

MT. VERNON

Mainstream

FALL 2022



Community Benefits

Great Expectations

The start of another school year brings excitement for all of the opportunities our students will experience. The cloud



Our end-of-year data has shown that we have made up much of the learning left on the table due to the pandemic, and we are committed to continuing our quest to provide an exceptional learning experience for our students.

of the pandemic has lifted, and spirits are renewed following a full summer of respite. With a full year of great activities in front of us, we encourage community members to participate as a spectator by cheering on our athletic teams

or performing arts activities. If you are over 65 years living in the MV enrollment area, you may obtain a lifetime pass to our events by joining our 65 Plus Club. Simply stop by the administration office with proof of age and residency.

With the teacher shortage, we are working very hard to find the very best to serve the learning needs of our students. We are fortunate to have brought in some amazing new teachers this year who are full of energy and new ideas.

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Engage, Educate & Empower Today's Students



Student Green Thumbs

Student garden produces community benefit

What began as the seed of a modest idea has grown into an impressive self-sustaining garden that benefits the community and demonstrates the power of student creativity and dedication.

Let's rewind by a year, when juniors and seniors in Mt. Vernon High School's Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) program, under Mr. James Cochran's leadership, began brainstorming ideas for a project-based service learning project. Wanting to include freshmen and sophomores as well, Mr. Cochran also brought in the Community Service Club.

The group decided to build a raised bed garden that would supply fresh produce for Fortville Christian Church's food pantry. Thus began a hands-on project where students work together

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Great Expectations *continued*

Additionally, we have been able to hire some great support staff to keep our schools running and support learning directly in classrooms. This is a direct result of the generosity of our community in passing the referendum which allowed us to provide a more competitive pay for all 500+ MV staff members!

As we move into new challenges, we are excited to work together for the children of our community. Our end-of-year data has shown that we have made up much of the learning left on the table due to the pandemic, and we are committed to continuing our quest to provide an exceptional learning experience for our students. We appreciate the support of our community. Please come to an extracurricular event, cheer on our students, and thank a staff member for their amazing work. I look forward to seeing you in the bleachers or at a Traveling Talk soon!

Jack

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent



Garden *continued*

and see the fruit of their labors, literally and figuratively. The garden flourished, producing during its first year about 150 pounds of produce, including bell peppers, zucchini, squash, cucumbers and a variety of tomatoes.

Along the way, students devised creative approaches to maximize results. Realizing that few people would be available for gardening during the summer, students created a self-sustaining system, featuring automatic watering through an irrigation system and weed barriers to eliminate the need for frequent weeding.

In true Mt. Vernon community fashion, various organizations and businesses are assisting. Vernon Township facilitated a grant from the Hancock County Community Foundation to purchase gravel and other materials; Tuttle's Orchard donated plants; Metal Supermarkets donated metal; Backyard Blessings donated tomato cages; and Schreiber Lumber donated wood. In addition, MVHS's welding classes provided MV stakes and various Mt. Vernon staff members and board members supported the project's development and maintenance.

The garden remains under development, as students consider ways to improve and expand the types of produce. Under consideration are beautifying the landscape surrounding the garden, and possibly adding benches and tables.

Cochran said, "This has been such a rewarding experience for the students; the goal is for the garden to become more community-based each year and continue to provide assistance to those in need."



HEROES WERE INVITED TO THE
MT. VERNON HIGH SCHOOL
CAFETERIA ON FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 9.

Honor Heroes Breakfast

Mt. Vernon hosted a free breakfast for all active duty military, veterans, first responders and their families in honor of all those who serve/served and lost their lives on 9/11. The heroes enjoyed fellowship with each other and reflected on those who lost their lives or were impacted

by the events on 9/11. A pancake breakfast provided by Lincoln Square and Hancock Health nourished those in attendance while they listened to the high school Band of Marauders perform, as well as the high school choir. **Heroes, thank you for your service!**



Great Staff = Great Schools!

MT. VERNON EDUCATION
FOUNDATION SPONSORS MV
STAFF APPRECIATION
EVENT

Community Backing Pays Dividends

Any great school district is powered in large part by a great staff. In recognition of that, the Mt. Vernon Education Foundation thanked our staff by sponsoring an appreciation event on September 12 at the Indianapolis Regional Airport hangar.

Serving to both thank all staff and welcome new hires, the lively event featured food from such local spots as The Cakehole, FoxGardin, The Grill, Kinsey's, Leo's, Murphy's Pub, and Chick-fil-A. Daniel Bell, an alternative pop singer and songwriter from Nashville, TN provided live music. Staff enjoyed the opportunity to build camaraderie early in this new school year and participated in drawings to win prizes and gift cards for various places, including Leo's Market & Eatery, Tim's Bakery, and more.

Mt. Vernon appreciates all of our staff from each building, and would like to thank the Mt. Vernon Education Foundation and everyone who made it out to the event!



The generosity of our community in supporting last May's Operating Fund referendum is already paying concrete dividends for Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation students and staff.

"With residents approving the referendum, MVCSC is following through, as promised, by taking steps to ensure continued high quality learning experiences and enhanced safety for students and staff alike," said Dr. Jack Parker, superintendent.

In a benefit for student and staff security during a time of increased national concern over these matters, the school district has hired additional School Resource Officers so that we now have one SRO in each school and two at Mt. Vernon High School.

Additionally, in these difficult hiring times, MVCSC was able to provide a substantial raise to the classified staff who support all of the great work in our classrooms. The school corporation will conduct pay raise discussions for our teachers during bargaining season this fall.

MVEF Topgolf – 'Chip in Fore Kids'



WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 26
5:30-8:30PM
COST: \$99 PER PERSON



Don't miss this unique opportunity to support Mt. Vernon Education Foundation at the "Chip in Fore Kids" Golf Outing. This event will be held at the **Topgolf** located at 116th Street in Fishers.

Come enjoy an evening of networking with your friends, family, and colleagues as we raise funds for the MVEF's work to encourage and support creativity, innovation and excellence that connect and enhance educational opportunities.

Visit www.MtVernonFoundation.org to sign up or sponsor the event!



MT. VERNON

COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

1806 W. State Rd 234, Fortville, IN 46040



**Traveling
Talks**
with
Superintendent
Dr. Jack Parker

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

REMAINING 2022 TRAVELING TALKS:

THURSDAY,

October 27 – Noon:
FoxGardin – Fortville

WEDNESDAY,

November 16 – Noon:
Sero's – Cumberland

THURSDAY,

December 1 – 6:00 pm:
Virtual – Sign Up online
www.mvcsc.k12.in.us



Community Connections Through “Traveling Talks”

Three opportunities remain during this calendar year to connect with Superintendent Dr. Jack Parker through his “Traveling Talks” series throughout the Mt. Vernon community.

These “Traveling Talks” are a chance for community members to communicate directly with Dr. Parker and share their hopes, questions, or concerns about Mt. Vernon schools. This casual dialogue is designed to connect the community with school leadership.

Anyone in the community is welcome to attend and hear updates on the achievements and future growth of MVCSC with Dr. Parker while grabbing your own lunch or dinner.

No RSVP is necessary for the in-person meetings; just show up and look for the “Traveling Talks” table toppers. For the virtual meeting, please sign up through a link available on the MVCSC website and you will be emailed the Zoom link before the meeting.