

Cal-Mum Chronicle

NOVEMBER 2020



A Message from Superintendent of Schools

ROBERT MOLISANI

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family well. With the two months of school now complete, I can say with confidence that both students and staff have implemented the District's Reopening Plan nearly flawlessly. Students are engaged in meaningful and intentional coursework, sport teams are off and running and hopefully, clubs and special activities will start soon. We are off to a great start and the positive energy has been extraordinary. Both students and staff are working hard to carry on the proud tradition of excellence that has come to be expected of Caledonia-Mumford student and staff member.

As you can imagine, implementing a new instructional model has not been easy. For the first time, teachers are teaching students in-person and at home simultaneously. This model along with all the stresses of everyday pandemic living have been exhausting. The stress level of students, families and staff is abundantly clear. I wish that I had the power to take away the anxiety and stress that this pandemic has caused but I cannot. Please know that students have been surveyed regarding their social and emotional wellbeing and we are implementing various interventions. Starting in November, to reduce stress and anxiety the District will provide wellness activities for faculty and staff. I want to thank our parents and guardians for your steady support, encouragement, patience and cooperation. Your partnership is essential to our school community success. Please know that I appreciate and value your feedback and we are in this together and we will get through this together; that's the Cal-Mum Way.

In the development of the District's Reopening Plan, it was abundantly clear that parents wanted choices with regard to instructional models and the Reopening Committee listened. This year elementary parents either selected a five-day in-person or 100% remote instructional model for their children and middle and high school parents selected either a hybrid (two days in-person and three-days remote) or 100% remote schedule for their student. I appreciate the willingness of so many parents to transport their children to and from school this year. In doing so, we were able to offer the above instructional models. If not, the entire District would have been on a hybrid schedule due to the volume restrictions on the school bus.

One of the biggest challenges that families and students face with remote learning is poor internet connectivity. The District has provided Verizon Hot Spots to students that live within these areas and it is still not enough, as services are regularly interrupted. We are working with Cal-Mum families and elected officials to obtain high-speed internet access for all. Please fill out a survey on your current Broadband Internet access by clicking here <https://tinyurl.com/y2sk8vgv>. Also, if you would like to help out, or be kept up to date on what this community-based group is doing, please contact Oliver Miller at omillerwmy@gmail.com. Strength in numbers.

We have come too far to let our guard down. With the holiday season near, I urge everyone to follow the CDC guidelines in order to reduce/eliminate the spread of the virus.

- Celebrating virtually or with members of your own household poses low risk for spread.
- In-person gatherings pose varying levels of risk.
- Event organizers and attendees should consider the risk of virus spread based on event size and use of mitigation strategies (e.g. Outdoor vs. Indoor events, Physical Distancing, Face Coverings, Hand Hygiene, etc.).
- Gatherings with attendees who are traveling from different places pose a higher risk than gatherings with attendees who live in the same area.
- Travel increases your chances of getting and spreading COVID-19. Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

I wish everyone a safe, enjoyable and restful holiday season with family and friends.

This school year will be like no other and we will strive to improve student learning while fostering a caring, healthy, respectful and supportive school environment.

Stay well,

Robert Molisani

Bob Molisani



Red Raiders Have Spirit!

Full is when the Red Raiders celebrate their spirit for all things maroon and white. High and Middle School students celebrated Spirit Week over two weeks to include all of the students who attend school in a hybrid schedule of two days on campus and three days remotely at home.

Though the hybrid schedule divides our Raiders in numbers, it definitely did not divide or dampen their spirit. The students had fun dressing up for theme days and many of the teachers joined in the fun. Some of the popular theme days include the American farmer (high school students loved driving their family tractor to school that day), favorite sports team, mix and match and dress like a teacher/twinning day.

The students wore their favorite Raider clothing for maroon and white day and participated in Raider games in the gym and outdoors on Hamilton Field.

The Class of 2021 Seniors organized an early morning breakfast in the parking lot. On a dark and chilly morning, they set up tables and lawn chairs under the lights, curled up in a blanket with a cup of hot cocoa, turned on the music and enjoyed every minute of being together. Their laughter kept everyone warm and certainly warmed the hearts of the faculty and staff that day.

In the elementary school, Spirit Week is an exciting time as each class tries to exhibit their Raider maroon and white spirit and compete for the beloved Raider Spirit Stick. The classes also celebrated theme days and on Friday, the final day of Spirit Week, Elementary School Principal Mr. Bulter declared Mrs. Stanton's fifth grade class winners of the Spirit Stick with the highest Raider spirit score for the week. Cal-Mum PTO supplied many crafts to the students throughout Spirit Week and Halloween. Thank you PTO!



First Graders Enjoy their Science Studies

First Graders are so excited to be back at school. They have done a wonderful job of adjusting to our new precautions and utilizing technology in school and at home. We are so proud of them!

In their first science unit, students investigated sound and light waves. They built and tested communication devices as a culminating project for the unit. We are now learning about the human body and healthy choices.

As a part of our Red Ribbon Week activities, our School Resource Officer read a book about drug safety. Classes participated in a variety of Halloween math, reading and craft activities. Students came in costume and were all smiles.

In November, students had the opportunity to see real live turkeys through the Agriculture in the Classroom program. They asked many great questions and were excited to learn new facts about turkeys.

We are looking forward to a happy and healthy holiday season!



From writing skills and large four-digit numbers, to around with the world with mapping skills – second graders are advancing

The second graders had a great start to the school year! The children are excited to be back and are transitioning well to the changes in the building and classroom. They enjoy being able to Zoom (remote teleconferencing) daily with their classmates that are at home learning and/or in the opposite cohort.

In addition to the classroom instruction, they are doing a wonderful job in keeping up with all their Seesaw and I-Ready lessons. They have been working especially hard writing book reports during English Language Arts. They first plan their writing, then draft, edit, and publish it. It takes a long time to complete the writing process and their teachers are very proud of their efforts. Next, they will begin writing narrative and opinion pieces.

In Math, we finished the unit on measurement and have moved on to place value. This hands-on unit is always a favorite with the children. It's amazing how much they grow as we practice counting, and comparison of numbers to 1,000! Ask your second grader to explain the difference between unit, word, standard and expanded number form.

During Science, we have enjoyed traveling around the country with our friend Tina. Through her travels, we are reviewing maps, and land and water features. The children used their mapping skills to develop models to represent the shapes and kinds of land, and body of water in an area. As a culminating activity, they designed models to slow/prevent wind or water from changing the shape of the land.

We appreciate all your support from home, and making sure the chrome books are charged and returned each day!



Definitions for Inclement Weather Emergency School Closings

BLACKBOARD MADD NOTIFICATIONS:

Have you provided your phone number and email to us? If you have, you will receive a Blackboard Mass Notifications communication when school is delayed or closed due to inclement weather or other emergency.

Definitions (Please note some of these do not apply with our adjusted Covid schedule):

CLOSED

School is closed; all events/sports are canceled.

TWO-HOUR DELAY

School will open two hours late. A.M. Pre-K does not report.

NO AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

There are no after school activities at this time due to Covid-19.

School will be closed after dismissal, all after school events/sports are cancelled.

NO EVENING ACTIVITIES

There are no after school activities at this time due to Covid-19.

At 6:00 p.m., all events/sports are canceled.

SOCIAL MEDIA NOTIFICATION

We will post emergency delay and closing information on our **Facebook, Twitter** and **Instagram** social media pages. Find us at Cal-Mum Central School and follow us to keep up to date with all that is happening!

WEBSITE: WWW.CAL-MUM.ORG BOOKMARK US!

All emergency delays and closings will be also be posted to our school website www.cal-mum.org.

RADIO & TV

Listen to radio stations WHAM 1180 AM, WBEE 92.5 FM and TV channels 8, 10, 13 for weather or other emergency conditions that result in a delay or cancellation of school.

CMCS Hosts Community Forum – Growing Up Black in Cal-Mum

Caledonia-Mumford Central School District, in collaboration with a community group, hosted a forum entitled: Growing Up Black in Cal-Mum.

The forum was held on September 28, 2020 in the middle school auditorium before a small and distanced live audience and larger remote audience of more than 150 people.

CMCS alumni Kathleen Anderson and Joshua Shelton facilitated a panel of four African American Caledonia-Mumford Central School alumni and one teacher:

Retired CM Elementary School teacher Mrs. Betty McClenney, 2017 CM Valedictorian and University of Rochester student Olivia Brumfield, CMCS alumna and social worker at Upstate Medical University Deanne Day and CMCS alumnus and Pastor of Church of the First Born, Ronald Poles.

The four panelists talked about their experiences either growing up in the Cal-Mum community and/or working and attending CMCS.

The discussions were frank, thought provoking and awakening. Each panelist's experience was unique and included some uncomfortable situations as a person of color growing up in a predominantly white school and community. However, the panelists felt that their overall Cal-Mum school experience was positive and said that the same about growing up in the Cal-Mum community. Things were not as comfortable for them as they left the confines of this small community to pursue their college education and careers.

Caledonia-Mumford Central School was proud to host this important community forum and we thank the organizers, panel participants and the listening audience.



Fall 2020 Brought Many Changes

Since this newsletter publication will serve as historical documentation of Cal-Mum School moving education forward during the world Covid-19 pandemic, one thing deserves a mention. It was a spirit-filled fall here at CMCS but of all of the changes that had to be made to celebrate Spirit Week, we were unable to do a couple of our typical fall activities, namely the high school homecoming and the presentation of the fall awards.

The Robert C. Freeman Citizenship Award is annually presented during halftime of a home football game. High School Principal Dr. Rebekah Chenaille plans to present the award to a deserving Senior in the next several weeks.

The Tom Callan Football Award will be presented if and when we get the Raiders back on the gridiron in the winter/spring 2021 semester.

Everyone was disappointed that we couldn't hold the school-wide Spirit parade around the middle school loop.

Every year for Spirit Week we line up all of the Raider family, pre-k to grade 12, faculty and staff, and we celebrate US! The high school band leads the parade and the high school students and athletic teams march behind as the younger Raiders chant and cheer Let's Go Raiders! The high school Raiders stop and slap the hand of the little Raiders, letting them know that they will one day wear the maroon jersey and walk in the parade. We definitely missed that and look forward to Spirit Week parade 2021!



AP Physics Students Use College Level Technology in Labs



Advanced Placement Physics students are using college level computer software that will help them in their transition to college level lab work, said AP Physics teacher Mr. John Wilbur.

He added use of the Vernier computer software into the AP and Genesee Community College Physics curriculums a few years ago to assist the students in the transition to college level lab work.

In one particular lab, students use the software to explore elastic and inelastic collisions. This involves collecting data on a cart that is colliding with a force sensor to calculate the conservation of both momentum and kinetic energy. This topic is covered in both the AP physics and GCC physics curriculum.



Pre-kindergarten Election Results are In!

It is official. The ballots have been counted and certified (even the mail-in and absentee ballots!)

Pre-kindergarten students cast their votes and M&Ms are the number #1 choice of ice cream toppings with sprinkles coming in right behind.



Elementary School Yearbook Cover Design

Each year, students in the fifth grade are invited to submit an artwork design for the front and back cover of the Elementary School yearbook. For the first time ever, with 405 votes cast, we had a tie for the front cover design! After a second tie-breaking vote by our fifth grade students, we have our winners!

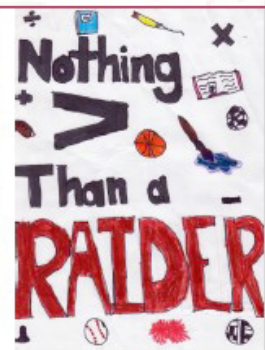
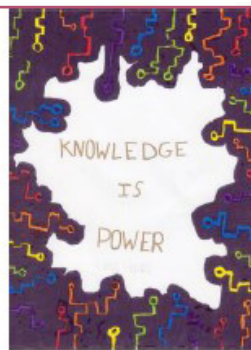
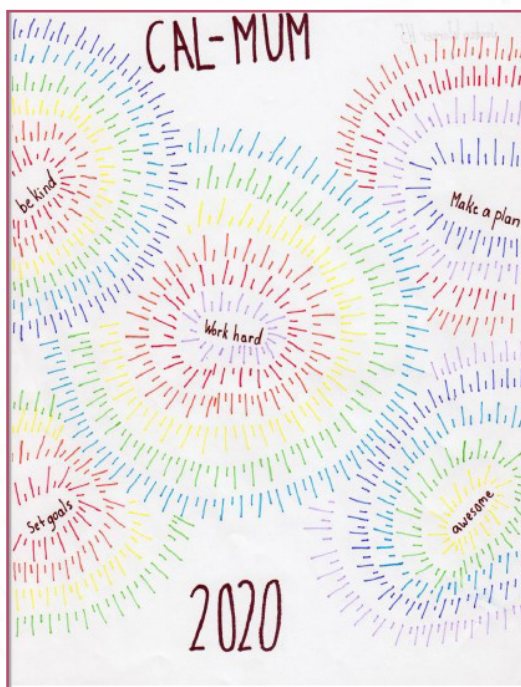
Jordan Warner's design will be the front cover design and seven students' artwork will be made into a collage for the back cover. They are David Preston, Sophia Siegel, Olivia MacLauchlan, Gavin Warner, Gianna Pillittere, Sam Dietrich and Maeve Nothnagle.

Congratulations to these fifth grade artists. We will anxiously await the publication of the Elementary School yearbook. Thank you to Mrs. Heather Cassidy-Schaffer, elementary school yearbook advisor, for organizing the cover contest.

You may purchase a yearbook for \$20 with the option of an additional \$5 for personalization with your child's school photo and name on the front cover. Visit the Lifetouch website below and use the ID code to order online. If you prefer, there are order forms available in the elementary school office.

Website: ybpay.lifetouch.com

Cal-Mum Elem. ID Code: **10535921**





Silver Linings to the Pandemic School Year

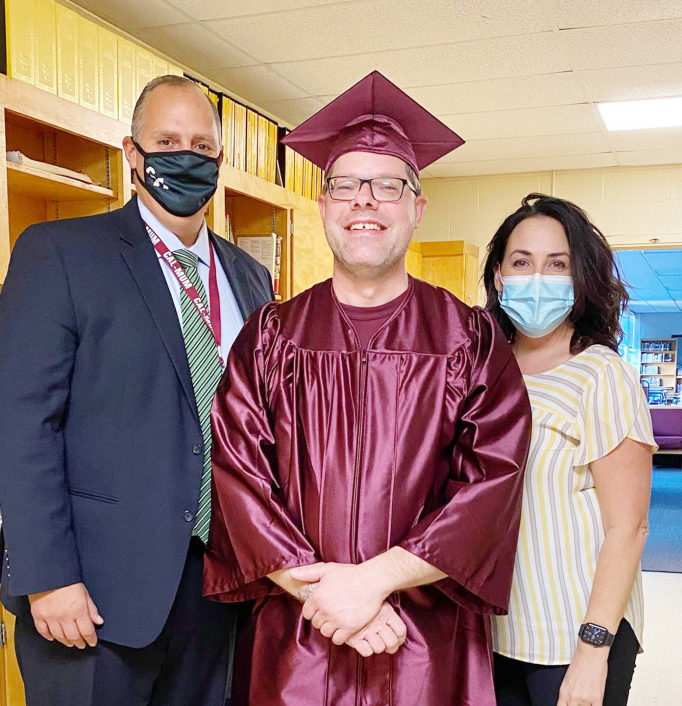
You will notice that this newsletter looks quite different from any of the past years newsletters. Most of the photos we are publishing are outdoors. There are a couple of reasons for that. First, the health department recommends fresh air both by opening the classroom windows and by taking students outdoors when possible. This fall was perfect for both.

Every day you will hear and see students outdoors for both their academic classes and for physical education. Sometimes they are simply taking a short healthy walk, as the students like to call it. Fresh air and sunshine is the best!

Also, with the students separated in their classroom desks by six feet, that doesn't make for a very interesting photograph. Therefore, our goal was to capture our students in photographs that give the reader a better idea of what our school day during this Covid pandemic is really like.

Could this outdoor classroom be any more beautiful? This is the 1938/39 elementary school, which was originally built as Caledonia High School. It has been meticulously maintained by the district for 82 years.





Celebrating the Academic Achievements of a Raider

RYAN OLIVER

A member of our Raider family, second shift maintenance worker Ryan Oliver; recently received the news he had been working very hard to achieve - he passed all of the necessary requirements and the exam to earn his high school equivalency diploma! When he arrived at work at 3 p.m., his coworkers had put together a graduation celebration, including giving him a maroon cap and gown and an official diploma cover.

Superintendent of Schools Robert Molisani, High School Principal Dr. Rebekah Chenaille, Ryan's mother Lori and several coworkers congratulated Ryan on his achievement.

Best wishes Ryan - we admire your hard work!

Elementary Halloween





Community Education Certifies Young Drivers for the NYS Road Test

Covid-19 halted our Community Education program last spring. Beginning in August 2020, the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles allowed the required Five Hour Pre-licensing Course to be taught remotely.

Large numbers of teens from all over our region had been waiting for six months or more to take this course and schedule their road test. Cal-Mum Community Education was pleased to be able to offer this to young drivers.

We offered the online Five Hour Pre-licensing Course twice already this fall and another class will be held before the end of 2020. We advertise the class on our website (www.cal-mum.org), Facebook @calmumcsd, Twitter @CalMum_Raiders and Instagram @calmumcsd. You may call the Community Education Coordinator at 585-538-3449.

Kindergarten Students Learn Foundations of Math and Reading

Kindergarten students have been busy bringing learning to life! September was filled with learning about our school, classroom, community, and one another. We focused on sorting and our numbers 1-10 with Math Module 1, how to create a variety of different writing strokes in Skills Units 1 & 2, and built our phonemic awareness skills with nursery rhymes and fables in Listening and Learning Domain 1.

Throughout the month of October, the students began learning letter sounds and how to read CVC words with Unit 3 in Skills and dove into Listening and Learning Domain 2: The Five Senses. We learned what each sense is, what it is used for, and how our senses keep us safe. We coordinated this learning with our special Halloween celebration where we used our senses to explore pumpkins and enjoyed a fall five senses walk!

We also were able to expand on our learning through several presentations with the Livingston County Agriculture in the Classroom organization. We virtually visited a pig farm in Minnesota and had a visit from live turkeys outside on the playground! These special events allow the students to make real-life connections to their learning. We look forward to another wonderful school year with all of our Kindergarten friends!



Band Rehearsal!

It has been several months in the making, but we are finally able to make music again. Here in the band room we are seated 12 feet apart, but our goal is the same. Let's make music!

Keep looking for posts on the Cal-Mum Music Instagram, @calmum.music, page for more pictures and maybe some sounds bites of our performing groups making music in these unprecedented times.



Welcome to the Raider family!

In September 2020, we welcomed several new employees to the Raider family. Each of them brings their unique style, personality and strengths to our school and we are so happy to have them.

Please join us in welcoming...



BRITTANY HEFFLER
Kindergarten Teacher

Brittany Heffler is from Youngstown, near Niagara Falls. She is Nazareth College graduate and holds four certifications ranging from birth-6 grade inclusive childhood education and general education. She earned her Master's Degree in TESOL or Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. Prior to teaching at CMCS,

Miss. Heffler taught in bilingual ICOT classroom and taught summer school at the Rochester City School District.

Miss Heffler was on the Nazareth College swim team for four years and loves to coach and teach swimming to young students. In addition to this, she loves spending time with her family.

"I am so thankful to now be a part of the Caledonia-Mumford community. The Kindergarten students that I have this year are nothing but amazing! I look forward to coming to school every day to teach them and help them grow."



KARLY YARWOOD
Second Grade Teacher

"I am from Alden NY and I attended SUNY Cortland for both my undergraduate and Masters work. Before starting at Cal-Mum I taught first and second grade in the Rochester City School District for 4 years. My husband and I have a 1 year old daughter and seven pets (two dogs and four cats). Since joining the Cal-Mum family, I have had nothing but positive vibes! I am loving this new adventure here at Cal-Mum Elementary."



BRITTANY CHAPMAN
Middle/High School English Teacher

"I attended Elmira College for both my undergraduate and graduate work. I taught at Mount Morris Central School for six years and was a substitute teacher in several districts for three years before that. I have enjoyed my start at Cal-Mum CS; everyone has been welcoming and supportive. I am very proud and excited to be a part of this community. Go Raiders!" here at Cal-Mum Elementary."



GWENDOLYN BELL
High School Technology

Gwen Bell grew up on a farm in Honeoye and attended college at York College of PA and later, at Buffalo State College where she earned a Master's Degree in Technology Education. Prior to coming to Cal-Mum CS, Mrs. Bell taught at Batavia City School, the Rochester City School District with MCC Upward Bound Programs and in Howard County, Maryland.

She and her husband Matt, also a Tech Ed teacher, live on a small farm in Lima with their two children, Margaret and Sam.

"I'm thrilled to be at CMCS to get the opportunity to share my love of everything STEM/problem-solving/hands-on learning with the students and staff here."



NORMAN MARSHALL High School Chemistry Teacher

"I went to Clarkson University and the University of Chicago for my chemistry degrees. Later, I attended the Virginia Commonwealth University when I made the career switch to teaching. I taught for seven years at Franklin Military Academy in the city of Richmond, VA, which I really loved, but my family and I decided we simply had to move home to Western New York. Cal-Mum is like a dream come true - I've loved every minute of chemistry and Earth science so far. So proud to be a new member of the Raider team!"



ALIAH SAMPLE Middle School Teacher

"I grew up in a small town called Randolph (Cattaraugus County), very similar to Caledonia. After graduating from SUNY Fredonia, I taught for Buffalo Public Schools. My boyfriend, Savino and I love our dog named Mac. My experience at Cal-Mum thus far has been great- everyone is so welcoming and helpful!"



JOHN MCNULTY Buildings & Grounds/ Middle School

"My wife Aminta Romaguera, a high school Spanish teacher, and I have been Caledonia residents for 28 years. Aminta has loved her experience at Cal-Mum so when this opportunity presented itself I took advantage of it. Our daughter Ana is a yoga instructor and my son Alex is a student and plays football at the University of Buffalo. I love my morning commute, a six-minute walk. I am enjoying my work and the wonderful, friendly people."



VALERIE KAY Buildings & Grounds/ Middle School

Valerie is lifelong Caledonia resident and a Cal-Mum High School graduate, as are her adult children. Val has been employed by the Village of Caledonia as the Cal-Mum School crossing guard for many years. She is well known by the community as the reliable and very efficient person at the corner of North Street and Freeman Drive every morning and afternoon at Cal-Mum CS.

In addition to her crossing guard position, Valerie is now working at CM Middle School on the second shift.



MEGAN CURTS Buildings & Grounds/ Elementary School

"I was born and raised in Caledonia. My husband is from Leroy and we have a five year-old daughter named Nora who is going to Cal-Mum school. My experience with CMCS has been very positive. Everyone has been great and helpful. I am glad to be part of the team."



ELI BEARD Buildings & Grounds/ Middle School

"My family and I have lived in Caledonia for 28 years. I graduated from Cal-Mum School in 2010. In my free time, I like to go golfing. Working at Cal-Mum has been great and I look forward to continue working here."



JESSICA STERLING
Food Service/
Elementary School

"My name is Jessica and I am a mother to a spunky six and eight year old. I am originally from Vermont but absolutely love Caledonia and have lived here for a year now. Cal-Mum has been very welcoming and the kiddos are amazing."



STEPHANIE LEIN
Transportation Department/
Bus Driver

"When my family and I first relocated to this area seven years ago, I worked at Cal-mum as a trip driver. I did my first interview with Ron Otto over Skype since I still lived on Long Island. After the fall sports slowed down, I moved on to a bigger school district that needed help at the time. I missed the small town feel of Cal-mum so I knew I needed to come back when the opportunity arose. I absolutely love my new route; the kiddos are great. I enjoy the scenic drive to work - passing farm fields and cows is relaxing. I have been married for 32 years and we have two adult children."



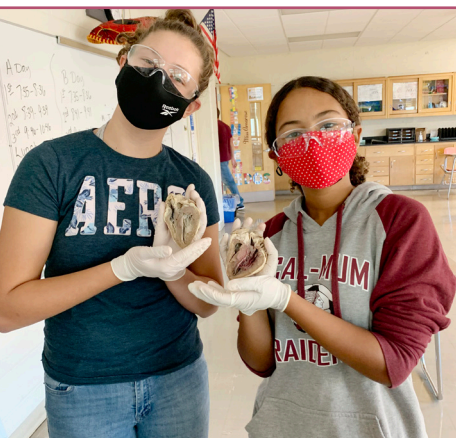
ERIC PUKOS
Long Term Substitute in the Elementary School

Eric Pukos has been teaching at Cal-Mum CS since December 2019 as a long term substitute for the teacher of the district's English Language Learners. He holds undergraduate degrees in both Spanish and English and soon will be graduating from Nazareth College with his Master's Degree in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of other Languages). Mr. Pukos' time at Cal-Mum is coming to a close, but he adds, "I am grateful for the chance to teach such brilliant English Language Learners while learning so much from them at the same time."

Eighth Grade Biology Students Learn about Animal Types

Mr. Todd Geary's eighth grade Biology students learned about vertebrate and invertebrate animals. Students learned that the invertebrate animal, *lumbricus terrestris*, commonly referred to as worms, have organs, a brain and a nerve cord. In their biology lab, the students dissected earthworms, exploring their digestive and reproductive systems, and also learning how they move without a skeleton, how they breathe, and their ecological niche.

The biology students also dissected a sheep's heart in a separate lab. A sheep's heart looks virtually identical to a human heart. The students' studied the circulatory system, cardiac muscle, and heart disease, which is the number one killer of Americans.



Third Graders Learn About Life in Far Away Lands

Third grade students are excited to be back at school with their friends and learning! Mrs. Ebersole, Mrs. Santiago and Mrs. Cornwell are happy to welcome Mrs. Yaekel, Mrs. Merlo and Mrs. Barrett to our Third Grade Team.

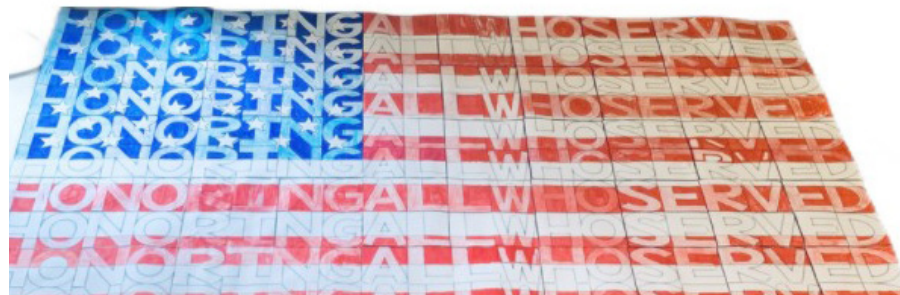
The classroom looks and feels different than ever before with our windows cracked, desks six feet apart, masked faces and remote learners Zooming in but we wouldn't want to be anywhere else.

Our first ELA Module is titled: **Overcoming Learning Challenges Near and Far.** In this unit, our students are learning about how children all over the world overcome challenges and access books and knowledge.

One of our recent stories that we have read is, Beatrice's Goat, a true story about a poor family in Uganda, Africa that was given the gift of a goat. The main character, and our third graders, learned how the goat helped the struggling family feed themselves and provided enough money for the main character, Beatrice, to go to school. The kids were so moved by the story that they decided they too would like to help

a family in need and give the gift of a goat. As a culminating activity, some of our third graders created public service announcements asking their families to donate money and help us give the gift of a goat to a family in need. All donations will be sent to Heifer International- an organization that uses donated funds to purchase a goat for families in need.

Our third graders also learned about the importance of Veterans Day. Third graders made cards and a collaborative poster for our local veterans. The hand-made cards were delivered to veterans and the poster was displayed at our local legion's Veterans Day dinner. Thank you veterans for your service.



Fourth Graders Give Thanks

All the fourth grade students and teachers are so delighted to be back together again here at Cal-Mum. We are so thankful to be here in the building learning and growing! We interviewed some of our fourth graders to see what they are thankful for and this is what they had to say:

I am grateful for being back to school and being with my friends especially being outside. ~Caroline Cappotelli

I am grateful for being back at school because I get to see my friends and teachers in person. ~Kennedy Williams

We have been quarantined so long it's just great to get out of the house and learn new things in school! ~ Lila Grodenski

It's so much better to see all my friends and teachers in person rather than seeing them on zoom! So much better! ~Rowen Ader





Fifth Grade – Let the Adventure Begin!

TEAM 5 has grown this year as we welcome Mr. Kocher, Mrs. Nothnagle, and Mrs. Mills to the crew to work with our 61 students learning virtually and in-person.

One of the biggest challenges of this year is to keep as much of the fifth-grade fun as possible while staying safe and following social distance protocols. One of the first activities has been a field trip to Letchworth State Park for our science *Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems* unit. While boarding a bus for this trip was not possible, teachers became creative as they took their cohorts on a walking fieldtrip to MacKay Wildlife Preserve and to Mrs. Nothnagle's backyard that backs up to Spring Creek. Students had the chance to observe wildlife and search for macroorganisms, and bring their observations back to the classroom as they built biomes through BOCES4Science with crickets, pill bugs, snails and guppies.

The next big event is the Mexican Fiesta, which we have hosted for the past seven years upon finishing the novel, *Esperanza Rising*. Working with an awesome team of faculty and staff here are some the experiences in which students will participate:

- In-classroom samplings of the 13 foods represented by the 13 chapter titles while students read the chapter
- Making maracas and playing music with Mrs. Parisi.
- Sharing stories with Mrs. Burns such as *Tomas and the Library Lady* by Pat Mora and *A Day's Work* by Eve Bunting. These picture books echo some themes of *Esperanza Rising*, such as the lives of farm workers, living and working in a different culture language, relationships between

grandchildren and grandparents and dealing with adversity. Mrs. Burns will also share the book *Dream Carver* by Diana Cohn. This picture book describes the tradition of carved wooden drawings from the Mexican state of Oaxaca.

- Band students will be learning to play the Mexican folk song "Chiapanecas" during instrumental lessons with Mrs. Peterson
- Fifth-grade artists are learning about the style of Mexican folk art, Amate Bark Painting. Once a well-known fiber art across Mexico, it is now mainly produced by the Otomi people in the small village of San Pablito in Puebla, Mexico. Artists use the bark of Amate (or wild fig) tree to create a special paper. Then, they use the Amate paper as a surface for their brightly-colored paintings of fantastical animals or rural village scenes. The Amate paper is also used for celebratory paper cut-outs or papel picado.

It truly has been an amazing opportunity to work with these special area teachers to expand on student exposure to Mexican culture and build real-world connections to a module text. Before Thanksgiving break, students will also have the opportunity to feast on tacos while wearing sombreros and watching a movie to increase their understanding of the Mexican culture. Following our safety guidelines doesn't stop fifth grade students from having an amazing last year in Elementary school!



It's Out of this World! Former Raider Teaches 6th Grade Science Remotely

Remote learning is certainly not the preferred way of teaching but technology does make it possible for some exciting experiences for students.

On October 1, 2020, Cal-Mum Class of 2014 alumnus Joshua Ingersoll was a guest presenter in Mrs. Jeanine Tedesco's sixth grade science class. Through video conferencing technology, Josh connected with the students and shared his love for space studies.

After graduation from Cal-Mum HS, Josh studied aerospace at Georgia Tech where he earned his undergraduate degree. He completed a master's degree in space policy and business administration at George Washington University. Currently, Josh is employed at The Aerospace Corporation in Fairfax, Virginia as a Spacecraft Systems Engineer.

Josh is a former student of Mrs. Tedesco so it was especially gratifying for her to have him return to her classroom as a guest presenter. The students really loved his lesson and Josh says he will be visiting the classroom again!



Middle School Racers

Middle School students taking Mr. Steve Muehleisen's technology class put their skills to the test by creating and racing balsa wood air racers. This lesson and the hallway race is always a favorite of the students. The air racer lesson is part of their unit study on flight.



Mrs. Bell's Tech Students Putting Their Engineering Minds Together

Mrs. Gwen Bell has her students putting their creative minds to work in Intro to Engineering Design class, one of many classes in the Project Lead the Way series of courses. PLTW courses offer students the opportunity to earn Rochester Institute of Technology college credit while completing a pre-engineering track in high school.

This is Mrs. Bell's first semester at CM High School though she has taught PLTW for several years at other schools.



School Resource Officer Read to Classes for Red Ribbon Week



Among the many activities that the elementary school classes participated in for Red Ribbon Week, was having our two School Resource Officers, Michael Burnside and Stephanie Schroeder, read a book to many of the classes.



Our Mission

The Caledonia-Mumford Central School District, in collaboration with our community, takes pride in providing safe, comprehensive and rigorous educational experiences, in order for all students to graduate as ethical, responsible, lifelong learners, who are college and career ready.