

## IMC provides work & safe space for students



By Addie Rosebrock  
feature editor

The IMC can be a safe space for students, but others have no idea what the environment is like.

The IMC is an open and quiet environment. It also has lots of windows for natural lighting. Most might think that the IMC would be boring because it is filled with books, but that is not the case.

The space provides a printer for the students who do not have one available at home. It also provides a variety of classroom-like settings. For example, on the far right, visitors will find a space filled with round tables to accommodate group work. Next to that area is also a glass room with a long table and chairs. This can be utilized for private meetings. On the left side of the library is a more traditional set-up. There is a teacher's desk, a projector, and lots of rectangular tables for students to work around.

Mrs. Iana Allen's dual-credit English 11 class uses the IMC for a change of scen-



Freshman Maddie Bethel glues letters on a Student Council poster. STUC-  
CO meets in the IMC on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Keyara Johnson photo



Senior Kenna Martin prints paper in the IMC. Students use the printer in  
the IMC. Olivia Ford photo

ery. They just finished their teaching unit where they focused on the novel they finished reading. They had to create a lesson plan, individual and group activities, and a visual for the class. The IMC provided them a space to spread out so they could focus on their partners and their tasks. They were able to brainstorm and discuss without any distractions. It also provided easy access to the printer instead of having to walk out of the classroom each time they needed to print. Overall, it provided a more efficient workspace for students.

During PowerHour, the IMC hosts Student Council meetings. They utilize the space every Tuesday and Thursday. Being in the IMC allows members to spread out and to keep the volume down. The IMC also holds great craft supplies, which the council uses regularly for the posters students see around the school.

On the days that the IMC is open for PowerHour, it is quiet, and the students can work on school work. It is not a place for students to hang out or mess around. The IMC is a place for students to go when they have deadlines, need a place to concentrate, or just need to relax with no distractions.



The student section sprayed red and pink silly string in honor of Mrs. Karla Bates. Senior Ethan King set up the event and bought the silly string. Jalee Brown photo



Students in Mrs. Mindy Ward's Spanish class wear red to honor Mrs. Karla Bates. The student body decided to wear red because it was Mrs. Bates' favorite color. Tori Wilson photo

## GHS grieves loss of science teacher

By Makenna Cruse  
editor-in-chief

On Sept. 10, the superintendent announced to the Greenwood school corporation that biology teacher, Mrs. Karla Bates, had passed away.

Mrs. Bates suffered a medical emergency while she was driving home from Northern Indiana and died in a single car accident.

Mrs. Bates was born in 1976 in Vallejo, California. She graduated from Fairfield High School in Fairfield, California, in 1996. She then attended Solano Community College, where she majored in biotechnology and later attended California State University of Hayward, where she majored in biological science and minored in biotechnology. Mrs. Bates earned her Bachelor's degree in Biological Science.

She worked as a lab technician for Cargill Inc for several years before deciding to pursue a career in education. After 12 years of working in a laboratory, she had a desire to teach "at risk" students in an urban environment. She considered herself to be an "at risk" student herself in high school, and it was her teacher who went above and beyond teaching who changed her life.

She then moved to Indiana where she attended University of Phoenix of Indianapolis and earned her teaching certification. She completed her student teach-

ing at Northwest High School, and then she served as a substitute teacher at Perry Meridian. Mrs. Bates was then hired at Greenwood High School in July of 2015,



Mrs. Karla Bates  
biology teacher

and she taught biology.

Mrs. Bates is survived by her children, Carlea Sykes and Anthony Tunstall, her younger brother, Paul Sykes, her sister Alisha Sykes, her niece Mai'Lisha Strane, and her parents Linda and Paul.

After the passing of Mrs. Bates, Greenwood schools banded together in support. On Sept. 12, GHS students organized a "red out" in her honor because red was her favorite color. Regardless of whether they had her as a teacher, students showed their support for the grieving family.

Students from Mrs. Bates' classes and others created sidewalk chalk messages to honor the impact she had on them.

Mrs. Bates was then hon-

ored with a moment of silence at the opposing Mooresville football game on Sept. 13, when Mooresville organized this dedication on their home field.

And, students showed up once again on Sept. 20, throwing red confetti and silly string at the Homecoming football game as well as displaying a banner saying "Mrs. Bates, forever in our hearts."

Mrs. Bates left a lasting impact on her niece, Mai'Lisha Strane, a GHS freshman.

"My aunt was the sweetest person ever. She always had my back, no matter what; even when I was in the wrong. I will miss the long talks she and I had and the bond that we had. It was really special to me. She was like a second mother to me. She always took me places or door dashed me food and got me stuff. She and I always talked about how she was going to hand me my diploma when I graduated," Strane said.

Mrs. Bates left a lasting impact on the lives of her students, too.

"Mrs. Bates was one of my favorite teachers I ever had. You could tell she really cared about her students, and she treated us all like her own children. She was not just a wonderful teacher but also a wonderful person. I know she will be missed deeply in my heart and in others' hearts," senior Alex Skinner said.