

A LEGACY OF HONORING OTHERS

The Cory family “bleeds green.” In fact, four generations of Cory Trojans have graced the Fieldhouse. When Tom Cory was five years old, he walked into the Fieldhouse to experience the very first home game. Immediately, he fell in love with New Castle athletics. After graduating in 1971 with three varsity letters and an All NCC football title, Cory circled back from college to teach as the middle school’s Industrial Tech Instructor and coached 60 seasons of NC sports.

Since 2008, Cory has taken on the responsibility of daily opening the Fieldhouse for morning community walkers. In walking around the track thousands of times, Cory found a new passion, preserving the history of New Castle’s athletic champions.



Cory points to his daughter’s three photos in the gallery; Erica earned 10 varsity letters while at NCHS.

In 2015, Tom Cory, his wife Sharon, daughter Erica, and a few kind volunteers took it upon themselves to reorganize the Fieldhouse’s photo gallery of exceptional athletes. The photos run chronologically around the Fieldhouse from 1960 to the present, and Cory’s team has spent hundreds of hours labeling, framing and hanging the 1,500 pictures.

The pandemic slowed down the addition of multiple photos, but Nantz Photography in New Castle has stepped in to honor the missing seniors’ headshots. Cory says the project will be finalized by fall of 2022. The photos will continue to fill the walls until 2030 and then will be shrunk down into 5x7s to make room for the next 70 years of champions. “But that,” Cory says with a wink, “will be someone else’s project!”



Tom Cory, looking over the Fieldhouse, sitting in the exact spot he first encountered Trojan basketball at age five.

HIGH SCHOOL AGRICULTURE CLASS GROWING IN MANY WAYS



Noah Brown, the high school’s new agriculture teacher, excitedly shared progress of the new department. “We have done everything from learning to identify local trees and fish to growing vegetables using hydroponics.” Many students are new to agriculture and enjoy hands-on learning.

Awarded a grant from the TASC and the Henry County Community Foundations, Mr. Brown purchased portable greenhouses and a hydroponics tower for the classroom. Students can cultivate every day regardless of the weather.

Looking ahead, an outdoor greenhouse at NCHS is the goal, utilized by both middle and high school students. Not only would a greenhouse allow students to work with a variety of plants each day, but it would also allow students to experience the ownership and responsibility of running a large-scale operation. Selling



Kenzie Foga, the Agriculture Club president, with the newly purchased hydroponics equipment.

fundraising plants, using aquaponics to grow food for the cafeteria and donating products to local food banks, Mr. Brown says, “are possibilities that go beyond just growing vegetables in soil.” He hopes to experiment with exotic plants and test pesticides on corn, soybeans and garden vegetables. The Agriculture Department is still looking for a community sponsor. Let’s impact the future for our students and community together!

YOU’RE INVITED!

The New Castle Board of Education meets via livestream, please call Gail Edwards at (765) 521-7201 for an invite. You are invited to attend these meetings.

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On, NEW CASTLE

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FOOD SERVICE FANTASTIC FEATS!

New Lunch Lines: The cafeteria recently upgraded its serving lines which were originally installed around 60 years ago. More versatile, two lines offer students the option of receiving the traditional meal service or a self-service grab & go option. The food has been upgraded as well! From a variety of chef salads, new menu items (like chicken-queso rice bowls), and flavorful breakfast bowls, students are receiving larger choices and meals of the best quality.



One Million Meals: Congratulations are due to our New Castle Food Service Department! Our amazing staff has served a *million* meals since the pandemic began. They have served our students and their families, daily, uninterrupted, with loving hearts. We are so grateful for you!



Take Off with School Breakfast: The elementaries received a super-powered breakfast package from Gordon Food Service for National School Breakfast Week! Students learned about proper nutrition and how to stay motivated by being hydrated!

WHAT’S INSIDE:

- Trojan Award of Excellence
- Want to Become a Host Family?
- Free Homework Help is available
- Calling all Kindergartners!
- Winter Athletics and Performing Arts Updates
- Middle School Construction

On, NEW CASTLE

SCHOLASTIC HONOR AND VICTORY IN ALL THINGS

Publication of New Castle Community Schools

WINTER 2021-22



CALLING ALL KINDERGARTNERS!

New Castle Community School’s Round-Up time is Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 8:00 a.m—6:00 p.m. Parents should bring these items to the Round-Up: child’s birth certificate, Social Security card, immunization records, custody papers (if applicable) and proof of residence (utility bill, signed lease, etc.). Please also bring your child with you to Round-Up!

This is by appointment only, so please use the qr code provided below to schedule your time:

For KINDERGARTEN (All New Castle Schools)**



www.nccsc.k12.in.us/kdg-round-up-info

** Child must be age 5 on or before August 1, 2022

WANT TO BECOME A HOST FAMILY FOR AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?

International Cultural Exchange Services is looking for New Castle families to become Host Families for the 2022-23 school year. Now is a great time to select a student and begin getting to know them before they arrive. To become a host family you must provide a room (room can be shared), provide meals when not in school, provide some transportation to and from school events and lots of love and support! Please contact Teresa Cook at (765) 686-1195 or tcook@icesusa.org with any questions or to begin the application process.



FREE HOMEWORK HELP IS AVAILABLE FOR ALL SECONDARY STUDENTS!

With the extended half hour, from 7:40-8:15 am, we are narrowing the learning gap! High school students meet Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the West Cafeteria, and middle school students meet in the Media Center on Wednesdays and Fridays. In the first month, 75 high school students and 54 middle schoolers took advantage of the opportunity to better their grades!



WINTER ATHLETICS UPDATE



Middle School Wrestling

The Middle School Co-Ed Wrestling Team was undefeated in Duals this season. With a wide range of students, some aiming to win their first match to those competing at state level, the team refused to plateau. Coach Bell said they “progressed daily, steadily climbing a mountain. . . No matter where each person was on their journey, the team encouraged each other to peak performance.” The team reached the summit at the Fieldhouse for the Hoosier Heritage Conference.



High School Wrestling

Our HS Boys Wrestling Team overcame small numbers and injuries with resilience and additional energy in practice, ending a terrific season. Middle School Athletic Director Gary Black, Jr. was proud to host our “first meet in the new gym with standing room only! It was an electrifying atmosphere!” Jon Eberhart, Joey Hannan and Wyatt Maiden represented the Trojans at Semi-State, and Junior Brevan Thrine, Regional Champion, advanced to State! Black, Jr. praised the entire team, “No matter the opponent, our guys competed at the highest level.”

High School Bowling Club

Junior Kaylee Deck clinched our Bowling Club’s third Sectional Champion title! With talent to spare, Kaylee is headed for the All-Conference in Kokomo! Don’t stop now, Kaylee; you’re on a roll!



Gymnastics

The Gymnastics Team focused meticulously on team advancement. Coach Hittson shared, “The Ultimate goal was to raise our team score, rely heavily on each other, and then relish in individual achievement.” Raising difficulty levels in personal routines also increased the overall score. The “balance beam proved to be our greatest challenge, but our best scoring was done on the vault,” Hittson said at Sectionals. Laura Fischer represented the Trojans on the vault in Regionals.



Swimming - Our Trojans Made Waves!

High school swim coach Kristin Owens said, “This season’s battle cry was *Changing Our Mindset*, continually believing for the betterment of each person, pushing personal limits, for the good of the team.” Breaking school and sectional records, this team cut through the water in unity and new strength.

Boys Swimming did well at Sectionals, with many personal records broken! NC finished sixth out of 11 teams, with second place in the Medley Relay.

Leaving her competition in bubbles, Sacha Shunneson took first place at Sectionals in Girls Diving and placed twelfth at Regionals. Olivia Owens broke the backstroke school record and earned 24th at State. Sectional Champion Lylah Hutson broke the Sectional Record in the *500 Free* and our school record by four seconds! Lylah finished her season at State, 19th in the *500 Free*, and 30th in the *200 Free*.



High School Boys Basketball

The Boys Basketball team’s mantra for this season was the “Relentless Pursuit of Excellence.” Coach Cox says, “They’ve made daily progress, continuously moving forward. This team has been selfless, always putting team unity first. They’ve fashioned into a dynamic group with the *power of team*. After winning Sectionals last year, we continued to build all year. “Winning breeds winning.” Being ranked Top 10 all season, our men finished 17-4 overall in our conference! Thank you for cheering us on at Sectionals!



High School Girls Basketball

Recognized *three times* this year, the IHSAA commended our high school Girls Basketball Team for exemplary behavior. With the toughest game in the season, our girls ended third in our conference. Coach Bates said, “the girls learned the game of basketball, but paramount, became a team, a family. They showed others how to act in tight spots and intense positions. The good reports we received were during losses! It’s important to win, but it’s important to learn to *deal* with a loss. I wanted trophies, I wanted to cut net, but primarily, I wanted a season where the girls grew as players and people; I believe they did.”



Cheer - State Runner up in the Time-Out Division!

New Castle Cheerleaders had an impressive season qualifying for State this past fall. The girls placed sixth for Competition and won State Runner-Up in the Time-Out division. Taking no time off since football, the team continues cheering for the Girls Varsity, JV and Varsity Boys Basketball Teams. Sectionals marked the end of the season. After spring break, there will be open tryouts for the new May season. Thank you, Lady Trojans, for your continual encouragement and endurance.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION NEARS COMPLETION #ABETTERNCMS

The middle school construction project is on track to be completed by the end of March 2022, with some space already being enjoyed by staff and students. The project includes:

- Renovated music areas
- New auxiliary gym
- New secure entrances and conference room with safety features throughout the building
- Secured classrooms designed with maximizing collaboration and natural light throughout the building
- Collaborative spaces for groups, presentations and instructional success
- Lockers located outside of classrooms optimizing student transitions
- A new 2D and 3D art studio available for a variety of fine art courses
- A new Black Box theater
- Relocation of the Community Room and creation of additional restrooms for our athletics hallways
- All new HVAC and security systems
- Upgraded technology including two new computer lab spaces, one with the capability for eSports gaming
- All new furniture and accessories from the classroom to the cafeteria
- New windows, doors, paint and concrete sidewalks

Middle School Principal Jacob White says, “We look forward to showcasing the renovation to current and future students as well as the community with anticipated dates in April. May will provide some transition time for current teachers, but full utilization will be when the school year begins next August. We are excited about supporting students in their graduation pathways required for high school and continue to offer multiple high school credit opportunities in our middle school.”



BUNDY RENOVATIONS

In 1972, Parkview Junior High was built with the era’s most contemporary designs. The upper two academic levels were engineered with Modernfold Divisiflex walls, panels readily movable on trolley tracks, to accommodate 20 classes of different sizes on each level. Student population was growing exponentially, and these partitions offered the school future flexibility.

Bundy Auditorium was also designed to be a multi-purpose space for use by both the school system and the community. The 1,200-seat auditorium could be divided into five classrooms through electrically driven coil partitions, three seating 120 and two with 95 each.

Fifty years later, Bundy Auditorium will be the Corporation’s first major refurbishment that was not inspired by a large donation or required safety need: it is for the educational experience of the students and continual community gatherings.

Our New Castle School Board has approved the \$4.1 million Bundy renovation project which includes a new fire suppression system, ADA modifications and HVAC systems. Additionally, the stage access, lighting and sound infrastructures will be modernized.

When walking into the auditorium, you will experience a change in floor design with an open media area for families to video and accommodating space for Theater Tech students to run the sound and lights. Updated seating, new curtains and a fresh color palette chosen by the Bundy Construction Committee marries the current walls with modern elegance.

While the school system is covering the cost of essentials, a supportive group of local citizens, affectionately named the Friends of Bundy, have begun fundraising for additional upgrades. Their goal of \$100,000 will cover additional stage lighting, acoustic panels, sound and light boards, microphones and computer networking equipment for large community events. To maintain our auditorium as a premier facility for the students and county, upgraded technology must match the audio professionalism of touring music

JAG CLASS EXCELS

Congratulations to our Eastern Indiana Works JAG program! The JAG (Jobs for American Graduates) class virtually competed against nine surrounding counties at the State Career Development Conference and carried off multiple medals! Colin O’Farrow won first place on his Region Six Chapter Brochure. Leah Kettler took home two first place medals for Cover Design and Digital Invitations, and Shelby Lowe triumphantly executed first place in Public Speaking. Madison Guffey earned a second place medal in the Writing Skills category, and Bradley Wilkinson took third in Creative Solutions. We are so proud of these Trojans as they head toward state finals.

The JAG class focuses on project-based learning, acquiring soft skills for workforce decisions, and community service. Lola Alley, Instructor, encourages students to challenge negative internal dialogue and pushes them to focus on the present. Alley’s students organized a local food drive for needy families this past Christmas, are currently fundraising to landscape around Door #22 at the high school and are working toward installing a swing for the special needs students.



JAG students and Instructor, Lola Alley, collecting canned goods at the Fieldhouse

NEW CASTLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

FRIENDS OF BUNDY

20,000 Visitors a Year

Fine Arts Award Ceremonies

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THE "FRIENDS OF BUNDY" HOPE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR ADDITIONAL UPGRADES TO OUR BELOVED AND NEWLY RENOVATED AUDITORIUM. OUR GOAL IS TO RAISE \$100,000. WON'T YOU PLEASE CONSIDER A GIFT OF \$100 | \$50 | \$25 | OR OTHER \$?

Check Donations:
Make out to: New Castle Schools (Memo-Bundy)
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C/O Megan Bell-Bundy
322 Elliott Avenue
New Castle, IN 47362

Credit Cards Donations:
Call New Castle Administration
765-521-7201
Ask For "Friends of Bundy"

Please join us on Facebook
@Friends of Bundy

and dance groups, lecturers and theater associations. Judy Hubbard, retired NCHS Choral Director and Friends Chairperson, says the “Friends of Bundy aim to showcase Bundy again as an uprising place of interest for East Central Indiana, bringing continual funds into the school and Henry County.”

Please join us in the next phase of development and visit @Friends of Bundy on Facebook to follow our building process.

TINY TROJANS PRE-K



Four-year-old Pre-K classrooms are developing at each elementary for next fall! Watch social media, *The Courier Times*, and local elementary news for future information.

- Must be four years old by Aug. 1, 2022
- Monday–Friday
- Half day sessions, 8:30-11am and 12:2-3:00pm, depending on the school
- Certified teachers and highly qualified assistants
- “Learning Every Day in Pre-K” curriculum
- Preparing for kindergarten by developing social skills