theLINK

Churchville-Chili Central School District

Fall 2026

*Where **learning** leads to a **lifetime of opportunities...***

*Homecoming brings **Saints Pride** to life*

Saints Pride was on full display as students, staff, families, and community members came together to celebrate Homecoming 2026. Throughout the week, school spirit could be seen across the district as students participated in themed dress days, special school activities, athletic competitions, and community events that showcased what makes Churchville-Chili such a special place. From our elementary schools to the high school, students embraced the opportunity to connect, celebrate, and demonstrate the pride that unites our Saints community.

The excitement culminated with a packed schedule of Homecoming traditions, including the annual football game and powder puff matchup, as well as opportunities for students and families to give back. In partnership with the Ferris-Goodridge American Legion Post, the Churchville-Chili football team once again hosted the annual Salute to Service collection, gathering donations to support military members serving overseas and at medical facilities. The week served as a reminder that Homecoming is about more than school spirit. It is an opportunity to celebrate community, create lasting memories, and strengthen the connections that make Churchville-Chili a place where everyone belongs. As another successful Homecoming comes to a close, we thank everyone who participated and helped make the week such a memorable celebration of Saints Pride.

HOMECOMING COURT 2026

King and Queen: Lucas Cariola and Sarah Ciminelli

Prince and Princess: Drew Daniels and Violet Wanck-Kann

Duke and Duchess: Alexander DeBurro and Emma Ferrari

Lord and Lady: Judah Mesiti and Jayliena Clark

Congratulations to all members of the 2026 Homecoming Court!



NEWS & VIEWS What's Inside:

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A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Churchville-Chili families and community members,



As we settle into another exciting school year, I want to take a moment to thank you for your partnership and support. The energy, enthusiasm, and school spirit that have filled our campus since September have made for a wonderful start to the 2026-27 school year. From welcoming students back to our classrooms to connecting with families at Celebrate! Churchville-Chili, Homecoming activities, athletic events, and community gatherings, it has been inspiring to see our Saints community come together.

This fall has also brought important progress in our academic programs. We are proud to be in the first year of full implementation of our CKLA/Amplify literacy resource in grades K-7, an important step in strengthening literacy instruction across the district. At the same time, we continue to review and refine our mathematics programming to ensure students have access to high-quality learning experiences that build strong foundational skills and prepare them for future success. These efforts reflect our ongoing commitment to providing every student with engaging, rigorous, and supportive learning opportunities.

Beyond the classroom, our campus continues to evolve through the work of our capital improvement project. Recent additions, including the new access road connecting Buffalo Road and Fairbanks Road and the expanded athletic complex parking lot, are improving access and creating a better experience for students, families, staff, and visitors. We are equally excited about the next phase of construction, which will continue to modernize our facilities and enhance learning environments for generations of Saints to come.

This has also been a remarkable season for our student athletes. Throughout the fall, our teams have demonstrated outstanding dedication, sportsmanship, and Saints pride while representing our district in competition. Their accomplishments are a testament not only to their hard work, but also to the support provided by coaches, families, staff, and fans who fill our fields, courts, and stadium each week.

As we move through the fall and into the holiday season, we are also looking forward to the start of our winter concert series. Our musicians and performing arts students spend countless hours preparing to share their talents with our community, and these performances are always a highlight of the school year. I encourage you to attend a concert, performance, or event and experience the incredible talent that exists throughout our district.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for all you do to support our students and schools. Together, we are building a community where every student can learn, grow, and thrive. I look forward to all that we will accomplish in the months ahead.

Warm regards,

Carmine Peluso
Superintendent of Schools
Churchville-Chili Central School District

Capital Project improvements continue to enhance campus access and visitor experience

Recent capital improvement work is making it easier and more convenient for students, staff, families, and visitors to navigate the Churchville-Chili campus. On Oct. 1, a new road connecting Buffalo Road and Fairbanks Road opened to traffic, providing an additional access point through campus and improving overall traffic flow. As drivers become familiar with the new roadway, everyone is encouraged to use extra caution, follow posted traffic signs, and come to a complete stop at the intersection where the road branches toward Buffalo Road and Fairbanks Road. Motorists should also remain alert for vehicles entering and exiting campus and school parking areas as traffic patterns continue to adjust.

The district has also opened a new parking lot serving the updated athletic complex. The additional parking will help reduce congestion on campus during athletic events and provide convenient access to the tennis courts, baseball and softball turf fields, and the stadium. Together, these improvements support safer traffic flow, increased accessibility, and an enhanced experience for students, families, and community members visiting our schools and athletic facilities.



Meet our new staff

This fall, Churchville-Chili welcomed 39 new teachers, counselors and administrators, along with 33 new support staff members across the district. Each brings unique skills, energy and enthusiasm to our schools.

We're grateful to have them join our team and excited to see the positive impact they'll make on our students and community.



District welcomes new leaders to key roles

The Churchville-Chili Central School District recently welcomed several experienced educators and leaders to new roles across the district, reflecting its ongoing commitment to excellence in teaching, learning and student support. During the summer and early fall, the Board of Education approved the appointments of **John Gonzalez Jr.** as **Assistant Superintendent for Instruction**, **Steven Colabufo** as **Director of Data and Accountability**, **Sara Missel**l as **Director of STEM**, and **Rachel Harding** and **Ranita Williams** as **Assistant Principals at the high school**.



John Gonzalez, Jr.



Steven Colabufo



Sara Missell

Gonzalez, who previously served as the district's Director of Curriculum, Assessment and Professional Development, brings extensive instructional leadership experience and assumed the role ahead of Giulio Bosco's retirement. Colabufo, a longtime high school assistant principal, now leads the district's data and accountability efforts, using data to help inform decision-making and support student achievement. Missell brings a strong background in curriculum and instruction and now oversees STEM programming, including mathematics, science, technology and career and technical education. At the high school, Harding transitioned into administration after 13 years as a French teacher, bringing deep knowledge of the school community and strong relationships with students and families. Williams joins the district with a diverse background in education and student services, most recently serving as a special education teacher with Rochester City School District's Youth and Justice Program. Together, these leaders bring a wealth of expertise that will help advance student success across the district.



Rachel Harding



Ranita Williams

Important information regarding **electric bikes and scooters**

As the use of e-bikes and e-scooters continues to increase among students, we are writing to share important information regarding their use on school property and recent updates to district policy and procedures.

The Board of Education has updated Policy 3290, which governs the operation of motor-driven vehicles on district property. The policy applies to a variety of vehicles, including e-bikes and e-scooters, and establishes expectations designed to promote the safety of students, staff, and visitors.

Consistent with Policy 3290, Churchville-Chili will utilize the same registration process currently used for student vehicles. Student-owned e-bikes and e-scooters must be registered with the District and parked only in approved locations. Failure to comply with district regulations may result in the loss of privileges and/or disciplinary consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

The high school will communicate additional information regarding the registration process and designated parking locations for students who use e-bikes or e-scooters for transportation to and from school.

Our goal is not to discourage students from using legal and appropriate transportation options. Rather, we seek to ensure that all students arrive safely and that our campuses remain secure and accessible for everyone.

Thank you for your partnership and support in promoting student safety.

We would also like to remind families of several New York State requirements:

- Individuals must be at least 16 years of age to operate an e-bike or e-scooter.
- Riders ages 16 and 17 operating an e-scooter must wear a helmet.
- E-bikes and e-scooters may not be ridden on sidewalks.
- Certain motorized devices, including electric skateboards, hoverboards, electric unicycles, mini-bikes, dirt bikes, and similar vehicles, are not legal for operation on public roads and are not permitted as student transportation to school.

Welcome back, Saints!



Make a difference: become a literacy and numeracy volunteer!

Churchville-Chili Central School District is looking for parents, guardians, grandparents, and community friends to support our students in reading and math. By giving just a little time each week, you can provide the extra hands teachers need and the extra skill-building practice students thrive on.

Target Grades:

- UPK through grade 4 (at CRS, CES, and FRS)
- Grades 5–6 (at the Middle School)

How Placements Work:
Placements are made based on your availability and teacher needs (volunteers are not guaranteed placement in their own child's classroom).

Sign up to be a volunteer by visiting the Literacy and Numeracy Volunteers page of the district website, located under the Office of Instruction tab.

Literacy update: Supporting reading growth



Churchville-Chili is continuing its commitment to literacy instruction with the full implementation of the CKLA/Amplify English Language Arts program in grades K-7 during the 2026-27 school year. Designed to build strong reading, writing, speaking, and knowledge-building skills, the resource provides students with a rich and consistent literacy experience while supporting teachers with high-quality instructional materials.

To further support student success, the district's Reading Interventionists participated in training at the start of the school year on the DIBELS assessment and intervention platform. This tool helps educators identify student needs, monitor progress, and provide targeted support to accelerate learning. In addition, the district's Literacy Advisory Committee continues to meet regularly. As implementation moves forward, the district remains focused on supporting both students and staff to ensure every learner has the opportunity to develop strong literacy skills and achieve academic success.

Celebrate! Churchville-Chili brings the community together

The Churchville-Chili community came together on Sept. 11 for the 17th annual **Celebrate! Churchville-Chili** event, marking the start of a new school year with an evening focused on connection, school spirit, and community pride.

Held in the Fairbanks Road lot, the event welcomed families, students, staff, and residents for family-friendly activities, food trucks, community information tables, and the ever-popular elementary scavenger hunt. Attendees also had the opportunity to support the CCCSD Food Shelf and the Chili Lions Club through donations, highlighting the generosity that defines the Churchville-Chili community.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this long-standing tradition. Events like Celebrate! Churchville-Chili showcase the strong partnerships between our schools, families, and community, helping us start the school year connected, engaged, and ready for success. We look forward to continuing the tradition next year!



CCCSD hosts inaugural School Technician's Conference

This summer, Churchville-Chili Central School District welcomed school technology professionals from across Monroe County for its first-ever School Technician's Conference, held at our high school. The event provided a valuable opportunity for school technicians to collaborate with peers, share best practices, and discuss emerging trends and challenges in K-12 technology.

Centered around the theme Empower, Connect, Innovate, the conference featured peer-led discussions on topics including device management, cybersecurity, networking and cloud platforms, artificial intelligence, and technology operations. By bringing together technology professionals from neighboring districts, the conference fostered meaningful collaboration and strengthened regional partnerships focused on supporting student learning through reliable, secure, and innovative technology. Thank you to all who attended and contributed to the success of this inaugural event.

HBCU Expo expands college opportunities for high school students

Churchville-Chili high school juniors and seniors recently attended a Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Expo at Blue Cross Arena, where they explored a wide range of post-secondary opportunities. Students connected directly with college representatives, learned about academic programs and scholarship opportunities, and attended informational sessions focused on admissions, campus life, and college readiness. The experience provided valuable insight into the many pathways available after high school and encouraged students to consider institutions from across the country as they plan for their futures.



Middle school WEB Leaders help fifth graders make a smooth transition

This year, the middle school launched its new Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) Leaders program, giving eighth grade students an opportunity to support the transition of incoming fifth graders. Modeled after the high school's LINK Leaders program, WEB Leaders connected with fifth grade students during summer orientation through team-building activities, school tours, and question-and-answer sessions designed to help students feel comfortable and confident as they begin middle school. Throughout the year, WEB Leaders will continue meeting with fifth graders, providing mentorship, encouragement, and support as the district's youngest middle school students navigate their new environment.



High school students connect with colleges at CARA Mini Fair

High school juniors and seniors also had the opportunity to meet with representatives from 16 colleges and universities during a College Admissions in the Rochester Area (CARA) Mini College Fair hosted at our high school. Students explored academic programs, campus life, and career opportunities while asking questions and making connections with admissions representatives. Events such as the CARA Mini College Fair help students learn about a variety of educational pathways and gain valuable information as they navigate the college search and application process.





CRS Connects kicks off the school year with focus on three Rs

Students at Chestnut Ridge began the school year by coming together for a schoolwide CRS Connects assembly focused on the building's core expectations of being respectful, responsible, and ready. Students shared what these important values look like in classrooms, hallways, and throughout the school community, helping set a positive tone for the year ahead.

The assembly also launched the school's September and October focus areas, encouraging students to model positive behaviors and support one another as learners. By giving students opportunities to participate and share their perspectives, CRS Connects reinforces a culture of belonging, accountability, and mutual respect while helping all students understand their role in creating a safe, welcoming, and successful school environment.



POP Team celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month at the **middle school**

This fall, the middle school's Pathways of Positivity (POP) team helped students and staff recognize Hispanic Heritage Month by sharing information about Hispanic cultures, traditions, language, and the contributions of influential Hispanic leaders and innovators. The POP team meets throughout the school year to plan activities and learning opportunities that encourage cultural awareness, understanding, and respect. Through these experiences, students expand their knowledge of diverse cultures while developing a deeper appreciation for the many perspectives and traditions that enrich our school community.



FRS students commit to being respectful, responsible, and ready

Students at Fairbanks Road Elementary School recently demonstrated their commitment to a positive school community by participating in the school's Respectful, Responsible, and Ready Pledge. As part of the school's Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program, classrooms visited the hallway to sign a schoolwide pledge poster, symbolizing their dedication to making positive choices and supporting one another throughout the year.

The pledge activity provided an opportunity for students to put the school's core expectations into action while reinforcing the importance of respect, responsibility, and readiness to learn. With every class represented on the poster, the display serves as a reminder of the shared commitment that helps make Fairbanks Road Elementary a welcoming and supportive place for all students.





CES artists personalize their creative journeys



Third and fourth grade students at Churchville Elementary School started the school year by putting their creativity on display in art class. As one of their first projects, students designed personalized covers for their sketchbooks, transforming them into unique keepsakes that will showcase their artistic growth throughout the year.

Using stencils, students carefully added their names and incorporated fun designs that reflected their interests and personalities. The activity provided an opportunity for students to explore artistic techniques while creating a sketchbook that is uniquely their own. These customized covers will serve as both a source of pride and a reminder of the creativity, imagination, and learning that will fill the pages in the months ahead.





Fall sports highlights

Churchville-Chili student-athletes delivered an impressive fall season, showcasing talent, dedication, and Saints pride across multiple sports programs.

- The boys soccer team led the way throughout the season, winning the division title for their third straight year and winning the sectional title for the second year in a row.
- On the golf course, the girls golf team completed a perfect 14-0 regular season, before becoming the first girls golf team in school history to earn the sectional title.
- In tennis, Grace Hasselberg and Leah Baldwin captured the Section V Doubles Championship and played in the NYSPHSAA state championships, winning their first match before falling during the second round. The girls tennis team also went into sectionals as the No. 2 seed, finishing their season as sectional finalists.
- The football team has built a strong record this season, and Head Coach Dennis Pynn earned Buffalo Bills Coach of the Week honors during week two of the season. The team finished their regular season ranked 2nd in Class A1 with a 6-1 record, and made it to the sectional semifinal game before falling to Hilton.
- The girls soccer team also made it to the sectional semifinal matchup after a shut-out upset over number one-seeded Aquinas in the quarterfinal round.
- In the pool, Alyssa Purver made history by breaking both school diving records, further highlighting the exceptional accomplishments of Saints athletes this fall.

Congratulations to all of our student athletes, coaches, and teams on a tremendous season.

Go Saints!





Boys soccer team, Sectional Champions



Girls golf team, Sectional Champions



Grace Hasselberg and Leah Baldwin, Section V Doubles Champions



Alyssa Purver, NY State Swimming & Diving Championship qualifier

2026 Athletic Hall of Fame

Churchville-Chili will welcome four outstanding individuals to its Athletic Hall of Fame this year. The formal induction ceremony will be held on December 18, 2026. The 2026 inductees, honored for their accomplishments and contributions to the Saints' athletics program, are:

Alyssa Brault – *Class of 2015*

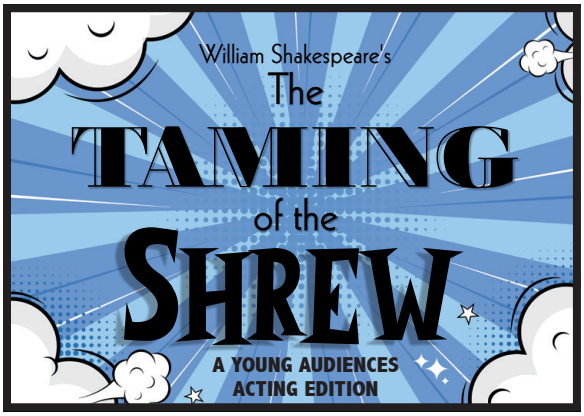
Jim Clar – *Class of 2004*

Greg Kincaid - *Coach*

Cameron Shipley – *Class of 2015*

Jim Trotter – *Class of 1969*

Our Athletic Hall of Fame celebrates the accomplishments of outstanding athletes, coaches, administrators and anyone who has made a significant contribution to Saints athletics. For more information or to submit a nomination for future consideration, visit https://shs.cccsd.org/athletics/athletic-hall-of-fame

















Celebrating art in District Office

Each year, student artwork is selected to be showcased at the district office for all to enjoy. Our talented artists were honored with a cookie reception to celebrate their work. Stop by the district office to see all of these incredible pieces.



High school vocalists selected for All-State

Three high school vocal students have been selected to perform in All-State ensembles this December after performing a 100 score during the NYSMMA Solo Fest in May.

Congratulations to Rinnah Falco, who will perform with the All-State High School Treble Choir on December 5 at 7:30 p.m. and to Violet Wanck-Kann and Natalie McCaffery, who will perform with the All-State High School Mixed Choir on December 6 at 10 a.m.

"I couldn't be prouder of these kids," said Vocal Director Erik Reinhart. "They were self-driven to prepare these songs, often in a solo setting. We look forward to their performances in December."

There are typically 300 students selected for each All-State ensemble, chosen from thousands across the state.



NY Inspires: Rethinking high school graduation in New York

New York State is introducing NY Inspires, a new graduation framework designed to better prepare students for success in college, careers, and life after high school.

The initiative moves beyond a one-size-fits-all approach by recognizing multiple ways students can demonstrate their learning and readiness for the future. While students will continue to complete rigorous coursework, NY Inspires places a greater emphasis on real-world experiences, college and career readiness, and student choice.

The proposed framework is built around three key areas:

Portrait of a Graduate
The state has identified seven skills and competencies every graduate should develop:
- Critical Thinker
- Innovative Problem Solver
- Literate Across Content Areas
- Effective Communicator
- Global Citizen
- Social-Emotional Competence
- Civic-Minded Community Member

Multiple Pathways
Students will have opportunities to explore their interests and strengths through a variety of experiences, including:
- Career and technical education programs
- World languages and the arts
- Advanced coursework
- Work-based learning and internships
- Community service and civic engagement
- Industry-recognized credentials

Demonstration of Readiness
Rather than relying solely on exams, students may demonstrate their readiness for graduation through coursework, projects, credentials, assessments, and other learning experiences that reflect their future goals.

While the state continues to refine implementation details, the goal remains clear: to provide students with meaningful opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills, and experiences needed to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Churchville-Chili already offers many opportunities that align with the NY Inspires vision, including advanced coursework, career and technical education programs, work-based learning experiences, fine arts programs, student leadership opportunities, and extracurricular activities.

District leaders will continue to review guidance from New York State and share updates as implementation plans and timelines become available.

NY Inspires at a Glance

What is it?
A new New York State graduation framework focused on preparing students for college, careers, and civic life.

Who is affected?
Current elementary, middle, and high school students will experience the changes differently depending on their graduation year.

Will Regents exams disappear?
Regents exams will continue during the transition period. The state is exploring how assessments fit within the new framework.

Why is this changing?
To ensure graduates leave high school with both strong academic knowledge and the skills needed for future success.

Learn More
Visit the NY Inspires page on the Senior High School website for resources, timelines, FAQs, and the latest updates.

Attendance Matters: Every day counts

Regular school attendance is one of the strongest predictors of student success. When students attend school consistently, they stay on track academically, build meaningful relationships with teachers and peers, and develop important life skills such as teamwork, communication, perseverance, and problem-solving.

Even a few absences each month can add up quickly and create learning gaps. That's why Churchville-Chili encourages families to make attendance a priority whenever possible.

Families can support strong attendance by:
- Establishing consistent bedtime and morning routines
- Scheduling appointments outside of school hours when possible
- Monitoring attendance throughout the year
- Encouraging participation in activities that help students feel connected to school
- Communicating with school staff when attendance challenges arise

Parents and guardians should always notify the school's attendance office when a student will be absent. The district works closely with families to address attendance concerns early and provide support when needed.

Excused absences may include:
- Illness or hospitalization
- Medical or dental appointments
- Religious observances
- Death in the family
- Legal obligations
- School-sponsored activities
- College visits

Learn more on the Wellness Hub
Want to learn more about attendance expectations, attendance notifications, and ways families can support student success? Visit the District Wellness Hub to watch the Attendance Matters episode of In the Know at Churchville-Chili, featuring Middle School House Administrators Ashley Guarino and Terry Moore, along with Coordinator of Social Emotional Wellness Tracie Swalbach. The episode explores why attendance matters and shares practical tips for helping students build strong attendance habits.

ParentSquare: Keeping families connected

Clear, timely communication helps students succeed. That's why Churchville-Chili Central School District uses ParentSquare, a communication platform that brings school, classroom, and district updates together in one convenient place.

ParentSquare serves as the district's primary communication tool, making it easier for families to stay informed, engaged, and connected to their child's educational experience.

All CCCSD parents and guardians automatically have a ParentSquare account. Families are encouraged to activate their accounts and download the ParentSquare app to take full advantage of the platform's features and to customize how they receive communications.

Through ParentSquare, families can:
- Receive attendance notifications and alerts
- Access school and district messages
- Communicate directly with teachers and staff
- Send and receive messages with two-way language translation
- Complete forms, permission slips, and sign-ups
- View calendars and RSVP to events
- Schedule parent-teacher conferences
- Sign up for volunteer opportunities and classroom supplies
- Access photos, documents, and shared resources

Whether it's an important district announcement, a classroom update, or an upcoming event, ParentSquare keeps everything in one place.

Stay in control of your notifications
One of the benefits of ParentSquare is the ability to choose how and when you receive communications.

Families can receive notifications by:
- Email
- Text message
- Mobile app notification

After activating your account, you can select one of three notification settings:
- **Instant:** Receive messages as soon as they are sent.
- **Digest:** Receive a single daily summary of messages, typically around 6 p.m. This is the default setting for all users.
- **Off:** Turn off regular notifications and check messages when it is convenient for you.

Important: Emergency and urgent notifications, including school closings and safety-related information, will always be delivered immediately regardless of your notification settings.

Download the ParentSquare app today!

Stay involved with your student's learning and activities at school. From anywhere.

Download on the App Store · GET IT ON Google Play



ParentSquare

Getting Started with ParentSquare

Activate your account

Using the app
1. Download the ParentSquare app.
2. Enter the email address or phone number associated with your child's school record.
3. Follow the prompts to activate your account.

Using a web browser
1. Visit parentsquare.com.
2. Select Sign In.
3. Under Register, enter your email address or phone number.
4. Click Go and follow the prompts.

If your contact information is not recognized, contact your child's school office to verify the information on file.

Keep your information current
Families should regularly review their contact information in Parent Portal to ensure they receive district communications.

Within Parent Portal, you can:
- Update your email address
- Update your phone number
- Select a preferred language for communication

ParentSquare automatically translates messages into many languages, helping ensure all families have access to important information.

StudentSquare: Communication for students in grades 7-12

StudentSquare is the student version of ParentSquare and serves as a central hub for school communication, announcements, and activities.

With StudentSquare, students can:
- Receive announcements from teachers and administrators
- Send messages to teachers, advisors, coaches, and classmates
- Stay informed about school events, clubs, and extracurricular activities
- RSVP to events
- Participate in polls and school communications
- Access important school information in one place

StudentSquare helps students stay organized, connected, and engaged with their school community while providing another way to receive timely information about opportunities and events.

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Universal Prekindergarten lottery now open for 2027-28

Families of future preschoolers are encouraged to apply for the Churchville-Chili Central School District's Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) program for the 2027-28 school year. The program is available at no cost to district residents whose children will turn 4 years old on or before Dec. 1, 2027.

Because the number of available seats is limited, students are selected through a random lottery process. Applications must be submitted online by 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 29, 2027, to be included in the lottery drawing, which will take place on Feb. 4, 2027. Placement at a specific school location cannot be guaranteed.

Families can learn more and complete the online application at www.cccsd.org/universal-prek. For questions or assistance, please contact the Office of Instruction at (585) 293-1800, ext. 2310.

Honoring our Board of Education

On Oct. 13, Churchville-Chili continued its tradition of celebrating the members of our Board of Education for their leadership and dedication to our schools.

This year's recognition featured a video highlighting our elementary music programs and a visit to the maker space room and the family and consumer science rooms at the middle school. While there, middle school students served zucchini muffins that had been made during their classes. Board members were also presented with vases created by high school ceramics students

Thank you to our Board members for their year-round commitment to ensuring every student has the opportunity to learn, grow and succeed.



