

MT. VERNON

# Mainstream

WINTER 2023

Planning  
Responsibly



Engage, Educate & Empower Today's Students

## Growth Update

Enrollment growth slows;  
Future Growth Plan adjusted in response

A growing community means a growing school district. With an additional 415 students since the 2018-2019 school year,



**AS WE FOCUS ON  
SERVING OUR  
STUDENTS TODAY,  
IT IS WITH A  
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**THAT WE CAN PROVIDE THE  
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OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY TO  
LEARN AND GROW TOGETHER.**

we are tracking just under the growth projections made four years ago. This slower enrollment climb is in tandem with a continual decrease in transfer students as we plan to responsibly manage resources needed to construct facilities for the future.

Ensuring that we do not construct new facilities too early or too late requires ongoing tracking of each cohort's growth. When we advanced the recommendations of the Mt. Vernon Community Champions in the spring of 2020, we shared that we would not build until we saw the whites

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## Groundbreaking Ceremony

Fortville Elementary School  
and the Transportation Building

A November 30 groundbreaking ceremony for the new Fortville Elementary School (FES) and new Transportation Building spotlighted the strong partnerships that benefit our students and our growing community.

Superintendent Dr. Jack Parker and Mt. Vernon Board of Trustees President Kellie Freeman lauded the community support that has driven the Future Growth Plan initiative and thanked key partners, including construction firm AECOM Hunt, architecture firm Beebe Design and the Town of Fortville.

FES Principal Dr. Vince Edwards discussed how the new elementary will enhance the educational

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### Growth *continued*

of their eyes. Thus, this growth is tracking for us to need our new school in the 2025-2026 school year, when we will once again use Fortville Elementary School as a grades five and six intermediate school, relieving pressure in the middle and elementary schools by removing a grade level from each. The additional year delay in constructing the new K-4 Fortville Elementary School on the east side of N 200 E is landing us in the sweet spot for this district-level grade configuration change.

These are exciting times for Mt. Vernon Schools and a drive through the Fortville campus will show all of this great work beginning to take shape. As we focus on serving our students today, it is with a responsible eye on our future that we can provide the best opportunities for our school community to learn and grow together.

*Jack*

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

### Groundbreaking *continued*



experience in line with the district's mission: to Engage, Educate and Empower today's students to seize tomorrow's opportunities.

A planned addition to the current Fortville Elementary School (formerly the Mt. Vernon Intermediate School) was completed by the start of this school year as the space was needed by current students. FES is scheduled to open for the 2025-2026 school year; the Transportation Building is scheduled to be functioning in December of 2023; and the new road on the Fortville campus that will help ease traffic congestion should be open by August 2023.

Dr. Parker has communicated that the high school renovations have been delayed due to lower-than-forecast enrollment growth and are projected to be completed by the fall of 2028. The middle school renovations are also delayed and projected to commence in the fall of 2028. Mt. Vernon leaders will continue to diligently monitor enrollment, construction costs and related factors. Community members may find additional details by reviewing information on the school corporation website: [www.mvcsc.k12.in.us](http://www.mvcsc.k12.in.us).

MVCSC IS INITIATING AND  
DEVELOPING NEW WAYS TO  
HELP STUDENTS

## Career Event Lets Students Dream and Discover

More than ever before, MVCSC is initiating and developing new ways to help students discover their careers that are right for them and to prepare accordingly.

As part of this work, Mt. Vernon High School (MVHS) students were recently encouraged to dream about their futures and were exposed to a variety of careers that align with academic pathways. A one-day career exposure event, sponsored by the Mt. Vernon Education

Foundation, offered a career exploration assembly to freshmen in the morning while sophomores and juniors were taking the PSAT. At the assembly, guest speakers from various career pathways shared detailed information about their jobs. In the afternoon, after students finished PSAT testing, all students attended a college and career fair in which they learned that it is never too early to start preparing for their futures.



# MVHS Band in ABC Thanksgiving Parade

MARCHING MAURAUDERS  
PUT ON AMAZING SHOW IN  
NATIONAL PARADE



Mt. Vernon community pride was literally on display and on the march as the MVHS Band of Marauders performed in the annual ABC Philadelphia Dunkin' Donuts Thanksgiving Day Parade. Although they unfortunately did not get air time, their performance was nothing short of amazing.

For this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, the Band of Marauders mastered a pair of new numbers and conditioned themselves for the two-hour march in front of a large and appreciative crowd.

Besides the Thanksgiving Parade performance, band members made the most of the trip by having a history tour in Philadelphia and a tour of Kimmel Center. The band then traveled to New York City where they visited the Grand Central Terminal, the 9/11 Memorial Museum, Times Square, Top of the Rock (observatory on top of Rockefeller Center) and Central Park. The excursion was topped off with Thanksgiving Dinner on a riverboat beside the Statue of Liberty, followed by seeing the musical "Wicked."

These are the kinds of rare and exciting opportunities for students that sometimes resonate well beyond the event itself. Well done, Band of Marauders!



## All Five MVCSC Schools Rated "Highly Effective"

In yet another measure of our schools' overall quality, all five K-12 Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation schools have earned a Highly Effective Schools Accreditation from Solution Tree. This marks the second consecutive year that all five have received this accreditation. This also reflects each school's commitment to reach and maintain the highest level of quality, as gauged by a focus on learning, a collaborative culture and an orientation toward results.

Mt. Vernon High School, Mt. Vernon Middle School, Fortville Elementary School, McCordsville Elementary School and Mt. Comfort Elementary School earned this accreditation by maintaining and growing identified areas that have the biggest impact on student learning and growth.



## MVEF Black & Gold Gala April 1



Mark your calendars and be prepared for an evening of fun while you support Mt. Vernon students, as the Mt. Vernon Education Foundation hosts its annual Black & Gold Gala on Saturday, April 1! This annual signature fundraising event is highlighted by the announcement of Mt. Vernon's Teachers/Staff of the Year and Distinguished Alumni Awards. Since its creation in 2007, the Foundation – thanks to community generosity – has been able to award grants to all MVCSC schools and hundreds of Mt. Vernon teachers, who have utilized the grants to enhance and enrich students' learning experiences and resources.

**Saturday, April 1**  
6 p.m. - Midnight

**Indiana Roof Ballroom**  
**in Downtown Indianapolis**

**Tickets are \$99 per Person**  
**at [MtVernonFoundation.org](http://MtVernonFoundation.org)**

**Sponsorship Opportunities**  
**with Great Exposure**  
**are Available**

[MtVernonFoundation.org](http://MtVernonFoundation.org)



# MT. VERNON

COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

1806 W. State Rd 234, Fortville, IN 46040

## Mt. Vernon Thanks and Honors our Veterans

Mt. Vernon appreciates  
those who have served!



**STUDENTS NOT ONLY  
HONORED THE VETERANS IN  
ATTENDANCE, BUT ALSO THE MEMBERS OF  
ARMED FORCES WHO WERE PRISONERS  
OF WAR AND THOSE CURRENTLY  
UNACCOUNTED FOR.**

The three Mt. Vernon elementary schools and the middle school hosted convocations emphasizing veterans' sacrifices. The assemblies included student-led patriotic songs, speeches, poems, decorations and parades. Veterans in attendance greatly appreciated the well-deserved recognition. Several schools asked the veterans in attendance to share with the audience their name, years of service and which student(s) they accompanied. Students also not only honored the veterans in attendance, but also the members of Armed Forces who were prisoners of war and those currently unaccounted for. The elementary students also lined the halls to cheer for the veterans who passed by with their child or grandchild. During the parade, students could be heard waving flags and chanting "U.S.A.!" throughout the building.

**Thank you veterans for your service to our country!**

