

Superintendent News

WARRICK COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
ADMINISTRATION CENTER

This Edition:

2014-2015 School Year

Another Successful School Year

June 11, 2015

Summer break started for Warrick students the afternoon of May 29 as the 2014-2015 school year drew to a close. It was a challenging year for students, teachers, and parents. ISTEP+ was a debacle. A new test designed to assess Indiana's new standards was completed late, with little time to pilot questions. If that wasn't enough, the test was abruptly shortened just weeks before students were tested as educators and parents alike questioned the effects of 10 hours of testing on 9 and 10 year old kids. The legislative session was a mixed bag. The good was funding for K-12 education was increased, but there was plenty of bad as legislators increased funding for vouchers as well as passing more legislation to privatize education in Indiana. I strongly urge all Hoosiers to read the [Analysis of Indiana School Choice Scholarship Program](#) prepared by the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability. This non-partisan report has numerous findings that everyone in Indiana, including our legislators, need to know. For example, "None of the independent studies performed of the most lauded and long standing voucher programs extant in the U.S.-Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Cleveland, Ohio; and Washington D.C.- found any statistical evidence that children who utilize vouchers performed better than children who did not and remained in public schools." The report shines a bright light on the so-called reform efforts Indiana is currently pursuing. The report is a stinging rebuke of almost all those reforms, and they back up their findings with data! This report needs to be the catalyst for a truthful and long overdue discussion on K-12 education in this state and it needs to be a priority in the 2016 elections. A copy of the report can be found on our home website. I encourage everyone to read the report. No rhetoric, no spin, just facts.

Even with the obstacles public education faces, I'm very proud of the work our students, teachers, parents, and employees accomplished this year. It was a great year of learning, growing, and discovery for our students. Five schools earned the prestigious 4-Star Award, ten schools earned an "A" letter grade and the corporation was once again named an "A" corporation. Our students excelled in academia, on the athletic fields, in the fine arts, in community service projects, and in representing our communities and schools in an exemplary manner. I'm very proud of the services we provide our students and look forward to the start of the 2015-2016 school year. But for now, it is time to relax, re-energize and focus on enjoying the summer break. I hope all of you get to spend time laughing, having fun with family and friends, and enjoying some much deserved time away. Best wishes to all, and we'll hit the ground running on August 12, 2015 as we make next year our best year ever!

Sincerely,

Brad Schneider, Superintendent