

## Superintendent's Message

Alva L. Sibbitt, Jr., Ed.D.

The Cannelton City School Corporation has had a rich and storied tradition of high student academic achievement. This tradition continues today.

In 2013, ninety percent (90%) of our students in Grades 3 through 8 passed the language arts section of the state mandated I.S.T.E.P.+ test and eighty-five percent (85%) of our students in said grades passed the mathematics section of the test.

This is a tremendous accomplishment, especially if you consider the fact that approximately three-fourths (75%) of the students enrolled in the Cannelton City School Corporation participate in the Federal Free and Reduced Price Meals Program. It is extremely rare for students coming from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds to attain such high scores on a standardized test. However, due to some very talented and dedicated teachers, our students "beat the odds" and continue to score above the state average on the I.S.T.E.P.+ test.

In both 2009 and 2010 Cannelton High School was selected as "One of America's Best High Schools" by the U.S. News and World Report magazine. This is a tremendous honor for a school that has the fewest number of students of any public high school in Indiana!

Graduates from Cannelton who have gone on to college or who have joined the armed forces have been very successful throughout the years.

Recent graduates have achieved similar success. Out of twenty (20) graduates in 2013, seven (7) enrolled in four year colleges, seven (7) enrolled in two year colleges, and one (1) enlisted in the Air Force.

Of those attending a four year college, four (4) received full four year scholarships paying for their tuition, room and board and three (3) received four year scholarships paying for their tuition. Two (2) of the seven (7) attending a two year college also received four year scholarship paying for their tuition.

During the 2013-2014 school year, a junior at Cannelton High School won the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual writing contest for high school students in Crawford, Dubois, Orange, Perry and Spencer Counties. Placing first out of twenty six (26) contestants is quite a feat.

Finally, the financial condition of the School Corporation continues to improve. On January 1, 2012, the General Fund cash balance had a deficit of \$430,090.00. On March 1, 2014,

the General Fund deficit was \$106,329.00, which represents a decrease in the deficit of \$326,761.00 or 76.0% in twenty six (26) months. By continuing to work cooperatively with the School Board and representatives of the teachers' union, it is my goal to have the General Fund cash balance back in the black by December 31, 2015.

If you are interested in small class sizes, individualized instruction, state of the art technology, and a proven track record of high student academic achievement, we invite you to enroll your children in the Cannelton City Schools and join our school community.

3/7/2014