



MVCSC Communications Report

School Board of Trustees Meeting

2-2026

GREAT NEWS IN THE DISTRICT

School Accolades & Notable Activities

- Each year, MVEF and MVCSC partner to recognize a Teacher of the Year and Staff Member of the Year from each building, based on peer nominations and criteria including teamwork, commitment to learning, innovation, and student focus. MVEF will reveal the **District Winner for Teacher and Staff of the Year** at the MVEF's "Doubling Down on Tomorrow" Gala on April 11. Congratulations to our building winners!

Building	Teacher of the Year	Staff of the Year
Admin	Katie Thompson	Lacey Groce
Fortville Elementary	Courtney Munsell	Natalie Johnson
Mt. Comfort Elementary	Kristin Hahn	Laura Lyons
McCordsville Elementary	Amber Andres	Kristina Englehart
Mt. Vernon Intermediate School	Lindsey Knight	Kiley Shaw
Mt. Vernon Middle School	Elissa Page	Krista Turpin
Mt. Vernon High School	Karen Riesterer	Zach Ratliff

- MVHS junior and cancer survivor Tyler Ralston is running to be the Indianapolis Student Visionary of the Year for Blood Cancer United, formerly the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.
- MVHS seniors and choir members Joey Kagwanja and Eleanor Wilcox performed at the 2026 Indiana All-State Choir performance on Saturday, January 17th, in Fort Wayne. These students were chosen to perform with the 250-voice group of high school singers from all around the state of Indiana, and Joey was selected to sing a solo with the choir at the performance.
- Four MVIS robotics teams and two teams from FES competed in the VEX IQ Robotics Competition at the end of January. Three MVIS teams and one FES team made it to the finals, and the MVIS CHiPs team qualified for the state competition at Lucas Oil Stadium March 14.
- Congrats to Luke Ertel on being named to the Naismith Player of the Year Midseason Team. Only 25 players from across the nation were selected, with Luke being the only representative from Indiana! He also broke the MVHS boys basketball scoring record (1390) set by Tim Miller in 1998.
- Olivia Beck won the 100 Meter Backstroke at sectionals and advanced to the state finals for swimming.
- Eli Broady was the 132 lbs. sectional wrestling champion, and Ty Barnhart was the 120 lbs. sectional champion.
- MVHS English teacher Heidi Kensinger has been awarded the Lilly Teacher Creativity Grant, an 18-month renewal opportunity designed to support creativity and enriching educational experiences. Her project includes a trip to the United Kingdom and Ireland to visit iconic Harry Potter locations.
- The district experienced a smooth and well-coordinated transition from eLearning to Virtual Learning. Teachers and parents shared positive feedback regarding communication, instructional continuity, and student engagement.

- Two students from MVMS, Riley Higgins and Emry Graham, participated in the Precious Miss program, which is an eight-week program designed to help students in grades 6-8 build positive relationships and leadership skills.
- Mt. Comfort Elementary School recently celebrated Global School Play Day. Staff spent time with students, while students learned and built friendships through creating, inventing, and learning brand-new games.
- Several schools across the district celebrated the 100th day of school with activities highlighting student growth and learning. At MCE, students participated in cross-grade activities, goal-setting, and a kindergarten fashion show, while Mini-Marauder Preschool celebrated the milestone by learning how large the number 100 is.
- As part of MVCSC's strategic plan focused on staff retention and appreciation efforts, MVCSC leadership held a coffee bar at each school building and delivered staff's custom coffee to their classrooms.

Community Connections

- Mt. Vernon Education Foundation hosted a Parent University event with numerous speakers and attendees, titled "Hands-On Futures." The well-attended event helped families explore real career pathways and real opportunities — including trades, healthcare, logistics, construction, manufacturing, public safety, technology, and more.
- MCE collected 461 pairs of shoes to support the No Cold Feet Challenge with Recycle Hancock County. The collected (gently used) shoes will support the Changing Footprints organization.
- Dr. Parker spoke at the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce "State of Education" meeting and highlighted our growth, the financial challenges of SEA 1, our high staff retention rate, and the importance of community collaboration, among other updates.
- MVCSC held a successful "Take the Wheel – Drive & Decide" bus driver recruitment event, drawing approximately 13 attendees and resulting in multiple candidates entering the hiring process.

PRESS SUMMARY

Greenfield Reporter:

- [School briefs](#)
- [Community briefs](#)
- [All-County team includes state finalists](#)
- [BREAKTHROUGH YEAR: NP soph Bauer is boys cross country athlete of the year](#)
- [PREP ROUNDUP: NP gymnasts win opener at Connersville](#)
- [Take your best shot](#)
- [Five county wrestlers to compete in IHSA state finals](#)
- [Take your best shot](#)
- [PODIUM PLACERS: Wagner-Gilbert, Zarate medal to lead county wrestlers at state](#)
- [2026-01-17 Daily Reporter 60156372](#)
- [Community briefs](#)
- [2026-01-17 Daily Reporter 60156819](#)
- [Three county schools to battle for HHC titles in New Castle](#)
- [Dragons win first HHC title since 2008](#)
- [WEEKEND ROUNDUP: Cougars win county rivalry game over Royals](#)
- [2026-01-21 Daily Reporter 60156823](#)
- [Prepared for pre-K: Local preschools offer open houses this winter for families](#)
- [Shelton, Gilpin, Howell inducted into MV Hall of Fame](#)
- [Repeated absences result in arrest: Mom's neglect charge highlights changes to school attendance law](#)
- [MV's Ertel among nation's elite](#)
- [Cougars beat Marauders for first time in eight years](#)

- [2026-01-24 Daily Reporter 60156372](#)
- [PREP ROUNDUP: Eastern's Powers goes for 33 in win at Monroe](#)
- [Ertel becomes Mt. Vernon's all-time leading scorer](#)
- [2026-01-28 Daily Reporter 60156823](#)
- [POSTSEASON PATH: Pairings set for next week's girls basketball sectional](#)
- [WEEKEND ROUNDUP: GC beats Shortridge on short rest](#)
- [Community briefs](#)
- [Honoring excellence: MV teachers, staff to be celebrated at upcoming gala](#)
- [Back when](#)
- [Community briefs](#)
- [MV's Ertel among state's standouts on cover of Hoosier Basketball Magazine](#)
- [Food safety reports](#)
- [Club news: Local groups host events, offer scholarships to students](#)
- [Hot-shooting Marauders improve to 5-0 in HHC](#)
- [Marauders close out regular season with win over New Castle](#)
- [Local middle schools ranked in list](#)
- [Talented players on talented teams make up all-county volleyball team](#)
- [I CAN DIG IT: NP libero Flagle is county's volleyball athlete of the year](#)
- [Postseason wrestling begins today at Lawrence Central, Centerville](#)
- [High School Sports Schedule](#)
- [Hancock County's assessed value surpasses \\$7 billion](#)
- [Community briefs](#)
- [School briefs](#)
- [Community briefs](#)
- [IHSAA's girls basketball tournament begins today](#)
- [Local high school students join nationwide protests against ICE](#)
- [Scholarship savvy: Local groups offer money to high school seniors](#)
- [Dragons win sectional, first since '08; MV's Broady is 4-time champ](#)
- [Marauders fall to No. 10 Pendleton Heights in sectional opener](#)
- [Back when](#)
- [LOCAL ROUNDUP: Mullins leads UConn in win at Creighton](#)
- ['WE GROW TOGETHER': Superintendents share updates at State of Education event](#)
- [Community briefs](#)
- [Government calendar](#)
- [No. 8 Marauders coast to 10th straight win](#)
- [Government calendar](#)
- [Community briefs](#)
- [NP students gather in after-school protest against ICE](#)
- [State champ New Palestine leads all-county football squad](#)
- [High School Sports Schedule](#)
- [County wrestlers battle for regional titles, semi-state berths today](#)

Indy Star:

- [Taking stock: High school basketball Feb 15 at midpoint of season](#)
- [Feb 15: Pike, Center Grove lead first Central Indiana rankings of 2026](#)
- [Tuesday's HS basketball: Marion County first round, Super 25 results](#)
- [Hamilton Heights football coaching job opens. 'It was a very tough decision.'](#)

- [IHSAA girls wrestling: Who will Indy-area wrestlers face at state?](#)
- [Hill triple double in Pike's County win, sets up showdown with Lawrence North](#)
- [Monday Insider: What we learned from week in high school basketball](#)
- [New Super 25! Lawrence North, Silver Creek moving up. Four new teams in](#)
- [Monster night for Devin Bolden. Cardinal Ritter into City tourney semifinals](#)
- [Insider: Variety is good for City Tournament, more from week in HS basketball](#)
- [Snap judgments: On City tourney, Lampley, Ertel, Class 3A power and more](#)
- [School records, 2,000-point scorers. Vote for basketball player of week](#)
- [USA Today Network Indiana High School Boys Basketball poll, Jan. 26](#)
- [Indy-area students join nationwide school walkouts to protest ICE](#)
- [Indiana students hold ICE walkouts. What to know about their rights](#)
- [Harrison boys basketball battles Mt. Vernon \(Fortville\) and Luke Ertel](#)
- ['Bringing back Sheridan basketball.' Blackhawks clinch share of league title](#)
- [IHSAA girls basketball Class 4A sectional preview: Matchups, players to watch, analysis](#)
- [IHSAA girls basketball predictions: Our Insider picks Class 4A sectionals](#)
- [Ranking Indiana's top high school girls basketball teams entering sectionals](#)
- [Three snap judgments and Super 25 results from Saturday's HS basketball](#)
- [Girls wrestling: See who made the 2025-26 Central Indiana Super Team](#)
- [A refreshed high school basketball Feb 15 going into final month of season](#)
- [See which Central Indiana boys wrestlers advanced out of sectional meets](#)
- [How fear and empowerment are motivating thousands of Indy students to protest ICE](#)
- [Boys wrestling: 6 Central Indiana grapplers to watch in regionals](#)
- [Noblesville's Justin Curry out for season with torn ACL. 'Hate it for him.'](#)
- [Thursday takeaways: Lampley shines in Pike-Ben Davis battle and plenty more](#)
- ['Great place to play basketball.' A visit to Oak Hill to see No. 1 team in 2A](#)
- [See where Indy-area girls swimmers placed at sectionals](#)
- [On to semistate: See which Indy-area wrestlers advance through regionals](#)

Star Press:

- [Indiana high school girls basketball state tournament draw, pairings](#)
- [IHSAA girls basketball sectionals scoreboard for East Central Indiana](#)

Courier & Press:

- [USA Today Network Indiana High School Boys Basketball Poll, Jan. 12](#)
- [USA Today Network Indiana High School Boys Basketball Poll, Jan. 19](#)
- [USA Today Network Indiana High School Boys Basketball Poll, Feb. 2](#)

Schools and Kinders:

- [FORTVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL in HANCOCK, FORTVILLE](#)

USA News Hub:

- [Indiana High School Boys Basketball Top 25 Rankings – Jan. 13](#)

Outside the Huddle:

- [Boys basketball IBCA Poll for Jan. 11](#)
- [USA Today Network Boys Basketball Poll for Jan. 12 released](#)

Fox 59:

- [Central Indiana schools planning to operate on delayed schedules Tuesday morning](#)
- [See what central Indiana schools, churches, and more are closed on Monday](#)
- [Schools, businesses across central Indiana announce closures for Tuesday as Hoosiers continue to dig out of weekend snow](#)
- [Schools, businesses announce closures for Wednesday as Extreme Cold Warning goes into effect](#)
- [See what central Indiana schools are delayed on Friday](#)

Yahoo Sports:

- [Indiana High School Boys Basketball Top 25 Rankings – Jan. 20](#)

Max Preps:

- [Basketball Game Preview: Mt. Vernon Marauders vs. Greenfield-Central Cougars](#)
- [Basketball Game Preview: Noblesville Millers vs. Mt. Vernon Marauders + How To Watch](#)
- [Basketball Recap: Mt. Vernon Falls Short of Pendleton Heights in the Playoffs](#)
- [Basketball Recap: Mt. Vernon Makes It Eight in a Row at Home + How To Watch](#)

Sports Illustrated:

- [Purdue Signee Luke Ertel Earns Prestigious National Midseason Honor](#)
- [Hamilton Southeastern at Mt. Vernon — High school boys basketball preview \(Jan. 24, 2026\)](#)
- [Why Purdue Fans Shouldn't Panic After Back-to-Back Losses to UCLA, Illinois](#)
- [Purdue Signee Luke Ertel Posts Triple-Double on Record-Breaking Night](#)
- [Where Purdue Stands in KenPom, NCAA NET & AP Rankings to Start February](#)
- [Luke Ertel Shines in Mt. Vernon's Trip to West Lafayette](#)
- [Where Purdue Basketball's 2026 Commits Rank in Updated Top 150 From Recruiting Site](#)

Wish TV:

- [High school basketball showdown: Pike vs. Carmel; Mt. Vernon vs. HSE](#)
- [Students at several Indianapolis area high schools stage anti-ICE walkouts](#)

WIBC:

- [Closings and Delays 1-26-26](#)
- [Closings and Delays 1-27-26](#)

The Times:

- [Noblesville, County Well Represented in Hoosier Basketball](#)

Citizen Portal AI:

- [MVCSC School Board Meeting - 1/27/2025](#)
- [Mount Vernon board approves move to 8-block schedule and updates course catalog](#)
- [MVCSC School Board Meeting \(Work Session\) - 12/8/2025](#)
- [Mt Vernon Community School Corp](#)
- [MVCSC School Board Meeting - 12/8/2025](#)
- [MVCSC School Board Meeting - 1/12/2026](#)

USA Today:

- [See students across America organize walkouts to protest ICE](#)

Pendleton Times:

- [Prep wrap](#)

Hamilton County Reporter:

- [Millers fall to Marauders](#)

Precious Miss Program:

- <https://cldinc.org/about/>
- <https://cldinc.org/program/precious-miss/>