



From the Superintendent

Dear Comstock Community,

It's a great day to be a Colt!

Hopefully, you're familiar with this phrase or will soon recognize it as our informal Comstock slogan. As the educational leader of the District, I'm proud to be Colt, and I hope you and your children are as well. It's my goal to instill a strong sense of school spirit throughout our learning community and Kalamazoo County.

What do I mean by school spirit? School spirit relates to a person's visible pride in his or her school, that is then channeled to inspire others to do the same. This type of connection and engagement often translates into community support after graduation.

School spirit is not limited to sports, cheerleading, or an occasional fun-filled Spirit Week. Students can feel pride in belonging to a variety of curricular and extracurricular clubs and activities.

Why school spirit? *In a survey conducted by Harris Poll and commissioned by Varsity Brands, 1,500 individuals were asked about school pride, academics, self-esteem and community involvement. The research attempted to discover how school spirit is connected to the way high school students learn, lead and grow. The data indicated that "in addition to showing support for their school, high school students with "school spirit" perform better academically, are more engaged in social and civic matters, and are happier in general than their less-spirited peers." I'm sure our CPS staff have plenty of anecdotes to share about how school spirit can make a difference.

I wear my Colt spirit gear with pride. Everywhere I go, whether it's the local grocery store, the downtown mall, a sporting event, or a concert, my Colt insignia is a conversa-

tion starter. Sometimes I'm asked if I work for Comstock. Most often people share a personal connection: one of their kids is a CPS student, or they themselves graduated from CPS. Sometimes it's a family member who worked or is currently working for CPS.

Let's begin our 2023-24 school year with a commitment to bolstering our school spirit. I invite the entire community to join us for the Grand Opening and Ribbon-cutting Ceremony at the Hamet Athletic Complex on Thursday, August 24. Our hometown Colts will be taking on the Schoolcraft Eagles in the first football game of the year. Tailgating will start at 5 p.m. followed by the ribbon-cutting ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Game time is 7 p.m. In honor of former Superintendent Dr. Bob Hamet, popcorn will be free for all fans at this game.

The Comstock Public Schools district is OUR community! Together, we can make it the best possible place to be for all of us, but especially for the young people in our charge. Go, Colts!

Sincerely,
Dr. Jeff Thoenes
Superintendent

*<https://www.nfhs.org/articles/survey-shows-students-with-school-spirit-are-top-achievers/>



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

Dr. Jeff Thoenes
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Pamela Dickinson, President
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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Comstock Public Schools is to serve our community by empowering, inspiring, and challenging every person within the school district to reach their full potential, and to ensure all students learn and thrive in a safe and healthy environment.

VISION STATEMENT

The vision of Comstock Public Schools is to be an inclusive, high performing learning community where we foster dreams, explore possibilities, and create futures.

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 Jeff.Thoenes@ComstockPS.org or by fax at 250-8908. It may also be e-mailed to Phyllis Rose at phyllisarose@aol.com.



@ComstockPS

Board Briefs

SPECIAL MEETING

April 10, 2023

- Heard a presentation from Joseph Cortes, CEO of Tattleaux Solar Group and Robert Z. Cortes Memorial Education Foundation.

REGULAR MEETING

April 10, 2023

- Recognized the following teachers for having achieved tenure:
 - Kaitlynn Baylerian (Elementary School)
 - Carrie Bellen (Elementary School)
 - Leigh Ann Emrick (Elementary School)
 - Andrew Perkowski (STEM Academy)
 - Jessica Rabine (STEM Academy)
 - Connie Sandelin (STEM Academy)
 - Kim Simonds (Middle School)
 - Brett Vaughn (High School)
- Recognized Students of the Month:
 - Kevin Mares (CELA Student, GSRP Pre-K)
 - Graycee Smith (Elementary, Second grade)
 - Cooper Wuis (STEM Academy, First grade)
 - Ka'Lee Horton (Middle School, Eighth grade)
 - Ti'Anna Murphy-Ryan (High School, Eleventh grade)
 - Rajanae Durden (Compass, Ninth grade)
 - Nicholas Vaughan (Virtual Academy, Tenth grade)
- Recognized Staff of the Month:
 - Laurie Allan, Comstock Virtual Academy Administrative Assistant
- Accepted resignation of Madelyn Buhrman, Third grade teacher, CES.
- Approved overnight trip to Cedar Point for graduating seniors.
- Moved into closed session to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation, purchase of real property, and negotiations.
- Approved contract with the Comstock Paraprofessional Association (CPA).

WORK SESSION

April 17, 2023

- Discussed the following issues: Teacher support, location for the new STEM Academy, solar energy proposals, athletics, possible joint meetings with the Township, data training, strategic plan, DEI, Student of the Month, meeting decorum, Board self-assessment, committees, Board retreat, security, and voting procedures.

REGULAR MEETING

April 24, 2023

- Accepted the resignation of Carly Baldwin, Third grade teacher, CES.
- Approved proceeding with completing the paperwork so that Board members will become employees of the District and to process their stipends.

- Approved request by Abigail Schreiner-Osborn to take the softball team to Oklahoma City to watch the college softball world series.

REGULAR MEETING

May 8, 2023

- Recognized Students of the Month:
 - Lily Harris (CELA Student, GSRP Pre-K)
 - Aubrey Bavin (Elementary, Fifth grade)
 - Braelyn Morrison (STEM Academy, Second Grade)
 - Austin Dando (Middle School, Eighth Grade)
 - Harmanjit Singh (High School, Eleventh Grade)
 - Jaidyn Knight (Compass, Twelfth Grade)
 - Zaniyah Lawson (Virtual Academy, Tenth Grade)
- Recognized Staff of the Month:
 - Trudy Mearing (Comstock Food Service)
 - Jule Hanson (Comstock Transportation)
- Approved hiring Emily Brennan, Counselor, CHS.
- Approval given for the Superintendent to proceed with preliminary conversations regarding the purchase of real estate for District use.

REGULAR MEETING

May 22, 2023

- Approved the retirement of Mary Amsbury, PE teacher, STEM.
- Accepted resignations of:
 - Christine Hopson, Math teacher, CMS
 - Benjamin Stowe, Math teacher, CMS
 - Paul VanNiman, History teacher, CHS
- Approved Grad Bash trip for the graduating seniors.
- Moved into closed session to discuss contracts with the Comstock Education Association and the Paraprofessional Administrative Assistants Association.

REGULAR MEETING

June 12, 2023

- Recognized Students of the Month:
 - Maxwell Pretzer (CELA, GSRP Pre-K)
 - Anthonio Rojas (Elementary, Third Grade)
 - Amiya Campbell (STEM Academy, Kindergarten)
 - Angel Torres (Middle School, Eighth Grade)
 - Kayden Taylor (High School, Ninth Grade)
 - Martin Cosgrove (Compass, Twelfth Grade)
 - Mackenzie Wiederholt (Virtual Academy, Third Grade)
- Recognized Staff of the Month:
 - Andy Birt (Comstock Central Office - Human Resources)
 - Blair Austin (Comstock Custodial - Comstock High School)
- Approved retirement of Stanley Williams, Resource Room, CMS.
- Approved resignations of:
 - Katherine Jones, Third grade teacher, STEM
 - Katelyn Kabongo, Resource Room Teacher, CMS

- Ashley LaVanWay - Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
- Brittney Leahy - First grade teacher, CES

- Approved hiring:
 - Michelle LaCross, Science teacher, CHS
 - Shirley Nash, Math teacher, CMS
 - Joel Smedes - PE Teacher, STEM
- Approved membership in MHSAA (Michigan High School Athletic Association).
- Approved bids for Colt Center renovations and the CHS roofing project.
- Moved into closed session to conduct the Superintendent's annual evaluation and also to discuss the purchase of real property.
- Approved the 2023-2025 contract for the Comstock Education Professional Administrative Assistants Association (CEPAAA).

REGULAR MEETING

June 26, 2023

- Honored the following retirees
 - Stanley Williams - Five years with CPS
 - Mary Amsbury - 37 years with CPS
 - Patricia Anderson - 37 years with CPS
 - Ellen Eggleston - 24 years with CPS
 - Deb Postmus - 23 years with CPS
- Introduced School Resource officer - Deputy Dori Noble.
- Ratified the Superintendent's contract.
- Ratified Food Service contract.
- Approved current budget and next year's budget.
- Moved into closed session to discuss negotiations with the Comstock Education Association (CEA).

REGULAR MEETING

July 10, 2023

- Accepted resignations of:
 - Danielle Whitaker, Functional Teacher, CES
 - Kelly Wright, Second Grade, CES
 - Kristie Poulson, Academic Coach, STEM, CHS
- Approved hiring:
 - Emily Brennan - Counselor, CHS
 - Joel Smedes - PE and Health, STEM
 - Vincent Orzel - Math Teacher, CHS
 - Kendall Hullinger - English Teacher, CHS
 - Carynn Banner - Second Grade Teacher, CES
 - Dan Bowen - Second Grade Teacher, CES
 - Kathy DeMott - GSRP Teacher, CELA
 - Nolan Brockway - Math Teacher, CMS
 - Jessica Faux - Third Grade Teacher, STEM
 - Bryce Ruhl - Social Studies Teacher, CHS
 - Hope Goodwin - Spanish Teacher, CHS
 - Terina Rafter - Third Grade Teacher, CES 2
 - Melissa Stuck - Third Grade Teacher, CES
 - Michelle LaCross - Science Teacher, CHS
- Approved the new site location for the STEM Academy.
- Approved the 2023-2024 calendar.

A Look Back at 2022-23 and Forward to 2023-24

By Dr. Jeff Thoenes, Superintendent

Dear Comstock Community,

As I begin my sixth year as Superintendent, I am genuinely appreciative of the close, collaborative, and ongoing partnership between our District and the Comstock community. Through the thoughtful, purposeful, and collaborative efforts of many people, this past year Comstock Public Schools made many positive strides and, as a result, the future looks brighter and more promising than ever for our students and staff.

HERE ARE THE TOP HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAST SCHOOL YEAR:

Modernization and Renovation of Facilities

Using a combination of funds remaining from the 2016 bond, the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds, the 2019 sinking fund, or the 2022 bond funds, the District continued to modernize, renovate, and upgrade its facilities.

The crown jewel of the 2016 bond is Comstock Elementary School. In August, 2022, after 27 months of construction, the District cut the ribbon and officially opened the fully remodeled building. Except for the gymnasium, the interior of the school was gutted and rebuilt. CES is now fully air conditioned and all rooms have new furniture designed for the needs of modern classrooms.

Using funding obtained through federal ESSER dollars, the District continued to renovate Comstock Middle School. This summer the District finished the third phase of the four-phase plan to rebuild the school and anticipates completing all work next summer. When done, CMS will be fully modernized both inside and out and air conditioned.

With the last of the funds from the 2016 bond, in the fall of 2022, the District unveiled the Hamet Athletic Complex entrance. Named for longtime CPS Superintendent Dr. Bob Hamet, the entrance boasts an attractive gated entryway with a ticket booth, a spacious and modern bathroom facility, and an expansive patio area with beautiful benches and picnic tables. The second half of the athletic renovations took place this summer. Funded as the first project by the 2022 bond, the District completely rebuilt the track and made other key improvements.

Enrollment

Another major highlight was enrollment. After many years of declining enrollment, the District's fall count was up for the second year in a row. Enrollment improved from 1834 students in October 2021, to 1899 in October 2022, which was an overall increase of 65 students. Comstock Early Learning Academy, Comstock Elementary School, and Comstock Middle School showed the greatest increases. The latest sign that enrollment was on the rebound was the spring count in February 2023. It was even higher than our fall count in October - a hopeful indication of even more enrollment in the years to come.

District Finances

A point of pride was the continued strengthening of the District's finances under the astute and adept leadership of the Board's Finance Committee (Chair Secretary Dori Scholly, President Pamela Dickinson, and Trustee Karen Howes) and Finance Director Michelle Darnell. The Board successfully negotiated labor agreements and funded appropriate increases to the financial compensation packages for all three of our employee groups (Comstock Educational Association, Comstock Paraprofessional Association, and the Comstock Educational Professional Administrative Assistants Association).

In like fashion, the District also provided raises for our administrative team, support staff, bus drivers, custodians, and food service workers while maintaining the District's fund balance or savings account at approximately 10 percent. By any standard, it was a strong year for our finances.

Instructional Excellence and Academic Growth

Once again, our teachers and support staff did an excellent job and over the 2022-23 school year, their hard work, passion, and dedication clearly paid off. While there were many anecdotes attesting to the superior nature of our staff, the data backed up the high quality of instruction throughout the District.

After accounting for transient students and as measured by the NWEA, on average the students in Grades K-8 at Comstock Elementary School, Comstock Middle School, Comstock Virtual Academy, and Comstock STEM Academy showed more than a year's — and in some cases

almost two years' — worth of growth in math and reading. The passing rates of core classes required for graduation also increased for grades 9-12 at Comstock High School, Compass High School, and the Comstock Virtual Academy - simply outstanding!

Districtwide Art Show

The inaugural Joe and Joyce VanBruggen Districtwide Art Show held on April 27 and hosted by Comstock High School was a spectacular success. Between 500 and 600 people attended the event to demonstrate their support for our young artists. The art show was augmented by live musical performances by students from both Comstock Elementary School and STEM Academy.

Show categories included elementary (PK-5), middle (6-8), and high school (9-12) divisions. The pieces were adjudicated by a panel of local artists with awards for the top three pieces in each category and an overall Best of Show. The District purchased and framed the top pieces in each category and the Best of Show, and then put them on permanent display in the respective schools. The overall Best of Show, *The Trials and Tribulations of Sleeping in Class* by Ava Dalton, is now on display at the Administration Office. Thanks to the CPS Art Team (Kristin Card, CHS and CMS; Jeanine Roys, STEM Academy; Nichole Clark, CES; and Julia Vanderelzen, COM) and the Comstock Schools Foundation for the support of this event! The art show next year will occur on April 25, 2024. Mark your calendars!

Therapy Dogs

During the 2022-23 school year, both Comstock Elementary School and Comstock Middle School received therapy dogs. Participation in therapy sessions was completely optional, and each school's program had its own unique focus and goals.

At CES, the dog's name is "Piper" and she is a Goldendoodle. Piper weighs about 50 pounds and is 2-1/2 feet tall, and has a sweet disposition. Crystal Kohtala, a teacher at CES, and her family are Piper's hosts. Piper primarily serves as a reading buddy and as an emotional support dog. Students in small groups of two or three students read to and interact with her. Piper also helps comfort and calm students experiencing stress, trauma, or

A Look Back at 2022-23 and Forward to 2023-24

Continued from previous page

tension. We are proud that Piper graduated as the valedictorian of her training class; she started her service in February.

At CMS, the dog's name is Augie and he's a Golden Retriever. Augie weighs about 80 pounds and is 3 feet tall. Augie loves to show off his toys and is a bundle of golden goofiness. Cathy Street, a teacher at CMS, and her family are Augie's host. Augie's primary focus is to help comfort and calm students experiencing stress, trauma, or tension, and spread his playful sense of fun to the staff and students. Just like Piper, Augie also graduated tops in his training class; he started his service in December, 2022. When I asked Augie what his job was like, he said "Ruff!"

NEW BEGINNINGS FOR 2023-24

Here are several exciting new initiatives coming to Comstock Public Schools this school year:

Modernization of Comstock High School and Construction of New STEM Academy

Using funding from the 2022 bond, the District will begin the phased renovation of Comstock High School. With the support and counsel of our construction partners - GMB Architecture, Miller Davis Construction, and AE Tech - we have carefully planned these critically needed facility improvements. We are eager to begin the work that will ultimately provide modernized facilities for our high school students.

The work to design the new STEM Academy will continue into December. The District expects to break ground in May or June 2024, and spend two years in construction. When completed and opened for school in August 2025, for the 2025-26 school year, the building will be the first new school building for the District since 1972.

School Resource Officer

As previously announced, this past year, Comstock Public Schools received a three-year, \$200,000 grant from the Michigan State Police to obtain a school resource officer (SRO). The District is pleased to announce that the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department has agreed to provide a full-time deputy who will serve as our SRO. Deputy Dori Noble, a 20+-year veteran officer will start working for CPS in August. More information about this program will be forthcoming.

Solar Energy

The District is actively seeking to install solar energy arrays at four of our school buildings and will continue to pursue opportunities to do so this coming year. Given the rising costs of energy and the increasing affordability of solar energy, the District expects to save a substantial amount of money over time with these solar panels. As this issue develops, I will update the community.

As you can tell, the District has a lot of positive, forward momentum, and I invite anyone reading this column to become a part of our District's efforts, programs, and initiatives.

If you have any questions, comments, or feedback, feel free to reach out to me either via email, phone call, or personal visit. I can be reached at Jeff.Thoenes@ComstockPS.org or 269-250-8906. If you happen to see me at a future 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!

"It's a great day to be a Colt!"

Dr. Jeff Thoenes
Superintendent

Comstock Community Auditorium Events

AUGUST:

July 31-Aug 4 - CHS Band Camp: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

5 - Hotel California - Eagles Tribute Band: Comstock Community Center - 8 p.m.-

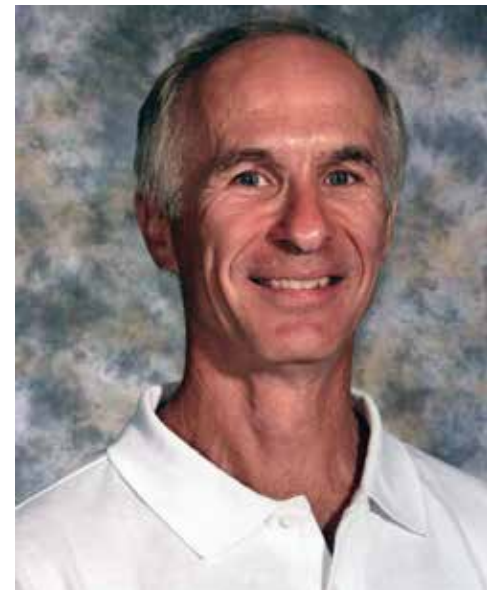
Go to their website for tickets: <https://comstockcc.com>

12 - Kalamazoo Bodybuilding Championships: Pre-show 10 a.m.; Show 2 p.m.

Tickets at the door.

27 - CST auditions for *Matilda Jr.* - Colt Center 2-6 p.m.

— IN MEMORIAM — Jim Kordupel 1955-2023



Longtime math teacher and coach, Jim Kordupel, passed away in June. He was a math teacher at the high school for 34 years, retiring in 2015.

During his tenure at Comstock, he received many accolades including Student Recognition Awards for 21 years, Teacher of the Year, and also Excellence in Education Awards for nine years. This year, he was inducted into Comstock's Athletic Hall of Fame.

After retiring from Comstock, he taught in a resource room at Portage Northern and also taught technical mathematics at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. He received a Distinguished Faculty Award from KVCC.

He also volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, Migrant Ministry, and Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes. He enjoyed traveling, attending Grateful Dead concerts, and reading.

As a graduate of Michigan State University, he helped coach youth basketball camps at MSU along with his colleague and fellow coach, John Holms.

He is survived by his wife, Luanne Cook-Kordupel, also a retired Comstock teacher, and their two children Lewis and Megan.

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District Facilities Renovation and Construction Update

By Dr. Jeff Thoenes, Superintendent

Here is the latest news regarding the District's ongoing efforts to renovate, innovate, and modernize its educational facilities.

Comstock Elementary School - With the completion of the elementary school's outdoor environmental classroom this summer, the District is planning a ribbon-cutting and grand opening ceremony for the facility to coincide with CES's Open House. CES's Open House is Wednesday, August 23, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The ribbon-cutting ceremony will be at 6 p.m. We hope to see you there!

Comstock Middle School - Year three of the four-year middle school renovation project began in June after school was out. A number of key areas were targeted this summer. Crews removed the stage inside the cafeteria and replaced it with a large secured utility/mechanical room on the left and a spacious storage facility on the right. Additional areas included the library, its offices, and conference room; the staff lounge; the art and music rooms; and the adjoining hallways. As with the previous renovation work, these spaces were gutted from top to bottom, and rebuilt with new HVAC systems, ceilings, lighting, flooring, doors, windows, and technology. The changes look remarkable, and these sections of the school are truly transformed.

Note - Due to the age of the building and the requisites involved in the upgrades, the project has one more summer's worth of work before completion. However, when this final stage is completed in August 2024 for the start of the 2024-25 school year, the building will be fully modernized and air-conditioned.

Comstock High School's Hamet Athletic Complex and Track Project - In early June, the District began the second of two phases to rebuild its athletic facilities. Crews removed the dilapidated track and underlying asphalt and replaced those surfaces with modern materials. The project, funded by 2022 bond funds, also included upgrades and improvements to various field event areas. Crews also converted the building housing the old bathrooms into a team meeting and athletic equipment room enhancing the overall usability of the facility.

With the completion of this two-stage project in late August, the District is planning a ribbon-cutting and grand opening ceremony for the facility to coincide with the first home football game of the year on Thursday, August 24. A community-wide tailgate party will start at 5 p.m. followed by a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Game time is 7 p.m. Watch for more information and bulletins about this event via social media and Infinite Campus. We hope to see you there!

In addition to the Hamet Athletic Complex, the District will soon initiate critically important renovations at Comstock High School. The work is estimated to take approximately 18-24 months and will result in much needed modernization of the school.

Roof repair and replacement - Early this fall, crews will begin repairing and replacing the school's aged roof. The estimated cost of this extensive project is \$1.5M and should be completed in about 12 months. The work is financed by 2022 bond funds.

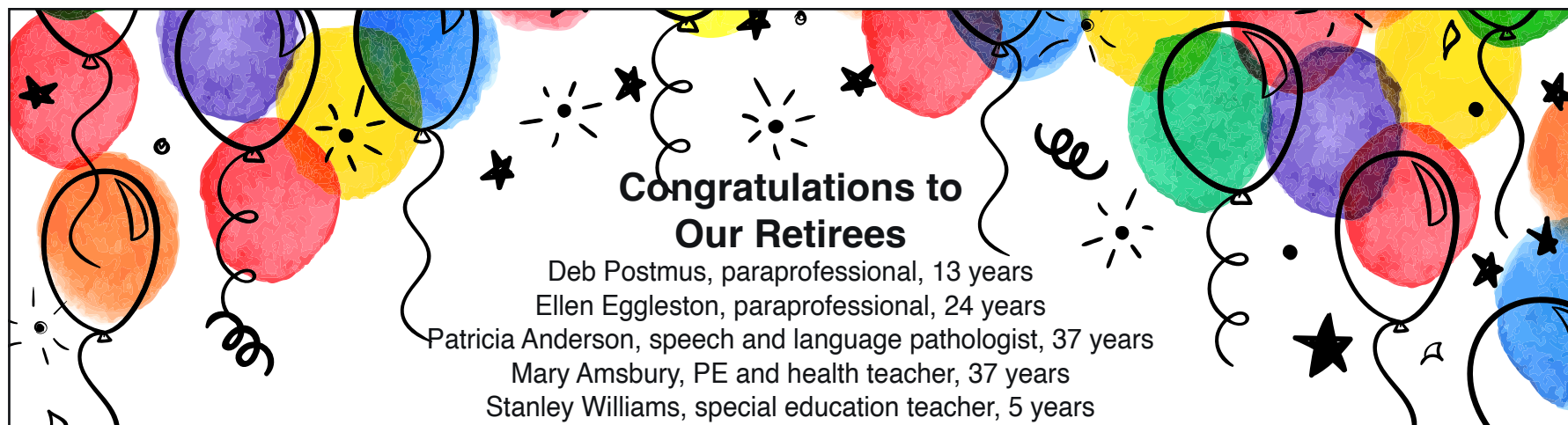
Interior Renovations - Also in the fall, the District will begin phased renovations to the interior of Comstock High School. In similar fashion to

the process used at Comstock Elementary School, sections of the building under construction will be walled off and accessible only to construction workers and architects. Students and staff will not be able to access these areas. The renovations will include, but not be limited to, new flooring, lighting, windows, and doors; new and larger lockers; renovations to the kitchen; upgrades to science classrooms; and the redesigning of the band room.

STEM Academy

The STEM Academy design team followed up its visits in May to the Battle Creek Math and Science Center, Wyoming High School, and Forest Hills Northern High School Project Next with visits in June to Mason's Steele Elementary and Harvey Education Center as well as Schoolcraft's soon-to-be-opened new elementary school. The purpose of these tours was to gather information and ideas for possible designs and features for the future STEM Academy. Construction is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2024 and take about two years to complete with the new school opening in August 2026, for the 2026-27 school year.

As always, thanks go out to our community for the 2016 and 2022 bond funds that made these projects possible, our Board for their support and vision, as well as our Facilities Crew led by Facilities Director Sean Gillette, and partners GMB Architects, Miller Davis Construction Management, and AE Technology. Without the combined efforts and synergy of these groups, none of these critically important projects would be possible.



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.

Welcome, New Staff Members



Megan Amsbury

Megan Amsbury, a 2009 graduate of Mattawan High School, is the new executive assistant to the superintendent. After high school, she attended Trident University and received technical certification as a paralegal in 2016.

"I decided on this career because I was working as a legal assistant in Las Vegas and wanted to further my knowledge and education," she said.

She is the single mother of two boys, Bentley, 12, and Devon, 7.

"I have amazing parents who have stepped up to help me," she said. "I don't know what I would do without them."

She describes herself as a huge movie buff who especially enjoys going to the Capri Drive-in movie theater in Coldwater.

She also loves to paint.



Edward Blair II

Edward Blair II is a parent liaison at the STEM Academy and Comstock High School as well as JV assistant football coach, but he's also in the process of becoming an elementary teacher.

A 2010 graduate of Kalamazoo Central High School, he has earned recording arts certification from Full Sail University and is halfway through the bachelor of arts program in the same field. He is also majoring in elementary education at Kellogg Community College.

"I felt teaching would be an added bonus at the youth level and I can contribute to making learning fun early on for our kids," he said. "Eventually I'd want to teach secondary as well since I coach high school sports now."

His decision to become an educator was influenced by his wife, Sierra, who teaches world cultures at Springfield Middle School in Battle Creek.

"I've learned so many great things from her - her professionalism, her work ethic, her desire to be great and pass every kid in her class even during challenging times and the after-hours

work and dedication," he said. "She is the true definition of what being a great educator looks like and she always puts her kids' needs first in every situation which creates a positive learning environment and even during the tough days she always keeps her smile and her positive pants on and I aspire to be just as great someday!"

Another teacher who had an impact on his life is Rasaan Hawkins, his seventh grade teacher in a class called Hip Hop Hits at the Maple Street Magnet School.

"He showed me I could not only be a Black African-American male teacher, but I can also still remain myself and share my passions with staff and students and be a positive role model while doing so," he said. "He just so happened to be a recording artist and a songwriter himself and we still have a great relationship to this day."

Mr. Blair has coached baseball, basketball, and football and has been a youth development worker at Springfield Middle School as well as at Valley View Elementary during the summer. Before coming to Comstock, he was Bearcat coach at Battle Creek High School.

What he enjoys about this work is getting to know the students and building relationships with them.

"I enjoy helping them keep focused on their grades and also being an unofficial guidance counselor to the kids who were comfortable talking to me daily," he said.

Keeping students and parents engaged when it comes to learning is challenging today.

"But when you get both to buy in, it can be a beautiful thing as all some students who may struggle academically need is just some extra love and support and plenty of encouragement," he said. "I myself struggled a little in high school and I vowed to always be the teacher and coach that I needed growing up once I was in a position to teach and coach."

Mr. Blair and his wife, Sierra, have three children: DeQuan, 11, Roman, 3, and Aubrey, 2. Besides being a teacher, Sierra also owns "Queen by Sierra Shanelle."

Outside of work, Mr. Blair enjoys creating music, podcasting, traveling, and working on his brand "The Varsity Squad Collective," a clothing line/multimedia company.



Dan Bowen

Dan Bowen had originally planned a career in computer information systems, but changed to elementary education during his first year in college.

"I had worked at several church camps and found I really enjoyed educating youth," he said of his decision to change majors.

After graduating from Rogers High School (now Wyoming High School) in Wyoming, Michigan, he attended Grand Rapids Community College and Ferris State University, graduating in 2008 with a degree in elementary education with minors in early childhood education, language arts K-8, and social studies. He later earned a graduate degree from Central Michigan University.

His teaching career has taken him to several places including Seoul, South Korea, Charlotte, North Carolina, and Alaska.

After he and his wife decided to move back to Michigan from Alaska, he taught at Fremont International Academy. He also served as a curriculum and instruction specialist for National Heritage Academies where he coached teachers in English language arts instruction in the Canton/Plymouth area.

This year he will be teaching second grade in the elementary school.

"I am super excited to be back in the classroom working directly with students and to be a part of the community," he said.

From his own experiences as a child, he knows the impact teachers can have on students.

"I had quite a few struggles in my life while I was growing up," he said. "Without the strong role models and support that I had from both my dad and my teachers, I would not be who I am today. I want to pass on that love and support that I received to future generations."

His third grade teacher, Miss Ellis, was particularly influential in his life.

"There were so many things going on in my life at the time that I was struggling just to stay focused at school," he said. "She showed me so much love and understanding that I started to feel confident about myself and I learned so

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Welcome, New Staff Members

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much that year.”

As an educator, he enjoys providing new life experiences for children.

“It is the best feeling when they get excited about a lesson or a project,” he said.

He and his wife, Arin, have three children: Ethan, 14, Zachary, 5, and Hannah, 4. Arin is the 4-H Program Coordinator for Barry County.

Mr. Bowen enjoys disc golf, collecting records, and watching and playing fantasy football. Outdoor activities include hiking and kayaking.

Then, comes October!

“During October, I run a free kid-friendly haunted house in our garage for the community, called Bowen Family Haunted Garage. Look us up on FaceBook!” he said.



Emily Brennan

When Emily Brennan was in the sixth grade, she was struggling with several issues including her grandfather’s death, her parents’ divorce, starting middle school, and the angst of being a sixth grade girl. As a result, she made some bad decisions and got suspended for a week.

Returning to school, she found teachers treating her like a “bad kid,” something she had never been before. Then one day, Dr. Thomas Russell, a staff member at DeWitt Middle School, took her aside and talked to her. He told her that he knew she was better than her behavior.

“He made me promise to look at my friends and my choices,” she said. “He told me he would be checking in with me once a week and making sure I was making the changes he knew I was capable of. That was all it took for me. It took one person caring and noticing and showing interest for me to turn the ship back in the right direction.”

As president of her senior class, she spoke at graduation. Afterwards, Dr. Thomas came up to talk to her.

“He put his hand on my shoulder and said, ‘Told you. I knew you would do great things,’” she said. “Often this is all a student needs. I

want to be the positive influence that he was for me.”

Now, she has come to Comstock High School as a counselor.

But when she started college at Michigan State University, she planned to major in advertising which led her to pick psychology as her extracurricular study for this major. This ignited her interest in helping students and working in the mental health field.

She also worked for a time in the hospitality business and found that she enjoyed talking to people about their problems and then helping them to find solutions. Then, as she substitute taught during the day, she found a passion for working with students and helping them overcome barriers socially, academically, and emotionally.

With both bachelor’s and master’s degrees, she has been a substitute teacher in schools in Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties. This past year she was a counseling administrative assistant at Portage Central Middle School.

She finds a career in education enjoyable as she helps students overcome whatever obstacles might prevent them from graduating and becoming successful young adults and future leaders.

“I take a great amount of pride in having the opportunity to provide support to students and educators,” she said. “It is such a rewarding and unique role to teach social emotional skills and academic success while providing a safe space for the population of the school.”

From her perspective, one of the hardest things about education today is the mental health and wellness of students and educators. Students may be distracted by everything from cell phones to social relationships. Teachers may be dealing various stressors including personal issues at home.

“We hold expectations in all of these matters for these students and educators to perform at consistently high levels and fail to see that this just isn’t going to be genuine every day,” she said. “My position is important to help alleviate some of these stressors to continue our school down a positive learning path.”

Ms. Brennan is engaged and plans to be married later this year. Her fiance, Chris, is

a quality control manager for a company in Portage. Between them, they have five children - her daughters: Zoe, 13, and Arianna, 7, and Chris’ three children: Murphy, 9, Rainie, 7, and Remy, 4.

“We have a lot going on in this house and at times, it is a lot like the beginning scene of *Home Alone* where the entire family is racing around chaotically,” she said.

While a lot of her time outside of school is taken up with planning her wedding, she enjoys reading fiction, playing with her children, fixing up old furniture, and crafting.

“My future husband and I love binge watching TV series once the kids finally go to bed,” she said. “I am really working on self-care and making sure that I take time to enjoy the little moments in life.”



Kathy DeMott

Kathy DeMott most likely spent more hours at school growing up than most students. That’s not because she was in detention, but because her mother was a teacher and her dad a school custodian.

“So I spent many after-school hours in the setting and I loved playing teacher while I was there,” she said. “As I got older, it just seemed natural to teach children as a career.”

After graduating from Three Rivers High School, she obtained a bachelor’s degree in elementary education and a master’s degree in early childhood education from Western Michigan University.

“I found that I loved working with young children the best,” she said.

An inspiring teacher in her life was her mother, Patricia Kratzer.

“She worked hard to make sure that her science class was well organized, rigorous, yet enjoyable to all students,” she said. “Her students would come back and let her know how much they appreciated her and the class. This inspired me to be the best at whatever age level that I am working with by educating myself on best practices and to have patience with and show kindness to all.”

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Before coming to Comstock this year to teach in the Great Start Readiness Program at the Early Learning Academy, she taught third grade and then kindergarten for the past 23 years at Marcellus Elementary School. What she loves about her career in education is making connections with and working with children.

“To see their growth in a year’s time is very rewarding,” she said.

Mrs. DeMott’s husband, Kevin, works for Graphic Packaging International. They have a daughter, Mallory, 24, who is a pharmacy tech working toward becoming a pharmacist. Their son, Christian, 20, is attending Grand Valley State University.

Her leisure time activities include traveling, camping, spending time with family, reading, working in her flower garden, and just being outside.



Ellen Eggleston

Ellen Eggleston retired only a few months ago from the Comstock Early Learning Academy (CELA), but she’s returning to the District as the media clerk at the STEM

Academy. She held that same position during the 2018-19 school year before transferring to CELA.

A lifelong Comstock resident and a 1980 graduate of Comstock High School, she started working in the lunch room at Green Meadow Elementary in 1998. Then she became a paraprofessional. She left the District in 2011 and worked at Bronson Hospital for five years before returning to Comstock schools.

“I love working in education with all grades,” she said. “It’s fun to see students’ eyes light up when they discover something new.”

She’s especially appreciative of one of her high school teachers, Mary Lou Thiessen, who taught business classes.

“She had a great influence on my career,” she said. “She helped me obtain my first job when I was a senior at a local savings and loan where I worked for over seven years.”

Mrs. Eggleston and her husband, Dean, a

1978 CHS graduate, have been married for 32 years. He has worked at Carleton Equipment Company since graduating from CHS. They have two children, Adam who is a veterinarian in Three Rivers, and Lexi who is a photographer and bar manager in Greenville.

“Both are married and between them we have four grand pups, five grandkittens, two grandbunnies, and a ton of grand fowl,” she said.

In her spare time, Mrs. Eggleston enjoys walking her dog, Rocco, enjoying her pool, spending time with her children, and taking trips to their cabin in the Upper Peninsula.



Jessica Faux

Jessica Faux, a graduate of Northville High School in Novi, Michigan, loved both science and language arts so it’s not surprising that she double-majored in those

subjects while earning her bachelor’s degree from Central Michigan University. Later, she earned a master’s degree in educational psychology from Eastern Michigan University.

Choosing education as a career came from her desire to be in a helping profession.

“I originally was going to be a social worker until I worked as a counselor at a summer camp and knew that I wanted to work with kids,” she said. “I love the relationships I get to build with students every year and watching them grow.”

Having taught in Marshall and Battle Creek in various grade levels, she will be teaching third grade at the STEM Academy this year.

“I love the relationships I get to build with students and watching them grow academically and socially each year,” she said. “There is never a dull moment in the classroom and I love that each day with the kids is different and exciting.”

She credits her sixth grade science teacher, Mr. Hayes, for her interest in science.

“He made learning so much fun,” she said.

Mrs. Faux and her husband, Chris, have three sons. Rory, 6, will be in first grade at the STEM Academy while River, 5, will be in kindergarten at the STEM Academy as well. Zachary, 11, is in the seventh grade.

Chris, who spent many years working as a chef, now operates a Penn Station East Coast

Sub Shop.

Mrs. Faux enjoys reading, spending time with family, hiking, and being outside.

“We love to discover new places on our camping trips each year,” she said.



Dani Ryskamp Fritz

Although she has degrees in English and in law, Dani Fritz’s focus now is on music as she is the assistant band director at the STEM Academy, the middle school, and high school, and also the color guard director at Comstock.

She’s a 2000 graduate of Comstock, a 2004 graduate of Ferris State University with a bachelor’s degree in English, and a 2007 graduate of the University of Michigan Law School. In 2015, she earned a master’s degree in English from Western Michigan University.

“I chose English because it challenged me to read, write, and think critically,” she said about deciding on a major. “I went to law school for the same reason.”

She worked with her late husband, Jason Fritz, a band director, during his time at the Concord schools and at Comstock until his untimely death in 2021.

“Music changed my life in middle and high school,” she said. “It taught me skills I still use daily - time management, project planning, communication, leadership, empathy, and problem-solving. It gave me a place I belonged. I teach because music gave me the most valuable things in my life, and it is my duty and honor to pay those forward.”

When she thinks of an influential educator, it is her late husband who comes to mind.

“Officially, I was never one of his students; unofficially, I learned from him every single day as an educator, partner, and friend,” she said. “I cannot hope to replace him as a teacher, but I strive to emulate his kindness, his fascination with music, and his unwavering belief in each of his students.”

She’s had a number of jobs including clarinet teacher, editor, insurance litigator, college professor, and a Medicare fee schedule preparer.

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She has been a freelance writer since 2009.

“Teaching is the most challenging and rewarding job I’ve ever had,” she said. “Education gives me the opportunity to be the person I needed as a student and to see my students discover their own abilities, dreams, and goals.”

A challenging aspect of education today is the fast pace of information and innovation.

“On average, a worker’s skills become obsolete in just four years,” she said. “In some industries, like IT, the turnover rate is even faster - about 18 months. The biggest challenge educators face today is fostering students’ curiosity and interest in continuous learning - and giving students the tools to be lifelong learners.”

Outside of work, she plays clarinet with the Kalamazoo Concert Band and sings in her church choir. She enjoys working on her garden and spending time with her nieces and nephews.



Bryce Ruhl

Passionate about history, geography, economics, and government, Bryce Ruhl was equally as passionate about becoming a teacher. In fact, he’s wanted to be a teacher

since middle school.

“I have always loved helping others and am excited to have the opportunity to be a positive male role model for our students and to provide a space where students feel safe, acknowledged, and appreciated,” he said.

After graduating from Quincy High School in Quincy, Michigan, he obtained both bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Western Michigan University. Then, he student taught last school year at the high school.

“I loved my time at CHS last year and I am excited to build on that experience,” he said.

Building relationships is what he enjoys about education as well as watching students grow and evolve through the year.

“You never know what each day might bring,” he said. “Plus a fast pace makes every day an eventful one.”

His varsity basketball coach and seventh grade

English teacher at Quincy Middle School, Scott Rodesiler, had a great impact on his life.

“When I had him as a teacher, I had no major male role models in my life,” he said. “I looked to him as someone to learn from when it came to school, sports, and life. The example he set taught me a lot about who I wanted to be when I grew up. Now, I hope to be a positive role model and educator for my students in the same way that Scott was for me.”

As excited as he is about starting his career, he is aware that there are difficulties teachers face today.

“As teachers we must take on many different roles and wear a lot of different hats to provide the best for our students,” he said. “Being able to take on so much collectively takes a lot of communication and support between the staff, which I think will take place at CHS.”

Mr. Ruhl and his fiancée, Emily, plan to be married next summer. A chemical engineer, she is a project engineer in Kalamazoo.

Sports fill up a good portion of Mr. Ruhl’s free time. He follows the NFL, NBA, MLB, and European soccer. He enjoys working out, playing golf, and snowboarding. Reading history books and streaming movies and shows are also favorite leisure activities.



Joel Smedes

Having taught and lived in Australia, England, Oman, Latvia, Laos, and the United States, Joel Smedes, a native of Australia, has settled in the Kalamazoo area with his

family and he’ll be teaching physical education at the STEM Academy.

The decision to settle here from their most recent stint in Denver, Colorado, is because his wife, Mara, was raised here and graduated from Western Michigan University. The move brings them closer to family and friends. He met his wife when they were both teaching overseas in an International School.

“We now plan to live here permanently and settle as our children complete their schooling,” he said.

He and his wife have four children: Benita, 13; Zintis, 11; Vilnis, 7; and Johans, 4.

“Teaching PE has always been my goal and passion, ever since I tried it out in a year 10 work experience program in Australia,” he said. “All of my selections to university (in Australia) were to become a PE teacher and I still love teaching physical education 20 years later.”

He enjoys working with all students to provide them with a positive experience so they’ll develop a love of lifelong activity.

His interests outside of work center around sports and other activities such as surfing, kite-surfing and wakeboarding.

“On land I also enjoy trying to play golf as well as basketball, so I’m hoping to be able to meet some golf buddies and find a place to play basketball,” he said.



Melissa Stuck

Teaching third grade this year at Comstock Elementary is Melissa Stuck, a graduate of Portage Northern High School and Grand Valley State University where she majored

in English language arts and education with a minor in elementary education. She is currently working on a master’s degree in educational leadership through Walden University.

“I have always loved working with children,” she said of her decision to go into education. “Teaching is the most important profession in the world There is no better feeling than seeing students learn and grow during their time with you.”

Before coming to Comstock, she taught first grade in Kalamazoo for four years and then third grade in Allegan for five years.

“I enjoy building connections and relationships with students and their families,” she said.

Setting an example for her was her high school Latin teacher, Mrs. Friedman.

“She deeply cares for all of her students and their wellbeing,” she said. “She always made time to listen and provide support. We still stay in touch to this day.”

Mrs. Stuck has been married for one year to her husband, Morgan, who farms with his father in the Schoolcraft/Marcellus area.

She enjoys spending time with family,

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gardening, arts and crafts, and baking.



Meagan Thornburg

Meagan Thornburg has run two marathons and many half marathons but now she's starting on a marathon of a different sort - administrative assistant at

the STEM Academy.

A native of Bellville, Illinois, she has a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Illinois and a master's degree in student affairs and higher education from Indiana State University.

"While in college, I started working for different offices across campus and fell in love with working in higher education so I went to graduate school for higher education," she said.

After getting her master's degree, she worked in residence life at Western Michigan University and then in career services at Indiana University of South Bend. Then, she was a stay-at-home for her two children for nine years.

When it came time to go back to work, she wasn't sure what she wanted to do. In the 2022-23 school year, she was a substitute teacher at the STEM Academy.

"I loved it," she said. "I really enjoy working with school-aged children and love that STEM gives me the chance to work with all grades K-8."

Mrs. Thornburg and her husband, Matt, who is a chemical engineer at Kellogg's, moved to Portage in 2016. They have two children - Bailey, 9, and Elias, 6.

"In my free time, I enjoy running - far, not fast," she said. "I love reading and don't go anywhere without my Kindle."



District Has New School Resource Officer

It's no surprise that Dori Noble, the District's new school resource officer, went into law enforcement. Her grandfather was a Pennsylvania State Trooper while her father is a retired Battle Creek City police officer.

But the family connections aren't the only reasons she became a police officer.

"I also chose this career because I wanted to have the ability to help others who couldn't do that for themselves," she said.

During her 23 years in law enforcement, she worked in a few small police departments before joining the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Office in 2006. She started as a deputy at the Battle Creek/Kalamazoo International Airport. Later, she worked in the jail and now is in the operations division where she is a field training officer, evidence technician and road deputy, currently assigned to Oshtemo Township.

"I enjoy the chance to investigate and solve problems," she said of her job. "The most rewarding aspect of my job is the opportunity to meet and connect with individuals from diverse backgrounds."

As Comstock's school resource officer, she will be on campus every day where she will not only provide security but will also speak to classes about the law and also refer students to social agencies as needed.

"I will still have the ability to make arrests and act as a law enforcement official," she said.

Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with her family, which includes her husband Brian who is an operations manager and applications engineer for a water treatment company. They have two daughters, one who just graduated from high school who wants to become a police officer and an 11-year-old who will enter the sixth grade this fall. As a family, they enjoy camping, hiking and anything related to the outdoors.

Working out, riding her horse Archie, and doing crafting such as laser etching also fill her time off.

With Archie, a thoroughbred, she competes in equestrian events, something she started doing when she was 7 and in 4-H. She showed competitively until she was 18 and then started showing once again about three years ago.



"It's an exhilarating experience that brings me a lot of joy," she said. "It is a combination of adventure, exhilaration and deep relation for me."

Deputy Noble also enjoys her five cattle dogs - three Australian Shepherds and two Australian cattle dogs - named Ren, Goose, Charlie, Benny, and Ben Do.

"They do not herd cattle, although I'm sure they would love to," she said. "However, they do herd each other and us."

As a crafter, she does custom engraving such as wood slate plaques and wood signs.

With the start of the school year approaching, she's excited about working with the District's children in her role as school resource officer.

"If you ever have any questions or need to get in touch with me, please don't hesitate to reach out," she said. "I'm always here to chat and help in any way I can."

Deputy Noble can be reached at Dorothy.Noble@ComstockPS.org.

UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

In an effort to ensure that all our families receive communications about their students, we are asking everyone to make sure we have up-to-date contact information.

Please log on to the Infinite Campus Portal and fill out the Online Registration to verify that we have all of the correct information for your students. This year this is also available from the Parent Portal App.

Please go to the Portal and log in. Select "MORE" from the menu, and then Online Registration on the left. Please follow the prompts. It will look like a new registration, but it is just to make sure everything is correct in our system. You just need one per family.

If you need a portal account, please contact us.

Infinite Campus has two apps to help you and your students stay up-to-date with grades and missing assignments.

Go to the App Store and search for "Campus Portal." There are two apps: one for students and one for parents. Make sure you select the correct one. When you launch the app, it will ask you to pick your state and school district.

Once you're signed in, you will see announcements as they are posted. If you enable push notifications, you can see assignments as soon as they are graded, and any that are missed. You can also see if your student was marked absent or tardy.

It's easy to schedule conferences and contact teachers quickly, or to see your student's EDP.

When making choices about how you wish to be contacted, go to the website, log in to Infinite Campus and indicate your preferences.

If you don't have a portal account, we're happy to get you connected. Please contact us.

Sinking Fund Update

The District has just completed its fourth year using its sinking fund approved by voters in May, 2019. Given the ongoing costs associated with the upkeep of our facilities, we are truly appreciative of the community's support for the District through this ballot proposal. This fund generates a little over \$500,000 a year for 10 years. Per Michigan law, sinking fund monies are limited to certain uses. The District uses the funds to upgrade and repair its infrastructure and buildings. Sinking funds may not be used for wage, salary, or benefit increases.

In Michigan, school districts have the option of rolling over sinking funds not expended in one school year to the next year. This is precisely the strategy Comstock has employed during the first four years of the sinking fund. During the first year of our sinking fund (2019-20), the District spent \$206,951 of the \$550,000 (approximate amount) provided by the fund. However, prior to the start of the 2020-21 school year, we anticipated and planned ahead for large sinking-fund-eligible projects. Accordingly, we spent \$799,654 during the 2020-21 school year. At the end of the second year of the sinking fund, the total amount used was right on target at \$1,006,605. Likewise, during the 2021-22 school year, the District spent \$244,696.25 and rolled the remainder over into this past year.

Here is a detailed list for each school of the District's sinking fund projects for the 2022-23 school year:

Comstock Elementary School

Replaced interior fire glass in intervention room	\$1,579.39
Installed mill cut and overlay	\$9,600.00
Patched and repaired bulkhead at roof leaks	\$3,613.06
Replaced exhaust fan and air intake hood	\$7,602.00
Installed new scupper	\$4,135.00
Repaired gym bleachers	\$2,762.00
Total	\$29,381.45

STEM Academy

Repaired trophy case bulkhead	\$542.80
Total	542.80

Comstock Middle School

Repaired kitchen equipment	\$3,125.00
Repaired HVAC system	\$49,500.00
Repaired middle school fence	\$8,172.50
Replaced carpet tiles	\$7,390.00
Repaired door locks	\$2,486.80
Repaired bleachers	\$2,258.00
Furnished, installed exterior entrances	\$17,630.00
Total	\$90,562.30

Comstock High School

Repaired media center HVAC	\$646.72
Repaired support piping	\$322.00
Replaced drinking fountains	\$6,008.00
Furnished and installed auto door opener	\$4,642.00
Installed shed for athletic equipment	\$2,563.60
Repaired combustion and CSD1s	\$3,495.42
Purchased Flotex special carpet tile	\$59,404.00
Replaced media center HVAC compressor	\$21,185.00
Repaired bleachers	\$6,333.00
Total	\$104,599.74

Transportation Office

Repaired door	\$215.00
Renovated interior spaces	\$56,670.00
Replaced roadside sign	\$777.86
Installed hot water recirculation line and pump	\$5,702.00
Total	\$63,364.86

Compass High School/Administration Building

Repaired chiller	\$1,857.69
Replaced chiller contactor	\$4,098.00
Installed cat lines for new wall	\$3,363.00
Installed new cylindrical lock	\$885.69
Built demising wall	\$8,187.83
Replaced leaking water heater	\$10,012.23
Miscellaneous	\$17.03
Total	\$28,421.47
Grand Total	\$316,872.62

Comstock High School

Grad Bash Returns to CHS

Grad Bash, a post-graduation party, returned to the high school this spring. The event was organized by parents and boosters and made possible through donors and sponsors.

The evening began in the high school cafeteria where graduates were entertained by a hypnotist. Then, they went to Revel and Roll for an hour of drinks, pizza, and bowling in their private suite. At midnight, the entire venue - including the arcade, axe throwing, laser tag, virtual reality, ping pong, cornhole, darts, and trivia — opened for the graduates. There was a photo booth with props and a prize hunt where students found rubber duckies for prizes.

The next morning, students returned to the high school for a breakfast of burritos and fruit cups courtesy of Julianna's. The graduates received a prize bag with many gift cards and an embroidered Colt winter hat. There were also other prizes given out in a drawing.

Members of the Grad Bash Planning Committee were Shelley and Clint Hofacre, Jennifer and Kevin Caswell, Christine Greenhalgh, Heather Bowers, Michelle Lennon, and Abby and Clayton Osborn. High school principal Mary Spade and CPS School Board Treasurer Dori Scholly were



Members of the Class of 2023 eat breakfast burritos in the high school cafeteria after returning from the Grad Bash at 4:30 am.

volunteers in helping set up the breakfast.

Sponsors and donors were Biggby, T-Mobile, Gull Road Nutrition, Tractor Supply, AutoZone, Meijer, Bub Sherwood Auto Repair, Culver's,

Blended Nutrition, Hot Worx Yoga, and others. In addition, Complete Team Outfitters did the printing and embroidery for the hats and swag bags.

High School Starts New Awards Program

The high school has begun a new program to award varsity letters for academics and the arts. This past school year, 95 students qualified for the award.

Students who have a GPA of 3.50 and above are eligible for an Academic or Arts Letter along with membership in the following clubs: Science Olympiad, Key Club, National Honor Society, Student Lighthouse Team, Concert Choir/Show Choir, Art, Dance, Creative Writing, and Band.

Boys Golf Team Earns Runner-Up Honors

The high school boys golf team came in second place for the overall golf season, following an 18-hole final conference match in the Southwest 10 conference.

Senior Luke MacLeay finished on First Team All Conference while Junior Tyler Woolsey and Sophomore Cayden Schultz were named Second Team All Conference.

Doug Ludwick is the team's coach.



COMSTOCK
High School Class of
1983
40th year
Class Reunion
Date: September 9th, 2023
Time: 3pm-7pm
Location: River Oaks County Park
9202 E Michigan Ave, Galesburg
Parking is 5.00

NOTE: TO PAY IN ADVANCE FOR FOOD, GO TO THE PAYPAL LINK ON THE FACEBOOK PAGE FOR "COMSTOCK HIGH CLASS OF '83." THERE IS A DEADLINE OF 8/9/23. IF YOU ARE NOT ON FACEBOOK, CONTACT KRIS GIBSON AT KGIBSON468@YAHOO.COM.

Compass High School

Compass Awards Record Number of Diplomas



Diplomas were awarded this spring to 31 graduates of Compass High School and Compass Virtual Academy, a record number for these combined programs.

Comstock Middle

Ryan Family Scholarship Winners Named

Nadia Smith and Ty'shawn Rials are the winners of this year's James R. Ryan Family Foundation Middle School Scholarship.

Dr. Tom and Deb Ryan presented the scholarships in an all-school assembly at the end of the school year.

This scholarship of up to \$10,000 per year up to a maximum of \$40,000 is given yearly to Comstock Middle School and Comstock STEM Academy eighth grade students who have demonstrated potential for academic success in preparation for college attendance. The applicants must demonstrate financial need. Additionally, the applicants must demonstrate good citizenship, high moral character, and a good work ethic prior to and throughout the period of the scholarship.

The recipients will be monitored throughout high school to make sure the scholarship requirements are maintained and then the money will be awarded during their freshman year in college.

The Ryan Family Foundation was established in 2004 by Dr. James R. Ryan (1936-2006), uncle of Comstock graduates Dr. Tom and Deb (Dunham) Ryan. He was also the brother of former Gull Lake Schools Superintendent Tom Ryan.

Dr. James Ryan was an orthopedic oncology



Dr. Tom Ryan presents a scholarship to eighth grader Ty'Shawn Rials.



Eighth grader Nadia Smith receives her scholarship from Dr. Tom Ryan.

doctor who practiced in Detroit and Kalamazoo. In later years, he made his home in the Gull Lake community.

If you have questions regarding this scholarship, please contact Mary.Spade@ComstockPS.org.

Comstock Elementary

CES Has New Book Vending Machine



Intervention Specialist Emily Bartlett (left) and Principal Susan Caswell (right) with the first five students who obtained books from the vending machine.

Comstock Elementary School now has a book vending machine obtained through a grant written by Emily Bartlett, intervention specialist.

Students earn and then turn in “leader tokens.” From all of the leader tokens, a few students are selected randomly to win a book. The lucky students receive a special coin that they insert into a slot, just like any other vending machine. They then punch the right combination of numbers and then out falls the book of their choice.

The books are brand new and cover a variety of high-interest topics and genres.

CES Open House Scheduled

The CES Back-to-School Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, August 23, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Families can meet the teachers, explore their classroom as well as the special areas - gym, library, art, music, technology - visit the playground, and check the offerings in the Little Free Library.

There will also be a sign-up area for the First Day Shoe Fund as well as fall sports. Popsicles with the Principal will be a fun spot, too. Best of all, there will be a raffle for tokens to use in the book vending machine.



STEM Academy

STEM Academy Student Wins DAR Medal



Lucinda Hinson and Kyle Delos Angeles

STEM Academy student Kyle Delos Angeles has received the Youth Citizenship Medal from the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). Lucinda Hinsdale Stone of the DAR presented the medal to Kyle.

The DAR Youth Citizenship Medal was established to foster in schoolchildren a greater appreciation of the qualities of citizenship Americans must possess if the country is to remain sovereign and independent. This medal is presented to a student (male or female) who exemplifies the qualities of honor, service, courage, leadership, and patriotism.

STEM Academy

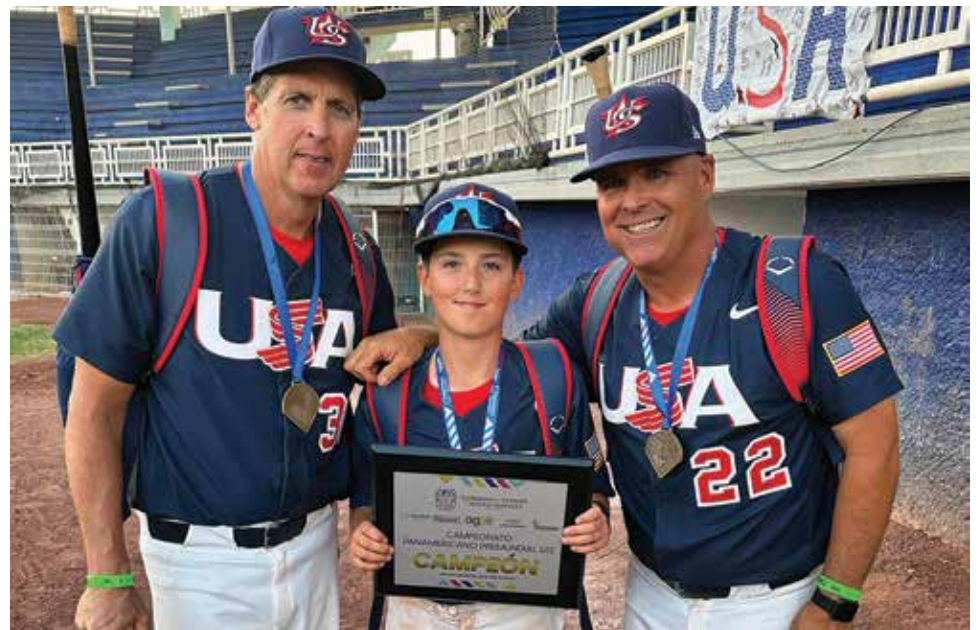
STEM Academy Student Earns Gold Medal

STEM Academy student Greyson “G.G.” Wuis and his USA Baseball U-12 team recently earned a gold medal in Aguascalientes, Mexico.

Greyson, a sixth grader, earned a spot on the U-12 USA Baseball team, and that team overcame an 11-run deficit to win gold at the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) U-12 Baseball World Cup Americas Qualifier with a 29-28 win over Venezuela.

Greyson batted .407 in the tournament with a team-leading total of 18 RBIs. He hit three home runs — including a grand slam — two doubles, and a triple.

Team USA is now at WBSC U-12 Baseball World Cup in Tainan, Taiwan. The U.S. is the defending champion after defeating Venezuela in the 2022 edition. The competition ends on August 6.



STEM Academy sixth grader, Greyson Wuis, shows his gold medal certificate.

Comstock Early Learning Academy

CELA Staff Member Earns Credentials



Heather VanDenBeldt has earned her CDA (Child Development Associate) credential. The CDA credential is the most widely recognized credential in early childhood education.

Ms. VanDenBeldt works as an associate teacher in the Great Start Readiness Program with Ms. Tammy Horobik.

CELA Open House to Feature Prizes Donated by Area Businesses

Comstock Early Learning Academy’s fall open house on Wednesday, August 23, from 5 to 6 p.m., will feature a number of prizes to be given away in random drawings. Area businesses have donated various items for the drawings.

The prizes include:

*A four-pack ticket voucher and four Growlers baseball caps, donated by Justin Zeldes, Kalamazoo Growlers Director of Business Relations.

*Two four-person, 120-minute adventure passes and four pairs of grip socks for Airborne Adventure Park, donated by Park Manager Ben Thomas.

*Two \$10 gift cards and two popcorn passes for

Celebration Cinema Portage from Kyle Chupp, manager.

*A \$100 gift card from Costco, donated by Cosco Vault Manager Jacqueline Pete.

*A family four pack ticket voucher for the Kalamazoo Wings, donated by Clay Coltson, game operations manager.

*A \$50 eGift card from Target.

*A certificate for a six-person family to bowl, play mini-golf, etc. at the Airway Fun Center, donated by Kayla Taylor, marketing manager.

A special thanks goes to all these businesses for providing these prizes.

CPS To Receive Three Federal Grants

The Michigan Department of Education Office of Health and Nutrition Services has notified the District that it will receive three rounds of funding, worth almost \$100,000.

The grants come from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), a government-owned corporation created with the US Department of Agriculture which operates the USDA Food & Nutrition Services. The funding goes directly to providing low-cost school meals for children.

Here is a breakdown of the funding:

Round 1 - Supply Chain Assistance Funds in the amount of \$37,079

Round 2 - Supply Chain Assistance Funds in the amount of \$37,692

Round 3 - Supply Chain Assistance Funds in the amount of \$19,947.

2023-24 Comstock Public Schools Calendar

August 21, 2023	New Teacher Orientation		
August 22, 2023	DPPD	8:00-3:00	No Students
August 23, 2023	Work Day & Teacher Breakfast	8:00-3:00	
August 24, 2023	DPPD	8:00-3:00	No Students
August 25, 2023	No Students/Teachers		No Students/Teachers
August 28, 2023	First Student Day (Half Day for Students)		Half Day Students
September 1-4, 2023	Labor Day Observance - No Students/Teachers		No Students/Teachers
September 28, 2023	CHS Conferences	3:00-7:00	
October 5, 2023	Comstock Middle School Conferences	3:00-7:00	
October 27, 2023	DPPD	8:00-3:00	No Students
November 14, 2023	Comstock Elementary & STEM Conferences	4:00-8:00 (CES) & 3:00-7:00 (STEM)	
November 16, 2023	Comstock Elementary & STEM Conferences	4:00-8:00 (CES) & 3:00-7:00 (STEM)	
November 17, 2023	Half Day Students K-12		Half Day Students/Teachers
November 22-24, 2023	Thanksgiving Recess		No Students/Teachers
November 30, 2023	CHS Conferences	3:00-7:00	
December 7, 2023	Comstock Middle School Conferences	3:00-7:00	
December 25, 2023 to January 5, 2024	Winter Recess		
January 16-18, 2024	Half Day Students K-12 (High School Exams)		Half Day Students/Teachers
January 19, 2024	PD AM/K-12-Records Day PM (End of 1st Sem.)		No Students
February 22, 2024	CHS Conferences		
February 22-23, 2024	Mid-Winter Break		No Students/Teachers
February 29, 2024	Comstock Middle School Conferences	3:00-7:00	
March 12, 2024	Comstock Elementary & STEM Conferences	4:00-8:00 (CES) & 3:00-7:00 (STEM)	
March 14, 2024	Comstock Elementary & STEM Conferences	4:00-8:00 (CES) & 3:00-7:00 (STEM)	
March 15, 2024	DPPD 8:00-3:00		No Students
March 22-29, 2024	Spring Break		No Students/ No Teachers
May 2, 2024	CHS Conferences	3:00-7:00	
May 19, 2024	Comstock Middle School Conferences	3:00-7:00	
May 27, 2024	Memorial Day		No Students/No Staff
June 3,4,5, 2024	Half Day Students K-12 (High School Exams)		Half Day Students and Teachers K-12
June 5, 2024	Last Day for Students/Records Day PM		Half Day Students AM/ Staff Records Day PM



2023-24 Comstock Calendar

Check for changes at www.ComstockPS.org/calendar

August 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

March 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

NS K-12 No School

1/2 K-12 Half Day

H Federal Holiday

C Conferences

Detailed information
on reverse side

CHS Conferences
9/28 3-7 pm
11/30 3-7 pm
2/20 3-7 pm
5/2 3-7 pm

CMS Conferences
10/5 3-7 pm
12/7 3-7 pm
2/29 3-7 pm
5/9 3-7 pm

CES Conferences
11/14 4-8 pm
11/16 4-8 pm
3/12 4-8 pm
3/14 4-8 pm

STEM Conferences
11/14 3-7 pm
11/16 3-7 pm
3/12 3-7 pm
3/14 3-7 pm

Sports News

2023-24 Physicals

Every Comstock athlete must have a physical on file with the athletic office that is dated after April 15, 2023, to be able to participate during the 2023-24 school year. Please make an appointment with your family doctor or go to a walk-in clinic such as Wellnow Urgent Care or Bronson Fastcare on Gull Road.

2023-24 Athletic Event Admission Prices

During the 22-23 school year, the OK Conference in Grand Rapids approved a significant increase in pay for officials. This had a trickledown effect on all conferences in Southwest Michigan with it leading to all conferences in Southwest Michigan increasing their pay for officials. This decision then led to a change in what all conferences in Southwest Michigan would be charging at the gate. The Southwest 10 Conference decided we would be increasing ticket prices at high school events to \$7 for adults and \$5 for children and middle school events would be \$5 for adults and children.

2023-24 Athletic Event Payment at the Gate

Most of you have experienced paying for an athletic admission ticket at an event through an online process. The MHSAA started using

GoFan at all MHSAA tournaments in 2020 and the number of schools going cashless at athletic events has been increasing so Comstock will be going cashless at all high school and middle school athletic events starting this school year. You will be able to pre-purchase tickets online at www.gofan.co or you can purchase your tickets at the gate using a debit/credit card reader.

Season Pass Workers Needed

We are coordinating workers for the 23-24 school year right now. If you would like to work at athletic events for a family pass, please contact the athletic office at 269-250-8712. Some of the job duties include ticket taking, running the clock, keeping the scorebook, announcing and timing for track meets.

We have a free lifetime pass for all our senior citizens. 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 269-250-8712 to let us know if you are interested in working.

Hall of Fame Banquet & Nominations

The 2024 Comstock Hall of Fame Banquet will take place at the WMU Fetzer Center on Saturday, April 20, 2024. Nominations must be

received by the athletic director by November 1 to be included in the process for the 2024 induction. A nomination form can be found online at www.comstockPS.org/halloffame or on page 24 of this issue. Please email Justin Ansel at Justin.Ansel@ComstockPS.org with any questions.

High School Fall Sports Start Dates

Practice for the fall high school sports season will begin on August 7 for football, boys soccer, volleyball, cross country, girls golf and sideline cheer. Start times will be listed on the athletic website at www.comstockcolts.org.

Middle School Fall Sports Start Dates

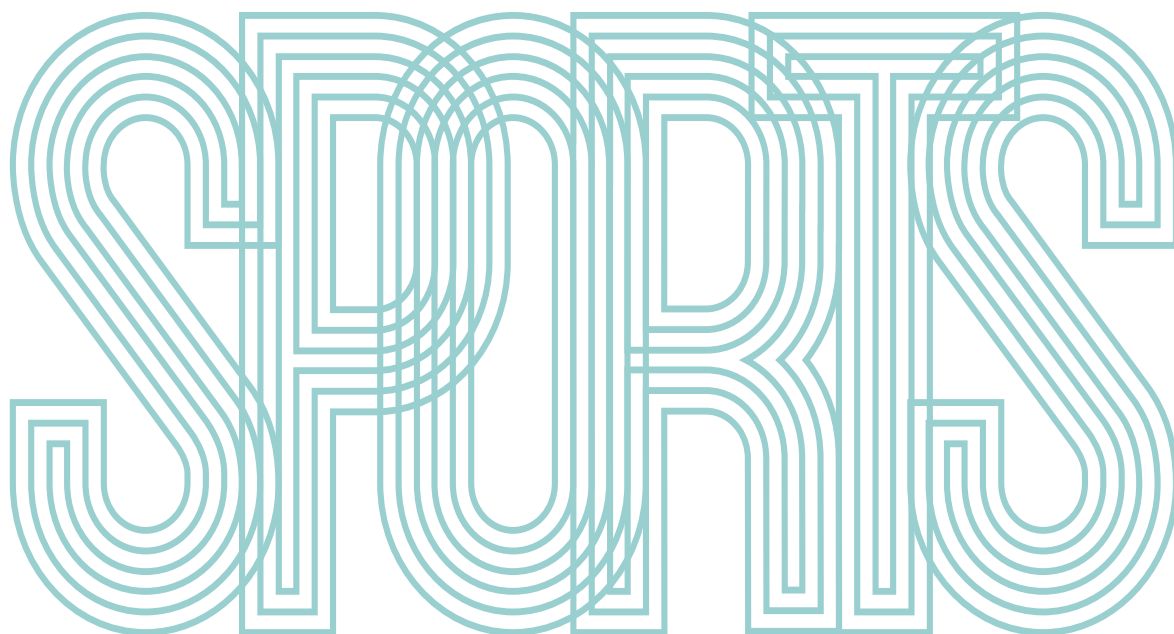
Practice for middle school seventh/eighth football, seventh/eighth sideline cheer, seventh/eighth girls volleyball, sixth to eighth boys soccer and sixth to eighth boys and girls cross country will tentatively begin on Monday, August 21. Official start times will be listed on the athletic website at www.comstockcolts.org as we get closer to the beginning of the season. All middle school football, sideline cheer, volleyball, boys soccer and cross country runners must have a physical on file with the athletic office in order to participate.

Grand Opening Set for Athletic Complex

The grand opening for the Hamet Athletic Complex is set for Thursday, August 24. The event begins at 5 p.m. with a tailgate party and potluck to be held in the parking lot near the new entrance.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place at 6:30 p.m. at the ticket booth/gated entrance. After that, fans can enter the stadium for the first home football game against the Schoolcraft Eagles which starts at 7 p.m.

During halftime, members of the Hamet family will be introduced. Then, the words on Dr. Hamet's memorial plaque will be read along with a declaration of the official opening of the Hamet Athletic Complex.



COMSTOCK HIGH SCHOOL FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES

Girls Varsity Volleyball

Sat 8/19	@ Lawton Invitational	8:30AM
Tue 8/22	Galesburg-Augusta HS	7:00PM
Tue 8/29	@ Martin Quad w/ Bloomingdale & WM Aviation	5:00PM
Thu 9/7	@ Hartford Public Schools	7:00PM
Tue 9/12	@ Lawrence Jr.-Sr. High School	7:00PM
Tue 9/19	Bloomingdale High School	7:00PM
Thu 9/21	@ White Pigeon Jr/Sr HS	7:00PM
Tue 9/26	@ Cassopolis High School	7:00PM
Sat 9/30	@ Bloomingdale Invitational	9:00AM
Tue 10/3	Bangor Public Schools	7:00PM
Thu 10/5	@ Centreville	7:00PM
Sat 10/7	Comstock Varsity Tournament	9:00AM
Mon 10/9	Marcellus High School	7:00PM
Thu 10/12	@ Mendon Tri	5:30PM
Tue 10/17	Decatur High School	7:00PM
Sat 10/21	@ SW 10 Conference Tourney - at Centreville	9:00AM
Tue 10/24	@ Allegan Varsity Tri	6:00PM

Girls Junior Varsity Volleyball

Fri 8/18	Comstock JV Volleyball Tournament	9:00AM
Sat 8/19	Comstock JV Volleyball Tourney	9:00AM
Tue 8/22	Galesburg-Augusta HS	6:00PM
Sat 8/26	@ Portage Northern JV Tourney	8:30AM
Tue 8/29	Comstock JV Quad	5:00PM
Thu 9/7	@ Hartford Public Schools	6:00PM
Tue 9/12	@ Lawrence Jr.-Sr. High School	6:00PM
Tue 9/19	Bloomingdale High School	6:00PM
Thu 9/21	@ White Pigeon Jr/Sr HS	6:00PM
Sat 9/23	@ Constantine Invitational	9:00AM
Tue 9/26	@ Cassopolis High School	6:00PM
Tue 10/3	Bangor Public Schools	6:00PM
Thu 10/5	@ Centreville	6:00PM
Mon 10/9	Marcellus High School	6:00PM
Thu 10/12	@ Mendon Tri	5:30PM
Tue 10/17	Decatur High School	6:00PM
Thu 10/19	Comstock Quad w/ Bridgman	5:00PM
Tue 10/24	Comstock JV Tri	5:00PM

Boys Junior Varsity Football

Wed 8/23	@ Schoolcraft High School	6:00PM
Wed 8/30	@ Allegan Public Schools	6:00PM
Thu 9/7	Cassopolis High School	6:00PM
Thu 9/14	@ White Pigeon Jr/Sr HS	6:00PM
Thu 9/21	Hartford Public Schools	6:00PM
Thu 9/28	Decatur High School	6:00PM
Thu 10/5	Centreville	7:00PM
Thu 10/12	@ Galesburg-Augusta HS	6:00PM
Thu 10/19	Lawton High School	6:00PM

Boys Varsity Football

Thu 8/24	Schoolcraft High School	7:00PM
Thu 8/31	Allegan Public Schools	7:00PM
Fri 9/8	@ Cassopolis High School	7:00PM
Fri 9/15	White Pigeon Jr/Sr HS	7:00PM
Fri 9/22	@ Hartford Public Schools	7:00PM
Fri 9/29	@ Decatur High School	7:00PM
Fri 10/6	@ Centreville	7:00PM
Fri 10/13	Galesburg-Augusta HS	7:00PM
Fri 10/20	@ Lawton High School	7:00PM

Boys Varsity Soccer

Fri 8/18	@ Coloma High School	5:00PM
Mon 8/21	Hopkins High School	5:00PM
Mon 8/28	Bangor Public Schools	5:00PM
Wed 8/30	Hartford Public Schools	5:00PM
Wed 9/6	Cassopolis High School	5:00PM
Thu 9/7	@ Lawton High School	6:00PM
Sat 9/9	@ Bloomingdale Tournament	9:00AM
Mon 9/11	@ Parchment High School	6:00PM
Wed 9/13	@ Bloomingdale High School	5:00PM
Thu 9/14	@ Schoolcraft High School	5:00PM
Mon 9/18	@ Bangor Public Schools	5:00PM
Wed 9/20	@ Hartford Public Schools	5:00PM
Mon 9/25	@ Cassopolis High School	5:00PM
Wed 9/27	Maple Valley High School	7:00PM
Mon 10/2	Bloomingdale High School	5:00PM
Wed 10/4	Quincy High School	5:00PM
Thu 10/5	Berrien Springs HS	4:30PM
Mon 10/9	Our Lady of the Lake Catholic HS	5:00PM

Boys & Girls Varsity Cross-Country

Tue 8/22	@ Three Rivers Big Hill Climb	5:00PM
Sat 8/26	@ Colon Invitational Colon	10:00AM
Tue 8/29	@ Marshall Barney Roy Invitational	6:00PM
Tue 9/5	Comstock XC Meet	6:00PM
Thu 9/7	@ Delton-Kellogg Invitational at Gilmore	5:30PM
Sat 9/9	@ Lakeview Invitational	9:00AM
Wed 9/13	@ SW10 Marcellus Meet	5:00PM

Tue 9/19	Comstock Meet	6:00PM
Sat 9/23	@ Bangor Invitational Bangor Invitational	9:30AM
Wed 9/27	@ SW10 White Pigeon Meet	5:00PM
Sat 9/30	@ Otsego Invitational Otsego	12:00PM
Wed 10/11	@ SW10 Bangor Meet	5:00PM
Sat 10/14	@ Bloomingdale Invitational	10:00AM
Sat 10/21	@ Kalamazoo Christian Invitational 3800 12th St. 49009	10:00AM

Girls Varsity Golf

Tue 8/15	@ KVA - Hackett Jamboree Milham Park	9:00AM
Thu 8/17	@ GK Golf at Lake Doster	9:00AM
Mon 8/21	@ KVA - Allegan Jamboree - Cheshire Hills	9:00AM
Tue 8/22	@ KVA - South Haven Jamboree - Beeches	8:00AM
Fri 9/1	@ KVA - Brandywine Jamboree - Hampshire	4:00PM
Wed 9/6	Comstock JV Tournament - Hickory Ridge	1:00PM
Fri 9/8	@ KVA - Dowagiac Jamboree - Indian Lake Hills	4:00PM
Mon 9/11	@ KVA - Michigan Lutheran - Blossom Trails	4:00PM
Thu 9/14	Comstock V Tournament - Eastern Hills	10:00AM
Tue 9/19	KVA - Comstock Jamboree - Eastern Hills	4:00PM
Thu 9/21	@ KVA - Cassopolis Jamboree - Diamond Lake	4:00PM
Mon 9/25	@ KVA - Schoolcraft Jamboree - States Golf Course	4:00PM
Thu 9/28	@ KVA - Kalamazoo Christian Jamboree - Heritage Glen	4:00PM
Mon 10/2	@ KVA Conference Tournament - Cheshire	TBA



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 Township Library News

AUGUST EVENTS

Youth

August 5 at 1 p.m.: Summer Park Party Join the Comstock Township Library and Comstock Parks and Recreation Department at Merrill Park for the biggest party of the summer! This year, we will host a foam party with music and games. Food will also be available. The foam is hypo-allergenic and safe for children.

Starting August 7 and while supplies last: Take-Home Back to School Craft Pick up a take-home craft at the library. All supplies and instructions are included. Take home crafts are available in the Youth Department while supplies last. Priority will be given to children registered for and participating in our Summer Reading Program.

Tween & Teen

Starting August 1 and while supplies last: Take-Home Craft Drop by the Youth Department and grab a teen/tween take home craft. Every month, we will offer a new project for tweens (4th-7th grades) and teens (8th-12th grades). One craft per teen/tween. Available while supplies last.

Adults

Please note: The program Crystal Culture scheduled for August 30 has been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Week of August 7: Take-Home Craft Mandala Suncatchers An easy and colorful delight for your home! Registration is required for this free event and begins August 7 on our website, www.comstocklibrary.org. Select the Events Calendar under the Events tab and register under the appropriate program. You may also call the Library for registration assistance. Space is limited. A valid Comstock Township Library card required for registration. If you don't have a CTL card but would like to participate, please call us at 269-345-0136 to see about getting a card beforehand. Once registered, you can stop by the Library for your bag of craft supplies.

August 16 at 6 p.m.: Flameless Scorched Wood Magnets How can you achieve a burned wood look without a flame? Join the Comstock

Township Library to discover the key to this craft. Registration is required for this free event and begins July 26 on our website, www.comstocklibrary.org. Select the Events Calendar under the Events tab and register under the appropriate program. You may also call the Library for registration assistance. Space is limited. A valid Comstock Township Library card required for registration. If you don't have a CTL card but would like to participate, please call us at 269-345-0136 to see about getting a card beforehand.

Week of August 21: Take-Home Craft Watermelon Wreaths Enjoy this refreshing wreath treat as the summer begins to wind down. Registration is required for this free event and begins August 21 on our website, www.comstocklibrary.org. Select the Events Calendar under the Events tab and register under the appropriate program. You may also call the Library for registration assistance. Space is limited. A valid Comstock Township Library card required for registration. If you don't have a CTL card but would like to participate, please call us at 269-345-0136 to see about getting a card beforehand. Once registered, you can stop by the Library for your bag of craft supplies.

August 30 at 6 p.m.: Book Tasting Having trouble deciding what to read lately? Ready to dive into something new? Or do you just want to socialize about the books you have read yourself that you would recommend to all who will listen? Come to our book tasting and treat yourself to a sampling of many books all at once. Adrienne the Librarian will have five tables set up with five books each to "taste." Genres served will be Mainstream, Historical Fiction, Nonfiction, Biographies, and Different. A sixth table will feature "menus" where you can offer your own "entrees" and recommendations. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited, so register soon.

August 31 at 6 p.m.: Adult Book Club – *Our Best Intentions* by Vibhuti Jain Please join us for a discussion of *Our Best Intentions* by Vibhuti Jain. High schooler Angie stumbles upon a crime scene one day during summer vacation and it throws the entire community into chaos in this contem-

CURRENT LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

UPCOMING CLOSURES:

Please note: The Comstock Township Library will be closed from Saturday, September 2, through Monday, September 4, in observance of the Labor Day holiday. The Library will reopen during its regular hours on Tuesday, September 5.

Contact us: 269-345-0136

info@comstocklibrary.org

www.comstocklibrary.org

porary thriller. Library copies or free copies of the book will be provided depending on availability. Snacks and drinks will be served. Registration and book pick-up begin Monday, July 31.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Youth

Starting September 12, Family Storytime will be held every Tuesday and Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Family Storytime provides an opportunity for caregivers to actively engage with their children from infancy to five years old. Build early literacy skills in a welcoming environment through meaningful stories, songs, and play. Encourage a love of language and reading while practicing listening and cooperative tasks. Every story time is followed by a sensory toy play time.

Tween and Teen

September 14 at 6 p.m.: Pizza & Pages Join our theme-based book club! Participants in third through sixth grades will eat pizza, discuss what they have read, and participate in a fun auction to end the hour. September's theme: Read any book from a series. Audio books, graphic novels, and juvenile fiction are all acceptable. Registration is required, and each child must register individually. A valid Comstock Township Library card is required for registration. If you don't have a CTL card, but would like to participate, please call us a 269- 345-0136.

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Adults

Every Tuesday at 10 a.m. from September 19 through October 24: Writing With Wilma

Please join the Comstock Township Library's Reminiscence Writing Class. You can write about your past or present; you can write essays, stories, fiction, or poems. It's just a fun, supportive class for people who love to write. Class leader Wilma Kahn has an MFA in Creative Writing and a DA in English. How does this class work? Wilma provides optional writing ideas or you can write anything you like. You do your writing at home, share it each week with classmates at the library, and hand it in—in person, by email, or by mail. Wilma will return your writing the following week with helpful comments. Participants will be asked to bring some of their writing to share at the first meeting. Bring a memoir vignette, an essay, a story, or a few poems. Questions? Email Wilma at wjk1234@gmail.com. Hope to see you in September!

Week of September 11: Take-Home Craft:

Cactus Pincushion With this adorable pincushion, the cactus gets stuck instead of you! Registration is required for this free event and begins September 11 on our website, www.comstocklibrary.org. Select the Events Calendar under the Events tab and register under the

appropriate program. You may also call the Library for registration assistance. Space is limited. A valid Comstock Township Library card required for registration. If you don't have a CTL card but would like to participate, please call us at 269-345-0136 to see about getting a card beforehand. Once registered, you can stop by the Library for your bag of craft supplies.

September 20 at 5:30 p.m.: Euchre Night!

What's trump again? Grab your favorite partner and come on in to enjoy a leisurely evening of Euchre! Four tables of four will be set up to see who gets to take all the tricks. Light refreshments will be served, and you are welcome to bring in a snack to pass. Registration is required for this free event and begins September 4 on our website, www.comstocklibrary.org. Select the Events Calendar under the Events tab and register under the appropriate program. You may also call the

Library for registration assistance. A valid Comstock Township Library card is required for registration. If you don't have a CTL card, but would like to participate, please call us at 269-345-0136 to see about getting a card beforehand.

September 28 at 6 p.m.: Adult Book Club –

Rock Paper Scissors by Alice Feeney Please join us for a discussion of *Rock Paper Scissors* by Alice Feeney, the “queen of the killer twist”! In this thriller, Mr. and Mrs. Wright win a trip to Scotland and decide it's just what their ailing 10-year marriage needs. They both know this weekend will make or break their marriage, but they didn't randomly win this trip. One of them is lying, and someone doesn't want them to live happily ever after. It'll be an anniversary they'll never forget. Books will be provided to participants. Registration and book pick-up begin Monday, August 28.

