

# Cougar Paws

NORTH PUTNAM MIDDLE SCHOOL

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

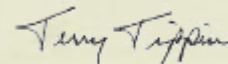
- November 9  
10:00 Veterans Day Program
- November 17  
Midterms
- November 22-23  
No School  
Thanksgiving break

This year, Indiana Department of Education has instituted a new criteria to rate schools. At the middle school level the grade of each school is determined by a growth model as determined by the performance of students on the ISTEP+ test. North Putnam Middle School received a "D" grade based on this data point. This is not criteria based and growth is based on a normal curve that compares kids within score bands. I applaud the effort being made to increase ISTEP+ scores. It

is an indicator of what knowledge our students who are proficient in testing have attained. Please remember this is only one data point and may not be an accurate reflection of progress being made. A "D" grade using any measure is unacceptable and steps have been implemented to improve this score. The staff at NPMS are proud of our school and community and are committed to teaching our students to be life-long learners. There is an advisory committee con-

sisting of students, teachers, parents, and community members which has met and will have regular meetings through out the year and we again will be hosting education nights covering different topics for parents. We also have a community room which has an internet accessible computer for parents to use. Please join me in encouraging our students to be the best they can be.

Educationally yours,



## MOCK ELECTION HELD

On Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in a Mock Election. Students registered to

played them around the school. Students voted during their lunch period as the Publication class served as the poll workers. The results

Tony Bennett won with a vote of 122 to 74 over Glenda Ritz. In the race for State Representative, Jim Baird won 144 to 80 over



of our Mock Election are now tabulated. Mitt Romney won over Barack Obama with a vote of 108 to 84



vote in their Social Studies classes prior to the election. In class, students have been studying the democratic process, the election process, and party initiatives. Through the lessons students analyzed the candidates. The Publications class made campaign posters and dis-

played them around the school. Students voted during their lunch period as the Publication class served as the poll workers. The results of our Mock Election are now tabulated. Mitt Romney won over Barack Obama with a vote of 108 to 84 for president. Joe Donnelly won with a vote of 108 to 65 over Richard Mourdock for the U.S. Senate seat. In the U. S. Representative race, Todd Rokita had 89 votes to Tara Nelson's 73 votes. John Gregg won with a vote of 86 to 83 over Mike Pence for Governor. For Superintendent of Public Instruction,

Richard Thompson. For the State Senate seat, Pete Miller won with a vote of 119 to 80 over Charles Bender. Students were excited to participate in the election process and seemed to enjoy having the opportunity to let their voices be heard.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Principal's Corner	1
Mock Election Held	1
VFW Winners	2
Natural Resources Field Day	2

**NORTH PUTNAM  
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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**Dress right, Act right, Think right**

**Vision Statement:**

NPMS students will be highly motivated productive citizens who are prepared for high school and the work force of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Our students will be life-long learners and high achievers. They will be nurtured by parents, teachers, and community members in an environment that promotes emotional, physical, and intellectual growth.

**ROACHDALE VFW CITIZENSHIP WINNERS**



**Nicholas Young**

8<sup>th</sup> Grader – November winner  
Parents: Dana and Kevin  
Young



**Grace Lake**

7<sup>th</sup> Grader – October winner  
Parent: Patricia Lake



**Emma Grimes**

6<sup>th</sup> Grader – September winner  
Parents: Audrie Grimes and  
Shane Grimes

**NPMS 7TH GRADE ATTENDS FIRST  
NATURAL RESOURCES FIELD DAY**

On a sunny, breezy October day, North Putnam 7<sup>th</sup> graders traveled to the Putnam County Fairgrounds for the first county-wide Natural Resources Day. The students rotated to between 10-12 stations around the fairgrounds for mini workshops based on Indiana Social Studies and Science standards. Topics ranged from bats to water quality to bees, invasive plant species, water quality, wetland bio-filters, soil science and career op-

portunities in natural resources.

The field day was the result of



much work by Mark Evens, Purdue Extension/Putnam County director and a highly qualified volunteer workforce. Our students showed genuine interest in the presentations and thoroughly enjoyed the fresh air, hiking and picnic lunches on the lawn

Natural Resources Field Day was time well spent and an enjoyable break from routine. We look forward to taking next year's 7<sup>th</sup> graders to this event.