

E- NEWSLETTER



Columbus School District

June, 2020

Learning Today; **Leading Tomorrow**

Food Pantry Help

The Columbus/Fall River Food pantry is well stocked and ready to serve! If you need assistance during the month of June, please call Faith Lutheran Church at 920-623-3610 to schedule an appointment. Also, Thank you to all who have so generously donated to the food pantry during these difficult times.

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A Special Message from the Nurse

Hello families!

I hope you all have been staying happy, healthy, and safe. I can't believe we are at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. What a year it has been! I wanted to take this opportunity to discuss a few things as we jump into summer break. First, a brief update on COVID-19. As of May 31, 2020, there have been a total of 18, 403 cases in Wisconsin, with 44 of those cases in Columbia County. As you have heard, the Safer at Home order is no longer in effect, and Columbia County has opted out of providing requirements for the public to follow. Despite this, it is extremely important to continue to adhere to CDC and DHS guidelines including maintaining social distancing, avoiding touching your face with unwashed hands, practicing good hand hygiene, covering nose/mouth with cloth mask when indicated, and staying home when sick. Please continue to monitor yourself for symptoms, and report to your healthcare provider if you become ill, or learn you have been exposed to someone with a positive COVID-19 diagnosis.

With summer coming up, and the warmer weather setting in, many of us will be spending significantly more time outside. Because of this, I think it is important review some summer safety tips!

- Drink plenty of fluids, even if you do not feel thirsty.
- Take frequent breaks from the heat by going inside to rest, or finding shade outside.
- Apply sunscreen with a SPF of 15 to 30, that protects against UVA and UVB rays, before going outside. Reapply every 2 hours, or as indicated on the package. Remember the sun's rays are strongest between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM.
- Wear life jackets when playing in, or even near the water.
- Always put on a helmet before riding a bike, scooter, skateboard, and when roller blading. Knee and elbow pads are encouraged as well.
- Use an effective insect repellent when playing outside, and check yourself for ticks before returning into the house.
- Be safe on the playground, as this is a common place for injury in children. Learn and understand the signs and symptoms of a concussion (confusion, forgetfulness, coordination and balance issues, sensitivity to light or noise, changes in mood or behavior, loss of consciousness, and/or complaints of headache, nausea, vomiting, blurred vision). Seek care from a medical provider if these symptoms occur.

And finally, I would like to end this note with a reminder on immunizations. I would greatly appreciate if you all would begin thinking about vaccination requirements and if your children are up to date on their immunizations. I have included a document that states the most current Immunizations requirements for students who live in Wisconsin, and it is located at the end of this note. Please note that upon entering certain grades, requirements change. Vaccinations are critical for preventing and protecting against the spread of infectious diseases and I encourage those with questions or concerns to speak to their healthcare provider, visit <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/index.htm> or <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/index.html>, and/or contact me via email.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer vacation. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to email me at bbayer@columbus.k12.wi.us

Sincerely,
Brittany Bayer, RN

STUDENT IMMUNIZATION LAW AGE/GRADE REQUIREMENTS

The following are the minimum required immunizations for each age and grade level according to the Wisconsin Student Immunization Law. These requirements can be waived for health, religious, or personal conviction reasons. Additional immunizations may be recommended for your child depending on his or her age. Please contact your doctor or local health department to determine if your child needs additional immunizations.

Grade/Age	Number of Doses					
Pre-K (ages 2 through 4 yrs) ¹	4 DTaP/DTP/DT ²	3 Polio	3 Hepatitis B ⁶	1 MMR ⁷	1 Varicella ⁸	
Kindergarten through Grade 5	4 DTaP/DTP/DT/Td ^{2,3}	4 Polio ⁵	3 Hepatitis B ⁶	2 MMR ⁷	2 Varicella ⁸	
Grades 6 through 12	4 DTaP/DTP/DT/Td ²	1 Tdap ⁴	4 Polio ⁵	3 Hepatitis B ⁶	2 MMR ⁷	2 Varicella ⁸

1. Children 5 years of age or older who are enrolled in a Pre-K class should be assessed using the immunization requirements for Kindergarten through Grade 5, which would normally correspond to the individual's age.
2. D = diphtheria, T = tetanus, P = pertussis vaccine. DTaP/DTP/DT/Td vaccine for all students Pre-K through 12; Four doses are required. However, if a student received the 3rd dose after the 4th birthday, further doses are not required. Note: A dose four days or less before the 4th birthday is also acceptable.
3. DTaP/DTP/DT vaccine for children entering Kindergarten: Each student must have received one dose after the 4th birthday (either the 3rd, 4th, or 5th dose) to be compliant. Note: a dose four days or less before the 4th birthday is also acceptable.
4. Tdap is an adolescent tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis combination vaccine. If a student received a dose of a tetanus-containing vaccine, such as Td, within five years before entering the grade in which Tdap is required, the student is compliant and a dose of Tdap vaccine is not required.
5. Polio vaccine for students entering grades Kindergarten through 12; Four doses are required. However, if a student received the 3rd dose after the 4th birthday, further doses are not required. Note: a dose four days or less before the 4th birthday is also acceptable.
6. Laboratory evidence of immunity to hepatitis B is also acceptable.
7. MMR is measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine. The first dose of MMR vaccine must have been received on or after the 1st birthday. Laboratory evidence of immunity to all three diseases (measles and mumps and rubella) is also acceptable. Note: A dose four days or less before the 1st birthday is also acceptable.
8. Varicella vaccine is chickenpox vaccine. A history of chickenpox disease or laboratory evidence of immunity to varicella is also acceptable.



Columbus Elementary School/Discovery Charter School

Message from the Principal, Beth Hellpap

Well...we made it! The entire 4th quarter has been virtually taught. Hundreds of hours of videos have been posted by the CES/DCS staff and in return watched by our eager learners. We have learned so many characteristics about student learning by this force to teach virtually. Many things we already knew, like learning is social, students need routine and nothing can replace the instruction of a teacher. We also have learned that some students thrive learning virtually and nothing can replace the love of a family. Our school focus has been on kindness and empathy this year. Our students are always showing it and have now been able to learn it from their increased time with family. "It takes a village" means so much more now. It truly has been proven these last few months. And as I reflect on the unforeseen 4th quarter this year I know 2 things. 1. My teaching staff is arguably the best teaching staff around. 2. The families of Columbus Elementary/Discovery Charter School are the best around. Our kids are in good hands.



Allie Heller, First Grade Teacher

Keepin' it Fun

Our very own first grade teacher Mrs. Heller put together a "pick me up" video to engage our young learners and motivate them to keep learning for the last week of school. Enjoy!

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1d_yTW-E29uheqJ5v4kTAmewJFyInOs4Z



Columbus Intermediate School/Middle School



It is an annual tradition to present three awards to outstanding students at the end of our school year. The three awards are given to students in honor of former educators here in the Columbus School District.

The Jessa Carpenter Award is handed to an 8th grade student. Jessa Carpenter taught in the Columbus Schools for 31 years. She demanded high standards of behavior, academic excellence, and good leadership. At her bequest, an award is given yearly based on a student's demonstration of citizenship, courtesy, academics, respect, leadership, responsibility, and initiative.

Our 8th grade Jessa Carpenter award winner is Jack P. This award goes to a student that has high standards for behavior, academic excellence, and outstanding leadership!

We also have a privilege to present two awards in honor of Vi and Jim Newton. We give one award each to a 6th and a 7th grade student.

Jim and Vi were teachers at Columbus Middle School for 30 years each. They were excellent teachers who had strong beliefs about enabling students to live up to their potential. In appreciation and acknowledgement of their contributions to our students and school, these memorial awards are given to students who display outstanding effort to make good decisions, strive for their personal best, and for being good citizens at school and in our community.

Our 6th grade Vi and Jim Newton award winner is Max M. This award goes to an outstanding student that strives for their personal best at school and in the community!



Our 7th grade Vi and Jim Newton award winner is Maicy E. This award goes to an outstanding student who strives to do their best in school and in the community!



Columbus High School

Graduation and Virtual Ceremony

Thanks to the hard work of so many staff, we had a successful Drive-Up Ceremony on May 28 and 29. Students' names were read as they left their cars, they received a diploma cover and flower, and Empire Photography was there to take formal pictures! A video of the event is being prepared and will be shared with graduates. Congratulations to the class of 2020!!



The Virtual Graduation Ceremony was also a great success! It contained speeches from staff and students, school footage shot from a drone, slideshow of graduates, and even Pomp and Circumstance was played. We are working on making copies of this to share with each graduate.

CHS Summer School Credit Recovery

CHS Summer credit recovery will be taking place from June 15-July 3. This will be done in a virtual manner using Google Classrooms. We are excited to offer this opportunity given the COVID-19 Circumstances. We have sent invites out to students. If you have questions, please email Mr. Crombie: jcrombie@columbus.k12.wi.us

Curriculum and Instruction

Dear Parents and Guardians-

What an incredible school year this has been. Definitely not what we all planned, but we made it. What the 2020-21 school year will hold comes with unknowns. The district is creating a plan that takes into account a variety of scenarios. To help us plan and to improve, please consider taking a few minutes to fill out the [2019-20 Parent/Guardian End of Year Feedback Survey](#).

Thank you for your feedback. Thank you for being our partner in your child's education. We cannot do this without you!

Community Learning Services

The Columbus Community Learning Services (CLS) is a bridge between the Community and Schools. CLS offers programs and activities for students, parents, guardians, and community members. These programs are driven by the needs of our community, parents and our students. We will bring the community into our schools and give our students the opportunities that enrich their learning. If you have an idea or an activity that you want brought into the school and community please feel free to contact the Director of Community Services.



We will be putting out our 2020-2021 offerings later this summer so keep an eye out for them.

We want to thank all of you that have donated funds toward Blessings in a Backpack. Since we have been on the Safer at Home Order we have supplied 86 students with food over the weekends. We have also supplied families with food over spring break and gave out bags of food the week of June 8th- June 12th. We have an incredible community that truly supports our students and their needs.

Dear Families,

This has been a difficult time throughout our country, state and communities at a time when many people already feel isolated and alone. Because of the current state of health safety, at a time when we need compassion and understanding, we find ourselves more separated emotionally and physically than ever before. We are reaching out today so that our students, families, and staff feel supported and know that resources are available as we all try to process what is happening around us.

The Columbus School District is committed to ensuring that students are safe and loved in our schools and to educating our students, staff, and families on equity and kindness. In addition, our school counselors, teachers, administration, and support staff are here for you. Support for students and families will continue to come from our school teams throughout this week and whenever needed. Please also review school resources available online.

We believe talking about race and diversity can happen at all ages. In fact, the younger you start having these conversations, the better! They're Not Too Young To Talk About Race . We know that families are at different places when it comes to talking about race and current events. We also recognize that our students are affected by current events in many different capacities, from their cultural background to their families' geographical residences, to their loved one's professions. We affirm the inherent value and worth of all of our students and their families, and we support and advocate for their rights to safety and justice. To help support students and families, below are resources that can help you either start the conversation or build on it.

Tips for discussing race and current events:

- Do not be afraid to talk with your child about what is happening. It is helpful to share your feelings and experiences. This will give your child permission to share their feelings and thoughts about this sensitive subject.
- Start where your child is at by asking what they already know, what they have seen, and if they have any questions or concerns that you could talk about together.
- Use age-appropriate language and concepts
- Remind them that there is good in the world. As Mr. Rogers famously said, "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping. '"

Read a story about local helpers here .

- Share ideas about how your child can respond if they see or hear something about race or diversity that makes them uncomfortable.
- Encourage your child to see both sides of a conflict. Protestors are trying to advocate for people's rights, while the military and police are trying to help with safety. Many people are coming together for peaceful resolution.

Online resources:

- Discussing Difficult Situations With Your Children
- How To Talk to Children About Tragedy in the Media
- Parent Toolkit: How to Talk to Kids about Race and Racism

- Racism and Violence: Using Your Power as a Parent to Support Children Aged Two to Five
 - Resources for Parents: Healthy Communication About Race
 - Teaching Tolerance - Teaching About Race, Racism, and Police Violence
- If you or your family are looking for more support with having these conversations, or if your child is experiencing anxiety because of current situations, please do not hesitate to reach out to your School Counselor or the Director of Student Services.

Student Services Contact Information

Lisa Blochwitz, Director of Student Services

Email: lblochwitz@columbus.k12.wi.us

Office Number: 920-350-0356

Leah Wilson, School Counselor at CES (K-2)/DCS (K-3)

Email: lwilson@columbus.k12.wi.us

Google Voice/Text: 619-607-3509

Grace Kropp, School Counselor at CIS (3-5)/CMS (6)

Email: gkropp@columbus.k12.wi.us

Google Voice/Text: 619-624-1808

Victoria Claas, School Counselor at CMS (7-8)/CHS (9)

Email: vclaas@columbus.k12.wi.us

Google Voice/Text: 619-624-1814

John Crombie, School Counselor at CHS (10-12)

Email: jcrombie@columbus.k12.wi.us

Google Voice/Text: 619-624-1856

Facilities Update

There have been a lot of questions regarding school facilities usage for the summer. **The Governor's General Counsel has defined the end of the 2019-2020 school year as June 30, 2020.** *This means that school buildings and shared usage grounds are closed to students for instructional and extracurricular activities through that date.*

The Columbus School District facilities will also be closing through the month of July. A determination will be made as to when the facilities will reopen based on guidelines from the Department of Health, CDC, and DPI. We appreciate your understanding.

Contact Information www.columbus.k12.wi.us Phone Number: 920.623.5950

Superintendent:	Annette Deuman	<i>adeuman@columbus.k12.wi.us</i>
Director of Business Services:	Nathan Knitt	<i>nknitt@columbus.k12.wi.us</i>
Director of Special Education:	Lisa Blochwitz	<i>lblochwitz@columbus.k12.wi.us</i>
Director of Curriculum/ Instruction:	Becky Schmidt	<i>bschmidt@columbus.k12.wi.us</i>
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Food Service Director:	Laura Austin	<i>laustin@columbus.k12.wi.us</i>