




Coldwater Community Schools

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Calendar of Events:

April 18 - No Classes,
Good Friday

April 21
Mobile Dentist Day at
Lakeland Elementary

April 28, 29, May 1, 7
Kindergarten Registration

May 2
Half Day of Classes

May 26
No Classes, Memorial Day

May 30
Seniors Last Day

June 8
CHS Commencement

June 10
5th Grade Trip to Chicago

June 17
Last Day of School

MISSION STATEMENT:

Coldwater Community Schools provides a supportive and challenging learning environment where every student is prepared to succeed in a global community.

TeleHealth System Provides Healthcare in Schools, Less Class Time Missed

Healthcare is now available to students without leaving school. Because of a grant from the Michigan Department of Community Health a new clinic was opened in January in Coldwater High School, serving students 6-12th grade. With a camera located in the CHC Pediatric Clinic and one at the high school, a pediatric doctor or nurse practitioner will be able to see the student and RN/Program Manager Theresa Gillette at the high school and make a diagnosis. The clinic is not meant to replace the student's family, and parental consent must be provided before any student is seen. Funding from the State of Michigan did not cover the entire cost of the program. To make a donation, please contact the Community Health Center Foundation office.



Kindergarten Sign-Up Scheduled

We welcome your child who will be five years old on or before October 1, 2014, to Kindergarten registration for Coldwater Community Schools. Registration will occur by appointment on the following dates:

April 28, 8am-8pm, Max Larsen Elementary School
 April 29, 8am-8pm, Max Larsen Elementary School
 May 1, 8am-8pm, Max Larsen Elementary School
 May 7, 8am-2pm, Lincoln Learning Center

At the time of registration, the enrolling parent will need to bring the child, his/her immunization record, official birth certificate from the county of birth, and proof of residency such as the parent's driver's license, utility bill, tax statement, or rental contract with the address and the parent's name. While parents complete registration forms, children will be given a brief assessment and will meet some of the teachers and other staff members at Coldwater Schools.

Coldwater Community Schools offers a Kindergarten program that is developmentally appropriate for your child. Children with summer or fall birthdays may qualify for a Young Fives program which is designed to give the child an extra year in which to gain the maturity and skills necessary for a successful K-12 school experience. Our Kindergarten teachers specialize in providing a caring environment in which the child gains necessary social and academic skills to meet the challenges of reading, writing, math, the arts, physical education, technological literacy, social studies, and science.

If you have any questions, please contact the Max Larsen Elementary School Office at 517-279-5960.

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ColdwaterSchools.org



What are your kids learning?

Curriculum Update

By *Carrie Johnson*
Curriculum
Coordinator for
Coldwater Community
Schools



Parents will notice changes to the elementary report card next fall. A committee of administrators and teachers have begun the work to transition to a standards based report card for our elementary students for the 2014-15 school year. We have been working hard over the last few years to refine our curriculum and the essential standards that we want all students to learn. The standards based report card will better reflect what students know and are able to do. Teachers will assess students, both formally and informally, to determine where they are performing relative to the grade level benchmark. Rubric scores will be used on the report card to communicate to parents whether students have met/exceeded the standard, or if the student is still working toward the expectation with further support.

There is strong evidence in research that students who are clear about the learning target make better progress toward meeting the goal. We have been using clear learning targets with students in the classroom, but this change in report cards will improve our ability to share that information with parents.

The schedule for reporting will also be adjusted. Parents will have the opportunity to discuss their child's progress at conferences in October and March. Report cards will be published three times during the year. Tentatively, those times would be late November, late January, and at the end of the school year.

More information regarding standards based report cards will be available for parents as the committee continues the work. Please stay tuned for more information at Parent Advisory Meetings, open houses, and in further communications updates.

CHS Students Study Financial Peace



Randy Spangler's Senior Math class has graciously been gifted a new set of workbooks and CD's from well known personal money management expert, Dave Ramsey and his team from Financial Peace.

The package contains a huge amount of activities and videos for young people to begin their quest of not only staying afloat in personal finances, but to strengthen their wealth and security as they move into the real world.

Workbooks are gifted each semester

to make sure students are well equipped to handle the videos and activities put together by Mr. Ramsey's team. The initial package includes workbooks and the CD package that is currently in circulation and it will cover this semester's Senior Math classes. Beginning next year a new set of CD's will be sent and updated workbooks will be included.

The total gift for this year is over \$1,800 and will be well utilized in the classroom. The gift is an annual award and has been generously underwritten by Fifth Third Bank. Their desire to engage young people in learning is a great bonus for the students of Coldwater High School enrolled in Senior Math. It has been reported that the class is offered in local communities at approximately \$100 per student.

Reading Month Celebrated with Dr. Seuss Breakfast

During the month of March, students throughout the school district celebrated reading in a variety of ways. Students at Max Larsen Elementary celebrated one morning with green eggs and ham, working with Chartwells to provide the meal.



Franklin School Talks Trending Teen Issues

Franklin High School students meet twice a week with behavioral specialist, Breanne Harmon of Pines Behavioral Health to talk about issues facing teens. Topics include stress management, goal setting, decision making, etc. The program was requested by the staff as a result of the many difficult situations students face on a daily basis.



LMS Holds Annual Talent Show

The Annual LMS Talent Show took place during one of the recent half days of school. Students were able to attend the Talent Show if they had met all of the cardinal pride rules/regulations. All 6th, 7th and 8th grade students were invited to attend.

During the assembly, students from the Yearbook Class held a candy gram sale to raise funds - selling 350 candy grams for \$.50 each.



Lakeland Receives New Equipment to Enhance Learning and Build Self-Confidence

Chris Roberts's class at Lakeland Elementary School recently received new technology for his class through the Binda Foundation and the Calhoun Intermediate School District. The document camera and projector, "Illuminate" allow students the ability to help each other by sharing and analyzing exemplar pieces of work via the projection system. Through the new technology, students will improve speaking skills, listening skills and problem solving skills. They will share thought processes and actions that brought them to their desired goal while improving their self-confidence.



Gymnasts Donate Over \$7K to Cancer Center

The Coldwater High School Varsity Gymnastics team, led by CHS Science teacher Kim Nichols, once again hosted their annual "Stick It For a Cure" cancer awareness event in February. This was the fourth time the team donated proceeds from one of their competitions towards the betterment of the community.

Preparations began in September and continued through the fall and early winter to make this their most successful event since its inception. The official tally of funds raised was an amazing \$7,625. All of the monies were donated to the Community Health Center of Branch County to specifically be used in the Cancer Center.

The team pledged to purchase an item from the Center's wish list for this year's donation. The gymnasts took up the chal-

lenge to purchase a sound system for the patients, providing soothing music as they receive their treatments. Due to the incredible success from this year's "Stick It" event, not only was the gymnastics team able to donate the sound system, but additional funds are available to provide mammograms for local women who cannot afford the cost of the screening.

For the last two years the event and competition has hosted several teams from as far as Grand Rapids and Livonia. This year's event was the largest so far, hosting twelve schools including Coldwater, Rockford, Adrian, two Plymouth teams, Sturgis, Jackson Lumen Christi, Jackson Northwest, Livonia, Saline, Parma Western, and Tecumseh.

To date, the teams have been able to donate more than \$18,000 to benefit patients.



ACT Prep Workshops A Success

ACT prep workshops were held on three different Saturdays in February. Students from Coldwater High School voluntarily gave up their Saturday mornings to prepare for the ACT test which was given on March 4. Students practiced the English, Math, Reading, and Science tests and received tips/strategies for taking these tests. We are very proud of all the students who attended and their parents who supported these workshops!

United Way Hosts Financial Literacy Course for 6th Graders



The Branch County United Way has just finished a 5 week financial literacy course for all Branch County 6th grade students as part of its new Community Impact agenda.

This course included lessons in Financial Planning, Saving, Budgeting, Credit Choices, and Becoming a Savvy Consumer. It is the first step in a multi-grade approach to teaching students to be more financially responsible.

Plans are to offer 3rd and 6th grade programs this school year, with the addition of a 9th grade and 12th grade component at a later date.

The United Way spearheaded this opportunity, which became a partnership between 10 area banks and credit unions. Southern Michigan Bank and Trust, Honor Credit Union, Monarch Community Bank, Consumers Credit Union, Flagstar Bank, Century Bank, PNC Bank, Chemical Bank, United Educational Credit Union and Bronson Banking Center all provided resources and staffing to ensure the success of the program.

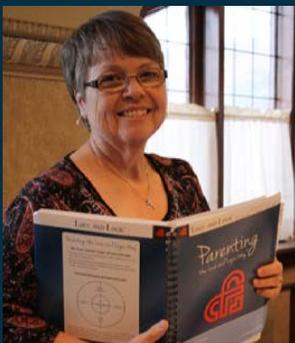




PAC Meetings Set up for Winter/Spring

Each year Superintendent Dr. Tina Kerr holds Parent Advisory Committee meetings to update parents on important school district information, help answer questions they might have and take suggestions. All parents of Coldwater Community School students invited. The next PAC meeting will be held in the LMS Media Center at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 22, 2014

Love and Logic Classes Slated for May



Another Parenting with Love and Logic class will begin on May 5th, targeting parents of tweens and teens, while a summer class will begin on July 10th, targeting parents of preschoolers. The classes will be held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Coldwater. There is a \$10 fee for the workbook, which can be waived if needed. Please register by calling Dixie Koenemann at the Administration Office (517) 279-5910 ext. 247. This series is a result of a caring partnership between St. Mark's Episcopal Church and Coldwater Community Schools.

Bands Score Well at Festivals

On February 28th and March 1st, the Symphonic and Concert Bands traveled to Three Rivers High School for District Band Festival. At Festival, groups perform three pieces for a panel of judges who give them comments and a rating. The Bands then move to the sight-reading room where they have five minutes to prepare a musical selection they have never seen before, and then play it for a judge who gives them comments and a rating.



This year, the CHS Symphonic Band (the auditioned band at the high school) received a Division One rating from each of the judges, which is the absolute highest rating possible. This has qualified them for State Band Festival which will be held at Ann Arbor Skyline High School on Saturday, May 3rd. This is the second year in a row that the Symphonic Band has qualified for State Festival.

The CHS Concert Band (non-auditioned group) performed very well and receiving many helpful comments from the judges. This group earned an overall rating of 3. We are proud of these young musicians! They have come a very long way this year, and their musical talents are continuing to develop.

The Band would like to thank everyone in the community for their continued support of the program. It is an honor to represent Coldwater Community Schools, and the citizens of Coldwater at these events.

The Coldwater High School Bands and the Beginning Band at Lakeland Elementary School are under the direction of Katie Jewell. The Legg Middle School Bands are under the direction of Aaron Wood.

Full-Time Daycare Begins this Summer



Coldwater Community Schools Kids Club Childcare Center is now accepting registrations for its newly formed Summer Childcare Program! Kids Club will continue to open its doors to children ages 3 through 12 years of age all summer long! The program will be geared for outdoor summer fun and exploration all the while incorporating science and math projects, arts and crafts, library time, and organized sports.

More exciting news for Kids Club is the addition of the Infant and Toddler program beginning in September for the new 2014-15 school year! This program will offer a caring, clean, safe environment for infants from birth to 30 months. Opportunities to enhance your child's physical, emotional and social development are a continuous part of your child's day!

Registration packets and information for all Childcare services are available on-line at the Coldwater Community Schools website or contact Lincoln Learning Center, 517-279-5975 for details.