

# New Castle Community School Corporation

April 2023 Newsletter

[School Website](#)



## Join our team!

Career Opportunities

We're looking for joyful coworkers with aim to improve the community!  
Let's partner to  
***BUILD BETTER FUTURES!***

## Corporation News



### Lorraine Woodruff

**Board Certified Behavior Analyst**

Please welcome our newest Special Services staff member, Lorraine Woodruff.



Dr. Shoemaker, Board President Jennifer Blackford, East Central Education Center's Director Katie Lash, and Mayor York are excited to bring new jobs to the City of New Castle!

### Education Partners

We're thrilled to announce that

Behavior Analysts work using the science of human behavior to assess student environments, and help create plans to increase positive behaviors and decrease problematic or disruptive behaviors. BAs work with the learner's whole team (teachers, principals, inter-disciplinary teams), to teach students coping skills, emotional regulation, and functional communication according to their needs. "As the District BCBA, I will be conducting Functional Behavior Assessments and working to help establish Behavior Intervention Plans for the students we serve. I will also be providing professional development and training to area teachers and staff. I look forward to getting to know the individuals within this amazing district and supporting our learners!" Welcome to New Castle, Mrs. Woodruff!

Sunnyside Elementary school is going to be a hub for our local education partners! Starting fresh renovations in June, the **Sunnyside Education Center** will now host

- Adult Basic Education
- Ivy Tech Classes
- East Indiana Works
- East Central Education Center's Corporate Offices and Training Facility
- Model Classrooms

Sunnyside Education Center will be a professional development training facility with classrooms designed for educators across the region.

Because of this partnership, 41 school corporations and their administrations will visit Sunnyside for yearly training! New Castle Schools is once again helping #BuildBetterFutures in Central Indiana.

## Honored Retirees

These fabulous teachers are retiring at the end of the school year. We have benefited from their unique talents and creativity. We're grateful for their partnership in education, and their love for students. Their collaboration has made it possible to *Build Better Futures* in our community. Thank you for your service. We will miss you all.

We asked them 5 questions about their careers: 1) Short timeline of your career/buildings what grades or classes 2) Future Plans 3) Toughest challenge as a teacher 4) Greatest Success (program you created or a student story) 5) If you could *WILL* something to another teacher, what would you leave to them? (Click the button below for their answers.)



**Greg Guffey, 4 years**  
NCHS World Geography  
& Social Studies Chair

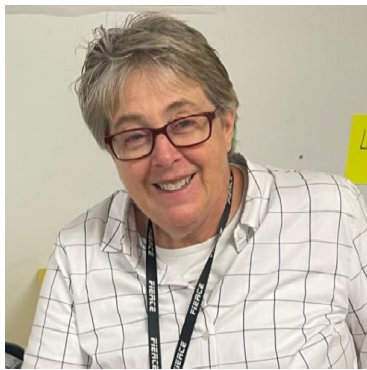


**Ramona Hacker, 41 years**  
Data & Instructional Coach  
Curriculum Technology  
Interventionist



**Leesa Meyers, 41 years**  
Career Center  
Education Careers





**Joyce Rhoades, 41 Years**  
Middle School Math



**Nic Simmons, 41 years**  
Special Services Teacher  
& Drama Director

*[Click Here for Retirees' Answers](#)*



### **IREADY & ILEARN Testing Weeks Were Successful!**

Students can now celebrate after finalizing two weeks of Indiana testing with IREADY and ILEARN.

We are thankful for you, our families, for helping prepare your kids daily for the assessments. We are thankful to the teachers and support staff who administered the tests, and encouraged these young champions every step of the way. We can't wait to share the results of the overall New Castle Corporation with the community.

To refresh the soul between testing, students took *Brain Breaks*, structured breaks using physical movement, mindfulness exercises, or sensory activities. Enjoy your weekend, New Castle.

[ILEARN FAQs](#)

## **GROWING OUR OWN!**

At NCCSC, we want to recruit and train teachers and staff, specifically targeting alumni within our Trojan community who are familiar with the values of our school system. As students graduate, we aim to prepare them for a rewarding full-circle return to the Corporation, empowering them to inspire and build the next generation, and help New Castle Schools #BuildBetterFutures.

**Vicki Madison is an 1988 New Castle Graduate. She has served with us for 20 years, and is now a Secondary Instructional Coach.**

[For the full interview, Click Here!](#)



# Senior Exit Interviews Fulfill

# Graduation Pathway Requirements



Haidyn Bulmer & Sam Hastings



Bailey Butcher



Isaac Goble and Alex Frost



Marisha Aten

NCHS Seniors looked back over their educational career, and shared their successes, joys and challenges in a *Senior Exit Interview* to finalize graduation requirements. Speaking in front of a panel of middle and high school teachers, each student shared six slides:

- *Learning Experience* on a service or work-based project
- *Hands-On Experience* explained the practical lesson from their project
- *Employability Skills* attained through mindsets and learning strategies
- *Employability Skills* gained, describing self-management and soft-skills
- *Concepts Learned* explained in four statements of the project's impact, three good, and one "needs work" concept
- *Future Plans* revealed a "ten-year" strategy through three statements: first an immediate pathway into college, career or military, then the second and third plans were life goals.



Teachers were moved in awe and joy, as the students they poured into, have grown up, matured and will step into society as contributing citizens. One teacher said, "I watched him in detention in middle school, now he's an honor student!" All were greatly encouraged.

[Click HERE to Read Senior Interviews](#)





# BIG AWARDS = BIG CHEERS!

## Congratulations!



The ISSMA (Indiana State School of Music Association) has awarded NCMS the *Middle School Choral All-Music Award* for the 22-23 school year! Matthew Hurst, Choir Director said, "Receiving an *All Music* award from the ISSMA simply means that the music program, middle school choir in our case, does all types of ISSMA events available, and does them at a 'Gold Rating' level according to the judges." Only ten middle school programs in the state of Indiana achieved this award, so we are very proud of our students and teachers. Specific criteria for the *All Music Choral Award* must be met:

- A Gold rating on at least one solo and one ensemble entering Group III, II, or I.
- A Gold rating in a District Jazz event.
- A Gold rating in a J.M.E. Organization event entered in Group III, II, or I.



Principal Jacob White boasts, "NCMS is proud of the *All Music Award* earned by our Choral department leaders, students and supporters. The award reflects the total effort by all involved, dedicated to showcasing talent and hard work... It's an amazing accomplishment to receive this statewide recognition, while helping



Ella Garvin, NCHS senior, has received the IHSAA (Indiana High School Athletics Association) *Cato Memorial Scholarship*, given to one of 12 seniors in the state! Recognized April 19 at the *Thomas A. Brady Sports Achievement Awards*, Garvin left Lucas Oil Stadium with her award and \$2,500 for college preparation. The scholarship's criteria included a "well-rounded, positive role model, who demonstrates excellence in academics, school and community involvement, character, sportsmanship, and citizenship." Ella was a natural recipient! In June, Garvin will graduate with a weighted GPA of 4.57, ranking 3rd in her class of 173 students, with a list of academic athletic, and community accomplishments:

- 15 Honors/AP Classes
- 6 Dual-Credit Honor/AP Classes
- Three-sport athlete, earning 13 Varsity letters in Cross Country, Gymnastics, and Track & Field (all four years.)
- Diving Team as a sophomore.
- Team captain
- Raises School Spirit as the Treasurer of Renaissance
- National Honor Society, Secretary for Student Government.
- Works Part time at New Castle Cakes during the school year
- Works part time at Baker Pool & Mt. Lawn Speedway during the summer.

Ella will be attending Miami of Ohio to with a Track and Field scholarship in

students build better futures." Hurst continued, "Though the *Middle School All-Music Award* is relatively new, New Castle Choirs have been performing at a high level at ISSMA events for many years. We are grateful that ISSMA has begun to acknowledge the hard work of middle school students across the state with this award; it is an honor to be among the schools presented. Our students have put in a great deal of musically technical work over the past few months. We know they are all excited to finish the year strong with *Spring Sing* this May!"

the fall, and will be joining the Farmer School of Business and Honors College. Congratulations, Miss Garvin.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS with SUMMER dates:

May  
26

**Last Day of School**  
Enjoy the Summer!

May  
30

**NCMS Summer School**  
May 30th - June 16th, 9:00-11:00 AM  
Students will enter via door 17A.

June  
4

**High School Graduation**  
Fieldhouse, 2-4:00 PM

June  
5

**Summer Meal Program June 5 - July 28**  
Students may eat at each location for free, Monday-Friday  
Parker Elementary: 11:30 AM-1:00PM  
YMCA: 12:00-12:30 PM, with a snack served from 1:45-2:15 PM

June  
5

**NCHS Summer School June 5 - June 30**  
High School Cafeteria, 2 sessions TBD, from 7:45 AM -12:00 PM  
Registration dates TBD

July  
10

**Board Meeting**  
CEC, 7-9:00 PM

July  
19

**Elementary Registration**  
8:00 AM-4:00 PM

July  
20

**Elementary Registration**  
12:00-4:00 PM

July

**Back to School Festival**

24

Arts Garden, Downtown New Castle, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

July  
25

**6th Grade (Only) Parent & Student Orientation**  
Bundy Auditorium, 12:30-2:00 PM

July  
26

**6th, 7th & 8th Grade Parent & Student Orientation**  
Bundy Auditorium, 12:30-2:30 PM

July  
27

**6th, 7th & 8th Grade Parent & Student Orientation**  
Bundy Auditorium, 6-8:00 PM

July  
28

**6th Grade Student (Only) Trojan Quest**  
NCMS Cafeteria, 8:30 AM-3:15 PM

August  
1

**Career Center Orientation**  
Bundy Auditorium, 6:00-8:00 PM, for new and returning students

August  
3

**First Day of School**  
**Elementary:** Doors open at 7:30 AM, Tardy bell at 8:00AM, and Dismissal is at 2:30 PM  
**Middle School:** Doors open at 7:30 AM, Tardy bell at 8:25 AM, and Dismissal is at 3:25 PM  
**High School:** Doors open at 7:30 AM, Tardy bell at 8:30 AM, and Dismissal is at 3:30 PM

May  
26

**Middle and High School Summer School**  
Enjoy the Summer!

[View all activities on the Corporation Calendar](#)

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