**District Vision Statement**
Michigan Center School - The cutting edge leader in educational advancement empowers all students for life-long success in a changing world.

**District Mission Statement**
The mission of Michigan Center School District is to engage, challenge and motivate life-long learners toward excellence through innovation.

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**Keicher Students Bring History to Life**
Excitement was in the air on Thursday, March 22nd, as 5th grade students headed to the Keicher cafeteria in anticipation of the grand opening of the Living Wax Museum. After over a month of researching and studying their historical figure of choice, students put on their costumes, set up their tri-fold informational poster boards, and anxiously waited to share their knowledge. Parents, grandparents, neighbors, and Keicher students and staff members poured in. With the touch on the shoulder, the museum "exhibits" came to life! Fifth grader Alex Vanover chose Samuel de Champlain as his historical figure. Alex said, "I liked having a lot of people tap on my shoulder. I got to share what I worked really hard on". James Bemer chose Martin Luther King as his historical figure. James felt that "it was a good experience for others to learn about history". Thank you to all of the family, friends, and community members that visited the Living Wax Museum!

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**Fifth Graders Extend Their Learning Beyond the Classroom**
Fifth grade students spent the month of February learning about the orbits of the Earth around the Sun and of the moon around the Earth causing observable patterns: day and night, shadows, and the positions of the Sun, moon, and constellations at different times of the day, month, and year. Students extended their learning this month by visiting the Air Zoo in Portage, Michigan. The “Dare to Dream” exhibit at the Air Zoo celebrates the amazing discoveries and the history of space exploration as well as highlighting the contributions of Galileo and ancient cosmology. Other favorites were "Creation Stations" (Newton's Laws of Physics), 3D full-motion flight simulators, and the “Seeing Stars" presentation. Last, but not least, the students were able to view the more than 50 aircrafts on display. Students took a walk through history from a replica of the first Wright Flyer, to World War II era fighters and bombers, all the way up to the modern and one-of-a-kind SR-71B Blackbird - the fastest plane ever built!
Message from Superintendent Cook

**It’s a Great Time to be a Cardinal!**

I have spent 14 incredible years working at Michigan Center Schools. All 14 years have been great, but this year might top them all. We have so much to be proud of, and it’s truly been a team effort that involved our students, staff, and community.

Thanks to our Cardinal community we have upgraded facilities at all of our buildings that have contributed to a more secure, more contemporary feel. Students and staff definitely reap the benefits of our new construction features, but another huge benefit for the district is the sustained or increased enrollment from students and families that want to become members of the Cardinal family.

My favorite example about how special it is to be a Cardinal happened recently (March 16) when our girls’ basketball team made it to the state semi-final basketball game. The entire day felt like a festive holiday with family. The pinnacle was when the team walked down the hallway through a tunnel of their peers at the Jr/Sr High while our (exceptional) band played the fight song. The team boarded the bus and headed out behind an escort from Blackman/Leoni police and fire vehicles. As the bus headed down State St. toward 5th St. there were cheers and waves from local fans. The bus made the turn toward Keicher where they were greeted by an entire building of ravenous Cardinal fans! The bus headed back to 5th then left on Page where all of the Arnold students and staff, in addition to a large number of fans scattered in front of businesses cheered and yelled for their favorite team.

Our girls’ had an amazing amount of support almost two hours away at Calvin College, and the crowd was a sea of Cardinal red. The result of the semi-final game wasn’t what we’d hoped for, but all of us that experienced the journey knew how special that day was. We look forward to making the trip again next year (hint hint basketball team)!

**Non-Homestead Renewal on the Ballot in August**

Though its months away, we need to let our Cardinal Family know that we will need your support this August. On Tuesday, August 7, 2018, voters in the Michigan Center School District will be asked to **renew** the Non-Homestead Millage for our district’s operating budget by voting on one ballot proposal. Essentially, the ballot proposal asks district voters to **renew** the current millage rate that was last renewed in February of 2014.

This is a very important proposal for our district and it is essential that everyone votes on August 7, 2018.

**What does the Non-Homestead Tax Mean?**

*For residential homestead property owners and qualified agricultural property owners, this renewal of the Non-Homestead mills will **cost you nothing** more than the time and energy you expend to go to the polls.*

*Non-Homestead property is defined as commercial, industrial, and second homes.*

*The Non-Homestead Tax is **extremely important** for the Michigan Center School District, equating to just over one million dollars of revenue next year. If the Non-Homestead millage on non-residential property is not renewed it will create a loss in revenue for the school district of just over one million dollars for the 2018/2019 school year. The Non-Homestead tax revenue is used in Michigan Center’s General Budget for many items such as: school safety, technology, athletics, instructional resources, maintenance, and many other necessary items and services.*

Please feel free to contact me at (517) 764-5778 with any questions you may have. Thank you!
Fifth grade students at Keicher Elementary School performed for family, friends, and fellow Cardinals on Thursday, February 1. The concert began with *It’s Not Hard, I Tell You So*, a body percussion sequence including snaps, claps, pats, and stomps. Students then sang *Down by the Riverside*, a pre-Civil War African-American spiritual, and *Shake the Papaya Down*, a boisterous partner song with catchy rhythms and movements. Each class presented a square dance: Mrs. DuBois and Mr. Herrington’s classes performed *Redwing*; Mrs. Rumsey’s class performed *Butterfly Whirl*; and Mrs. Shurboff’s class performed *Simple Square*. At the evening performance, Mrs. Shurboff’s students invited special guests to participate in their square dance, so the gym floor was filled with joyful dancers including Ms. Psocdn, Mr. Allen, and all the fifth grade teachers! Finally, a few musicians played *Counting Stars* on their recorders, and two black belt recorder karate masters played *Twinkle*, *Mary Had a Little Lamb*, and *Ode to Joy*. Kudos to Lydia Greenman and Kyree Palmer for earning their recorder karate black belts by perfecting all nine recorder songs. Congratulations to all the musicians on their hard work and fine performance!

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Our child care program serves children 3 – 12 years of age. We have programs that run year round – all day, as well as before & after school. We will begin enrollment for our summer program in April. In the summer, we plan theme days, field trips and fun activities. Enrollment for our 2018-19 school year child care will begin by the end of July. We are currently full for the 17-18 school year.

Our preschool program offers classes for 3 and 4 year olds. We have tuition (3 and 4 year old) and GSRP (4 year old, state-funded, and free to those that meet state qualifications) programs. Children are taught in a fun and developmentally appropriate way. Our curriculum is based on the High Scope approach and is aligned with Arnold Elementary. Enrollment for our 2018-19 school year has begun. If you would like information on our tuition classes, you may contact Kim. If you would like to enroll for the GSRP, free program please do so at greatstartjackson.org or call 768-5130 for more information. Classes are filling up fast!
For more information, you may also view our brochure on the Michigan Center School District’s website or “Like” us on Facebook (see link on our page on the website). You may also call us at 764-3380 or email kim.trudell@mccardinals.org for more information.
High School News

Prom May 5th
Ella Sharp Park
8:00pm-11:00pm
Advisors: Tracy VanSickle & Gina Chomic

11th Grade State Testing
April 11th SAT (Students have a full day)
April 11th ACT Work Keys (Students have a full day)
April 12th MME (Students leave after completion of test and if present all 3 days)

9th & 10th Grade State Testing
April 10th PSAT 9 & PSAT 10 (Students have full day)

Michigan Center Schools
High School News

German Day News

Keeping the Cinderella story alive!

Michigan Center Jr/Sr. High School German students competed at the University of Michigan on March 23rd in skits, reading and poetry. Once again our students did amazing, placing 3rd in two events, Poetry - level 2, and a level 1 skit. Taylor Martin placed 3rd in poetry, level 2 - outplacing students from 18 other schools. Our German 1 skit performers were Jordan Lovin, Alexis Surbrook, Caleb Hackney, Cameryn Persons, Cadence DeGroote, Pierce Pennfield, Seth Stewart, Emily Heim and Kylie Wildt. They performed in a skit called “Ein Traum mit Weisheit” (A dream with wisdom) and they placed ahead of 10 other schools. The skit, performed completely in German, and in front of judges from the University of Michigan, displayed their understanding of different German philosophers and poets which was the theme of the day. It was a great learning experience and a great day to be on a big campus. In all, there were about 800 students that attended the event from 26 schools across the state. Congratulations to our students and a big thank you to the administration and also the chaperones who helped make the day a possibility.

High School Art News

The art students at MCHS have been busy all year gearing up for the annual county art show. The Jackson County Art Show will take place at Jackson Crossing from April 23rd through May 7th. Set up for the show will be that Monday with judging taking place on Tuesday morning. Please be sure to mark your calendar and make time to visit our display. I promise you won’t be disappointed. Our students have been hard at work and have created some amazing works of art.

Tracy VanSickle
Art Teacher 9 - 12

Senior Exams
May 17th Hours 5, 6, 7 Exams, Dismissal 2:28pm
May 18th Hours 1, 2, 3 Exams, Dismissal 11am
Senior Luncheon 11:05-

Senior Graduation Rehearsal (Mandatory)
May 22nd 9:30am
Senior Class Night (Mandatory)
May 30th 7pm
Senior Baccalaureate
May 31st 7pm
Commencement Ceremony
June 1st 7pm

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The Bands and Choir have had their own version of March Madness with MSBOA Band Festival, MMEA Instrumental Clinic, Spaghetti and Swing, and both District (February) and State High School Solo and Ensemble Festival!

The High School Symphonic Band received straight Division I (Superior) ratings at Parma Western for Band Festival on Saturday, March 10. The 8th Grade Band received straight Division II (Excellent) ratings the evening before for their first festival ever - fantastic!

In the spring, we look forward to going to Cedar Point, Junior High Solo and Ensemble, Percussion Concussion at Jackson College, and end-of-the-year concerts in May!
Energizing Education hosted the October (Scooby Doo) February (chocolate) and March (Dr. Seuss) Family Night's this year with well over 100 of our community families participating at each event! The "All" EE schools April Family Event will again be held at the Michigan Theater for a live production of the musical Annie.