

The Comstock Communicator

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



ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

From the
Superintendent
page 2

School
Board
Briefs
page 3

CPS
Contact
Information
pages 4 & 5

CPS
Annual
Notifications
page 6

CPS
Athletic
News
page 8

CPS
School
Calendar
page 10

Comstock
Library
Events
pages 14 & 15

MORE NEWS

*Turn over to read
Center Point*

A newsletter about the
Comstock
Community Center

From the Superintendent



Dear Parents,

The Comstock Public Schools will be offering five new STEM-related courses through the national Project Lead The Way (PLTW) organization. Project Lead The Way's mission is to prepare students for the global economy. PLTW

works with schools and private industry to provide high quality STEM programming to students.

Several teachers from the High School, Northeast Middle School and the STEM Academy have received extensive training over the summer to be properly prepared to teach these new courses.

The new courses being offered are:

Introduction to Engineering Design (IED, 1 year)

Students dig deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to hands-on projects. They work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3D modeling software, using an engineering notebook to document their work.

The IED course will be offered at Comstock High School, giving students a great advantage when they go to college.

Introduction to Design and Modeling (IDM)

Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design a playground and furniture, capturing research and ideas in their engineering notebooks. Using Autodesk® design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions.

The IDM course will be taught at Northeast Middle School as an elective course to prepare students to pursue STEM-related studies at the high school and beyond.

Introduction to Computer Science (ICS)

Studies show that by 2018, 1.4 million job openings will be available for computer specialists. In this unit, students discover the principles of this fast-growing field by focusing on creativity and an iterative design process as they create their own basic apps using MIT App Inventor.

The ICS course will be taught at Northeast Middle School as an elective course.

Principles of Biomedical Science (PBS)

In the introductory course of the PLTW Biomedical Science program, students explore concepts of biology and medicine to determine factors that led to the death of a fictional person. While investigating the case, students examine autopsy reports, investigate medical history, and explore medical treatments that might have prolonged the person's life.

The activities and projects introduce students to human physiology, basic biology, medicine, and research processes while allowing them to design their own experiments to solve problems.

Normally this course is only offered at the high school level; however, PLTW is allowing the Comstock Public Schools' STEM Academy to offer it to all eighth grade students. The STEM Academy is the only eighth grade program in the nation offering this PLTW course. All eighth grade students at the STEM Academy will be participating in this program.

Automation and Robotics (A&R)

Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

The A&R course will be taught to all sixth and seventh grade students at the STEM Academy.

The Brookings Institute reports the following regarding STEM jobs:

As of 2011, 26 million U.S. jobs—20 percent of all jobs—require a high level of knowledge in any one STEM field.

Half of all STEM jobs are available to workers without a four-year college degree, and these jobs pay \$53,000 on average—a wage 10 percent higher than jobs with similar educational requirements.

Comstock Public Schools is working hard to ensure that students are prepared to compete in a global economy. Part of that preparation is increasing the offerings and rigor of STEM related courses. By challenging our students now, we will be helping them to reap success in the future.

All course descriptions are from Project Lead The Way at www.pltw.org

Go Colts!

Todd D. Mora
Superintendent



COMSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A SCHOOL DISTRICT DEDICATED TO KIDS

www.comstockps.org

Todd Mora
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jackie Wahl, President

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Richard Hathaway, Trustee

Rich House, Trustee

Jason Winters, Trustee

Paula Johnson, *Appointed Treasurer*

Faye Goldner, *Appointed Recording Secretary*

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Comstock Public Schools is to provide excellence in education for all students through innovation and creativity

VISION STATEMENT

The Vision of Comstock Public Schools is to be a national leader in quality public education.

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 Todd Mora at morat@comstockps.org or by fax at 250-8908. It may also be e-mailed to Phyllis Rose at phyllisarose@aol.com.



@comstockps.org

Comstock Public Schools Start Times

2015-2016 School Year

| STUDENT DAILY INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Building | Bus Arrival A.M. | Bus Drop-Off A.M. | Full Day Start Time | Full Day End Time | Full Day Bus Pick-up | Half Day Start Time | Half Day End Time | Half Day Bus Pick-up |
| High School | 7:15 a.m.-7:20 a.m. | 7:15-7:30 a.m. | 7:30 a.m. | 2:30 p.m. | 2:30 p.m. | 7:30 a.m. | 11:05 a.m. | 11:05 a.m. |
| Compass H.S. | 7:25 -7:30 a.m. | 7:30 a.m. | 7:40 a.m. | 12:53 p.m. | 1:00 p.m. | 8:10 a.m. | 12:09 p.m. | 12:15 p.m. |
| NEMS | 7:20-7:25a.m. | 7:35 a.m. | 7:40a.m. | 2:40p.m. | 2:40p.m. | 7:40a.m. | 11:10a.m. | 11:10a.m. |
| STEM Academy | 7:20-7:25 a.m. | 7:20 – 7:25 a.m. | 7:30 a.m. | 2:30 p.m. | 2:30 p.m. | 7:30 a.m. | 11:05 p.m. | 11:05 p.m. |
| Elementary | 8:15 a.m. | 8:31 a.m. | 8:41 a.m. | 3:45 p.m. | 3:45 p.m. | 8:41 a.m. | 12:15 p.m. | 12:15 p.m. |
| ECDD A.M. P.M. | 8:20 a.m. 12:25 p.m. | 8:31 a.m. 12:25 p.m. | 8:41 a.m. 12:35 p.m. | 11:51 a.m. 3:45 p.m. | 11:51 a.m. 3:45 p.m. | 8:41 a.m. | 12:15 p.m. | 12:15 p.m. |

Board Briefs

REGULAR MEETING

May 11, 2015

- Recognized the following:
 - Katy Way, Skylar Rizzolo as recipients of the Excellence in Education scholarships.
 - Charlene Dailey, high school science teacher, and Rich Bailey, high school English teacher, who were named significant educators by Katy Way and Skylar Rizzolo, respectively.
 - Christian Sparks, Education for Employment Outstanding Senior
 - Jim McKenzie, high school special education teacher, recipient of the Excellence in Special Education teacher award.
- Carla Siler from Kalamazoo Robotics updated the board on the growth of the robotics teams.
- Superintendent Mora reported that Advia Credit Union presented a \$1500 check to the school as part of their Community Advantage Program. It will be used for materials for 3-D printing that were not covered by a grant.
- Trustee Hathaway said the Science Club at Green Meadow hosted an open house for various community organizations.
- Approved Patricia Karish as the STEM Academy 6th-8th grade math teacher.
- Approved Danielle Tennant as STEM 6th-8th Grade ELA/SS teacher.
- Approved Trustee Hathaway as the board's representative to vote in the KRESA biennial election, and designated Trustee Winters as the alternate.
- Approved Detroit Technical Equipment for the casework for the STEM Academy Science Lab Casework, with a total contract price of \$72,745.

- Approved the bid of Trane-West Michigan for a vertical unit ventilator for the STEM Science Lab in the amount of \$8085.
- Approved the bid from Kalleward Group for the STEM Science Lab contracting and mechanical work in the amount of \$424,116.
- Approved the bid of Central Tile & Terrazzo to complete the gym floor replacements at Green Meadow and North in the amount of \$64,288.
- Approved administrators' contracts for the 2014-15 school year.
- Approved a 1.42 percent base increase for non-bargaining unit employees for the 2014-15 school year.
- Approved extending the superintendent's contract for another year.
- Moved into closed session to discuss paraprofessional negotiations.

SPECIAL MEETING

May 26, 2015

- Jill Ansel, curriculum director, reported on the K-8 science goals, curriculum, textbooks, scheduling and staffing.
- Board members shared their lists of strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats of the district in preparation for a future discussion on strategic planning.
- Superintendent Mora said GMB architects will be conducting a facilities study.
- The board was updated on plans for the ACLC building, including plans to turn it into a business park.
- Moved into closed session to discuss food service negotiations.

Comstock Public Schools Contact Information



School Administrators

Comstock High School
Mr. Josh Cunningham, Principal
2107 N. 26th Street
Kalamazoo MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8700
cunninghamj@comstockps.org
Karen Hummel, Administrative Assistant



STEM
Mr. Chris Chopp, Director
175 Hunt Street
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Telephone: 269-250-8560
stewartg@comstockps.org
Mrs. Mary Jane Craves,
Administrative Assistant



Comstock High School
Mr. Justin Ansel, Athletic Director
2107 N. 26th Street
Kalamazoo MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8711
anselj@comstockps.org



Green Meadow Elementary
Mrs. Susan Caswell, Principal
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Kalamazoo MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8960
caswells@comstockps.org
Mrs. Diana Vorholt,
Administrative Assistant



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Adult Education**
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Mrs. Darlene West,
Administrative Assistant



North Elementary
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Kalamazoo MI 49048
Telephone: 269-250-8550
poulsonk@comstockps.org
Mrs. Corrine Racine,
Administrative Assistant



Northeast Middle School
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CENTRAL OFFICE
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Comstock Public Schools Contact Information



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**Director of Curriculum,
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*Mrs. Donna Wilcox,
Administrative Assistant*



**Student Information
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Business Manager
Mrs. Paula Johnson
Telephone: 269-250-8905
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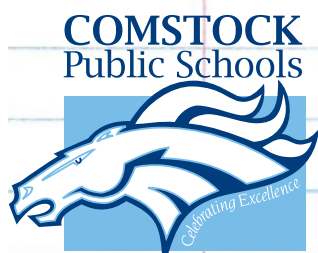
Food Service Department
Ms. Holly Pence, Director
2107 N. 26th Street
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Telephone: 269-250-8719
penceh@comstockps.org



SUPPORT SERVICES
**Special Education Supervisor/
Director of Student Services**
Mr. Jeff Pellerito
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Transportation Department
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Telephone: 269-250-8690
johnsonk@comstockps.org



Custodial Services
Mr. Scott Amsbury, Facilities Manager
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amsburys@comstockps.org

DISTRICT ANNUAL NOTIFICATIONS

Confidentiality of Educational Records

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

Student Records

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

Procedures Relating to Retention, Destruction, and Disclosure of Records

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

Parental and Student Rights

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

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

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

Access Procedures

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

Disclosure to Third Parties

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

Directory Information

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

Special Education and Section 504 Notifications

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

Administrative Policies and Procedures Complaint Procedures

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

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

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

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

Weapons-Free School Zone

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

Drug Prevention

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



Congratulations, Retirees



Terrie Forsch

Terrie Forsch has had a varied as well as a cross-country teaching career. She started teaching in a two-room schoolhouse on the Cheyenne-Eagle Butte Indian Reservation in South Dakota. She taught all subjects in fifth through eighth grades before moving to Eagle Butte where she taught second grade and was assistant coach for swimming and track.

When her father died, she returned to Michigan to help her mother, taking a job at First of America Computer Services. She missed teaching so she began substituting, but she also missed living out west so she moved to Nevada where she taught seventh and eighth graders for three years and coached girls basketball.

"I married my husband during my second year in Nevada," she said. "We decided after a year to move back to Michigan to be closer to family."

That move led her to substitute teaching in all of the elementary schools and the middle school in Comstock. She then took a Title I position at Gull Road and next was hired to teach fifth grade there, where she taught for six years.

Then, with her master's degree in special education: learning disabilities, she taught special education at the high school.

"I co-taught with teachers from the history and English departments in addition to teaching skills classes for ninth and tenth graders," she said.

After a couple of years at the high school, she applied for a seventh grade language arts position at the Middle School where she has been for more than 12 years.

"I went into education because I enjoy working with young people," she said. "I enjoy watching their eyes light up when they have an understanding of something new. I enjoy watching them grow and mature as the year goes on."

Over her many years in education she has seen many changes, especially all the new technology.

"Computers and iPads have helped immensely with not only the lesson delivery, but the business end of teaching," she said. "I am thankful I do not have to calculate grades anymore."

And she's very glad to have seen the end of the mimeograph machine.

"Our new copy machines are wonderful---No more purple ink on my clothes and face because the mimeograph machine wasn't working properly," she said.

ly," she said.

In retirement, she is mainly excited to have more time to read, travel, and spend more time with family, including her husband, Rob, and their daughters, Katelyn and Sara who are business majors.

"Some of my new free time will be spent at our cabin on Lake Superior looking for beach glass, picking wild blueberries, taking long walks along the beach and reading on the beach," she said.

Overall, her career has been fulfilling.

"I have had the pleasure of getting to know some really awesome young people," she said. "They have been quite amazing. Getting to know so many students and their families has been a very fulfilling journey for me."

Yvonne Horton

Retiring this year, Yvonne Horton, Green Meadow parapro, will be leaving the district that has been part of her life since she was 10 years old.

At that time, her parents moved to the Comstock district from Kalamazoo. When she was in the sixth grade, her mother passed away from breast cancer.

"Katherine Livingston was my teacher at North elementary. She was so kind to me," she said.

Married at a very young age and having a daughter, Mrs. Horton graduated from Comstock's adult education program. She was a stay-at-home mom, raising five children who attended the Comstock schools.

She began volunteering at Comstock as a noon hour supervisor when Green Meadow principal, Ceville Hinman, said, "You are here so much we might well pay you."

So she started at Green Meadow as a reading parapro and then from 1994-1998, she worked at Gull Road in the reading lab with Carol Hinga and also in kindergarten with Marsha Dugan.

Mrs. Horton left Comstock for 10 years to work at Kalamazoo Advantage Academy, leaving there when the school closed.

"In 1998, I was hired again at Comstock. It felt like I was coming home again," she said.

She has been working as a reading and math intervention parapro with kindergarten teacher, Alison Laning.

"What I enjoy most about working in education is the relationships with students," she said. "If you just take a few minutes to listen to their stories, they know you care."

In her years working in Comstock, she's noticed that kindergartners start school learning to read, write, and do math.

"Preschool is the old kindergarten," she said.

While she will miss the staff and students at Green Meadow, she's looking forward to traveling and gardening. She and her husband, Dave, love to kayak and ride bikes.

"We have a 1968 Chevelle Super Sport and go to several car shows during the summer," she said.

She and Dave also teach a Sunday School class for special needs adults at their church which they enjoy very much.

We have been featuring our retirees in the last couple of issues. This month we are featuring Terrie Forsch and Yvonne Horton. Our other retirees this year are:

Richard Bailey
Karen Ballard
Sharon Charlier
Janet DeZwaan
Deb Dunstone
Paula Fiebiger
Shirley Frever
Martin Johnson

Lynn Miller
Judy Mickley
Cheryl Morrett
Corrine Racine
Leona Slye
Richard VanDis
Diana Vorholt
Sydonie White



Triathlete Event

The Comstock Sports Boosters sponsored the 15-16 Triathlete event at Fort Custer. The Comstock triathletes split up into teams to compete against each other in team building exercises, paintball wars, obstacle races and a good old-fashioned egg toss. It was a great day to be a Colt. A big thank you to the boosters for sponsoring the event and to the chaperones who attended to help make it a special day. Nice job triathletes!

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

2015-16 Physicals

Physicals for the 2015-16 school year will be offered on August 4 at Comstock High School from 6-7 p.m. The cost will be \$20. All students in seventh through twelfth grades planning on playing a fall sport must have a physical dated after April 15, 2015, on file with the athletic office before they can participate in practice or games.

All State Athletes

Jordan Baker took seventh place in the 400 Meter Dash at the MHSAA Sate Finals meet to earn the All State honor. Congratulations!

Stadium Reserved Seating

Reserved seating will be offered for the 2015-16 school year. The first home varsity football game kicks off at 7 p.m. on September 3 vs Buchanan. We have about 150 seats left and they are along the 50 yard line. The cost is \$5 per seat for the year and the proceeds will be used to help fund the 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 269-250-8711.

Sports Booster Golf Outing

The sports boosters are again hosting their Scramble Golf outing on Saturday, August 22, starting at 8 a.m. at Eastern Hills Golf Course. You can email Justin Ansel at anselj@comstockps.org to enter your team and then you can pay when you arrive at the event.

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, 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 2016 induction.

Nominations must be received by the athletic director by November 1 to be included in the process for the 2016 induction. The nomination form is on the following page and also can be found online at www.comstockcolts.org. Please call Justin Ansel with any questions at 269-250-8711.

High School Fall Sports Start Dates

Practice for the fall high school sports season will begin on August 10 for football and August 12 for volleyball, girls golf, boys soccer and boys and girls cross country. Start times will be listed on the athletic website at www.comstockcolts.org. Every athlete must have a physical to participate.

NEMS Fall Sports Start Dates

Practice for NEMS 7th-8th girls volleyball, 6th-8th boys soccer and 5th-8th boys and girls cross country will tentatively begin on Monday, August 24. Official start times will be listed on the athletic website at www.comstockcolts.org as we get closer to the beginning of the season. Every 7th-8th grade athlete must have a physical to participate.

Stampede Basketball

3rd-6th Grade Boys • 3rd-8th Grade Girls

Tryouts for Session I Comstock Stampede

basketball is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, September 20, and is 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 Rising Stars season which begins playing games mid October. Session I for boys is the Sharp Shooter season which begins playing games the beginning of November.

All fall sports being played are a priority and until the fall season is over, kids try to make what they can.

Session I is FREE of charge except the cost of a uniform. It is a great program to learn a lot about basketball and we hope we see a lot of kids from Comstock participating.

The CYB basketball program will still take place beginning in December and is open to everyone in the community. If you have any questions, please give Justin Ansel a call at 269-250-8711.

Comstock 3v3 Basketball Tournament

The Comstock boys and girls basketball team is sponsoring a 3v3 tournament at Comstock High School on Saturday, August 8. The cost is \$50 and we will have MHSAA officials on every court. The entry form can be found on page 11 of this *Communicator*.



STEM Academy
WWW.ComstockPS.org/STEM

New Science Lab for 2015-16!

Nationally Recognized Teachers!

Now Enrolling Kindergarten - 8th Grade

Apply Today!

Find us on Facebook

Comstock Foundation Awards Scholarships

Thirteen seniors from the Class of 2015 were awarded scholarships from the Comstock Public Schools Foundation.

Morgan Baker and Mistie McMakin received the Charles A. Pratt Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500. The scholarship is for students planning on pursuing a law-related curriculum.

Recipients must have a GPA of at least 2.8 over seven semesters.

Receiving the Howard Ewles Scholarship in the amount of \$500 was Jenna Le. This scholarship is for a student with a GPA of at least 3.3 and planning to major in engineering or science.

Jenna also received the Mary E. Roe Scholarship

of \$2500 a year for four years. This scholarship is also for students planning to major in engineering or science and who have a GPA of at least 3.0.

Kathryn Way received the Edith S. Leighty Scholarship and Exemplary Student award of \$250 a year for four years. This scholarship is based on the recipient's ACT score, GPA, extracurricular participation and citizenship.

Nine seniors received \$2000 from the James W. and Lois I. Richmond Scholarship Fund. They are Jade Bruner, Monica Cannon, Zachary Cline, Coree Hamstra, Elizabeth Heimann, Alexander McComb, Skylar Rizzolo, Bailey Schoy, and Mason Terburg.

The Richmond Scholarship is for students who have maintained a minimum GPA of 2.75, who have shown leadership both in school and community activities, and who will be attending WMU, Kalamazoo College or KVCC.

Congratulations to each of these students!

For more information:

Scholarship applications for 2016 graduating seniors are available at the College and Career Academy. You may also contact the Comstock Public Schools Foundation via email at foundation@comstockps.org or visit our website at www.comstockps.org/foundation for more information.

The Comstock Public Schools Foundation is organized exclusively for the benefit of the educational, literary, and scientific activities of the Comstock Public Schools, including scholarships and grants to students and teachers.

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

Annual Reunion Saturday, August 22

(New Date)

Comstock High School Colt Center
(New Location)
2107 N. 26th Street
Doors Open at 11 a.m.
Lunch at Noon

All former students, graduates
and faculty are welcome.
Bring your own table service
and a dish to pass.

Coffee furnished.

Comstock Public Schools 2015-2016 School Calendar

| | | | |
|------------------|---|--|---|
| August 31 | New Teacher Orientation | | |
| Sept. 1 | Professional Development Day | | |
| Sept. 2 | Work Day | | |
| Sept. 3 | Professional Development Day | | |
| Sept. 4-7 | LABOR DAY OBSERVANCE – NO STUDENTS/NO TEACHERS | | |
| Sept. 8 | First Student Day | | Half Day Students K-12 |
| October 30 | Professional Development K-12 | | No Students K-12 |
| November 9 | Elementary Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| November 10 | Middle School / High School Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| November 11 | Elementary Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| November 12 | Middle School / High School Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| November 25 | No School | | No Students K-12 No Teachers |
| November 26-27 | THANKSGIVING RECESS | | No Students / No Staff |
| Dec. 21 – Jan. 1 | WINTER RECESS | | No Students / No Teachers |
| January 26 | High School Exams | | Half Day H.S. Full Day Students K-8 |
| January 27 | High School Exams | | Half Day H.S. Full Day Students K-8 |
| January 28 | High School Exams | | Half Day H.S. Full Day Students K-8 |
| January 29 | Professional Development AM ~ K-12 Records P.M. ~ K-12 | END OF 1ST SEMESTER | |
| February 26 | Mid-Winter Break | | No Students / No Teachers |
| March 21 | Elementary Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| March 22 | Middle School / High School Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| March 23 | Elementary Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| March 24 | Middle School / High School Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| March 25 | Professional Development A.M. ~ K-12 | | No Students K-12 No Teachers PM |
| April 1 – 8 | SPRING BREAK | | No Students – No Teachers |
| May 30 | MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE | | No Students / No Staff |
| June 8 | High School Exams | | Half Day H.S. Full Day Elementary & M.S. |
| June 9 | High School Exams | | Half Day H.S. Full Day Elementary & M.S. |
| June 10 | High School Exams Records Day P.M. K-12 | LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS END OF 2ND SEMESTER | |
| | | | Half Day Students K-12 Last Day for Teachers |

Northeast Middle School

Channel 3 News Anchor Visits NEMS



Channel 3 news anchor, Kirk Mason, speaks to NEMS students about his job.

WWMT news anchor and award winning journalist, Kirk Mason, spoke to NEMS students last spring shortly before school was out.

He told students about his job which involves investigative reporting, handling breaking news, and making guests feel comfortable when they're being interviewed.

Students were surprised to hear that there are drawbacks to being on television in a high profile job, such as having to get up at 3 a.m. in order to broadcast the news at 4:30 a.m. He said he enjoys all aspects of his job and the camaraderie of his coworkers at Channel 3 News.

After the noon broadcast, he goes home, but not to nap. He has family responsibilities, including a three-year-old son.

Following a question-and-answer session, Mr. Mason shook hands with students, had his picture taken with them and answered questions about how to become a news reporter.

NEMS thanks Mr. Mason for taking time out of his busy schedule to share his experiences with our students. We now have a few more budding journalists in our sixth grade class due to his presentation.

Mr. Mason's visit was made possible by Comstock's College and Career Academy. One of the Academy's goals is to provide students with the opportunity to hear about different career opportunities.

Comstock 3v3 Basketball Tournaments

3rd-12th Grade Boys & Girls

Saturday, August 8

Deadline to Register is Friday, July 31

\$50 per team - MHSAA Official on Every Court

Make checks payable to Comstock Athletics

Mail to: Comstock High School, Attn: Justin Ansel, 2107 N. 26th St., Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Tournament information can be found at www.comstockps.org/3v3

6 Team limit in each division - Register now to reserve your spot!

Brackets and Game Times to be released by Wednesday night the week of the tournament.

Team Name: _____ Girls Team _____ Boys Team _____

Team Coach _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Division by **15-16 School Year Grade:** (Team plays at highest grade level on the team.)

3rd Grade 4th Grade 5th Grade 6th Grade

7th Grade 8th Grade JV - 9th-10th Varsity - 11th-12th

Player # 1

Name: _____

D.O.B: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Player # 3

Name: _____

D.O.B: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Player # 2

Name: _____

D.O.B: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Player # 4

Name: _____

D.O.B: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

NEMS Is YOUR Neighborhood

Northeast Middle School

Northeast Middle School recently welcomed the Comstock Community to its second annual NEMS Is YOUR Neighborhood event. Staff showcased a variety of things their students have been working on and had plenty of hands-on activities as well.

The NEMS Science Club greeted the public by the office with their newly planted seedlings. The grow lights, purchased with grant money Ms. Schoen was awarded, lit up the hall. A huge compost box was also featured where everyone who attended was asked to guess how many worms it contained.

The Science department drew a crowd with Mr. Fisher demonstrating how energy exists and converts to different forms, ending with a burst of flame that was startling in its intensity.

Mr. Shenefield displayed the catapults eighth grade students use to explore physics. They determine the force of the catapult by weighing the projectile, using the horizontal velocity and vertical velocity to determine the total velocity.

The last steps are to determine the acceleration of the projectile and multiply that by its mass so you now have the amount of force exerted by the catapult. Many visitors had a good time letting



Mr. Fisher conducts an experiment to show how energy operates.

the projectile fly to see how far it went.

Math, social studies and language arts had maps, puzzles and hands on activities for all ages to try either in the classroom or to take home.

Mrs. Richards in the Art Room, had her visitors partake in Food Art. Participants were invited to make color wheels with vanilla wafers by decorating them with frosting. Needless to say, this activity went over big!

If anyone was hungry, a free meal was served



Mr. Barta, Ms. Schoen and Mrs. Moore welcome people to the Science Club table to guess how many worms are in the compost box.

including pizza, Clementine oranges, juice or water, and ice cream sundaes finishing off the meal.

Over 50 families were represented this year and everyone truly enjoyed the presentations in the classroom and the camaraderie.

If you couldn't attend this year, make a note in your calendar to come next year.

Remember NEMS Is Your Neighborhood, and you are welcome to stop by anytime.

Students Recognized for Good Attendance

Northeast Middle School

NEMS students were recognized at the end of the 2014/15 school year for their good attendance. All students who had five or fewer absences were invited to an attendance party. They received a personalized certificate reflecting their attendance achievement, enjoyed an ICEE freeze pop, and then were entered into a grade-level drawing for a \$25 WalMart gift card.

Winners of the gift cards were Li'Zariah Lewis, fifth grade; Robert Dockins III, sixth grade; Olivia Carlson, seventh grade; and Sarah Cady eighth grade.

This event helped fulfill one of the school's goals this year which was to recognize students who have good attendance because being in school is most important in being successful.

The NEMS staff teamed up with Pathways to Potential team members from the Department of Human Services to make sure they were doing all they could to encourage students to be in school.

One event was "Candy Friday," where NEMS office staff and Pathways to Potential staff visited



Winners of \$25 WalMart gift certificates were Robert Dockins III, Li'Zariah Lewis, Olivia Carlson, and Sarah Cady.

each Advisory Class on Friday afternoon to reward those who had been in attendance every day that week. Students with perfect attendance picked their favorite candy from the "Goodie Jug."

Thanks to the Pathways to Potential team and WalMart for helping us to recognize our students for their attendance achievements.

NEMS Students Enjoy Track and Field Day



Above: Mitchell Derhammer jumps rope during the track and field event.

Right: Marcus Cannon balances a book on his head.



NEMS students enjoyed a fun afternoon outdoors during Track and Field Day on the last day of school in June.

Each advisory class rotated through a series of activities, competing either individually or as a team. Activities included a three-legged race, hula hoop contest, water bucket relay, balance book race, string the nails, jump rope, back-to-back

race, football throw, leapfrog relay, and a tug-of-war.

Thanks to Mrs. Niki Richards and NEMS staff for organizing this event and to Mr. Ryan Cousins for uploading photos to the cloud which can be seen at <https://www.icloud.com/sharedalbum/#B035nhQST1pXrW>.

Northeast Middle School

Fifth Grader Wins Android Tablet from Dentist-R-U's



Sha'Mya Duff receives her new Android Tablet from Dentist-R-U's.

Fifth grader, Sha'Mya Duff, won an Android Tablet from Dentist-R-U's, a Detroit-based organization that visits schools to provide dental services to students. NEMS has been participating in this program for two years.

The more than 50 students who participated in the program this year were entered in the raffle to win the tablet.

Two visits by Dentist-R-U's have already been scheduled for next school year, one on November 24, 2015, and the other on May 25, 2016. Prior to each visit, permission slips will be sent home with all students. Parents just need to give consent for their children to be seen and indicate what insurance carrier they have.

Services provided by Dentist-R-U's include bitewing X-rays, cleanings, oral exams, and sealants. After each visit, appointments are scheduled at six month intervals to provide followup care and cleanings.

**MARK
YOUR CALENDARS!**

**Green Meadow Elementary
Open House K-4
Wednesday September 2nd
6-7:30pm**

College & Career Academy News

Watch for details of the following events being planned by the College & Career Academy (CCA).

- The CCA will be providing college visits again this year. Colleges being considered are; Ferris State University, Davenport University, Adrian College, Spring Arbor University, Oakland University, Lake Michigan College and Kalamazoo College. All students, ninth through tenth grades, are encouraged to attend. More information will be available in student services once college visits have been confirmed.

- The CCA will be providing high school students the opportunity to attend KVCC College Night on October 5. Transportation will be provided. Please look for more information at high school registration on August 24 from 2-6 p.m.

- Students in sixth through twelfth grades will be using Career Cruising, with help from the CCA deans, to create an educational development plan.

- Please see the adjacent College Connection schedule for monthly CCA events.

- The CCA has designated October as College Awareness month. Special events will be held in all schools throughout the district.

- March 22, 2016, the CCA will be hosting a College & Career Night at the high school from 6-8 p.m.

| | Event | Location | Date & Time |
|-----------|--|---|--|
| September | College Searches & How to Choose a College Early Middle College | H.S. Media Ctr H.S. Media Ctr | Tues., Sept. 15, 7-8 p.m. Tues., Sept. 22, 7-8 p.m. |
| October | KVCC College Night | KVCC | Mon., Oct. 5, 6 p.m. |
| November | Financial Aid Information Night | H.S. Media Ctr | Tues., Nov. 10, 7-8 p.m. Thurs., Nov. 12, 7-8 p.m. |
| December | Next steps...I am admitted to college. Now what? | H.S. Media Ctr | Wed., Dec. 2, 7-8 p.m. |
| January | Scholarships | H.S. Media Ctr | Wed., Jan. 20, 7-8 p.m. |
| February | FAFSA Completion Events | H.S. Media Ctr | Wed., Feb. 10, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wed., Feb. 24, 6-8 p.m. |
| March | College & Career Open House I missed the FAFSA deadline. Can I still submit the FAFSA? Yes! And we will help! | High School H.S. College & Career Room | Tues., Mar. 22, 6-8 p.m. Thurs., Mar. 24, 6-9 p.m. |
| April | SAT Scores: What do they mean? | H.S. Media Ctr | Thurs., Apr. 21, 7-8 p.m. |
| May | Decision Day | H.S. Colt Center | Mon., May 2, 11:30 a.m. |

Dear Parents and Students,

We all know that going to college is not a simple process. The College and Career Academy would like your commitment to be part of our College Connection, and attend these events listed above to give your student the best possible chance at getting into the college of their choice, receiving financial assistance, and selecting a major that fits their strengths. Please mark your calendars and be sure to attend the events listed above.x

Comstock Township Library Events

Homebound Library Services: The Homebound Delivery Service seeks to provide library materials to Comstock Township Residents who are unable to visit the library. Homebound delivery includes the selection of materials by library staff and delivery of those materials by library employees.

Homebound criteria are as follows:

Residents are to be considered homebound if they have a condition (due to illness or injury) that restricts their ability to leave their place of residence, except with the aid of a supportive device such as crutches, canes, wheelchairs, and walkers, the use of special transporta-

tion, the assistance of another person or if leaving home is medically contraindicated. In most circumstances, if a resident drives, he/she would not be considered homebound. Call 345-0136 for further information.

Adult Department

Adult Craft: Mosaic Vase. Wednesday, August 26, 5:30 p.m. Make a mosaic vase to jazz up your home! Signups begin on Monday, August 10, at the adult reference desk and space is limited. Free craft. Call Rachael for further details.

CLOSINGS
The Library will be closed on Saturday, September 5, and Monday, September 7.

Adult Craft: Boo Door Hanger. Wednesday, September 16, 5:30 p.m. B-O-O...make and decorate a door hanger to welcome that spooky time of year! Signups begin on Monday, August 31, at the adult reference desk and space is limited. Free craft. Call Rachael for further details.

KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS: The Comstock Township Library donates lap afghans to area hospices and nursing homes. If you have left over yarn from other projects, this is a perfect way to use it up. We assemble knitted or crocheted blocks, 7" w x 9" l, into lap afghans that are approximately 35

(Continued on page 15)

Comstock Township Library Events *(continued)*

x 45 inches. This is an ongoing project so rectangles can be donated at any time. We also gladly accept donations of yarn, or completed afghans. For more information, please contact Myla or Barb at the library.

Interested in meeting other knitters and crocheters? Just want to sit and talk while stitching with others? Call 345-0136 and ask for Rachael to inquire about forming a knitting/crocheting group.

EVENTS IN THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

SUMMER READING PARTY: Wednesday, August 12, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. **RAIN OR SHINE!** Weather permitting, we will have the inflatable bouncer, slide, and obstacle course outside on the library grounds. Inside the library, enjoy our toddler playroom and trade in those reading tickets earned for ice cream, games, and other small prizes. Extra tickets are available for purchase at 25 cents each.

1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN: PRE-KINDERGARTEN. On behalf of the 1000 Books before Kindergarten Foundation, Comstock Township Library is encouraging parents and caregivers to read 1000 books to their young children and earn prizes along the way. Any child can participate until s/he enters kindergarten. Stop by the Young People's desk to register and pick up a tracking sheet. Registration is ongoing!

STORYTIME: Ages 1-5. Registration for the Fall Storytime sessions begins the week of September 8. Register your child for a 45-minute session which includes 30 minutes of stories, songs, and other activities followed by a short craft. Storytimes will begin the week of September 14 and run through November 19. Storytime sessions are as follows:

Mondays: 10:30-11:15 a.m.
1-3 year olds
Tuesdays: 10:30-11:15 a.m.
1-3 year olds
Wednesdays: 10:30-11:15 a.m.
3-5 year olds
Thursdays: 10:30-11:15 a.m.
3-5 year olds

SATURDAY STORYTIMES: Ages 1-5. Can't make it to Storytimes during the week? Join us for a Saturday storytime session! No registration is necessary for this drop-in session which includes 30 minutes of stories, music, and parachute play. Saturday Storytimes will be on the following dates:

Saturday, September 19, 10:30-11:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 10, 10:30-11:00 a.m.

LIVIA THE LIBRARY DOG: All ages. Practice your reading skills to a certified therapy dog! Kids can choose whatever book they'd like to read to the therapy dog. Registration is required and begins the week before this free event. Livia will be at the library on the following dates:

Saturday, September 19, 11:00 a.m. (Registration begins Monday, September 14.)

MAKER SPACES: All ages. Stop in to play and create with different materials every month! Children under 5 need to have an adult helper with them. No registration is necessary for this free event. Maker Spaces dates are as follows:

Friday, September 25, 3:30-5 p.m.
(Duct Tape Crafts)
Friday, October 16, 3:30-5 p.m.
(Lego Creations)

FAMILY BOOK CLUB: Grades 3 and up. Read and discuss a new book each month and enjoy themed activities and a snack. Parents and kids can read the book together or read the book separately. Copies of the books are available for check-out through the Comstock Township Library or through Interlibrary Loan. Registration is required and begins the Monday before the events. Meeting times and books are as follows:

Friday, October 2, 4:30 p.m.: *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* by J.K. Rowling
(Registration begins Monday, September 28.)
Friday, October 30, 4:30 p.m.: *Meet Molly* by Valerie Tripp
(Registration begins Monday, October 26.)

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD: Grades 6-12. Earn community service hours by recommending and helping to plan teen programming events for you and your friends, suggesting items for the young adult collection, and more! Registration is required and begins the Monday before the event. Meeting times are as follows:

Friday, September 18, 4 p.m.
(Registration begins Monday, September 14.)
Friday, October 9, 4 p.m. (Registration begins Monday, October 5.)

TEEN HALLOWEEN PARTY: Tuesday, October 20, 5-7 p.m. Grades 6-12. Come dressed in your Halloween costume and join us for games, crafts,



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.



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.

pizza, and watching *Nightmare Before Christmas*. Registration is required for this free event and begins Monday, October 12.

FALL FESTIVAL: Saturday, October 24, 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m., all ages. Come dressed in your Halloween costume for this autumn party, which will include crafts, games, photo booth, cider and donuts! Registration is required for this free event and begins Monday, October 12.

FOR EVERYONE!

WE HAVE eBOOKS! Call us for more information! 345-0136.

The library now has a Cricut Expression available for patron use. You must be 18 years or older or with a parent or guardian to use and must provide your own cardstock. Please call 345-0136 for further information.

Would you like to learn how to research genealogy using Ancestry Library Edition? Please call the library 345-0136 to set up an appointment with a librarian.

Comstock Boosters 4-Person Golf Scramble

**August 22,
2015**

**EASTERN HILLS
GOLF COURSE**

6075 East G Avenue,
Kalamazoo, Michigan

\$65 per person day of event or pre-register for \$60 per person (includes cart)

Day of event registration begins at 7 a.m.

Shotgun start at 8 a.m.

Lunch will be provided

Raffle, door prizes and special events

Sign up your team!

Send email with players' names to Scott Langejans at comstockboosters@gmail.com. Call him at 269-207-6778 or call the high school athletic office at 269-250-8711

Donations are always welcome!

CAPTAIN _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

PLAYER 2 _____

PLAYER 3 _____

PLAYER 4 _____

