



August 11, 2016

To: Board of Education
From: Cheri Wysong, Principal
Washington Elementary School

Enrollment: 302

PK=44

K= 81 (down)

1= 90 (up)

Grade 2= 87 (down)

New to District: 10

Registration was held at Pana High School on August 4. Special Thank You goes out to Jackie Lewis for her organizational skills in coordinating a smooth process for parents and staff alike. An additional Thank You goes out to Meg Daugherty, Kathy Dubre, Brandi Malisia, Sherry Jo Wallace and Rebecca Mahnke for their assistance in this process. Since that time, we have registered and additional 25 children for school.

Average Kindergarten class size this year is 17, Grade 1 is 22.5 with the average class size in Grade 2 being 21.75. The smaller class sizes will allow for more individualized attention in these critical years for the acquisition of reading and math skills.

New Staff: With the transfer of Mrs. Kent to Taylorville Kindergarten, and the addition of a pm class, Washington School will welcome 2 new PREP teachers to our staff! Mrs. McKee will be teaching morning PREP in Stonington and pm PREP in Pana. She is a veteran in the Taylorville School District. Mrs. McDonald will be joining us to teach an am and a pm section of PREP. We are excited to work with these two new Pre-K teachers to prepare more children for entry into Kindergarten the following year! Additionally, with the move of Anita Buoy back to the High School, we will have some changes in coverage during lunchtime this year. Interviews are currently being conducted to fill our cafeteria position. The cafeteria staff is looking forward to partnering with our PBIS team to include some exciting positive behavior reinforcement strategies during our lunchtimes.

We would also like to Thank Cindy, Patty, Scott, Sam, Randy, and the crew for their work in getting classrooms cleaned, things moved back into place, computers hooked up and smart boards ready to go! We feel very fortunate to have such great building, grounds and technology staff to help us to do our very best for our students!

Student Service Projects: Over the summer, Mrs. Wysong delivered our "pop tabs" to Ronald McDonald House Charities in Springfield. Students at Washington and Lincoln collected 71 pounds of tabs for that donation, and 5 printer cartridges which will be recycled to help fund meals and housing for families with critically ill children who are staying at the facility. Students also collected 890 pounds of bottle caps that were delivered to our partners at

Greentree Plastics in Evansville Indiana. We partner with them in the ABC program to teach students about responsible recycling. These caps would otherwise end up in the landfill, but because of our efforts, they are used as a “stable base” to create outdoor benches and picnic tables for communities and businesses. We purchased an additional bench for our playground area at Washington this year in addition to donating our “pennies for park benches” to the parks revitalization committee. They were able to use our donation to purchase several benches for the pool area. These service projects help children understand the importance of helping others and thinking beyond the moment. We will continue these projects again next year. Thank you to everyone who was able to participate in the collection of these materials.

HUGE Thank you to Cindy Ashcraft, Patty Jones and Linda Koons for getting the building polished and shining for the new year. We will host our annual “Meet the Teacher Night” on August 22, 2016 from 5:00-6:30. Please stop by for a walk through and see how wonderful our building looks! We are all looking forward to all the excitement of a new year.

*“Working in partnership, PCUSD #8, students, parents
and community members will each do
his or her part to ensure
learning and success”*