

The Comstock Communicator

COMSTOCK HIGH SCHOOL | COMPASS HIGH SCHOOL & ADULT EDUCATION | COMSTOCK MIDDLE SCHOOL | COMSTOCK ELEMENTARY | STEM ACADEMY



BACK TO SCHOOL



ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

From the Superintendent pages 2-3	District Contacts pages 4-5	School Board Feature pages 6-7	Board Briefs pages 8	District Annual Notifications page 9	Class of 2019 Senior Scholars pages 10-11	Comstock Library News page 14
--------------------------------------	--------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------	---	--	----------------------------------

MORE NEWS

Turn over to read
Center Point
A newsletter about the
Comstock
Community Center



From the Superintendent

Dear Comstock Community,

As I begin my second year of service at the helm of Comstock Public Schools, I want to welcome everyone back to school for the 2019-20 school year! As superintendent, I am sincerely grateful for the collaborative partnership between our school board and community. In unity with these two key groups as well as with our administration, teachers, staff, and parents, this past year, we made many positive strides forward and as a result the outlook for this year looks brighter and more promising than ever.

Below are summaries of the many positive changes happening in the district. If you have questions about any of our programming for the 2019-20 school year, please feel free to reach out to me either via email, phone call, or personal visit. I can be reached at thoenesj@comstockps.org or 269-250-8906. I look forward to our conversation!

Dr. Jeffrey J. Thoenes
Superintendent

“It’s a great day to be a Colt!”

DISTRICT RECONFIGURATION

Comstock Early Learning Academy (CELA)

Starting with this school year, CPS will be centralizing early childhood programming and daycare services in the former Green Meadow Elementary building. The new program, called the Comstock Early Learning Academy or CELA, will house our federal Head Start and state Great Start Readiness programs.

Additionally, CELA will house our county’s Early Childhood Special Education program that collaboratively serves a number of preschool children with special needs. CELA will also offer innovative new options for parents including STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) and Chinese Language and Culture tuition-based preschool options as well as affordable daycare for infants to fifth graders from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. CELA’s Director will be Meadow Nuyen (NIGH-en).

Comstock Elementary School

Placing all the elementary grades in one building is a sound and prudent financial decision and makes complete educational sense as well. Located in the former middle school, Comstock Elementary School combines North and Green Meadow Elementary Schools. Staff will be able to forge earlier relationships with students and families, and students with one another. Combining students in kindergarten precludes having to do so in sixth grade at the middle school when it is much more challenging emotionally, psycholog-

ically, and educationally. Additionally, a single elementary school lends itself to higher efficiency for same-grade staff collaboration and specials scheduling. CES will be led by Principal Susan Caswell and Assistant Principal Courtney Boyce.

Comstock Middle School

We are pleased not only to reconfigure and restructure our middle school programming but reimagine it as well. We will be offering students a seven-period schedule with four core and three elective courses each day for every student or 12 elective blocks for the year. In the previous schedule, students had about half that many elective options.

CMS will house grades 6-8 and with the new schedule, students will be able to take traditional electives such as band, choir, and art but also many new and exciting elective learning opportunities. These options include Leader in Me, College and Career Academy, Project Lead the Way (a program focusing on engineering, robotics, and computer sciences), Project-based Learning, and dance, as well as “core plus” courses designed by individual teachers around an area of personal interest directly related to their area of certification.

We are also pleased to announce that Spanish, health, and computers will be offered for high school credit. CMS’s principal will be Mark Wilke (WILL-key).

With bond monies, various remodeling projects

Continued on page 3



COMSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
A SCHOOL DISTRICT DEDICATED TO KIDS
www.comstockps.org

Dr. Jeff Thoenes
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Pamela Dickinson, President
Shirley Amos, Vice President
Karen Howes, Secretary
Paul Lamphear, Trustee
Saralynn Brown, Trustee
Matt Schreiner, Trustee
Dori Scholly, Trustee
Faye Goldner, Appointed Recording Secretary

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Comstock Public Schools is to serve our community by supporting, inspiring, and challenging every person within the school district to reach his/her full potential through education.

VISION STATEMENT

The vision of Comstock Public Schools is to be an educational community where every person is empowered to reach his/her full potential.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions concerning your schools, the answer is only a telephone call away:
269-250-8907

STORIES OR INFORMATION

The Comstock Communicator is published by Comstock Public Schools. Information may be sent to Dr. Jeff Thoenes at thoenesj@comstockps.org or by fax at 250-8908. It may also be e-mailed to Phyllis Rose at phyllisarose@aol.com.



@comstockPS

at CMS are already underway with the largest being the construction of a new high-school-sized gymnasium. This project is set to break ground in the late spring of 2020 with expected completion at or about the time of the start of winter sports season in November, 2020.

Sinking Fund

Given the costs associated with the upkeep of our facilities, we are truly appreciative of the community's support for the district's sinking fund ballot proposal approved by voters this past May. This fund will generate approximately \$500,000 a year for 10 years. Per Michigan Law, sinking fund monies are limited to certain uses. The district will use the sinking funds to upgrade and repair our infrastructure and buildings. Sinking funds may not be used for wage, salary, or benefit increases.

New School Day Start Times

Aligning our district's practices with educational research, we are excited to announce new school start times for this year (see chart to the right). The evidence is overwhelmingly clear. Teens need a lot of sleep to be optimal learners. Sufficient sleep for teens correlates with better grades, higher levels of satisfaction with school, increased engagement, better attendance, fewer tardies, and better mental health - all factors we want to see in our children.

Additionally, since teens often drive to school, later start times are connected to lower accident rates. If you have any questions about how the start times impact your particular building, contact your principal for more information.

Elimination of the Athletic Participation Fee

Last August with the support of our Athletic Director Justin Ansel, the Administration no longer charges students and families an athletic participation fee.

Students may now take part in any of our athletic or interscholastic programming without paying a fee. Our goal is to remove barriers preventing or dissuading students from taking part in these

programs.

Again, educational research is driving this decision. Students who are involved in extra and co-curricular programs perform better academically, have higher levels of satisfaction with school, behave better, improve attendance, and have fonder memories of school than their non-involved peers.

As a direct result of the fee elimination, participation in spring sports teams was up 18 percent in spring, 2019, compared to spring, 2018. We hope the same or better for this fall's teams!

Expansion of Extra-curricular Options

Hand in hand with the elimination of the athletic participation fee, the administration expanded extracurricular programming options to encourage greater student, family, and community participation. Varsity boys and girls bowling, middle school boys and girls soccer, and middle school boys and girls cross country all moved from club status to district sponsorship this past year.

Full Funding of K-12 Visual and Performing Arts

After meeting with the visual and performing arts teachers and learning of their fiscal challenges, the administration decided to fully fund the classroom and material needs for these programs. This decision creates a better and more balanced relationship between the district and these K-12 programs allowing teachers and booster groups to truly "boost" programs rather than attempt to cover budgetary shortfalls. We expect this will also increase participation.

Full Funding Extra-curricular Transportation

Finally, the administration decided to discontinue the previous extracurricular transportation policy in favor of transporting all teams all the time all the way to and from events. We also believe this will make participation substantially less burdensome for coaches, parents, and students resulting in increased participation.



New Starting Times Set for All Buildings

Because of research showing that most teens aren't getting enough sleep, the district is changing the starting times for all buildings for the 2019-2020 school year.

Here are the new starting times:

Comstock High School

Full Day - 7:55 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.
Half Day - 7:55 a.m. to 11:25 a.m.

Comstock Middle School

Full Day - 7:40 a.m. to 2:35 p.m.
Half Day - 7:55 a.m. to 11:10 a.m.

Comstock Elementary School

Full Day - 8:45 a.m. to 3:35 p.m.
Half Day - 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 a.m.

Comstock STEM Academy

Full Day - 7:45 a.m. to 2:35 p.m.
Half Day - 7:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Compass High School

Full Day - 8:05 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
Half Day - 8:05 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

Comstock Early Learning Academy

Full Day - 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Half Day - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

CES Open House

Comstock Elementary School will be having an Open House on Wednesday, August 28, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. We are all looking forward to seeing students and families at our new facility at 1423 N. 28th Street.

Families will get to meet teachers and discover the location of their children's classrooms. It will be an exciting way to kick off a new school year.

Comstock Public Schools Contact Information



School Administrators

Comstock High School
David Kirksey, Principal

2107 N. 26th Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8700
kirkseyd@comstockps.org
Jennifer Enos, Administrative Assistant



STEM Academy
Chris Chopp, Principal

175 Hunt Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8560
choppc@comstockps.org
Mary Jane Craves, Administrative Assistant



Comstock High School
Justin Ansel, Athletic Director

2107 N. 26th Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8711
anselj@comstockps.org



Comstock Elementary School
Susan Caswell, Principal

1423 N. 28th Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8600
caswells@comstockps.org
Lisa Watson, Administrative Assistant



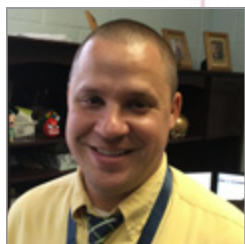
**Compass High School/
Adult Education**
Jay Birchmeier, Principal/Director

3010 Gull Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8930
birchmeierj@comstockps.org
Kelly Noteboom, Administrative Assistant



Comstock Elementary School
Courtney Boyce, Assistant Principal

1423 N. 28th Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8600
boycec@comstockps.org



Comstock Middle School
Mark Wilke, Principal

3100 N. 26th Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8550
wilkem@comstockps.org
Linda Grogg, Administrative Assistant



Comstock Early Learning Academy
Meadow Nuyen, Director

6171 East "MN" Avenue
Kalamazoo MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8960
nuyenm@comstockps.org
Christine Freed, Administrative Assistant

Comstock Public Schools Contact Information



CENTRAL OFFICE

3010 Gull Road, Kalamazoo 49048

Superintendent

Dr. Jeff Thoenes

Telephone: 269-250-8907

thoenesj@comstockps.org



Technology Director

Mark Peeters

3010 Gull Road

Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Telephone: 269-250-8885

peetersm@comstockps.org



**Executive Assistant
to the Superintendent**

Faye Goldner

Telephone: 269-250-8907

goldnerf@comstockps.org



Student Information Data Coordinator

Angelina Sabatino

3010 Gull Road

Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Telephone: 269-250-8912

sabatinoa@comstockps.org



Human Resources/Curriculum

Jill Ansel, Assistant Superintendent

Telephone: 269-250-8911

anseljill@comstockps.org

Stefanie O'Connor,

Administrative Assistant



Food Service Department

Holly Wait, Director

2107 N. 26th Street

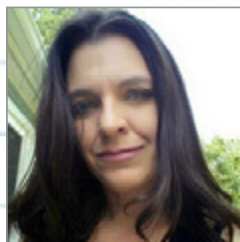
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Telephone: 269-250-8719

penceh@comstockps.org

Director of Finance Office

Telephone: 269-250-8905



Transportation Supervisor

Darlene Christy Sliger

Telephone: 269-250-8690

sligerd@comstockps.org

SUPPORT SERVICES

Director of Special Education

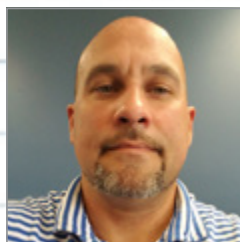
Brian Deller

3010 Gull Road

Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Telephone: 269-250-8923

dellerb@comstockps.org



Custodial Services

Sean Gillette, Facilities Manager

Telephone: 269-250-8715

gillettes@comstockps.org

Meet Your Comstock School Board



Shirley Amos

With six years on the school board, Shirley Amos has found it to be a challenging experience.

“The most important thing I have learned from being a board member is that it is not as easy as it might appear,” she said. “There is homework to do and emails to read to be prepared for board meetings.”

Doing that preparation is important to her because she wants to make the right decisions.

“I ask questions and try to get all the information I can before making a decision,” she said.

One of the most important decisions the board has made is voting to start the STEM Academy, she said.

Despite the work required, Mrs. Amos is glad to serve the community. In fact, that’s one of the reasons she ran for a seat on the board.

“I thought I would enjoy serving the community,” she said.

As a board member, she enjoys hearing about all the district’s successes.

“However, there are also challenges and opportunities for improvement,” she said. “Facing those challenges head on is important.”

A 1972 graduate of Loy Norrix High School, she is married to Jerry Amos, a 1967 graduate of Comstock, the last graduating class from the old Comstock High School on 26th Street. Jerry is a trustee on the Comstock Township Board.

They have two sons, Brian and James, who are also Comstock graduates. Brian, an electrician in Wabash, Indiana, and his wife, Heather, have three children. James, an IT tech at WMU, and his wife, Joan, have two children.

Mrs. Amos is a decorating consultant at Douglas & Son, a paint and wallpaper store in Kalamazoo.

She is a Master Gardener and has organized garden walks in local gardens.

She has been a Sunday school teacher, Vacation Bible School director, and a Cub Scout leader. She is also part of a team working with at-risk youth at Michigan Youth Challenge Academy. She and her husband enjoy traveling and have visited almost 40 of the 50 states.



Saralyn Brown

Saralyn Brown has only been on the school board since January, 2019, but she has a long history with the district, having graduated from Comstock in 1991. Her husband, Todd, graduated from Com-

stock in 1990. Their son, a student at Comstock Elementary, is the fourth generation of the family to attend Comstock.

Because of that longtime connection to the district, she ran for a seat on the school board last fall.

“I also decided to run because I wanted to give back to my community and to the school district that gave me so much,” she said.

What she’s enjoyed about being on the board so far is that she is always learning.

“The most important thing I have learned as a board member is things are not as easy as one might think they should be,” she said. “There are a lot of factors and thought that go into each decision.”

Important accomplishments during her time on the board are the bathroom upgrades being completed, the school district buildings being reconfigured, and the passage of the sinking fund.

“I’m also excited to see the ten-year plan become reality,” she said.

As a board member, she hopes to see the reading and math scores improve and for more building updates to be completed.

Mrs. Brown has been married for 22 years to Todd, her high school sweetheart, who is a residential builder.

She enjoys spending time with her family playing games, boating, visiting, having cookouts, and watching her son play sports.

“Family is very important to me and creating memories is priceless,” she said.

Following her father’s example, she has become a gardener.

“My father always had a lovely garden,” she said. “I find that it is good exercise, is relaxing and gives me a sense of pride when prepping meals from what was grown.”



Pamela Dickinson

With six years of service on the board of education, President Pamela Dickinson enjoys being an advocate for the district.

“I also enjoy the process of coming to consensus with my fellow trustees,” she said. “This involves listening to all involved parties and coming up with a win-win situation.”

She initially ran for the board out of a genuine interest in the local community and public education.

Now, as president of the board, Mrs. Dickinson has the goal of insuring accountability, transparency, diversity, and performance.

Working with the superintendent and community stakeholders, she has a shared vision of the district that emphasizes high achievement for all students.

“I would also like to see the community regard the board as acting in a manner that is dignified and worthy of trust,” she said. “I also desire to build inclusivity in our schools so that all students have a voice.”

Important accomplishments during her time on the board include the bond which passed in the last general election, hiring the new superintendent, and the district restructuring.

“All these are milestones and investments toward future improvements in the district,” she said.

Of what she’s learned while on the board, she said, “It’s always listen to my constituents and stakeholders.”

Mrs. Dickinson has been a social worker for more than 30 years in Kalamazoo and Battle Creek. She was executive director for the Warm Kids Project for over 25 years. She currently works for the VA Medical Center.

She and her husband, James, have lived in Comstock for over 25 years. Their son, Ashleigh Tillman, graduated from Comstock in 2001 and is now employed in the Chicago Public Schools.

She enjoys quilting, running, traveling, and gardening.

Meet Your Comstock School Board



Karen Howes

Working as a substitute teacher at Green Meadow several years ago, Karen Howes gained an insight into the challenges facing students, their families, and the community.

That insight made her realize she had to find another way to support the schools. So, in the fall of 2016, she ran for a seat on the school board and was elected.

In her three years on the board, she has enjoyed many aspects of the work, including working collaboratively with Superintendent Dr. Jeff Thoenes, the administration and staff, she said.

“The Leader In Me program has been the most enjoyable for me to watch grow and evolve,” she said. “The paradigm of Living The Seven Habits has been instrumental in so many students’ lives K-12.”

Among the Board’s major accomplishments, she lists the reconfiguration of the buildings and passing the sinking fund.

“The reconfiguration and sinking fund go hand-in-hand as we work together to put all of our students in the best possible facilities,” she said.

As a board member, she has also grown as a person, parent, and a board member, she said.

“Being on the board requires patience, respect and most importantly collaboration,” she said. “Board members must look past their own individual ideas and do what is best for the entire district.”

Mrs. Howes is a 1984 graduate of Comstock High School. She and her husband, Bruce, moved back to Comstock to raise their family. Married for 28 years, they have two children. Grant graduated from Comstock this year and Michael will be in the eighth grade at the STEM Academy.

In her free time, Mrs. Howes enjoys watching her son play hockey and cheering on the Colts at the school’s sporting events.

An avid reader, Mrs. Howes names “Kite Runner” and “The Glass Castle” among her favorite books.

Mrs. Howes has a degree in finance from Western and has been a hairstylist for 21 years. Her husband is a pipefitter.



Paul Lamphear

Having served on the school board from 2015-2017, Paul Lamphear was recently appointed to the board to fill the seat left vacant by the resignation of Dr. Brandy Brown. He has also been on the STEM Academy Advisory Board since the school was first established.

Mr. Lamphear applied for the vacant board position because he wanted to help the district make meaningful improvements in students’ academic proficiency and socio-emotional skills.

“We have so many opportunities to make a positive difference in the outcomes for our students,” he said. “When you look at the results in our Comstock and Michigan Dashboard and Accountability Scorecard, we need to move the needle forward.”

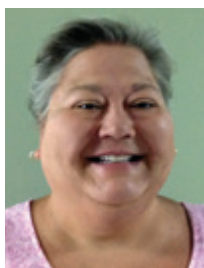
While board membership involves long hours and many meetings, he enjoys the opportunity to work with the superintendent and the board to sort through the difficult and complex issues facing schools and to celebrate successes.

“I wish there was a ‘miracle’ pill – one thing we can do so that all our students are properly prepared for college and/or the work environment,” he said. “This is hard work, one step at a time. If it was easy, Comstock, and every other school district in the country wouldn’t have to ask the question every day, ‘How can we be better?’”

In his short time on the board, Mr. Lamphear has been impressed with how all the board members care “deeply for our community, our district, and our students and want to work as a team to move forward.”

His wife, Sam Lealofi, is executive director of Eastside Youth Strong and is the CEO of Lakeside for Children.

Mr. Lamphear, a senior project manager at Perigo, enjoys sailing, cross-country skiing, home-improvement projects and recreational league soccer.



Dori Scholly

As a retired Comstock teacher, Dori Scholly ran for the school board last year because she saw the need for someone to be on the board who’s been in the schools and has seen firsthand what teach-

ers, staff, students and parents face every day.

So, first of all, she wants to be a spokesperson for teachers and students.

“I want to be able to help my fellow professionals in any way possible,” she said. “If that means bringing in cake during testing weeks, reading during Literacy Night, or helping during a Book Fair, I want to be the one they call first.”

With only a few months on the board, she’s enjoying meeting former students and parents at various events in the district.

The most important thing she’s learned so far is to “stay positive and listen first,” she said.

“I also like getting to know our new superintendent and promoting all the positive changes he has made,” she said.

Among the changes she noted are reinstating the teachers’ sick bank, eliminating pay-to-play in sports, and purchasing transport vans for the district.

“I am really happy about the changes he has made and look forward to working with him and other board members in the future,” she said.

Mrs. Scholly is also grateful to the community for approving the sinking fund.

“These funds will go a long way in helping us meet the needs of our district,” she said.

While she has retired from teaching in Comstock, Mrs. Scholly is still in the classroom, working as a long-term substitute teacher in the Climax-Scotts district.

She has been married for 25 years to her husband, Ron, who works in the Forestry Department in Kalamazoo. Their son, John, a graduate of Comstock, has his own landscape business, JJS Lawn Care.

In her free time, Mrs. Scholly enjoys cooking, reading novels and going to their cottage in Waters, Michigan, where she likes to golf and “laze about.”

“Up North is my happy place, but I do like returning home to Comstock,” she said.



Matt Schreiner

With four children attending Comstock Schools, Matt Schreiner decided to run for the school board four years ago.

“We had just passed the 2016 bond initiative and I

Continued on page 12

Board Briefs

REGULAR MEETING

May 13, 2019

- Recognized seniors Audrey Rabick and Brandon Willis as recipients of the Excellence in Education award.
- Recognized Justin Ansel for being selected by Brandon Willis as his significant educator.
- Recognized Tanner Clements as Comstock's Education for Employment Outstanding Senior.
- High school physics teacher, Ryan Warner, and physics students Brendon Blades and Dexter Stanley, shared their experiences from the physics class trip at Physics Day at Great America.
- Approved retirement of Sharon Nichols-Hicks, CHS teacher.
- Appointed Trustee Dori Scholly as the board's voting representative in the KRESA Biennial Election on June 3, 2019. President Pam Dickinson will be the alternate.
- Approved creating a director of virtual and work-based learning and naming Pamela Dudley to the position. Her current position as Director of the College and Career Academy will be eliminated.
- Moved into closed session to discuss the non-renewal of a teacher's contract. Following the meeting, the board voted not to renew the teacher's contract.
- Moved into closed session to discuss negotiations with the CEA.

MINUTES OF ADVANCE SUPERINTENDENT

EVALUATION TRAINING

May 15, 2019

- Sara Shriver from the Michigan Association of School Boards, facilitated board training on the School ADvance Administrator Evaluation System which the board will be using to evaluate the superintendent this school year.

SPECIAL MEETING

May 28, 2019

- Superintendent Thoenes reviewed documents as part of the superintendent evaluation process. The meeting was recessed until after the regular meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

May 28, 2019

- Approved resignation of Robert Einhardt, North Elementary physical education teacher.

- Approved resignation of Gerielle Stewart, CHS principal.
- Jill Ansel, assistant superintendent, presented information on curriculum, instruction and assessment.
- Approved supporting the KRESA 2019-2020 budget.
- Approved a bid of \$168,000 from J. Allen & Company to pave the access loop at the high school.
- Approved a trip to Disney World by the high school band for the spring of 2020.
- Approved the senior class trip to Cedar Point.
- Approved submitting a \$20,000 grant proposal to MCACA in support of their Leading Education through Arts and Discovery (LEAD) program at Comstock Elementary.
- Approved a resolution in support of adequately funding Michigan schools.
- Approved a resolution supporting Early/Middle college students to take a math or math-related course in their fifth year.

BUDGET HEARING

June 10, 2019

- Ken Greenwood, director of finance, presented the preliminary 2019-2010 budget.

REGULAR MEETING

June 10, 2019

- Approved Morgan Fleming as the CES music teacher.
- Approved Jordyn Mott as the middle school Spanish/ESL teacher.
- Approved resignation of Karen Cleveland, Green Meadow second grade teacher.
- Approved resignation of Jennifer Kramer, North Elementary early childhood special education teacher.
- Approved the preliminary 2019-2010 budget.
- Approved a five-year contract with Chartwell for food services starting in the 2019-2020 school year.
- Approved the purchase of Ready Mathematics by Curriculum Associates at a cost of \$57,372.67 for Comstock Elementary and \$11,641.80 for the STEM Academy.
- Approved a three-year contract with Enviro-Clean for custodial services at a cost of \$2,101,937 for the three years.
- Approved the bid from Midwest Recreation Products in the amount of \$77,488 to move the

playground equipment from North and Green Meadow to Northeast Middle School.

- Approved Trosper Construction to relocate portables from Green Meadow to the STEM Academy at a cost of \$134,307.
- Approved a bid from ElectroMedia, Inc., to update the district video camera server hardware, installation and migration at a cost of \$91,539.94.
- Approved a bid of \$18,200 from J&S Solutions to replace network UPS batter units and dispose of removed batteries.

BOARD CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

June 18, 2019

- The Board interviewed Dr. Richard Hathaway, Jackie Wahl, Jeff LaBrie, and Anthony Bates.

BOARD SESSION

June 19, 2019

- Superintendent Dr. Jeff Thoenes requested a closed session for discussing his evaluation.
- The Board moved into closed session, returning to the open session at 8:30 p.m.

BOARD CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

June 20, 2019

- Interviewed Richard Hudson, Jeff VanGoeve, and Paul Lamphear for the vacant board position.
- Approved Paul Lamphear to fill the seat left vacant by the resignation of Dr. Brandy Brown. He will serve until the November, 2020, election.

REGULAR MEETING

June 24, 2019

- Welcomed new board member, Paul Lamphear.
- Accepted following resignations:
 - Kristina Spanding, high school special education teacher
 - Nick Sasak, Green Meadow fifth grade teacher
- Approved authorizing issuance of notes in anticipation of state school aid.
- Accepted bid from Morse Movers in the amount of \$77,488 for relocating Green Meadow, NEMS, and North Elementary.
- Moved into closed session for discussing the superintendent's evaluation.
- Approved the superintendent's evaluation with an overall rating of "effective."



DISTRICT ANNUAL NOTIFICATIONS

Confidentiality of Educational Records

The school district has compiled records on all students for use in the provision of appropriate education programs and services. Federal and State legislation provides parents and eligible students (18 years and older) with certain rights regarding the confidentiality of school records.

Student Records

- Personal and family data
- Health and immunization records
- Test data including aptitude, interest, intelligence, and achievement testing
- Achievement and attendance records
- Anecdotal records
- Records of conferences
- Copies of correspondence concerning a student
- Student questionnaires
- Other records which may contribute to the understanding of the student
- Past school records from other districts
- Individualized educational plans for handicapped students

Procedures Relating to Retention, Destruction, and Disclosure of Records

Records are maintained at the building in which the student is enrolled or last attended. Each record is kept in an individual file open only to those personnel who have a need to know. Information on grades, attendance, and courses completed are kept forever unless transferred to another school district. Portions of a record may be destroyed when it is no longer appropriate to retain them.

Parental and Student Rights

Parents of a student or an eligible student have the right to:

- Inspect and review the educational records of the student
- Request information contained in such records be amended if it is inaccurate, misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of the student.

- Request a hearing to challenge the content of the student's record.

Access Procedures

Parents or eligible students who wish to review the student's educational records shall request at the attending building. A review shall be scheduled within a reasonable time not to exceed thirty days.

Disclosure to Third Parties

Personally identifiable information from the educational record of the student shall not be released without the prior consent of the parent or eligible student. Information may be released to certain individuals or agencies as permitted by law.



Directory Information

The district provides directory information which includes: name, address, telephone, date and place of birth, weight and height, participation in school activities, dates of attendance, awards received, and other similar information. Directory information may be released unless parent or eligible student refuses such release. The refusal must be made to the superintendent's office within 10 days of the publication of this notice.

Special Education and Section 504 Notifications

It is the policy of the district to actively find and provide services to handicapped students. The district will provide appropriate evaluations, identification and services for all eligible students under Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or current special education laws.

Administrative Policies and Procedures Complaint Procedures

The district does not discriminate on the basis of disability, sex, age, or race with regard to admission, access to services, treatment, or employment in programs and activities.

The district has a coordinator responsible for Section 504, the American Disabilities Act and Special Education. Contact your building principal for that person's name and telephone.

The district policies and procedures are on file in the superintendent's office and may be reviewed there.

You may file a complaint regarding a district policy or procedure. Please contact the superintendent and receive the specific process for the legislation for which you believe the district is in noncompliance.

Weapons-Free School Zone

Comstock Public Schools is a Weapons-Free School Zone. Violators may face expulsion and/or criminal prosecution. Firearms of any type are prohibited, as are knives, bow and arrows, and any type of explosive devices.

Drug Prevention

In accordance with Federal and State Law, the Comstock Public Schools Board of Education hereby establishes a "Drug-Free School Zone" that extends 1,000 feet from the boundary of any school property. The Board prohibits the use, possession, concealment, delivery, on property, within the Drug-Free School Zone or at any district-related event. Furthermore, the Superintendent shall take the necessary steps to ensure that an individual, eighteen (18) years of age or older, who knowingly delivers or distributes controlled substance on designated and prohibited by Michigan statute within the Drug-Free School Zone to another person is prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Congratulations, Senior Scholars

CLASS OF 2019

Comstock High School extends congratulations to the Top Scholars, Class of 2019. The Top Scholar designation is determined by a formula which combines grade point averages and ACT scores.

This year's top scholars are (in alphabetical order):



Name: Jeztrelle Abella
Parents: Jeff and Joy Gamble
Achievements/Activities:
 4.0 GPA
 National Honor Society
 Tennis, 4 years; BCS
 Honorable Mention, MVP,
 Team Captain

Future Plans: Attend Kalamazoo College



Name: Daisy Ansel
Parents: Justin and Jill Ansel
Achievements/Activities:
 4.0 GPA
 Received Athletic Scholarship
 at Grand Valley State
 All State Honors and
 Conference MVP in three

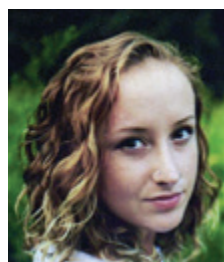
years of varsity basketball

Future Plans: Attend Grand Valley State University to major in mechanical engineering with a minor in biomedical engineering



Name: Keilani Baumgartner
Parents: Joseph and Kelli Baumgartner
Achievements/Activities:
 Solo and ensemble
 Flight Champion at the Loy
 Norrix Invitational
Future Plans: Attend

Davenport University to major in nursing and to become an anesthesiologist



Name: Andrea Behrmann
Parents: Daniel and Teresa Behrmann
Achievements/Activities:

4.0 GPA
 Received five departmental
 awards
 Conference tennis champion

in her junior year

Future Plans: Attend University of Michigan to major in psychology and minor in Ukrainian; wants to become a clinical psychologist.



Name: Madelyn Caswell
Parents: D.J. and Susan Caswell
Achievements/Activities:
 4.0 GPA
 National Honor Society
 Member of the student
 board for the First Day Shoe

Foundation

Four-year tri-athlete

Captain in volleyball, basketball, and softball
 All Conference honors in volleyball; honorable
 mention in basketball; all-district in softball
 Received five departmental awards

Future Plans: Attend Wayne State University to major in nursing; plans to earn her doctorate in nursing practice and to become either a pediatric or neonatal nurse practitioner.



Name: Emily Dodson
Parents: Doug Dodson and Jean Bogard
Achievements/Activities:
 MVP honors in tennis
 Coach's award for golf
 Qualified for state
 championship in golf

Most improved athlete in volleyball and golf
 Honorable mention in golf and tennis

Future Plans: Attend Eckerd College to major in marine biology and to become a marine biologist.



Name: Lily Hall
Parents: Terrell and Lora Hall
Achievements/Activities:
 Early Middle College



Name: Vien Hang
Parents: Xeng and Yana Hang
Future Plans: Attend Kalamazoo College to major in computer science.



Name: Janice Harper
Parents: David Harper and Ariana Chaffin
Achievements/Activities:
 Dual enrollment and
 Advanced Placement classes
Future Plans: Attend WMU or Ohio State to major in forensic psychology and minor in sociology.



Name: Abby House
Parents: Rich and Tammy House
Achievements/Activities:
 Academic excellence awards
 in chemistry, geometry and
 girls fitness
 Kalamazoo Section 2018

Competitive Exam Finalist in Chemistry
 All-Conference in basketball, softball, golf,
 bowling, and volleyball
 Qualified for Golf State Finals two years in a row
 Qualified for state in bowling

Future Plans: Attend Lourdes University to major in nursing.



Name: Jack Kendall
Parents: Ian and Laura Kendall
Achievements/Activities:
 National Honor Society
 Varsity baseball, wrestling
Future Plans: Attend KVCC.

Congratulations, Senior Scholars

CLASS OF 2019



Name: Tyler Kuivenhoven
Parent: Kristen Kuivenhoven
Achievements/Activities: Member of Comstock's wrestling team when it won the school's first conference title

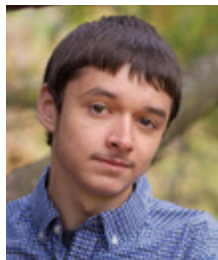
Future Plans: To become nationally certified for auto mechanics; open his own shop.



Name: Gabby Langejans
Parents: Scott and Lynn Langejans
Achievements/Activities: PE Departmental Award
 Two-time basketball conference champ
 Honorable mention in

bowling and soccer
 Rookie of the year in soccer

Future Plans: Attend WMU or Manchester University to major in business or communications.



Name: Alex Mason
Parents: Larry and Monique Mason
Achievements/Activities: Merit Scholarship recipient
Future Plans: Attend KVCC to become a computer programmer.



Name: Emma Otto
Parents: Bill and Amanda Otto
Future Plans: Major in nursing at Grand Valley State University.



Name: Audrey Rabick
Parents: Greg and Meredith Rabick
Achievements/Activities: Member of the World Championship Robotics Team
 Second place at Southwest

Michigan Intel Science Fair
 Departmental awards in world history, AP History, choir
 Published short fiction in *Blue Marble Review*, a literary journal for young writers
Future Plans: Attend Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, to major in chemical engineering; wants to work in the pharmaceutical industry.



Name: Branden Willis
Parents: Justin and Michelle Willis
Achievements/Activities: 4.21 weighted GPA
 Departmental awards in personal finance, AP chemistry, Trigonometry/Pre-

Calculus
 Academic All-State in baseball and soccer
 All-District soccer player
 All-Conference soccer player
Future Plans: Attend either WMU or University of Michigan to major in mathematics and to become an actuary.

Comstock High School

Graduate Completes Project SEARCH Program

Hannah Gettys, a 2018 CHS graduate, has completed the Project SEARCH program and earned her Certificate of Completion.

Project SEARCH is a transition program which trains individuals with disabilities to perform complex jobs and supports them in finding competitive employment in the community upon completion. Specifically, the project assists disabled youth in learning about employment firsthand through on-the-job training, job-search activities and resume writing. Project SEARCH works with over 30 employers in the Kalamazoo area.

After leaving the program, 87 percent of the students maintain employment.

Hannah completed her job training and life skills activities during her internship in the Emergency Room and EVS at Bronson Hospital. She is now employed at the Wee Care Day Care in Portage.

Project SEARCH in Kalamazoo is a collaboration with Kalamazoo RESA, Michigan Rehabilitation Services, Kalamazoo Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Bureau of Services for Blind Persons, Disability Network of Southwest Michigan, and Bronson Methodist Hospital.



Hannah Gettys with Sharon Nichols-Hicks, special education teacher.

STEM Academy

STEM Creates Monarch Waystation



STEM Academy teachers and students planned and planted a monarch waystation for butterflies and other local pollinators.

The STEM Academy partnered with the Kalamazoo Audubon Society, and received a grant to purchase plants, and equipment.

“Restoring native plant habitat is vital to preserving biodiversity,” says the Audubon Society. “By creating a native plant garden, each patch of habitat becomes part of a collective effort to nurture and sustain the living landscape for birds and other animals.”

The STEM Academy also partnered with the Kalamazoo Area Chapter of Wild Ones, and received a Nancy Small Memorial Fund grant.

The Memorial Fund honors Nancy Small, co-founder of the Kalamazoo Chapter of Wild Ones. Grants are awarded to projects in which outdoor classrooms or demonstration areas are created.

According to the group’s website, “We desire not only to educate Michigan youth and the general public in recognition, preservation, and restoration of endangered and threatened native species, but also to support projects that promote appreciation and respect for Michigan native flora and thus help to ensure their survival in this time of climate instability and great stress on native species and natural systems.”

High School Registration Day

High school students can register on August 26 from 2 p.m.-6 p.m. in the auditorium. Forms will be mailed to CHS families in mid-August. Those completed forms can be turned in during registration.

During registration, students can also pick up their schedules for the 2019-20 school year; learn more about the Leader in Me Lighthouse team; get pictures taken for student IDs; register to vote; buy Comstock Spirit Wear, and more.

That same day, seniors will have a class meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Incoming ninth graders should also plan on attending the freshman meeting at 6:15 p.m. in the auditorium.

There will be a cookout immediately afterward in the courtyard.

It’s going to be a big day to help kick off the 2019-20 school year. We hope everyone can join us!

Comstock School Board

Continued from page 7

wanted to be involved with the upcoming changes,” he said.

As a board member, he enjoys being part of all the positive events in each building and seeing children’s achievements.

Just like the students who are learning each day, Mr. Schreiner has learned some things along the way as he’s served on the board.

“I’ve learned that changes do not happen overnight,” he said. “You also have to be consistent, patient and diligent. I have also confirmed knowledge I already had which is that we have an amazingly talented and dedicated staff who work hard for all of our students.”

Reviewing his four years on the board, he sees a number of accomplishments including hiring Dr. Jeff Thoenes as the new superintendent and seeing the changes he’s making that are benefitting the students.

“The makeover of the high school locker rooms and training areas and the new secure entrances at all of our school buildings have been points of pride,” he said.

His goals as a board member are to make Comstock the “go to” district in the county and to continue to guide the district’s growth in a positive way.

A stay-at-home dad, he has been married for 22 years to Rebecca, a primary care physician. They have four children - Abby, Anna, Ava, and Austin.

Abby graduated from Comstock and will soon be a senior at Saginaw Valley State University where she is studying to be a science teacher and coach. Anna will be a freshman this school year while Ava is entering the seventh grade and Austin is starting Young 5’s at the new Comstock Elementary School.

Besides being on the school board, he is in charge of Eastwood Little League. He often volunteers at Comstock STEM Academy where his youngest children are students.

As a family, the Schreiners enjoy traveling. Next summer they are going to Germany with their church youth group.

“We also spend a lot of family time in service to the community at our schools, our church or at Eastwood Little League,” he said.

Northeast Middle School

NEMS Teacher Selected as Grosvenor Teaching Fellow

Middle school teacher, Cindy Bloom, doesn't like being interrupted by the PA when she's teaching. So, when the office staff came over the PA last February to tell her she had a phone call, she reminded them she was teaching. However, she was told she really needed to take the call.

"I grumped all the way back to my desk," she recalled. "Soon I'm dancing at my desk and the kids are wondering what's going on."

What was going on was that she had just been notified she had been named one of 45 Grosvenor Teacher Fellows, a program of the National Geographic Society and Lindblad Expeditions.

The Fellowship is a two-year commitment that begins with an expedition through Lindblad Expeditions followed by sharing the experience with students and the community, and developing lessons and other materials that can be used by other educators.

Fellows must also serve in leadership roles within National Geographic Education such as mentoring teachers who are going through the National Geographic Teacher Certification process, said Mrs. Bloom.

Applying for the Fellowship was a lengthy process involving a number of things.

"You have to think about your practices and how you've been affecting students, getting them out and doing things outside the classroom," she said. "One of the more difficult things is that you have to create a video of yourself, That's one of the harder things - getting used to having yourself in front of a camera."

In April, all 45 Fellows met in Washington, D.C., for a pre-trip conference.

"There, we talked about the requirements," she said. "We video-chatted or chatted in person with naturalists who would be aboard our expedition. We got more experience with photography. We had *National Geographic* photographers and videographers there to tell us about how to chronicle what we were doing."

Then, in May, she flew to London to board the ship, National Geographic Explorer, for a 15-day tour, sailing around the southern coast of England, the west coast of Ireland and then to the Inner and Outer Hebrides and Orkney and Shetland Islands.

Each day, they would disembark about 9 a.m. and then have a choice of activities whether taking a walk, shooting photos, birding, or visiting

historical sites, she said.

Leading the activities were naturalists, ornithologists, marine mammal specialists, historians, archaeologists, and underwater specialists, who traveled with the Fellows on the expedition, she said.

After the day's adventures, they would gather on the ship to recap what they had seen and done that day.

Back at Northeast Middle School, Mrs. Bloom's students were following her adventures through photos that she emailed.

"Every day they could see the pictures," she said. "I signed them up for the daily expedition report posted by the ship so they were able to follow the expedition that way, too."

Before leaving on the expedition, Mrs. Bloom had to formulate questions about what she wanted to bring back to her students and the community. One of her questions was, "Why do people live where they do?"

"You look at these neolithic sites going back 5,000 or 6,000 years on these incredibly remote islands," she said. "You have to work to get to some of the islands we went to, yet they have these neolithic sites. How did they get there? Why were they there?"

What she learned was what she called a paradigm shift in how she thinks about the world.

"What people don't realize is at the time of the neolithic, the climate was better in Ireland and the British Isles than it is now," she said. "They were able to grow grain. That's why they were farmers and the dangerous places were the center of Ireland, the center of England. It was easy to move along the coastline by boat. We think of things from a road-based mentality. For them, there were no roads. These places that we consider remote were the easiest places to get to."

She plans to develop lessons on the importance of these prehistoric sites and why people today should be concerned about them.

"I'm going to have kids look more fully at why people live where they do and the climate issue and the fact that climates change," she said. "Climate change has happened a lot."

Mrs. Bloom will also be preparing a presentation for the community about her experiences.

At the end of the expedition, the ship docked in Norway, where Mrs. Bloom's sister-in-law is the



Mrs. Bloom stands on the bow of the National Geographic Explorer as it leaves the Thames River and enters the English Channel.



Sheila Gear, ranger on Foula, one of the Shetland Islands, shows visitors a Shetland pony mare, and her four day old foal.



The National Geographic Explorer, the ship Mrs. Bloom sailed on, stands at anchor at Arranmore, Ireland.

director of an international school. Before flying home, she made a presentation to the seventh graders in the school about her adventures.

Mrs. Bloom has been a teacher in Comstock for 29 years, the last 27 at the middle school. She teaches ancient world history and geography. Each year, she coordinates the *National Geographic* Geography Bee for middle school students. She is certified as *National Geographic* Teacher and is also involved with the Michigan Geographic Alliance.

Even with all this experience, back in February, little did Mrs. Bloom realize that what started as an annoying interruption of her class would end up being the beginning of an incredible life-changing experience.

Athletic Department News

2019-20 Physicals

Physicals for the 2019-20 school year will be offered on August 7 at Comstock High School from 6-7 p.m. The cost will be \$20. All Comstock students in seventh grade through twelfth grade planning on playing a fall sport must have a physical dated after April 15, 2019, on file with the athletic office before they can participate in practice or games.

TJ Reilly

TJ Reilly had a great spring season in baseball and earned Second Team All State. Congratulations TJ Reilly.



Stadium Reserved Seating

Two different kinds of reserved seating will be offered for the 2019-20 school year. Both types of seats will be located in front of the press box along the 50-yard line. The cost for a seat without a back rest is \$5 per seat for the year. The cost of a seat with a back rest (only 30 seats available) is \$10 per seat for the year. All proceeds will be used to help fund the Hall of Fame Banquet and Awards. The first home varsity football game kicks off at 7 p.m. on August 29 vs Saugatuck. Please support Comstock Athletics and our Hall of Fame Banquet by purchasing a reserved seat through the athletic office at 269-250-8711.

Season Pass Workers Needed

We are coordinating workers for the 19-20 school year right now. If you would like to work at athletic events for a family pass, please contact the athletic office. Some of the job duties include ticket taking, running the clock, keeping the scorebook, announcing and timing for track meets. We have a lifetime pass for all our senior citizens for free. If senior citizens would still like to help out at our athletic events, we would love to have you here but it is not required. Please give us

a call at 269-250-8711 to let us know if you are interested in working.

Hall of Fame Nominations

The Comstock Hall of Fame committee is accepting nominations for the 2020 induction. Nominations must be received by the athletic director by November 1 to be included in the process for the 2020 induction. A nomination form is on page 15 of this *Communicator* and also can be found online at www.comstockcolts.org. Please call Justin Ansel with any questions at 269-250-8711.

High School Fall Sports Start Dates

Practice for the fall high school sports season will begin on August 12 for football, boys soccer, cross country, girls golf and sideline cheer and August 14 for volleyball. Start times will be listed on the athletic website at www.comstockcolts.org. Every athlete must have a physical to participate.

Comstock Middle School Fall Sports Start Dates

Practice for Comstock Middle School sixth through eighth grade girls volleyball, sixth through eighth grade boys soccer and fifth through eighth grade boys and girls cross country will tentatively begin on Monday, August 26. Official start times will be listed on the athletic website at www.comstockcolts.org as we get closer to the beginning of the season. All middle school volleyball, boys soccer and cross country runners must have a physical on file with the athletic office in order to participate.

Stampede Basketball Third-Sixth Grade Boys Third-Eighth Grade Girls

Tryouts for Session I Comstock Stampede basketball are tentatively scheduled for Sunday, September 29, and are for kids attending Comstock Public Schools. We will send out more information to all the kids after

school starts. Session I for girls is the Sharp Shooters season which begins playing games mid October. Session I for boys is the Sharp Shooter season which begins playing games the beginning of November. All fall sports being played are a priority and until the fall season is over, kids try to make what they can. Session I will cost \$50 along with the cost of a uniform which is \$55 if you don't already have one. It is a great program to learn a lot about basketball and we hope we see a lot of students from Comstock participating. If you have any questions, please give Justin Ansel a call at 269-250-8711.

Triathlete Event

Comstock Athletics sponsored the 18-19 Triathlete event which was a lock-in at Comstock High School. The Comstock triathletes split up into teams and competed in 15 different events throughout the entire evening before leaving for home exhausted at 7 a.m. A big thank you to Jason Hayes, Katie Leaders and Abby Schreiner for helping chaperone the event and making it a special night. Nice job, Triathletes!



COMSTOCK HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

INDIVIDUAL Nomination

Name of Nominee _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Work/Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____
 High School Attended _____ Year of Graduation _____
 College Attended (If Applicable) _____ Year of Graduation _____

of Varsity Letters - Boys Sports

_____ Football _____ Soccer
 _____ Tennis _____ X Country
 _____ Basketball _____ Wrestling
 _____ Bowling _____ Baseball
 _____ Track _____ Golf
 _____ Swimming _____ Hockey

of Varsity Letters - Girls Sports

_____ Volleyball _____ Golf
 _____ X Country _____ Sideline Cheer
 _____ Basketball _____ Competitive Cheer
 _____ Bowling _____ Softball
 _____ Track _____ Tennis
 _____ Soccer _____ Swimming



PLEASE USE SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER

1. Special Comstock Athletic Awards (MVP, MIP, All Conference, All State, Coach of the Year, etc.)
2. Career Highlights (Most points in game, Most goals in game, etc.)
3. College Athletic Achievements (If Applicable)
4. Athletic Involvement after H.S. and College (Professional, Officiating, Coaching, etc.)
5. Please list any other information which would be helpful to the committee.

TEAM Nomination - (Must have contact information for all team members to be considered.)

Year _____ Sport _____ Coach _____

PLEASE USE SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER

1. Names of Team Members
2. Special Team Accomplishments (Championships, Records, etc)
3. Please list any other information which would be helpful to the committee.

INDIVIDUAL or TEAM Nominated By:

Name _____ Date _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Work/Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

*Please mail this form to: Justin Ansel, Director of Athletics,
 Comstock High School, 2107 N. 26th St., Kalamazoo, MI 49048*

COMSTOCK HIGH SCHOOL FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES

Boys JV Football

Thu Aug 22	@ Bloomingdale Scrimmage	10:00AM
Wed Aug 28	@ Saugatuck High School	6:00PM
Thu Sep 5	Brandywine High School	6:00PM
Thu Sep 12	@ Constantine High School	6:00PM
Thu Sep 19	Galesburg-Augusta HS	6:00PM
Thu Sep 26	@ Berrien Springs HS	6:00PM
Thu Oct 3	@ Lee High School	6:00PM
Thu Oct 10	Parchment High School	6:00PM
Thu Oct 17	@ Buchanan HS	6:00PM
Thu Oct 24	Lawton Community Schools	6:00PM

Boys Varsity Football

Thu Aug 22	@ Bloomingdale Scrimmage	10:00AM
Thu Aug 29	Saugatuck High School	7:00PM
Fri Sep 6	@ Brandywine High School	7:00PM
Fri Sep 13	Constantine High School	7:00PM
Fri Sep 20	@ Galesburg-Augusta HS	7:00PM
Fri Sep 27	Berrien Springs HS	7:00PM
Fri Oct 4	Lee High School	7:00PM
Fri Oct 11	@ Parchment High School	7:00PM
Fri Oct 18	Buchanan HS	7:00PM
Fri Oct 25	@ Lawton Community Schools	7:00PM

Girls JV Volleyball

Sat Aug 24	Comstock JV Tournament	9:00AM
Tue Aug 27	Galesburg-Augusta HS	5:00PM
Wed Sep 4	@ Pennfield	5:15PM
Sat Sep 7	@ Portage Northern Invitational	8:00AM
Mon Sep 9	@ Lawrence Jr.-Sr. High School	5:00PM
Wed Sep 11	@ Buchanan HS	5:00PM
Wed Sep 18	Brandywine High School	5:00PM
Wed Sep 25	@ Bridgman Public Schools	5:00PM
Sat Sep 28	@ Constantine Invitational	TBA
Tue Oct 1	Berrien Springs HS	5:00PM
Thu Oct 3	@ Parchment Quad	5:30PM
Wed Oct 9	@ Parchment High School	5:00PM
Thu Oct 17	@ Quincy High School	5:30PM
Sat Oct 19	@ Schoolcraft Invitational	8:30AM
Tue Oct 22	@ Battle Creek Central HS	5:00PM

Thu Oct 24	Mendon High School	5:00PM
Mon Oct 28	@ Parchment Mini Tourney	4:00PM

Girls Varsity Volleyball

Sat Aug 24	@ Lawton Invitational	8:30AM
Tue Aug 27	Galesburg-Augusta HS	6:00PM
Wed Sep 4	@ Pennfield	6:30PM
Mon Sep 9	@ Lawrence Jr.-Sr. High School	6:00PM
Wed Sep 11	@ Buchanan HS	6:00PM
Wed Sep 18	Brandywine High School	6:00PM
Sat Sep 21	@ Decatur Invitational	9:00AM
Wed Sep 25	@ Bridgman Public Schools	6:00PM
Tue Oct 1	Berrien Springs HS	6:00PM
Thu Oct 3	@ Constantine Quad	5:30PM
Wed Oct 9	@ Parchment High School	6:00PM
Sat Oct 12	Comstock Varsity Invitational	9:00AM
Mon Oct 14	@ Parchment Mini Tourney	4:00PM
Thu Oct 17	@ Quincy High School	6:30PM
Tue Oct 22	@ Battle Creek Central HS	6:30PM
Thu Oct 24	Mendon High School	6:00PM
Sat Oct 26	@ BCS Red Division Tournament - Brandywine	9:00AM
Wed Oct 30	@ Bangor Quad w/ Martin & Watervliet	

Boys Varsity Soccer

Fri Aug 16	Bloomingdale HS	5:00PM
Mon Aug 19	Bangor Public Schools	4:00PM
Wed Aug 21	@ Delton-Kellogg HS	6:00PM
Fri Aug 23	Saugatuck High School	5:00PM
Mon Aug 26	Pennfield	6:00PM
Wed Aug 28	@ Lawton Community Schools	6:00PM
Wed Sep 4	@ Parchment High School	5:00PM
Fri Sep 6	Lawrence Jr.-Sr. High School	4:00PM
Wed Sep 11	@ Buchanan HS	5:00PM
Thu Sep 12	Hartford Public Schools	5:00PM
Mon Sep 16	Galesburg-Augusta Scrimmage	6:00PM
Wed Sep 18	Brandywine High School	5:00PM
Thu Sep 19	@ Schoolcraft High School	5:00PM
Mon Sep 23	Olivet	5:00PM
Wed Sep 25	@ Bridgman Public Schools	5:00PM

Thu Sep 26	@ Constantine High School	5:00PM
Mon Sep 30	@ Galesburg-Augusta Scrimmage	6:00PM
Wed Oct 2	Berrien Springs HS	5:00PM
Thu Oct 3	@ Coloma High School	5:00PM
Mon Oct 7	@ Vicksburg High School	6:00PM

Varsity Golf

Fri Aug 16	@ Parma Western Invitational - Arbor Hills	9:00AM
Wed Aug 21	@ Wayland Invitational - Orchard Hills	9:00AM
Mon Aug 26	@ KVA - M Lutheran Jamboree - Blossom Trails	4:00PM
Fri Sep 13	Comstock JV Golf Invite - Hickory Ridge Comstock High School	1:00PM
Tue Sep 17	BCS Comstock Jamboree - Eastern Hills Comstock High School	4:00PM
Thu Sep 19	Comstock Varsity Invite - Eastern Hills Comstock High School	10:00AM
Tue Sep 24	@ KVA - Kalamazoo Christian Jamboree - Crestview	4:00PM
Mon Sep 30	@ KVA Conference Tournament - Prairies	

Varsity Cross Country (Boys/Girls)

Tue Aug 20	@ Three Rivers Big Hill Climb	5:00PM
Fri Aug 23	@ Lawrence Early Bird Invite	10:00AM
Tue Aug 27	@ Marshall Meet at Cornwell's Turkeyville	6:00PM
Tue Sep 3	Comstock Meet w/GA,Hack,KChrist, DK Comstock High School	6:00PM
Sat Sep 7	@ Lakeview Invitational	8:00AM
Tue Sep 10	@ BCS River Valley Jamboree	5:00PM
Sat Sep 14	@ Mendon Invitational	10:00AM
Wed Sep 18	@ Lawrence Invitational	5:00PM
Tue Sep 24	@ BCS Lawrence Jamboree	5:00PM
Sat Sep 28	@ Otsego Invitational	8:00AM
Sat Oct 5	@ Allegan Invitational	9:00AM
Tue Oct 8	@ BCS Berrien Springs Jamboree	5:00PM
Sat Oct 19	@ Kalamazoo Christian Invitational	10:00AM



Hazardous Weather Communications



With hazardous weather conditions just around the corner, Comstock Public Schools is encouraging all parents to talk with their children about the possibility of school closing due to bad weather. In the event that school must be closed early on any given day, please have a plan developed with your children so they arrive home safely.

Every effort is made to make a decision to close school by 5 a.m. and to notify the news media immediately. However, the district has no control over how quickly the information is disseminated by the media.

Below is a list of the multiple ways you can be notified of early closings, or school closings:

You may sign-up to follow Tweets at <https://twitter.com/ComstockPS> regarding school closings or go to our website at www.comstockps.org.

Make sure your Infinite Campus portal is current with correct contact information in order to receive ShoutPoint notification.

For the latest school closings, turn your radio or television to the following stations:

CALL LETTERS

98.5 FM, 96.5 FM (WNWN, WFAT)

100.9 FM (WQXC)

903 AM, 1400 AM (WBCK, WRCC)

106.5 FM, 590 AM, 1470 AM (WQLR, WKZO, WQSN)

107.7 FM, 103.3 FM (WRKR, WKFR)

TV 3 WWMT-TV

TV 8 WOOD-TV

TV 4 WOTV

Notification of Compliance: The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986

The Comstock School District has completed an asbestos inspection and management plan in compliance with the Federal and State AHERA laws. Individual building survey reports and management plans are available for public inspection in the main office of each building during regular business hours. A complete report for the entire Comstock district is available for inspection in the Administration offices. For more information, contact the Superintendent's Office at 388-9384.

Pesticide Advisory

As part of the Comstock School District's Integrated Pest Management Program, pesticides are occasionally used. You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to the school grounds and buildings.

In certain emergencies, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be notified following any such application.



SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

Become a School Bus Driver! METS, the transportation employer for Comstock Public Schools, is currently hiring school bus drivers for part-time assignments starting at \$14.75 per hour.



No experience is necessary and training will be provided to qualified candidates. Apply today by sending your resume to: recruiting@contractbusdrivers.com.

For more information, please call (269) 250-8690, or toll free at (888) 996-8586

Comstock Township Library Events

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Summer Reading Program for Adults: A Universe of Stories! Don't forget to report all the books you read until August 10 for weekly drawings! The grand prize will be a gift basket full of out-of-this-world surprises!

Adult Craft: Pumpkin Bundt Pan Wreath, Wednesday, August 21, at 5:30 p.m. Paint a bundt pan orange and decorate it with trimmings in preparation for autumn! Registration is required for this free event and begins on August 5 on our website. Go to Programs and it will be under Upcoming Events. You may also register by calling 345-0136. Space is limited.

Saturday, September 14: Community Yard Sale on the Comstock Township Library Grounds, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Comstock Township Library is hosting an outdoor yard sale. Sellers may purchase a 10 x10 space for \$5. To reserve your space, please call the library at 345-0136 starting September 1. Tables, chairs and change are not available; you must bring your own. Multiple spaces can be purchased for a larger sales area. No food items, please. 30 spaces available.

Buck-A-Bag Book Sale will run September 14-September 28, 2019.

Adult Craft: Wednesday, September 18, at 5:30 p.m. Halloween Candy Jar. Get your treats ready for Halloween with an adorable candy jar. Make it as sweet or as scary as you like! Registration is required for this free event and begins on September 3 on our website. Go to Programs and it will be under Upcoming Events. You may also register by calling 345-0136. Space is limited.

Welcome the season and join **Paranormal Michigan on Wednesday, October 16, at 5:30** as they present a multimedia production on several area hauntings along with an E.V.P. (electronic voice phenomenon) and videos captured during their investigations. Registration is required for this free event and begins on September 30 on our website. Go to Programs and it will be under Upcoming Events. You may also register by calling 345-0136.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

• Wednesday, August 7: Family Dance Party with Ms. Liz at 6:30 p.m.

• Saturday, August 10: End of Summer Block Party from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Family Art: Mondays, 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. for ages 3+

Enjoy the fun and creativity of arts and crafts this summer! All children under 6 must have their adult helper with them to complete the projects. Registration is required for this free event.

DROP-IN FAMILY STORYTIME: Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. in the Township Meeting Room. All ages. Join us for a half hour of stories, rhymes, music and play. No registration is necessary for this free event. Story Times begin run through Thursday, August 8.

The following activities run through August 10: Reading Buddies: Tuesdays from 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays from 4-7 p.m. All beginning readers through elementary. Buddy up with one of our teen volunteers and take turns reading through books of your choice! One-on-one guided reading time is a great way to increase your child's reading and comprehension skills.

Tutor Time: Tuesdays from 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays from 4-7 p.m. Elementary and middle school aged children will be able to get tutored in basic subjects from our summer teen volunteers. Each child will have a 30-minute time slot. This is a drop in program, first come, first served.

Summer STEAM: Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. for ages 3+. Join us for a different STEAM activity every week! We will explore science and technology through hands-on learning. Registration is required for these free events. These projects are appropriate for school-aged kids. Any children under age 6 must have an adult helper.

TEEN TIME: Thursdays, 1:30. Grades 6-12. Join us for different teen activities and food every Thursday. Registration is required for these free events.

Please check with the Youth Department for programming in August and September as remodeling may be taking place

CLOSINGS

The library will be closed on Saturday, August 31, and Monday, September 2, for Labor Day.



Call the library to make sure we are open if there is inclement weather.



We now have tutor rooms and Wi-Fi available! Call 345-0136 for more information.



We now have a fax service! Must use credit or debit card to send.



Now Available

OverDrive! Download free audiobooks and e-books from home using your computer, MP3 player, e-book reader, and other compatible devices. Check out our OVERDRIVE eBooks and audiobooks! <https://smdl.overdrive.com/>



Computer Help

Have a question about the computer? Would you like to learn how to use the computer? Please call 345-0136 to set up a block of time for one-on-one help. Must be a library cardholder.



Need Resume Help?

Please call to schedule an appointment or visit the adult reference desk to do so. We will help you write a cover letter or resume, or just proofread one you already have. Call 345-0136 for further information. Must be a library cardholder.

