

E- NEWSLETTER

Columbus School District

MAY, 2019

Learning Today; Leading Tomorrow

Columbus Performance on Federal ESSA Accountability Reports for Continuous Improvement

No Columbus School Received Identification!

A few months ago, all school districts were given the 2017-18 ESSA Accountability Report. This report was released publically in March and can be found at <https://apps2.dpi.wi.gov/essa/>. A report on continuous improvement based on the ESSA report was presented at the Columbus School Board on April 8.

Unlike the state report cards which come out each fall, the ESSA report concerns federal accountability. Schools with very low overall performance for all students and those with the lowest performing student groups are identified as either Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) or Targeted Support and Improvement Schools (TSI). Schools that are identified as either CSI or TSI must go through a series of mandatory improvement efforts.

This is a snapshot from the Distract Summary Report.

It shows that **NO Columbus School received an identification!**

While the federal system is intended to identify schools for support and improvement, all schools with sufficient data are reported (including those Not Identified).

The following table summarizes the identifications for each school within the district, including schools that are now closed but were open in the 2017-18 school year. The table indicates which identification categories are applicable, but, in cases of multiple identifications, the table does not distinguish between CSI-Lowest Performance and CSI-Grad Rate. Similarly, in cases of multiple student groups identified for Targeted Support, the table does not indicate how many student groups within the school qualified for TSI or ATSI. For that detail, and to view school and group level indicator data, please refer to the ESSA Accountability Reports, which are produced for each school.

School	Result
Columbus Elementary	Not Identified
Columbus High	Not Identified
Columbus Middle	Not Identified
Discovery Charter School	Not Identified

The advantage to being not identified but still receiving the ESSA Accountability Report is that Columbus School District has access to rich information to analyze and use in improvement effort decision-making. Because continuous improvement is cyclical, Columbus School District persists in improving our efforts, services, and programs. Our goals are straightforward:

- Improve Student Outcomes
- Reduce Student Achievement Gaps

The school district looks forward to continued partnership with the community, parents, and students working toward equitable, well-rounded education for all students.

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Columbus Elementary School & Discovery Charter School

Principal Beth Hellpap
Dean of Students Karin Westlake

Principal's Corner

April was a great month to share our many talents here at CES/DCS. April 11th was the concert where a wonderful message of character, honesty and positivity was spread by our students. The phrases from the lyrics were meaningful to both students and audience. Rousing applause was heard after many of the songs. The finale allowed for all 320 students to sing in unison a heart touching message shown here in the lyrics by Teresa Jennings:

*We're changing the world
One person at a time
We're making it better don't you see
We're changing the world
One person at a time
The very first person is me
For I know it starts with me
Yes I know it starts with me
It starts with me!*



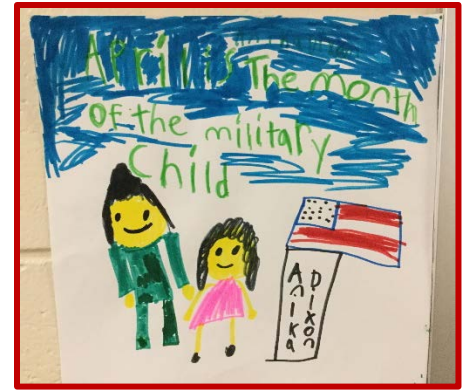
Along with the beautiful singing came an ambiance created by student artwork. This artwork was displayed on the gym walls for all to see. Each student had a piece of artwork that brightened up the gym. And last but not least, all the choreography and transition entertainment was taught by our physical education teacher. The students showed how they cooperated on stage with designed activities that promoted unity and partnership.

This entire event would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication from our allied arts teachers. Ms. Loest-music teacher, Mrs. Hallman- physical education teacher and Ms. Helmbrecht- art teacher. .



Did you know?

April is the “Month of the Military Child” Often veterans and active members of the military are given special days for all to recognize, and rightfully so! However, it is important to notice that people serving in the military often have children who are also making a sacrifice. CES/DCS currently has multiple students who have a parent deployed and serving our country, so we celebrated those students with a certificate of thanks. We also shared posters around the school reminding the entire student body of this important designation.



UW Bio-core students visited elementary on Friday April 26th



The Discovery Charter School hosted Family Science Night, where 20 students from the University of Wisconsin came to the CES gym to share exciting science experiments that are kid friendly and highly engaging. Among some of the highlights from science night were homemade lava lamps, bouncy ball making and the “soda fountain”.

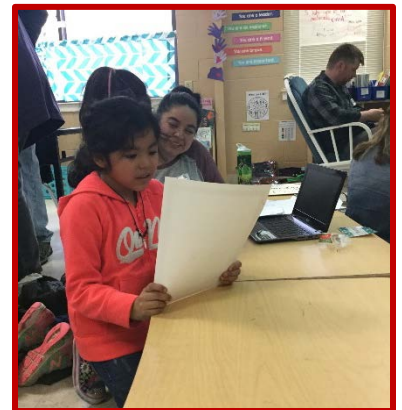


Click [here](#) to see what happens when Coca-cola mixes with mentos! A special thanks to our DCS teachers for organizing this awesome event and for the DCS council and parents who fed the hungry college students dinner that evening!



1st grade celebrates writing

Our first graders sent personal invitations in the mail to a VIP inviting them to school on Thursday, April 18. It was a great connection for our 1st graders to learn how to write a letter and turn that letter into an invitation and send it in the mail. Students were elated when their VIP arrived! A big thanks to the very important people who were able to attend our 1st grade writing celebration.



Art, Music & Phy Ed

In art the kindergarten and first grade artists are wrapping up a ceramics unit. The second graders are studying Georgia O'Keeffe. The third grade artists are into printmaking at this time.

In Music, each grade level has been making their very own Rhythm Bands. To do so, each group of instruments must follow the music independently and keep a steady beat! As the grade level gets higher, we add more instruments and quicker changes! Ask your musician which instrument is their favorite!

In physical education, the first through third grade students are starting a walking program. The benefits of walking are discussed in class and then students can walk laps during their recess times. The students accumulate hundreds of miles. Exercise is so much fun!



Earth day Clean up

CES kindergarten students cleaned up the school grounds on Monday April 22nd.



DCS Students Get Planting!

One of the exciting components of the Discovery Charter School is the opportunity to see a seed get planted, sprout, transplanted, grow, get harvested and then used.

Spring means planting season at DCS and the students are learning about different varieties of plants, vegetation that grows best in our climate and the hard work it takes to grow your own food.

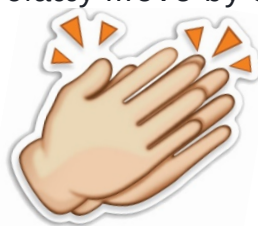


4k Orientation

We have many students who are ready for 4k for the 2019-20 school year. If you missed our orientation night and would like more information, please contact the CES office at 920-623-5952 ext. 1161. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Supporting Each Other

The CHS baseball team postponed their practice to congratulate the CES/DCS students on their concert. They lined the hallways, clapped and cheered for the singers. A very classy move by our CHS students!

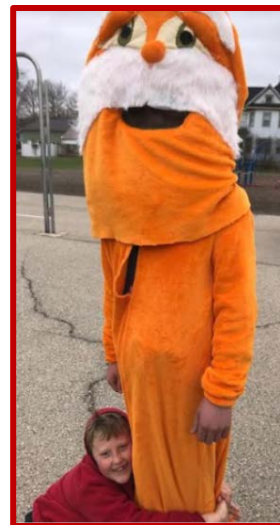


Arbor Day Trees



The Columbus FFA chapter ordered trees from UW-Stevens Point and the Wisconsin DNR tree program for 100% of the 4th grade students.

Two high school and two middle school FFA members, along with Mr. Glasbrenner, spoke to the 4th grade students about the importance of trees and how they help us and the environment.



The Lorax even made an appearance to speak for the trees! The 4th graders asked really good questions about the trees and tree planting. They learned what kind of tree it was, how it should be

planted and how to take care of it until they plant it and after they plant it.

Each 4th grader received a white spruce tree to take home to plant over the Easter weekend. The 4th grade students enjoyed receiving a tree from the Lorax and a high five for helping the environment!



The **Lorax** is a children's book written by Dr. Seuss and first published in 1971. The message of the book is to collectively take responsibility for the environment.



3rd Grade - Fairy Tale Writing Workshop



Third graders have been working hard to plan, draft, write, revise,

and edit adapted and original fairy tales in Writer's Workshop.



One strategy they have learned is to act out scenes from the original (classic) fairy tale and then act out scenes from fairy

tales they are writing. When students act out their fairy tales, it helps them to slow down and visualize what is happening so that they can write down exact, precise movements and dialogue in their stories.



Ask your third grader about the fairy tale they are writing. Have them act it out with you!

Columbus Arbor Day Festival – April 27



Winners from CIS/CMS both received a \$25 Visa Gift Card from the City of Columbus.



Fitness at CIS/CMS



During the 4th quarter students complete the Presidential Fitness testing at CIS/CMS. Students perform sit ups, pull ups, flex arm hang, broad jump, shuttle run, 50 yard dash, 600 yard run, and the mile run.

Scores are kept from grades 4-8 to see how students progress year to year. Students work hard to reach the benchmarks of National (top 50% in the United States) or Presidential (top 15% in the United States) which pushes them to reach a specific goal based on their age. Often times it gets very loud with students cheering and encouraging each other to reach these given benchmarks.

With the completion of fitness testing, as we get back to warmer

weather, we finish out the year with students participating in outdoor games, track relays, and summer yard games.



Columbus Middle School

Acting Principal Cori Denk
Acting Assistant Principal Nate Grundahl

Message

May is here and we are only a few short weeks away from the end of the year. We are wrapping up our testing with the ACT Aspire test. The testing window runs from May 10th to May 17th. Please make sure your student gets enough sleep and has a breakfast.



We have a busy few weeks with lots of fun things happening. Many grades will be going on field trips that are outdoors please make sure that your child is dressed for the weather. We will be having 8th grade promotion on June 3rd at 6:00 pm.

An Act of Kindness!

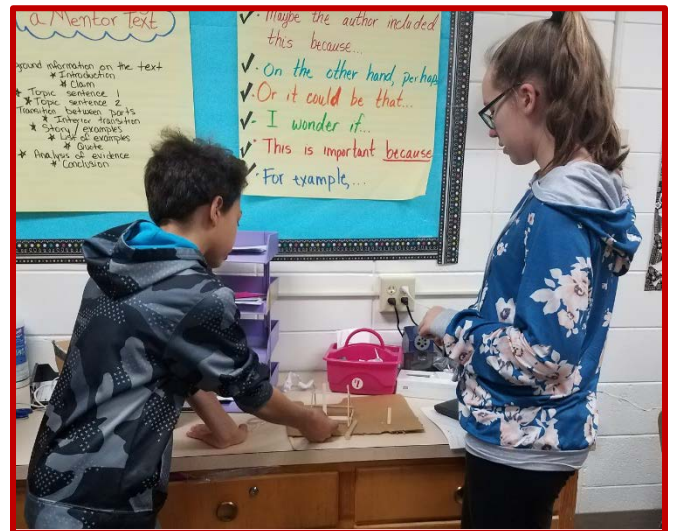
Seventh and Eighth grade students made birthday cards for a WWII Veteran that is turning 100 years old this May.



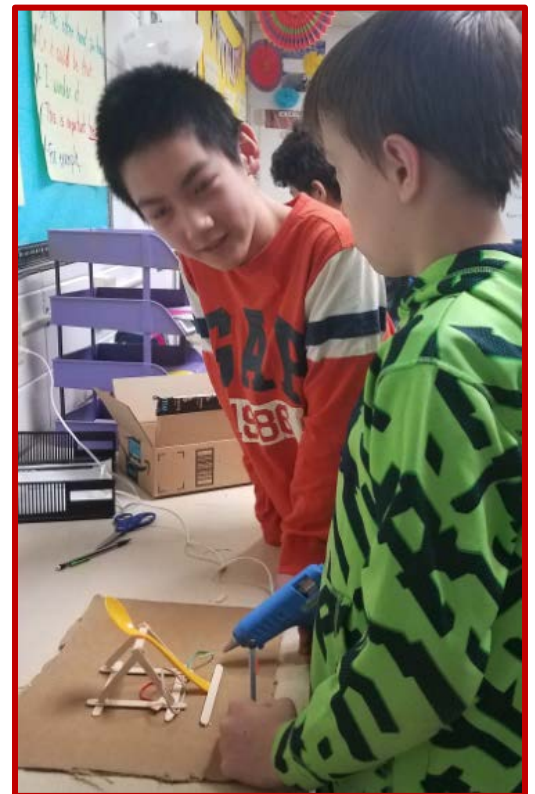
6th Grade Science

Sixth grade students in Mr. Schambow's and Mrs. Hemp's science classes constructed catapults this past month.

Students used the skills of collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity in their design and testing. The groups were given the task of reaching specific distance and accuracy goals. Both classrooms had an energetic atmosphere as students worked collaboratively on their projects!



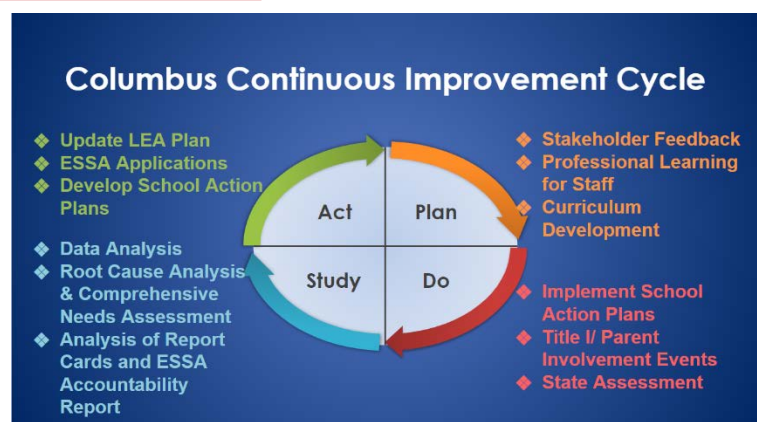
Catapults



Science

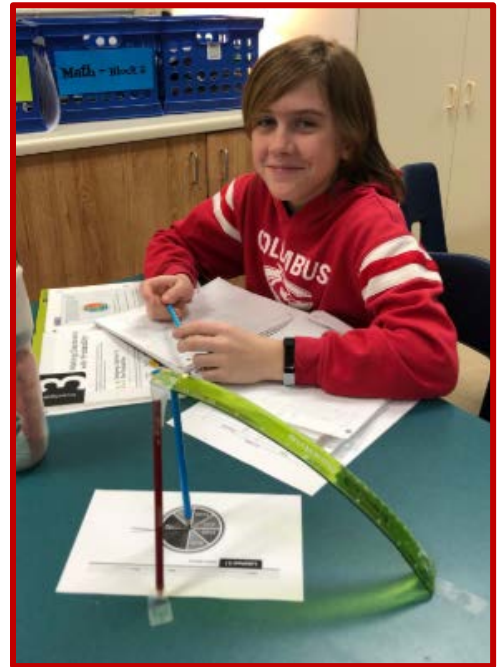


Additional Information about
Columbus Continuous Improvement Cycle
(from article on page 1)



7th Grade Science

During the 7th grade "What Do You Expect?" probability math unit, we did a lesson about determining probability using a spinner. Students conducted an experiment and collected data using a spinner, pencil and a paperclip. They had to spin the spinner and record results enough times so that they were certain of their results to share with the class. This student created a structure to hold the pencil in place so that he could just spin the paperclip. It was a great use of his engineering skills, and it made the lab even more fun for his group.



Countries in Asia & Africa

Two eighth graders have set the new fastest time records for identifying all the countries in Asia and Africa. Way to go!

Recognition

The Columbus Middle Students recognized the Food Service Workers on Friday, May 3rd. Please see article on page 12 for more information.



Columbus High School

A Message from CHS Interim Principal Glasbrenner

I have experienced a great deal in my month as an interim principal at Columbus High School. Much of the work has revolved around traditions and the school pride that is displayed by parents, students, and staff.

You cannot go to a baseball game, softball games, soccer match, track & field meet, or any club meeting without seeing tradition. And as the quote above states, we can mold the traditions with fresh ideas and see each event as an opportunity for growth. In the next few weeks, several events are occurring at CHS. A few examples include the Capitol Conference academic banquet, National Honor Society banquet, spring sport banquets, prom, graduation, and many end of the year celebrations. In each occurrence is a tradition that involves new people and fresh ideas and evolves.

I want to take a quick minute to also recognize the adults that help to make all of this happen. Whether you are a parent, uncle, aunt, grandparent, guardian, coach, supervisor, teacher, or friend - the CHS students really do appreciate you helping them along the way. CHS appreciates your support as we evolve and develop while respecting the solid foundations within Columbus traditions.

Art News

Eight Columbus High School students were honored at the Artist Reception at the Annual Capitol Conference Art Show in the Pyle Center in Madison. The event was held on Sunday, April 28. This art show honors some of the top artists from each school in the Capitol Conference. This is a juried show, meaning that only a limited number of artworks are on display and that pieces are of the highest caliber.



STEAM

In **Aerospace** over the past couple of weeks, the students were supposed to create an aerodynamic, protective device that would be no bigger than 10" x 10" x 10" for an egg to survive drops from three different levels.



The levels consisted of ceiling height, balcony in the shop, and the school roof. If the project failed at any of the three levels, modifications were to be made to see if it could survive from falling from a 100 foot drop in the bucket on a Columbus Fire Department Truck.

The first step to creating the project was to research and compare other ideas with what they wanted to create.

After finding a design that fit criteria and was believed to be successful, the students were to bring in their own materials from home to begin the building process. After a few days to build, the class took all of the projects down stairs to be tested.



To move on from level to level, the project must pass the test previous to the next. After going through each level and heading to the fire truck, four out of ten projects that were dropped from the firetruck were successful. Each project that made the firetruck earned a couple of extra credit points. If the drop was successful, they earn more extra credit points towards their overall project.



Egg drop



WI Forestry and Wildlife

Article submitted by Two High School Students, Amanda and Corrina

As you can imagine, there are some pretty crazy things that happen at Columbus High School, but a life size picture of an elk is something we don't see every day. Everyone that walked past this "elk" was kind of interested to learn about why there was an elk in the lobby and of course had to take a picture with it.

Well, ask any Wisconsin Forestry and Wildlife student and you will learn why.



At the beginning of this project, none of the agriculture students actually knew what they were creating. The project entailed the students to draw puzzle pieces based on little squares from a cut out picture. Once finished, the students enjoyed putting up the puzzle in the lobby. The elk puzzle was made to demonstrate how huge an actual elk could be.

Along with creating the puzzle, we learned about how elk population has changed over several years and what has affected their population. This was a fun way to get students, not just in Wisconsin Forestry and Wildlife class, engaged and learning about one of the many important animals around us.



School Board

U P D A T E

School Board Meeting Schedule

- r Monday, **May 13, 2019** 7 PM at City Hall
- r Monday, **June 10, 2019** 7 PM at City Hall
- r Monday, **June 24, 2019** 7 PM at City Hall

Facilities Forward! Community Facilities Advisory Committee CFAC

The Facilities Forward! Community Facilities Advisory Committee has begun their work.

CFAC Committee will be meeting on:

May 6	May 30	June 3	
June 17	July 1	July 15	July 22



Business Services

Food Service Program Update

It was Lunch Lady Super Hero Day in the Columbus School District on Friday, May 3rd. These hunger fighting Super Hero's bring a nutritious meal with a smile to our students EVERY day! Thank you for your hard work Super Hero Lunch Ladies (LL on their capes) and Mr. Ray!



Community Learning Update



Pedal Days

All ages are welcome!



May 13 to May 17!

Bike to a different destination each day of the week.

PEDAL DAYS

COLUMBUS, WISCONSIN

Snacks, beverages, biking information, & more at each site.

Receive a passport sticker at each destination!
Each sticker is redeemable for a door prize ticket to be used at the Bike Rodeo May 17.

Monday, May 13, 5-7 p.m. - Bike to:

Columbus Community Hospital - Main Entrance

Kick start your week at the first passport destination for snacks, first aid supplies and a complementary backpack. Take a ride on the Wellness Walkway (one night only!) Rain or Shine.

Tuesday, May 14, 5-7 p.m. - Bike to:

Columbus Public Library

Use your creative talents to make a bike wheel dream catcher and enjoy a healthy snack! Rain or Shine.

Wednesday, May 15, 5-7 p.m. - Bike to:

Columbus Elementary School Parking Lot

Enjoy some obstacle courses, other fun bike activities and a healthy snack! Shine Only.

Thursday, May 16, 5-7 p.m. - Bike to:

at Columbus Area Senior Center

It's a coasting contest! See how far you can coast and enjoy a healthy snack. Prizes for participants! Rain or Shine.

Friday, May 17, 5-7 p.m. - Bike to:

Kiwanis Park for the Bike Rodeo! Rain or Shine!

Hosted by Columbus Recreation Department

In case of rain, activities will take place inside the DPW work bays at 229 East School St.



In the event of severe weather, such as tornado watch or warning, lightning, or hail, Pedal Days activities for the evening will be cancelled.



Be sure to find our event on Facebook for up-to-date event information!

Bike Rodeo Friday, May 17

5 - 7 p.m.

at Kiwanis Park
on School Street in Columbus

Ride with an officer!

Obstacle course!

FREE Bike helmets!

Prize drawings! And more!

Questions?

Contact an activity representative:

Chris DeLapp

Columbus Community Hospital

920-623-2200

cdelapp@cch-inc.com

Kim Lang

Columbus Senior Center

920-623-5918

klang@columbuswi.us

Cindy Fesemeyer

Columbus Public Library

920-623-5910

Cindy@columbuspubliclibrary.info

Amy Jo Meyers

Columbus Recreation Department

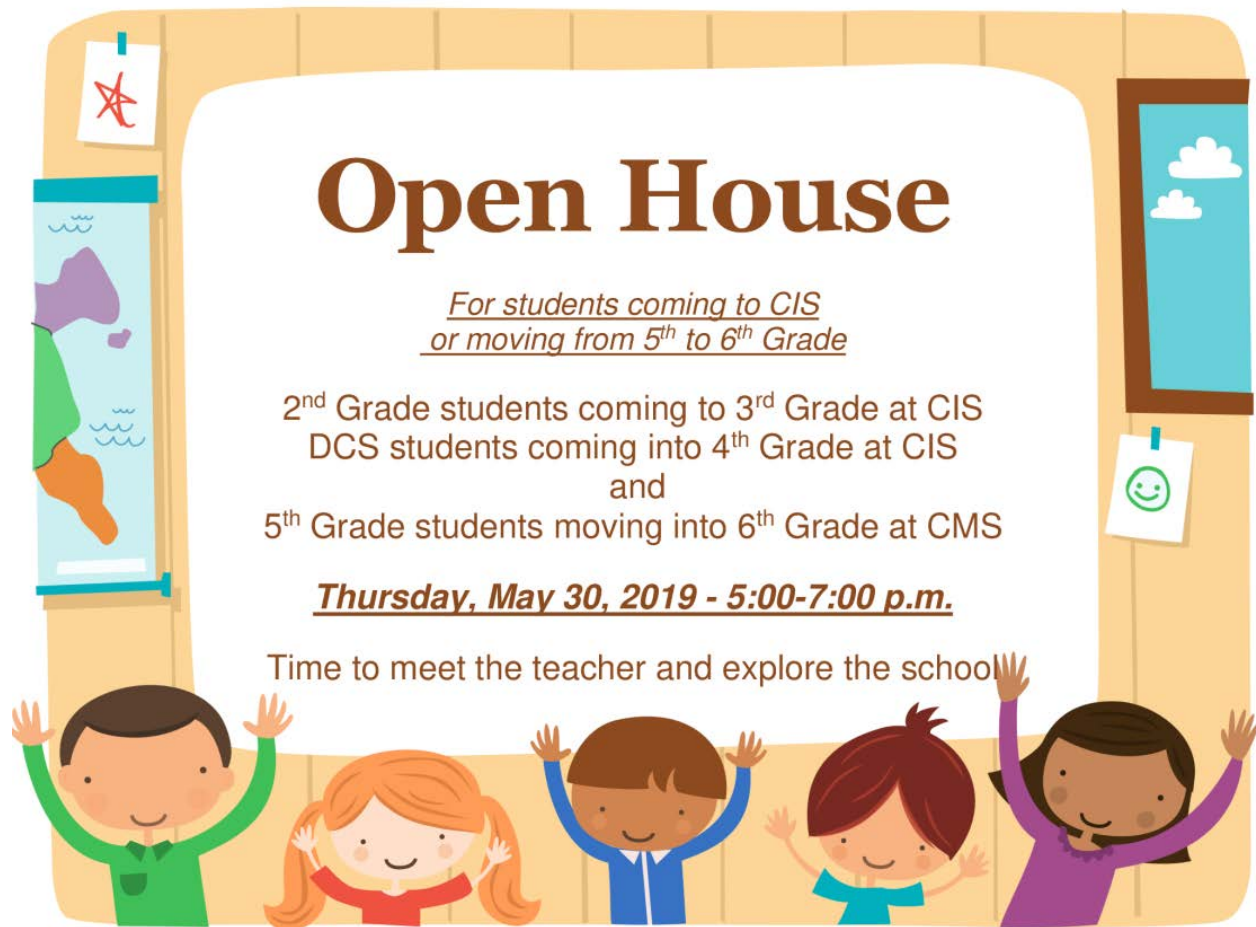
920-623-5936

recreation@columbuswi.us

Cori Denk - Columbus School District

920-623-5950

Open House



Redbud Players Theater Week

REDBUD PLAYERS THEATER WEEK

JUNE 10-15, 2019

Students entering grades 1-10 this fall are invited to join our week-long theater residency program under the direction of Compass Creative Dramatics. The young actors will stretch their creativity muscles through rehearsals and performances of the play "The Jumping Jacks and the Beanstalk." No acting experience necessary — just come ready to have fun!



Students must be available Monday, June 10 through Friday, June 14, 3:00-6:15 p.m., and for two performances on Saturday, June 15, at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. All rehearsals and performances will be held at Columbus Middle School.

To guarantee a role in the cast, please fill out and return a registration form by June 1. Registration forms are available on the Columbus Redbud Players Facebook page or by request via email to ColumbusRedbud@gmail.com

Curriculum & Instruction

By Angela Wiemer, Instructional Literacy Coach

As a mother of two little girls, I am incredibly excited to spend the summer with my children. However, in recent weeks, I have found myself wondering - *what am I going to do to keep these kids busy?!* As a literacy coach in the district, the first thing that comes to my mind is...READ!

Below, I've put together some quick tips and resources for learning with your children during the summer months.

- Know when to read (hint: **anytime!**)
- Keep books everywhere! [Common Sense Media](#) has book recommendations for all age levels.
- Make it fun -- read outside!
- Listen to audiobooks or a podcast. [Story Pirates](#) podcast is a favorite in our house!
- Use the [Columbus Public Library](#) for story time, clubs, and other summer reading programs.
- Visit local learning resources, like parks and museums. Here are two free museums - [University of Wisconsin Geology Museum](#) or [Chazen Museum of Art](#).
- Play fun math or word games. Hangman, anyone?
- Get moving! Physical activity increases brain power!



VIP Day in Ms. Crook's First Grade classroom.

Technology Update

By Chet Bembenek, Technology Manager

As we are coming to the end of this first school year with our new Lenovo Chromebooks it is almost time for your student to turn in their Chromebook. The first year with the Chromebook has gone very well. The students have used every aspect of the Chromebooks this year from the touchscreen to the tablet with the stylus to just normal laptop mode. The amount of repairs we have done on the Chromebook has been minimal; the number of screen breaks that we have had to repair so far has been less than 10 for the whole district! Your students have done a great job of taking care of their Chromebooks this past year.

At the end of the school year, we will collect all the Chromebooks from the students. At that time, we will also collect the power cord. If your student is missing the power cord, it will have to be replaced before the start of next year. The cost of a power cord is \$40. If your student's Chromebook is broken it will be repaired over the summer and any updates that are needed will be installed. The students will receive the same Chromebook they have this year at the start of next year. Next year we will be handing out the Chromebooks the first week of school.

Have a great summer!

Student Services Update

ALL In...Co Planning That Includes ALL Learners and ALL Professionals

At Columbus School District, special education teachers and regular education teachers co-plan and co-serve through proactive practices that meet the needs of each and every learner. The curriculum is selected and designed for all learners in preparation for first teach, rather than developed for a normed group of students and then adapted after the fact.

Personalized learning needs are integrated into a collaborative planning tool which assist educators in determining appropriate instructional practices and documenting progress toward goals and learning targets. Specially designed instruction is clearly imbedded in the planning and overall unit design. Our goal is to be sure that students never have to wait to fail or go to a certain location or professional to get what they need. We believe that learning occurs all day every day and all professionals on the grade level team must be "in the know" about how to best reach and teach ALL learners at that grade level. Through coaching and team meetings, the teacher teams have worked hard to create a system for co-planning and co-serving all students to best meet their individual needs.

Here is a sample co-planning template. The special education teacher and regular education teacher create a document for each student in special education. This document helps each of the teachers know what is being taught and how the specially designed instruction will be implemented within the lesson.

Core Teacher: Elementary & Special Education Unit goals/standards/bends (Core focus): <i>(Student Rubric)</i>	Co-planning Template Unit: Reading History - Unit #3 1. Main ideas and Supporting details / Summary 2. Analyzing parts of the text in relation to the whole 3. Analyzing Perspective 4. Cross text synthesis	Subject: ELA
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*SDI (Special Designed Instruction)

Student Name: xxx		
IEP GOAL #1	<i>Will increase xxx reading skills in the area of decoding multisyllabic words</i> <i>*will meet targeted words per minutes</i>	Unit Learning Progressions - Orienting Envisioning Monitoring for Sense Fluency
SDI* (Taught during small group instruction but all teachers know what additional skills are being taught and practiced for IEP goals)	Fluency - Serravallo - 4.1, "Read like you've always known it, 4.6 "Punctuation at the end of the sentence", 4.9 "Using partners to smooth it out" Building vocab - use vocab book to pre-teach new words - visuals/pictures (11.7) "Know the word, use the word", 11.14	Punctuation and Sentence Complexity Word Solving Building Vocabulary Main Ideas & Supporting details Inferring within Text Cross text synthesis Comparing and Contrasting Analyzing Parts of text in relation to whole Analyzing author's craft Analyzing perspective Critical Reading Questioning the text
	Need: Historical fiction books at Level K,L Passages for fluency practice Vocabulary booklet - academic vocabulary?, preview books for words	Progress - WPM baseline - 47
	Main Idea and Supporting Details - What is the text mostly about? Does the text structure help me summarize? Can I choose the important details? Can I summarize briefly? Did I leave out the unimportant things?	
SDI* (Skills also taught to make sure that students are able to access core curriculum)	"Ask questions, form ideas", 8.4 - Notice does anything repeat? Review "Boxes and Bullets" for notetaking "Popout sentences" (Main idea) - passages for guided practice "Topic/Subtopic/Details" 8.3	

Calendar / Upcoming Events

May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 High School Parent Conferences 5-8 PM	2	3 Prom is tomorrow night – May 4
6 CHS Band/Choir Spring Concert	7	8 Full day of classes	9 DCS Lottery	10 CHS Noteworthy Night & Jazz/La Voce perform – Music Awards Night is tomorrow night – May 11
13 School Board Meeting 7 PM	14 CMS Band Concert	15	16 CMS Track Conference meet @ Marshall	17 Spring Marching Band Clinic is tomorrow – May 18
20	21 Grades 3-5 Spring Concert 4K Picnic at 5:30 PM	22 Active Shooter Presentation 6-8 PM in CMS gym	23	24 Graduation 7:30 PM
27 Holiday –  No School Bands march	28	29	30 Open House for CIS (2nd grade to 3rd grade at CIS; DCS to 4th grade; and 5th grade to CMS grade 6) 5-7 PM	31 Full day of classes CES/DCS Park & Field Day (rain date is June 3)

Eighth Grade Promotion is **Monday, June 3rd** at 6 PM.

Last day of school for students is **Tuesday, June 4th** – a full day of classes.

Summer School Sessions:

Session 1	Session 2
June 10 – July 2	July 8 – August 2

If you have general questions about Summer School, please contact Cori Denk or your school principal 920.623.5950.

