



New Opportunities Through TCU Innovation Lab



It has been quite an adventure getting the new TCU Innovation Lab up and running, and the students have done a great job getting going on their own innovative ideas. Our focus in the lab continues to be employability skills (being responsible, working with others, being respectful, being on time, handling materials appropriately, etc.). This makes up 25% of the student's overall grade. The lab is a 12-week rotation that ALL students at John Young will be in at some point over the year. After an initial orientation period, students work in partnerships on engagements of high interest to them, learning the vocabulary and "science" behind the work and then applying that knowledge in a project of their own design. Our engagements cover such a wide array of interest areas – circuitry, robotics, sound editing, photo editing, software creation, engineering, coding, pneumatics, animation, etc. We have a state-of-the-art television studio that we have several staff members getting trained on at the end of September. This will greatly expand our WAKA newscast capabilities in addition to offering students opportunities to produce high-quality videos in our lab setting. Expect many great things to come out of the TCU Innovation Lab at John Young this year and on into the future! We thank Teachers Credit Union for their partnership that helps make the Lab possible.

Follow the exciting things happening in the Lab



@JohnYoungTCULab



John J. Young Middle School

1801 North Main Street • Mishawaka, IN 46545

574.254.3600 MishawakaSchools.com



Dear Jaguar Community,

It is hard to believe October is already here!

It has been a fantastic start to the school year already filled with many opportunities and experiences for our students. The fast paced school year has included athletics (football, volleyball, cross country, cheerleading), PTSA back to school dance, joining academic teams (Lego Robotics, Spell Bowl, Fluid Power, etc.), drama practice, and Five Star to name a few activities.

However, the most important activities are taking place in the classroom. During the first weeks of school, students are making discoveries and gaining knowledge in the classroom. We are very thrilled about the new opportunities our students have or will have in drama class and the TCU Innovation Lab. These two new courses will expand on our goal of teaching valuable 21st Century Skills: Collaboration, Communication, Critical Thinking, and Creativity. In this newsletter you can see what discoveries are taking place in your student's hallway.

Please join us on Oct. 4th for Student-Led Conferences. Take advantage of going over your child's academic progress and meeting your student's advisory teacher.

Though it seems so very far away, we will soon be preparing for the start of next school year. For current eighth graders, Mishawaka High School will have an open house and introduce high school programs including dual credit opportunities for the class of 2023. This event will happen on November 28th. Please mark this date on your calendars and take advantage of this opportunity to see what MHS has to offer.

I would like to leave you with one other important reminder about drop off and pick-up times. JYMS does not open until 7:40 a.m. for those eating breakfast, otherwise students may enter at 8:00 a.m. Students are also required to be off school campus by 3:30 p.m. unless they are in a supervised activity. We do not have supervision before 7:40 a.m. or after 3:30 p.m. for students so please have rides in place for your child. We do not want your child to have to wait outside before school or after school during the cold winter season.

Go Jaguars!

Mike Fisher- Principal

Office Staff is Here to Help

Office Contacts:

Kelly Kincses, Secretary	254-3600
Norma Bauernfeind, Secretary	254-3616
Attendance Line (voicemail only)	254-3615
Becky Stayton, Nurse	254-3602
Cherie Smith, Counselor (8th grade)	254-3618
Laurie Schalliol, Counselor (7th grade)	254-3617

Social Media

Please "like" our Facebook page for current events, last minute updates, and positive things happening at JYMS.

<https://www.facebook.com/JohnYoungMiddleSchool/>
<https://twitter.com/scmjohnyoung>

Visit us on our new website at MishawakaSchools.com/jyms

Library

JYMS library is open for the 2018–2019 school year! Seventh grade students have come down for orientation, and our returning students have said hello and checked out books. We would like to remind all students that the library is open at 7:30 a.m. for homework room and open until 3:30 p.m. for library book renewal, book return and check out. We are also here for your textbook needs.

Mrs. Plonski & Mrs. Hembrecht

100 HALL

We will begin to hand out red slips to students who may be missing any work. We are expecting students to take initiative to check Alma independently to find their missing assignments. The first red sheet will only inform students that they are missing something, the second is a parent contact home. If a student continues to have missing work three weeks in a row, they will receive a "hallway detention" to give students an opportunity to make up work here in school.

Please remember that there is always a teacher in the hallway that stays after school until 4 p.m. for homework room.

Coming up this month:

English: We will be focusing on elements of literature such as plot and conflict as well as reading numerous short stories. We will also focus on response to literature where students will write about what they have read.

Math: Pre-Algebra I will begin our study of Integers and Equations. Honors Pre-Algebra II will work to solve multi-step equations. Algebra I will begin their study of relations and functions.

Science: We have started to discuss how Scientists use the Metric System to measure. It is the common language of Science. We will continue to practice measuring using the metric system and converting units. We will move into the Scientific Method and practice writing clear procedures.

Social Studies: Honors will be continuing with their study of Triumph and Tragedy for National History Day. General education classes will be studying Economics, religion and possibly Asia.

7th Rotation (World Languages): We will be learning how to read, write, and state basic German vocabulary and will create a paper cuckoo clock. Additionally, students will view pictures, watch videos, and listen to music related to German history and culture.

Please visit our new Facebook page – JYMS 100 Hall

200 HALL

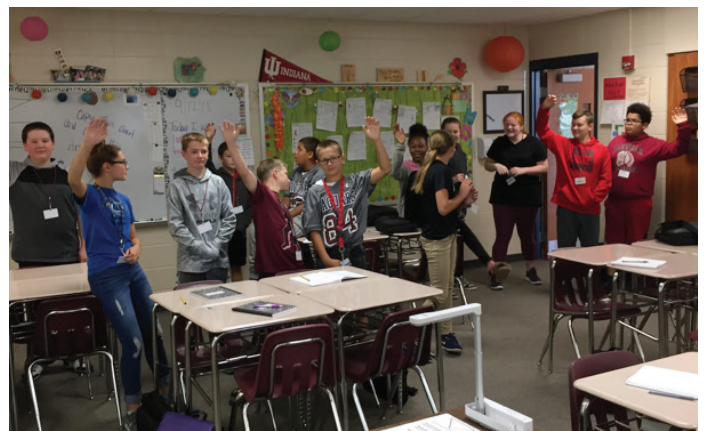
Please check out the 200 Hall's 2018–2019 website: [Sites.google.com/Mishawaka.k12.in.us/200-hall](https://sites.google.com/Mishawaka.k12.in.us/200-hall). This website has general information to stay up to date with what's happening in the 200 Hall and in each of your student's classes. You should also have access to Alma (our gradebook) where you can see details about each assignment in all classes. If we do not have a current e-mail address, please notify the office

with this information so you will receive important information including report cards and so we keep you up to date on current events.

Math: Students are developing their understanding of negative numbers by modeling integer addition and subtraction on a number line, and then extending this knowledge to include multiplying and dividing integers as well as simplifying and solving equations/inequalities. These skills will be relied upon heavily in future math courses. Help your student to deepen their understanding by talking about ways negative numbers are used in everyday life (banking/finance, temperature, elevation etc).

Social Studies: students are learning about the basics of Geography. We started looking at what Geographers do and the tools they use. The class then moved on to the Physical world and the way in which the earth came to be, the forces upon it. Next week this will be wrapped up by discussing the land and water. From the physical world, we will then delve into the human world, looking at population, culture and the economies. Included in this portion is a discussions about the religions of the world. During this time, we discuss the formation and the development of religion over time. This is not an attempt to influence, persuade, or in any way change your child's belief in religion, but rather an attempt to see the cause of conflict between cultures in the world.

English: We have just completed Unit 1. We had a major focus on "plot" and "theme", and are still working hard to master understanding of both. We will be learning how to successfully write an argumentative essay soon, and students will work hard in the planning and revising process. In addition, we are getting prepared to begin reading "The Outsiders" – this unit includes themes such as "Friendship overcomes any obstacle", etc. The kids will face comprehension questions, vocabulary, and quizzes throughout the unit, and will be invited to watch the movie in late October. If the kids earn their way to watch the movie, they are also invited to dress up as a "Greaser" for extra credit!

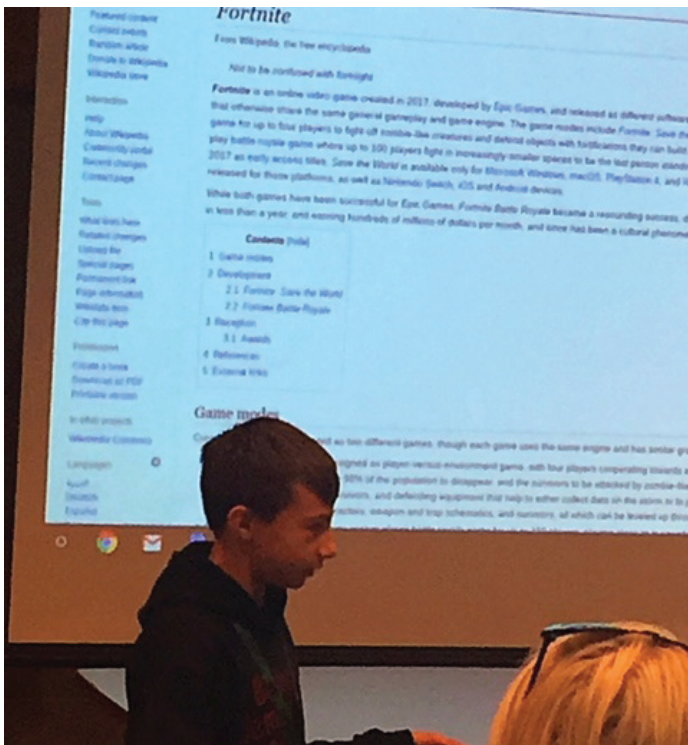


300 HALL

A 300 hallway team field trip is planned for November 9, 2018. We will be attending the theatre production *It's A Wonderful Life* at Bethel College.

English: We have been very busy already this year. We completed an issue of Scope Magazine reading a play based on the Greek myth Medusa, a nonfiction article on the history of pizza, and narrative nonfiction article about the hurricane in Puerto Rico. We also created a poem about our identity called "My Name Means." The students completed their first Book Talk. We will continue independent reading throughout the school year. Our first unit in the Literature book is *Facing Danger* and focuses

on plot elements. Students are also studying vocabulary Greek/Latin root words. Please encourage your child to read at home.



Science: Students have been very flexible working with Canvas – which is a new student learning system. Kids can log in from anywhere and show you their interactive notes (great for review!); they also use this for tests and quizzes. There are still a few assignments we post in Google Classroom. Students have been spending the first few weeks of school looking at lab safety and metric measurements. We are looking forward to more lab activities as we start working through the scientific method and chemistry by the end of October. In November we start working with geology and earth's geological history.

Social Studies: In social studies for the next few weeks we'll be covering some more of the East & Africa, comparing and contrasting various parts of the world during the Medieval period. Stay tuned for more social studies news, and follow

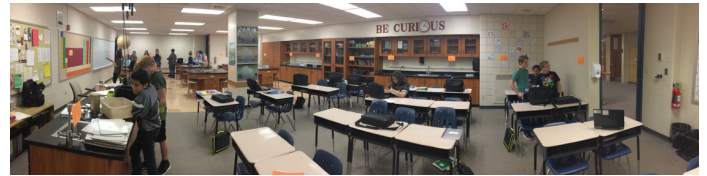
our class on instagram @wisekingwick if you'd like to keep up with what's happening in the classroom!

Math: The students will be working on equations, integers, and rational numbers. The students have been issued a math textbook that they can leave at home. I have a class set of books that the students can use in class. They will also have homework at least 2 to 3 times a week. Thank you for your support.

Healthy Lifestyles: We have been working on Fitness Testing and are aiming for improvement over the course of the year. Students need to make sure they are always prepared for PE with their full uniform and athletic shoes.

Construction: The 300 hall students are in construction class for the first 12 weeks before switching to the TCU Innovation Lab. Right now, the students are learning how to use tools the proper way, with a concentration on safety. The students will be creating projects throughout this 12 weeks.

400 HALL



This school year, we're implementing the new school slogan of Jaguars ROCK, meaning we expect students to... be Respectful, be On-time, Care for others, and Keep engaged. Students are expected to meet these guidelines in the classroom, hallways, cafeteria, as well as before and after school while waiting for doors to open or waiting for their rides. So far in the 400 Hall, our students have been doing a good job of meeting these expectations, and we hope to see this continue throughout the school year.

Another new policy in place this year required students to wear IDs on a daily basis. The IDs should be on a break-away lanyard (these have a snap at the back so if they get caught on something they break free), and worn above the waist and visible at all times. If an ID is forgotten for the day, a temporary can be purchased for \$1, or if a replacement ID is needed, that will cost \$2.

Now let's take a look at what's going on in the classrooms...

English with Mrs. Kowalewski: Students are beginning to read the book *Boy, Tales of Childhood* by Roald Dahl. In the first month of school, students completed a research project on the background of the book, and now as they begin reading the book itself, they will be writing their very own autobiographies. We look forward to really getting to know your students as they work on this project!

Math with Mr. Lord: At the start of October, we will be transitioning from our units on equations and inequalities into our unit on exponent properties. The latter half of October and early November will be spent diving into functions and slope-intercept form. Finally, we will be wrapping up November with discussions on rational vs. irrational numbers. Remember, if your student is struggling with any topic, Mr. Lord is available after school and during 6th hour lunch for additional support!

Science with Miss Richard: After reviewing some basic metric measurement skills with students (that is, measuring in meters, liters, and grams), Miss Richard was pleased how much students remembered from last year. Students got to practice taking volume measurements with graduated cylinders during their Rainbow Lab, and had fun taking the masses of other objects around the room in the activity Measurements Around the Room (Part 2). As we move into the Chemistry standards in the coming months, students will learn about the atoms and molecules that make up the world around them. They will learn about the periodic table, how it's organized, and how the various elements interact (sometimes in some pretty exciting ways!)

Social Studies with Mr. Stoner: In U.S. History we will be spending the next couple of months learning about the early explorations of the "new world", and talking about the first American colonies. In the "Explorer's Hall of Fame" Project, students will be assigned an explorer, research that explorer, and create a report on them to introduce their accomplishments. Here in the 400 hall we hope to continue with a great start that we've already had to the year!

Healthy Lifestyles with Mr. Calderone: It is my goal in Healthy Lifestyles to have a fun and exciting school year. We started off the year with fitness testing and volleyball. We are now in Health and students are creating a video with a small group in which they discuss the health triangle. Next we will begin to study about making decisions and setting goals, then finish off the first grading period discussing first aid, safety, and CPR. The 8th grade class of John Young will have an opportunity to visit Four Winds Field on October 10th to learn and practice CPR with other schools from the area. Finally, please make sure that students are turning in their permission slips and money for roller skating in PE.

Last but certainly not least... We do have one more important member of our team, and that is Tammy Warnock. She specializes in helping English Language Learners, but is available to help any student if they need it. She makes herself available during lunch as well as a few other times during the week to help students get caught up on work or to help them understand a challenging topic. If your student knows Tammy, they can talk with her any time to get a little extra help, or if they don't know who she is they can speak with any of their teachers to get in contact with her.

The last week of October will be sign ups for the JYMS "Fluid Power Action Challenge team". Details will follow on WAKA News.

Please check with your student that he/she has the necessary materials for class. It seems early in the school year for teachers to hear "I don't have (insert object here such as pen, paper, folder, etc.)" yet we are hearing this quite often. We appreciate your help with this matter as we all know coming to school/class prepared is the first step to a successful school year.

We have a ZAP (Zeros Aren't Permitted) each Wednesday after school. This is for any student struggling with homework and needs help, but it is also a requirement for students who have missing assignments. Parents/Guardians are notified on Tuesdays through email or phone (if no email address is listed) if their student is required to stay after.

Student Led Conferences will be coming up soon! We are all excited to meet with you and let you know about all the great educational happenings occurring in the 500 Hall!

Our students have all seemed to finally settle in to the Eighth Grade. This is an important year for them as they prepare for High School. Strong Work Habits, Self-Advocacy, and Taking Responsibility for their Own Education are some of the few skills/behaviors we try to instill throughout the eighth grade year. Hopefully you will see some of this at home, too.

We are very excited about the extended Washington D.C. trip being offered to our 8th graders this year. If you have any questions, you can contact Mr. Zbrzezny or Ms. Schwitz. We hope that your student is able to take this fantastically fun educational trip.

Please check our website: <http://bit.ly/JYMS500HALL> for the latest updates on team activities.



600 HALL

Math: Learning about the Laws of exponents

English: Reviewing literary terms such as identifying how setting impacts tone and mood

Health/PE: Setting long term goals

Science: Learning about the metric system

Social Studies: Learning about the early explorers and their impact on Native Americans

FACS: Getting ready to start cooking giant chocolate chip cookies

Announcements: Mass CPR training will be on October 10th

Website: www.jagteam600.weebly.com &

Miss LaForest's website www.claforest.weebly.com

Five Star Life

The Five Star Life (FSL) Afterschool program kicked off September 28th with a 100 foot ice cream sundae! FSL meets in the "blue room" or cafeteria every Friday for 8 weeks. Students can register with friends and are broken into teams of 6-8 and include a volunteer coach (mentor). The program runs from 3:20 p.m.-5:20 p.m. and includes high energy team games, academic support, and a leadership curriculum

designed specifically to build healthy student mindsets. Students can participate in leadership days at Summit (FSL's 300-acre training facility) in the fall and spring and summer where they experience the high ropes course, nature program, archery, fishing, boating, equine, and much more. Spots fill up fast as students enroll on a first-come, first-served basis. Register today at Fivestarlif.org by clicking the "Parent" button then the "Sign-up Your Student" button. If you have any questions about FSL call 574.266.4038.

News from F. A. P. A. (Fine Arts, Practical Arts)

Family and Consumer Science classes are looking for materials to use for a reuse, re-purpose, recycle project. Useful items include: old t-shirts, old sweatshirts, old bed sheets, or unused/leftover fabric yardage. The project will teach students some basic sewing skills and is designed to see what can be done with materials that we already have around the house. Donations can be sent in with students and directed to Mrs. Stanifer in room 816.

Choir News

The choir has been singing every day. Through song, the students know all the states in alphabetical order. The 8th graders know the "States and Capitals" song. Be looking forward to knowing all the Presidents in presidential order. Our Winter concert is December 11th. Attendance is required for all choir students, as it is their semester performance test.

Food 4 Kids Program

The local Salvation Army's Food for Kids Program is back again this year. If your family qualifies for free or reduced lunch, you are eligible to receive one bag of non-perishable food per week to be sent home with your student. Don't miss out! Fill out this form and send it in today. **Food goes home every Thursday.**



I understand the **Food 4 Kids** backpack program is for my child in elementary/middle school and agree to allow them to participate.

I give my permission for _____ to participate in the backpack program with The Salvation Army of St. Joseph County. child's name

I understand that my child will receive food as distributed **every Thursday** throughout the duration of the school year. I understand I am responsible for ensuring that my child does not consume food items he/she is allergic to. I also acknowledge that my child will bring home two (2) surveys during the school year that I will complete and return to the school.

PLEASE PRINT:

Child's Name: _____ Parent/Guardian Name: _____

School Name: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

HEALTH/PE – All Students:

Beginning on November 5th, 2018 our Physical Education classes will be participating in an in-house skating program.

Students will also learn basic skating skills such as starting, stopping, forward skating, backward skating, cornering, and a number of safety tips for being a smart skater.

The fee for this unit is \$10. This fee includes delivery and pickup of the skates, knee pads, elbow pads, and wrist guards for at least 5 days of skating during normal Physical Education class.

Please have your child return the bottom portion of their permission slip with their shoe size and money **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY OCTOBER 5TH!** The permission slip should be turned in to Mrs. Nowacki. The skates will be delivered directly to the school. Due to insurance purposes, we will be exclusively using SkateTime's skates. Students cannot bring skates from home for this unit.

Skating provides a variety of benefits, which include balance, coordination, motor skills, and a cardio-respiratory workout.



Twenty-First Century Scholars

LAST CHANCE TO ENROLL – YOUR 8TH GRADE YEAR

Indiana started the Twenty-First Century Scholars in 1990 to ensure that every student can afford a college education. **Income-eligible** 7th and 8th graders who enroll in the program and fulfill a **pledge of good citizenship** are guaranteed to receive up to four years of undergraduate tuition at any participating public college or university in Indiana. If you attend a private or independent institution, the state will award an amount comparable to that of a public institution.

To apply for the 21st Century Scholars Program, your student must:

Be a resident of Indiana, both when applying and when receiving the scholarship (determined by the residency of the parent or legal guardian).

- Be one of the following:
 - o U.S. citizen or U.S. national (includes natives of American Samoa or Swain's Island)
 - o U.S. permanent resident who has an I-151, I-551 or I-551C (Alien Registration Receipt Card)
 - o A non-citizen with one of the following designations:
 - Refugee
 - Asylum Granted
 - Indefinite Parole and/or Humanitarian Parole
 - Cuban-Haitian Entrant, Status Pending
- Be enrolled in the 7th or 8th grade at an Indiana public or private school accredited by the Indiana Department of Education. Children in foster care may apply after the 8th grade. Homeschooled students are not eligible for the 21st Century Scholars program.
- Be a member of a family that meets the income eligibility guidelines. A student in foster care does not need to meet this requirement.

7th and 8th grade students and their parents must complete the application by June 30, 2019. Don't wait! Apply today at: www.scholars@che.IN.gov If you encounter problems applying, please contact the Scholars Helpline at (888) 528-4719.

2017-2018 Income Guidelines

Household Size & Maximum Annual Income

2	\$30,451	5	\$54,427
3	\$38,433	6	\$62,419
4	\$46,435	7 or more	Each additional person add \$7,992

If you have general questions or need to access the Internet, please notify Ms. Schalliol, JYMS Twenty-First Century Scholars Coordinator, at 254-361.



John J. Young Middle School
an affiliate of School City of Mishawaka
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Non-Profit Organization

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John Young Dates to Remember

October

- 4 P/T Conferences 12:00-7:15 p.m.
- 10 Fall Picture Re-takes, AM only
- 17 PTSA meeting, Lounge, 7:00 p.m.
- 19–22 Fall Break, No School
- 26 PTSA Halloween Dance, 3:30–5:00 p.m.

November

- 2 End of 2nd grading period
- 6 Recess Day, No School
- 7 Clubs Choice Fundraiser Delivery, SRA, 1:00–3:30 p.m. (Items must be picked up during this time)
- 9 Report Cards will be emailed to parents (Please make sure we have correct email addresses on file)
- 17 Regional Lego Competition, more details to come
- 20 All money is DUE no later than today from Clubs Choice Fundraiser
- 21–23 Thanksgiving Break

December

- 4 Band Concert, 7:30 p.m.
- 5 Orchestra Concert, 7:00 p.m.
- 11 Choir Concert, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 PTSA meeting, Lounge, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 End of 3rd grading period
- 24–31 Winter Break

January

- 1–4 Winter Break

View/download entire calendar on our website at
MishawakaSchools.com/jyms