



E- NEWSLETTER

Columbus School District

May 2022

Learning Today; Leading Tomorrow

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News from the Nurse:

Hello families,

As we near the end of the school year, I wanted to provide you with a few reminders for the end of this year, summer, and the beginning of next school year:

- If your child has medication at school (prescription or over-the-counter), it will need to be picked up by/on Monday, May 23rd. If you cannot make it to the school by/on Monday, May 23rd, medications can also be picked up during the first week of summer school session 1 (week of 6/6/2022-6/10/2022) Any medications that are not picked up by/on Friday, June 10th will be discarded.
- If your child has medications at CES/DCS, they will be moved to CIS/CMS building on May 23rd. This is where you will need to pick them up if you plan on getting the during the first week of summer school session 1.
- While I know that we are all looking forward to summer break, next school year will be here before you know it! Over the next few months, please call your child's healthcare provider to verify that they are up to date on their immunizations. If they do or will need immunizations in the near future, please get those appointments scheduled as soon as possible.
- ALL medications (prescription and over-the-counter) need to be stored in the office at your child's school. This is to protect the safety of all of our students. If your child requires any medication at school (scheduled or as needed), the proper forms need to be completed. For prescription medications, parent permission, as well as physician orders and signature are required. For over-the-counter medications, only a parent authorization is needed. Students are not allowed to carry medications on them, unless it is for emergency use only, and they have been pre-approved to do so. Please email bbayer@columbus.k12.wi.us for any questions on this.

Thank you for all of your cooperation, patience and understanding this school year. For any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email me at bbayer@columbus.k12.wi.us.

Have a great summer!

Brittany Bayer, MSN, RN



APRIL 2020
REFERENDUM

Community-Led Process.
Community-Led Solution.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

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



April 2022

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

New fitness center
space at the
High School.



WHAT'S NEW

- Work in the new addition of the elementary school is nearing completion. Construction crews are now working on installing interior finishes and equipment.
- At the high school, phase 3 is nearing completion, and phase 4 is kicking off. Work in the health and fitness rooms is nearly complete, while the renovation of the STEAM areas is beginning starting with demolition.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Elementary School

- Lockers have been installed in the new classroom wing.
- Ceiling installation will finish this month.
- Interior finishes in the new "nest" themed classroom wing is nearly complete with painted tree panels, wood-look plastic laminate wall panels, and circular seating nooks.
- Floor installation has begun in the cafeteria.
- Wall and ceiling finishes have been installed in the cafeteria and kitchen equipment installation is underway.
- Gym infrastructure such as loudspeakers and scoreboards are being installed.

High School

- The new Health Room is complete and already being used by students!

High School (continued)

- Construction of soffits is underway, starting with metal stud framing.
- The new STEAM spaces have been reconfigured with the installation of HVAC and plumbing work in these areas.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Looking into the next month, the work schedule includes:

Elementary School

- Installation of the wood gym floor.
- Gym equipment will be installed, including the sound system, fans, and basketball hoops.
- Floor finish installation will be complete.

High School

- Window installation in the library, band, and choir rooms.
- The new fitness room will be complete in mid-April.
- Demolition of the STEAM area will continue through April, followed by renovation of those spaces.



**APRIL 2020
REFERENDUM**

Community-Led Process.
Community-Led Solution.

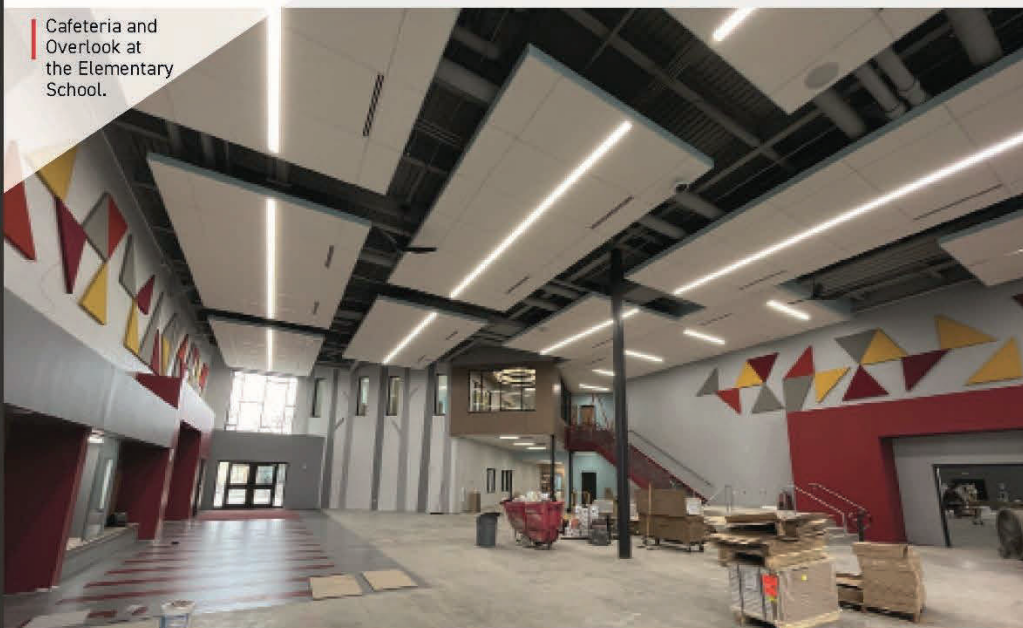
April 2022

PROJECT **PROGRESS REPORT**

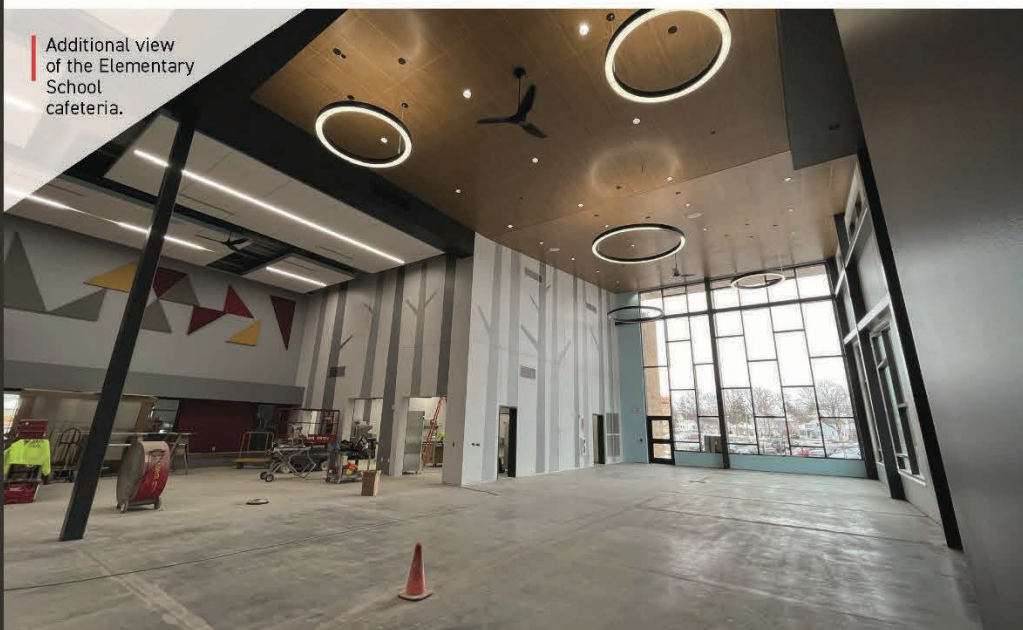
DISTRICT-WIDE UPDATES

- Construction will complete in phases at the Elementary, Middle, and High schools by August of 2022.

Cafeteria and Overlook at the Elementary School.



Additional view of the Elementary School cafeteria.



QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Annette Deuman, Superintendent
referendum@columbus.k12.wi.us
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Curriculum News, Becky Schmidt, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Reflecting Back, Planning Forward

The vision for Curriculum and Instruction in Columbus School District reads as follows: *Curriculum and Instruction in Columbus School District will guarantee equitable access to a comprehensive learning experience that will empower students to be active participants of the greater global community.* This is what we strive to do.

During the 2021-22 school year, the district, students, and families faced challenges, and through hard work, we are persevering on the other side. Here are a few things you may notice as we head forward into the summer months.

Summer School- The district is taking advantage of funding available through an ESSER III grant to provide bussing to summer school 2022. By allowing more students the opportunity to attend summer school and emphasizing literacy and math during summer school, the district's goal is to continue to promote growth in literacy and math as well as lessen loss that naturally occurs when students are out of school during the summer months. Bussing for summer school may not be possible in future years, but the district is pleased to be able to offer this opportunity this summer. Open registration for summer school is officially closed; however, some grade levels still have a few seats remaining. If you are still interested in enrolling your child in summer school, please contact their principal directly.

Closing of Columbus Intermediate School- Columbus Elementary School will open in Fall 2022 as a 4K-5 elementary school. That means that over the summer, grades 3-5 will be moved into the new construction. As a result of this move, Columbus Intermediate School needs to be officially closed. At this point, it is a formality, but the district wants to make sure all families understand when it comes across in a future school board agenda that it is just that, a formality that was always part of the plan once the community generously approved the referendum for construction to make CES a 4K-5 elementary school.

End of Year Surveys- In a few short weeks, all families of Columbus School District will be invited to participate in an end of year survey. These surveys will help the district on its path of continuous improvement as planning for the 2022-23 school year continues throughout the summer.

JEDI- A quick note on JEDI Virtual School. Heading into the 2021-22 school year, in response to feedback from families, Columbus School District joined a consortium of school districts who offer online instruction through JEDI Virtual School as an option for students. The district will maintain JEDI as an option heading into the 2022-23 school year. Columbus resident students who wish to enroll in JEDI remain Columbus School District students and are eligible for all the supports and co-curricular opportunities available to students who attend in person. If JEDI Virtual School is an option that you wish to discuss further, please contact the principal of the school your child would otherwise be attending. Families who wish to enroll their child in JEDI Virtual School for the start of the 2022-23 school year must contact the school district before **July 18, 2022**.



Student Services News, Lisa Blochwitz, Director of Student Services

Transition Night

On Wednesday, April 13, students and families were invited to attend "Transition Night" hosted by Columbus Transition Coordinator/Special Educator, Jahlieh Henderson. The targeted population for Transition Night was students ages 14-21 who receive special education services and are interested in learning more about county and state services. Experts came to share insight and information from the Columbia County Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), and WISPACT (a special needs trust organization). All presenters focused on how students with disabilities can live, work, and thrive in their communities with focused support and individualized programming. Families were able to ask questions, meet individually with the presenters, and gain valuable information for their young adults' futures. It was a great night! Thanks to all who attended.

Columbus School District and Community CESA 5 WCASS Award Ceremony

On April 29th, one Columbus School District staff member was recognized at an awards ceremony held at Springbrook Resort in Wisconsin Dells and hosted by CESA 5. Each year CESA 5, in collaboration with the Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services (WCASS), seek regional nominations in the following categories:

- Personal Achievement Award (student with disability award)
- Mainstream Teacher Award or Integration Team Award
- Administrator Award
- Special Education Teacher Award
- Pupil Services Award (nurse, social worker, psychologist, counselors, at-risk teacher)
- Special Education Paraprofessional Award
- Related/Support Services Award (OT, PT, Speech & Language, Interpreter, Adaptive PE)
- **NEW! Unsung Hero Award**
(community members, business partners, anyone or entity that supports students with disabilities)

This year, Renee Weichert received the Special Education Paraprofessional award for her outstanding commitment to the students she supports in the special education program. Congratulations to Renee!



Peer Model Program

2022-2023 School Year

Columbus School District



Columbus' Peer Model program is designed for children with and without disabilities to learn from and form relationships with their peers. The classroom consists of three-year-old students identified with special needs and their typically developing peers. Our class takes place Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday mornings from 9:00-11:45. The classroom is led by a dually certified Special Education Teacher and supported by an Educational Support Professional, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, and Speech and Language Therapist.

Peer Models Must:

Children who turn 4 after September 1, 2022 are eligible to apply.

Complete a preschool screening-including participation in a mock class

Be able to take care of all toileting needs

Communicate effectively in English.

Complete an Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ3)

Complete an informal speech sound profile.

Interested in Applying?

Visit <https://forms.gle/zdr3LLjPTkmKQ4Z2A>
to fill out an application.

If you have any questions feel free to contact:

Abby Coughlin: 920: 623-5950 ext:1126

Karin Westlake: 920: 623-5950 ext:1155



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

Message from the Principal,

It is amazing to think that the school year is going to be over soon. Our students have made so much progress this year and we congratulate them for their accomplishments! We also want to thank the parents and families for their outstanding support this year as we trudged through the COVID cases, learned new pick up procedures, going from masks to masks optional, the list goes on. With all the changes came adaptability. Our students have learned how to think flexibly and adapt to change better than ever and for that I am appreciative. So, here's to a year of adaptability and growth. Looking forward to next year and the new building that will bring a new kind of excitement in our school. Thank you for all the support!

Beth Hellpap

4k-5th grade principal



With the help from the middle school FFA, our 4th grade students learned more about earth day, tree planting and the importance of keeping our earth clean. Thanks to Mrs. Crook for arranging this and getting a spruce sapling for each of our 4th graders!

CES/DCS enjoyed learning about the important work the Line workers in Columbus do for our community. Happy Line worker Appreciation Day!



Columbus Middle School, Cori Denk, Principal

The school year is ending in just a few short weeks. While this year has had its difficulties, we were glad that we got to see kids in person. We will continue to learn and grow and make plans this summer for the 2022-23 school year.

Choir and Band Concert: Our music students will end the year with a spring concert. On May 9th please join our choir and band students at Columbus Middle School. They will be performing at 6:30 pm. If your child is going to participate in the concert please have them at CMS by 6:00 pm.

Promotion: Our 8th Grade Promotion will be held on Friday, May 20th at 4:15 pm. Promotion will be on the Columbus Football Field. If weather is an issue we will communicate you the details by Thursday, May 19th.

May 19th: CMS will be having a kickball tournament on Thursday, May 19th. We will be running an alternate schedule so that we can have the afternoon to play kickball at Kiwanis Park.

Last Day of School: We will also be running an alternative schedule on the last day of school so that our 8th graders can practice for promotion. Our 6th and 7th graders will be having activities in the afternoon.



Columbus High School, Jonathan Rouse, Principal

Staff Shout Out...

It has been a difficult year finding substitute teachers. CHS teachers have gone above and beyond in covering classes when there is not a substitute available. This means they give up the one prep period they have for that day. Planning and grading then happens outside of

the school day. We are so fortunate to have a group of teachers willing to support their students and their colleagues in this way. This is one reason it is great to be a Cardinal!

Graduation 2022...

After a senior vote, it was decided that the graduation ceremony will take place in the CHS gym on Thursday, May 19 at 7:00 PM. Students are in the process of voting for their class speakers and honored guest readers. We will have reserved seating on the floor for immediate family members. Bleachers will be for the rest of the guests with overflow seating in the cafeteria while the ceremony is streaming. There are some fun activities planned for seniors for the last week of school. These include dress up days, a parade through Columbus elementary and middle schools, senior picnic, etc.

Advanced Placement Testing...

May 2 marks the beginning of AP testing. We have 73 students taking 94 tests in U.S. History, Biology, Calculus, English Literature, English Language, Macroeconomics, and U.S. Politics and Government. Our students work extremely hard all year preparing for these tests. Students who do well earn credits for college.

Prom...

The theme for Junior Prom this year is "On Cloud Nine". Tickets are being sold in the office. Grand march will be held in the main high school gym. The dance itself will be taking place in the new high school cafeteria. We look forward to having this event back in person.

Athletics/Activities Message...

There have already been a few spring sport season games moved due to the weather and fields. Please check the activities calendar for the dates of upcoming or rescheduled events.

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

Events held on the high school main gym are live streamed on YouTube:

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

Thank you for your continued support!

Jon Rouse
CHS Principal

Jay Freerking
CHS Assistant Principal
6-12 Activities Director



FFA Update

FFA Banquet: Sunday, April 24th- Columbus FFA Officers held their annual FFA banquet to recognize individuals for supporting FFA members and to present awards to FFA members. The Columbus FFA recognized Tim Dworak and Jay Schroeder with an Appreciation Award for their support over the past five years. Both of these teachers have always held their doors open for the members when they needed help making banners, cutting out decorations or staging their fruit and strawberries for a day. The FFA members greatly appreciate their willingness to assist them and to help them be successful in their projects. Thank you, Mr. Dworak and Mr. Schroeder!

The Chapter members also recognized Sarah D. and Taylor D. with the Honorary Chapter Degree. This is the highest degree a chapter can give and recognizes special people in the community or school that have given their time and support to help the FFA members accomplish their goals.

FFA Alumni Concession Stand- Saturday, May 28th at Wedel's Auction: FFA members can sign up to help. Your help is greatly appreciated and you can earn money toward an FFA jacket or future conferences! A future auction is scheduled for June 18th so mark your calendars!

National Chapter Award: The FFA officers- Zoe G., McKenzie P., Hillary K. and Ty T. worked on completing the chapter's national chapter award. This award is based on the 15 quality standards that the National FFA has set to determine if a chapter is a superior chapter. This award is a competition to determine which chapters are the top in the state and the nation. Columbus FFA has traditionally done well with their application. These young officers hope that they can continue the tradition!

Food Service News, Irene Pawlisch, Director of Food Service

We have had a year of many changes. In preparation for additional changes with the new K-5 kitchen, I have shifted staff around in some of the buildings. This is allowing staff to get to know their new job duties and hit the ground running in the fall.

I am also looking at an entire culture shift in how we approach serving our foods. We will be offering more options across all schools. We have a diverse community and our food offerings will reflect the community. This includes families that mostly eat out on the run, make food from boxes, and those that do all things scratch cooking. It is a balancing act of giving favorites to all groups.

As a part of this culture shift, I will be soliciting students, family, and staff input in establishing long-term goals and short-term steps to reach those goals. Some of these steps will include nutrition outreach programs in the classroom and after school. What I don't know is what is most important to you.



**One Chocolate Milk has
14 grams of added sugar
compared to white milk.
That is an extra 1.12 Tablespoons
of sugar in each milk.**

**If a student drinks chocolate milk
every day for Lunch and snack
(10 milks) a week that is nearly
3/4 cup of extra sugar a week.**

**An average school month is 20 days. If
a student enjoyed a chocolate milk for
lunch and snack for all 20 days...**

**20 x 2 = 40 Milks
40 x 1.12 = 44.8 TBS
44.8 / 16 = 2.8 cups**

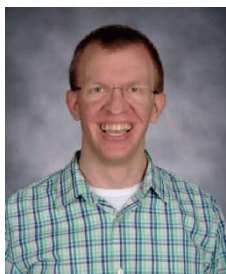
**The purpose of a school nutrition
program is to provide equity of
learning by providing healthy nutrition
to feed bodies and fuel learning minds.**

**Sugar is one nutrient being
investigated over the summer. If you
are interested in being a part of a
community nutrition Council to give
input on program nutrition goals,
please contact Irene Pawlisch SNS, CSC
at
ipawlisch@columbus.k12.wi.us**

COLUMBUS/FALL RIVER FOOD PANTRY

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

We serve Columbus and Fall River residents. We are located in the back of the Columbus Senior Center, [125 N Dickason Blvd, Columbus](#). For those in need of food during the month of May, please contact Columbus Assembly of God @ 920-350-0345 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

It's hard to believe another school year is drawing to a close! As we make the mad dash to the end of the year, the Business Office is ramping up to finish year end accounting and getting ready to close the books and getting ready for the 2022-2023 year.

The Business Office is currently reviewing Open Enrollment applications for families that want their kids to come learn here at Columbus. Additionally, we are working in the background on getting registration for next year ready to go live over the summer. Plus, there's the annual audit that will begin in June, along with continuing to look at ongoing budget adjustments. All of this work in the background will culminate next fall with the presentation of the budget at the annual meeting. None of this work screams front page news, but we keep humming along in the Business Office!

Look for more updates on what to expect next year in the next newsletter!



Facilities Update, Troy Marshall, Facilities Manager

And just like that, May is here and the school year is quickly winding down. That does not mean things will be slowing down for the facilities department.

At CHS, custodians are busy getting areas cleared for construction. The library, general music and band rooms have all been cleared to make way for renovations. Crews are currently working on cutting in new window openings for all of these spaces. Things should wrap up there around mid-June. The next area of focus will be the art/wood shop areas. Custodians and teaching staff are already moving items that are not needed for class.

At CES, the gym floor install begins this month. All equipment for the gym has already been installed. Baseman Sports Floors will be busy for the next few weeks. Outside, crews are pouring retaining walls and getting grade work done for the playground. The week of May 9th WE Energies will be installing a new gas service and meter to support the new HVAC and kitchen equipment. By the end of the month, custodians will be clearing existing spaces for renovations inside the existing building.

It has been a whirlwind school year. It is hard to believe it's almost over. By the beginning of the 22/23 school year, we will be operating in all of these new and renovated spaces. We can't wait to see the kids' and community's reactions to this exciting work. Have a safe and fun summer!



Technology Corner, Michael Ziegler, Interim Technology Manager

Cyber Security has been a common topic in the news lately in a global sense. We need everyone to practice good digital hygiene when it comes to passwords. Some quick tips for using passwords is to never share your password with anyone. We do not ask students for their passwords and they should not give them out. Also, passwords should include a range of upper- and lower-case letters as well as special characters. When possible, it is a good idea to enable multi-factor authentication as it is an extra security measure. For more ways to create effective passwords please [see this video](https://connectsafely.org) from connectsafely.org.

Calendar / Upcoming Events

May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
9 7:00 Regular School Board Meeting CHS Library	10	11 Early Release	12	13
16	17	18	19	20 Last Day of School
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

June

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3
6 Summer School Session 1 Starts	7	8	9	10
13 7:00 Regular School Board Meeting CHS Library	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24 Summer School Session 1 Ends
27 7:00 Regular School Board Meeting CHS Library	28	29	30	

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

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Interim Technology Manager:	Michael Ziegler	mziegler@columbus.k12.wi.us
Facilities Manager:	Troy Marshall	tmarshall@columbus.k12.wi.us
Food Service Director:	Irene Pawlisch	ipawlisch@columbus.k12.wi.us

