
September 2018

Allisonville PTO Press

Pomerence's Place

Exciting Times at Allisonville

This summer I was informed that Allisonville was selected to be the next school renovated. Crooked Creek and Spring Mill are also in the planning stages. The District selected the architects and we have had several meetings. The plan is to start renovating Allisonville next May. We are hoping to move Allisonville to the vacant John Strange building next summer and are awaiting final approval. John Strange will be moving into the new Clearwater Elementary building a mile from Allisonville, on 79th Street. Allisonville (our students and teachers) will be at John Strange for one year while they are renovating the Allisonville building.

Allisonville has a Design Team with 7 members. It consists of administrators, teachers, and other staff members. The architects presented 5 Options to the District Committee and it was narrowed to three when they presented to the Design Team. We have 3 scheduled meetings and hope to present to our staff on September 7th. The front area is a focus area as we continue to improve safety in our buildings. The cafeteria, gym, stage, bathrooms, special education rooms, World Language and small group areas all will be addressed. Every classroom will be touched.

This Friday, August 31st, is a Coffee with the Principal. I will be sharing additional information at that time. I will also have information about the process each month in the newsletter.

We have had a smooth start and have 5 new staff members. They are Seth Hoffman-Grade 4, Matthew Condon-Grade 3, Taylor Post- Grade 2, Elisa Knoll Music Teacher, and Taylor Scott-Grade 2 maternity leave for first semester. Our enrollment has increased to 725 students.

It is super cool to think in 2 years we will be back in a beautiful renovated school.

Mike Pomerence
Principal



August 31

1st PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) Meeting
8:45am at Allisonville

September 6

5th Grade Field Day

September 12

4th Grade Field Day

September 19

MSDWT Parent Council Meeting

September 20

Early Release Day at
2:15pm

September 27

PTO Meeting w/ Dr.
Woodson at 5:45pm at
Allisonville

October 8-12

Fall Break – NO SCHOOL

**Want to know the latest
PTO & school news?**

Follow Us Online!



AVPTO.com



AllisonvilleElementaryPto



@AVPTO



From the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

On behalf of the Allisonville Parent Teacher Organization, we want to wish all of our Explorer Families a happy start to the 2018-2019 school year! As always, we have a full schedule of events to support, encourage and entertain our students, teachers and families and we look forward to your input and help with each of them.

We would love to have all of our families become part of the PTO so that we can make sure to keep you updated on everything that we have planned this school year. Please email us at allisonvillepto@gmail.com and let us know that you'd like to join - remember donations are always accepted, but **membership is totally free** and any caregiver of an Allisonville student is welcome!

We wouldn't be off to such a grand start if it hadn't been for some fantastic helping hands! Many thanks to:

- ❖ Carolyn Nickols and Sarah Hittle for organizing our Popsicle Pop In.
- ❖ Marci Robinson, Leslie Brezette and Erin Murray got all of our learners off to a well-equipped start with the classroom School Supply Kits
- ❖ Gina Naas and her group of volunteers for making sure our new students found their classrooms on the first day of school.

We want to give a huge shout out to our amazing Allisonville teachers and staff for a terrific Back to School Night!

We will be having three AVPTO General Meetings this year to keep you all informed. We would love for you to join us this Friday, August 31st at 8:35am for a PTO General Meeting (formerly Coffee with the Principal) ALL are welcome to join for a back to school update and introductions to some of our newest staff members! And yes, we will still have coffee:)

Save the date for upcoming evening meetings:

Thursday, Sept. 27th at 5:45pm: Dr. Nikki Woodson on District and Renovation Updates

Thursday, April 4th at 7pm: Neuroscience Meeting

Please feel free to contact us with any questions, suggestions or ideas - we would LOVE to hear from you!

Abby Auer - abbyauer@gmail.com
Molly Winkler - mollycart17@msn.com
2018-2019 PTO Co-Presidents



Remember to sign up for Kroger Rewards! Allisonville Elementary earns 4% of every dollar you spend when you use your Kroger Plus card. It only takes a few minutes to sign up!

Enroll here:

krogercommunityrewards.com



Parents,

Welcome Back. Just wanted to let you know the illnesses are already starting. Please keep your child home if they are sick, especially with a fever or vomiting.

Smile mobile is Sept. 4th & 5th, be sure to return the form as soon as possible.

Mrs. Reeves, Allisonville nurse, 317-845-9441 ext. 11204, kreeves6@iuhealth.org

NORTH CENTRAL HOMECOMING PRE-GAME PARTY



September 21

5:00-7:00

NCHS Brick Plaza

(Just north of the North Central Stadium)

Proudly Sponsored by:



The Advancement Center
for Washington Township Schools and North Central Alumni
Serving students—past, present and future

Interested in volunteering?



If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, please email allisonvillepto@gmail.com and ask to be added to the email list.

School Newsletter



If you have feedback or something you would like to see in the newsletter or you have a submission, contact Jill Turcic at jillturcic@live.com.

Live music by

The SOUL SURVIVORS

Steve Marra NCHS '70, Darrell Pike NCHS '69,
Kevin Worley NCHS '69 and Ray Ohlson NCHS '68

Rain location is the North Central South Gym

AdvancementCenterWTS.org

Staff Spotlight: Elisa Knoll

Last spring, Elisa Knoll got the phone call from her sister she'd been waiting on for four years. Knoll's nieces and nephew attend Allisonville, and the family had often joked that if Mrs. Sukup retired, Knoll would come down from Chicago and become the school's music teacher.

"My sister called me and said, don't panic, but we've got to talk!" Mrs. Sukup had announced her retirement. It was go time. Knoll immediately reached out about the position. In addition to quickly sending a resume and cover letter, she provided a digital portfolio with video samples of what she'd been doing as a music teacher in Chicago.

"This really was the absolute dream come true. It was a running joke in my family for 4 years. Then all the sudden it happened. I do not take that lightly. I'm in such an incredible school with incredible staff and parents. That's already been so apparent," Knoll said.

It wasn't the original dream Knoll had as a self-described "choir nerd to end all choir nerds" who envisioned herself having a musical theater career. But in March of her high school senior year after being accepted to a college musical theater program in New York, Knoll suddenly lost her voice for six months, stumping every doctor she saw.

"I realized I couldn't make a career out of something that might disappear," she said.

She switched to journalism but quickly found herself miserable. She remembers talking to her dad about it one day.

"He said, 'I don't understand why you didn't want to become Mrs. Scott.' She was my music teacher growing up and I had adored her. It was mind-blowing. I don't know why I'd never thought of it before. My two things I've always been passionate about are music and kids."

She transferred to Roosevelt University and changed to music education, quickly falling in love with it.

She initially thought she'd go into high school because of chorale, but teaching elementary "felt like coming home." "There's something incomparable about seeing a kid understand a concept of music for the first time. You see the light bulb go off and they get so excited."

Parents can get an up-close look at that excitement, because Knoll welcomes volunteers in the classroom – especially leading up to the many performances our students prepare or on future music field trips she's hoping to organize. She's even dreaming about a possible theater club.

Knoll views music as critical to a child's education and development. She uses Cheryl Lavender's quote as her teaching philosophy, "The fact that children can make beautiful music is less significant than the fact that music can make beautiful children."

She expounded, "It's so important for kids to have a place to go and express themselves and take responsible risks and be vulnerable. They don't get that in the same way in any other classroom. It can be an escape for kids. It can be the reason some kids come to school. It can be something to kids and everything to kids. We can't discount that. It was for me. It's why I'm doing what I'm doing now. Music shapes children and helps them be better.

Staff Spotlight continued

"I'm excited to see where the kids are by the end of the year – how much they can grow and do. It's already started happening. Kids are coming in and asking if they can do certain songs. Are we doing the 'Up the Ladder' song? They're talking about it outside the music room. It's the most heart-warming thing."

I know what she means, because when I told my daughter Rosie that I was interviewing Miss Knoll on the phone, she made me promise to let her sing to her teacher when I was done. And when I opened the door and held the phone up, Rosie didn't miss a beat.

"Up the ladder! Down the ladder! One by one!"

Earlier in our conversation, Knoll had told me she loves music because "it gives you a connection." As I stood listening to Miss Knoll laugh with delight at the unexpected solo, I had the privilege to see that connection firsthand.

We're so fortunate to have Miss Knoll here – making connections with our kids – one by one.

Abbey (Blake) Levenshus

Parent Council Network (PCN) Update

We are looking for parent volunteers to represent Allisonville at the Parent Council Network district-level meetings for the 2018-2019 school year. No experience necessary!

Mark your calendars now for upcoming meetings:

September 19

October 24

November 14 (held at North Central High School)

On the Agenda for Sept: Legislative Town Hall

Meet your legislators! We have invited all current state legislators and candidates in the Washington Township area to participate in a discussion on issues that directly impact Washington Township Schools. Don't miss this amazing opportunity to ask questions directly to our representatives! Hear what our elected officials and candidates have to say about public education and other key issues.

Join a Committee:

- Public Policy
- Teacher Support
- Internal Affairs
- Innovation Study

Location for most meetings:

Community and Education Center (CEC)
8550 Woodfield Crossing Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46240. Always check this website & Facebook Page for possible location changes and to learn about upcoming topics!

Twitter: @MSDWT_Parents

Email: admin@msdwtparentcouncil.org

Allisonville, an IB World School



As we launch into this school year, I'd like to inform you of the Learner Profile attributes that we consider important. Please take a minute to think about how you might incorporate these qualities into your personal and home lives to help reinforce them. Our Allisonville community is always learning and working together to grow and improve. Each month, I'll be sharing tips about how you can help your child grow in these areas.

- ❖ **Inquirers** – WE nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.
- ❖ **Knowledgeable** – We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.
- ❖ **Thinkers** - We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in make reasoned, ethical decisions.
- ❖ **Communicators** – We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.
- ❖ **Principled** – We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.
- ❖ **Open-minded** - WE critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the value and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.
- ❖ **Caring** – We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.
- ❖ **Risk-takers** – We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.
- ❖ **Balanced** – We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives – intellectual, physical, and emotional – to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.
- ❖ **Reflective** – We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

Words from Mrs. Weiger in the Media Center



The Scholastic Reading Challenge ends on Sept. 8th. We are encouraging students to continue to read and log their minutes. We are hoping to be BEST IN THE STATE. If we are #1 for reading minutes in Indiana, our name will be published in the 2019 Scholastic Book of World Records. If your child needs their log in information, contact pweiger@msdwt.k12.in.us

The only way to become and better reader is the READ!

Students are expected to read at least 20 minutes 4 times a week.

Students have been excited to check out books from the media center! Books may be borrowed for 2 weeks, but we encourage students to return their books as soon as they are finished reading them. Students will come to the media center EVERY week, so please check with them to see what their media day is. At Allisonville, we DO NOT charge fines for overdue books. We DO charge replacement fees for lost or damaged books.

Lexia – There has been some confusion with Lexia and MyOn this year. There have been changes. Our district has loaded a lot of sites that students use into a "portal." The student needs to sign into the portal to get to these sites.

From Home: Students can access Lexia, MyOn, and Learning.com (keyboarding) by going to my.msdwt.k12.in.us

Each student should have been given a username and password. (For many, the usernames are their first initial and 4 letters of their last name followed by 3 numbers.) They will enter their username and password. All the programs can be accessed from there. If you need help, or your child needs his/her sign on information, please contact me. pweiger@msdwt.k12.in.us

Save the Date
Trivia Night
April 19, 2019

