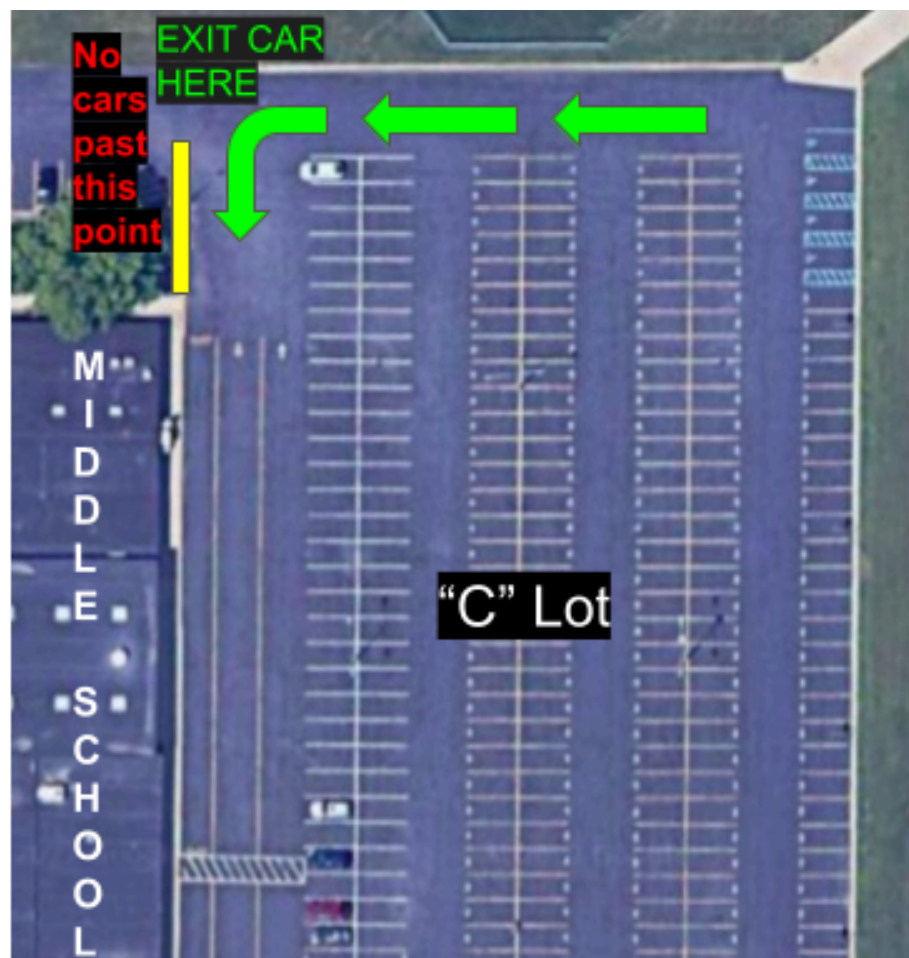
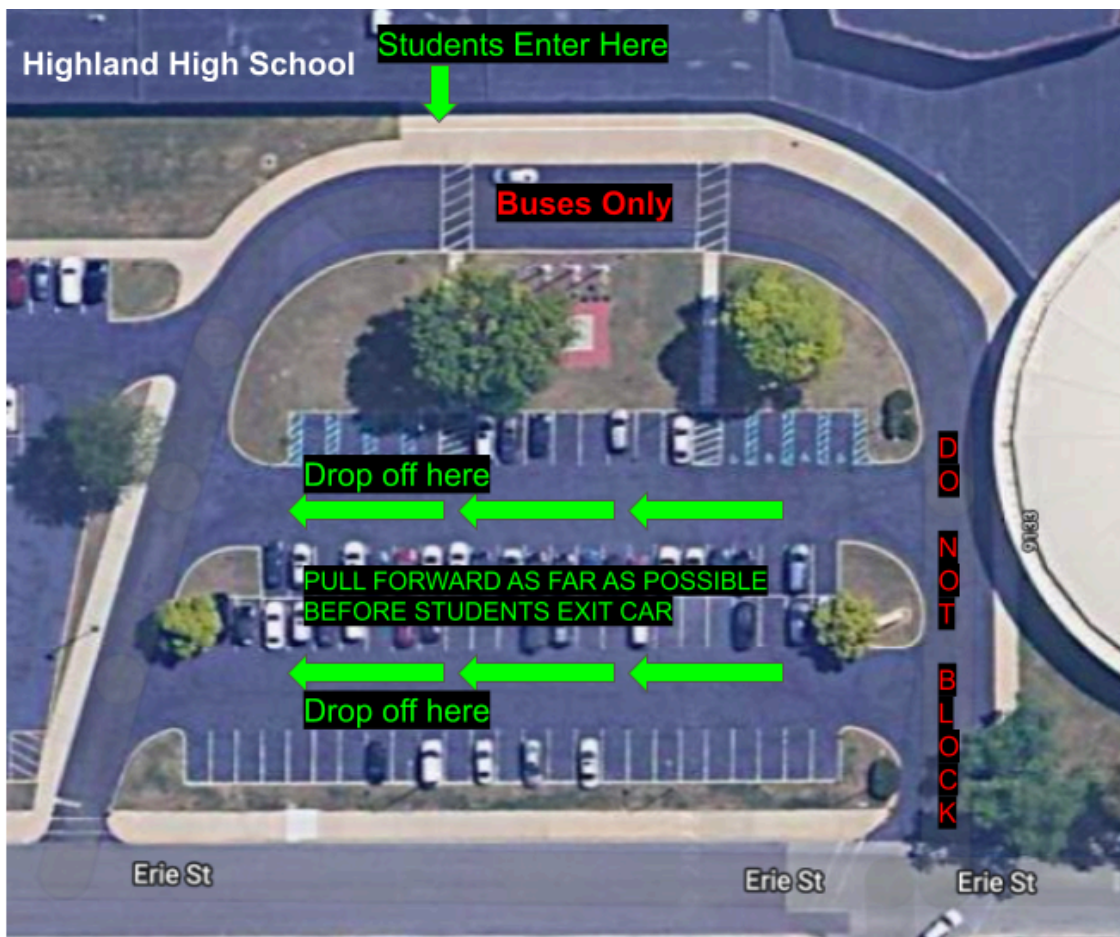


Thursday's Thoughts
Thursday, August 29, 2024

Good evening Highland High School families! I hope this finds you well and safe, this is Mr. Zack, and here are your Thursday Thoughts for August 29, 2024. There are 6 items of interest to follow. If you miss any part of the message, please visit the Highland High School webpage on our Live Feed where there is a link to view this in its entirety as well as a link that has been emailed to your primary email account.

1. **New Diplomas** - Please see the attachment to the print version of TT as we share the newest proposal from the state regarding graduation requirements. While this will not impact anyone currently in high school, this will impact everyone who is in 8th grade or younger. The state will be taking feedback on this new diploma proposal soon at this web address:
https://www.in.gov/doe/diplomas/#NEW_Second_Draft_of_Proposal_To_Redesi gn_High_School_Diploma_Requirements
2. **College/Career Fair:**
Crown Point High School is hosting a FREE college and career fair for interested students in Grades 9-12. This event is open to students and parents next Wednesday evening (September 4th). A flyer with more information is attached to this email.
3. **Car Drop off in the Morning** - Car drivers, please make sure to stay in the inside lane of the entrance portion of the horseshoe so that buses may still get through to the top of the horseshoe and drop off students. You can also drop off students at the rear of the building (MS side by the softball field) and they can walk in door P. There are maps on the print version of TT for your reference. Thanks in advance!
4. **Little Help** - We met with all students last week during advisory to discuss changes or reminders in the handbook. Two biggies we would appreciate your help and support are electronics during the day (keep them put away, even in the hallways) this keeps us in compliance with legislation enacted this year by the state, and keeping to the dress code (having everything in the "no" zone covered - that's armpits to mid-thighs). Any help/support you can provide is appreciated.
5. **The Highland Education Foundation**
Is hosting a fundraiser this month with Pampered Chef. HEF will receive 30% of the proceeds, which will help fund Highland staff grants!
<https://www.pamperedchef.com/party/hef2024>
6. **Highland Animal Hospital:**
Highland Animal Hospital at 9308 Indpls Blvd is looking for after-school kennel help. Interested students should just stop by or call them for information.
219-924-5050

That concludes our Thursday's Thoughts for this week, thanks for listening, be safe, enjoy your Labor Day Weekend, and be well.





INDIANA
DEPARTMENT of
EDUCATION

CURRENT & FUTURE INDIANA DIPLOMA: COMPARISON

The new diploma structure includes a base (minimum requirements) for every student, plus the opportunity to earn readiness seals aligned with their unique path. Students are encouraged to seize this flexibility by personalizing their high school experience. The new seals, highlighted on the next page, provide additional intentionality to maximize readiness. Students who do not earn a seal must still complete components 2 and 3 of Graduation Pathways.

	CURRENT INDIANA CORE40	FUTURE  NEW INDIANA DIPLOMA
ENGLISH	8 CREDITS	8 CREDITS 2 credits: English 9 1 credit: Communications-focused course 5 additional English credits
MATH	6 CREDITS 2 credits: Algebra I 2 credits: Geometry 2 credits: Algebra II	7 CREDITS 2 credits: Algebra I 1 credit: Personal Finance 4 additional math credits
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENGINEERING	6 CREDITS 2 credits: Biology I 2 credits: Chemistry 1, Physics I, or Integrated Physics 2 credits: Any Core 40 science course	7 CREDITS 2 credits: Biology I 1 credit: Computer Science 2 additional science credits 2 STEM-focused credits
SOCIAL STUDIES	6 CREDITS 2 credits: U.S. History 1 credit: U.S. Government 1 credit: Economics 2 credits: World History/Civilization or Geography/History of the World	5 CREDITS 2 credits: U.S. History 1 credit: U.S. Government 2 credits: World Perspectives (Flexible options, including advanced world language or world-focused social studies courses)
PE/HEALTH	3 CREDITS 2 credits: Physical Education 1 credit: Health & Wellness	2 CREDITS 1 credit: Physical Education 1 credit: Health & Wellness
DIRECTED ELECTIVES	5 CREDITS Any combination of World Languages, Fine Arts, and/or Career & Technical Education	N/A
PERSONALIZED ELECTIVES	6 CREDITS	12 CREDITS Students are encouraged to utilize the new readiness-seals to align these personalized electives with their unique goals. Personalized electives can include a variety of courses, such as CTE, Performing or Fine Arts, and World Languages.
COLLEGE & CAREERS	N/A	1 CREDIT
TOTAL	40 CREDITS	42 CREDITS

Hoosier high school students have the opportunity to earn approximately 60 credits.

Note: The federally-required alternate diploma for students in special education with a significant cognitive disability is still available.



BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS: READINESS-SEALS

Although seals are optional, students are encouraged to utilize the blueprints below to focus their flexible credits into a connected pathway that aligns with their future goals. Students may earn one or multiple seals. Graduation Pathways requirements will be satisfied through completion of any seal.



ENROLLMENT



EMPLOYMENT



ENLISTMENT & SERVICE



HONORS SEAL

- Complete at least 4 World Language and 6 Social Studies credits
- Complete at least 8 Math credits
 - Algebra I plus Geometry, Algebra II, and Pre-Calculus or any advanced math credits aligned to their course of study
- Complete at least 6 Science credits
 - Biology I plus Chemistry and Physics or any advanced lab science credits aligned to their course of study
- Earn a C or higher in all courses and earn a cumulative B average
- Complete one of the following:
 - 4 credits in AP courses and pass corresponding AP exams
 - 6 college credits
 - 4 credits in IB courses and take corresponding exams
 - Score a 1250 on the SAT or a 26 on the ACT

- Earn a market-driven credential of value* aligned to a specific occupation or 3 courses in a Career and Technology Education (CTE) pathway
- Complete 100 hours of work-based learning
- Demonstrate skill development in Communication, Collaboration, and Work Ethic
- Meet attendance goal

- Complete one of the following:
 - Introduction to Public Service course or approved locally-created equivalent
 - Emphasis on developing an awareness of the physical standards and character required for service
 - One year of JROTC
- Achieve a score of 31 on the ASVAB and complete all three components of the Career Exploration Program
- Meet attendance goal
- Demonstrate skill development in Communication, Collaboration, and Work Ethic
 - Externally verified through a mentorship experience with current military personnel, veterans, or other public safety professionals



HONORS PLUS SEAL

Earn the Honors Enrollment Seal, **plus**:

- Earn a credential of value* that may include, for example:
 - Associate degree;
 - Technical Certificate;
 - Indiana College Core;
 - AP Scholar with Distinction;
 - Cambridge AICE Diploma; or
 - IB Diploma
- Complete at least 100 hours of work-based learning
- Demonstrate skill development in the following areas: Communication, Collaboration, and Work Ethic

Earn the Honors Employment Seal, **plus**:

- Earn a market-driven credential of value* that may include, for example:
 - Associate degree;
 - Technical Certificate;
 - Indiana College Core; or
 - Advanced industry certificate
- Complete additional, focused work-based learning (total of 650 hours in one or more experiences) that may include, for example:
 - Pre-Apprenticeship
 - Modern Youth Apprenticeship
- Demonstrate skill development in Communication, Collaboration, Work Ethic, and any additional skills determined locally

Earn the Honors Enlistment Seal, **plus**:

- Achieve a score of 50 or higher on the ASVAB
- Demonstrate excellence in leadership through one of the following:
 - Completion of at least 100 hours of public service;
 - Holding a leadership role in a co/extracurricular activity;
 - Completion of two seasons of a team-based physical sport or activity

*Note: the credential of value levels are currently being determined by business and industry.



MERRILLVILLE, IN



WHO?

TAUGHT BY CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS, RULE THE ROAD OFFERS FREE INSTRUCTION TO NEW DRIVERS.

WHAT?

RULE THE ROAD PROVIDES DRIVING KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL BEYOND THE STANDARD DRIVING EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

EXPAND YOUR SKILLS

PARALLEL PARKING
ROLLOVER SIMULATOR
SIMULATED IMPAIRED
DRIVING EXPERIENCE
SEAT BELT CONVINCER
BLIND SPOT RECOGNITION
PROPER VEHICLE
MAINTENANCE
AND MUCH MORE!

WHEN?

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH

WHERE?

LIVING HOPE CHURCH
9000 W. TAFT ST.
MERRILLVILLE, IN

VISIT RULETHEROADINDIANA.COM TO SIGN UP FOR FREE!

Rail Innovation in Action

Presented by the California State Railroad Museum
and the Lemelson-MIT Program

OVERVIEW

Dive into the world of rail transportation! Discover real-world challenges and the latest innovations alongside experienced rail professionals. This program isn't just about railways - it's about honing your research and invention skills for college and beyond.

- Online interactive program
- Saturdays, September 28 to November 2, 2024
- 11am-2pm PDT / 2pm-5pm EDT
- Open for 9th-12th grade students

POWER

This online program will focus on powering locomotives for the 2024 pilot year, including reducing environmental impact. Students will engage with guest experts in the modern rail industry, lab simulations, group exercises, and career talks.

For more information about the program, visit www.californiarailroad.museum/RIA.



LEMELSON-MIT

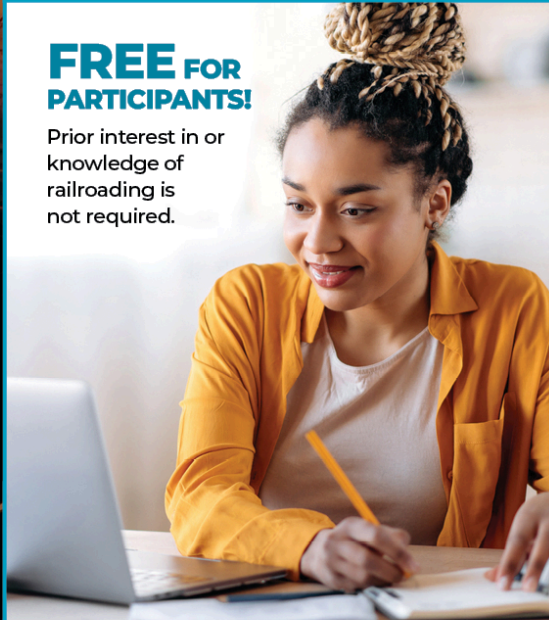
This program is a joint effort between the California State Railroad Museum and the Lemelson-MIT Program (LMIT), and is financially supported by the California State Railroad Museum Foundation.

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:

START CREATING SOLUTIONS FOR
THE FUTURE OF RAILROADS

FREE FOR PARTICIPANTS!

Prior interest in or
knowledge of
railroading is
not required.



HOW TO APPLY

Applications are open to students who will be in 9th-12th grade for the 2024-25 school year.

Priority may be given to students from low-income households and groups historically underrepresented in STEM fields.

APPLY NOW!

Applications close on August 25



Students will be notified on August 30, 2024 if they are accepted into the program.



The Gates Scholarship Application is Open!

Dear Colleague,

The Gates Scholarship needs your help in identifying America's top minority students who may be eligible for this prestigious award. Please read the following information and forward [The Gates Scholarship Fact Sheet](#) to any students in your network who may qualify.

Additionally, we encourage you to share this opportunity via social media using the following post: [2024 The Gates Scholarship Social Media Post](#)

About The Gates Scholarship

The Gates Scholarship (TGS) is a highly selective, last-dollar scholarship for outstanding, minority, high school seniors from low-income households. Each year, the scholarship is awarded to exceptional student leaders, with the intent of helping them realize their maximum potential.

Selected Scholars will receive funding for the full cost of attendance to earn a bachelor's degree, that is not already covered by other financial aid and the Student Aid Index, as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), or the methodology used by a Scholar's college or university. Costs covered include tuition, fees, books, and food and housing, and may include additional personal costs.

TGS also provides Scholars with various online support services designed to help them excel in their degree programs, graduate, and make a successful transition to their chosen careers. These include career services, mentoring, leadership development, wellness, and knowledge building.



Eligibility requirements:

- A high school senior
- From at least one of the following ethnicities: African American, American Indian/Alaska Native*, Asian/Pacific Islander American, and/or Hispanic American
- Pell-eligible
- A US citizen, national, or permanent resident
- In a good academic standing with a minimum cumulative weighted GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent)

Additionally, a student must plan to enroll full-time, in a four-year degree program, at a US accredited, not-for-profit, private or public college or university.

**For American Indian/Alaska Native, proof of tribal enrollment will be required.*

An ideal candidate will also have:

- An outstanding academic record in high school (in the top 10% of his/her graduating class)
- Demonstrated leadership ability (e.g., as shown through participation in community service, extracurricular, or other activities)
- Exceptional personal success skills (e.g., emotional maturity, motivation, perseverance, etc.)

Application deadline: Phase I of the application opened July 15, with a submission deadline of **Sunday, September 15, 2024, 2:00 PM PT.**

For additional information, please visit our website and watch the video below.

 2023 The Gates Scholarship

Thank you in advance, for helping us identify exceptional candidates!

Sincerely,

The Gates Scholarship Team



**Crown Point
High School
presents:**

Crown Point Area COLLEGE/CAREER FAIR 2024

FOR STUDENTS (grades 9-12), **FAMILIES, AND EDUCATORS**

**A GREAT CHANCE TO SPEAK TO REPRESENTATIVES AND LEARN
MORE ABOUT COLLEGE, CAREER, AND MILITARY OPTIONS**

FREE TO ATTEND

September 4, 2024

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. • CPHS Cafetria

Financial Aid presentation

4:30 p.m. & 6:15 p.m. • LGI

Post-Secondary Planning (Parent Version)

5:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. • LGI Center

MORE INFORMATION: LALKIRE@CPS.K12.IN.US