

ACADEMICS

Academics are a priority at Caston. Both schools voluntarily participate in InSAI (Indiana Student Achievement Institute) as a means of striving to provide schools that would be better equipped to help every student achieve his/her greatest potential.

END OF COURSE ASSESSMENTS (ECA)

Caston Jr/Sr High improved its student pass rate in every subject area for 2011. Biology increased by 9% to a 39% pass rate (last year the state average was 37%); Algebra 1 increased by 11% to a 61% pass rate (last year the state average was 61%); English 10 increased by 6% to 73% pass rate (last year the state average was 63%) and 100% of the 8th graders who took Algebra I for advanced HS credit passed the exam.

EACH STUDENT AN IMPORTANT INDIVIDUAL *"Where Everybody is Somebody"*

At Caston, we realize that each student brings unique qualities to the table, and that a student's education must be a journey leading him/her toward the accomplishments of personal goals. A small school, by nature, must learn to adapt to unique needs of the student. Caston strives to provide opportunities traditionally considered "big school" in our "small school" atmosphere through the utilization of technology, independent study opportunities, and partnerships through joint educational ventures with Universities and neighboring school districts. "Stepping outside the box" is a daily event at Caston!

Caston FFA



"Top 20 Chapter"

AGRICULTURE

A small community rooted in agriculture still avidly supports the Caston Agriculture Department and the Caston FFA (Future Farmers of America). Our Chapter is recognized as one of the Top Twenty (Silver Emblem Chapter) in the state. The Agriculture Department progressively offers dual credit courses in conjunction with Purdue University. Students can fulfill science graduation requirements while earning college credit.

ENGLISH DEPT. - DUAL CREDIT

"Public Speaking" and "Elem. Composition", Advanced College Project (dual-credit) courses through Indiana University are taught at Caston High School.

Explore CASTON On The Web

www.caston.k12.in.us

Need more info about Caston? Contact an administrator:

- **Dan Foster, Superintendent** (574-857-2055, ext. 336 or home 574-595-7408)
- **Cindy Douglass, Elem. Principal** (574-857-3025 ext. 334 or home 574-857-9955)
- **Adam Strasser, Jr/Sr High Principal** (574-857-3505 ext. 310 or home 317-505-4410)

CASTON SCHOOLS AT A GLANCE



Does Size Really Matter?

Many people are naturally attracted to smaller, more personal environments for a variety of reasons. Caston Schools, located on HWY 25 just 12 miles north of Logansport and 12 miles south of Rochester offers a unique setting with grades K-12 all under one roof. While some areas of the facility are exclusive to the individual schools; others, such as the library and cafeteria, are shared. Both the Elementary (K-6) and the Jr/Sr High (7 - 12) work cooperatively to maximize the utilization of the entire facility, providing opportunities rarely found in schools with separate facilities. A safe and secure building where all exterior doors are secured from the outside during the school day provides a level of assurance for students, parents, and staff.

The K-12 environment also offers opportunities for fostering unique student, parent and school relationships. A student's education is shared responsibility and Caston works diligently to involve the student and parent in this process. Due to the school's size and cooperative working relationship of the staff a child who begins in Kindergarten has a team, including parents and school staff, focused on that student's education for 13 years. An example of this would be Caston's full-time registered nurse who follows a student's health history for 13 years and gets to know each student personally. At Caston, you're not a number -- you're a name that several people know and genuinely care about.

OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST:

School Volunteers - helping in a variety of ways, support the efforts of the regular school staff. Volunteers are utilized K-12. Last school year, the Elementary School had more than 70 volunteers assisting.

Monetary Awards - During 2010-2011 Caston Schools were awarded a total of \$30,000. Caston Elem. School, among the nine participating schools, was awarded the top prize of \$10,000 at the Healthy Kids Awards at Logansport Memorial Hospital for showing the most significant improvement in BMI (body mass index). Caston Jr/Sr High was one of twelve schools statewide to be recognized for the greatest increases in audited non-waiver graduation rates. Caston received \$20,000 for this accomplishment.

Kime Medical Scholarship Endowment Fund - established in 2010 in honor of Marjorie Kime who contributed close to \$500,000 for scholarships exclusively for Caston graduates pursuing degrees as registered nurses or medical doctors.

Wireless infrastructure for Internet connectivity - the entire campus is equipped (to be completed summer 2011) with wireless internet connectivity. This allows for extensive use of Internet learning resources.

Traditional School Calendar - 2011-12 school year gets underway on August 17th and is scheduled to conclude May 25th.

Transportation - although Caston does not currently provide bus transportation for students out of district, Fulton County Transpo (574-223-4213) and Cass Area Transit (574-722-2424) have provided transportation for out-of-district students at a very reasonable price.

“Triple A Effect” -- Arts & Athletics Complement Academics at Caston



MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Caston offers a state-of-the art music department. Because research shows that learning music develops the part of the brain that assists students in being stronger academically, all students starting in the 5/6 grade participate in Performing Arts and learn to play a musical instrument as a part of their music education. The instruments are provided at no cost to the family in cases where the family chooses not to rent or purchase their own instrument. At the Jr/Sr High School professional musicians have provided assistance for students in real-time by using Internet and related technology. This also included the Caston Music Department commissioning a piece of music and working with the professional composer located in Virginia. Purdue University has selected the Comet Band as a partner for the 2011-2012 school year. Among some of the activities are a side-by-side concert, one of the Purdue Athletic Bands will be at a home Caston Basketball game and the Comet Band will participate in Band Day at Purdue in September.



ATHLETICS AT CASTON

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Some schools, due to the size of the student body, must cut students who desire to participate on athletic teams, even when those students sometimes have potential to develop their skills in the sport. At Caston, a desire to commit to the sport and work hard in school goes a long way toward assuring that the student will be able to participate on the team.

Caston Schools provide a variety of athletic opportunities for students in grades K-12. Through school-sanctioned athletic teams and cooperative ventures with community youth leagues, a high percentage of our students participate in at least one sport and frequently in two or three sports. Caston is a member of the Midwest Conference. Most of our teams have been competitive, and this year our Varsity Boys' Basketball team was conference champs. Additionally, our baseball team ranked in the top 10 in the state several times throughout the season. Currently, at the Varsity level Caston offers: Volleyball, Soccer, Football, Cross Country, Golf, Basketball, Wrestling, Track, Baseball, and Softball. Additionally, our Cheerleading Squad excels and enthusiastically supports all of the sports throughout the school year. This year, some of the Caston Cheerleaders traveled to Orlando and performed at the Capital One Bowl.