



A Publication of Cohasset Middle School Students

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Inside this Issue:

School News... 2-6

The Arts at CMS...7

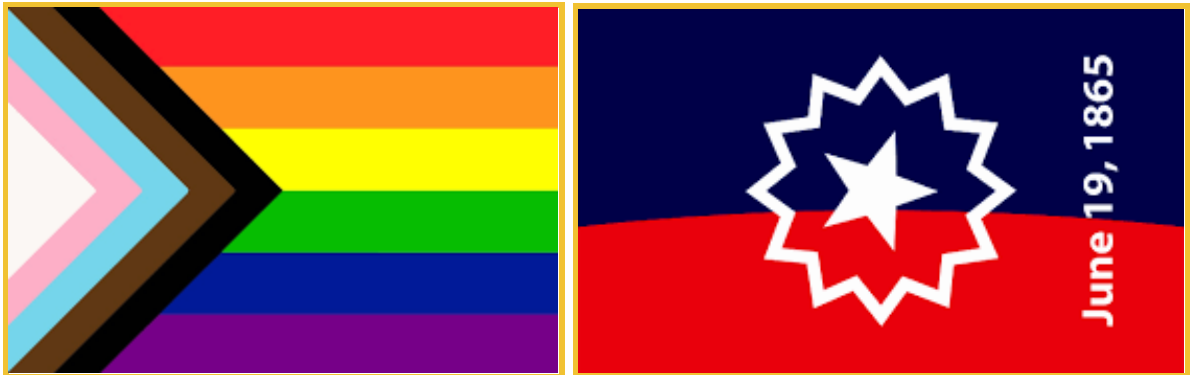
Editorial Page...8

Sports...9

School News

Inclusivity Committee

Janet O'Carroll



The Inclusivity Committee is a group of teachers that work to create a more inclusive school. This Committee started when the school sent out a survey and received the results in the winter. The survey results were that most kids felt welcome, but some of the kids don't feel as welcome. With this came a group of teachers deciding on creating a community to make CMS more inclusive for all students.

The teachers meet every two weeks to discuss and plan school events. Some of the events are Autism Acceptance Week, a Juneteenth celebration, Pride Day, and the Pride Parade.

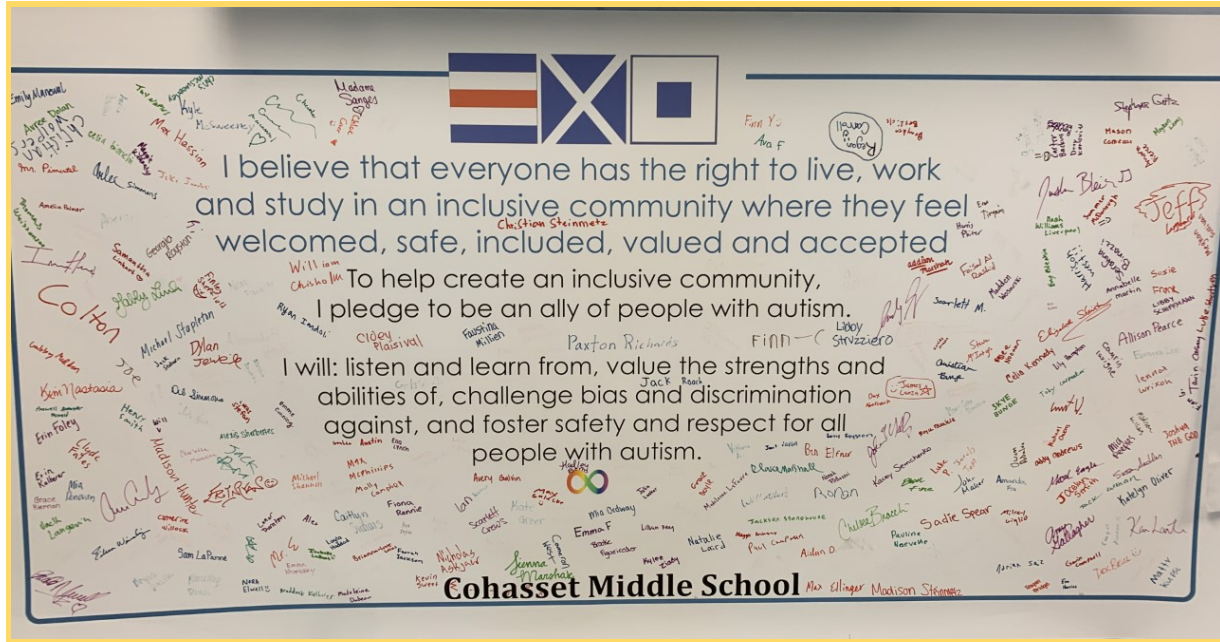
For Pride Day, on Wednesday June 9, the Inclusivity Committee handed out stickers for the teachers to display on all their doors and windows to ensure that every student feels safe and welcome in their classrooms.

The Committee also planned the Juneteenth activity on June 16. Juneteenth commemorates the end of slavery on June 19, 1865. It is a day of celebration of freedom and justice. Students watched a video about freedom quilts in utility and made quilt squares for a large quilt.

The Inclusivity Committee also planned Autism Acceptance Week and has CMS students and staff sign the Autism Acceptance Pledge (see photo below).

Mr. Mills explained that the committee's goal for next year is to enlist students into the work to turn CMS into an inclusive school through student work and student leadership.

All of the teachers support the committee and what they are doing, but there are only ten teachers a part of the committee.



Teacher Musical Chairs

By ~ Sari Reyes

After a year of crazy learning, the people that stuck with us most were our teachers. However, next year there will be a teacher switch up!

Mrs. Melia, the English teacher in 6th grade, will move up to teach ELA eighth grade. Mrs. McLaughlin (Miss Amaral), the current seventh grade ELA teacher, will be teaching the incoming sixth graders ELA. The iconic Seminar teacher, Ms. Ryan, will be making a move up to eighth grade Social Civics and will no longer be teaching Seminar. Lastly, Ms. Carmody, the current eighth grade ELA teacher, will be leaving CMS.

After teaching sixth grade ELA for ten years, Mrs. Melia will be switching to the more advanced grade. We sixth graders are excited to have Mrs. Melia again in two years.

Mrs. Ryan, the current Seminar teacher, will be moving from her position as a 6th Grade Seminar and 7th Grade Ancient Civilizations teacher and will go on to teach the 8th Grade about American history and how you can impact politics. After six years of teaching

Seminar and World Geography/Ancient Civilizations, Mrs. Ryan has formed a lot of memories and knowledge about teaching different grades.

"There's more than one way to learn something and there's definitely one more way to showcase that learning," Mrs. Ryan says. Mrs. Ryan has always found politics interesting, so she can't wait to show her students how they can make a difference.

Ms. Carmody has taught many generations in the Cohasset Middle School. However, she will now be leaving Cohasset and will move to Maryland. Ms. Carmody will be missed by all of her current and former students. We wish her the best in Maryland. Taking her place will be Mrs. Melia.

Miss Amaral, who was married this spring and is now Mrs. McLaughlin, has taught both 6th and 7th grade ELA at CMS. She will be joining us full-time in the 2021-22 school year and will teach the newest members of our school community ELA.

As the year comes to a close, we reflect on our relationships with our teachers and how we have evolved as students. Although many of our teachers are leaving, we will still keep the memories of our learning experiences in our heart.

MCAS Later and Shorter This Year

By ~ William Chisholm

In late May, Cohasset Middle Schoolers took the MCAS exams. Last year, due to the Covid pandemic, we skipped MCAS exams. Lucky for us this year's MCAS were easier in one way - instead of two days of testing for each subject, we only had one. The reason MCAS was only one day was because we had remote/hybrid learning for half the year. Students are happy that MCAS is over because now there are no more big tests that we have to worry about. We'll have to wait and see if MCAS goes back to the regular testing schedule and number of days next year.

Clothing Drive

By ~ Eva Harries

Lucy Royston, an 8th grade ambassador, organized this year's clothing drive which was Project 351. The clothing drive was open for a week where CMS students dropped off any children's clothes that they didn't want or didn't fit them that were still in fair condition.

The organization all the clothes went to was Cradles to Crayons. Cradles to Crayons is a charity that collects new or nearly new children's items that have been packaged by volunteers, which is then given to a warehouse to distribute the items to children in need.

This year Lucy had some help sorting through and packaging the clothes by the CMS community service group, some of Lucy's friends, and Lucy's younger sister, Georgia Royston, with some of her friends too. We managed to get 20 full bags for Cradles to Crayons.

"I was so thankful for the donations everyone gave, it really showed how kind our community is," said Lucy Royston. Hopefully this has helped children in need and I can't wait to see what next year's ambassador does!

(Photo Credit: Alisha Pollastri and CMS Tide Weekly Newsletter)

CMS students listed left to right: Eva Harries, Li Appel, Nora Pollastri, Maddie Williams, Charlotte Gallagher, Lucy Royston, Catherine Willock & Georgia Royston



6th Grade End of Year Celebration

By Grace Kiernan and Eva Harries

To celebrate the end of this challenging year we have had, the 6th grade teachers are throwing a super fun end of the year party! It will be held on Monday, June 21 and the day will be filled with fun outdoor activities, an ice cream truck, a picnic lunch, a movie, and specialist classes.

Each utility teacher has their own color and the classes made up different names. For example, Ms. St. Peter's utility is red, so their utility decided on being the "Red Bulls". The plan for Fun-Day is outdoor activities and an ice cream truck in the morning. Then, we will have our period 5 specialist class following with an outdoor picnic and a movie. At the end of the day we will have our period 1 specialist.

I interviewed a 6th grader to see her opinion for Monday.

"I'm really excited for all of the activities planned, it seems like a fun way to end the year!" said Saoirse O'Duggan.

Photo below: Miss LaPanne's tie-dyed team having a good time at Sixth Grade Fun Day.



The Arts at CMHS

Band Performance Enjoyed by Staff and Students

By ~ Pond Street Press Staff

Mr. Bleier created a culminating event for his bandstudents this year who weren't able to have concerts or festival trips. He had bandstudents perform two songs for their teachers and school staff on the front field. The mini-concerts were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Mr. Bleier said, "They've been working hard in class and were able to put together something today that they were proud of. We are calling tomorrow our 'concert' and the kids asked if I would invite their teachers to come and watch."



Band students play for students & staff

Editorials

The End of Pond Street Press for the Year

By ~ Aidan Donnelly

This year's Pond Street Press has been phenomenal! Despite the pandemic, this has been an awesome year for our team. We have done our absolute best in writing, designing, and publishing this school newspaper. Being a part of the Pond Street Press has also helped members develop their writing, graphic, and communication skills while working as a team.

The biggest part for me of being on the Pond Street Press is informing our school and families about current events, school news, sports, and anything else that is newsworthy. Our current 8th graders will be missed! William Elwell is a very talented graphic designer. He helped design many of our covers and articles. Ollie Buckley is an amazing sports editorial writer. He has written about school sports and national sports affairs. Will Henle is a great reporter! He has written about the Student Council and what they have been doing to help our school. These superstar 8th graders will be missed by our staff! I am sure that many of the 6th and 7th graders who helped write, design, and edit the newspaper will stay next year and continue to make The Pond Street Press a reliable source of information for the Cohasset Middle School.

The support from teachers and families alike was always positive and appreciated! I think they definitely helped us stay motivated to make new and cool articles. But, our biggest supporter was Mrs. Melia! She helped us edit, refine, and supervise our work. Without her leadership, we would not have created such an entertaining and informative school newspaper. Thank you to the whole school for reading our articles and being supportive of our work! We look forward to keeping you in the know next school year! Have a great summer!

Sports

8th Grade Girls on JV Lacrosse

By Catherine Willock and Saoirse O'Duggan

When the Cohasset High School Girls' Junior Varsity Lacrosse team didn't have enough players, the eighth graders were asked to join them. Nine girls on the eighth grade team accepted this offer and the JV lacrosse team was completed. The 8th grade students attended JV Lacrosse practices and games.

We interviewed Zoe Willock, an eighth grader on the team, to ask her some questions about the team and her experience. Zoe told us that the team has currently won seven games and lost three. We asked her what some benefits of playing on the team as an eighth grader were. She told us that it was a good way to make friends beyond her own grade. She also said that playing as an eighth grader is a great opportunity for her to play five years of high school lacrosse. High School lacrosse has different rules that some girls, like Zoe, look forward to playing with. Zoe told us that playing on the high school team makes her feel prideful and accomplished. Playing with and against high schoolers and doing so well is surely an accomplishment. Overall, the junior varsity lacrosse team has done exceedingly well in all of their games, despite eighth graders making up the majority of the team.



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