

# The Comstock Communicator

COMSTOCK HIGH SCHOOL | COMPASS HIGH SCHOOL & ADULT EDUCATION | NORTHEAST MIDDLE SCHOOL | NORTH ELEMENTARY | STEM ACADEMY | GREEN MEADOW ELEMENTARY



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## MORE NEWS

*Turn over to read  
Center Point*

A newsletter about the  
Comstock  
Community Center



# From the Superintendent

## Greetings to the Colt Educational Community!

Reconfiguring the district's buildings to better accommodate the district's students isn't the only project that will be happening this summer. Several major construction projects funded by bond monies also will be completed. These projects are at the three buildings involved in the reconfiguration - Comstock Elementary School, Comstock Middle School, and Comstock Early Learning Academy (CELA). The construction will help prepare those locations for their new roles.

However, this summer's work schedule also involves projects at the other three district schools - Compass, Comstock High School, and STEM. Here are those projects along with the rationale for each.

**Paving of the high school service loop** - The backside of the high school has an access road that is known as the service loop. The surface of this loop is currently in a deteriorated state with many deep holes and ruts. As such, it is in need of complete replacement. This entails removing the current asphalt and laying down an entirely new surface.



*The deteriorating service loop at the high school is scheduled to be resurfaced this summer.*

**Relocating the five portables from Green Meadow to STEM** - The district's five portable classrooms are no longer needed at their current

location behind Green Meadow given the conversion of the building next year to CELA. All of CELA's instructional needs will be covered by the existing classrooms in the building. On the other hand, STEM is nearing capacity due in large part to the consistent popularity and growth of the program not only in Comstock but across the county as well. Since it opened its doors six years ago, STEM has experienced an average growth rate of 16 percent each year. The relocation of the five portables is a strategic move that will allow the program and, in parallel fashion, the district to continue expanding its student population for the near future.

**Creating a new parking lot at STEM** - This project is actually three in one - a parking lot, driving loop, and access road. Given the rapid and expansive growth of STEM in a short span of time, there is inadequate access for dropping off and picking up students. Also, there is insufficient parking for school events. The new parking lot will be to the south of the school and will contain a loop for parents to drop off or pick up their children and also more places for parking. Finally, due to fire codes, fire trucks must have access to the portables in the event of a fire or emergency. This project provides that fire lane.

**Moving and installing the playground equipment from current locations to Comstock Elementary School and CELA** - This project entails the relocation of playground equipment from North and Green Meadow Elementary Schools to Comstock Elementary School as well as some preschool playground equipment from North to CELA.

**Upgrading the exterior of both Comstock Middle School and STEM** - The vast majority and most visible part of the exterior surface of both schools is a material referred to as E.I.F.S. (pronounced "EEE-fiss"). It is a stucco-like material sprayed on a wire mesh with insulation inside. It is an obsolete surface that is no longer



**COMSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
A SCHOOL DISTRICT DEDICATED TO KIDS  
[www.comstockps.org](http://www.comstockps.org)

Dr. Jeff Thoenes  
*Superintendent*

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Pamela Dickinson, President
- Shirley Amos, Vice President
- Karen Howes, Secretary
- Brandy Brown, Treasurer
- Saralynn Brown, Trustee
- Matt Schreiner, Trustee
- Dori Scholly Trustee
- Ken Greenwood, Appointed Treasurer
- Faye Goldner, Appointed Recording Secretary

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

## VISION STATEMENT

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

## QUESTIONS?

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

## STORIES OR INFORMATION

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



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*Continued on page 3*



*This is the entrance of STEM after the removal of the E.I.F.S. and replacing it with the colored metal paneling this past fall. We will do the same with the remaining E.I.F.S. on the building.*

commonly used for school buildings. This project entails pulling off all of the material from the building and replacing it with colored metal panels. We will be choosing a blue/gray color similar to our school color theme. Not only will the buildings look more attractive and new, but they will also be cooler in the summer and warmer in winter.

**Replacing flooring in six classrooms at Compass High School** - Due to the age, poor quality, and unsightly appearance of the carpeting in six classrooms at Compass High School, the district will be removing the old carpeting and replacing it with a modern resilient carpeting. This carpeting comes in squares and does not wrinkle, roll, or

buckle. It is also nearly impervious to damage and any discoloration is easily wiped off. This type of carpeting will be the standard for all future district carpeting installations.



*This aging and deteriorating carpeting at Compass High School will be replaced this summer.*

If you have any questions about these projects or any of our programming changes for the 2019-20 school year, please feel free to reach out to me either via email, phone call, or personal visit. I can be reached at [thoenesj@comstockps.org](mailto:thoenesj@comstockps.org) or 269-250-8906. I look forward to our conversation!

Dr. Jeffrey J. Thoenes, Superintendent  
*"It's a great day to be a Colt!"*

## Save the Date for CES Open House

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

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

## Board Briefs

### REGULAR MEETING

**March 11, 2019**

- Heard a presentation from Rida Jones, high school social worker, and Chelsea Taylor, CCA Dean. They presented information about TRAILS - Transforming Research into Action to Improve the Lives of Students, a program which brings effective mental health care to students with symptoms of depression and anxiety. This would be a two-year partnership with the University of Michigan to provide mental health services to students at no cost to the district.
- Approved the following retirements:
  - Sue Duncan, elementary music teacher
  - Chris Ransom, Green Meadow fourth grade teacher
  - Charlene Daily, CHS science teacher
- Created the position of an assistant elementary school principal.
- Approved Courtney Boyce as assistant elementary principal beginning with the 2019-2010 school year.

### REGULAR MEETING

**March 25, 2019**

- Recognized Trustees Karen Howes and Matt Schreiner for achieving the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Level One Certification and Award of Merit.
- Recognized students in the Science Olympiad for qualifying for the state competition.
- Approved the bid from Battle Creek Tile and Mosaic in the amount of \$31,260 for carpet installation and the bid from BDN in the amount of \$37,500 for asbestos removal, both to be done at Compass High School.
- Created the position of CELA Director/Teacher to supervise the state requirements and day-to-day operations of the day care program as well as be the lead teacher.
- Created a CELA Aide position to support the lead teacher in the daycare program.
- Heard a presentation from Ken Greenwood, business manager, on the financial aspects of running

a daycare program.

- Heard from Mark Wilke, principal of the Comstock Early Learning Academy (CELA) about the district creating the only Chinese Immersion program for preschool children in the Midwest. This is a partnership with WMU which will provide the teacher and help create the curriculum.

### REGULAR MEETING

**April 8, 2019**

- Recognized Cindy Bloom, NEMS social studies teacher, for being named one of 45 Grosvenor Teacher Fellows, a program of the National Geographic Society and Lindblad Expeditions.
- Approved the following teachers for tenure:
  - Kristin Card - High school art teacher
  - Kristie Poulson - High school math teacher
  - Sarah Lyster - North Elementary teacher
  - Alesia Walsh - NEMS Academic Intervention teacher



Dear Comstock Community,

On behalf of the Board of Education, students, staff and administration, I want to thank Comstock voters for the approval of our one-mill sinking fund proposal on Tuesday, May 7. This fund will generate about \$500,000 per year over 10 years and will help us with much needed improvements, upkeep, and repairs to our district's infrastructure. Our students and staff deserve to have facilities that match modern standards and this election is a big step toward that end.

Look for future information and updates on these improvement projects in district messaging including The Comstock Communicator.

It's a great day to be a Colt!

Gratefully,  
Dr. Jeffrey J. Thoenes  
Superintendent

## Community Auditorium Events Open to the Public

### June:

- 1 - Traci Phelps Dance Studios Performance, 2-5:30 p.m. Call Studio for details/tickets.
- 4 - STEM Middle School Awards Night, 5-6 p.m.-Doors open at 4:30.
- 5 - Comstock NEMS Awards Program, 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.
- 8 - Tamburitzans-Comstock Community Center Fundraiser Show, 7:30 p.m.
- 9 - Momentum Dance Studio Recital: 2 p.m. Doors open at 1 p.m. Call Studio for details/tickets.
- 17-21-Homeschool Performing Arts Drama camp. Look online for registration and details. hpami.org
- 22 -Trinity Prep Center Dance Recital, 2 p.m.

# Comstock Board of Education Governance

Did you know that school board members make up the largest body of elected officials in the United States? So why do citizens serve on boards of education? School board members consistently report that they deeply care about doing the right thing for children. By serving, school board members give countless hours to the governance of public schools and open themselves up to the scrutiny and, sometimes, acrimony from community members. While school board service is most certainly not for the timid or uninformed, it can be extremely rewarding and an excellent means of impacting one's community.

The Comstock Public Schools Board of Education is the governing body of the school district and serves the diverse needs and values of our local community. Our members are a group of seven community volunteers elected by the public and entrusted to set policies for the schools. Aside from the teachers, principals and the superintendent, our school board members are charged with the enormous responsibility of deciding how monies are spent and setting the governing policies for the district.

The Comstock Board of Education meets twice a month. These meetings are open to the public and we encourage the community to attend.

Other board responsibilities include hiring and evaluating the district's superintendent, adopting policies that will affect each school in the district, serving as a judicial and appeals body to resolve conflicts, managing the collective bargaining process for the district's employees, and allocating funds. We are also tasked with other duties, that even if seemingly mundane, might greatly affect you and your child's everyday life, like deciding on the school calendar, choosing school bus times and routes, adopting new curriculums, and deciding on individual construction projects.

The Board of Education plays a vital role in keeping the district on track by aligning our strategic plan with our vision and mission for the district, but always with our students' best interests in mind. Our school board works with, and for, the community, always with the overarching goal of continuously improving our local schools.

The board also helps maintain a strong organizational structure that empowers our superintendent and district administrators to manage the schools, teachers to effectively teach, and the students to be supported in a thriving learning environment.

The current members of the CPS Board of Education share a genuine interest in the continuous improvement of our public schools. We are vision-driven in a partnership with our superintendent and stakeholders and committed to the welfare of the Comstock community. We have a shared vision of success for the district with a team approach of attaining our vision.

## 5 Key Functions of the CPS Board of Education

**1. Sets a vision** - We are charged with establishing a clear vision and high expectations for quality education that supports strong student outcomes.

**2. Advances policy** - We set practical guidelines for transforming the vision into reality. Through policy, the school board influences nearly every aspect of school operations.

**3. Demonstrates accountability** - We share responsibility with educators for the performance of the district's schools and students. This means maintaining high academic standards, transparency, and accountability.

**4. Plays a leadership role in the communi-**

**ty** - We listen to and respond to a community's concerns and explain the district's priorities to the public.

**5. Forges consensus** - The board regularly faces issues that invite a diversity of strong opinions and passionate beliefs. Our goal is to pursue consensus, to reconcile differences, and to reach compromises, all in the service of our students.

### How can you communicate with your school board members?

Our contact information is located on the school district's website which includes email addresses and some phone numbers.

## Comstock High School

## Two Seniors Receive Excellence in Education Awards

Seniors Audrey Rabick and Branden Willis were honored recently at the annual Excellence in Education awards program.

This program, sponsored by the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Services Agency (KRESA) honors graduating seniors from Kalamazoo County Schools and the educators the students name as the most influential in their lives.

Audrey chose Laurajane Van Niman, her second grade teacher from Green Meadow, as her significant educator.

“As my first and second grade teacher, Mrs. Van Niman set me on the path of academic success from an early age,” said Audrey. “She has truly stood by me throughout my life. A teacher, a mentor, and a friend, she exceeded all expectations of an educator and has shaped my personality and my future for the better.”

As Audrey’s significant educator, Ms. VanNiman said, “I have always believed that the best way to prepare my students for the future is by getting to know who each of my students is, and helping them find what their passion is. My goal is to give them the tools they need to feel confident in their abilities and voices, and that they will use these talents to pursue their passions and see that learning is a lifelong journey.”

For his significant educator, Branden chose, Justin Ansel, Comstock’s athletic director.

“Justin Ansel has been my soccer coach and the athletic director at my school,” said Branden. “He has been a significant educator to me because he has always been there for me; he has pushed me to succeed, and do better in everything I do. He has taught me how to play soccer and how to lead while being out on a field. I would have wanted no other coach except him for the last four years.”

Noting that he had coached Branden starting in sixth grade, Mr. Ansel said he has watched him grow into a “star defensive player which won three conference championships and a district championship.”

“The leadership he provided for our team on and off the field was amazing,” said Mr. Ansel. “He was a three-sport athlete who also challenged himself with rigorous courses. I look forward to seeing what he will accomplish in the future, and I am honored to be part of the journey.”

As Excellence in Education honorees, Audrey and Branden have been awarded \$1,000 scholarships. Audrey plans to attend Miami University of Ohio to major in chemical engineering. Her parents are Meredith and Gregory Rabick.

While Branden is undecided about his college, he plans to major in actuarial mathematics. His parents are Michelle and Justin Willis.

## Young-5’s and Kindergarten Registration

There is still time to sign up for Comstock’s Young-5’s program. Spaces are limited, but if your child will be turning five years old between September 1 and December 1, 2019, please consider registering soon.

Kindergarten registration is open for students who will be turning five years old before September 1, 2019.

Please call 269-250-8960 for registration information.



## Hazardous Weather Communications



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

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

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

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

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

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

### CALL LETTERS

98.5 FM, 96.5 FM (WNWN, WFAT)  
 100.9 FM (WQXC)  
 903 AM, 1400 AM (WBCK, WRCC)  
 106.5 FM, 590 AM, 1470 AM (WQLR, WKZO, WQSN)  
 107.7 FM, 103.3 FM (WRKR, WKFR)  
 TV 3 WWMT-TV  
 TV 8 WOOD-TV  
 TV 4 WOTV

## Northeast Middle School

# Vito Valella Retires from JA Program

After 15 years of teaching the Junior Achievement (JA) Global Marketplace program to sixth graders in Liz O'Brien's social studies classes at Northeast Middle School, Vito Valella has decided to retire from the program.

A retired training manager from Whirlpool, Mr. Valella enjoyed his volunteer work in the JA program which allowed him to bring his corporate experiences and his world travels to the students as they learned about trade, immigration, and the world marketplace.

The goal of the program is to widen students' understanding of the economies of different countries as well as immigration, he said.

"In the first class, they do a hunt for clothes manufactured in other countries," he said. "I'll ask, 'Where do you think most things come from?' They say, 'China.' They come from different places. I think one year we had 26 different countries. We encourage them to read the labels on their own clothing, too."

Before coming to that class, Mr. Valella would check his own clothing labels so he could tell students where the different pieces of his outfit came from.

In discussions about immigration, students would learn about why people come to the United States whether it's fleeing bad situations in their own countries or for financial reasons.

"We talk about their parents, grandparents or themselves who have immigrated and the problems they've faced because they are immigrants," he said, noting that his own grandparents immigrated from Italy.

From his travels to Italy, Mexico, Canada, France, Eastern Europe, Switzerland, and England, Mr. Valella brought in currencies from those countries and also talked about his travel experiences.

"I enjoyed helping people better understand what they do as growing adults in the world," he said. "I want people to be able to support themselves and to make contributions of their own."

Mr. Valella has decided to retire from the program because the program has changed.

"They switched the program to a computer-based one and I don't like it," he said. "My background is in information technology so it's



*Mr. Valella poses with his last sixth grade Junior Achievement class.*

not the computer itself. It's the way the program flows. It just didn't appeal to me."

He's definitely going to miss the students and his interactions with them. Students would often come up to hug him after a session and when he would see them out in the community with their parents, they would say, "Oh, look! There's Mr. V, my Junior Achievement teacher."

Ms. O'Brien, in whose class Mr. Valella has volunteered for the last 15 years, is appreciative of the wealth of knowledge he brought to the JA program in her classroom.

"His contributions to our sixth grade students are immeasurable," she said. "He has become part of our school family and I am grateful for his contributions to our school."



*Superintendent Dr. Jeff Thoenes thanks Vito Valella for his many years of volunteering for Junior Achievement at Comstock.*

## Northeast Middle School

# NEMS Learn About Careers during KVCC Visit

NEMS sixth graders recently visited Kalamazoo Valley Community College's Culinary and Allied Health building. The students toured the culinary and health programs, learned first-hand from chefs, and had hands-on experiences with the latest medical technology.

Students especially enjoyed climbing into the back of a real, fully stocked ambulance, practicing chest compressions, and experimenting with Three-G Man, a high-tech simulation patient used for training future nurses and EMTs.

They came away with knowledge of careers in the culinary and health fields, asked a lot of questions, and had a great experience.



*NEMS sixth graders examine a simulated patient at KVCC.*



*NEMS students find out what it's like to be in an ambulance.*

## STEM Academy

# STEM Academy Students Participate in Running Programs

Over 40 STEM Academy students participated in two running programs this spring - Let Me Run and Girls on the Run. Both programs teach students about making positive choices, navigating peer relationships all while training for a 5K event.

Let Me Run is an after-school program for boys in grades 4-6. This year's team had 13 boys participating and was coached by Coach Chris Chopp and Coach Fred Keister.

Girls on the Run is an after-school program for girls in grades 3-5. This year STEM had two teams, composed of 29 girls. They were coached by Julie Woods, Stephanie Kilcoyne, Justice Hardwick, Maren Tillman, Linda Foster, and Chanel Baldwin. The program coordinator/site liaison is Kim Sandefur.

All three teams completed 5K races in May - the girls teams in downtown Kalamazoo and the boys teams at River Oaks Park.



*STEM Academy's running teams*

STEM Academy

# Third Graders Learn about Musical Instruments

The Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra (KSO) came to STEM Academy this spring, bringing their Instrument Petting Zoo for third graders. Students got to play the instruments as they rotated through five different stations from the orchestra.

Eighth grade band students helped at each station with KSO staff, so the third graders saw demonstrations given by the eighth grade band students.



*Tyler Caswell shows a student how to play the trumpet.*



*Will Meeus shows Isaiah how to play the French horn.*



*Saydee Peterson shows a student how to play a clarinet.*

Green Meadow Elementary

## Green Meadow Presents Last Musical Performance

Green Meadow's K-5 students recently presented their last musical performance, *On Broadway*. The Comstock Community Auditorium was packed as music teacher, Beth Stachura, led the students through a variety of Broadway songs.

Ms. Stachura was presented with flowers in honor of her last elementary performance since next year she will be focusing on middle and high school choirs.

It was Green Meadow's last performance because next year, the school will be part of the newly-formed Comstock Elementary School.



*Green Meadow second graders perform their last musical, *On Broadway*.*



North Elementary

# North Elementary Hosts Leadership Day

During North Elementary's Leadership Day this spring, the Student Lighthouse Team treated guests to performances, skits, and information about The Leader in Me program.

Principal Mark Wilke and Lead Coordinator Sarah Lyster spoke on the implementation process and the positive changes the program has had on the student body.

Guests toured classrooms where students presented Leadership Binders, mission statements, class data, and activities used to teach the 7 Habits.

Following the tours, student leaders from every class presented a skit, song, or performance to model each habit.



Leaders in Ms. Appel's room share Leadership Binders with guests.



The Student Lighthouse Team performs the school song, "This Is Me."



North Elementary students explain their work to Superintendent Dr. Jeff Thoenes.



Green Meadow Elementary

## New Address for Box Tops for Education



Green Meadow appreciates the support of those who send us Box Tops for Education, but because of the district's reconfiguration, there is a new address to use for those mailing us those box tops and for dropping them off at the school.

Please mail or drop off your Box Tops to: Comstock Elementary School, 1423 N. 28th St., Kalamazoo MI 49048. The Box Tops are used to buy books for the library.

Comstock Elementary School

## CES Receives Grant for Sensory Paths



School social worker, Dr. Amy Vlieg, has received a \$3,500 grant from the Fetzer Institute to be used for two sensory paths in the elementary school.

These paths decrease negative behaviors and increase cognition in students, said Dr. Vlieg. The activities in the sensory paths "stimulate their brains and calm their bodies allowing them to focus their energy on school work."

According to fitandfunplayspaces.com, "A sensory path is a colorful, creative and playful way for kids to build sensory pathways, connections in the brain that are responsible for sight, touch, sound, etc., which enable kids to complete complex, multi-stage tasks. A sensory path is a great way for kids to develop motor skills like balance, hand-eye coordination, and spatial awareness."



*This is a sample of a possible sensory path which will be installed at Comstock Elementary School next year.*

## Comstock Public Schools 2018-2019 School Calendar

June 10	Half Day Students K-12 (High School Exams)	Half Day Students & Teachers K-12
June 11	Half Day Students K-12 (High School Exams)	Half Day Students & Teachers K-12
June 12	<b>LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS</b> (High School Exams) Records Day P.M.	Half Day Students K-12 Last Day for Teachers

happy  
SUMMER!



# Battle of the Buses



**PARCHMENT**  
PANTHERS

**Come Support Our Kids!**

**July 18-20, 2019**

**Thursday: 3-7 p.m.**

**Friday-Saturday: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

**Walmart on Gull Rd.**

**COMSTOCK**  
Public Schools



Join the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Pathways to Potential program, Parchment Schools and Comstock Schools as they collect **donated supplies to help kids in need be prepared for their first day of school.** This friendly competition will help students in need throughout both school districts.

## Needed Supplies:

Kleenex  
Sanitizer wipes/Hand Sanitizer  
Dry Erase Markers  
Poster Board  
Rulers  
Calculators  
Glue Sticks  
Pencils and Pens  
Crayons  
Colored pencils  
Highlighters  
Markers  
Fine point markers  
Folders

Binders  
Note pads  
Notebook Paper  
Construction Paper  
Pencil erasers  
Small Dixie Cups  
Shampoo  
Conditioner  
Soap  
Deodorant  
Tampons/Pads  
Toothbrush/Toothpaste  
Combs/Brushes  
Hair Ties

Lice Kits  
Alarm clocks  
Socks  
Underwear  
T-Shirts  
Sweatshirts  
Jeans/Jogging Pants  
Winter Coats/Boots/Gloves  
Tennis Shoes  
Gift Cards  
Candy  
Individual Snacks – Peanut Free

# Athletic Department News

## 2019-20 High School, Middle School Physicals

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

## Stadium Reserved Seating

Reserved seating will be offered for the 2019-20 school year. The first home varsity football game kicks off at 7 p.m. on August 29 vs Saugatuck. We have two options this year. A regular seat for the year is \$5 and we now also have a seat with a back rest that is \$10 a seat for the year. The proceeds will be used to help fund the 2020 Hall of Fame Banquet and Awards. Please support Comstock Athletics and our Hall of Fame Banquet by purchasing a reserved seat through the athletic office at 250-8711.

## Season Pass Workers Needed

We are starting to coordinate workers for next school year right now. If you would like to work at athletic events for a family pass, please contact the athletic office. Some of the job duties include ticket taking, running the clock, keeping the scorebook, announcing and timing for track meets. We have a lifetime pass for all our senior citizens for free. If senior citizens would still like to help out at our athletic events, we would love to have you here but it is not required. Please give us a call at 269- 250-8711 to let us know if you are interested in working.

## Hall of Fame Nominations

The Comstock Hall of Fame committee is accepting nominations for the 2020 induction. Nominations must be received by the athletic director by November 1, 2019, to be included in the process for the 2020 induction. A nomination form is in this issue of the *Communicator*. It can also be found online at [www.comstockps.org/halloffame](http://www.comstockps.org/halloffame). Please call Justin Ansel with any questions at 250-8711.

## High School Fall Sports Start Dates

Practice for the fall high school sports season will begin on August 12 for high school football, volleyball, girls golf, boys soccer, sideline cheer and cross country. Start times will be listed on the athletic website at [comstockcolts.org](http://comstockcolts.org). Every athlete must have a physical dated after April 15, 201, to participate.

## NEMS Fall Sports Start Dates

Practice for NEMS volleyball, soccer and cross country can begin the week of August 19. Start times will be listed on the athletic website at [comstockcolts.org](http://comstockcolts.org).

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

Tryouts for the 2019-20 Comstock Stampede basketball third through eighth grade girls and third through sixth grade boys are tentatively scheduled for Sunday, September 29, and is specifically for students attending Comstock Public Schools. We will send out more information to all students after school starts. The girls and boys will play six to eight games and a tournament in the Sharp Shooters league from October to December. All

fall sports being played are a priority and until the fall season is over, students try to make the basketball practices when they can.

There will be a \$50 charge plus the cost of a uniform unless you already have one. It is a great program for learning a lot about basketball and we hope to see a lot of students from Comstock participating.

The CYB basketball program will not take place this year so this is the only opportunity for fall/winter basketball at Comstock. If you have any questions, please give Justin Ansel a call at 250-8711.

## 2018-19 All State Athlete

Congratulations to Daisy Ansel for making First Team All State in Basketball for the Associated Press, *Detroit News*, *Detroit Free Press* and Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan. She also made the First Team All USA Michigan for USA Today. She had an amazing season averaging 30 points a game and finished her career as the top girls basketball scorer in Comstock's history with 1,712 points. She will be attending GVSU in the fall to continue her basketball career.

## Comstock Seniors Playing College Sports

Congratulations to the seniors below for earning the opportunity to continue to play sports at the next level:

Daisy Ansel – Grand Valley State University – Basketball

Abby House – Lourdes University – Basketball  
Aliyah Woodman – Lake Michigan College – Volleyball

Brendon Blades – Olivet College - Football



Daisy Ansel became Comstock's top girls basketball scorer.



Abby House signs with Lourdes University.



Aliyah Woodman signs with Lake Michigan College.



Brendon Blades signs with Olivet College.

# 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*



## SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

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

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

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

# Comstock Township Library Events

**Community Yard Sale:** Saturday, June 8, 2019, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Start planning now to participate in or attend the Community Yard Sale hosted on the library grounds. Sellers may purchase a 10x10 space for \$5.00, due at registration. To reserve your space, please stop by the library. Tables, chairs and change are not available; you must bring your own. \*Multiple spaces can be purchased for a larger sales area\* No food items, please. 30 spaces available. Spaces are not available inside the library. In the case of inclement weather, it is the vendor's choice whether or not to set up.

**Summer Reading Program for Adults:** A Universe of Stories! Early Bird Registration starts on Saturday, June 1. You can begin reporting the books you read on Saturday, June 15, at the Adult Reference desk. Enter a form for every book you read or listen to from June 1 until August 10 for weekly drawings! The grand prize will be a gift basket full of out-of-this-world surprises! Registration is required for the SRP and can be done on our website or by calling 345-0136. On the website, go to Programs and it will be under "Upcoming Events."

**Adult Craft:** Wednesday, June 12, at 5:30 p.m. **Independence Day Wreath.** Decorate your door with some shades of red, white, and blue for July 4! Registration is required for this free event. On our website, go to Programs and it will be under "Upcoming Events." You may also register by calling 345-0136. Space is limited.

**Adult Craft:** Wednesday, July 24, at 5:30 p.m. **Flower Bomb.** Want to randomly decorate barren land? Learn how to make flower bombs to add some color to the earth! Registration is required for this free event and begins on July 8 on our website. Go to Programs and it will be under "Upcoming Events." You may also register by calling 345-0136. Space is limited.

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

The Comstock Township Library offers a summer reading program for children and teens every year to promote literacy and community. We have programs and events Monday through Thursday, along with live performers every week, all free to you.

The summer reading program works around busy family schedules, too. You can be on vacation or out of town and still participate. Go at a pace that fits your needs and as you hit certain milestones you can earn prizes like free Pizza Hut coupons or ice cream

from Culver's. Every child and teen who completes the summer reading program will be able to choose two new books to take home. We don't limit the amount of reading you can do during the summer either. If you want to do the program all over again, we allow that and you can keep earning unlimited free books that way! Early bird registration begins June 1 with prizes being redeemed starting June 15.

**Family Art: Mondays, 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. for ages 3+** Enjoy the fun and creativity of arts and crafts this summer! All children under 6 must have their adult helper with them to complete the projects. Registration is required for this free event.

**Drop-In Family Storytime: Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. in the Township Meeting Room. All ages.** Join us for a half hour of stories, rhymes, music and play. No registration is necessary for this free event. Storytimes begin Thursday, June 20, and run through Thursday, August 8. Note: no programs on July 4 – Library Closed.

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

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

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

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

## Special Entertainers!

The library will host the following entertainers and large scale events this summer:

Saturday, June 15: Library's Summer Reading

## CLOSINGS

The library will be closed on Thursday, July 4, for Independence Day.

Program 2019 kickoff party along with Air Zoo's Planetarium from 1-3 p.m.

Wednesday, June 19: Cirque Amongus, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 26: Paleo Joe's Dinos in Space! 6:30 p.m. (limited space)

Wednesday, July 10: Classroom Critters, 6:30 p.m. (limited space)

Wednesday, July 17: Fireman Mike Storytime, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 24: Magic Workshop, 6:30 p.m. (limited space)

Wednesday, July 10: Family Dance Party with Ms. Liz, 6:30 p.m.

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

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



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



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



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



## Now Available

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



## Computer Help

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



## Need Resume Help?

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