

October 6, 2017

Dear Wood Memorial High School and Wood Memorial Junior High School parents, guardians, and community:

Greetings from the home of the Trojans!

On Wednesday, October 4, 2017, the Indiana Department of Education released the 2017 A – F Accountability Grades for Indiana Schools. Wood Memorial High School received a score of “A”, representing an improvement of two full letter grades. The high school was a “C” school in 2016.

Earning the status as an “A” school is certainly a great accomplishment, the result of laser focus on our core mission and values by students, instructors, staff, and parents. In particular, I am pleased for our children and instructors to be recognized with such an honor.

The improved high school score is a direct result of the modified accountability formula implemented in the state two years ago. The Growth Domain, which measures student assessment growth in year – over – year comparison, provided the high school with a positive impact on its’ scorecard. This was the first time that this domain was calculated for Indiana high schools.

Another positive impact for Wood Memorial, as well as other high schools in the state, was the decision to provide a grace period around meeting the new federal mandate (Every Student Succeeds Act) removing the inclusion of general diploma students for a schools graduation rate calculation. For this year’s accountability, the 2016 graduation rate data was utilized.

Without question, this year’s rating provides an indication of the impact of our growing focus on providing a rigorous and relevant instructional environment, built on the establishment of positive and effective relationships. While taking great pride in our “A” high school it is important to recognize that much work remains for all of us, as we continue to work to eliminate mediocrity as a goal for the education of our students. For the educational growth and development of our children we must settle for nothing but greatness.

Wood Memorial Junior High School received a “C” accountability score for 2017, a drop from the “B” rating attained in 2016. The drop was directly related to a lower score in the Growth Domain area for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. This resulted in a reduction of 9.3% of the junior high school point total, in year – over – year comparison. WMJHS was only four points away from earning a “B”.

There is no question we all would have preferred not to have had the drop in our score, however I do believe that we have an opportunity to recover in 2018.

Congratulations to Ms. Kenzie Tooley, selected as Wood Memorial's 2017 Fall Homecoming Queen and to Ms. Emily Smith, voted as Maid of Honor. We had an outstanding group of individuals in this year's homecoming court and all were deserving of the honor.

A reminder that the first grading period ends on Wednesday, October 11, 2017. Students should work to ensure that any missing assignments are completed and turned in to the respective instructor.

A total of 14 colleges were a part of the 2017 College Fair on October 5, 2017. Those in attendance were Ball State University, Ivy Tech Community College, the University of Southern Indiana, Indiana State University, Vincennes University, Franklin College, Indiana Wesleyan University, Marian University, Oakland City University, Wabash Valley College, Brescia College, Vincennes Beauty College, the University of Evansville, and Hanover College.

During the evening individuals in attendance were able to obtain information from the respective college and / or university, while learning about some very important information regarding college searches. A financial aid presentation completed the evening.

Thank you to everyone who took part and attended this year's event.

The final class visit to a college campus was conducted on Tuesday, October 2, when the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students traveled to the University of Southern Indiana. I received nothing but positive feedback from students and parents, as related to the opportunities to see a university campus these trips provided our children. The intent is to schedule similar visits on an annual basis.

For individuals visiting our high school and/or our junior high school, you must report directly to the respective office in order to be authorized to enter the facility. Visitors are required to sign in and be given an authorization card for access to the high school and/or the junior high school. All individuals must be escorted through the facility. Anyone entering our facility must do so through the main high school and main junior high school entrance, the breezeway entrance may not be used.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Information of interest:

- Information on how to join your respective class Remind and Schoology accounts has been posted to the Wood Memorial High School website. The accounts have been established as a communication and collaboration tool by the student services organization. By joining you will be able to receive pertinent information such as, scholarship opportunities, college admission dates, and much, much more. Please contact Ms. Hill or Ms. Carlton for assistance.

Thank you for all you do to support our students and the school – community.

Most Sincerely,

Kevin Smith

“Don’t be pushed by your problems. Be led by your dreams.”

- Kelly Ann Rothaus

## **UPCOMING SCHEDULE**

### **Friday, October 6, 2017**

FB vs. North Central 6:30pm

### **Saturday, October 7, 2017**

Girls Sectional Soccer Final at North Posey 7:00pm

### **Monday, October 9, 2017**

No Events Scheduled

### **Tuesday, October 10, 2017**

Student Picture Re - Takes

Red Cross Blood Drive

JHS Spell Bowl Practice Noon

Youth League Basketball Meeting 5:30pm

Lecture Room

### **Wednesday, October 11, 2017**

End of First Grading Period

PSAT Assessment

Biology Field Trip – Patoka National Wildlife Refuge 8:00am

Athletic Honor Jacket Ordering 5:00pm – 6:30pm

### **Thursday, October 12, 2017**

Start of Second Grading Period

NHS Meeting 7:30am

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Sensation 8:00am

HS Spell Bowl Team Practice 11:31am

Volleyball Sectional

WM vs. Northeast Dubois, at Tecumseh 6:30pm

### **Friday, October 13, 2017**

Reconnecting Youth Field Trip 8:00am

JHS Girls Basketball Callout Meeting Noon

FB at Crawford County 6:30pm

### **Saturday, October 14, 2017**

Volleyball Sectional Semi – Finals/Championship

At Tecumseh

### **Additional Dates of Note**

Accuplacer – Part 1

October 2, 2017 –  
November 22, 2017

JHS Spell Bowl Team Practice

October 17, 2017

WMHS Athletic Council Meeting

October 17, 2017

6:00pm

JHS Conference Room	
Varsity Coaches	
HS Spell Bowl Team Practice	October 19, 2017
2017 – 2018 National Honor Society Induction	October 23, 2017
6:00pm	
JHS Spell Bowl Team Practice	October 24, 2017
WMHS Lip Sync Night	October 24, 2017
Blue Chip Conference All Conference Selection Meeting	October 25, 2017
Makerspace 4-H Spark Club	October 26, 2017
WM Cafeteria – 9am – 3pm	
Individuals in grades 3 – 8	
Fall Break	October 26, 27, 2017
Jostens – Senior Graduation Order	October 30, 2017
Senior Area Spell Bowl	October 30, 2017
JHS Spell Bowl Team Practice	October 31, 2017
JHS Area Spell Bowl	November 1, 2017
Boys BB Inter-squad Games	November 4, 2017
2pm	
Alumni BB Game	November 4, 2017
6pm	
ISTEP Retest	December 4, 2017 – December 15, 2017
Grade 10	
ECA – Winter	December 4, 2017 – December 15, 2017
Jostens – Freshman Class Rings/Senior Graduation Items	December 7, 2017
ISTAR	January 15, 2018 – February 16, 2018
Grades 3 – 8, 10	
ELA/Math/Science/Social Studies	
National Assessment of Educational Progress	January 29, 2018 – March 9, 2018
Grades 4 and 8	
Digital Based	
Math, Reading, Writing, US History, Civics, and Geography	
Accuplacer – Part 2	February 12, 2018 – March 30, 2018
Red Cross Blood Drive	February 23, 2018
ISTEP Part 1	February 26, 2018 – March 9, 2018
Academic Banquet	April 6, 2018
ISTAR	April 16, 2018 – May 18, 2018
ISTEP Part 2	April 16, 2018 – May 4, 2018
ECA – Spring	April 23, 2018 – May 25, 2018
Senior Honors Night	May 10, 2018
6:00pm	

2018 Graduation  
ECA – Summer 1

ECA – Summer 2

TBD  
June 21, 2018 – June 27,  
2018  
August 23, 2018 – August  
29, 2018

## **NOTES from STAFF and/or THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY**

### **From Mr. Steve Kilian, Administrative Assistant/Athletic Director**

#### **IHSAA Student-Athlete Tip of the Week (10-2-17)**

##### **"Promoting education based athletics in Indiana"**

Playing sports can be rewarding and frustrating. It's actually a microcosm of life. You will always be faced with challenges and trying to come up with solutions to solve those challenges. One thing is for sure: there will be more delayed gratification than most prefer. During your freshman and sophomore year, your progress takes patience and time. Those small steps of improvement and development aren't always rewarded.

Can you remain patient? Most high school student-athletes won't reach their full potential until their junior or senior seasons. It's very challenging to wait for that opportunity. The competition gets tougher and tougher. The workouts are harder and harder.

Those that make it through and end up participating in junior varsity and varsity sports will look back someday and realize more gratification and enjoyment than you ever experienced while you were participating. The lessons learned will influence you more than you ever expected!

*All content property of Billy Shepherd Sports*

### **From Johnnie Bartley, Technology Instructional Coordinator**

Students are reminded that they must bring their iPad to school, charged and ready for use daily.

### **From Ms. Beth Hill, Student Services**

Information is available in Student Services for students interested in taking the ACT and SAT assessments this year. Information is also available for seniors interested in attending USI and Ball State (Architecture, Landscape Design, and Urban Development), and senior girls interested in exploring engineering at Purdue. The Purdue Women in Engineering Program is hosting a free program on Monday, October 16, at Purdue. Flyers are available.

### **From Ms. Kelly Carlton, Student Services**

The following college admissions information is provided for the awareness of our students:

<b>College/University</b>	<b>Admissions Director</b>	<b>Phone #</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
University of Southern Indiana	Rashad Smith	800-467-1965	August 15st (fall)
Indiana University - Bloomington	Mami Blair	812 -855-0661	Nov 1 Priority
Indiana University - Southeast	Chris Crews	800- 852-8835	Rolling
Vincennes University	Heidi Whitehead	800- 742-9198	Open
Vincennes University -Jasper Campus	Karen Mundy	800- 809-8852	Open
Oakland City University	Harrison Campbell	812- 749-1222	Open
Purdue University	Mitch Warren	765- 494-1776	Oct 15 1st Notif. March 1 - Priority
Ivy Tech, Evansville	Denise Johnson-Kincaid	888- 489-5463	Rolling
University of Evansville	Kenton Hargis	833- 232-6223	Dec. 1 Early August Aug fall sem
Indiana State University	Richard Toomey	800- 468-6478	June 1st
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis	Mike Donahue	317- 274-4591	May 1st
Western Kentucky University	Jace Lux	800- 495-8463	August 1st
Owensboro Community College	Judy Coomes	877- 734-0694	August 15th
Brescia University	Chris Houk	877- 273-7242	Rolling
Kentucky Wesleyan	Matthew Ruark	800- 999-0592	Rolling
Harrison College	Heather Walls, Pres.	888- 500-1026	Fast Track - same year as graduate
Olivet Nazarene University	Erinn Proehl	800- 648-1463	Rolling
Ball State University	Christopher Munchel	800- 382-8540	Nov 15 Priority Dec 1 full schol.



**From Chris Tanner, Trojan Academy Coordinator**

For students enrolled in our on-line courses through Plato, a modification has been made to allow for visibility to the current pacing and course grade. The information is available on the respective student's home screen during login. The pacing is based off of the course end date...ie..December 20, 2017.

As a reference, the current grade defines the coursework completed and scored to date, while the course grade represents the overall grade based on all activities within the course (complete and incomplete).

Students will see pacing status on the learner home page. This view provides students with more information on their course performance, empowering them to be proactive decision makers when working in Courseware.

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**Mr. Michael White, Music Director**

Congratulations Choir on a Job well done at Choral Festival !!

On Tuesday September 26, The Wood Memorial High School Choir attended the Southwest Indiana Choral Festival. The Festival was held at Eastern Greene High School in Bloomfield, Indiana. Our students joined students from eight other Southern Indiana Schools for this event. Students rehearsed the music together during the day and then performed for the public in a performance the same evening.

Schools involved in this year's Choral Festival, included:

- Barr Reeve High School
- Bloomfield High School
- Eastern Greene High School
- North Central High School
- North Daviess High School
- North Knox High School
- Shakamak High School
- White River Valley High School
- Wood Memorial High School

You can hear a sample of the music that was performed at the Choral Festival by liking the Wood Memorial Choirs page on Facebook. We were fortunate enough to be able to record two of our favorite selections, “The Awakening” and Ring Them Bells”.

**From Ms. Nancy Gehlhausen, Patoka River Wildlife Refuge Director**

Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge Appreciation Day - A World of Waters and Wildlife

Join the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge as they celebrate “A World of Waters and Wildlife” at their annual Refuge Appreciation Day on Saturday, October 28 from 9 am until 2 pm (CT) at Wirth Park in Oakland City, IN.

View and learn about the different kinds of fish, taken from the Patoka Refuge waters, that will be on display in the ORSANCO 2000 gallon fish tank. See a live birds of prey presentation by Talon Trust, and learn about “Archeology in your Community” presented by Rachel Sarkey from the IDNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology. For the history buffs, Preston Richardt will present a program on the Wabash & Erie Canal that will be followed by a bus tour to the canal location on Refuge property. There will also be a bus tour of the Patoka River NWR guided by a Refuge staff member. Information will be available for those wishing to do a self-guided driving tour of the Refuge.

More than 20 organizations are sponsoring booths this year. Come learn about nature, the environment, and conservation. Try your hand at casting a fly rod with members of the Ohio Valley Fly Rod Club. Bring your artifacts for identification. See an active bee hive, raptors, and box turtles. A variety of craft activities will be available for children. Free native bare-root seedlings will be available while supplies last.

Food by the Backyard Boyz BBQ and fish by the Oakland City Eagles Lodge will be available for purchase. The event and parking are free and open to the public. To learn more about the event visit [www.patokarefugefriends.org](http://www.patokarefugefriends.org) or via Facebook.