

Coldwater High School

School Board Update – April 2019

The April showers have recently included rain and snow so we are hopeful at CHS that the spring weather will settle down and we can enjoy all of our events that annually happen every spring, including prom, our NHS Induction, our athletic events, and all of the senior events culminating in a hopeful outside graduation ceremony on Sunday, June 2nd on Cardinal field. In addition to all of those events, our upcoming calendar is full of school field trips, testing, assemblies, and celebrations! But back to what has been happening in the last month at CHS.

The coin stall that was happening at the end of March was a fantastic success. This effort to help the children in war-torn Yemen was inspired by our CHS Spanish teacher and Interact advisor, Sarah Langer. Mrs. Langer stated “This past summer, a former CHS student of mine, Mahmoud Salem, died tragically after being unable to get his family out of Yemen and into America. As a result of this, I felt determined to do something to raise awareness of the crisis in Yemen.” Students were encouraged to bring in coins for a week to place in a container on their 5th Hour teacher’s desk in order to delay the start of their 5th hour class on Friday, March 22nd. Teachers were not to begin teaching on that day until all the coins had been counted...thus, class would be stalled. In addition to bringing in coins, students were allowed to purchase additional "time stallers" items from Interact Club members before school and during lunch that would make it more difficult to count the coins like oven mitts, goggles, chop sticks, and food tongs that would all be required to be worn or be used while counting the coins. The students and staff, along with some additional financial support from the Noon Rotary Club of Coldwater that sponsors the CHS Interact club, were able to raise just over \$3,000. The donation was sent to “Save the Children”, an organization working in Yemen to help children receive food, water, and medicine, and to help them stay safe. Once again, the students and staff members at CHS have proven how giving they are and how our Cardinal Spirit can impact humanitarian efforts on a global scale! The pictures below are from the day.



Mrs. Langer, who inspired the event at CHS, counts her coins as her students keep a watchful eye on her to make sure she does not miss any.



Mrs. Lowder and Mr. Hag work together to count and stack the donations from their 5th hour students. The donations by the students were so massive that every 5th hour class was stalled for the entire hour!

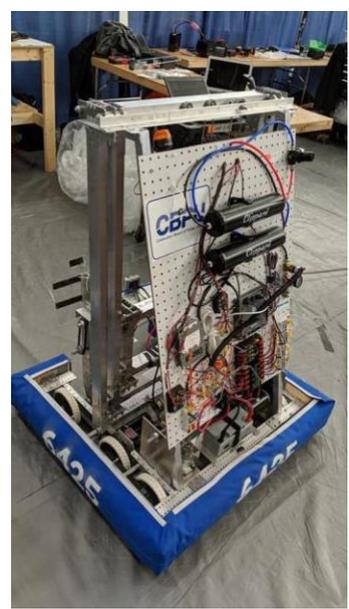
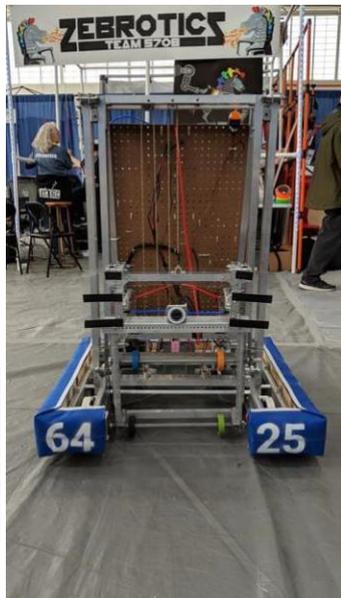
For a short video of the event produced by the Interact Club, please visit
<https://sites.google.com/ccscards.org/interact/>

Our CHS Robotics team, the Conclave, competed again in two competitions in March - one at Lakeview High School and one at Jackson Northwest High School. Mr. Burns is the Robotics Team advisor and has continued to work with the middle school and now the elementary schools to expand the program and opportunities for all students in Coldwater Community Schools. This year, the team struggled a little with the communication between their robot and their controllers, but they were still able to help provide points for the teams they competed with. In the First Robotics competitions, The Conclave is partnered with two other teams to create a red or blue team of three schools. Then the Red and Blue teams compete against each other in 3-on-3 matches that are completed throughout the 2 days of the tournament. On the final day, teams are ranked, and the top teams get to select their additional two members to become a part of their 3-school final competing team. This year, The Conclave was not selected to participate in the final rounds but the students learned a lot about trouble shooting, they were able to work together and with members of other teams, and they continued to build on the lessons needed to continue to improve our team in the future.

The CBPU continues to be a very supportive sponsor of the program and this past October, they donated \$3,000 to support STEM education at Coldwater Community Schools via the FIRST Robotics Competition Team “The Conclave” at Coldwater High School, the FIRST Tech Challenge teams at Legg Middle School, the FIRST Lego League teams at Lakeland Elementary, and the entire 3rd grade at Jefferson Elementary who will be participating in the FIRST LEGO League, Jr. program. This year, The FIRST LEGO League Jr. season culminates with an Expo where teams show off what they learned and created. The theme for this year’s Expo is *Mission Moon* in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Moon Landing. Students will design and build a Moon Base using Lego® Inspire sets. Various community businesses and entities (e.g. CBPU) will have booths set up to interact with the students and the public. The Expo will run in 2 sessions on May 4, 2019 at Coldwater High School. In an effort to help raise additional funds, this Saturday April 20th, the Cole Ford/Lincoln dealership in town will host a Drive 4 UR School program where for every test drive from persons 18 years of age or older, Ford will donate \$20 to the robotics program at Coldwater Community Schools from 10AM-2PM. Hopefully the team can earn a large donation, up to \$6,000, from the event.



City Manager Jeff Budd is pictured above with members of The Conclave as he presents the team with a donation of \$3,000 to help support the STEM efforts of the 3rd-12th grade programs at CCS.



Pictured here with Advisor and CHS Science Teacher Larry Burns, is the CHS Cardinal who made an appearance at the First Robotics competition at Jackson Northwest to get things pumped up!

This past month we had the pleasure of celebrating another great accomplishment by one of our students. On Friday, March 22, 2019, 5th year senior Taylor Force came to CHS to pick up her diploma as she had finally completed all of her required coursework. Life was very hard for her and her actions and reactions were typically self-destructive, but her teachers never gave up on her. She was never a very dedicated student, but her teachers never gave up on her. She wanted to quit but some very dedicated and caring adults stepped in and never let her give up on herself. This 5th year, 19-year-old, and mother of a new baby boy, got very emotional as I was explaining how proud we all were of her for never quitting and for setting a future example to her young child about what can happen if you don't give up. We are so thankful for the wonderful staff members who supported Taylor endlessly over the years and we are so proud of Taylor Force who never gave up and accomplished her goal of earning a high school diploma!



Our CHS Balladiers and senior Hayden Shimizu performed at the State Solo and Ensemble competition on April 12th. Hayden performed very well and was only 2 points shy of earning a division 1 rating while the Balladiers, under the direction of Kaitlynn Doublestein, performed wonderfully and earned the highest ranking of a division 1 rating at the state competition. Our Cardinal Choir and the Symphonic Band will be competing in their State level competitions in the coming weeks as well.



Mrs. Doublestein and the CHS Balladiers

Tis the season of scholarships and senior activities and one of the first official senior scholarships that is awarded to a select CHS student is the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel (MARSP) scholarship to support senior students who intend to continue their education in the field of teaching. CHS senior student, Jacqueline Gallegos, earned the MARSP teaching scholarship award at their annual award banquet held on April 16th. Jacqueline participates in the Education Academy program at the BACC and after she takes her AP Calculus, AP Literature, and AP Government classes at CHS in the morning, she helps teach 8th grade Algebra at Legg Middle School under the guidance and supervision Deb Wilkinson. She also has a part-time job at Wendy's in Coldwater. Jacqueline has done very well at CHS with a cumulative GPA of 4.087. She is a member of the BACC National Technical Honor Society and serves as the vice president of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) chapter at the BACC. Through her work in FCCLA, she has earned state and national awards for her work and presentation in regards to an exhibit she coordinated locally about Immigrant respect. Jacqueline plans to attend KCC next year as she was a Golden Key scholarship recipient and then she plans to transfer to U of M or MSU to complete her degree in education as she hopes to teach middle school students.



Jacqueline is pictured here between Mr. Milnes and Education Academy Program Director Karen Sobeske.

Most other community scholarships will be presented to seniors at the annual senior scholarship night in the CHS Cafeteria on Thursday, May 16th at 7:30 p.m. Typically CHS seniors earn over \$200,000 in local scholarships from foundations, companies, community organizations, and families.

Branch ISD Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) hosts their annual Making a Difference Awards!



Each year the Branch ISD Special Education PAC host their annual Making a Difference Award Ceremony at the BACC to honor individuals in our community that have made a difference in the life of a student with an IEP. This year, CHS staff member Jim Lyon (standing on the far right) was recognized as the support staff member of the year for all of his hard work in guiding and supporting the students at CHS. Two students were also recognized as outstanding students of the year for their ability to achieve their goals and advocate for their own learning. Standing next to teacher of the year award winner, elementary teacher Ken Smoker, are CHS junior Samantha Young and CHS Senior Megan Root.

Once again CHS would like to celebrate the academic accomplishments of one of our seniors. Throughout the school year, we have highlighted the excellence achieved in academics and the performing arts by senior Selena Hostetler. Recently, the College Board made CHS aware that Selena's performance on the AP United States Government and Politics Exam in May 2018 was so superior that it falls into a rather select category. Advanced Placement Exams are scored on a scale of 1 to 5, where a 5 is equivalent to a grade of A in a corresponding college course. Selena not only earned the top score of 5 but was one of only 113 students in the **world** to earn every point possible on the AP United States Government and Politics Exam, receiving the maximum score on each portion of the exam. We want to applaud and celebrate Selena's hard work and also the efforts of her teachers. In particular we also want to recognize the level of excellence shown by AP Government Teacher Brian Stevens for engaging his students and inspiring them to excel in this college-level course. His students continue to outperform the national average on the AP test year after year and he is often asked by the College Board to teach and mentor other teachers in regards to creating their own powerful AP Government program. Mr. Stevens also has traveled internationally to teach other educators about instructional strategies, as we mentioned earlier in the year he co-authored a 2018 study guide for the AP Exam, and he annually is a table and team leader at the national exam readings held in June after all of the tests have been taken. Below is a picture of Selena with AP Government teacher, Brian Stevens.



As I said, the amount of school activities increases greatly from now until the end of the year and we are excited to finish this school year strong as we also use this time to prepare for continuing to improve next year in our supports and programming to meet the needs of our students. I have listed some of the upcoming events as a reminder as you are always invited and welcome to come celebrate with us.

What a busy but wonderful time to be a Cardinal.

Go Cards!

Bill Milnes, Principal
Coldwater High School

Upcoming Events at CHS:

Prom:	Saturday, April 27 at Potawatomi Inn
NHS Induction Ceremony	Sunday, April 28 at 6:00 in the CHS Cafeteria
Senior Trip to Chicago	Friday, May 10
CHS Choir Concert	Monday, May 13 at 7:00 p.m.
Senior Scholarship Night:	Thursday, May 16 at 7:30 p.m.
CHS Band Concert	Sunday, May 19 at 4:00 p.m.
Last Day for Seniors at CHS	Friday, May 24
Baccalaureate Ceremony	Senior Convocation Assembly at 10:00 a.m. followed by Swing Out
Last day for All Students	Thursday, May 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the CHS Cafeteria
Graduation Ceremony	Friday, May 31
	Sunday, June 2 at 5:00 p.m. on Cardinal Field