

2014 Fund for the Arts Campaign

The 2014 Fund for the Arts campaign began on Monday, February 17. For the past 24 years, Greater Clark County Schools has supported the Fund for the Arts and your generosity has enabled our students to have access to theatre, music, and visual arts. Last year, 356 employees donated \$19,504 to Fund for the Arts. Over \$15,000 came back to our students to provide them with the opportunity to participate in rich, cultural experiences.

The campaign will run until Friday, March 7. Please consider the effect that your donation will have on our students and turn in your payroll deduction form or cash contribution to your Fund for the Arts building coordinator. Thank you for your daily work on behalf of all the students in Greater Clark County Schools!



Greater Clark's PIVOT Data Warehouse

Greater Clark County Schools is pleased to announce the release of our new data warehouse, Five-Star PIVOT. Each teacher can login using the first part of their email (eliminate from @gcs.k12.in.us) and the password GCCS1010. Upon entering the site, choose Account and change your password. eLearning Coaches, Principals, and Central Office staff will be available to assist training. We hope you find this data warehouse helpful. [Click here](#) to learn more about PIVOT and login.

NWM/HS Media Specialist Selected for Pinnovation Month

New Washington Middle/High School's Media Specialist, Jill Sceifers, was contacted by the Indiana Department of Education about doing a feature on the school's library for their "Pinnovation" month. Pinnovation started out as part of Indiana's participation in Digital Learning Day 2013. For the month of February, IN-Learn posted a daily highlight of an educator and Pinterest user who was building boards for professional development. [Click here to view](#) Pinnovation and read Jill Sceifers blog that published on Thursday, February 27.

New Basic Life Insurance

The Board of School Trustees for Greater Clark County Schools has approved a new basic life insurance policy through Anthem® Life for employees. The policy and provider will become effective March 1, 2014. Anthem must have a new beneficiary form from all participants. This form has been attached to this newsletter and will also be sent to your GCCS email. Please note that when completing your form, it is Indiana state law that spousal consent is required if your spouse is not listed as a Primary Beneficiary for at least 50%. Most classifications of employees are eligible for this basic life insurance benefit (employees pay one dollar per year and Greater Clark pays the remainder of the premium). The only employees who are not eligible are in the following groups and work less than 20 hours per week: Miscellaneous and Clerical. Temporary and Extracurricular Employees also do not have this coverage.

It is very important that you complete a new beneficiary form and return it to the Administrative Assistant at your location. These forms need to be submitted no later than Friday, March 7, 2014. Please be sure that all information is complete and signed before submission. If you have questions, please contact the Benefits Department at the Administration Building (Nancy Lopp, Manager, nlopp@gcs.k12.in.us; Donna Conklin, dconklin@gcs.k12.in.us; or Linda Smith, lsmith@gcs.k12.in.us).

Important Dates

- March 3 - Superintendent Staff Listening Session @ Spring Hill Elementary
- March 4 - Board of School Trustees Meeting @ Admin. Building
- March 10 - ISTEP+ 3-8 Applied Skills Assessment Window Begins
- March 11 - Superintendent Staff Listening Session @ Clark County M/H School

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Thomas Jefferson Elementary Wins Boys' Basketball Championship

Congratulations to the Thomas Jefferson Elementary boys' basketball team for winning the 2014 GCCS Boys' Basketball Tournament held at Jeffersonville High School on Saturday, February 22.

The team is coached by Amber Ridings and team members include Joel Barajas, Ryan Bubenhofer, Michael Casey, Bret Cooper, Griffin Dale, Jaylen Fairman, Lucas Melin, Alex Settles, Eli Watson, Isaiah Florence, Jovan Terry, Kobe Stoudemire, Sam Whallen, Jalen Florence, and Conner Lyons and managers Lily Haire and Javeon Fairman. Cheerleading sponsors are Meredith Clipp-Rodriguez and Shelly Marshall and the cheerleading team includes Naveah Bates, Mattie Blanton, Addison Duran, Alyssa King, Madeline Marshall, Danielle Monroe, Katie Monroe, Lauren Monroe, Phoebe Moon, and Isabella Rodriguez.



Congratulations to the boys' basketball teams at Bridgepoint Elementary, Jonathan Jennings Elementary, and Utica Elementary who also competed in the tournament.

Attention Teachers Planning to Retire

If you are a teacher planning to retire at the end of the 2013-14 school year, the deadline for submitting your notice letter to the Superintendent's Office is **March 1, 2014**. Please be aware that the "Notice of Intent for Re-employment" form that certified staff completed and returned this month is not considered proper written notification of intent to retire. A separate written notice is required.

If you decide to retire and you submit a retirement letter for approval by the Board of Trustees, you will be contacted in May by GCCS Employee Relations/Benefits Manager Nancy Lopp to schedule an appointment. During this appointment, Nancy will discuss the retirement benefits provided by Greater Clark County Schools. Please note that you should not wait until this appointment to complete your Teachers' Retirement Application. If it is your plan to retire at the end of this school year and you have not requested an Application for Retirement Benefits from Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS, formerly Teachers' Retirement Fund, TRF), you should do so immediately. The toll-free number is 1-888-526-1687. Any questions regarding your Teachers' Retirement Application should be directed to this number. You do not need to submit any paperwork from your Teachers' Retirement Application to Greater Clark. Any employer information will be submitted online by Nancy Lopp. Should you have any additional questions regarding the retirement process, please contact Nancy Lopp at nlopp@gcs.k12.in.us or (812) 288-4802 ext. 321.



Retirement Planning Workshop for Certified Staff

The Indiana Public Retired System: Retired Teachers Fund will host a Retirement Planning Workshop on Tuesday, March 18 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Jeffersonville Township Library, 211 E. Court Avenue, in Jeffersonville. Attendees must register with the state INPRS by visiting www.in.gov/inprs/workshops.htm. Make sure you sign-up for the TRF (Teachers Retirement Fund) workshop. Questions, please call Pat Stone at (812) 288-5041.

Our Vision: Greater Clark County Schools' vision is to become nationally recognized as a premier provider of education by serving as the bridge connecting stakeholders to ensure all students are college and career ready.

Our Mission: Greater Clark County Schools' mission is for stakeholders to give 100 percent effort in meeting the academic and behavioral needs of each student ensuring acceptance to a post-secondary opportunity.