

Employee Work Calendar for 2014-15 School Year

Greater Clark County Schools employees approximately 1,500 individuals in many different capacities to meet the needs of all students. This requires various work calendars for all staff members. In an effort to ensure all employees know their work schedule for the 2014-15 school year, the Human Resources Department has developed an Employee Work Calendar for all classifications. The calendar is attached with this week's Staff Insight. If you have questions regarding your classification's work calendar, please contact Director of Human Resources Donna Mullins at dmullins@gcs.k12.in.us or (812) 288-4802 ext. 257.



Extension of Retirement Deadline

Many Greater Clark employee groups have a \$2,000 retirement severance benefit set out in their collective bargaining agreements, fringe benefits, or meet and confer documents. The retirement notification deadline for eligibility to receive this severance benefit per these various agreements is March 1. However, with the changes in TRF and PERF benefits there are a number of employees still trying to determine whether retirement at this time is in their best interest. Therefore, the Board of School Trustees approved for the 2013-14 school year that the March 1, 2014 retirement notification deadline for the \$2,000 retirement severance benefit be extended to **May 30, 2014** for eligible employee groups.

If you decide to retire and you submit a retirement letter for approval by the Board of Trustees, you will be contacted 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.

Jeffersonville Area Elementary Art Show

The Jeffersonville area elementary schools currently have an art show on display at the Jeffersonville Public Library which will run until Tuesday, May 6. Schools represented in the show include Bridgepoint, Thomas Jefferson, Spring Hill, Maple, Utica, and Riverside. The purpose of the show is to recognize National Youth Art Month and to emphasize the value of art education for our students and encourage support for quality art programs. Artwork will be displayed during normal business hours and the library is located at 211 East Court Avenue in Jeffersonville.

Important Dates

- April 22 - Board of School Trustees Meeting @ Charlestown High School
- April 23 - Superintendent Staff Listening Session @ Auxiliary Services
- April 23 - WHAS ExCEL Award Program @ Bridgepoint Elem.
- April 23 - District Parent Advisory Meeting @ Admin. Building

Follow Us On:



Greater Clark Recognizes Champions

On April 16, over 300 individuals gathered at Kye's II in Jeffersonville to recognize Greater Clark County Schools support services staff members of the year and certified staff members of the year. Each school/building nominated a support services and certified staff member of the year. One district-wide winner was selected for each classification. Congratulations to our school/building award recipients and to our district-wide award recipients; Support Services



Employee of the Year - Sammy Martin (Custodian) from Jonathan Jennings Elementary and Teacher of the Year - Cathy Gruninger (Art Teacher) from Bridgepoint Elementary.

The first annual "Champions for Children" was held to celebrate excellence; excellence through innovation, excitement and enthusiasm in teaching and excitement in the demonstration of Greater Clark County Schools' motto of "Bridging Excellence and Opportunities." The district honored 22 support services staff members and 21 certified staff members who have made an outstanding contribution to their school/building, students, district, and the community. The event recognized, rewarded, and renewed the importance and contributions of the work these individuals devote to our public schools.

School/Building winners include: Administration Building - Renee Markoski and Karen Spencer, Auxiliary Services - Kelly Harbin; Bridgepoint Elementary - Robin Bryant and Cathy Gruninger; Charlestown High School - Sharon Coots and Barbara Berry; Charlestown Middle School - Linda Whitlock and April Smith; Clark County Middle/High School - Renee Stock; Corden Porter School - Leslie Kelley and Jennifer Goodlett; Jeffersonville High School - William Thornton and Nancy Molnar; Jonathan Jennings Elementary - Sammy Martin and Mari Harbin; Maple Elementary - Kim Denny-Harbin and Susan Ward; New Washington Elementary - Kim Stamper and Sara Endler; New Washington Middle/High School - Debbie Franklin and Jill Sceifers; Northaven Elementary - Janie Ison and Christine Gritton-Willis; Parkview Middle School - Wendy Gallagher and Molly Riddle; Parkwood Elementary - Larry Ponzi and Kelly Pennington; Pleasant Ridge Elementary - Robbie Nelson and Heather Blackstone; River Valley Middle School - Cindy Meuninghoff and Eden Kuhlenschmidt; Riverside Elementary - Donna Price and Sally Goss; Service Center - Mary "Cathy" Russell; Spring Hill Elementary - James Kraft and Marlene Hazuga; Thomas Jefferson Elementary - Sharon Meneou and Cathy McKenzie; Utica Elementary - Alison Bell and Lisa Miller; and Wilson Elementary - Cindy Nolan and Christine Lawrence.



Also, thank you to our sponsors of the event. Proceeds from the event will benefit the district's ACT Testing Initiative. Supported by the GCCS Educational Foundation, Greater Clark partnered with ACT to better prepare students for college and career life. ACT developed a series of tests that predicts college success and provides comparison statistics to assist students in coursework to improve their chances for a high ACT score. The district administers an ACT test (Plan, Explore, or ACT) to students beginning in the 8th grade and the assessment system creates the opportunity for teachers to receive data about each of their students to determine areas where they may need remediation to get them on target to a high ACT score. The initiative is fully funded at no cost to the student or parent and is a key measure of a student's academic readiness for college, as well as relevant career interests. The "Champions for Children" event raised over \$20,000 for the initiative.

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.*