

October 27, 2017

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

Greetings from the home of the Trojans!

There have been a number of successes experienced during the first ten (10) plus weeks of school this fall. On Wednesday afternoon, October 25, 2017, Wood Memorial High School and Wood Memorial Junior High School took the opportunity to pay tribute to those individuals working to create success for our students with a fall celebration at the end of the school day.

During the agenda, Mr. White and our band performed a number of songs, including the school song. The Wood Memorial music department continues to grow, in both numbers and talent, with a terrific group of individuals taking part in ensuring this area of fine arts develops into an integral part of school culture.

Members of the 2017 – 2018 National Honor Society class were introduced. Joining the organization this year were: Canyon Duncan, Chloe Mowery, Ryan Memmer, Jaiden Maikranz, Adison Stone, and Gretchen Reel. Congratulations to these outstanding individuals.

Ms. Shuler and her Spell Bowl team accomplishments were recognized during the program. The spell bowl members have area competitions coming up on October 30 for the high school and November 1 for junior high school. Ms. Shuler does a great job in her role as sponsor and I wish them the very best of luck in the upcoming events.

Wood Memorial was well represented at the 2017 Mole Day activities, with senior Walker Nurrenbern earning a second place overall finish, while classmates Austin Adler and Cori Pflug were recognized with first place class; and the team of Nurrenbern Emma Reel, and Remington Wilkinson came in fourth.

Perhaps the best part of the program was the introduction and participation of our new instructors – Nick Berry, Kelly McDivitt, Luke Messmer, Chris Tanner, Stacey Strickland, Pat Douglas, Alec Hensley, and Cassie Scraper. They took part in a competition against our students. Needless to say, youthful vigor played a key part in the outcome.

The newest instructor at Wood Memorial is Ms. Kelly McDivitt. Ms. McDivitt joins us on October 12, 2017 and is serving as instructor for our eighth grade English classes.

I appreciate the efforts of Ms. Shelly Casey and everyone involved with ensuring a fun time for our students and staff as everyone headed off to fall break.

With the completion of our fall sports seasons I would like to take this opportunity to express how proud I am of all of our coaches and student – athletes. The Trojan sports teams represented the values of education – based athletics at high levels throughout the fall. Wood Memorial is

fortunate to have a dedicated and professional group of varsity coaches to oversee our student – athletes.

With this, I would like to take this opportunity to share my appreciation to coach Whitney Powers. Ms. Powers has decided to step away from her position as varsity volleyball coach in order to focus on the birth of her first child. Whitney embodies the values of character, leadership, trust, professionalism, and selfless servant in everything she does. I pray that God provides his Grace, Patience, Love, and Protection to coach Powers, her husband, and their future angel always. What a joy he is bringing to their lives.

A shout out to coach Johnnie Bartley for his work in coordinating another successful Lip Sync program this fall. There were a number of terrific performances Tuesday night, with the group “Substitute Teacher” claiming the 2017 title. The group, led by Gretchen Reel put on a terrific performance. Thank you to the school – community for supporting our students in this event.

Congratulations to Wood Memorial High School sophomore Luke Price for being named to the 2017 All – Southwest Conference football team. Luke had an outstanding season for the Trojans and this honor is very much deserved.

In keeping with the commitment to ensure our students have every opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills, the Wood Memorial Junior High School instructional staff has identified an enhanced strategy, aimed at providing tutoring and other lesson assistance to students in grades seven and eight. Beginning the week of October 23, 2017, our junior high school instructors will be assigning students for tutoring assistance around the subjects of math, English, Science, social studies, and Health. Further, students who have not turned in assignments, thus accepting a 0 for a score, will be assigned for additional assistance in completing the respective assignment, in order to gain credit.

The above strategy will be executed during Trojan Pride, each Tuesday (math and Science) and Thursday (English and social studies). A parent or student wanting to request tutoring assistance may do so by contacting the respective instructor.

I want to acknowledge the proactive approach of our junior high school instructional staff in recognizing a need, collaborating, and putting together what I believe is a great opportunity for the students.

A similar strategy is being visited for the high school.

Fall Break will be held on Thursday, October 26, 2017, and Friday, October 27, 2017. Our students and staff have been working with a laser focus on the educational goals we have at Wood Memorial, with all deserving of a relaxing and enjoyable vacation.

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:

- There will be a career and technical education open house on Tuesday, November 28, 2017. The event will be held from 6 – 8pm (EST), at Pike Central High School.
- A reminder, as outlined in the East Gibson School Corporation Policies and Procedures, the Wood Memorial High School and Wood Memorial Junior High School adhere to the Closed Campus philosophy identified in the above referenced policies and procedures. Upon arrival to school, a student may not leave without approval of the building principal and being signed out by the respective parent.
- The Elks National Hoop Shoot is just around the corner, with Wood Memorial Junior High School once again taking part. The event, for students ages 8 – 13, will be a part of the JHS physical education classes in the near future. More to come from coach Messmer.
- 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

“You are only as strong as your purpose, therefore choose reasons to act that are big, bold, and eternal.”

- Barry Munro

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Fall Break

Gibson County Purdue Extension 4H Program
Cafeteria

9:00am – 3:00pm

Friday, October 27, 2017

Fall Break

Saturday, October 28, 2017

Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge Appreciation Day

9:00am

Monday, October 30, 2017

Red Ribbon Spirit Day – PJ Pants – Follow Your Dreams by Being Drug Free

Jostens – Senior Graduation Product Ordering

11:31am

High School Area Spell Bowl

5:00pm

Tuesday, October 31, 2017

Red Ribbon Spirit Day – Black and Orange (No Halloween Costumes) – Hocus Pocus, Drugs Aren't Our Focus

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Red Ribbon Spirit Day – Red Day – Put a Stop To Drugs

JHS Area Spell Bowl

5:00pm

Jasper Middle School

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Red Ribbon Spirit Day – Throwback Thursday – Drugs Are Old School

SAC Meeting

11:31am

Friday, November 3, 2017

Green and Gold – Our School Chooses to be Drug Free

Science Field Trip – Vincennes University

8:00am

Staff PLC Session

8:00am

Fall Senior Pride Day

8:30am

Girls BB at Perry Central

5:30pm

Saturday, November 4, 2017

Boys BB Inter-squad Games

2:00pm

Alumni BB Game

6:00pm

Additional Dates of Note

Accuplacer – Part 1

October 2, 2017 –

November 22, 2017

Veterans Day Program

November 10, 2017

Staff PLC

November 10, 2017

Explore IU Day 9am – 3pm Whittenberger Auditorium – Indiana Memorial Union	November 11, 2017
Principal Open Office Hours	November 14, 2017
7 th Grade High Ability Assessment Periods 1 - 4	November 15, 2017
HS Student Council Meeting	November 15, 2017
7 th Grade High Ability Assessment Periods 1 - 3	November 16, 2017
7 th Grade High Ability Assessment Trojan Pride – Period 7	November 17, 2017
WMJHS Spelling Bee	November 21, 2017
Thanksgiving Break	November 22, 23, 24, 2017
Bass Fishing Team Meeting 3:30pm	November 30, 2017
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 ISTAR Grades 3 – 8, 10 ELA/Math/Science/Social Studies	December 7, 2017 January 15, 2018 – February 16, 2018
National Assessment of Educational Progress Grades 4 and 8 Digital Based Math, Reading, Writing, US History, Civics, and Geography	January 29, 2018 – March 9, 2018
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 ISTAR	April 6, 2018 April 16, 2018 – May 18, 2018
ISTEP Part 2 ECA – Spring	April 16, 2018 – May 4, 2018 April 23, 2018 – May 25, 2018
Physics AP Assessment	May 8, 2018
English 12 AP Assessment	May 9, 2018
US History AP Assessment	May 11, 2018
Calculus AP Assessment	May 15, 2018
English 11 AP Assessment	May 16, 2018
Senior Honors Night 6:00pm	May 10, 2018

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 (10-23-17)

"Promoting education based athletics in Indiana"

A famous fisherman once said that "If I wasn't fishing, I was thinking about fishing." In other words, fishing was always on his mind.

As a student-athlete, what is on your mind, spending your days at school and your afternoons practicing or preparing for your sport? What about your time away from school? Are you focused on the important things in your life? Are you thinking about how you can improve your grades? Are you thinking about what you need to do in order to be better at your sport? Are you trying to be a stand-up citizen? Are you doing the right things to refresh your body and mind? Thinking about the right things and then doing the right things can go a long way towards your success in the classroom, sports, and life in general. Otherwise, it's easy to get sidetracked and lose your focus on what is really important!

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

Ivy Tech College will be hosting a "Go Ivy Day" on Friday, October 27, 2017.

Here is the agenda for Go Ivy Day:

9:00-9:30 - Admissions presentation

9:30-9:40 - Student Life Presentation

9:45-10:05 - school presentation/tour

10:10-10:30 - school presentation/tour

10:35-10:55 - school presentation/tour

11:00-11:20 - school presentation/tour

11:25-11:55 - school presentation/tour

12:00-1:00 - lunch/resource fair

Student Four – Year Planning meetings are now underway with junior students and/or parents. If you would like to schedule a time to discuss your child's plan, please connect the high school for an appointment.

From Helen Peck, Ivy Tech College Connection Coach

Here some information you may find helpful for the upcoming College Goal Sunday, scheduled for Sunday, November 5, 2017, 2 p.m. (local time)

What is College Goal Sunday?

College Goal Sunday is an event held at 39 sites across Indiana that provides FREE FAFSA filing assistance to Hoosier families. At College Goal Sunday, now in its 29th year, financial aid

professionals from Indiana colleges and universities help students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students seeking federal and state grants, loans and scholarships, MUST complete the form. The FAFSA is the most important financial aid form and MUST be received by the federal processor on or before April 15, 2017 for Indiana residents to be eligible for state aid.

Why is College Goal Sunday important?

Completing the FAFSA form is sometimes perceived to be complex and confusing. College Goal Sunday makes the process easier by delivering FREE, expert assistance to families in their own communities and helps ensure that students get the help they need to qualify for financial aid.

When and where is College Goal Sunday?

College Goal Sunday 2017 will take place at 2 p.m. (local time) Sunday, November 5, at 39 sites throughout the state. To find the site(s) nearest you, refer to the locations tab on CollegeGoalSunday.org.

Who should attend College Goal Sunday?

College Goal Sunday is geared toward all who will qualify for admission to a college or technical school in 2018 such as Indiana high school seniors, current college students and adult learners. Basically anyone who would like help completing the FAFSA!

What should students bring to College Goal Sunday?

Below are the items a student needs to bring to complete their FAFSA. Information should be for the student and if applicable the parent(s).

- ✓ FSA ID username and password. Create your FSA ID at fsaid.ed.gov. Student and a parent (if applicable) need a FSA ID to sign the FAFSA form!
- ✓ 2016 tax returns
- ✓ 2016 W-2 Forms
- ✓ Current investment and bank records

How can 21st Century Scholars benefit from College Goal Sunday?

21st Century Scholars are income-eligible students who sign a contract in the seventh or eighth grade promising they will graduate from high school, meet grade point requirements, fulfill a pledge of good citizenship, and apply for college financial aid. Upon high school graduation, Scholars who have fulfilled the commitment and demonstrate financial need (based off FAFSA) receive state funds to help cover their college tuition and regularly assessed fees for eight semesters at eligible Indiana colleges. To fulfill their pledge, scholars MUST submit a completed FAFSA form on time. College Goal Sunday can help.

How does the College Goal Sunday scholarship prize drawing work?

At College Goal Sunday, in addition to help filing the FAFSA, students may also win a \$1,000 scholarship! Five scholarships are available and students who attend any of the College Goal Sunday sites and submit a completed evaluation form will automatically be entered in a drawing for one of the \$1,000 scholarships. The winners will be notified in December and prizes will be sent directly to the higher education institution selected by the winning students.

Who sponsors College Goal Sunday?

College Goal Sunday is a cooperative, charitable effort of the Indiana Student Financial Aid Association (ISFAA). The program is provided in cooperation with the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, and is funded by Lilly Endowment, Inc. and INvestEd.

How is College Goal Sunday inspiring other programs around the country?

College Goal Sunday originated right here in Indiana, and is now a national model. Following Indiana's example, College Goal Sunday events organized by 34 states have opened doors to higher education for hundreds of thousands of students all over the country.

From Ms. Kelly Carlton, Student Services

Indiana University's Office of Admissions is hosting an "Explore IU" event on Saturday, November 11, 2017. The on-campus event is designed for minority male juniors and seniors who want to learn more about Indiana University. The event will be held from 9:00am to 3:00pm (EST) at the Whittenberger Auditorium in the Indiana Memorial Union.

Wabash Valley College will be hosting an Open House on three dates, November 8, 2017; March 7, 2018; and April 4, 2018. Each event will be held in the Brubeck Arts Center, from 9:00am to 11:00am for anyone interested in continuing their education at Wabash Valley College.

For more information, or to register, contact student services at 618.262.8641.

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

College/University	Admissions Director	Phone #	DEADLINE
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.

The Indiana Trial Lawyers Association's College of Fellows and The Indiana Historical Society are sponsoring the 2017 Scholarship Essay Contest for members of the 2018 graduating classes. Entries are due by Sunday, December 17, 2017, with the winner being announced on Monday, February 19, 2018. The scholarship award will be for \$4,000.

The essay topic is, "Why is the right to trial by jury (the Seventh Amendment) critical to ensuring justice and democracy?"

For more information see Ms. Carlton, or Ms. Hill, in guidance.

From Chris Tanner, Trojan Academy Coordinator

In posting first quarter grades, for on-line coursework, a 40% threshold was used. This means that if a student had completed less than 40% of the semester coursework they received an incomplete on their grade card. If a student had completed over 40% of the semester coursework the current grade from their on-line course was posted on their grade card. The idea was that students should have completed at least 40% of the semester 1 coursework by the first quarter break or they were considered behind pace. If a student is below this 40% threshold they have until October 31, 2017, or two weeks, to get above this point so that a grade may be posted on their grade card in order to replace the incomplete.

Grading for on-line coursework is based on the following weighting system:

- 60% - Activities (Classwork)
- 20% - End of Unit Post Tests
- 20% - Final Exam

For classes that are not part of the Trojan Academy, such as Introduction to Agriculture and Spanish, supplemental work has been issued in addition to the on-line courseware. These supplemental activities are factored into the final grade along with the student's on-line work.

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.

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 or via Facebook.

Ms. Julie Elmore, Oakland City – Columbia Township Public Library

On Friday, October 27, 2017 students ages 12 and older may take part in our first ever breakout games event. There will be two sessions, the first beginning at noon and the second starting at 2:00pm. Each session is limited to the first 12 individuals in attendance.