

Mainstream

MVMS RENOVATION IS COMPLETE



Great News:



In my short tenure here I have learned many of the positive accolades Mt. Vernon has received, but I am exceptionally pleased and honored to announce that the Indiana Department of Education has awarded both the Mt. Vernon High School and McCordsville Elementary School a designation as Four Star Schools! Please

congratulate their students and staff for their outstanding work in receiving this achievement.

I've been serving the Mt. Vernon community for over three months and I can say that my time listening and learning about our wonderful community has been very enjoyable. I tell many friends and family that I'm enjoying every day as I meet more and more new stakeholders collectively working to serve the educational needs of our children.

One feature of my early days at Mt. Vernon includes a listening tour. I enjoyed meeting with individuals and several small groups while getting to know the hopes and dreams of those who most closely serve our students. With over 200 staff members volunteering their time to speak with me, I am overwhelmed with the positivity of our staff and their love for our students.

While I have also been out in the community quite a bit at various stakeholder meetings (e.g. the Chamber, Fortville Conveners' Meeting, Hancock Economic Development Council, among others), I am

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**CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR FOUR-STAR
SCHOOLS:
MT. VERNON HIGH
SCHOOL AND
MCCORDSVILLE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!**

MV Students Volunteer to Feed the Hungry!

SEE INSIDE ➤



MVMS Renovation

The Mt. Vernon Middle School (MVMS) now houses all three grade levels 6-8 for the first time in over seven years. An expansion at MVMS has brightened the Fortville campus by bringing a new International Cafe, 17 new classrooms, conference rooms, a community hall, and a fieldhouse.

AN OPEN HOUSE IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 4 AT 6 P.M.; any community member is welcome to attend. MVMS will have musical performances, former principals in attendance, and a presentation, followed by walking tours and a dinner in the International Cafe (for a small charge). See details posted on the MVMS website.

Sixth graders essentially received a new hallway, lockers and classrooms, providing another 21st century learning environment. Come out and see the new digs!

SEE PAGE 2 FOR MORE PHOTOS!



MVMS Renovations Complete

See Photos Below



Traveling Talks

with Superintendent
Dr. Jack Parker

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

MVCS's Superintendent Dr. Jack Parker has scheduled three "Traveling Talks" throughout the district in an effort to meet the community and engage in meaningful dialogue about Mt. Vernon Schools.

Dr. Parker states, "I am scheduling 'Traveling Talks' throughout the community where I can get to know parents and community members. These will continue throughout my tenure as I seek to learn the hopes and concerns of all stakeholders, including parents and other community members. Continual communication and collaboration is key to moving us to engage and empower our students through innovative learning experiences."

Anyone in the community is welcome to attend, grab their own lunch/dinner, and discuss Mt. Vernon's education, growth, and anything else desired. No RSVP is needed; just show up and look for the "Traveling Talks" table toppers.

APRIL 17 - 6 P.M.

SERO'S FAMILY RESTAURANT (CUMBERLAND)

MAY 7 - 6 P.M.

LOS MAGUELLES (FORTVILLE)

NEW SUPERINTENDENT *continued from page 1*

also enjoying engaging with parents at PTO and Booster Club meetings. In a continued effort to get to know more parents, we have launched a series of "Traveling Talks," which is an opportunity for anyone to sit down and discuss a variety of topics with me. There are two "Traveling Talks" left: April 17 and May 7. I very much encourage you to attend one of the meetings and to bring your questions...we teachers love questions!

We are working on a plan to facilitate a long term conversation about the future of Mt. Vernon schools; it will begin in the fall and last several months. We are a growing community and the

kids keep coming to our great schools, which is wonderful! Our plan focuses on providing basic information about how our schools function, as well as glean input from you on many factors that will influence our growth. Stay tuned to learn more about opportunities to have your voice heard and hear the perspectives of your community members, as we take the next steps in making a great school corporation even better!

Excited to be a Marauder,

Jack

Dr. Jack Parker, *Superintendent*

"Engage, Educate & Empower Today's Students"

Million Meals Movement MV Students Feed the Hungry

Student Council members from Mt. Vernon Middle School (MVMS), Fortville Elementary School (FES), and Mt. Vernon High School (MVHS) worked together to host a Million Meals Movement on Saturday, February 16th. Million Meals Movement is an organization that was created in 2007 with a two-fold vision: to feed the hungry and promote volunteerism. The Mt. Vernon community packed a total of 15,000 meals that will be distributed to central Indiana residents, making Mt. Vernon's first district meal packing event a success!

MVMS has a goal of becoming a Gold Council with the Indiana Student Council Association; part of this criteria entails working on a project with another student council in the district. MVCSC students began with raising roughly \$3,000 through various methods, and an additional \$1,000 was provided by Million Meals Movement for the food that was packed at the event.

A senior at MVHS and member of Student Government and National Honor Society, Cleo Mills, states, "It's really inspiring to see a community come together like this for such



an amazing cause. I'm happy to see Mt. Vernon students so eager to serve others."

Senior Emme Longman adds, "Times like these are when I feel the most proud to be a Marauder."

MVCSC hopes to continue to work with Million Meals Movement in the future and looks forward to more volunteer opportunities with students and staff members.



and fundraising that supports the Special Olympics. MVMS has received this honor through fundraising, participation in Unified Champions field day, and Marauder Movement.

Mrs. Laura During, Director of Special Education, shared, "It is exciting to see our Middle School students receive recognition for their exemplary leadership and respect for one another. We are proud of all of their efforts and accomplishments. #WeRMV!"

MVMS was presented with a banner to congratulate their efforts by the Director of Programs at Special Olympics, Mr. Mike Hasch.

MVMS Receives Unified Champion Honor

Mt. Vernon Middle School (MVMS) is one of the six middle schools in the state to receive an award from Champions Together in the Middle for the 2017-18 school year. Champions Together in the Middle is a partnership between the Indiana Middle-Level Education Association and Special Olympics Indiana.

The award recognizes that MVMS has done exemplary work regarding student leadership, respect for people with disabilities, inclusion, Unified Sports participation,

EverFi Experience

**MT. VERNON
MIDDLE SCHOOL WAS
SELECTED AMONG 61 MIDDLE
SCHOOLS IN INDIANA AS
THE SOLE RECIPIENT OF THE
FINANCIAL FIELD DAY**



MVMS 7th Grader Jaden Gibson receives his \$1,000 509 Savings Plan Scholarship, presented by MassMutual Foundation representatives.

MassMutual Foundation and EverFi representatives collectively chose Mt. Vernon Middle School as the recipient due to, in large part, the enthusiasm of the Family and Consumer Science (FACS) Teacher, Mrs. D'Lee Rush. "Mrs. Rush is so instrumental. She is so passionate and has been so heavily involved in her partnership with EverFi," says MassMutual Managing Partner, Gregory McRoberts.

Mt. Vernon Middle School (MVMS) partnered with MassMutual Foundation, an organization that sponsors the FutureSmart digital course powered by EverFi, for a Financial Field Day. A group of MVMS students participated in a program over the course of a few weeks that helped them to recognize the importance of financial literacy. The curriculum ended with a special Financial Field Day lead by EverFi representatives who provided interactive group activities that corresponded with what they learned in the digital course.

Some of the important financial lessons that students had the opportunity to learn more about during the Financial Field Day included differentiating between wants vs. needs, identifying fixed vs. variable costs, filling out an interactive pay stub, calculating insurance costs, and planning for a variety of career options.

One lucky student, 7th grader Jaden Gibson, was awarded a \$1,000 529 Savings Plan Scholarship to help fund his post-secondary education. Other students have another opportunity to earn a 529 Plan Scholarship by submitting an essay about their FutureSmart experience to the EverFi Essay Contest.

Principal Ben Williams stated, "Mrs. Rush's dedication to her students in furthering their financial literacy, and eventually their success, is commendable and we are so proud of her initiatives. She exemplifies the caring side of teachers that put students first."



EverFi representatives lead activities on being financially responsible.

Demographic Study and Enrollment Growth

MVCSC recently commissioned a demographic study to provide enrollment growth projections based on a multitude of research. In short, the demographic study projects MVCSC will maintain a steady and similar growth of students through the next ten years. At the same time, a budget analysis and sustainable long-term financial plan are being developed to maintain our fiscal solvency.

The MVCSC School Board of Trustees takes many variables into consideration when making their decision on whether to continue or modify the no-acceptance policy for out-of-district/transfer students. These variables include the demographic study, the budget, building capacities and a variety of other factors. Out-of-district parents/guardians interested in having their children attend Mt. Vernon should contact the school after the April 15 board meeting (or visit MVCSC webpage) to see if the School Board has chosen to modify or keep the no-acceptance policy the same for the 2019-2020 school year.

"Engage, Educate & Empower Today's Students"

MVEF Events!

Black and Gold Gala

The Mt. Vernon Education Foundation (MVEF) is proud to introduce the "Black and Gold Gala." Join over 250 guests as we engage the community's spirit of generosity to ensure the continuation of a top-notch "A" school district.

All proceeds help enrich the educational experiences, programs and initiatives of our students and teachers in the Mt. Vernon Community School District.

For more information or to purchase tickets go to <https://www.universe.com/mvef19gala>



**SATURDAY
APRIL 13, 2019**

**6:30 PM - MIDNIGHT
INDIANAPOLIS
DOWNTOWN MARRIOTT**



FEATURED MT. VERNON SCHOOL: Mt. Vernon Middle School Snapshot

**INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
FOUR STAR SCHOOL – 9 TIMES TOTAL**

- STEM Certified by the Indiana Department of Education – 2018
- 2017-2018 Attendance Rate – 97%
- \$10 Million Renovation Featuring a New Fieldhouse, 17 Collaborative Classrooms and Community Hall
- Student Council Named "Honor Council" for 13 Straight Years
- All Students have their own Chromebook
- Girls Soccer Team Undefeated – 2014, 2013, 2012
- Cheerleaders Won 8th Place in National Cheer Finals – 2017
- Cheerleaders Won Junior High Annual IASP State Championships – 2016, 2014, 2012, 2011
- Science Academic Team Received Top 10 Award – 2015
- Social Studies Academic Team Received Top 10 Award for 13 straight years, State Champ – 2016
- 7th/8th Grade Dance Team Placed 1st in Pom & Jazz Division at Invitational – 2017, 2016
- Wrestling Team Undefeated and Won Hoosier Heritage Conference – 2015-2016
- 6th Grade Boys Basketball Team Undefeated – 2016-2017
- Indiana State Geography Bee Qualifier – 2017, 2016
- Academic Competitions Available Including All Core Subjects
- 18 Clubs or Extracurricular Opportunities, in Addition to 17 Athletic Teams
- Enriching "Walk on Water" 8th Grade Science Project
- Video Surveillance and High-Tech Safety Features
- English Language Learners (ELL) Assistance Program
- Speech/Language, Special Education and Sensory Room, High Ability, & Social Worker Programs

(PER THE LATEST STATISTICS FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION)

BEN WILLIAMS, PRINCIPAL

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twitter.com/MtVernon_MS

facebook.com/MtVernonMiddleSchool

instagram.com/Mt.Vernon_MS



Geist Half Marathon Saturday, May 18

**JOIN THE MT. VERNON COMMUNITY
& RECEIVE \$10 OFF THE GEIST 5K RACE!**

**REGISTER
TODAY!**

www.GeistHalf.com/Schools
Click "Register Here for 5K"
Click "Student Registration"
Use Access Code: student

- Each registrant receives a MVEF and Geist Marathon t-shirt.
- Parents participate in the same race as the child and select the appropriate MV school during registration.
- FREE registration for students who receive free or reduced lunch.
- Race packets are distributed to the school selected in registration.

Funds raised through participation in these races will support the MVEF's grants, programs and initiatives for Mt. Vernon students and staff. The MVEF partnership with the Geist Half Marathon provides MVEF a vital tool in raising dollars to help offset costs of MVCSC's physical and mental wellness programs.

Did you know?!? The elementary schools and the middle school have an active walking/running club that will culminate at the Geist Marathon 5K.

Mt. Vernon will have a tent with snacks after the event! Just look for the MVEF banner.



MT. VERNON

COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

1806 W. State Rd 234, Fortville, IN 46040

Facebook.com/MtVernonSchoolDistrict

Twitter.com/MVCSC_District

www.mvcsc.k12.in.us



Kindergarten Registration – April 8, 9, 11

Register at ANY of the three sites, for any of the three elementary schools. It is imperative to have all Kindergarten students register so the schools may prepare enough teachers to keep the class size low.

On or before August 1, 2019 students must be 5 years old to attend kindergarten.

Registration Dates and Locations:

- **MONDAY, APRIL 8, NOON - 7 P.M. – MCCORDSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
- **TUESDAY, APRIL 9, NOON - 7 P.M. – FORTVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
- **THURSDAY, APRIL 11, NOON - 7 P.M. – MT. COMFORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

At registration, be sure to enroll your child in the **Hancock County Promise** and receive up to \$50 for your child's FREE CollegeChoice 529 Direct Account!

To make the process quicker, the online portion of kindergarten registration will be open **after April 5**. Attendance is still necessary at the registration events.

- **New in-district Mt. Vernon families** can register their kindergarten student for next year **after April 5** by visiting <https://bit.ly/2Uj7VcD>.
- **Current Mt. Vernon families** wishing to register a new kindergarten student should log into their Skyward Family Access and click on the "New Student Online Enrollment" tab **after April 5**.

WHAT TO BRING:

- **Student**
(they will be screened for vision, hearing, and academic skills)
- **Copy of Birth Certificate**
- **Copy of Immunization Records**
- **Proof of Residency**
(utility bill, mortgage statement, HUD statement or lease agreement)
- **Parent/Guardian Driver's License or State Issued Identification Card**
- **Copy of Court Papers**
(if there is any pertinent custody information)
- **Student's Individual Education Plan (IEP)**
(if applicable)

See Inside!!
MV STUDENTS VOLUNTEER TO FEED THE HUNGRY