

The Comstock Communicator

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



Enjoying recess in the snow are STEM Academy students (left to right): Sunisa Saohko, Kyle Delos-Angeles, Aurora Cantarella, Miles Mayes, Kaitlyn Ballesteros, and Kathy Ballesteros.

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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MORE NEWS

*Turn over to read
Center Point*

A newsletter about the Comstock Community Center



From the Superintendent

Dear Comstock Community,

With the Thanksgiving season upon us, this is a great time for the Board of Education and the entire district to offer our most sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Comstock community. Your approval of last May's sinking fund ballot proposal has given the district much needed financial resources.

This fiscal show of faith and community support have already resulted in several successful renovation projects and the repair and restoration of our facilities, buildings, and classrooms. As Phase One ended this past year and we are now in Phase Two, now seems a good time to update you on what projects have been completed and which ones are in the works.

Here is a summary of what was accomplished during Phase 1:

- Renovated front offices at all buildings.
- Secured entries at all buildings.
- Remodeled bathrooms across the district.
- Full rebuild of the high school locker rooms.
- Repaved the high school access loop.
- Relocated five portables from Green Meadow to the STEM Academy.
- Created a driving loop with parking lot and fire lane at the STEM Academy.
- Removed playground equipment from North and Green Meadow Elementary Schools and re-installed the equipment at Comstock Elementary School.
- Improved and upgraded Green Meadow during its conversion to the Comstock Early Learning Academy which successfully opened in September.

In addition to these bond projects, the district's first sinking fund project is now finished. The north parking lot and exit road at the STEM Academy were repaved in mid-October and look amazing. Facilities director Sean Gillette will be using the balance of the first year's sinking funds next summer to replace old doors and windows across the district as well as to recarpet the entire middle school.

During Phase 2, the district will undertake three important construction and renovation projects beginning in the late spring and early summer of 2020:

- Reconstruction of Comstock High School's fire alarm system to be completed before the start of school.
- Rebuild the classrooms, library, cafeteria, stairways, and hallways at Comstock Elementary School. By the time the work is completed in December, 2021, nearly 100 percent of the interior spaces within the building will be new and all of the building, including the gymnasium will be fully air conditioned.
- Renovations at Comstock Middle School will consist of three key parts:
 - Construction of a brand new, high-school sized gymnasium to be completed by November, 2021.
 - Remodeling of science classrooms to be completed before the start of school.
 - Removing the exterior surface and replacing it with metal panelings to be completed before the start of school. The paneling will be identical in style and color to the entrance of Comstock High School. The paneling of the middle school will not only transform the look of the building, but will also enhance temperature control resulting in interior temperatures being warmer in winter and cooler in summer.

Completing these construction projects, both large and small, requires countless hours of dedication. The district counts on the expertise of a number of professional architects, construction managers, and building planners working in collaboration and cooperation with district and building administrators and staff. We are fortunate to coordinate these long-term improvement projects over three phases with GMB Architects of Holland and Miller Davis Construction of Kalamazoo.

We also extend a special thanks to Sean Gillette, facilities director, for his leadership and expertise during the completion of these projects.

The Board of Education and the staff are excited

Continued on page 3



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

Dr. Jeff Thoenes
Superintendent

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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

about what the future holds for our facilities and invite you to help spread the word of the good that will come.

If you have any questions about our bond or sinking fund projects, 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.

Moreover, if you happen to see me at a school event or in the community, please take the time to say “Hi” and allow me to introduce myself. I look forward to our conversation!

Dr. Jeffrey J. Thoenes
Superintendent
“It’s a great day to be a Colt!”

Board Briefs

REGULAR MEETING

September 9, 2019

- Reognized Sean Gillette, facilities director and his staff for all their hard work in getting the buildings ready for students and staff.
- Justin Ansel, athletic director, presented an overview of the athletic program.
- Dave Campbell, KRESA superintendent, presented information about the Career and Technical Education initiative.
- Approved resignation of Brianna Griffiths, CMS physical education teacher.
- Approved Amy Eckles as CES special education resource room teacher.
- Approved Peggy Kurpinski as CHS special education teacher.
- Approved Angela Hovda as a ninth grade English teacher at CHS.
- Approved May 22, 2020, as the last day for seniors.
- Approved Steve Edison as director of finance.
- Approved Trustee Dory Scholly as the board’s voting delegate to the MASB Delegate Assembly with President Pamela Dickinson as the alternate.
- Moved into closed session to discuss negotiations with the CEA.

REGULAR MEETING

September 23, 2019

- Approved Lydia Kirkpatrick as speech pathologist at CES.
- Approved Jennifer Johnson as the GRSP preschool teacher.
- Approved Sherria VanSparrentak as CES kindergarten teacher.
- Approved the 2019-2020 calendar.
- Approved a resolution in support of KalamazooRESA placing the Career and Technical Education millage proposition on the November 5 ballot.
- Moved into closed session to discuss negotiations with the CEA.

Comstock Early Learning Academy and Kalamazoo RESA invite you to our

FRIDAY PLAYGROUP

**Ages 4
and under**

**Fridays
10am-11am**

Except on days when
CELA is closed



Playgroups are a chance for parents with young children to get together with other parents to have some fun! Highly qualified early childhood staff will be on hand to guide the playgroup, and answer questions about development and local resources. Educators will share a story and some songs and activities with families.



COMSTOCK

EARLY LEARNING ACADEMY

6171 East MN Avenue | Kalamazoo, MI 49048 | 269-250-8960



Comstock High School

Zeus Teaches CHS Students about Service Dogs

Zeus, a service dog from Paws With a Cause, recently visited Steve Rand's functional academics class at the high school.

With his handler, Karen Stevens, Zeus taught the students about what service dogs do through the program.

Students watched as Zeus obeyed Mrs. Stevens' commands, showing what he can do with disabled clients. For example, hearing the command "under", Zeus crawled under a desk and lay down so that he was out of the way.

Students also learned they can host a puppy for a year before he is sent to school to be trained as a service dog whether it's a therapy dog, seeing eye dog, hearing dog, seizure dog, or emotional support dog.

"The students loved how friendly Zeus was and how calm he was around so many people," said Mr. Rand.

According to the organization's website, pawswithacause.org, the program "enhances the independence and quality of life for people with disabilities nationally through custom-trained Assistance Dogs. PAWS® increases awareness of the rights and roles of Assistance Dog Teams through education and advocacy."



Karen Stevens and her dog Zeus visit with Steve Rand's functional academics class at the high school.

Comstock Public Schools 2019-2020 School Calendar

| | | | |
|----------------|---|---|---|
| December 5 | Comstock High School Conferences | 3:00-7:00 p.m. | |
| December 12 | Comstock Middle School Conferences | 3:00-7:00 p.m. | |
| Dec. 23–Jan. 3 | WINTER RECESS | | |
| January 21-23 | Half Day Students K-12 (High School Exams) | | Half Day Students/Teachers |
| January 24 | PD A.M./K-12 Records Day P.M. (End of 1st Semester) | | No Students |
| February 22 | MID-WINTER BREAK | | No Students /Teachers |
| March 5 | CHS Conferences | 3:00-7:00 p.m. | |
| March 17 | Comstock Elementary & STEM Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. (CES) 3:00-7:00 p.m. (STEM) | |
| March 19 | Comstock Elementary & STEM Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. (CES) 3:00-7:00 p.m. (STEM) | |
| March 20 | Half Day Students AM/Teacher PD P.M. | | Half Day Students A.M./ Teacher PD P.M. |
| April 3-10 | SPRING BREAK | | No Students/Teachers |
| May 7 | Comstock High School Conferences | 3:00-7:00 p.m. | |
| May 14 | Comstock Middle School Conferences | 3:00-7:00 p.m. | |
| May 25 | MEMORIAL DAY | | No Students / No Staff |
| June 8-10 | Half Day Students K-12 (High School Exams) | | Half Day Students & Teachers K-12 |
| June 10 | LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS Records Day P.M. | | Half Day Students A.M./ Staff Records Day P.M. |

Comstock High School

Senior Submit College Applications During 'College Month'

During this fall's "College Month," Comstock seniors submitted 205 applications to 28 in-state institutions and 29 out-of-state institutions. Additionally, because Comstock is a no-cost meal district, CHS seniors saved \$4,390 in application fees through fee waiver eligibility.

Some schools leading the way in applications are Kalamazoo Valley Community College where every graduating senior applied; Western Michigan University with 15 applications; Michigan State University with 10; and Saginaw Valley State University with 8.

Leading the way in out-of-state applications were Arizona State University with 5 and Spelman College with 3.

Now, seniors await financial aid award letters from the schools where they have been accepted in order to calculate their cost of college at these schools. First, they must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

If you know a CHS senior who has yet to submit their FAFSA, direct them to CHS Post Secondary Dean, Mr. Cotter.

The "College Month" event is a partnership with the Michigan College Access Network (MCAN). This initiative encourages and guides all graduating seniors towards the completion of applications to post secondary institutions. These applications include all types of programs and institutions including four-year schools, two-year schools, trade certifications programs, and other post-secondary programs.

Star Teacher of the Week Rewards CHS Staff

A new program at the high school, Star Teacher of the Week, rewards staff members for their outstanding qualities and the positive effect they have on others.

Students nominate staff members for this award. So far, awards have gone to Robert Nolan, science teacher; Lisa Boyer, ISS teacher; Jason Hayes, physical education and English teacher; and Traci Spada, math teacher.



News from the Band of Blue

The Band's annual WINTER CONCERT will be Wednesday, December 18, at 7 p.m., in the Community Auditorium. Come hear all of the bands play some great music.

The Band of Blue is growing. We started with 58 new students this year, and there have even been recent talks of trying to expand the program into fifth grade. This is certainly wonderful, but it does present a few challenges as well.

Our program's goal is that no child will ever miss out on participating in band due to financial difficulties. In order to accomplish this, though, we need enough instruments to go around. Several generous community members have helped us to get enough instruments for this year, but we would like to start plans now to make sure all of our students have instruments in the future. Do you have an old instrument sitting in a closet gathering dust? We would be happy to pick it up, get it repaired if necessary, and put it to many years of good use. Please contact Mr. Fritz at fritzj@comstockps.org to make the arrangements. Thank you so much in advance for considering it!

THE BAND OF BLUE WILL BE GOING TO DISNEY in April, 2020. To help defray the costs, we will be doing several fundraisers between now and then. Annual Apple Pie Sale - Sample Mr. Fritz's special recipe homemade take-n-bake apple pies. Each pie is handmade by students and volunteers and they always get rave reviews. The cost is only \$10 and 100% of the proceeds supports the band program and our Disney trip.

POP CAN DRIVE - Saturday, December 7, from Noon- 4 p.m. The Band will be sending crews to as many local neighborhoods as we can cover to solicit pop can donations. If you have a significant quantity to donate, please contact Mr. Fritz at fritzj@comstockps.org and he will make sure we get a crew over to you.

CONCESSIONS AT HOME GAMES - Come get your snacks and drinks at any home basketball game to support the Band Boosters and the Disney trip. Donations to the scholarship fund are gladly accepted.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND - Mr. Fritz is accepting donations for a scholarship fund. In order to be eligible, students must demonstrate a financial need and must diligently work at least two fundraisers on their own behalf. Scholarships will be given one week prior to the final payment due date.

THE COMSTOCK WEST AFRICAN DRUM ENSEMBLE will be starting again in February. Current students are given first chance for spots, but there will very likely be some extra openings for interested community members. Contact Mr. Fritz to be put on the mailing list.

Thanks, Comstock community, for all of your wonderful support! We are working hard to make our community proud, and it would not be possible without your help. Please contact Mr. Fritz for more information about any of our activities.

STEM Academy

Students Enjoy Night of Flight at WMU



Congratulations to the student engineers who created a paper airplane that flew the farthest at Night of Flight. They earned a 3D printed trophy designed STEM Academy art teacher, Jeannine Roys.



Lelu Loenichen, third grader, created the t-shirt logo used at this year's Night of Flight.

STEM students and their families recently experienced a "Night of Flight" at Western Michigan University's College of Aviation. Students experienced flight simulators, understood the science required in flight, learned the aviation alphabet, walked inside a Boeing 737 "FedEx" plane, and created a paper airplane.

With their paper airplanes, students participated in a paper airplane contest in the maintenance hangar. Students were organized by grade levels to challenge each other to see whose paper airplane could go the farthest.

Even the adults had a group. Winners received a 3D printed trophy created by Mrs. Roys, STEM Academy art teacher.

Third-grade teacher Ann Swinehart, co-chair of the event, holds a t-shirt contest every year for the event. This year's winner was third grader, Lelu Loenichen.

"It's one of my favorite nights of the school year," said Ms. Swinehart. "I love the smiles and laughter that Night of Flight provides my children and their families. In addition, there's the exposure that Tom (Thinnes) and his students provide them at such a young age."

Tom Thinnes, Western Michigan University recruitment and outreach manager, is also a co-chair of the event, bringing in WMU aviation students to lead small group sessions.



Aubrianna Kirsch, first grader, learns about high and low pressure with the WMU students during the Night of Flight.



Landon Napier, first grader, creates a paper airplane to be flown in the contest.



Mother/Son Bowling

Boys of any age with their Mothers!
A grand night of Bowling, Pizza and Fun!

Saturday, February 8, 2020

12 to 2 p.m.

Check-in begins at 11:15 a.m.

Eastland Bowl

\$23/couple and \$7/extra son

Includes 2 hours of bowling, shoe rental, pizza and cookies.

More information – Call Ramon DeLeon at 277-4693

Registration/Money due by Wednesday, February 5.

We have to CAP at 148 people.

Mother/Son Bowling Registration Form

Return by mail to:

Comstock High School

Attn: Ramon DeLeon

2107 N. 26th St.

Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Mother's name _____

Son's/Sons' name(s) & grade(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ School _____

Bumpers needed: Yes or No (circle one)

If you wish to bowl with another family, check in together day of event.

Please make checks payable to: Comstock Athletics
Pre-registered names will be at the registration table.
No tickets will be sent!

***In the case of inclement weather, cancellations will be on TV.

STEM Academy

Third Graders Host Tea for Grandparents



Students and their grandparents gather for a group photo at the Grandparents Day tea.



Each student stood up to ask a question about what third grade was like for the grandparents.



Third grade students introduced themselves and welcomed each grandparent to the event.

Third graders in Mrs. Swinehart's class invited their grandparents for an afternoon of iced tea and conversation this fall. The children prepared questions that allowed the grandparents to describe how third grade was for them.

During the tea, the grandparents even asked questions about their grandchildren's experiences in third grade.

Afterwards, the children wrote and mailed thank you letters to the grandparents.

STEM Academy

Academy Students to Interview Author

STEM Academy seventh graders will be interviewing Dr Padma Vankatraman, author of *The Bridge Home*, a book the students read during their participation in the Global Read Aloud program (GRA).

The sixth through eighth graders in Mrs. Tennant's English class spent six weeks in the program, joining over 1.5 million students around the world in reading the same book.

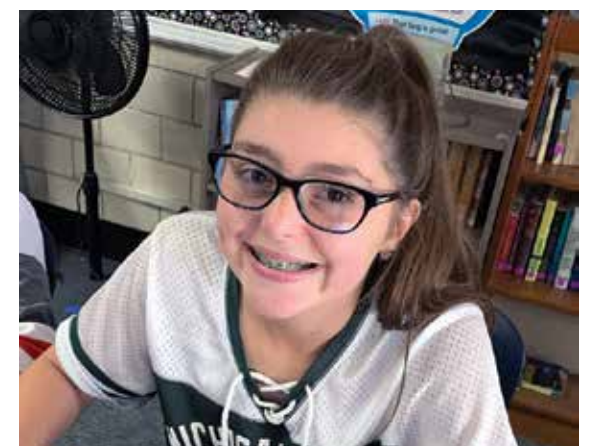
The story focuses on the plight of homeless children in India and what they have to do to survive daily life on the streets.

Students also made global connections through a postcard exchange and participation in video discussions using Flipgrid.

The opportunity to interview the author is the result of Mrs. Tennant winning a contest for the Skype interview. Students are excited to ask the author all the questions they have about the book.



Issac Gostlin



Sophia Moncel

Compass High School

It's Not Too Late to Register for Adult Ed!

Make finishing your high school education your winter project! Comstock Compass High School is still registering for GED and high school completion classes for adults ages 22 and up. We offer classes Monday-Thursday 8-11 a.m. and Noon- 3 p.m.

We also have an open lab on Fridays from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.. Please stop in during any of the class times with photo ID and a \$20 enrollment fee to register.

Questions? Call 269-250-8930 for more details!

STEM Academy

STEM Academy Students Raise Funds to Send Student to School

Having participated in the Global Read Aloud (GRA) program, STEM Academy sixth graders are doing a service project to help students in either Guatemala or Zimbabwe.

During the week of December 9-11, students will be conducting a fundraiser selling bracelets as part of Yuda Bands, a non-profit organization through which students sell handmade bracelets made by fair-trade artisans in Guatemala.

The funds raised will be used to send a Guatemalan or Zimbabwean student to school. The bracelets cost \$7, and will be sold at lunchtime.

The sixth graders will be given the name of a specific student for whom they are raising money and will Skype with the student and learn about what his or her life is like.

This is the perfect service project to go along with the book students read, *The Bridge Home*, as two of the characters make necklaces to try and survive, and one of those two characters has aspirations to attend school and become a teacher someday. The sixth graders are very excited about this project, and the idea of helping another student get an education.

This project has been really eye opening for the students as it is easy to take our free education for granted when there are millions of children around the world who wish they could go to school.

If you'd like to learn more about the Yuda Band project, here is their website: <https://www.yudabands.org/>



Yuda Bands will be sold to help send a student to school in either Guatemala or Zimbabwe.

Comstock Elementary

School Receives \$15,000 for Arts Education

Comstock Elementary School has been awarded \$15,000 to fund its Leading Education through the Arts & Discovery (LEAD) Project. The Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs awarded one of its largest awards for the school's project.

Last spring, Shawn McMeekan and Wendy Shreve, the school's Aesthetic Education Coordinators worked with the director of EFA's Aesthetic Education program, Kevin Dodd, and two of the program's teaching artists, Mary Whalen and Sandy Davis, to design the project and submit the school's grant proposal.

The LEAD Project makes it possible for each of the school's classroom teachers to team with professional teaching artists (theater, visual arts, and dance) from the community for four units of instruction in the arts this year.

Each unit will provide students with lessons that will prepare them to view and appreciate a quality work of art being presented in the community. Students will engage in the art form themselves and be asked to make the same kinds of decisions the professional artists would have made when creating their own work of art. These experiences will build each student's capacity for appreciating the arts and the impact they can have on our community.

The students have already completed their first unit, which prepared them to see the KIA's guest exhibit, "Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem."

The remaining three units will prepare students to see the stage show "Superman 2050" by Theater Unspeakable, a performance by "Dance Theatre of Harlem," and EFA's exhibit "Moving Parts- Balancing Act" on the campus of Kalamazoo College.

This project is supported in part by an award from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.



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

Father/Daughter Winter Dance

Girls of any age with their Fathers!
A grand night of Dancing, Games and Food!

Saturday, February 8, 2020
at Comstock High School

Dancing and games from 6-8:30 p.m.
Pizza and refreshments served from 6-7 p.m.

\$25/couple and \$5/extra daughter

Professional photographs available at an extra charge
beginning at 5:30 p.m.

More information – Call Natalie Miles at 808-3463

Advance registration highly recommended
to help us get an accurate count for food.

Father / Daughter Dance Registration Form

Return by mail to:
Comstock High School
Attn: Natalie Miles
2107 N. 26th St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Father _____

Daughter _____

Phone _____ Daughter's Current Grade _____

School _____

Please make checks payable to: Comstock Athletics
Pre-registered names will be at the registration table.
No tickets will be sent!

****In the case of inclement weather, cancellations will be on TV*

Blood Drives Scheduled

Comstock High School's National Honor Society is hosting blood drives during the 2019-20 school year. Money earned from these blood drives will be used for the Leader In Me Scholarship for a student from the graduating class of 2020.

These blood drives will be held in the Colt Center at Comstock High School from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the following dates:

Monday, December 16
Wednesday, March 25

If you would like to schedule a time to donate, or have further questions, please e-mail Colleen Grueter at GrueterC@comstockps.org.

SAVE A LIFE



GIVE BLOOD

Community Auditorium Events Open to the Public

December:

- 9 - Comstock STEM/ Northeast Middle/ Choir Concert, 7 p.m., Free.
- 10 - Comstock High School Choir Concert, 7 p.m., Free.
- 11 - Word of Life Christmas Tour, 7 p.m., Tickets at the door.
- 13 - Kazoo School Winter Concert, 6 p.m., Free.
- 16 - Blood Drive, Colt Center, 7 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 17 - West Michigan Homeschool Fine Arts Concert, 7 p.m. (includes band, orchestra, choir) \$3, at the door.
- 18 - Comstock NEMS/High School Holiday Band Concert, 7 p.m., Free.

January:

- 9 - Kalamazoo Christian Middle School Play, 7 p.m., Free.
- 25 - Kalamazoo County Fire Chiefs Winter Seminar, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Comstock Ski and Snowboard Club Information



Here's how it works...

Bittersweet Card Members buy a Bittersweet Card for \$18. They show this card at Bittersweet every time they go. The discount card provides a large reduction off lift tickets and equipment rentals, if needed. So the membership card helps a lot with cost! Ski Club Bus

For students who want to ride the Ski Club bus, the bus will leave the high school after school, go to CMS to pick up the middle school club members, and then head out to Bittersweet. The bus will depart Bittersweet at 7:45 p.m. and return to the high school for parent pick-up at 8:20 p.m. The first Ski Club trip is scheduled for Thursday, January 9.

Waivers & money due on Friday, December 6

COSTS FOR SEASON:

Membership card = \$18 (pay one time) (Bittersweet waiver and money due on 12/6)
Lift ticket = 7 trips x \$18 = \$126 (Pay \$18 at window each time you go; no pre-pay)
Equipment rental (skis/snowboard - 7 trips x \$18 = \$126) (Pay \$18 at window each time you go; no pre-pay)

TOTALS FOR SEASON:

\$252 for season (if renting skis & riding bus) (\$126+\$126=\$252)
\$252 for season (if renting snowboard & riding bus) (same as above)
\$144 for season (if already have equipment & riding bus) (\$126+\$18+\$144)
\$144 for season (if have equipment & driving on own) (\$126+\$18=\$144)

What to get in to Comstock High School:

(Please place the following in an envelope with your name on it):
Bittersweet Waiver with \$18 (check made out to "BITTERSWEET SKI RESORT") These forms must be filled out. They cannot be turned in at Bittersweet. They must be given to Ski Club helper at your school to be turned in.
• Chelsie Taylor at CHS • Dr. Munger at CMS • Mr. Chopp at STEM

OPEN TO ANYONE

The Comstock Ski & Snowboard Club is open to anyone, ages 7 years to adults. You don't have to go to Comstock, or live in Comstock. Anyone can buy the \$18 membership card and get the discounts.

Here's to some fun and great shredding on the slopes this winter. Michigan is one of the greatest winter wonderlands so what are you waiting for? Get out and play.

If you don't know how to ski or snowboard, don't worry. We teach you, and you receive two free lessons with your membership cards, a \$100 value!

Athletic Department News

Hall of Fame Induction Banquet

The 2020 Hall of Fame induction banquet will be held on Saturday, April 25, at the WMU Fetzer Center. Doors will open at 5 p.m. with dinner starting at 6 p.m. followed by the induction at 7 p.m. Tickets to this great event can be purchased from the Comstock Athletic Office for \$25. Come support these great Comstock alumni and coaches and visit with family and friends. The deadline to purchase tickets is April 20.

Father-Daughter Dance

The Father-Daughter dance will be held on Saturday, February 8, from 6-8:30 p.m. at Comstock High School. Pictures can be taken at 5:30 p.m. Food will be served from 6-7 p.m. Please return the registration form, found on page 9 of this newsletter, by January 31 to help us get an accurate count for food. The competitive cheer team will be hosting the event this year. Please call Natalie Miles at 269-808-3463 for more information.

Mother-Son Bowling Event

The Mother-Son bowling event will be held on Saturday, February 8, from Noon-2 p.m. Check-in begins at 11:15 a.m. at Eastland Bowl. Please return the registration form, found on page 6 of this newsletter, by Wednesday, February 5. It includes two hours of bowling, shoe rental, pizza and cookies. Please call Ray DeLeon at 269-277-4693 with any questions.

Girls Cross Country State Qualifier

Congratulations to freshman Lydia Krus for making it to the state cross country meet. She did a wonderful job representing Comstock finishing with her best time of the season and in 60th place against over 200 runners. Congratulations on a great season.



COMSTOCK HIGH SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

Boys Varsity Basketball

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Tue, Dec 10 | @ Vicksburg High School | 7:15 PM |
| Fri, Dec 13 | Buchanan HS | 7:30 PM |
| Fri, Dec 20 | @ Brandywine High School | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Jan 7 | Allegan Public Schools | 7:15 PM |
| Wed, Jan 8 | Saugatuck High School | 7:00 PM |
| Tue, Jan 14 | @ Kalamazoo Christian HS | 7:00 PM |
| Fri, Jan 17 | Berrien Springs HS | 7:30 PM |
| Fri, Jan 24 | @ Bridgman Public Schools | 7:15 PM |
| Tue, Jan 28 | Olivet | 7:00 PM |
| Fri, Jan 31 | Parchment High School | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Feb 4 | @ Hastings High School | 7:00 PM |
| Fri, Feb 7 | @ Buchanan HS | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Feb 11 | Gobles High School | 7:00 PM |
| Fri, Feb 14 | Brandywine High School | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Feb 18 | @ Constantine High School | 6:30 PM |
| Fri, Feb 21 | @ Berrien Springs HS | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Feb 25 | Paw Paw | 7:30 PM |
| Fri, Feb 28 | Bridgman Public Schools | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Mar 3 | Gull Lake High School | 7:30 PM |
| Thu, Mar 5 | @ Parchment High School | 7:30 PM |

Girls Varsity Basketball

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Tue, Dec 3 | Vicksburg High School | 7:00 PM |
| Fri, Dec 6 | @ Parchment High School | 7:30 PM |
| Fri, Dec 13 | Buchanan HS | 6:00 PM |
| Fri, Dec 20 | @ Brandywine High School | 6:00 PM |
| Tue, Jan 7 | @ Allegan Public Schools | 5:30 PM |
| Wed, Jan 8 | @ Saugatuck High School | 7:00 PM |
| Tue, Jan 14 | Kalamazoo Christian HS | 6:30 PM |
| Fri, Jan 17 | Berrien Springs HS | 6:00 PM |
| Tue, Jan 21 | @ Portage Northern | 5:45 PM |
| Thu, Jan 23 | @ Bridgman Public Schools | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Jan 28 | @ Olivet | 7:00 PM |
| Fri, Jan 31 | Parchment High School | 6:00 PM |
| Tue, Feb 4 | Harper Creek High School | 6:30 PM |
| Fri, Feb 7 | @ Buchanan HS | 6:00 PM |
| Tue, Feb 11 | @ Gobles High School | 7:00 PM |
| Fri, Feb 14 | Brandywine High School | 6:00 PM |
| Tue, Feb 18 | Constantine High School | 6:30 PM |
| Thu, Feb 20 | @ Berrien Springs HS | 7:00 PM |
| Tue, Feb 25 | Paw Paw | 6:00 PM |
| Fri, Feb 28 | Bridgman Public Schools | 6:00 PM |

Boys Junior Varsity Basketball

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Tue, Dec 10 | Vicksburg @ High School | 5:45 PM |
| Thu, Dec 12 | Buchanan HS | 7:30 PM |
| Thu, Dec 19 | @ Brandywine High School | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Jan 7 | Allegan Public Schools | 5:45 PM |
| Wed, Jan 8 | Saugatuck High School | 5:30 PM |
| Tue, Jan 14 | @ Kalamazoo Christian HS | 5:30 PM |
| Thu, Jan 16 | Berrien Springs HS | 7:30 PM |
| Fri, Jan 24 | @ Bridgman Public Schools | 5:45 PM |
| Tue, Jan 28 | Olivet | 5:30 PM |
| Thu, Jan 30 | Parchment High School | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Feb 4 | @ Hastings High School | 5:30 PM |
| Fri, Feb 7 | @ Buchanan HS | 4:30 PM |

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Tue, Feb 11 | Gobles High School | 5:30 PM |
| Thu, Feb 13 | Brandywine High School | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Feb 18 | @ Constantine High School | 5:00 PM |
| Fri, Feb 21 | @ Berrien Springs HS | 6:00 PM |
| Mon, Feb 24 | @ Paw Paw | 6:30 PM |
| Thu, Feb 27 | Bridgman Public Schools | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Mar 3 | Gull Lake High School | 6:00PM |
| Thu, Mar 5 | @ Parchment High School | 6:00 PM |

Girls Junior Varsity Basketball

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Tue, Dec 3 | Vicksburg High School | 5:30 PM |
| Fri, Dec 6 | @ Parchment High School | 6:00 PM |
| Fri, Dec 13 | Buchanan HS | 4:30 PM |
| Fri, Dec 20 | @ Brandywine High School | 4:30 PM |
| Tue, Jan 7 | @ Allegan Public Schools | 5:30 PM |
| Wed, Jan 8 | @ Saugatuck High School | 5:30 PM |
| Tue, Jan 14 | Kalamazoo Christian HS | 5:00 PM |
| Fri, Jan 17 | Berrien Springs HS | 4:30 PM |
| Tue, Jan 21 | @ Portage Northern | 4:15 PM |
| Thu, Jan 23 | @ Bridgman Public Schools | 6:00 PM |
| Tue, Jan 28 | @ Olivet | 5:30 PM |
| Fri, Jan 31 | Parchment High School | 4:30 PM |
| Tue, Feb 4 | Harper Creek High School | 5:00 PM |
| Thu, Feb 6 | @ Buchanan HS | 7:30 PM |
| Tue, Feb 11 | @ Gobles High School | 5:30 PM |
| Fri, Feb 14 | Brandywine High School | 4:30 PM |
| Tue, Feb 18 | Constantine High School | 5:00 PM |
| Thu, Feb 20 | @ Berrien Springs HS | 5:30 PM |
| Tue, Feb 25 | Paw Paw | 4:30 PM |
| Fri, Feb 28 | Bridgman Public Schools | 4:30 PM |

Boys/Girls Varsity Bowling

| | | |
|-------------|---|---------|
| Mon, Dec 9 | @ Coloma HS (St. Joe Kelly's Bowl) | 4:00 PM |
| Wed, Dec 11 | @ Saugatuck HS (Alleys - Douglas) | 4:00 PM |
| Mon, Dec 16 | Martin Public School (Eastland Bowl) | 4:00 PM |
| Wed, Dec 18 | Schoolcraft HS (Eastland Bowl) | 4:00 PM |
| Mon, Jan 6 | Parchment HS (Eastland Bowl) | 4:00 PM |
| Wed, Jan 8 | Burr Oak High School (Eastland Bowl) | 4:00 PM |
| Mon, Jan 13 | @ Bronson Junior/Senior HS (Bronson Strike Zone) | 4:00 PM |
| Wed, Jan 15 | Kal. Christian HS (Eastland Bowl) | 4:00 PM |
| Mon, Jan 20 | Coloma High School (Eastland Bowl) | 4:00 PM |
| Wed, Jan 22 | Saugatuck High School (Eastland Bowl) | 4:00 PM |
| Mon, Jan 27 | @ Martin Public School (Rock n' Bowl) | 3:30 PM |
| Wed, Jan 29 | @ Schoolcraft HS (Continental) | 3:00 PM |
| Mon, Feb 3 | @ Parchment HS (Eastland Bowl) | 4:00 PM |
| Wed, Feb 5 | @ Hackett Catholic Prep (Continental) | 4:00 PM |
| Mon, Feb 10 | Galesburg-Augusta HS (Eastland Bowl) | 4:00 PM |
| Thu, Feb 13 | @ Constantine HS (South Lanes in TR) | 4:00 PM |
| Fri, Feb 21 | @ Post-Season SAC Tourney (Airway) | 9:00 AM |

Girls Varsity Competitive Cheer

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Sat, Jan 11 | @ Gull Lake Invitational | 11:00 AM |
| Sat, Jan 18 | @ Paw Paw Invitational | 10:00 AM |
| Wed, Jan 22 | @ BCS Lawrence Jamboree | 6:00 PM |
| Sat, Jan 25 | @ Otsego Invitational | 9:00 AM |
| Wed, Jan 29 | BCS Comstock Jamboree | 6:00 PM |

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Sat, Feb 1 | @ Harper Creek Invitational | 10:00 AM |
| Wed, Feb 5 | @ BCS Parchment Jamboree | 6:00 PM |
| Sat, Feb 8 | @ PC Cheer Fest | 10:00 AM |
| Sat, Feb 15 | @ BCS Conference Meet - Buchanan | TBA |
| Fri, Feb 21 | @ MHSAA District at Paw Paw or 2-22 | TBA |

Boys Varsity Wrestling

| | | |
|-------------|---|---------|
| Wed, Dec 11 | @ Kalamazoo Central Quad | 5:00 PM |
| Fri, Dec 13 | @ Olivet Invitational | 5:00 PM |
| Wed, Dec 18 | @ Gull Lake Quad | 6:00 PM |
| Sat, Dec 21 | @ Gull Lake Invitational | 9:00 AM |
| Sat, Dec 28 | Comstock Varsity Invitational | 9:30 AM |
| Thu, Jan 9 | @ Galesburg-Augusta Tri | 5:00 PM |
| Sat, Jan 11 | @ Parchment Invitational | 9:00 AM |
| Wed, Jan 15 | @ BCS Lawrence Quad w/ Berrien Springs | 6:00 PM |
| Sat, Jan 18 | Comstock V Team Invitational | 9:30 AM |
| Wed, Jan 22 | BCS Comstock Quad vs NB & RV | 6:00 PM |
| Fri, Jan 24 | Comstock Invitational | 4:00 PM |
| Wed, Jan 29 | @ BCS Buchanan Quad w/ Brandywine | 6:00 PM |
| Wed, Feb 5 | @ BCS Parchment Dual | 6:00 PM |
| Sat, Feb 8 | @ BCS Conference Tournament at Brandywine | 9:00 AM |
| Wed, Feb 12 | @ MHSAA District at Parchment | TBA |
| Sat, Feb 15 | @ MHSAA Individual District at Constantine | TBA |



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

Join the Comstock Township Library on Saturday, December 7, from 1 - 3 p.m. for our annual **Holiday Open House**. Enjoy holiday cookies, cider, a performance by the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra's Jazz Trio; meet Mrs. Claus, make a children's craft, play children's games, decorate sugar cookies, and see live reindeer. The reindeer will be outside, so, please dress warmly. Please bring your camera, as pictures with Mrs. Claus and the reindeer will be allowed.

Adult Craft: Wednesday, December 18, at 5:30 p.m. Mason Jar Luminaries. Add a little extra glow to your holiday season this year. So pretty, so easy, and made from items you probably already have around the house, Mason jar luminaries are sure to brighten up your Winter Wonderland. Registration is required for this free event and begins December 4 on our website. Go to "Programs" and it will be under "Upcoming Events." You may also register by calling 345-0136. Space is limited.

Adult Program: Wednesday, January 8, at 5:30 p.m. Self-Care Through Journaling. Was one of your New Year's resolutions to get more organized? Then this is a great time to start journaling! We will provide you with a journal and some materials to decorate it, as well as give you some basic information on how to organize yourself with a bullet journal. If bullet journaling isn't your jam, feel free to use this journal to jot down ideas, record your dreams, or write about your feelings. Tea and cocoa will also be provided for maximum self-care relaxation. Registration is required for this free event and begins December 26 on our website. Go to "Programs" and it will be under "Upcoming Events." You may also register by calling 345-0136. Space is limited.

Adult Craft: Thursday, January 23, at 6 p.m. Happy Our Art will be here for a guided-canvas painting. Registration is required for this free event and begins on our website on January 6. Go to "Programs" and it will be under "Upcoming Events." You may also register by calling 345-0136. Space is limited.

YOUTH & TEEN EVENTS

STORY TIMES: Ages 0-6. Story times include a half hour of stories, songs, rhymes and other early literacy activities. Each story time is tailored to a specific age group but younger or older siblings are always encouraged to attend as well. Each story time is followed by a sensory play time that lasts around 20 minutes. Story times will wrap up for the holiday season on December 6.

Mondays: 10:30-11:15 a.m., Preschool Story time
Tuesdays: 10:30-11:15 a.m., Wee Ones Story time
Wednesdays: 10:30-11:15 a.m., Toddler Story time
Thursdays: 10:30-11 a.m., *NEW* Musical Mayhem
1-1:45 p.m. - Preschool S.T.E.A.M (registration required)

***NEW* Musical Mayhem:** Ages 0-6. Get ready to wiggle and rock with fun action songs, musical instruments, parachute time and a short story. Parents and siblings are encouraged to join in! This is a drop in program every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. during story time sessions.

Toddler Tunnel Play: Do your kiddos need something to do while we break for story time? We'll have our toddler tunnels and blow ups set up for drop-in play starting December 9.

1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN: Reading to your children at a young age is the single most important thing parents can do to help their children become successful readers as they get older. Comstock Township Library is encouraging parents to read 1,000 books to their young children before they begin kindergarten. All children can participate until they enter kindergarten. Pick up your tracking sheet at the Youth Desk today.

Gingerbread Houses: Saturday, December 14, at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Decorate your own small gingerbread house with candies and frosting. Let us provide all the supplies, while you decorate a unique gingerbread house to take home. Children under 5 must have an adult to help them. Registration is required for this free event and is open to all ages.

Half Day Craft Day: January 21, 22 and 23 - all day. Comstock Public Schools are dismissing early! Stop by the library for drop in crafts all day.

Dungeons and Dragons Club: December 10 and January 7 and 21, at 5:30 p.m. Are you curious about the game Dungeons and Dragons? Have you played D&D before, but need a new group? Hang out with our all-ages group as we adventure our way through campaigns and one-shots. This program is recommended for patrons 10 and up and is drop-in.

T(w)een Drop in Video Gaming: Wednesday, December 18 and January 15, at 3:30 p.m. Drop by and test your gaming skills on various Nintendo Switch games. Open to ages 11 and up or grades sixth through twelfth.

CLOSINGS

The library will be closed on Tuesday, December 24, and Wednesday, December 25. The library will close at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31, and remain closed on January 1, 2020.

Please confirm library hours before venturing out in inclement weather.



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.

T(w)een Drop-in Volunteer Hours. Need volunteer hours during the school year? Our teen volunteer program is super flexible and works around your busy school schedule. Drop in to talk to Miss Traci or Miss Liz and we'll get you started with a volunteer application.

T(w)een Ninjabread Houses: Monday, December 23, at 7 p.m. Build a gingerbread house and decorate cookie ninjas! Registration required. Open to ages 11 and up or grades sixth through twelfth.