



E- NEWSLETTER

Columbus School District

January 2022

Learning Today; Leading Tomorrow

News from the Nurse	2
Project Progress Report	3
Curriculum News	5
School Board News	7
Student Services News	7
Columbus Elementary School/ Discovery Charter School/intermediate School	9
Columbus Middle School	10
Columbus High School	11
Food Service News	13
Business Services Update	15
Facilities Update	15
Technology Corner	15
Calendar/Upcoming Events	16
Contact Information	17

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 30, 2021

CONTACT:

Jennifer Miller, 608-266-1683

Elizabeth Goodsitt, 608-266-1683

DHS Urges Public Health Practices to Keep Kids Safe and in School

Asks parents and guardians to take action as Omicron cases increase

As students return to school in January, Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is asking all Wisconsin parents and guardians to [take action to help slow the spread of Omicron](#) and keep children safe in schools. DHS urges parents and guardians to collaborate with local leaders, school officials, and public health on the following actions:

- Get your child vaccinated for COVID-19, including a booster dose as soon as they are eligible.
- Ensure your child properly wears a [well-fitting mask](#) (link is external) in all public indoor spaces, including schools, even if it is not required.
- [Get your child tested for COVID-19](#) if they are experiencing symptoms or have had close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- Keep your child home from school and other activities to isolate and quarantine if they test positive for or are exposed to COVID-19.

“With Omicron cases surging in Wisconsin and schools returning from holiday break next week, there is considerable concern that the number of children becoming infected with COVID-19 will increase – having major ripple effects for community transmission and COVID-19 hospitalizations.” said Dr. Ryan Westergaard, Chief Medical Officer and State Epidemiologist. “All Wisconsinites have a responsibility to help protect the health and well-being of children, especially those who are not yet eligible to be vaccinated or receive a booster dose, by engaging in layered COVID-19 mitigation strategies.”

As the Omicron variant of COVID-19 circulates throughout the country, states have seen an increase in the number of pediatric hospitalizations associated with COVID-19. Although pediatric hospitalization levels remain stable in Wisconsin, children 18 years and younger make up the largest proportion of new daily COVID-19 cases in the state. DHS is watching data from other states closely. While preliminary data suggests the Omicron variant may cause milder illness compared to the Delta variant, the highly contagious nature is increasing the overall number of infections, thus increasing the number of hospitalizations, including pediatric cases. The Delta variant also continues to be in wide circulation in Wisconsin and is a major contributor to COVID-19 hospitalizations.

"We know how important in-person instruction is for our learners, families, and our communities," said State Superintendent Dr. Jill Underly. "Keeping our schools open at this critical moment is the right choice, but it requires a collective effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 – this means getting vaccinated, wearing a mask, and following testing and safety protocols. We all have to do our part to make sure our learners and educators can maintain safe and healthy classrooms."

On December 20, DHS issued a [public health advisory](#) calling on all Wisconsinites to take urgent action to prevent additional hospitalizations and deaths due to COVID-19. We all have a critical role to play in stopping the spread. To find a COVID-19 vaccine provider in your community, visit [Vaccines.gov\(link is external\)](#), or call 211 or 877-947-2211. For up-to-date information about Wisconsin's COVID-19 response, visit the [DHS COVID-19 webpage](#). We encourage you to follow @DHSWI on [Facebook\(link is external\)](#), [Twitter\(link is external\)](#), or dhs.wi on [Instagram\(link is external\)](#) for more information on COVID-19.

From the Nurse:

Hello families,

- ❖ As of January 3rd, our COVID-19 protocols for positive cases and close contacts have been updated. The changes are as follows:
 - Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 can now return to school if/when they meet the following criteria:
 - Isolate for 5 days
 - No fever for 24-hours without the use of medication
 - Symptoms have significantly improved or completely resolved
 - Well-fitting mask is worn at all times for an additional five days
 - How and when students that are identified as a close contact can return to school continues to depend on vaccination status, as well as ability to be tested for COVID-19:
 - Fully vaccinated now means that it has been more than two weeks but less than six months since their second dose of the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine OR the student has received their booster shot. These students do NOT have to quarantine but should still have a PCR test between days 3-5 of what would be their quarantine period and wear a mask for a full 10 days
 - For those that it has been less than 2 weeks since their second dose OR more than six months since their second shot and have not received their booster OR are not vaccinated against COVID-19, may use our 5- or 10-day quarantine option to return to school:
 - 5-day: student quarantines at home for 5 days and may return on day 6, as long as they had a PCR test between days 3-5 of their quarantine, receive a negative result and remain symptom-free
 - 10-day: student quarantines at home for 10 days and may return on day 11 with no test, as long as they are symptom-free
- ❖ As of January 19th, our free, curbside COVID-testing will now be ONLY at the Columbus Middle School location, which is door #2 on W. School St. from 8:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. As a reminder, pre-registration is required. This can be done by going to the following link: www.LifePointLink.com/NOAH/outreach. Please stay in your vehicle when waiting to be tested and do not enter the building.

As always, I appreciate your patience, cooperation and understanding. If you have any questions, please email me at bbayer@columbus.k12.wi.us



APRIL 2020
REFERENDUM

Community-Led Process.
Community-Led Solution.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Annette Deuman, Superintendent
referendum@columbus.k12.wi.us
920.350.0365



January 2022

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

Interior view of the new cafeteria addition at the High School.



WHAT'S NEW

- The construction zones are enclosed, and temporary heat is installed so the construction crews can work through the winter months. The new exterior areas are nearing completion and interior work is moving forward.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Elementary School

- The final portion of the storm sewer has been installed.
- The exterior metal wall panels are being installed, as well as the exterior window glass.
- Installation of gypsum board and painting is continuing in the classroom wing.

High School

- Face brick installation is in the final phase.
- The kitchen hood has been installed, and the new cooler/freezers have been delivered.
- The ceiling grid in the kitchen is being installed.

High School (continued)

- The MEP (mechanical, electrical, and plumbing) work is continuing on above-ceiling installation. Ductwork is being installed in the cafeteria.
- The roof membrane has been installed. Sheet metal flashing, trim, and roof ladders are being installed.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The following work is scheduled to take place in the coming month:

Elementary School

- Installation of gypsum board will begin in the cafeteria after the classroom wing is completed.
- Ceramic tile installation will begin, starting with a mockup of select areas.

High School

- Epoxy floors will be poured in the kitchen.



APRIL 2020
REFERENDUM

Community-Led Process.
Community-Led Solution.

January 2022

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

DISTRICT-WIDE UPDATES

- Construction will complete in phases at the elementary, middle, and high school by August 2022.

New High School
entrance.



New courtyard
at the
Elementary
School.



QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Annette Deuman, Superintendent
referendum@columbus.k12.wi.us
920.350.0365





Curriculum News, Becky Schmidt, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Curriculum & Instruction January Update

Substitute Teacher Shortage

Times are tough right now. We are trying to keep our doors open, and there are a few threats getting in our way. Superintendent Annette Deuman has been communicating with families about the new Covid guidelines and the district's need for substitute teachers.. Unfortunately as Covid numbers continue to rise once again, that means that teachers and students can't be in school if they are sick or need to quarantine. Also, the district is seeing other illnesses that also keep people out of schools. Regardless of the reason, if staff are out, that means to keep doors open, substitute teachers need to be available to go into classrooms.

In regards to short term subbing needs, we are in crisis. Over the last two months, the district has had days when it was only able to fill 20% of its sub vacancies. When vacancies are not filled by substitute teachers, one of several things happens:

- Teachers are asked to give up their prep time to fill in. They are compensated for their time, but this means that they lose their planning and grading time and need to make that up elsewhere. Understanding the urgency of the situation, some staff do this on a regular basis...and it is taking its toll.
- Administration fills in. It was so bad the Monday before winter break, that the elementary principal combined two classes into one and subbed for both simultaneously because there was no one else available.
- Elementary electives get cancelled. This means your son or daughter misses out on things like physical education, music, or art, AND their classroom teacher loses their prep time.
- Staff are assigned to cover positions that are normally not theirs. This means that other staff need to compensate for what they would have been doing, and services are not as good as the district wants them to be.
- No substitute is assigned for a position.

Everything described above is really about teaching substitute shortages; however, sub shortages exist in all areas of positions that are needed to keep a school running (custodial, food service, paraprofessional, secretarial). One thing that would provide immediate relief is being able to hire more substitutes. In addition to being able to pass a background check, these are the requirements:

Substitute Position	Minimum Requirements	Pay	How to Apply
Teacher (short term)	Associate's degree or higher; license required (district will help secure)	\$135/day (and you choose which days or partial days you are available) OR \$171.60 + benefits (if hired as a district-wide sub, which is a daily position)	https://wecan.waspa.org/ ("Search Certified Vacancies" and select Columbus School District as the employer)

Paraprofessional (special education)	At least 18 years of age; license required (district will request from DPI)	\$15/ hour	Contact Lisa Blochwitz @ 920-623-5950, ext. 3151
Paraprofessional (regular education)	At least 18 years of age; no license required	\$15/ hour	Contact Lisa Blochwitz @ 920-623-5950, ext. 3151
Custodial	At least 18 years of age; no license required	\$15/ hour	https://wecan.waspa.org/ (Search “Support Vacancies” and select Columbus School District as the employer)
Food Service	At least 18 years of age; no license required	\$15/ hour	
Secretary	At least 18 years of age; no license required	\$15/ hour	

The district will pay for any substitute license required for an applicant. Also, the district will walk candidates through any training requirements and the license application process.

If you are able to help out the school district and be on a substitute list for one or more positions, please submit your application. Any bit of help makes a difference.

Instruction During School Closure or Quarantine

In December, the district sent out communication on the [Updated Continuity of Learning Plan](#). This plan includes what will happen instructionally if a student is out of school (sick or quarantined) for 3+ days, the instructional plan on any necessary snow days this year, and an instructional plan should a school or the district switch to virtual learning for an extended period of time. The hope in all of these plans is not to need them, but this is what the district will follow should these needs arise.

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan: Public Comment *(Previously sent to families in December)*

Dear Columbus Community:

On December 6, The U.S. Department of Education approved 95 percent of Wisconsin’s plan for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ESSER III) funds. A total of 90 percent of those funds are allocated to Wisconsin LEAs. ESSER III provides additional funds for local educational agencies (LEAs) to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. ESSER III includes dedicated funding for evidence-based improvement strategies (EBIS) and ensures those strategies or interventions respond to the social, emotional, mental health, and academic support students need and the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.

As part of Columbus School District securing ESSER III federal funding to use to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19, the district is required to consider stakeholder input on Columbus’ Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. Once finalized, the plan will remain published on the district’s website and will be reviewed with an opportunity for stakeholder feedback at least once every six months through September 2023.

Please take a few moments to review the draft [Columbus School District Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan](#), and then, please provide your comments on it using the [Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan: Public Comment](#) form.

Sincerely,



Becky Schmidt
Director of Curriculum and Instruction

School Board News

Spring Election

School Board Candidates for Spring Election 2022



There will be seven candidates on the ballot in the upcoming primary election to be held on February 15, 2022.

- Joseph Hammer
- Mike O'Brien
- Michelle Stark
- Corey Ohlson-Rappe
- Adam Pulver
- Martha Rule
- Chris Roelke



Student Services News, Lisa Blochwitz, Director of Student Services

- **On February 2, 2022**, from 6:00-7:00 pm, Community Learning Services is offering a Listen and Learn Session on Google Meet.
- Liza Hahn, who is a mental health counselor, will present: *"How to Identify and Support Your Child's Mental Health During a Challenging Time."*

Please join us virtually at: meet.google.com/vsu-qoeg-xaw or you can call in at +1 252-460-9175 and enter PIN: 658 819 448#.

Join us for a Listen and Learn Session on Google Meet

How to Identify and Support
Your Child's Mental Health
During a Challenging Time

February 2, 2022
6:00-7:00 PM

Presented by Liza Hahn
Licensed Professional Counselor

Anxious Kids *Anxious Parents*

7 Ways to Stop the
Worry Cycle and
Raise Courageous
& Independent
Children

Works for Any Type of
Anxiety, from Ages 8-18

REID WILSON, PhD and LYNN LYONS, LICSW

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN A BOOK STUDY

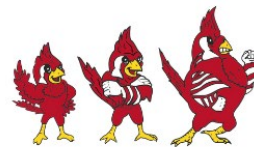
WHEN: 4:00-5:00 PM

- Wednesday, January 12
- Wednesday, January 26
- Wednesday, February 9
- Wednesday, February 23
- Wednesday, March 9

WHERE: OVER GOOGLE MEET

CO-FACILITATED BY:

Grace Engle and Victoria Claas
School Counselors



Columbus School District

The *Anxious Kids Anxious Parents* book study will help you learn the difference between worry and anxiety and help to gain skills in working with children who experience anxiety.

- **Sign up at:** <https://forms.gle/ra5mpNnGFZkX8jam7>
 - By signing up, Community Learning Services will provide a copy of the book.
 - We'll contact you once the books arrive.
- **On meeting days, please use this Google Meet Link:** <meet.google.com/pcv-fbcs-dji>.
- **For the January 12th meeting, please read:** The Introduction, Chapter 1, and Chapter 2.

Poverty in America

January is Poverty in America month. As educators, we work very hard to recognize the needs of students and be responsive to meeting those needs. We know that students can't be good learners if their basic needs are not being met. The number of students accessing our school breakfast and lunch programs have risen dramatically. Through our Community Learning Services, we are able to provide students with winter gear such as hats, mittens, jackets and snow pants. The work we do to try to meet these basic needs is paying off. We ask families to continue to support the students in the Columbus School District who have basic needs needing to be met by donating clothing, school supplies and monetary donations to assist in offsetting negative lunch balances. Let's see that percentage of students in poverty drop even more!



Columbus Elementary School/Discovery Charter School/Intermediate School, Beth Hellpap, Principal

K-5 is ringing in the new year with routines!

Happy 2022 everyone! Even though our students only missed six days of school over winter break, it can take a little time to reset in a young learner's memory on school rules and procedures. As the elementary students return to school from winter break, the staff prepare students by giving them a refresher in school routines. By taking the time to do this now, the new year starts off on the right track to be ready for learning!

Be on the lookout for the new parent site!

On November 18th, our district hosted a report card meeting. At this meeting, parents learned about the school report card and after the data was presented, principals talked with families about their particular needs. In this session, I was able to get some valuable information from parents about the need of knowing what each math and literacy unit is about and how parents can help at home. In response to this conversation, I have created a K-5 academic parent site that will be updated as each math and literacy unit begins. In this site, you will find links to the curriculum

overviews, activities to try at home, and even online games that can be played to support what students are



learning. This site will be updated regularly so that parents can look and see exactly what standards are being taught in math and literacy. I am excited to roll out this site to our families in January!



The Discovery Charter School Governance Council welcomes the public to join their council meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6-7:30 pm. We are always on the lookout for parent volunteers and any community members interested in joining the council or one of our subcommittees. Reach out to dcs@columbus.k12.wi.us for more information. Upcoming council meetings are January 25, February 23, and March 22. Hope to see you there!

Also, we would like to give a big thank you to our departing council members, Mandy Mobry and Amy Klein, for all of their time and dedication to DCS council, students and teachers.



Columbus Middle School, Cori Denk, Principal

Happy 2022! I hope everyone had a restful break. We are starting our third quarter! Can you believe that we are halfway through the school year! Time is flying by.

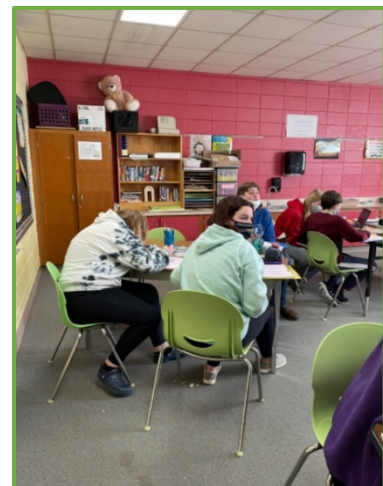
Grades: Staff have a work day on Friday, January 14th and report cards will be mailed out on Monday, January 17th.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Will be held either in person or virtually. Look for more information to come.

Classes for Next Year: This month students will be looking at class offerings for next year. We will communicate what will be offered in mid-January.



Winter MAP Testing: Will start the week of January 10th. Testing will take place in your child's Math and ELA classes. Please make sure your child is rested, has breakfast, and is ready to test.





Columbus High School, Jonathan Rouse, Principal

The new year is here! With that transition on the calendar comes another transition - the transition to our new cafeteria space. By mid-January we will be in our new space! This will be a tremendous change for the better for our students. We will be able to fully utilize our new student lounge spaces during lunch and breakfast. It's an exciting time to be a Cardinal!

Staff Shout Out...

This month our shout out goes to the entire staff at CHS. From our teachers, to our office staff, to our custodians, to our lunchroom staff, each and every person has been asked to adjust and be flexible throughout the last few weeks. We truly have a great team at CHS!

Scheduling for 2022-23...

Believe it or not, scheduling for the 2022-23 school year is nearly upon us. Student services staff have been meeting with students in classrooms, and departments have been presenting class offerings to students. Next, students will receive the course guide and will be asked to select classes for the next school year. This process happens in Infinite Campus in the student portal. Any questions can be directed to our school counselor, John Crombie.

Continue to emphasize...

We'd appreciate it if you continued to emphasize the following at home:

- The importance of correct mask usage. Masks must cover both the mouth and the nose. We have noticed an increase in the number of students who are not wearing their masks correctly. We know it is not ideal to have to wear a mask, nobody likes doing it, but it is essential that we continue this practice in an effort to keep our doors open and students learning in person.
- Encourage your students to reach out to their teachers for support. As many students have been out recently due to quarantine, it is especially important that students are communicating with their teachers.

Polar Plunge:

Hello, Columbus Community!

It's POLAR PLUNGE season again! We took a year off last year due to COVID, but we're back and the cause means more than ever, as Special Olympics has had to cut multiple programs/tournaments due to lack of funding. As you know, Columbus High School Project Unify is very passionate about serving individuals with disabilities and Special Olympics, so your support for the Polar Plunge is incredibly meaningful. All proceeds raised for the Polar Plunge directly support the athletes of Special Olympics Wisconsin. Funding allows athletes access to healthcare screenings, provides uniforms, and covers travel expenses for tournaments. More specifically, it costs \$750 (approximately) to fund a year of Special Olympics for one athlete.

Furthermore, because CHS is considered a "Unified Champion School" (an inclusive environment where students with disabilities are included in sport, recreation, and academics with their regular education peers), Special Olympics WI gives us a 25% rebate of the money to put back into our school!

With the rebate money, we have opened a grant opportunity for all teachers/coaches/club advisors in the district to make their classrooms/clubs/organizations more accessible and adaptive for all learners. In years past, we funded a "buddy bench" at CES, a reading nook at CES, accessible fishing equipment for CHS Ag classrooms, alternative seating for high school labs and classrooms, and iPads for visual learning. We also have funded a scholarship for a senior pursuing a career serving individuals with disabilities.

Link to Columbus Polar Plunge page: <https://www.classy.org/team/397868>

Please consider donating. This cause and mission means more to us than we can express!

Genuinely,

Columbus High School Project Unify

Athletics/Activities Message

We are in the middle of the winter season for the high school clubs and activities. We remind everyone that Columbus School District still has a masking requirement. Everyone that is in the buildings needs to wear a mask. The exception has been made for athletes and officials actively participating in a contest. We ask that you follow these guidelines to help provide a safe and caring environment for everyone to enjoy the events.

As we all know, the winters in Wisconsin can be long. We encourage all of our students to join a club, attend athletic events and other activities to help stay connected. It helps get through the winter faster and provides a connection to the building.

Link to Activities Calendar: <https://www.capitolnorthconference.org/public/genie/522/school/1/>

Events held on the high school main basketball court/stage are live streamed on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqfJDNzRTD-Yc8T45DyjjA>

Spring Sport Athletes:

Spring sports are fast approaching. If an athlete has not participated in a fall or winter sport they need to make sure all paperwork is up to date. Stop by the pupil services office to check the status of what paperwork is needed. The biggest item to check off the list are sports physicals. Every athlete needs to have a physical or alternate year card on file before they can participate. Doctor's offices fill up fast, so scheduling these sooner rather than later is beneficial.

Thank you for your continued support!

Jon Rouse
CHS Principal

Jay Freerking
CHS Assistant Principal
6-12 Activities Director

Columbus School District Crossing Guards

Rick Voelker
Luke Derra
Jerry King
Cheryl Hoffman
Meta Cucinotta
Lynn Dhein
Joy Vandersande
Christy Nelson

Sub Crossing Guards

Susan Brisky
Jeremy Roll

Adult Crossing Guard Week

January 10-14, 2022

Thank you for keeping our students, staff and families safe.



Food Service News, Irene Pawlisch, Director of Food Service

Reducing food waste at the Elementary schools

We are excited to announce we will be moving forward with an offer vs. serve breakfast model at the k-2 level. The goal is to fill less garbage cans and continue to fuel learning minds.

Starting January 10, the students will be served breakfast from 7:45am-8:00am at a designated pick up area. Students can make it a breakfast by having at least 3 points with one point being a fruit or juice.

Students will be offered a main option that counts as 2 points. They can then choose the final point from a half cup fruit, or half cup 100% fruit juice. Students that don't like the main option now have the choice to make up the 3 points using the other foods. A total of 4-5 physical items are offered daily. The students have been given the option to say no thanks to the milk in the past. This next step allows students to take only a half cup of fruit or say no-thanks to the main option. We recognize not all students like the same thing and choices empower them to take what they do like.

It is a big step to offer students the opportunity to think critically about how much food they can eat during the designated meal time. That is the biggest issue we are seeing in the lunchroom when we started offering more choices. The students take one of each and then toss it in the garbage. We have been coaching individual students on taking only what they will eat. We hope going to offer vs. serve in both breakfast and lunch the students will learn what is a realistic amount of food they can eat in one meal.

Transitioning to a Food Court at the High School

In anticipation of moving to the new food court, the nutrition team is making some changes. Due to the new space being a very different serving model we are adjusting the current serving space to help students and staff learn new work and serving line flow. The biggest change is moving to individual meal serving lines. In the past, students would walk single file through all the stations one at a time. Now we are coaching students that there are two separate lines for multiple students to be served at once. This requires students to choose which station they want to eat from before entering the lines.

Students have partnered with the nutrition staff to create a video showing how the spaces will be different and how to walk in the lines for meal selections. Over winter break a smaller milk cooler and larger vegetable bar were brought into the serving line. This allows more students to serve themselves at a time while decreasing line wait.

Students are welcome to come back to make extra entrée purchases from the different lines but only after the main rush is over. Several students have brought forward a concern that students at the front of the line are hoarding food options and not eating them. We are working with students to provide better customer service through the new food court layout. We will need student cooperation to ease congestion in the new open serving space by going to one line and coming back after the first rush to visit a different line. This should also eliminate students taking more than they can eat.

Lunch room monitors will be coaching students on traffic flow and respectful restaurant manners. Students will be required to drop bags and books at the tables before entering the food lines. It will take effort from everyone to stop the stampede to be first at lunch. The new table set up allows students to spread out in friend groups across the spaces. Because the space is open to learning down the hallways, students will be encouraged to dispose of garbage and return trays when done eating but remain at tables until the lunchroom monitor signals. The new space design really allows students to slow down, relax, and enjoy a meal while visiting with friends.

Philippines Heritage Day January 20th

The Philippines are located in Southeast Asia in the western Pacific Ocean. It consists of more than 7,000 islands off the coast of Vietnam. The people collectively are called Filipinos. Current day Filipino society consists of nearly 100 culturally and linguistically distinct ethnic groups. Over 150 languages are spoken!

A unique ingredient used to flavor the BBQ chicken is banana ketchup. To reduce the Philippines' reliance on imported goods, food chemist Maria Orosa created ketchup using local bananas. Near the end of WWII, Banana ketchup began being mass-produced and the initial growth in popularity was sparked by American soldiers in the Philippines who ran out of tomato ketchup.

We will be serving Filipino style BBQ chicken with garlic fried rice and assorted sides. Special thanks to the local family that inspired Chef Irene to choose the Philippines as a Heritage Meal.



COLUMBUS/FALL RIVER FOOD PANTRY

If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out. We have enough to help everyone.

For those in need of food during the month of January, please contact Columbus Community Church of the Nazarene at 920-623-5235 to schedule an appointment. Si Ud. necesita ayuda con la comida, favor de llamar al 920-287-8122 y pida Marcos para programar una cita.

Thank you to all of our donors for your support. We are currently well stocked and financially solid. Call Colleen @ 920-210-6266 with any questions.

Business Office Update, Nathan Knitt, Director of Business Services

The new year brings about a flurry of activity in the Business Office! Though our fiscal year ends in June, the calendar year means it's time to get tax documentation ready for our staff and vendors. Additionally, the Business Office will be working on the second pupil count report for the state. The 3rd Friday of September is the big count date, but in January there is a second one. Wrapping up pieces from the last calendar year is the top priority in January.

After those pieces are wrapped up, it's time to look forward! The budget process for the 2022-2023 school year is starting to ramp up. Now through early May, the district will be planning for what will happen next year. Right now in the budget process, we're still projecting and forecasting major variables (how many kids do we think we'll have next year, what will inflation turn out to be, etc.). As some of our earlier projections solidify more in the spring, then things come together rather quickly. Next month when the newsletter comes out, I'll have more updates on where the district is at!

Facilities Update, Troy Marshall, Facilities Manager

January is here and so is winter weather. Please be mindful of slick spots on the sidewalks and in parking lots. The facilities crew is doing our best to make sure walkways are clear of snow and ice, but some spots do become slick. It is also important to be mindful of areas inside, near entrances. These areas become wet when snow is tracked into the building.

Construction at all buildings has continued and progress is definitely being seen. The CHS addition is scheduled to open later this month. Food service staff will be serving from a new kitchen, and students will enjoy the new cafeteria/commons. Construction will then move to the existing cafeteria/kitchen area, to start demolition. CES is beginning to see paint in classrooms and the cafeteria area as well. Mechanical equipment is being installed as well. Ceilings are being installed in the second floor addition. CMS received new fire doors and hardware over the holiday break. A new door #3 was also installed in the 3rd/5th grade hallway.

It is crazy to think 2021 is already behind us and 2022 has begun. This school year is certainly flying by. Have a great January and stay warm. Go Cards!

Technology Corner, Michael Ziegler, Technology Coach



Technology has become fully integrated into young people's lives, and it is nearly impossible for parents or guardians to know everything their teens are doing online. The goal is not for parents to monitor everything, but instead to teach and reteach how to be responsible digital citizens. Take time to discuss cybersecurity with your child. Below are links to [commonsense.org](https://www.commonsense.org) one page resources for parents to have a thought provoking discussion with their student before or after school.

[5 Quick Tips](#) - K-5 Families

[4 Quick Tips](#) - 6-12 Families

Calendar / Upcoming Events

January

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5	6	7
10 7:00 Regular School Board Meeting CHS Library	11	12	13	14 No School – Teacher Work Day
17 Parent/Teacher Conf. – No School	18 No School	19	20	21
24 7:00 Regular School Board Meeting CHS Library	25	26	27	28
31				

February

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14 7:00 Regular School Board Meeting CHS Library	15	16	17 End of Trimester	18 In-Service Day – No School
21 Trimester Begins	22	23	24	25
28 7:00 Regular School Board Meeting CHS Library				

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

Superintendent:	Annette Deuman	adeuman@columbus.k12.wi.us
Director of Business Services:	Nathan Knitt	nknitt@columbus.k12.wi.us
Director of Special Education:	Lisa Blochwitz	lblochwitz@columbus.k12.wi.us
Director of Curriculum/Instruction:	Becky Schmidt	bschmidt@columbus.k12.wi.us
Director of Technology Services:	Daniel Parizo	dparizo@columbus.k12.wi.us
Facilities Manager:	Troy Marshall	tmarshall@columbus.k12.wi.us
Food Service Director:	Irene Pawlisch	ipawlisch@columbus.k12.wi.us

