

# Costello Cardinal Newsletter



Costello Elementary School  
1333 Hamman Drive  
Troy, MI 48085  
(248) 823-3700 (Main Line)  
(248) 823-3701 (Attendance)  
(248) 823-3713 (Fax)  
[http://costello.troy.k12.mi.us/pages/  
Costello\\_Elementary\\_School](http://costello.troy.k12.mi.us/pages/Costello_Elementary_School)

Accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

**Dr. Tammy DiPonio, Principal**

Grayson McKinney & Dr. Karen Reese, Co-Head Teachers  
Jennifer Martus, Principal's Secretary ~ Jillian Cavellier, Office Support

[http://costello.troy.k12.mi.us/pages/Costello\\_Elementary\\_School](http://costello.troy.k12.mi.us/pages/Costello_Elementary_School)

**September 2019**

## Important Dates:

- Sept. 9:** 5th Grade Parents Info Night 7:00 PM  
Athens Auditorium
- Sept. 12:** Curriculum Night~Grades 1-5 only
- Sept. 11:** 5th Grade Field Trip, Cranbrook
- Sept. 20:** Athens Homecoming Parade
- Sept. 23:** PTO Meeting ~ 7:00 PM All Welcome
- Sept. 25:** Early Release—Costello  
Student Dismissal 1:09 PM
- Sept. 25:** Early Release - Students dismissed 12:59
- Oct. 18:** Costello Fun Run (details to come)
- Oct. 30:** Early Release - Students dismissed 12:59
- Nov. 7:** Costello International Night

## Staff Update

Stefanie Wonsowicz (formally Fragomeni) - Kg  
Kelsey Kavulich - 1st  
Ewa Dabrowski - 3rd  
Colleen Chick - 3rd  
Laura Ferriss - 4th  
Emily Allen - Gym  
Jamie Van Houzen - Gym  
Brian Hughes/Jodi Steimel - Spanish  
Katie Kerch - Teacher Consultant  
Lydia De Leeuw – Strings  
Mike Lafnear - Tech Support

Costello Restaurant Day/Night – Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>  
SAVE THE DATE – Night Out  
No cooking! Eat out! And, support Costello!

On Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 MOD Pizza (located in Troy, off Big Beaver) will be supporting Costello by donating 15% of every Costello family and friends food bill. A flyer will be distributed a few days in advance. You must present the flyer for Costello to get the donation.

*Our Mission: Costello Elementary is a place where thinking is valued, visible and actively promoted.*

Costello **“Half-day”** Dismissal: 12:59 PM

Costello **“Early Release”** Dismissal: 1:09 PM

In addition to “half-day” schedules, this year, the Troy School District will be implementing an “Early Release” schedule, designated for teacher professional development. Dismissal will be at 1:09 for Early Release days at Costello and at 12:59 for “half-days”.



**Advance Notice is Appreciated!!!!**

If you know in advance, please let the office know. If your child is going to be absent, late, needs to leave early or is going home with a friend. E-mail the teacher and the office 24 hours in advance.



[jmartus@troy.k12mi.us](mailto:jmartus@troy.k12mi.us)

**Lost & Found**

**LABEL EVERYTHING!!!**

Be sure to put your child's full name and phone number on EVERYTHING! Please look for lost articles on the table outside of the office and/or on the wall hooks across from the cafeteria. Smaller items will be placed in the school office in the "lost & found" box.

**Volunteer Background Approval Forms**

Volunteers are needed and greatly appreciated! We encourage anyone that may consider volunteering at any point throughout the school year, to complete a volunteer background check (the form is attached to this newsletter). All volunteers are required to have an approved Volunteer Background form on file before they can volunteer. A new form is required at the beginning of every school year.

**Thank you!**

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

-- Anne Frank

REMEMBER . . .

- ◆Label Everything: Lunch Box, Lunch Money (include student's full name & teacher's name), Gym Shoes, Jackets, etc.
- ◆Email is the BEST way to communicate. Teachers read their email at the end of every school day (4:30). If you can't send an email a day in advance, send a paper note to school in the morning with your student.
- ◆If your students are late (arrive after 9:09) a parent MUST accompany the student into the office (Tardy bell rings at 9:09 AM).

**If Your Child is Absent or Going to be Tardy or Absent??**

Please leave a message on the ABSENCE LINE at (248) 823-3701 if your child will not be in school for any reason, or if he/she will be late. The absence line is available between 4:00 p.m. and 9:30 a.m. for your convenience. When calling, please leave the child's name, (spell the last name)teacher's name, day/date, and a brief explanation for the absence.

*Thank You!*

## **Advance Notice ~ Always Helpful & Appreciated!!!!**

If you know in advance that your student is going to be tardy, leave early, riding home with a friend, absent or going on vacation, please send an e-message to your student's teacher (at least 24 hours in advance) the day before. Include the school office (Mrs. Martus and Mrs. Cavellier) in your e-message.

If you are not able to send an email 24-hours in advance, please call the attendance line (248/823.3701) for absences or tardies the morning of (before 9:30 AM) and send a note the morning of regarding end-of-school transportation changes.

<u>Last Name</u>	First Name	Position	Voicemail 248-823 + #	Rm Phone 248-823 + #	Room	E-Mail + @troy.k12.mi.us
Maliepaard	Lindsey	2nd Grade Teacher	3706	<b>3706</b>	6	lmaliepaard
Bosio	Elizabeth	1st Grade Teacher	3726	<b>3726</b>	1	ebosio
Callas	Sharon	Kindergarten Teacher	3703	<b>3703</b>	K-A	scallas
Chick	Colleen	3rd Grade Teacher	3729	<b>3729</b>	11	cchick
Cavellier	Jillian	Office Support	3741	<b>3741</b>	Office	jcavellier
Dabrowski	Ewa	3rd Grade Teacher	3723	<b>3723</b>	9	edabrowski
Dagenais	Julie	1st Grade Teacher	3707	<b>3707</b>	2	jdagenais
Erff	Jennifer	ASD Teacher	3746	<b>3746</b>	CE-4	jerff
Eldridge	Julie	5th Grade Teacher	3704	<b>3704</b>	15	jeldridge
Ferriss	Laura	4th Grade Teacher	3722	<b>3722</b>	14	lferriss
Hanson	Karey	Psychologist	3732	<b>3732</b>	Office	khanson
Homrich	Emily	2nd Grade Teacher	3718	<b>3718</b>	5	ehomrich
Kavulich	Kelsey	1st Grade Teacher	3727	<b>3727</b>	3	kkavulich
Marcaccio	Kristen	Kindergarten Teacher	3719	<b>3719</b>	K-B	kmarcaccio
Martus	Jennifer	Head Secretary	3705	<b>3705</b>	Office	jmartus
McKee	Allison	Social Worker	3733	<b>3733</b>	Conf. B	amckee
McKinney	Grayson	5th Grade Teacher	3714	<b>3714</b>	16	gmckinney
Mishreky	Mervat	CARE Supervisor	3709	<b>3709</b>	77	jmishark
Oliver	Amanda	4th Grade Teacher	3702	<b>3702</b>	12	aoliver
Reese	Karen	Reading Specialist	3708	<b>3708</b>	21	kreese
Rozmanik	Cathy	Resource Room Teacher	3715	<b>3715</b>	33	crozmanik
Rondot	Zach	4th Grade Teacher	3716	<b>3716</b>	13	zrondot
Tessoff	Michelle	3rd Grade Teacher	3739	<b>3739</b>	10	mtessoff
Wonsowicz	Stefanie	Kindergarten Teacher	3717	<b>3717</b>	7	swonsowicz

Welcome !

As a parent or guardian of a Costello student, you are automatically a PTO member! As a member, you are welcome to participate in any (or all!) of the many wonderful PTO events that take place throughout the school year. Children love it when their parents are involved at their school. While volunteering, parents enjoy the opportunity to meet other parents and share similar trials and tribulations of raising kids. Please feel free to contact any of this year's PTO officers to inquire about how you can get involved.

### 2019/2020 PTO Officers

<i>Position</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Email Address</i>	<i>Phone</i>
President	Deb Ballios	<a href="mailto:president@costellopto.org">president@costellopto.org</a>	
Vice President	Jen Ford	<a href="mailto:jhutch44@hotmail.com">jhutch44@hotmail.com</a>	248-670-9008
Secretary	Laura Saleski	<a href="mailto:secretary@costellopto.org">secretary@costellopto.org</a>	248-496-3884
Treasurer	Chris Tallman	<a href="mailto:treasurer@costellopto.org">treasurer@costellopto.org</a>	
Principal	Tammy DiPonio	<a href="mailto:tdiponio@troy.k12.mi.us">tdiponio@troy.k12.mi.us</a>	248-823-3700
Teacher Rep	Julie Eldridge	<a href="mailto:jeldridge@troy.k12.mi.us">jeldridge@troy.k12.mi.us</a>	248-823-3700
Room Parent Chair	Katie Monhaut	<a href="mailto:roomchair@costellopto.org">roomchair@costellopto.org</a> <a href="mailto:monhaut@msn.com">monhaut@msn.com</a>	248-7605820
Spirit Wear	Allison Allen	<a href="mailto:spiritwear@costellopto.org">spiritwear@costellopto.org</a> <a href="mailto:amallen8224@gmail.com">amallen8224@gmail.com</a>	248-670-4849
Ways & Means Chair	Erin Roenicke	<a href="mailto:waysandmeanschair@costellopto.org">waysandmeanschair@costellopto.org</a>	
Fair Chair	Lauren Henderson	<a href="mailto:fairchair@costellopto.org">fairchair@costellopto.org</a>	248-933-6828
Auction Chair	Kristin Cermak	<a href="mailto:auctionchair@costellopto.org">auctionchair@costellopto.org</a>	
Fun Run	Paul Tennies	<a href="mailto:tenniesp@gmail.com">tenniesp@gmail.com</a>	Please e-mail
Publicity Chair	Kristin Cermak	<a href="mailto:publicitychair@gmail.com">publicitychair@gmail.com</a>	248-269-8238
Community Service Chair	Angela Gnyp-Whitmore	<a href="mailto:communityservice-chair@costellopto.org">communityservice-chair@costellopto.org</a>	248-528-0885
Michigan Green Schools Chair	Amy Miller	<a href="mailto:amyrosso@yahoo.com">amyrosso@yahoo.com</a>	586/945-4255
Website Coordinator & Publicity Chair	Raquel Schriber	<a href="mailto:rmcauchi@hotmail.com">rmcauchi@hotmail.com</a>	248-817-5033





<b>2019/2020 PTO Calendar</b>		
September	PTO Mtg.—Sept. 23	7:00 PM
October	PTO Mtg.—Oct. 14 Fun Run—Oct. 18	7:00 PM Times TBD
November	PTO Mtg.—Nov. 11	7:00 PM
December	NO PTO Mtg.	No Meeting
January	PTO Mtg.—Jan. 13	7:00 PM
February	PTO Mtg.—Feb. 10	7:00 PM
March	NO PTO Mtg. Costello Auction—March 6 Costello Fair—Saturday, March (14 or 21?)	NO Mtg. 7:00 PM 10:00 AM
April	PTO Mtg.—April 13	7:00 PM
May	PTO Mtg.—May 11	7:00 PM
June	PTO Mtg.—June 8	7:00 PM

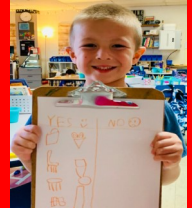
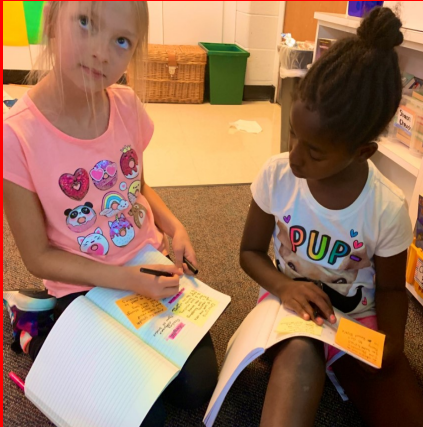
**Costello *NEEDS* Noon Aides**

**Parents to help @ lunch time**

Meet other moms. Get to know your kids' classmates and make a little money. Costello needs Noon Aides. Noon aides work from 11:50 – 1:35 (1.75 hours per day) for two or three days a week. You will help the students be safe while they are outside on the playground during lunch recess and provide supervision while they eat in the cafeteria.

## Save the Date for Fall Conferences

FALL CONFERENCES: Will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, October 23rd and 24th. A link to sign-up will be sent to all parents in October. Please make sure that your e-mail address is current in PowerSchools.



### Student Meds

Parents with children who wish to have meds kept at school **must** provide required medical forms which can be found on the TSD (Troy School District) website [www.troy.k12.mi.us](http://www.troy.k12.mi.us) Click on "Parents", then "Medical Forms" on the left-hand side in the yellow column. Paper copies are also available in the school office.

Parents (**not the student**) need to bring medicine to the school office along with the two required forms. All medicine must be contained in the original packaging and have the student's name visible on the packaging.





Grade	Recess	Lunch
4th	11:55-12:15	12:15-12:35
2nd	12:05-12:25	12:25-12:45
5th	12:15-12:35	12:35-12:55
1st	12:25-12:45	12:45-1:05
3rd	12:55-1:15	12:35-12:55
K	1:05-1:25	12:45 - 1:05

## Lunch and Milk Prices for 2019-2020

Please be advised the lunch, milk, water and juice prices are below:

**Lunch** (includes milk) \$2.40

**Milk** (as drink only) \$.35

**Dasani Water or Juice** (as drink choice) \$.50

### Point of Sale Lunch

Parents need to prepay for your child's lunch. By prepaying, you will assure that money is always in your child's lunch account on any day he/she chooses to buy lunch. Checks should be made payable to "Troy Food Services" and sent with your student or brought to school **in an envelope marked with your child's and their teacher's name and the words, "Lunch Money."** If you are sending one check for multiple children, please indicate how the money should be divided. This will ensure each child gets the appropriate credit. There is no set amount to pay, however, many parents find \$40-50 is a good starting point. You will receive notification when your child's account gets low.

### Free & Reduced Lunch

School lunches for students are available for free, or at a reduced price for families that qualify based on family size and income. Forms are available in the school office. This can be a big savings to you whether your child buys lunch once a week, or more often. Once the form is completed, we forward it to the Troy Food Service department where it takes approximately 2 weeks to process. If you would like us to send a form home please email the office at:  
[jcavellier@troy.k12.mi.us](mailto:jcavellier@troy.k12.mi.us)

### My School Bucks

"My School Bucks" is another way that parents can put money onto their students lunch account.

1. Go to [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com).
2. Create your account.
3. Pay with your credit/debit card or electronic check.

Parents who use My School Bucks can:

- View account balances and meal purchases.
- Schedule automatic payments.
- Make payments anytime, anywhere from using their mobile app.



## Welcome ALL New Students to Costello ~ Please Be Sure To ...

To be in compliance with state requirements, the following documents **must be** submitted to the Costello office for all new students. Email [jcavellier@troy.k12.mi](mailto:jcavellier@troy.k12.mi) with questions.

- Three proofs of residency
- Copy of (original) Birth Certificate
- Immunization Records
- Student Technology Acceptable Use Form

*Thank you for your cooperation!*



### Kroger Rewards – *Time to Enroll or Re-Enroll*

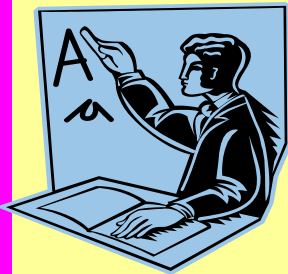
ATTENTION All Kroger Shoppers. It does not cost you anything to participate, it is FREE and easy. This is not a gift card or credit card program. All we ask of you is, if you shop at Kroger and use or are willing to use a Kroger Plus card to please enroll your Kroger Plus card number (which you can choose—most use their personal phone number) on-line at [KrogerCommunityRewards.com](http://KrogerCommunityRewards.com) and search for Costello Elementary.

Kroger does not use or sell your email address to anyone else. Every time you shop at Kroger using your Kroger Plus card, a percentage of your spending will be given to Costello. Please feel free to forward this to family members. Thank you for your support !!!

### Box Tops for Education

Please save your **Box Tops** from General Mills, Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, Kleenex and Ziploc products. Remember, grandparents and extended family can help collect too.

Your participation and assistance are greatly appreciated! Thanks to the many dedicated parents, Costello receives several hundred dollars each school year from Box Tops. Our annual Michigan vs Michigan State Box Top Challenge is coming up!



### *Classroom Interruptions*

Each day at Costello we strive to provide your children with the best education possible. With this in mind, we try to keep classroom interruptions to a minimum. Please work with your child to get into the habit every evening to prepare for the next day of school.

Make sure homework is done and in his/her backpack, along with lunch money, gym shoes, book orders, an instrument-whatever is necessary to be ready for the next day's activities. Remind your child that *(as we will explain to them at school)* in the event that something needs to be dropped off, **they will need to check at the office.** This helps decrease unnecessary classroom disruptions. Of course there is always room for special circumstances, but together, we can work on minimizing interruptions to classroom learning. As always, your support is appreciated!



# Build Student Responsibility

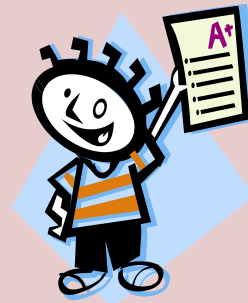
## Use a ✓ Checklist

Whether it's remembering to turn in homework or keeping track of backpacks and books, teachers need children to be responsible.

The best way to teach your child responsibility is to give them responsibilities. The new school year is the perfect time to sit down with your child and decide on a few tasks he/she is ready to handle on their own. Then make a checklist of everything you expect them to do. Agree on rewards for a job well done, and consequences for times your child may fall short.

Here is a sample checklist of responsibilities you can consider making part of your child's "Responsibility List":

- Getting up on time
- Fixing breakfast
- Selecting an outfit
- Packing lunch
- Completing homework
- Returning signed forms
- Maintaining grades
- Getting along with siblings
- Keeping room clean
- Completing assigned chores
- Getting to bed on time
- Taking care of personal hygiene
- Feeding/caring for pets



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**SAVE THE DATE –  
Night Out – Wed.,  
Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>**

No cooking! Eat out!  
And, support Costello!

On Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 MOD Pizza (located in Troy, off Big Beaver) will be supporting Costello by donating 15% of every Costello family and friends food bill. A flyer will be distributed a few days in advance. You must present the flyer for Costello to get the donation.

## Wanna a Sweet Volunteer Gig

**in the Office for one or two hours ???**

The office is currently in need of lunch-time volunteer support. Volunteers will help administer TLC to students that come into the office during their lunch. Volunteers can sign-up for one or more days a week for a 60 to 90 minute shift.



☺ Please send an e-mail  
[jcavellier@troy.k12.mi.us](mailto:jcavellier@troy.k12.mi.us)

A few friendly reminders about student dismissal at Costello . . .

To safely and efficiently dismiss students is our goal! Please share this important communication to anyone who picks up your child. Obviously with nearly 400 students dismissing daily this is not exactly a speedy process. It only takes a few out of order cars to delay dismissal. It is critical that ALL parents follow these procedures. Dismissal time is a great opportunity to model patience for your children!

Students who do not ride the bus, go to Boys & Girls Club or attend CARE dismiss in two different ways:

#### WALKERS & TALKERS...

Parking spaces are reserved for parents who are getting out of their vehicles and waiting (outside the school's north doors) for their children in the north parking lot. ALL vehicles need to be parked in a lined/painted spot. Double parking, waiting in your car for your child, parking by the dumpster and fence unless it is a painted spot only creates more chaos, resulting in a slower dismissal. Please monitor children as you cross through the lot, students walking through a crowded lot with moving vehicles puts the student in harm's way.

If you are waiting in your vehicle for your child and you are not in the Express Loop please change your child's dismissal procedure to the Express Loop.

#### EXPRESS LOOP...

There is only one Express Loop, located directly in front of the school. The side parking lot does not function like the Express Loop. Express Loop users actually get the right-of-way since the child is not yet in the car. Using the Express Loop is much more efficient. If you decide to try this don't forget to communicate with your child's teacher via an e-mail (the night before) or note (the day of).

For your safety, if you are using the Express Loop, please be sure to stay in your car. Students will enter the vehicle from the back seat on the passenger side. Please consider this when securing car seats for younger children.

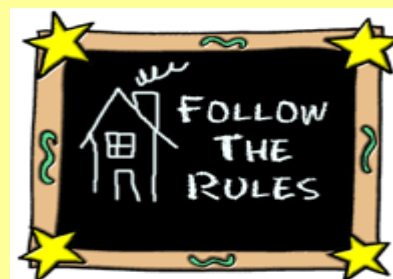
#### REMINDERS...

Walkers, for everyone's safety, PLEASE use the crosswalk.

Teachers are busy teaching and do not always check their e-mail until the end of the day. Sending a note into the teacher in the morning is the best way to ensure the teacher receives the message.

Dismissal changes should be made prior to 3:00.

The Troy Police Department partners with our schools to enforce our safety rules. Thank you for cooperation in keeping Costello safe.





## COSTELLO INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

Where we travel around the world without leaving Troy!

Thursday, November 7, 2019

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Come Celebrate & Learn about Costello families' Diversity and Connections!

Perhaps you would like to showcase your family background.

Perhaps you have traveled to or studied about another country and would like to share about it.

International Night is a great opportunity for families, groups of families, Scout troops, friends and other community members to teach others in our Costello community about the many cultures represented in our school and in our world.

Whether you are Irish or Italian, Chinese or Cherokee; whether you are new to the country or have been here for generations; whether you have travelled the world or only dreamed about it --

**Your family can participate, share and learn!**



Here are some ideas of some things you could do:

- **Display** such things as crafts, flags, cultural artifacts, currency, stamps, foods, clothing, maps, games, toys, and photos.
- Provide an **activity** to share – such as henna tattoos, playing a traditional game, doing a craft project that highlights the country, writing words and names in a different script like Arabic or Chinese, teaching a few words in another language.
- Provide **food** that highlights the country.
- **Perform** a song or a dance from that country, language or culture.
- Wear **special clothing** or bring clothes for children to try-on in our **selfie station**.

If you would like to participate by somehow representing a country, please fill out the attached form and return to school by Tuesday, October 1.

Additionally, all families are encouraged to attend and tour our displays while listening to international music from our D.J. Children attending the event will receive passports for stamping to carry along from "country" to "country". You can sign up for a passport as it gets closer to the day of the event.

Questions? Email

Wendi Abdel-Hameed, [wendimarieward@yahoo.com](mailto:wendimarieward@yahoo.com)

Chris Tallman, [cmalonemail-113@yahoo.com](mailto:cmalonemail-113@yahoo.com)



OVER→

**COSTELLO INTERNATIONAL NIGHT Registration**

**Please return this form** (TO YOU STUDENT'S TEACHER OR, THE OFFICE) **by Tuesday, October 1, 2019**

Student Name (oldest) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_

Country Represented \_\_\_\_\_

**YES!** We would like to participate in the Costello International Night on Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>.

We will *(check all that apply)*

- Set up a table display
- Provide an activity at a table (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Provide food \_\_\_\_\_
- Perform (song, dance, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_
- Bring clothes to display or for children to try-on
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Volunteer to help as needed
- I am able to bring my own 6-foot folding table for my display

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to coordinate and work together with other families. Feel free to do as much or as little as you wish. Every bit helps!

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Email  
Wendi Abdel-Hameed, [wendimarieward@yahoo.com](mailto:wendimarieward@yahoo.com)  
Chris Tallman, [cmalonemail-113@yahoo.com](mailto:cmalonemail-113@yahoo.com)

*Thank you parents! Your support will make this night a great success!*