

# Marine Monthly

APRIL 2018



## IMPORTANT DATES:

- April 6<sup>th</sup>- Quarter 3 Awards Program (8:45am); PTO Popcorn Friday
- April 11<sup>th</sup>- Book Fair Family Night (3:15-6pm)
- April 13<sup>th</sup>- **MAKE-UP DAY**; School in session
- April 16<sup>th</sup>- May 4<sup>th</sup>- ISTEP + Multiple Choice Testing (Grades 3-6)
- April 20<sup>th</sup>- **MAKE-UP DAY**; School in session
- April 23<sup>rd</sup>- Quarter 4 Mid-term
- April 27<sup>th</sup>- **MAKE-UP DAY**; School in session
- May 4<sup>th</sup>- Last PTO Popcorn Friday
- May 14<sup>th</sup>- Tin Caps Game
- May 25<sup>th</sup>- MF Pizza Party
- May 29<sup>th</sup>- Last Student Day

### Mission Statement:

"Engaging today's learners to be tomorrow's leaders."

### Vision Statement:

"Small school. Small town. Big dreams."

### From The Principal's Desk

Mr. Piatt



I hope everyone enjoyed a nice Spring Break. Hopefully our students had a chance to relax and rest up for their last remaining weeks of the year. I want to thank everyone for the success of our first round of ISTEP testing last month. Also, our third graders did a great job with their I-Read testing. Our second round of ISTEP begins the week of April 16<sup>th</sup>. Last month I provided some strategies for you to help support your child during this testing season. Below, I have listed a few of those as a reminder:

- Make sure your child has plenty of sleep the night before.
- Make sure your child eats a good breakfast.
- Encourage your child to do his or her very best, but don't place too much emphasis on the test.
- Get involved. Nothing will have a bigger impact on your student's success than your involvement in his or her education.



### General School Information

- Elementary school hours are from 8:15am-3:05pm Monday-Friday.
- A 2-hour delay schedule would begin at 10:15am and end at 3:05pm.
- Please try and call the office **before 2:00pm** if there is a change in how your child will go home.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER:

Parents and other visitors **MUST** come and sign into the elementary office and get permission before heading to any other part of the elementary. No one is to be walking in the hallways or going to classrooms without first coming to the elementary office, even if a meeting/appointment with your child's teacher has been previously scheduled. Parents and visitors **MUST** also sign out in the elementary office before they leave the premise. Please adhere to this important policy as it is in place for the safety of all children and staff at Hamilton Elementary. Furthermore, it helps in minimizing classroom disruptions.

## Reminders:

- **Student Absences:** Call the office @ 488-2101 before 9:30 a.m. Otherwise, your child's absence will be marked as "Unexcused."
- **Student Dismissal:** No child may change his/her usual method of transportation home without a written note or a phone call **from a parent**. If we do not receive communication from parents, students will be sent home their regular way.
- **Visitors must come and sign in at the elementary office before heading to a different area of the building.** Visitors must also sign out in the elementary office before they leave.
- Please make sure you are checking your child(ren)'s folders, assignment books, book bags, etc. **DAILY** for important paperwork coming home.
- Hamilton Elementary has a **NO GUM- CHEWING** policy. Please do not send gum in with your child for any reason.

## 2017-2018 Textbook Rental

You may send cash or a check (exact amount) made out to Hamilton Community Schools.

If you have a child attending Hamilton Community Schools and do not have sufficient means to furnish your child with books and/or lunch and need assistance, you should complete a State School Form. They are available in the elementary office. We would also be glad to help you work out a payment schedule should you need to. Please contact Colleen Karas in the superintendent's office at 260-488-2513.

Kindergarten- \$72.63	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade- \$96.07
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade- \$60.20	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade- \$76.74
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade- \$51.38	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade- \$68.60
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade- \$85.10	

## Cafeteria News

The cafeteria is now serving breakfast on 2-hr delay days. Should we have a delay, breakfast will begin at 9:50am and conclude at 10:10am.



## Can You Guess the Elementary Staff Member?

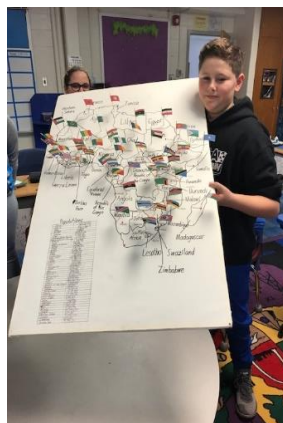
Make sure to read the clues very carefully before you make your guess! Put your guess down on a piece of paper with your first and last name and turn it into the elementary office by April 13th. The first person to be drawn with the correct name gets a small treat. Good luck!

This staff member...

- 1) has four kids
- 2) has taught in Kansas
- 3) has a dog
- 4) loves to draw
- 5) loves playing board games
- 6) has coached basketball before
- 7) enjoys all types of music
- 8) has to have his/her coffee in the morning in order to function
- 9) has been to Mexico
- 10) has a birthday that falls on or around Columbus Day



The elementary staff member from March's newsletter was: **Mrs. Friend**. Congratulations to Alyvia Chipman for the correct guess!



6th graders in Mrs. Sherck's class created various differentiated projects for their unit study on the world's continents. Pictured here are two of the projects created by students.



Pictured on the left: A group of students practicing a Reader's Theater play during a Club Day. The group did a great job performing the last day before Spring Break.



Pictured on the left: Victoria Dohner is rocking it out on the Karaoke machine during one of last month's Club days.



## Parent Pick-Up Protocol Reminder

If you pick up your student at the end of the day, please follow these guidelines to make pick-up a smooth and easy process for everyone involved:

- Please pull all the way forward, leaving no large spaces.
- Please be aware of the movement of the vehicles in front of you.
- Please stay in your cars. **DO NOT** park in line and come up to get your student.
- Please be patient. Some students are still being buckled into boosters and it takes them a little longer. We understand that parents may need to get out to buckle a student. That is fine if parked in the loading zone.
- The loading zone for students is from the Fire Lane to the end of the sidewalk in front of the school.

If a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or other family member is picking up your child, please pass this information along. We hope to make the pick-up process as safe, easy, and prompt as we can. If you have any questions, please call the elementary office at 260-488-2101. Thank you!

## BASE Camp Field Trip

Students who have attended 10 days of summer, before, and/or after school are going on a day-long field trip to Kalamazoo, MI this Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Our destinations are the Air Zoo and Kalamazoo Valley Museum. Each student is allowed to take one parent (background check needed) on the chartered bus. If you need more information, call and leave a message for Janet Albright, Hamilton Site Coordinator (419-261-3333).

### 2017-2018 PTO Officers:

#### President - Holly Bireley

E-Mail: hollyjlb@gmail.com

Phone: 260-316-4200

#### Vice President- Myleigh Cool

E-mail: myleighcool@gmail.com

Phone: 260-316-6729

#### Secretary/Treasurer- Laura Hoard

E-Mail: laura.hoard@hcs.k12.in.us

Phone: 269-823-3264

If you are interested in joining the PTO or helping out with any of their activities, please contact one of the officers listed above.

## TCC School Supply Donation

Dirk Winget and The Cellular Connection (TCC), located on Stellhorn Road in Fort Wayne, were gracious enough to provide six boxes of school supplies and a box of new backpacks to Hamilton Elementary. Pictured is Mr. Winget handing over the supplies to Mrs. Watkins. Thank you very much for the donations and your generous support of our students and school! We greatly appreciate it!



## Spring Book Fair



**When:** Week of April 9th

**Where:** Hamilton Elementary Library

**Family Night:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018, in conjunction with BASE Family Night (3:15-6pm); Activities and food will be provided by BASE

## Kindergarten Registration

If you have or know of a child that will be ready for Kindergarten during the 2018-2019 school year, please see below:

- Parents can come in and register their child between now and the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year. Elementary office hours are 7:00am-3:30pm.
- The child **MUST** be 5 years of age or older on or before August 1, 2018, in order to register.
- **REQUIRED Documentation to Register Includes:** Social Security Card, Certified Birth Certificate, and Updated Vaccination Record for your child

**Please call the elementary office at 260-488-2101 if you have any questions.**

## Upcoming PTO Events

Details about upcoming events will be coming home with your child as the dates draw nearer. **\*\* Events are subject to change \*\***

- **Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**- PTO Popcorn Friday
- **Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**- PTO Pinot & Paint
- **Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**- Last PTO Popcorn Friday

**The next PTO meeting is scheduled for:  
Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> (6pm) in the Elementary Library**

**\*\* NEW Hamilton Elementary Attendance Policy \*\***

- Students will have 12 flex days to use throughout the school year for any absence.
- When your student has reached 6 days, you will receive a notification from the school that they are nearing their maximum number of days missed for the year.
- After 10 days missed, (excused or unexcused) you will be asked to attend a conference with administration and resource officer to discuss ways to improve your student's attendance.
- Chronic or extended illnesses or medical issues will be handled on an individual basis.
- **If a call is not made to the elementary office before 9:30am and the office must call you, your child's absence will be "Unexcused."**
- When a student is absent from school, the student bears the responsibility for making up the schoolwork. **The student will be given all appropriate assignments and tests when they return from their absence.** Arrangements are to be made with his/her teacher to complete these assignments within a reasonable time frame.
- Please also make sure students are arriving on time for school.

If you have any questions regarding Hamilton Community Schools attendance policy or Indiana Compulsory Attendance Law, please feel free to contact the school at 260-488-2101.

**Contact Information**

Please make sure the office has the most up-to-date contact names and numbers for each child registered here at school. We rely on this information to make contact home in a variety of situations, including sending important information home.



Congratulations to this year's Math Bowl team for receiving first place recently in our area competition. You worked so hard, and we are very proud of you all!

**Make-up Days Reminder**

The following days are now make-up days due to past inclement weather:

- **Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>**
- **Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**
- **Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

Students are expected to be in attendance. Should you have any questions, please contact the elementary office at (260) 488-2101.

**School Information**

Check out our school website at [hcs.k12.in.us](http://hcs.k12.in.us) to put money in lunch accounts, contact a staff member, and find other important information regarding both the elementary and high school. This will be updated monthly as well!

We also utilize a Facebook page called "**Hamilton Elementary School**" where we post reminders, announcements, and pictures of neat things happening in the elementary.

**Upcoming Testing Windows:**

ISTEP+ Multiple Choice Testing Window:

**April 16<sup>th</sup> - May 4<sup>th</sup>**

It is extremely important to make sure your child is in attendance during these testing windows.



Social Skills Groups for students in grades K-3 meet periodically to work on various social skills which include, sharing, using manners, using kind words, etc. The Kindergarten Social Skills Group recently worked with Mrs. Watkins on "Whole Body Listening."

**Riley "Red Wagon" Fundraiser**



Hamilton Elementary students and faculty raised \$960 for Riley Hospital during the month of February, beating last year's donation of \$850. Because the students and faculty raised more money than last year, Mr. Piatt colored his hair bright red for Riley during the week of March 5th. Thank you so much for your generous support. We are so proud to be able to help with such a wonderful cause!

**Taking Care of Business**

If you are interested in volunteering in our school **OR ATTENDING A FIELD TRIP**, please be sure to submit your background check paperwork to the school office. This is a new procedure this year. Your background check must be complete before you can begin your volunteer experience. Please be advised that some background checks are taking at least a week to come back. Therefore, you need to get it in as soon as you can. An approval/denial letter will be sent home shortly after you submit your application. If you have any questions or want to request a background application, please contact your child's teacher or the elementary office.