



The **Polar Plunge** is the largest annual **Special Olympics fundraiser** with 100% of proceeds going toward Special Olympic athletes. More specifically, funding goes toward health screening, tournament fees, and travel expenses for athletes to compete in year round competitions.

Years ago, Special Olympics began a partnership with schools to create opportunity for individuals with intellectual disabilities called Project Unify. This group centers activities on unified sports, youth leadership, and whole school engagement for all students. Columbus High School's Project Unify group has grown from 12 to 80+ members over the span of 6 years, making it one of the most popular organizations at CHS.

For the Polar Plunge, Special Olympics recognizes Unified Champion Schools (formally Project Unify) for their efforts by giving 25% of funds raised back to schools to fund further inclusive programming. The CHS Polar Plunge team, consisting of 38 students, raised \$17,000 this year, making them the top fundraisers for the Madison Polar Plunge and 3rd in the state of WI.

This is an incredibly big accomplishment for such a small school. We are incredibly proud to support Special Olympics and to continue our mission to respect, accept, and include everyone, every day.

By Jahlieh Gardipee, Teacher

CHS PRINCIPAL JAKE EKERN
AND CMS ASSISTANT
PRINCIPAL/COMMUNITY
LEARNING ADMINISTRATOR
CORI DENK TOOK THE POLAR
PLUNGE FOR SPECIAL
OLYMPICS!

LEARNING TODAY; LEADING TOMORROW



Launching Forward Together

In October 2016 the Columbus School District community came together to create a long-term strategic plan titled Launching a New Legacy. Through this process, the community identified priorities in the areas of facilities, STEAM, social needs, programs, community partnerships and technology. In October 2017, we held a one year anniversary celebration event where the District shared with the community the work they have done to date towards the priority goals. At this event, the community representatives requested more input and feedback from the community as a whole. With that request in mind, the District has compiled a community-wide survey that will be available online and in the April newsletter.

The goal of the survey is to include the entire Columbus School District Community in the planning of the next steps of Launching a New Legacy. The results of the survey will be reported to the community at an event to be held later this spring. At this event, the school board will invite members of the public to join the Columbus School District Needs Assessment Committee, a volunteer group comprised of community members supported by staff members with the charge of researching and identifying the District's needs in the Launch priority areas of facilities, STEAM, social needs, programs, partnerships and technology. This group will report their findings to the school board in late fall 2018, which will mark the next steps of Launching forward together.

Once the survey opens, it may be completed online or on paper. Please look for the April newsletter for a paper copy of the survey, further survey instructions and more details on how to join the Needs Assessment Committee. We will also keep the community updated through our website www.columbus.k12.wi.us. We hope to have a great response from the community as we Launch forward together!

Mental Health & Health / Safety Links are available on our website: www.columbus.k12.wi.us

SPRING BREAK – NO SCHOOL:
AFTERNOON OF MARCH 23 & MARCH 28 – 30

Capitol Conference Art Show

By Jolene Schwoerer, CHS Art Teacher

Eight CHS students will be honored at the Artist Reception at the Annual Capitol Conference Art Show at the Pyle Center in Madison. This art show honors some of the top artists from each school in the Capitol Conference. This is a juried show, meaning that only a limited number of artworks are on display and that pieces are of the highest caliber. Qualifying for the show is similar to being All-Conference in athletics. Art teacher Jolene Schwoerer commented, "These students have really worked hard for their accomplishments; it is great to take this opportunity to honor students who achieve in their creative endeavors."

There will be many unique pieces from CHS this year. Senior Taylor Bender has been working on an artist's book which features several pages of her mixed media work packaged together in a recycled book. Senior Dana Kelly is working digitally to produce character drawings which will link to her art blog. Others pieces include drawings, paintings, and sculptures.

The show is open to the public April 17th through April 29th and is on the first floor of the Pyle Center, located at 702 Langdon Street. An Artist Reception will take place on Sunday, April 29th, from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. The guest speaker/judge will address the group at the Artist Reception at 2:30 PM. In addition, Best of School, Best of Show and Viewers' Choice Awards will be presented to students; there will be a QR code and link posted at the show for attendees to vote for the Viewers' Choice Award prior to the judge's presentation at the reception. On a related note, a CHS student, Mercedes Luey, was the winner of the Viewers' Choice Award last year.

"EVERY CHILD IS AN ARTIST. THE PROBLEM IS HOW TO REMAIN AN ARTIST ONCE WE GROW UP."
PABLO PICASSO



NEVER STOP LEARNING!



WHAT IS STEAM?
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY,
ENGINEERING, AG/ART, MATH



DANA K, TAYLOR B, AND DESTINEY E ARE FINISHING THEIR ART PROJECTS FOR THE CAPITOL CONFERENCE ART SHOW.

Parenting Class Offered: *Parenting with Love & Logic*

Columbus Community Learning Services is offering a parenting class in the middle school library from 6 PM to 8:30 PM on March 15, 22 and April 5, 12, 19 & 26. Attending all classes is most effective. Cost is \$10. Register by calling 920.623.5954, extension 3208.

Columbus High School Tech Ed Highlights

Construction Class

The class is constructing a house in the auto shop. They just completed making stairs for the house and are currently working on setting the trusses. They will soon be installing windows and roughing in the electrical for the building. After constructing the house, they will be moving on to masonry. On March 12th, Mike Price, from Carpenter Training Center in Madison, will be coming in to show how to set up steel studs.

IED

The students in Introduction to Engineering Design are currently learning about reverse engineering. They are working with Automoblox vehicles and analyzing them visually, functionally, and structurally. Once we are done reverse engineering the Automoblox, the students will be moving into CAD work on creating a miniature train.

Materials & Processes

Students are nearing completion of their checker board project and will soon be starting a jewelry box. Next quarter the class will move onto metals where they will learn sheet metal work, welding, machining, and foundry.

Aerospace Engineering

Students have been exploring the four forces of flight in class and applying it to different projects. They are currently constructing rubber band planes in class and will be trying to fly them the length of the gym when completed. After completing rubber band planes, the students will move onto tethered planes. They will try to create a plane with enough lift to get off the ground and fly via motor around a tethered pole. In the fourth quarter, students will be constructing kites and rockets to finish up the class.

March, 2018

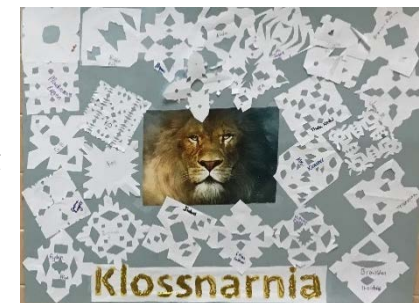
Columbus Middle School Student Council Sponsors WiscOlympics

by Becky Premo, Grade 8 Social Studies Teacher

In celebration of the 2018 Winter Olympics the CMS Student Council sponsored their own unique version of the events.

All homerooms were asked to pick a "country" name and design and create a flag. Students did a wonderful job at turning their homeroom teacher's name into a country name and then creating a flag to represent their country. Some even went further and wrote country anthems.

Citizen athletes then signed up to compete in our own version of winter sports including; bobsled, luge, cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, biathlon, hockey, curling, and speed skating. The two weeks of events ended with a medal ceremony that all "countries" attended.



CMS Wins



Upcoming Events

March, 2018

- 12 School Board Meeting at City Hall; 7 PM
- 14 Late Start; Classes begin at 10 AM
- 21 Rotary Sponsored School Board Candidate Forum
- 23 End of Third Quarter
- 23 Early Release; Classes dismiss at 12:30 PM
- 26 – 30 No School; Spring Break



April, 2018

- 1 Easter
- 2 School Board Meeting at City Hall; 7 PM
- 3 Election: School Board
- 9 School Board Meeting at City Hall; 7 PM
- 18 Late Start; Classes begin at 10 AM
- 23 School Board Meeting at City Hall; 7 PM
- 30 Open Enrollment Deadline; 4 PM



FIRST GRADERS LEARN TO CODE IN PROJECT LEAD THE WAY.

Due to the inclement weather day in February, there **will be school** for students on **Monday, June 4th**.



DCS THIRD GRADERS PRACTICE USING COMPASSES FOR THE WEATHER UNIT.

