>average</u> or higher in at least three courses; OR</li> <li>• <b>Locally created pathway</b> that meets the framework from and earns the approval of the State Board of Education.</li> </ul>



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

Non-Profit Organization U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO 150 Mishawaka, IN
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## Dates to Remember

### NOVEMBER

- 22, 23 & 24 Fall Play, *Clue...On Stage*
- 23, 24 Stuff the Bus Food Drive
- 27-29 Thanksgiving Recess, No school

### DECEMBER

- 7 Madrigal Dinner, 5-7 p.m.
- 10 Winter Orchestra Concert
- 14 Food Drive, 8:00 a.m. - noon
- 15 Vespers 3:00 & 5:00 p.m.
- 17 Winter Band Concert, Auditorium
- 20 End of Semester
- 23-31 Winter Break

### JANUARY

- 1-3 Winter Break
- 6 Class resumes - White Day
- 16 8th Grade Parent Night, 6:00 p.m.
- 20 Holiday: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

### FEBRUARY

- 1 Band/Orchestra Solo & Ensemble Contest
- 8 ISSMA State Solo Ensemble
- 17 Holiday: President's Day
- 21 4th Grading Period Ends
- 22 State Solo & Ensemble Contest
- 29 State Solo Ensemble Winds, Percussion, Strings

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

Jenifer Fisher, *Transition Coordinator* 254-7308