

The Comstock Communicator

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



ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

From the Superintendent
page 2

Board Briefs
page 3

CPS Strategic Plan 2020-25
page 3

COVID-19 and the Start of School
page 4

Results of the "Return to Learn" Survey
page 6

Senior Scholars
page 7

Comstock Library News
page 10

MORE NEWS

Turn over to read
Center Point

A newsletter about the Comstock Community Center



From the Superintendent

Dear Comstock Community,

As I begin my third year as Comstock's Superintendent, I welcome our educational community back for the 2020-21 school year! It's fair to say the 2019-20 school year did not turn out as anyone expected. No one could have predicted we would experience a pandemic that ultimately resulted in schools across the state closing down for good in March.

However, I am sincerely grateful for the collaborative partnership between our School Board, Leadership Team, district staff, and community. These groups responded to the challenges brought on by the shutdown and rallied to the needs of our students and families in memorable fashion.

This past year, we made many positive strides forward and as a result the outlook for this year looks brighter and more promising than ever for the district.

Bond Construction and Sinking Fund Update

This summer the district broke ground on a number of construction and renovation projects.

- At Comstock Elementary School, the long anticipated building-wide remodeling has begun. When the bond-funded work is completed in the spring of 2021, all classroom spaces will be modernized and aligned with the needs of the children. Importantly, the building will be fully air conditioned allowing the district to offer educational and community programming during the summer. The building will also have increased parking to accommodate the community.

- At Comstock Middle School, the bond-funded construction of the gymnasium has commenced on the north side of the building. When finished, the air-conditioned facility will have sufficient space to host high-school-level events and will arguably be the finest middle school athletic facility in the county. In addition, the outside of both the gymnasium and the building will have a new metallic siding giving the building an attractive, modern appearance. The work also includes remodeling three science rooms (to be completed in the summer of 2021) as well as several other rooms. Finally, with sinking funds,

the building had state-of-the-art resilient carpeting planks installed this summer.

- At the STEM Academy, the upper exterior of the library, known as a parapet, was rebuilt this summer. The current parapet was deteriorating and in need of replacement. This project is funded by our sinking fund.

Finally, at Comstock High School, the fire alarm system is being replaced and upgraded. This work is funded by the bond and is expected to be completed by about December.

Equity and Inclusion

The Board of Education of Comstock Public Schools stands in support of thousands of Americans in our community, state, and nation who are peacefully and constructively protesting racial injustice. We call for empathy, healing, and reconciliation. The death of George Floyd is the latest name added to a long list of African Americans and other people of color spanning centuries who have been the target of deeply disturbing crimes and atrocities.

As community leaders, our Board calls for our fellow citizens, both locally and nationally, to work together to end the systemic racism that exists in this country. We urge Americans to ensure the rights and protections for all peoples. If we do not, then these tragedies will continue. While our mutual and combined efforts won't erase more than 400 years of racism and prejudice overnight, we must actively seek the path and start the journey now that leads us to fulfill a vision of justice and equality for all Americans.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me either via email, phone call, or personal visit. I can be reached at thoenesj@comstockps.org or 269-250-8906. 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!

Dr. Jeff Thoenes
Superintendent
"It's a great day to be a Colt!"



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

Dr. Jeff Thoenes
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Pamela Dickinson, President
Shirley Amos, Vice President

Dori Scholly, Secretary
Karen Howes, Treasurer
Saralyn Brown, Trustee
Paul Lamphear, Trustee
Matt Schreiner, Trustee

Faye Goldner, Appointed Recording Secretary
Michelle Darnell, Appointed Treasurer

MISSION STATEMENT

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

VISION STATEMENT

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

QUESTIONS?

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

STORIES OR INFORMATION

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



@comstockPS

What Dr. Thoenes is reading:

The Admirals: Nimitz, Halsey, Leahy, and King--The Five Star Admirals Who Won the War at Sea (2013) by Walter R. Borneman.



Comstock Public Schools Strategic Plan 2020-25 Renewal Process CALL FOR PUBLIC INPUT

Given that Comstock Public School's current Strategic Plan is about to expire, the Board of Education is seeking stakeholder and public input regarding the revision and five-year renewal of this plan. The Board prioritizes and values the feedback of the community it serves and is providing the following avenues for the public to share its thoughts, hopes, and aspirations for the future of the district.

Public comments were taken in July at the Board meetings. However, dates still remain for public input.

Public response to a draft of possible changes to the plan can be made through the district's website during a 10-day period from Tuesday, July 28-Thursday, August 6.

Public comments will be taken at the Regular Board meeting (in person) on Monday, August 10.

The Strategic Plan contains the District's Mission, Vision, and We Believe Statements, and includes the following five Focus Areas:

- Academics & Programs
- Learning Environment and Culture
- Operation
- Personnel & Leadership
- Communications & Community Engagement

For more information about the Strategic Plan, visit the District's website at <http://www.comstockps.org/District/strategicplan>

Board Briefs

REGULAR MEETING (LIVE STREAMED)

May 11, 2020

- Gave approval to Shawn McMeekan, Comstock Elementary instructional coach, to apply for a grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs to fund the Leading Education through Arts and Discovery (LEAD) program.
- Approved changing auditors from BDO to Plante Moran.
- Approved bid from Universal Cabling Systems for structured cabling, cameras and clocks, and approved MOSS Telecom for paging and audio-visual for the Comstock Elementary School remodel and Comstock Middle School gym addition project.
- Dr. Rod Green, MASB consultant, facilitated a board training on how to use the MASB evaluation tool for the superintendent evaluation and explained the process that will be used.

REGULAR MEETING (LIVE STREAMED)

May 25, 2020

- Recognized that the STEM Academy has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Education, MiSTEM Network, and Grand Valley State University.
- Approved construction bids for Comstock Middle School bond projects.
- Did not approve the KRESA 2020-2021 General

Fund budget because of the proposed salary increases.

- Renewed the food service contract with Chartwell for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Moved into closed session to discuss the superintendent's evaluation.

REGULAR MEETING (LIVE STREAMED)

June 8, 2020

- Superintendent Thoenes announced that the district has received \$92,757 in federal funds for technology.
- Approved a statement of support for National Healing and Against Racism.
- Discussed dissolving agreement with NEOLA and moving to Thrun Policy Services.
- Because of the School Aid Fund shortfall due to the pandemic, the Board approved the following financial strategies:
 - maintain a balanced budget
 - staff realignment, reduction and balancing will be completed in a way that precludes teacher layoffs through retirements, resignations and reassignments
 - eliminate CELA's pilot daycare program.
- Moved into closed session to discuss Superintendent's evaluation.
- Approved the 2019-2020 evaluation for Dr. Thoenes with a rating of effective.

BUDGET HEARING (LIVE STREAMED)

June 22, 2020

- Michelle Darnell, director of finance, presented an overview of the 2019-2020 budget amendment and the preliminary 2020-2021 budget.

REGULAR MEETING (LIVE STREAMED)

June 22, 2020

- Approved Thrun Law as the Board's policy provider and dissolved the agreement with NEOLA.
- Approved budget amendments.
- Michelle Darnell, director of finance, presented the preliminary budget for 2020-2021.
- Approved authorizing issuance of notes in anticipation of state school aid.
- Having been informed that KRESA will not be offering the proposed salary increases which the school board had opposed, the Board approved the resolution in support of KRESA's 2020-21 budget.
- Approved the following bids:
 - High school fire alarm system to Feyen Zylstra
 - Comstock Middle School carpet to Battle Creek Tile and Mosaic
 - STEM Academy library parapet repair to Ostrander Roofing.
- Extended Superintendent Thoenes' contract by one year to 2023.

COVID-19 and the Start of School

The following is an adapted and abbreviated version of the *MI Safe Schools 2020-21 Return to School Road Map*

While there are still many future unknowns about COVID-19 and its impact on Michigan, Governor Whitmer is committed to providing the guidance, support, and clarity needed to safely return students to the classroom for in-person instruction for the 2020-21 school year. In full cooperation with the Governor, Comstock Public Schools will continue to put safety first, prioritizing science, data, and public health evidence in all decision making.

On June 30, 2020, Governor Whitmer released the *MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap*. This comprehensive document is designed to help districts across the state create local plans for both in-person and distance learning in the fall. The Roadmap outlines a number of safety protocols for schools to implement in each phase of the *MI Safe Start Plan*. The Governor also signed Executive Order 2020-142 which provides the legal framework for the Roadmap.

Under EO 2020-142, Comstock Public Schools is required to prepare and adopt a *COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan* that will detail the types of safety protocols that will be implemented during each phase of the *MI Safe Start Plan*. Various safety protocols include, but are not limited to, use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), proper hand hygiene techniques, cleaning and disinfecting, spacing in classrooms, screening for symptoms, athletics, and more. Importantly, Comstock's plan must include mental health support for students and educators.

MI Safe Schools FAQ

What is the role of my local school district and school board in school reopening?

The Governor will determine the “when” and

“where” - whether school can reopen (or need to close) for in-person instruction. However, Comstock's superintendent and school board will determine the “how” - the mode of instruction (in-person, hybrid, or distance), each grade's curriculum, and support services for students and staff.

Will my child be required to wear a facial covering in school?

Your child may be required to wear a facial covering, depending on the child's grade and which phase Comstock is in. The Governor's plan specifies the following:

- Pre-K to 5th-grade students are not required to wear facial covering in classrooms.
- In Phase 5 of the MI Safe Start Plan, facial coverings are strongly recommended but not required.
- In Phase 4 of the MI Safe Start Plan, facial coverings are required for:
 - Pre-K to 12th-grade students while on school transportation.
 - Students in grades 6-12 at all times except during meals.
 - Students in Pre-K to 5th grade when in hallways and common areas.

Will teachers and staff be required to wear a facial covering in school?

In Phase 5, facial coverings are not required. In Phase 4, teachers and staff are required to wear facial coverings, except during meals.

Will children have their temperatures checked before getting on a bus or entering school?

The *Roadmap* does not require this protocol.

What about athletics and extracurricular activities?

In Phases 4-6, athletics and extracurriculars may continue with some required health and safety protocols.

Am I allowed to visit my child at school?

The *Roadmap* does not prohibit parents or other visitors from entering school buildings, but schools may choose to limit access.

What happens if a child or staff member gets sick at school?

Comstock is required to cooperate with local health department officials regarding implementing protocols for screening students and staff. If students become ill with symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, administrators should quarantine them until parents or guardians arrive. Symptomatic students and staff should be kept home until they have tested negative or have been released from isolation according to CDC guidelines.

If a child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, will we know who tested positive?

Following regular public health practice, the Kalamazoo Health Department will initiate contact tracing to identify those who were in close contact to the individual. Those who were in close contact will be asked to self-quarantine for up to 14 days after exposure. School staff and officials, in accordance with federal and state privacy laws, are prohibited from disclosing student and staff health information, including whether a specific individual tested positive for COVID-19.

Opening Day of School

School is scheduled to reopen on Monday, August 31. A detailed calendar will be available at a later date following negotiations with the Comstock Education Association.



Hazardous Weather Communications



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

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

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

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

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

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

CALL LETTERS

98.5 FM, 96.5 FM (WNWN, WFAT)

100.9 FM (WQXC)

903 AM, 1400 AM (WBCK, WRCC)

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

107.7 FM, 103.3 FM (WRKR, WKFR)

TV 3 WWMT-TV

TV 8 WOOD-TV

TV 4 WOTV

Certified Nurse Aide Program Trains Students in Health Care

For 29 years, the Comstock Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) Program has offered 22 new students every month the opportunity to become Certified Nurse Aides. Students complete a 10-day classroom and lab experience and three days of clinical experience at a local nursing home.

The program offers a Michigan State licensed CNA Program of 81 hours that is comprehensive and flexible to meet the individual needs of our students. The program uses five registered nurse instructors with a variety of hospital, community and hospice experiences. They are also State Train-the-Trainer Certified.

The program provides onsite TB skin testing required for the nursing home clinical experience. Other benefits include resumé development as well as review days after graduation to prepare for the State CNA exam.

Students learn more than 25 skills in a nine-day period. We work with MI Works, Path and Michigan Rehabilitation Services and the VA to support the success of our students.

The CNA Program provides new career opportunities as early as day nine of the program when students are involved in an onsite job fair with approximately 16 agencies interviewing for immediate job openings and often giving offers of employment the same day.

The Comstock CNA Program provides new career opportunities and advancement in current jobs after students pass their State Certification testing. We provide this successful outcome for approximately 200 students each year.

This training that provides new employment for our students also brings needed relief to the

shortfall of aides in our community hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, home care agencies, memory care facilities and hospice.

Many agencies are now sponsoring students to attend CNA classes by providing tuition payment and job security after completion of the program. Due to our vision and program development, we have received valuable donations to our skills lab of over \$20,000.

Our goal in the program is to prepare confident caregivers to successfully obtain and retain employment in the health care arena. Our students provide care to their patients either at home and in care facilities. Some use this training as a stepping-stone to further training as registered nurses, physician assistants or doctors.

Many of our students have made a valuable impact in the community and the individuals in their care. CNA graduate, Julia Larkin, launched her own home care business called Grandsitting. Another CNA graduate, Brittney Horton, provided CNA care in a nursing home, acted as a home care representative to our job fairs and evaluated aides in the home and most recently became the MI Works representative to our program.

In addition to our CNA Program, Comstock Adult Education in conjunction with the State MI Works Program is considering a new health care worker program which will provide skill competency for those working in the community where CNA certification is not required like home care and assisted living facilities.

If you are a natural caregiver looking for a rewarding career, please contact us at 269-250-8930.

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

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

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

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

Results of the “Return to Learn” Survey

Comstock Public Schools

(10-day collection period ending July 3, 2020)

To help the Board of Education and the District’s Leadership Team understand the needs and preferences of the families we serve, Superintendent Dr. Jeff Thoenes facilitated the creation and administration of this “Return to Learn” survey. With more than 500 families responding representing over 800 students, the Leadership Team is extremely pleased with the response rate to this survey. Based on a careful analysis of the survey data, the Superintendent and Leadership Team will now create a plan for reopening the schools within the framework of Governor Whitmer’s *MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap*. The deadline for this reopening plan is August 15, 2020. It is clear that an overwhelming majority of respondents favor returning to full-time traditional schooling this fall with a significant number expressing interest in learning more about the Comstock K-12 Virtual Academy.

Question 1: If the State of Michigan decides it is safe to resume traditional schooling this fall, I would send my child(ren) to full-time traditional schooling provided health and safety guidelines are followed.

85% yes
15% no

Question 2: If the State of Michigan decides it is safe to resume traditional schooling this fall, I would prefer my child(ren) have Part-time Traditional Schooling - face-to-face instruction on a rotating basis with some students at school while the others are completing work at home.

43% yes
57% no

Question 3: If the State of Michigan decides it is safe to resume traditional schooling this fall, I would prefer my child(ren) have Distance Learning - a combination of online learning and/or paper packets completed at home.

27% yes
73% no

Question 4: If the State of Michigan decides it is safe to resume traditional schooling this fall, I would prefer to send my child(ren) to Comstock K-12 Virtual Academy - a full-time virtual classroom; students learn independently; have an assigned mentor or classroom teacher who supports the learning process virtually.

28% yes
72% no

Question 5: If the State of Michigan decides it is safe to resume traditional schooling this fall, I would not feel comfortable sending my child(ren) back to Comstock Public Schools regardless of the learning format or program.

10% yes
77% no
13% other comments

Question 6: If the State of Michigan or the district requires that all occupants in the school building wear masks or face coverings, will your child(ren) return to school this fall?

69% Yes
31% No

Question 7: Are you interested in serving on a district task force that will provide direct input to the Superintendent regarding educational options for the fall?

19% yes
81% no

Question 8: Are you interested in receiving more information about the Comstock K-12 Virtual Academy? This program offers a fully virtual (online) classroom for any age student. If necessary, the district will provide the device for online learning.

43% Yes
57% No

Comstock Early Learning Academy (CELA)	1
STEM Academy	118
Comstock K-12 Virtual Academy	4
Comstock High School (CHS)	110
Comstock Middle School (CMS)	27
Comstock Elementary School (CES)	72
Compass High School (COM)	12
Total Families with student(s) in 1 school	344
Families with students in multiple buildings	157

Table 1: Families Reporting to survey by building
n=501 families and 813 students.

Congratulations, Senior Scholars

CLASS OF 2020

Comstock High School extends congratulations to the Top Scholars, Class of 2020. The Top Scholar designation is determined by a formula which combines grade point averages and ACT scores.

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



Name: Carol Ballesteros

Parents: Betzaida Ballesteros and Bolivar Ballesteros

Achievements: Honor roll, four years; Varsity softball; Color Guard captain; Varsity track, Special events volunteer with NextGen America; First chair alto saxophone

Future Plans: Obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the University of Michigan.



Name: Adam Kreitlow

Parents: Monica and Johnathan Kreitlow

Achievements: Excellence Awards in Choir, English, Spanish, Geometry, Precalculus; Mentoring at Comstock Elementary through National Honor Society; Volunteer work at New Apostolic Church in Portage also through National Honor Society.

Future Plans: Attend Kalamazoo Valley Community College to major in mathematics before beginning a career as a statistician.



Name: Kelsey Militzer

Parents: Matt and Kathy Militzer

Achievements: Volleyball captain; Volleyball Honorable Mention All Conference; Tri-Athlete Award; National Honor Society Secretary; Honor Roll (four years); Basic P.E. Citizenship Award; Art Citizenship Award; A.P. Biology Academic Achievement and Citizenship Award; Impact Kalamazoo Mission Trip.

Future Plans: Attend Michigan State University.



Name: Matthew Northrup

Parents: Diane and Ronald Northrup

Achievements: National Honor Society; Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center

Future Plans: Attend Ferris State University to major in accounting and actuarial sciences.



Name: Madisynn Overholts-Doty

Parents: Lyndsey and Tim McGrail

Achievements: Varsity volleyball team; Most Improved award in volleyball; National Honor Society; NHS treasurer

Future Plans: Attend Western Michigan University to major in nutrition to become a registered dietitian.



Name: Jeme Richards

Parents: Sheila and Solomon Richards

Achievements: Social Studies Department Academic Achievement Award; KVCC Academic Honors List; Gold Spirit Award, 2017; Most Improved Player Award, Golf, 2018; Most Valuable Player, Golf, 2019; All Conference Player Recognition, Golf, 2019;

Band leadership positions; National Honor Society, Historian.

Future Plans: Finish Early Middle College program to earn an associate degree in liberal arts.



Name: Zoe Vandrey

Parents: Stephanie Scott and Jesse Vandrey

Achievements: Academic Excellence awards in Biology, English 9, Chemistry, American Literature, Art, AP US History; Woodwind Sergeant in Band: Attended band leadership camp, 2019; National Honor Society

Future Plans: Attend University of Michigan to major in psychology and become a therapist or a counselor.

Comstock Elementary

Comstock Elementary Provides Books for Summer Reading

With funds from the Early Grade Reading Grant provided by KRESA and the United Way, Comstock Elementary School provided every student in young fives through third grade with five new books to support summer reading.

Several teachers including Carly Baldwin, Kate Appel, Cathy Buscher, Lori Johnson, Shawn McMeekan, Principal Susan Caswell, and KRESA Literacy Consultant Nicole Kalmbach met students at the high school as they came to collect their books. The students were not only appreciative of the books, but were also excited to visit with their teachers, whom they hadn't seen since March due to the COVID-19 school closure.

Students who were unable to collect their books will receive their books in the fall when school resumes.

The teachers thank the United Way and KRESA's Nicole Kalmbach for the support they've provided over the past several years through the Early Grade Reading Grant.

The instructional coaching, professional development, materials, and summer reading support have had an immeasurable impact on the district's early literacy program.



Ready to hand out books to Comstock Elementary students are Shawn McMeekan; Nicole Kalmbach, KRESA Literacy Consultant; Kate Appel, and Lori Johnson.



Drake Wells receives his summer reading books.



Shawn McMeekan gives books to Kimberlynn Scohy.

Comstock Early Learning Academy

Early Childhood Special Education Program Returns

The Early Childhood Special Education Program (ECSE) is returning for the 2020-21 school year. The program will be located at the Comstock Early Learning Academy, 6171 E. MN Ave. Sessions will run mornings and afternoons Monday through Thursday.

Hired to lead the program are Brittany VanDyken, teacher, and Heather VandenBeldt, classroom paraprofessional.

Speech and School Social Work (SSW) services will also be provided in the classroom on a weekly basis.

All ECSE programs require potential students to have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Also, students must be between the ages of 3 and 5 to enroll. The district anticipates this program will fill up quickly.

If you would like more information, please call the Comstock Special Education Department at 269-250-8926.

Community Auditorium Events Open to the Public

August:

2-8 CHS Band Camp

13 Homeschool Performing Arts Auditions

25 Eastern Service Professional Development

September:

1 Center Stage Auditions, Colt Center, 5:00–8:30 p.m.

Sports News

Updates

Things continue to change regarding school sports amid the coronavirus outbreak. Check the athletic website, www.comstockcolts.org, for updates and for the fall schedule once it becomes clear how school sports will operate this year.

2020-21 Physicals

Athletes who had a physical during the 19-20 school year only have to complete the Health Questionnaire for the 20-21 school year. All other athletes will need a physical in order to participate. Please call Justin Ansel at 250-8711 with any questions.

Stadium Reserved Seating

Reserved seating will be FREE for the 2020-21 school year. The first home varsity football game kicks off at 7 p.m. on August 27 vs. Coloma. We have a limited number of seats with and without a back rest. You can reserve your 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, managing the scorebook, announcing and timing for track meets. We have

a lifetime pass for all our senior citizens for free. If the 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 Banquet & Nominations

The 2020 Comstock Hall of Fame Banquet is being postponed to next year on Saturday, May 1, 2021. The Comstock Hall of Fame committee is still accepting nominations but those nominations will most likely be considered for the 2022 banquet. Nominations must be received by the athletic director by November 1 to be included in the process for the 2021 induction. A nomination form can be found online at www.comstockps.org/halloffame. Please email Justin Ansel at anselj@comstockps.org with any questions.

High School Fall Sports Start Dates

Practice for the fall high school sports season will begin on August 10 for football and August 12 for boys soccer, volleyball, cross country, girls golf and sideline cheer. Start times will be listed on the athletic website at www.comstockcolts.org.

NEMS Fall Sports Start Dates

Practice for NEMS sixth-eighth grade girls volleyball, sixth-eighth grade boys soccer and

fifth-eighth grade boys and girls cross country is tentatively set to begin on Monday, August 31. Official start times will be listed on the athletic website at www.comstockcolts.org as we get closer to the beginning of the season. All middle school volleyball, boys soccer and cross country runners must have a physical on file with the athletic office in order to participate.

Stampede Basketball

Third-Sixth Grade Boys

Third-Eighth Grade Girls

Tryouts for Session I Comstock Stampede basketball are tentatively scheduled for Sunday, September 27, and are specifically for kids attending Comstock Public Schools. We will send out more information to all the kids after school starts. Session I for girls is the Sharp Shooter season which begins playing games in mid-October. Session I for boys is the Sharp Shooter season which begins playing games the beginning of November. All fall sports being played are a priority and until the fall season is over, kids try to make what they can.

Session I will cost \$50 along with the cost of a uniform which is \$55 if you don't already have one. It is a great program to learn a lot about basketball and we hope we see a lot of kids from Comstock participating. If you have any questions, please give Justin Ansel a call at 250-8711.

Congratulations, Retirees!

Stacey Costello, Third Grade Teacher, 25+ years

Mary Jane Craves, Administrative Assistant, STEM, 23.5 years

Brenda Deibler, Administrative Assistant, High School, 22+ years

Ann Juzwiak, Second Grade Teacher, 32 years

David Kramer, Woodworking Teacher, High School, 21.5 years

Nancy Prullage, Young 5's, 4.5 years

Lisa VanDyken, Special Education Parapro, 23+ years

Shannon Wonnacott, Social Studies Teacher, Compass High School, 23.5 years

Comstock Township Library Events

If you are hesitant about coming into the library, please call to arrange a curbside pick-up.

The library has reopened with temporary hours:

Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Adult Programs

All programs will be held virtually.

Adult Pick-Up Crafts: Refrigerator Magnets. Super quick and easy to make. Add a pop of color to your refrigerator with these bright and summery magnets! This adult take-home craft kit includes instructions and all materials except scissors. There will be an instructional video posted on YouTube. Go to youtube.com and search for "Comstock Township Library" to find the instructions. Registration is required for this free craft and begins August 3 on our website. Go to Programs and it will be under "Upcoming Events." You may also register by calling 345-0136. The number of participants is limited. Participants can pick-up their crafts the week of August 10.

LIVE on Facebook! Introduction to Beekeeping:

August 19, at 2 p.m. Join the Comstock Township Library on Facebook LIVE with Dr. Adam Ingrao from Michigan State University Extension as he discusses modern beekeeping and how to become a beekeeper. Dr. Ingrao will discuss educational resources, basic equipment, hive styles, supplies, site selection. He will also give you an overview of a season for a first-year beekeeper. If you miss this event, it will be recorded for later viewing.

Adult Pick-Up Crafts: Ombre Painting. Pick-up paints, a paintbrush, and a blank canvas to make a beautiful ombre painting to brighten up your walls.

There will be an instructional video posted on YouTube. Go to youtube.com and search for "Comstock Township Library" to view the instructions. Registration is required for this free craft and begins September 14 on our website. Go to Programs and it will be under "Upcoming Events." You may also register by calling 345-0136. The number of participants is limited. Participants can pick-up their crafts the week of September 21.

Youth Department Programs

Summer Reading 2020 has been extended to August 29! You can sign up anytime by going online, calling, or visiting us. Like or follow us on Facebook to keep up with our online programs: facebook.com/Comstock-TownshipLibrary

Storytime on Facebook LIVE: Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. - Join Ms. Liz and Ms. Sue every Thursday morning for a fun online storytime. You can watch our storytimes without a Facebook account. Just keep scrolling down the page until you see the LIVE video appear.

STEAM At Home on Facebook LIVE: Wednesdays, August 5, August 12, and August 19 at 10:30 a.m. Ms. Traci and Ms. Brenna will be showing you cool experiments you can recreate at home! You can watch our events without a Facebook account. Just keep scrolling down the page until you see the LIVE video appear.

Follow us on Facebook or visit our online calendar for more information regarding programs: <https://comstocklibrary.evanced.info/signup>

CLOSINGS

The library will be closed on Saturday, September 5, and Monday, September 7, for Labor Day.



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



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



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



Now Available

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



Computer Help

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



Need Resume Help?

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