



E- NEWSLETTER

Columbus School District

February, 2020

Learning Today; Leading Tomorrow

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Open Enrollment

Existing Open Enrolled students attending Columbus School District will not need to Open Enroll for the 20-21 school year. The previous approval continues from year to year, including the upcoming school year, as our policy does not require annual Open Enrollment applications.

Non-Resident students that would like to attend Columbus School District in the 20-21 school year, please proceed with the Open Enrollment process. The Open Enrollment period will be open from February 3rd through April 30th (deadline of 4:00 pm). Please visit our website and click the link to apply for open enrollment online:

<https://www.columbus.k12.wi.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=199>

Black History Month

Since February is Black History month, this is a great time for parents to talk with their children about race. According to the Sesame Workshop "Identity Matters" report: 1) Only 10% of parents discuss race often with their children. 2) A parent's race impacts how often these conversations are happening. 22% of black parents discuss race often with their children, compared to 6% of white parents. 3) Nearly 35% of all parents surveyed said they never talk to their children about social class. And finally 4) 57% of all parents said they rarely or never talk about gender with their kids. So how do you have these difficult or uncomfortable conversations with your children?

- **Start early and organically:** Point out diversity in books, mention different shades of skin or hairstyles. With older children, parents can talk about biases and stereotypes in everyday life, such as pointing out how stores separate girl and boy toys.

**Community-Led Process.
Community-Led Solution.**

CALL
920.350.0365

EMAIL
referendum@columbus.k12.wi.us

VISIT
www.columbus.k12.wi.us/referendum2020

2020 Community-Led Facilities Referendum

Three years of facilities planning, community conversations, a community-wide survey, and the extensive efforts and recommendation of the **Community Facilities Advisory Committee** led to the April 7, 2020 referendum that will address needs at all of the **community's** schools.

THE INVESTMENT | not to exceed \$30 million

AGING INFRASTRUCTURE
Address the most pressing needs at all three schools including ADA accessibility, plumbing, heating/ventilation, electrical, etc.

ELEMENTARY CAPACITY
Addition (including a secure entrance, classrooms, a cafeteria/kitchen, and 2-court gymnasium) and renovations to bring 3rd, 4th and 5th grades back to the elementary school.

HIGH SCHOOL UPGRADES
Addition and renovations to improve Career Tech Ed (shop), art, band/choir, library, cafeteria/kitchen and weight/fitness areas.

LAND PURCHASE
Acquire land for future development of a school and/or outdoor athletic and recreation spaces.

TAX IMPACT | the annual tax impact is \$162.00 per \$100,000 of property value

@ColumbusWisconsin
 @CSDCardinals
 #CommunityLed

- **Tailor your message based on the child’s identity:** Conversations about race should help “children in marginalized groups cope with biases” and help children in privileged groups to “dismantle that privilege.”
- **Focus on media literacy:** When you are watching television, parents should point out stereotypes or the absence of diversity.
- **Embrace the uncomfortable moments:** Sometimes children bring up race at the kitchen table while other bring it up loudly in the grocery checkout line. Those awkward, uncomfortable moments should be embraced and adults should remember the goal is to deemphasize that talking about race is a bad thing.

Information taken from Early Education, “Too few parents talk to their kids about race and identity, report finds” by Jackie Mader @ <https://hechingerrreport.org/too-few-parents-talk-to-their-kids-about-race-and-identity-reports-finds/>.

Columbus Elementary School/Discovery Charter School

Message from the Principal,

It seems silly to think of the upcoming school year in January, but the CES/DCS office is excited to look and plan for the new students coming in the fall of 2020. Many families have already shared their excitement for their new kindergartener to come by attending our Kindergarten Info Nights. The bright eyed students toured the school, played in the classrooms, met the teachers and even found some friends. I enjoy offering these events to families so they can take a sneak peek, ask questions and relieve some of the common worries of sending a student to full day kindergarten! If you missed our kindergarten info night, please don’t hesitate to call or email me, I am happy to answer any questions you have or set up a school tour. September will be here before we know it!

Beth Hellpap

CES/DCS Principal

bhellpap@columbus.k12.wi.us

Kindness is Growing!

The staff at Columbus Elementary/Discovery Charter School are hyper-focusing on noticing students being kind. Whether they are in the hallway helping a friend pack up, in the classroom showing a new student where to put their things, or making sure everyone has someone to play with outside...the teachers are recognizing the acts of kindness they have seen and share it on the school kindness tree. The tree is growing every day and serves as a reminder that “kindness matters”!



What's up in Fine Arts?

Art

This quarter in art we have covered many different art subjects including self-portraits, color theory, and watercolor. We are just starting our mixed media projects before winter break and are excited to start creating 3D art work next quarter.



Take the Kindness Pledge

With the help of *Duck Tape* and *Project Love*, the students at CES/DSC were able to participate in the *Stick Together* project. The Principal announce the importance of being kind and sticking up for students who are being treated unkind. Once the students understood what to do to show kindness and have assertion in needed situations, they took the “kindness pledge”, The students and staff wrote their names on a piece of duck tape and pledged to be kind and stick together against bullying.



Music

During this quarter, we have been very busy in the CES Music Department! We finished up our Rhythms Unit while learning Turkey Songs for Thanksgiving. After that, we all learned about the life of Ludwig van Beethoven. Our favorite fact about him is that he wrote music even after he lost his hearing. We have also been working hard on our Winter Assembly songs, featuring songs about Hannuka, Kwanzaa, and Christmas! Next, we will review our rhythms and start on melodies!

Phy Ed

The students have been working on eye hand control. Cup stacking was a hit with CES/DSC second and third grade students. The younger students did cooperative bucket stacking. Lots of practice and fun was had by all.

Columbus Intermediate School/Middle School

Notes from the principal...

8th grade students Explore Exploratories

On January 22, 2020 our 8th grade staff and students took a quick local field trip to Columbus High School to explore some of the great electives that are potential classes for them in the next school year.

The students had four rotations that visited the following areas at 8:10, 8:40, 9:15, & 9:45:

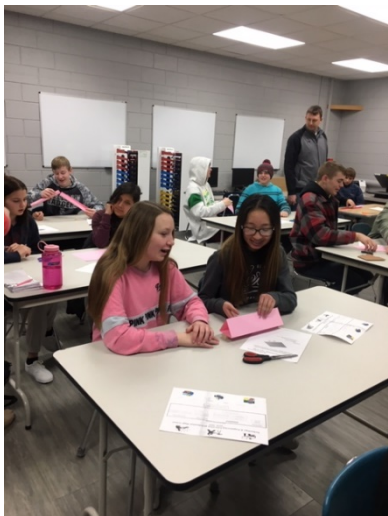
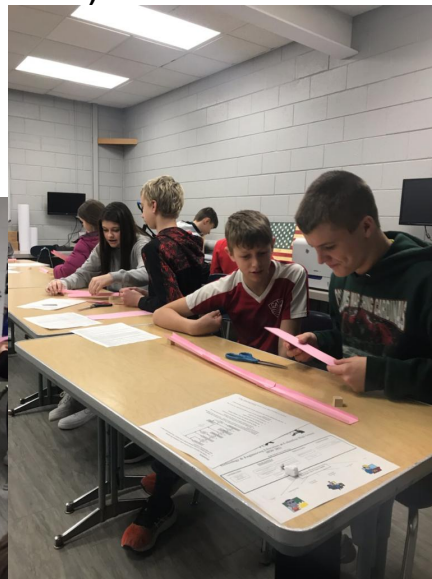
Technology & Engineering with Mr. Schroeder



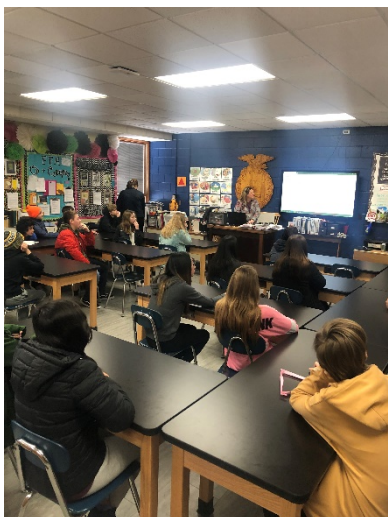
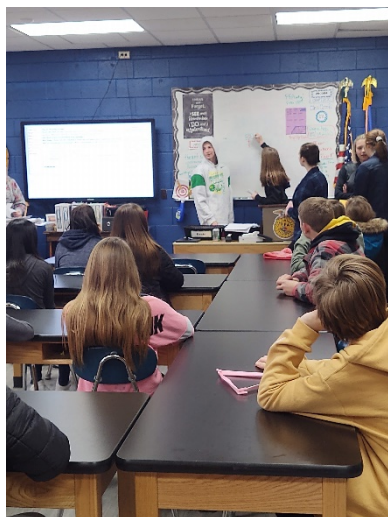
Business & Information Technology with Mr. Schneider (Room 108)



Project Lead the Way with Mr. Dworak (Room 116 - Tech Ed classroom)



Agriculture & Natural Resources with Mrs. Crook (Room 107)



Girls Basketball teams continue to work hard and succeed

The CMS girls basketball teams season has come to an end. The key focus in middle school basketball has been to improve each player's skills in basketball. The coaches focus on passing, dribbling, and shooting drills in practice to give the athletes opportunities to work on skills that they were able to use in the games to give them the best chance for success. Improving overall team defense on the court has been a challenge, but the girls have shown tremendous improvement in this area as the season has gone on. Another challenge during the season has been making adjustments during the game to react to the opponent's offensive and defensive game plans. The girls have done a great job at paying attention in the huddle and applying the adjustments shown to them during timeouts and halftime talks.

This will definitely become more and more important if they choose to play in high school. This year's teams have been dedicated to building their skills as individuals and working as a team. If the positive attitudes and work ethic continues, they will be a very competitive group of players for years to come.

8th Grade game



7th Grade game



B.I.N.G.O.

As a part of our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports celebrations, we played BINGO with all students to be able to emphasize growth and to set some new goals. Some of the behaviors that students recognized as improved are below:

- Cleaner hallways
- Fewer students running in the halls
- Less mess in the restrooms
- Cleaner lunch tables

A few behaviors that the students identified as still needing some work:

- Empathy - respecting the perspective of others
- Clean lockers and desks
- Remembering to bring all materials to class/work

BINGO was a great way to involve all kids in a quick celebration and to keep all kids entertained.



Columbus High School

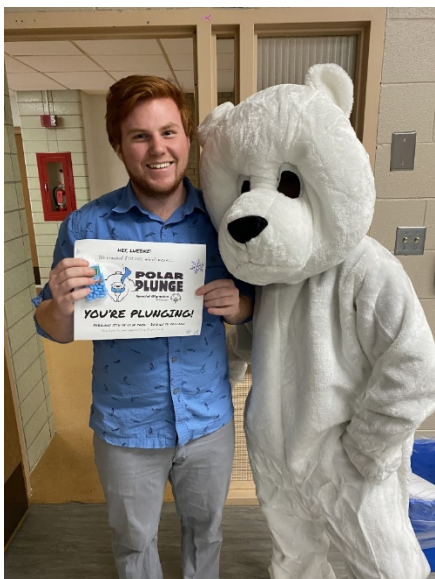
Spring State Testing

The ACT State Assessment will take place March 3, 2020. Juniors take this exam every year in the state of Wisconsin. This year in preparation for the ACT, Columbus Juniors will be able to use an online prep program called ACT Academy. We will support students through use of the online program during Homeroom. Students will begin using this website in February in preparation for the ACT. They can become familiar with the test through many online resources, which also includes a paper version of ACT so students can practice and have a better understanding of how the ACT works.



Polar Plunge

It was that time of year again, and CHS Project Unify is FREEZIN for REASON! This group raised money for Special Olympics Wisconsin's Polar Plunge, the largest annual fundraiser for Special Olympics. The money raised helps athletes compete and train, provides funding for uniforms and transportation, and covers health screening. The Unified Champion Schools program through Special Olympics gives Project Unify a 25% rebate of what they fundraise to improve inclusive programming in their school! Hopefully, CHS PU can be the top fundraisers in the state for a second year in a row as they work toward their lofty goal of \$25,000. Students have been going door to door, shoveling sidewalks in the community, hosting bake sales and miracle minutes at basketball games, and more. The passion these students have for inclusion and opportunity for students with disabilities is palpable and contagious. We are still \$13,000 from our goal, but we won't give up. Brrrrrrring it on! Thank you to those of you who have donated.



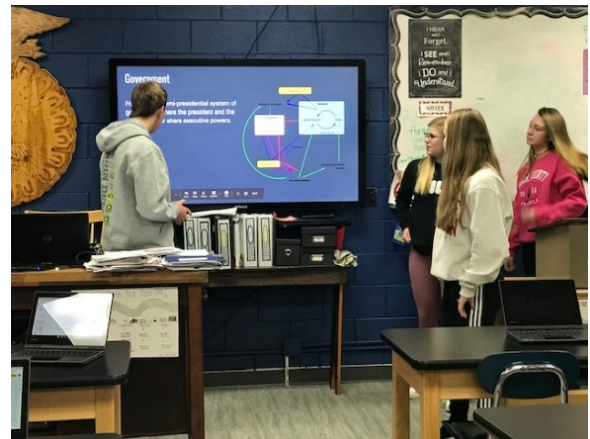
Costa Rican Student Visit

In January, a group of Costa Rican Students visited CHS, as part of an exchange they did with a neighboring school district. They shared about their culture, school, and lives back in Costa Rica, and experienced a day in the life of a CHS student as they shadowed our students for part of the day.



Student Classroom Activities

Our teachers are encouraged to create engaging lessons that promote collaboration and learning. Students in Agriculture Classes work together for better understanding of the content:



In English class, Ms. McGee's students work in small groups to learn about communication skills:



Community Learning Update



CLS Family Opportunities

We are so excited to be partnering with two new Yoga instructors. We will be offering two Yoga classes offered through Community Learning Services.

- On Mondays from 6:00-7:00 pm Mary Benisch will be hosting a Mindful Slow Flow class for adults. These will be held at Columbus Middle School in Room 186.
- On Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 pm Kelly Spies will be hosting a Baptiste Power Yoga for teens and adults. These will be held at Columbus Middle School in Room 186.

We are hosting an informational presentation by Prairie Ridge Hospital. Dr. Ashgar Marwat and Respiratory Therapist Angela Schlachter, RRT will be presenting the information. Wednesday, February 19, 2020 Columbus Middle School Gym at 6:00 p.m.

CLS Offerings

We are currently just sent out the spring sign-up sheet for many classes.

Chess Club Grades 2-5

Art Club Grades K-3 (DCS)--Full

Art Club Grades 4-8

Kickball Grades 2-5

Piano Lesson Grades 2-5

Cheerleading Grades 3-8

American Sign Language All Ages

Running Club is available all year

Please look at our website for all the links for the permission slips

<https://www.columbus.k12.wi.us/Page/321>

Curriculum News

New Math Curriculum Coming in 2020-21 School Year

On Monday, January 27th, the Columbus School Board voted to approve the proposal for adopting the following math curricular materials for use beginning next school year:

- Bridges (4K-5)
- Carnegie Learning (6-8)
- CPM (9-12)

This adoption came as a result of a process that began last school year including but not limited to vetting resources that were completely standards aligned (and green lighted by EdReports), staff meeting with vendors of potential options and recommending curriculum to take to pilot in 19-20, piloting materials, informational meetings, and staff, parent, and student feedback based on the pilot.

A special thanks to all of the math pilot classrooms this school year: DCS Grade 1, CIS Grade 3, CMS Grade 7, CHS Algebra and CHS Geometry.

Staff will receive training in the new curricular resources over the summer and be supported in implementation throughout the school year.

This is a link to information on each of the newly adopted math curriculums.
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1S_1JrKDH16qLQuyxBxDsx-z2crjTALvXR-47GU6tSkI/edit?usp=sharing

This document will give you links to the EdReports on each of the curriculums as well as access to the websites for each of them. Columbus School District is committed to continuous improvement for all students, and we are so excited to be providing all students with a major update to mathematics resources!

New Career Pathways Handbook Supports Student Planning For the Future

Students at Columbus High School have access to a new tool this year during the course selection process. The district has rolled out a new [Career Clusters and Pathways](#) handbook.

The goal of this handbook is to work hand in hand with student academic and career planning. It is developed around the **National Career Clusters® Framework** which serves as an organizing tool for Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, curriculum design and instruction.

There are **16 Career Clusters** in the National Career Clusters Framework, representing **79 Career Pathways** to help learners navigate their way to greater success in college and career. The framework also functions as a useful guide in developing programs of study bridging secondary and postsecondary systems and for creating individual student plans of study for a complete range of career options.

Students are able to look up a career pathway under a job cluster and see a variety of things ranging from classes offered at Columbus High School that might serve as good preparation for someone interested in pursuing a career in a particular pathway to a list of sample careers that someone interested in a pathway might want to pursue.

The handbook was built with the collaboration and input of staff from many Columbus High School departments and well and through information on Career Clusters that is referenced and supplied from <https://www.careertech.org/career-clusters>.

Notes from the Nurse:



How to Prevent the Spread of Illness

As we know, it is that time of year again, and cold/flu season is in full swing. Here are some tips to help prevent the spread of Influenza and other common illnesses.

1. **Wash Your Hands:** Washing your hands often, and/or using hand sanitizer, when appropriate is one of the most effective ways to reduce the transmission of diseases. Proper method for handwashing includes wetting hands with clean water, using soap to scrub your hands, in between fingers, and under your nails for at least 20 seconds, rinsing with clean water, and using a clean towel to dry.
2. **Use Proper Coughing/Sneezing Technique:** Use tissue to cover mouth and nose, as many of the germs that cause these common illnesses are spread via droplets from coughing/sneezing. Discard tissue and be sure to wash your hands immediately! If a tissue is not available, cough/sneeze into the crook of your elbow.
3. **Avoid Touching Your Mouth, Nose, and Eyes:** Germs can live on hard surfaces for several hours. Coming into contact with a contaminated surface, and then touching our mouth, nose, and eyes, is one of the ways that we become infected.
4. **Disinfect:** Clean and disinfect frequently used surfaces, toys, and other items often.
5. **Limit Contact With Those Who Are Sick:** People can be contagious for up to a week after symptoms begin. If possible, limit contact and avoid sharing items with these individuals until the risk of transmission has decreased.
6. **Practice Healthy Habits:** Maintaining a healthy lifestyle is important to sustaining a strong immune system. Healthy habits include getting plenty of sleep, eating well, drinking lots of fluids, exercising regularly, and managing stress.

7. *Get vaccinated:* The CDC states that the annual flu vaccine is the most effective way to protect yourself against Influenza. Almost everyone over the age of 6 months can receive the vaccination, with a few exceptions. Talk to your provider about getting one if you haven't already.
8. *If You Are Sick, Stay Home:* As a reminder, do not return to school or work until symptoms have subsided or significantly improved. Being fever-free without the use of medication and/or having no GI symptoms for 24 hours is a requirement in order for a child to return to school.

Calendar / Upcoming Events

February

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 °CMS Parent Conf, 11:00-7:00 PM	4	5	6	7
10 °School Board Meeting 7 PM, City Hall	11	12 Vaping Presentation for Student/Parents, 6 PM, CMS Gym	13	14
17 °In-Service, No School	18	19	20	21
24 °School Board Meeting 7 PM, City Hall	25	26	27	28

March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
9 School Board Meeting 7 PM, City Hall	10	11	12	13
16	17	18 Late Start	19	20
23 School Board Meeting 7 PM, City Hall SPRING BREAK	24	25	26	27
30 Classes resume	31			



Contact Information www.columbus.k12.wi.us Phone Number: 920.623.5950

Superintendent:	Annette Deuman	adeuman@columbus.k12.wi.us
Director of Business Services:	Kent Ritchie	kritchie@columbus.k12.wi.us
Director of Special Education:	Lisa Blochwitz	lblochwitz@columbus.k12.wi.us
Director of Curriculum/Instruction:	Becky Schmidt	bschmidt@columbus.k12.wi.us
Technology Manager:	Chet Bembenek	cbembenek@columbus.k12.wi.us
Facilities Manager:	Troy Marshall	tmarshall@columbus.k12.wi.us
Food Service Director:	Laura Austin	laustin@columbus.k12.wi.us