Empowering students to maximize their educational success to become productive, responsible global citizens.

MISSION OF THE MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Empowering students to maximize their educational success to become productive, responsible global citizens.

FEATURES
Skyward: What is it?
Unionville’s 95th Birthday
Kindergarten Registration
Grandview’s STEM Excellence

3rd Grade Gym Class at Binford Elementary
MCCSC CORE VALUES

Value 1: Engagement
All students can learn. We teach all students. No exceptions. All students deserve rigorous, diverse curricular and extracurricular programs, integrated with technology. Such programs balance students’ needs and interests, resulting in high levels of student engagement, achievement and completion.

Value 2: Empowerment
All students are diverse and unique. When students are empowered, self-esteem grows. All students’ experiences and perspectives are assets that reflect the strength of our schools and the values of our community. Such assets, when respected, nurtured and explored, promote their academic success and the success of their peers.

Value 3: Environment
All students thrive in a positive, creative and stimulating learning and working environment. All employees excel in a culture actively supported by professional development opportunities. Highly-trained, highly-valued teachers and staff are pivotal to the continuous improvement and success of our students. All students deserve, and we will provide, a healthy, safe and secure learning environment.

ENGAGE. EMPOWER. EDUCATE.

Congratulations to Clear Creek Elementary Principal Dr. Deb Prenkert for receiving an (AERA) American Educational Research Association Research Award.

Visit www.mccsc.edu/news to find out more about her opportunity.
Our most recent election brought an addition to the MCCSC Board of School Trustees. Cathy Fuentes-Rohwer filled Dr. David Sabbagh’s seat as he chose not to run for re-election. Dr. Lois Sabo-Skelton, Sue Wanzer and Keith Klein were all re-elected as members. Resuming their previous responsibilities, Martha Street will continue as President, Dr. Sabo-Skelton as Vice-President, and Dr. Jeannine Butler as Secretary. Kelly Smith has filled the Assistant Secretary position.

Taken at the Annual Organizational Meeting - as pictured left to right: Cathy Fuentes-Rohwer, Dr. Jeannine Butler, Kelly Smith, Dr. Lois Sabo-Skelton, Keith Klein, Martha Street, and Sue Wanzer.
The following MCCSC individuals will be honored with
2017 Outstanding Educator Awards:

Mitch Bratton  Assistant Director of Special Education for MCCSC
Luke Chanley  Business/Technology Teacher at Jackson Creek Middle School
Bryan Ford  Bridges Teacher at Batchelor Middle School
Adam Terwilliger  Math Department Chair at Bloomington High School North
Whitney Thomas  Student and Family Advocate at Fairview Elementary

Solution Tree will again donate $500 to the school of each Outstanding Educator. In addition, Solution Tree will pay all expenses for each awardee to attend a Solution Tree Institute, or one of the company’s two-day workshops anywhere in the country.

Leading Light Awards are given to innovative programs that enhance our education community and serve our county’s young people. The Chamber is honoring these programs with this award:

Binford Elementary 6th Grade Mock Middle School Team
Fairview Performing Arts School

To register for the 16th Annual Educators of the Year Dinner and Awards, please contact The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce at 812.336.6381, or email Carol Kelly, Event Coordinator, at ckelley@ChamberBloomington.org.
**WHAT IS IT? WHY DO I NEED ACCESS TO IT?**

Skyward Family Access is the software that MCCSC uses to keep track of your students’ contact information, attendance, grades, etc.

![Skyward Family Access Icons]

Skyward Family Access includes:

**Calendar**
Your students’ calendar including tardies, absences, and the district calendar built-in.

**Gradebook**
Grades for 7th-12th grade students.

**Attendance**
Lists a timeline of your students’ attendance record.

**Student Info - Emergency Contacts**
These emergency contacts will need to be checked annually. Have your contacts changed? Have their phone numbers changed?

**Fee Management**
For the first time in the 2016-17 school year your current student textbook fees are available for payment here.

**Portfolio - Attachments**
This is the ID you need for Here Comes the Bus app. Click the “Alpha_KEY” link and Skyward will generate a report containing your students’ ID.

**Health Info**
Their vaccination record is kept here.

If you are not setup for Skyward Family Access contact your school’s enrollment secretary.

[www.mccsc.edu/skyward](http://www.mccsc.edu/skyward)
In culturally responsive schools, every student is presented with equitable and inclusive opportunities to achieve educational success.

We will continue to provide systemic and intentional support for all students so they produce their best educational outcomes while embracing background, culture, language, experience, and history.

- Cultural Responsivity District Leadership Team

**MCCSC Focus Objectives**

1. Creating a culturally responsive school climate to facilitate learning and equity for all students.
2. Reducing racial and ethnic disparities of academic achievement & discipline referrals.
3. Increasing diversity among staff and leadership.

**MCCSC Hiring Practices**

- Working with community representatives and professional organizations, MCCSC has improved recruiting strategies to intentionally recruit candidates with diverse backgrounds and specifically candidates of color for both certified and non-certified positions.
- Principals and staff serve as recruiters at several events throughout the Midwest.
- Hiring managers have been trained to interview and select candidates who demonstrate cultural competency.
- Staff have been encouraged to take advantage of professional development opportunities that can lead to advancement in their profession.
- Community conversations to address retention challenges have been held and continue.
- A partnership with Indiana University has created an opportunity for up to twenty IU students with diverse backgrounds to serve as role models and teachers in summer school programs each year.

**Cultural Responsivity District Leadership Team (CRDLT)**

- A group of 50 administrators and faculty were administered the Intercultural Development Inventory which assesses an individual's level of cultural competency.
- Participated in training on ‘Culturally Responsive Practice’ facilitated by Renae Azziz (Virtuoso Education Consulting).
- Participated in a workshop titled ‘Assessing Equitable Practices in Schools and Classrooms’ and training on cultural competency and sustaining safe and inclusive learning environments for all students by Great Lakes Equity Center.
- Participated in training on gender identity, sexual orientation, and cultural sensitive awareness when working with LGBTQ youth facilitated by Prism Youth Group and Laura Ingram.
- Provided a full-day conference to the entire faculty focused on ‘cultural competency and building safe and inclusive schools’ with two keynote speakers Dr. Tyrone Howard from UCLA, Dr. Seena Skelton from Great Lakes Equity Center, and over 40 other presenters who addressed topics related to race/ethnicity, LGBTQ, English learners, students with disabilities, and effective literacy strategies.
- Provided training focused on implicit bias and culturally responsive classroom management to a group of 36 Cultural Responsivity Team representatives from all schools in K-12.

**School-Level Activities**

- Every school has a designated Cultural Responsivity Team who assists the principals in implementing on-going monthly staff trainings on various cultural competency related topics.
- All schools continue their efforts on engaging staff, students, and families in the process of building culturally responsive and inclusive school climate. Including:
  - A high school has made the Community Justice and Mediation Center available to students.
  - Another high school has created a Community Leadership Building student group who meets regularly to discuss community and acceptance in school and the community.
  - Another high school has created a Community Leadership Building student group who meets regularly to discuss community and acceptance in school and the community.
- CRDLT has built a comprehensive data dashboard that allows the team and each school to regularly monitor discipline data, and reflect on equitable practices to address disproportionality among student groups.
- CRDLT meets regularly to review discipline data and discuss disproportionality to ensure equitable practices for all student groups, and how to address our own cultural biases in relation to disciplinary practices.
- CRDLT continues to expand sharable diversity resources (paper and online) for staff, students, and families.

**Capacity & Resource Building**

- MCCSC Hiring Practices
- Focus Training Topics
- Self-Awareness
- Implicit Bias
- Power & Privilege
- Critical Literacy
- Culturally Responsive Classroom

**NEXT STEPS: PAGE 8**
Formation of Diversity Advisory Team—The Diversity Advisory Team is a solution-focused team working collaboratively with MCCSC as we continue our efforts to ensure that our schools are welcoming and inclusive learning environments for all students, families, and staff.

February—Increased Spanish interpreter time to assist Spanish speaking families. Created an information card in Spanish for families outlining school corporation contacts.

February—As recommended by Renae Azziz, Dr. Terrence Harewood, Associate Professor of Multicultural Education and Social Foundations at the University of Indianapolis, will work with our Cultural Responsivity Committee and principals on structuring our work going forward and helping teachers and school leaders into a culture of competency development.

March—First meeting with Diversity Advisory Team
• Take input from them on what MCCSC should know about their children and our community.
• How can we improve the welcoming and inclusive school environment for all students and families?
• How can we improve communication?
• Who have we left out?

March 23—Dr. Derek Greenfield, Community Discussion on “Confronting Ourselves-Promoting Diversity, Cultural Competence, and Inclusive Excellence” Dr. Greenfield will be meeting with IU faculty on March 24th in the afternoon.

March 24—Dr. Derek Greenfield will be meeting with the Diversity Advisory Team, Cultural Responsivity Committee, administrators, social workers, guidance counselors, and special education psychologists on similar topics to previous night but also focusing on creating a communications structure.

April—Diversity Advisory Team meeting.

May—Diversity Advisory Team meeting.
Unionville Elementary is celebrating their 95th year as a school during the 2016-2017 school year. Decorated with 95 arrows, 95 acts of kindness, and pictures and stories from the past, Principal Lily Albright had her students participate in decorating the history of their school throughout the hallways for the school’s birthday. Those who took a moment to follow along were transported back through time.

On the 95th day of school Principal Albright invited Hoosier legend Angelo Pizzo, producer and director of the movies *Hoosiers* and *Rudy*, to tell one of stories that inspired him to write *Hoosiers*. As Pizzo explained, then Unionville Elementary was a small high school and they beat county giant Bloomington High School to win the 1966 sectional. He remembered the ‘hoosier hysteria’ surrounding the game and used those memories when directing the movie *Hoosiers*. Student body president Kyle Clark, pictured below with Pizzo, asked questions formed by classmates of Pizzo for more than an hour in front of the all school assembly. Several Unionville community members and alumni joined in on the festivities, recalling stories of the school’s long standing in the Unionville area.
Grandview Elementary has become the standard for excellence in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) in the State of Indiana. As an Indiana Department of Education STEM Certified School of Promising Practice, Principal Lisa Roberts and staff were invited to present to the IDOE School Network Meeting about their successful implementation of STEM into the classroom.

They just recently completed the setup of a fully-stocked STEM lab that can be reserved by teachers and gives students access to the latest STEM resources. A recent addition to the lab was a STEAM 3D printer awarded to Grandview by 1st Maker Space for their leadership in STEM. The Grandview staff was given a two-hour training on how to use and maintain the printer and taught several education techniques on how to implement the printing into STEM content areas.

As a STEM leader in the State of Indiana, Grandview has hosted teachers from the Brooklyn Elementary STEM Academy for a presentation on STEM and a tour of the school. Grandview teachers discussed the successful implementation of STEM into all content areas and answered questions about the lesson planning process. Teachers from and Richland-Bean Blossom School Corporation are interested in visiting as well.

Students also have the opportunity to participate in two after-school STEM related clubs, Lego Club or Contig Math Club. When asked, many students will tell you their favorite subject is science, technology, engineering, or math. Parents have commented that at the holidays their children aren’t asking for games and toys, they want crystal kits, legos, and robotics kits.
LILLY ENDOWMENT RECIPIENTS

The Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County has awarded the 2017 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarships. Bloomington High School North’s, Frances Kincaid and Bloomington High School South’s, Betsy Beggs will receive a four-year, full-tuition scholarship to an Indiana public or private college of their choosing. Betsy has aligned her interests towards a career in government while Frances is going to pursue a career in medicine.

BEST BUDDIES

Thank you to Maddie Collins (front left) and Hank Ruff (front right) for being Best Buddies! The Best Buddies program creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). We are very proud to have this available in our schools. If you would like to become a Best Buddy please see the Best Buddies faculty advisor in your school.

MOLECULAR MEDICINE IN ACTION

Emily Kinnarney, a student in Angelia Floyd’s anatomy class at Bloomington High School South, has been selected to participate in the Molecular Medicine in Action (MMIA) symposium, a very prestigious and exciting symposium on March 12-13, 2017. She will be one of 50 students participating in the MMIA student symposium at Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research located in the Indiana University School of Medicine.

WELLS SCHOLAR

Congratulations to Sophia Ren, a student at Bloomington High School South, who received a Wells Scholarship from Indiana University. Well's Scholars receive full tuition and course-related fees, as well as a living stipend, for four years of undergraduate study on the Bloomington campus. Scholars may choose to spend up to one of those years studying abroad.
@FAST CONNECTIONS

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ENGAGE. EMPOWER. EDUCATE.

MCCSC SCHOOL BOARD SCHEDULE

IMPORTANT DATES
Built-in Snow Day - February 20, 2017
Spring Break-No School
Monday, March 13-Friday, March 17

Calendar of Regular Meetings
January-March 2017
Tuesday, February 28, 2017
Tuesday, March 28, 2017
Tuesday, April 25, 2017

Meeting dates are scheduled for the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm.