



**A new look:**

Welcome to the official newsletter of Columbus Public Schools, "The Helm."

We took your direction and now are steering the ship toward what you want, more. See inside for the changes.

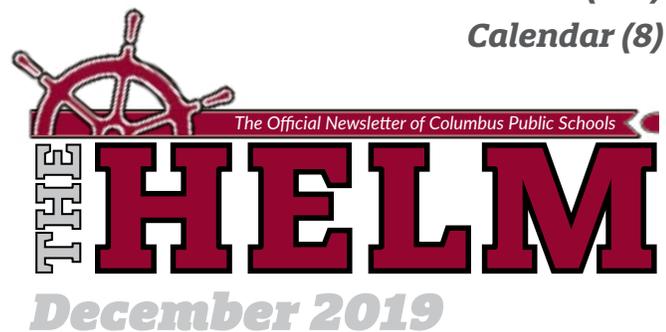
**Inside:**

*Birthdays (2)*

*Curriculum (3)*

*"Meet The Teach" (4-5)*

*Calendar (8)*



# Down To The Minute

## First-reading of Temporary Early Retirement Incentive Program policy heard at Nov. meeting

The first-reading of the temporary early retirement incentive program policy was heard at the Columbus Public Schools board meeting, Nov. 18.

The program is available to employees who meet the following requirements

- Must qualify for the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System (NPERs) Rule of 85.

The board of education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applicants based on financial issues.

A formal application must be filled out.

For more details on the payout formula, contact Dave Melick or see the documents attached to the minutes by scanning the QR code or visiting the website below.

For more agenda items visit:

Click [HERE](#) or follow the link via the QR code on the right.



# Tech Tip of Month

From Brandi Fleming

## A Tool that Might Interest You

Lexend Font is available for use in Google Sheets, Docs, and Slides.

This font was developed with intent to help improve reading speed by adjusting the spacing between the letters.

While that may be why these fonts were designed, it is also a font that displays lowercase letters just like they are usually written.

Notice the font here? I purposely chose Lexend Deca to demonstrate. Look at the I and the a's.

\*\*\*

Another Quick way to Find & Organize Files in Drive: Using "Priority" in Drive

See the additional tip on Page 8

# Happy Birthdays - December

2 -	Kari L.	Slattery	North Park	Teacher
3 -	James H.	Feldhaus	Centennial	Custodian
	Kayla M.	Raimondo	Middle School	Teacher
4 -	Gricelda D.	Brabec	Admn Bldg	Clerical
	Alan R.	Holly	Middle School	Teacher
5 -	Abie M.	Wulf	Middle School	Teacher
6 -	Michael S.	Ingemansen	Lost Creek	Teacher
	Samantha M.	Byrnes	Lost Creek	After School Program
	Tonya M.	Kallweit	West Park	Para Educ - SPED HighNeed
7 -	Barbara	Leu	West Park	Teacher
	Lorraine R.	Paprocki	Lost Creek	Teacher
	Santiago S.	Vasquez	Admn Bldg	Interpreter
	Kayla A.	Ginsmann	Centennial	Teacher
8 -	Brenda Jo	Huey	High School	Teacher
	Lindsey M.	Rosno	Lost Creek	Teacher
9 -	Carl M.	Edwards	Lost Creek	Custodian
10 -	Mackenzie J.	Motz	North Park	Teacher
	Ashley N.	Franzen	Lost Creek	Teacher
11 -	Michael C.	Klee	Middle School	Teacher
12 -	Brian	Townsend	High School	Teacher
	Betty D.	Williams	High School	Para Educators - Sped
	Robert J.	Briggs	Middle School	Food Service
13 -	Guadalupe	Marino Ramirez	High School	Counselor
	Brenda S.	Ensminger	Lost Creek	Food Service Elem
14 -	Heidi L.	Mader	Middle School	After School Program
	Kristi K.	Nelson	Middle School	Teacher
15 -	Shirley S.	Nelson	Admn Bldg	Clerical
	Mirian	Garcia	Centennial	Para Educator - Preschool
	Donna	Gieseking	North Park	Para Educators - Media
17 -	Jennifer A.	Mulder	North Park	Teacher
	Jennifer C.	Strong	Middle School	Teacher
	Darcy A.	Warth	West Park	Para Educators - Title 1
	Angela M.	Andreasen	Middle School	Clerical
	Sharon K.	Danhauer	Middle School	Clerical
	Terri L.	Engstrom	West Park	Para Educators - Sped
18 -	David L.	Howe	Maintenance Bldg	Maintenance
	Channa J.	Larsen	Lost Creek	Nurse
	Stephanie	Luchsinger	Emerson	Teacher
	Traci	Sempek	West Park	Para Educator - Kindergar
	Laura J.	Gassen	Middle School	Teacher
	Sharon	Hartman	High School	Teacher
19 -	Callista J.	Mimick	Middle School	Teacher
	Tyler S.	Richters	North Park	Teacher
20 -	Katey E.	Van Kley	Centennial	After School Program
	Ana E.	Harms	Middle School	Teacher
22 -	Elizabeth R.	Viessman	Middle School	Teacher
23 -	Shelley N.	Beshaler	Emerson	Para Educator - Preschool
	Virginia M.	Sullivan	High School	Food Service
	Jennifer L.	Augustin	Admn Bldg	Clerical
	Elizabeth A.	Davis	CPS Student Ctr	Para Educator - SPED NonP
25 -	Karissa D.	Dierberger	Centennial	Teacher
	Tammi A.	Jaeger	Centennial	Para Educators - Reading
26 -	Flor D.	Roldan	North Park	Para Educ - EL Fluent
28 -	Christina L.	Nilon	Middle School	Teacher
29 -	Jennifer M.	Eickmeier	Middle School	Teacher
	Laura S.	Chavez	Centennial	Para Educ - EL Fluent
	Francie R.	May	Middle School	Teacher
30 -	Jessica	Spiker	Middle School	Teacher
	Robin	Wagoner	Lost Creek	Food Service
31 -	Marcus R.	Gillespie	High School	Teacher

# From Your Superintendent

## Great employees leading to enrollment growth

Back in 2013 the school district began conversations that led to our new High School and renovation of the existing High School into the current Middle School.



This not only helped our district solve the issues of overcrowding at our elementary schools, it helped us with the overcrowding at the old middle school and the old high school.

To give you an idea of how fast we have grown, our enrollment for the 2012-2013 school year was 3,680.

Fast forward to the 2019-2020 school year and our enrollment has increased to 4,090!

That is 410 or 59 more students per year in the last seven years. That is an 11 percent growth over that time period.

That is significant for our community.

Why are they choosing Columbus Public Schools? I say it is because of our people.

We have arguably the best collection of people working for Columbus Public Schools that offer a great comprehensive education for our community.

We are getting really good at knowing the people we are teaching, how they learn and that

what we teach is meaningful to students.

Are we perfect? No.

Are we working towards perfection? Yes.

How do we get there? One relationship and student at a time, that is how.

Combining our love for teaching children and our comprehensive academic offerings, we are meeting the needs of our community.

# Personal finance added to CHS requirements

CHS will require Personal Finance for all graduating seniors starting with the 2023 graduating class. This course is designed to help students become financially responsible as they prepare for their future. Recently updated, course topics will include: budgeting, consumer decision-making, credit and credit ratings, taxes, insurance, saving and investing, and asset management.

CHS biology teachers are taking part in a pilot to select a resource that best aligns to the new

## Curriculum From Amy Romshek

three-dimensional Nebraska Science Standards and reflects the new shifts in science instruction. The three dimensions are the disciplinary core ideas, cross-cutting concepts, and science and engineering practices.

CHS Biology Pilot:  
Semester 1- STEM-scopes  
Semester 2 - Miller & Levine Biology by Pearson  
\* \* \*

ELPA stands for English Language Proficiency Assessment.

It is a four part, language assessment that is given to all EL students in order to assess their ability to listen, speak, read and write English. Results for this exam are used to determine AQueSTT classifications for schools and districts.

Both emerging and progressing EL students complete this assessment which means many of the students who participate in this exam are in regular classes all day. Scoring proficient on this test is

the only way a student can exit or "graduate" from the EL program.

This year the testing window begins February 3rd and ends March 13th. Prior to testing, building staff members need to conduct practice tests with students, communicate the importance of the exam to students, create testing schedules, designate testing devices, and train proctors.

In the upcoming months, please reflect and communicate with EL staff to determine what you can do to help EL stu-

dents in your classroom or building be successful in improving their EL proficiency levels.

### HAPPENING:

**December 2-13:** DIBELS Testing. All students K-6 will be given the DIBELS middle of the year reading screener.

**December 10** - Jan Hoegh will assist administrators with organizing and reviewing common assessment documents.  
**December 11** - Jan Hoegh will return to CHS to review common assessment documents.

## Buildings From Leonard Kwapnioski

### Staying on your feet: Winter slips, trips, falls

Each year the "slips, trips and falls" claim category has been the leader of ALICAP's Workers' Compensation Claim Counts. The winter weather is fast approaching, and all Nebraskan's know that snow and ice are inevitable here.

However, that doesn't mean slips, trips and falls can't be prevented. ALICAP is encouraging all schools to talk about slips, trips and falls prevention this month to increase caution.

Here are some reminders for preventing slips, trips and falls during the winter months:

- Wear the proper footwear to and from school. It is perfectly acceptable to bring your dress shoes in a bag, (example: high heels, or slick sole shoes) and put them on once you are indoors.

- If you are one to help with snow removal, consider wearing additional snow/ice traction footwear, such as Yaktracs.

- Be extra cautious when you first enter a building. Take shorter steps and look for any

wet spots to avoid. Many times, just a few steps into a building, there will be a wet floor which is caused by students and staff members entering the building all at the same time, tracking in snow or ice.

- Report it, mark it and/or attempt to clean it up. If you see a wet floor, report it to a custodian or janitor, or locate a wet floor sign to alert others. Don't ignore it. You may be able to prevent someone else from being injured.

- Use a handrail when walking outdoor stairs. Many times black ice will appear and even if it doesn't look slick, it could be.

- Use the cleared sidewalks, crosswalks, and main entrances to enter the school building. Using alternate routes may result in an injury. The main entrances will be cleared first and most often, and thus, those are the safest. Don't take a short-cut.

- Remember to take shorter strides when walking on snow or ice. Don't attempt to run.

## Christmas Socials scheduled through December, retirement meeting ahead

Free lunch! Really! Christmas Socials begin this week.

- Here's the schedule of dates and locations: 12/4@EM, 12/5@LC, 12/10@CMS, 12/11@WP, 12/12@CN, 12/17@CHS, 12/18@NP, and 12/19@StuCtr.

- New department member! Julie Reiff, currently a paraeducator at LC, has accepted a position in the Finance/Human Resources department as of December 4. Welcome, Julie!

- Department of Labor regulations now require us to provide an annual fee disclosure notice to those eligible to participate in the 403(b) retirement account that CPS offers. Because about 95 percent of CPS employees are eligible to contribute to a 403(b) account, this notice will be provided via email.

- Speaking of retirement: If you are a certified staff member, qualify for the NPERS Rule of 85, and are interested in learning about the early retirement incentive the Board of Education will

## Finance/HR

From Dave Melick

offer this year, please plan to attend a half-hour meeting at either 7:15 a.m. or 4:15 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 16 at the Administration Building.

- Did you know? CPS has accounts with HyVee, Super Saver, Hobby Lobby, Walmart, Menards, and many more businesses in Columbus. If you will be making a purchase from local businesses, please contact Linda Staroscik at x12190 to obtain a tax-exempt purchase form.

- Have you moved? Changed banks? Know who your NPERS and life insurance beneficiaries are? If any of these apply, please contact Shirley Nelson at x11523 or Tania Stahl at x12670 to make sure that your information is up to date and accurate.

Finally, we are here to be of service to you. If you have questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me at x12417.

3434 DISCOVERER DRIVE, COLUMBUS

3-8 P.M. DISCOVERER SPIRIT SHOP  
3:45 P.M. FIRST HOME GIRLS BASKETBALL GAME  
5:30 P.M. FIRST HOME BOYS BASKETBALL GAME  
7 P.M. ANCHOR LIGHTINGEVENT

*Open on the Discoverers and celebrate the season! Enjoy the first home basketball games, a Discoverer-themed shopping area, and the lighting event with sweet treats, kids activities, and holiday entertainment. Santa and Little T will lead the countdown to the lighting of the anchor adorned with thousands of twinkling lights.*

Lighting of the Anchor  
COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION  
SATURDAY, DEC 7<sup>TH</sup>

*Featuring performances by:  
CHS NEW WORLD SINGERS • CHS VOCAL MUSIC •  
CHS BAND AND DRUMLINE • CHS CHEER AND DANCE  
CHS VOCAL MUSIC • CHS BAND • CHS CHEER*

# Passion for learning keeps Seckel teaching

There are a few things you can expect with West Park second grade teacher Sandi Seckel.

If she's baking it's chocolate chip cookies or rum cake. It's served with a glass of milk and made with "real butter," she said with a laugh.

Her students can expect something different in her classroom.

"They can expect to be held to a high standard behaviorally and academically," she said. "If we don't interact with students both positively and correctively, we can not help them become the best they can be."

Sandi is in her 38th year of teaching, all with Columbus Public Schools and all at

**Sandi Seckel**  
2nd-grade, West Park

the second-grade level.

"Columbus expects great things out of their staff. Not just teachers, but out of all of us that work here," she said. "Just like they ask good, high things of our students."

Through almost four decades of teaching, and with multiple opportunities from the district, Sandi is still learning.

"Any time I learn more about content ... I grow as a teacher," she said. "About the time I don't learn, from my colleagues, from the meetings that I'm at or my PLCs,

is the time I probably shouldn't be doing this job anymore. We're asking kids to learn every day, I should model that by being a lifelong learner."

Sandi has a passion for learning as well as reading. She recommends "The Giving Tree," by Shel Silverstein.

"The theme of that book is that we all have things to give and when we give selflessly we grow and so do others," Sandi said.

*Sandi's video begins our Meet The Teach profiles. The interview will first air Dec. 5th.*

[Play Video Here.](#)

# Experience in equation for Ebel

After 19 years of teaching at CPS, Joni Ebel is used to the reaction people give when they find out what she does for a living.

"I usually say I'm a middle school math teacher, and then the fear strikes them with 'Oh my, you're with middle school kids,' and 'Oh my, you teach math,'" she said opening her eyes big as to look taken-a-back.

But for Joni, who attended David City Aquinas, teachers were pretty cool.

"I had a lot of teachers who just kind of influenced me, and we did a lot of activities that were kind of fun, and thought 'You know what? That's kind of cool to be

**Joni Ebel**  
7th-grade Math, CMS

a teacher," she said.

Activities also fill Joni's classroom, where students can expect things "a little bit out of the ordinary."

"We try and have activities every day (and) structure things so they're not sitting all the time listening to me talk and try to explain things," she said. "It's a lot of group effort. They talk to their peers, they tell their peers how they got an answer (or) listen to someone else how they got a

math answer. So they're externalizing and internalizing different things in class."

As a seventh-grade teacher, Joni has helped students with problems and not just multiplying fractions.

"When a student is truly struggling, whether it be an academic struggle or a personal life struggle, and somehow you can talk to them ... and all of a sudden a light turns on ..." Joni said, "that gives me a little light in my in life, that I've really truly helped somebody."

*Joni's video will first air Dec. 12.*

[Play Video Here.](#)

# Townsend's path to teaching steers expectations for students

Brian Townsend might have been too honest when he was asked why he got into teaching.

"I have no idea," he said matter-of-factly.

But if you're at a party and ask what the 17- or 18- (he doesn't know) year teaching veteran does, you can tell teaching is a fit.

"Change a world," he said of his answer. "And they're, you know 'what are you talking about?' Well, I teach."

His path to teaching isn't in the traditional mold, as you can expect.

"I'm not exactly sure how I ended up here. I didn't start off as an education major ... and I changed majors a lot, and finally, ended up teaching."

During his time at the University of Nebraska - Kearney, he majored first in engineering, then studied theoretical physics as a physics major. He was also a math major, and after taking a philosophy class, he added that subject as a minor. "Then I took a computer science class and I liked that, too, so I became

**Brian Townsend**  
Science, CHS

a computer science major as well."

Brian credits an "awesome" group of teachers in helping him land on teaching. And what he took from their classes, is what he hopes his students will take away, too.

"That they learned something new. Or they were able to do something they weren't able to do before," Brian said picking up the pace. "So for instance in class, some kids will all of a sudden be like 'Oh, now I understand why that's like that' or they will see why certain math principles or certain math ideas ... they'll see it applied here. Some kids will say 'we just learned that in math,' and that's how it applies."

*Brian's video will air Dec. 19.*

[Play Video Here.](#)

# MEET THE TEACH



Welcome to "Meet The Teach," where each week in we'll bring you insightful and inspiring stories from some of CPS most recognizable staff members. This December, hear from Ms. Seckel, Ms. Ebel, Mr. Townsend and Ms. Lusche as they introduce themselves and welcome us into their classrooms. Join us and ... Meet The Teach.

# Lusche has teaching in her heart, collaboration in her classroom

Middle school special education teacher Tonja Lusche always had teaching in her, even though it took a few years to make it official.

"Twenty years after my high school graduation I received my teaching degree. In my heart, I always knew I wanted to be a teacher ... it just took me a while to get there," she said with a smile.

Tonja has been teaching for 22 years and this is her eleventh with the district. She cites a collaborative effort in Columbus Public Schools as part of her daily inspiration.

"You can't do this job without the support staff around you, you can't do this alone is what I'm saying," Tonja said. "Our community has great kids, great co-workers, and a very supportive administration."

In her time away from the building, Tonja

**Tonja Lusche**  
Special Education, CMS

can be found with her family, "usually just hanging out, watching movies." Her favorite being "It's a Wonderful Life."

She also spends time volunteering with The ARC of Platte County or with Night To Shine, a prom for students with special needs.

Though she may be a bit biased, Tonja describes what she does to others with pride.

"I teach the best group of kids ever to enter the school. It's a great job and I wouldn't trade it for anything."

*Tonja's video will first air on Dec. 26.*

[Play Video Here.](#)

## Quotables



**Ms. Seckel**  
on her hobbies

“First it would be reading, second it would be cooking or baking.”



**Ms. Ebel**  
on choosing to teach

“I had a lot of teachers (that) influenced me ... and thought ... 'That's kinda cool to be a teacher.'”



**Mr. Townsend**  
on good characteristics of a teacher

“Creativity ... and don't be rigid. Be willing to change the way you teach.”



**Ms. Lusche**  
on student expectations

“They can expect to be loved ... safe ... and absolutely have fun while they're learning.”

## Partner Talk a focus at North Park

In order to help students meet the "rigor" of the standards we need to find more ways to help students clarify their own understanding of concepts more deeply.



If we can prepare them to think through and problem solve more than just recalling facts, this will help them learn concepts more deeply.

Having to explain and talk through how they got their answers and why they answered what they did, will help them get to the application level.

With 50 percent of our students learning English as their second language and 68 percent of our students coming from poverty backgrounds, being able to think and communicate their thoughts while using academic language is a challenge for the majority of our students. While we may ask them to communicate in this way they may not know how to do this.

Teaching them sentence stems to begin these conversations could also carry through into their daily communication with others.

It will also help students learn how to collaborate and work with others, which is a skill they will need all through life.

If we teach our teachers ways to use more "Partner Talk" effectively and teach students ways to use "Partner Talk" effectively, we will likely see students carry these skills into their daily communication, both verbally and in writing. We should also see positive effects as students learn to think, problem-solve, work with others and explain their thinking in a more effective manner.

If they can explain their

**See "TALK" on Pg 8**

# The 'Thanks' in Thanksgiving

The Centennial Student Council provides a school-wide activity each month to promote our sense of community and being a school family.



For November, the student council members decided to create a Thanksgiving turkey.

On each feather they had students and staff write what they are thankful for. Student council members drew the turkey and assembled the body during an after-school meeting.

Then they spent their recess time adding the feathers from each student or staff member. As you can see, we have a very thankful turkey.

\*\*\*

Centennial Staff got into the Thanksgiving spirit by donating food items to the food bank. Staff that participated brought items to school Nov. 25 and 26, and were able to wear jeans. A special thanks to Dr. Loeffelholz for helping to organize this district event.



Isaiah May/CPS

*The student council turkey is displayed. Its feathers features items staff and students are thankful for.*

## Lessons in kindness comes with sprinkles, frosting for West Park second graders

The West Park Second Graders are gearing up for their annual Holiday Cookie Sales! Every year our second grade students have a great time decorating sugar cookies with frosting and sprinkles.

Their motto is, "The more frosting and sprinkles the better!"

The second grade classrooms then schedule a time for teachers to bring their students in for "Cookie Sales." Students set up stations for quick and easy sales to their West Park Family.

Cookies are sold for 25¢ each. The second graders adopt 4-5 children from the Holiday Spirit Coop and purchase gifts with their cookie

sale profits. Before shopping, the students identify wants and needs off the Christmas Lists for each child.

They then budget their money and identify what gifts they are able to buy for the children they have adopted.

Five to six students from each second grade classroom are chosen to go with their teachers one day after school to purchase the gifts. The gifts are then brought back to school and the class wrap their gifts for their adopted children.

The Cookie Sales Project ties in with the second grade Social Studies Economics unit. Our stu-

dents are engaged with hands-on learning of producers, consumers and goods.

They work together to deliver a service to our school and earn a profit.

Our students make transactions using money when students and staff come in to purchase cookies. The second graders work together to add up their sales and then count change back to their customers.

Not only is the Cookie Sales Project a great economics learning experience for our students, it is also a valuable lesson in kindness and giving to others during the holiday season.



## CHS, CMS showcased at Emerson



Emerson Elementary

*Members of CHS activities present to a group of Emerson students earlier this month. The presenters emphasized involvement in activities such as sports or student council.*

One of our goals this year at Emerson is to bring a piece of CMS & CHS to Emerson every month.

We want to showcase activities that students can get involved in starting at the elementary level.

This month we brought in H.S. students that are involved in activities such as basketball, football, track, wrestling, theatre, band, student council, CHS 101, NHS & CHS Student Ambassadors.

The CHS students really emphasized that as elementary students they should be involved in activities such as youth sports

**See "Emerson" on Page 8**



# LC sees moves, welcomed Anderson to role

Lost Creek would like to take the time to congratulate Julie Reiff on her offer and acceptance to transfer to our CPS Administration building to fill the roll in accounts payable.

She will be replacing Laurie Bardsley, and working with Mr. Melick and Linda Starosick.

Julie has been with us at Lost Creek for nine years as a paraprofessional and she will be greatly missed. We want to wish Julie the best of luck!

\*\*\*

Lost Creek has added a fourth-

grade section in response to enrollment increasing from 77 students at the beginning of the year to now 86 fourth.

Mr. Karl Anderson started with us Nov. 4.

He is going above and beyond to learn a lot about teaching 4th grade in the Discoverer Way. Mr. Anderson will be our additional fourth-grade teacher until the winter break.

After conducting interviews, we have hired Ms. Lauren Rogers for a permanent position. She will begin Jan. 2.

We are thankful for Mr. Ander-



Lost Creek is to host Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 7th. The event, a partnership with LC PTO members had 287 RSVPs returned.

son's willingness to step in and we're excited about the quality candidates that are interested in joining our team.



# December schedule swells for CMS

December is a busy month at CMS. In 5th grade they are just finishing up a poetry unit that will culminate in a Poetry Cafe. In 5th grade science, students are collecting data on a compost column. This is an interesting experiment to see the power of decomposers.

CMS Student Council is sponsoring a bake sale to raise money for clocks in the gym during the month of December and will open the school store again on Dec. 6 for students to purchase items with cash.

On Nov. 22 we opened the school store for the first time and had a very long line of eager students wanting to spend their Discoverer Bucks. Students earn Discoverer Bucks for being safe, respectful, responsible, and kind.

We had lines longer than Black Friday and sold over 557 items for Discoverer Bucks and collected 2,601 Discoverer Bucks!

It was a huge success.

**See "CMS" on Page 8**



# More Than Just Jeans

A big thank-you goes out to the all of CPS for collecting more than a 1,000 lbs of food Nov. 25 and 26. The donation was dropped off at the Platte County Food Bank. Superintendent Dr. Loeffelholz poses at the Platte County Food Bank after dropping off the district's donations.

Below: Food collected for the pantry piles up outside the offices at Centennial Elementary School. "We had such a great turnout for this, and just in two days. It's great," said principal Andrew Luebbe.



# One big family: FCS program grows

Over the last few years, the CHS Family and Consumer Sciences program has gone through a number of changes.

For the 2019-2020 school year we are excited to add a new program as well as an additional instructor beginning in the second semester.

Ms. Jaclyn Long will join Ms. Carrie Loseke as an instructor in the CHS Family and Consumer Science program. Jaclyn completed her student teaching through Wayne State College in the fall of 2019. Ms. Long comes to CHS with not only an endorsement in FCS, but also

is endorsed in Spanish and French.

We are excited to have Jaclyn as a part of Columbus High School and we are looking forward to her growing the FCS program for years to come.

In the Columbus High FCS program, one of the goals is to provide students with real life experiences and training that are applicable to their everyday lives and beyond.

This fall semester, Ms. Carrie Loseke implemented the Safe with You certification within her classes.



The program is designed to teach students the skills needed to work with young children when babysitting and in other areas where infants and young children would be supervised.

The course covers topics of safe sleep for infants, preventing abusive head trauma, and preventing child abuse and neglect.

These are lifelong skills and are imperative for students to have and we are excited to provide the opportunity for CHS students to be certified through the Safe with You program.

The students will leave with

the skills necessary to babysit, supervise students in their homes, and also be employable in the community of Columbus.

The instructors within the Columbus High School Family and Consumer Science program are committed to helping students gain the knowledge and skills needed to be successful adults.

Ms. Carrie Loseke and Ms. Jaclyn Long are constantly working to improve their programs for the betterment of CHS students and the Columbus community.

**Dave Hiebner**  
Principal



**Isaiah May/CPS**  
Members of the North Park Student Council pack their donations collected during its food drive, Nov. 18 - 22nd. The group gave 1,305 items to the Columbus Food Pantry.



## TALK From Page 7

thinking that will show us that they are getting to the application and analysis level of our standards.

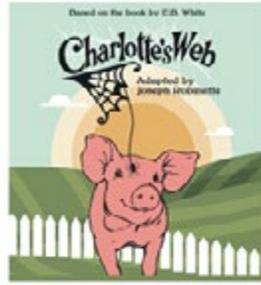
Additionally, this would support the new shifts in Math, Language Arts and Science standards and practices that require students to do more talking, problem-solving and collaborating to solve problems and explain and support their thinking.

This emphasis would fit with these shifts as well.

# The Calendar

**DEC 6**  
Charlotte's Web/Nantkes  
7 - 8 p.m.

**DEC 7**  
Lighting of the Anchor  
All Day



Charlotte's Web/Nantkes  
2 - 3 p.m.

**Basketball:** Girls/Boys Varsity vs. S. Sioux City (Home)  
3:45 and 5:30 p.m. - Main Gym

**Wrestling:** Boys 7/8 Grades vs. Schuyler Middle (Away)  
8:30 - 9:30 p.m. - Schuyler Central High School

**DEC 9**  
**Basketball:** Girls 7th Grade vs. Lakeview Jr (Away)  
4:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Lakeview High School

**Committee As A Whole Mtg.**  
5 - 8:00 p.m. - CPS Admin Building

**DEC 10**  
**Basketball:** Girls 7th Grade vs. Barr Middle (Home)  
4:15 p.m. - Columbus Middle School

**Basketball:** Girls Varsity vs. York (Home) - 7:30 p.m.

**DEC 12**  
Fri. Rising - 7:30 - 8 a.m.  
- IMC

Ld. Rising - 3:45 - 4:15 p.m.  
- IMC

**Basketball:** Boys Freshman vs. Scotus Central Catholic (Home) 6:30 p.m. - CHS West - Aux. Gym

**DEC 13**  
**Wrestling:** Varsity vs. High Plains Community (Away)  
9 a.m. - CCC-Columbus

**DEC 14**  
**Swimming Diving:** Varsity vs. Fremont, Lincoln Pius X, Lincoln Southwest, Norfolk (Home)  
11 a.m. - CHS Aquatic Center

**DEC 16**  
**Band Concert**  
5:30 p.m. - Cafeteria, Concert Hall

**Board Meeting**  
5:30 - 8 p.m.

**DEC 17**  
**Basketball:** Girls/Boys Varsity vs. Gl Northwest (Home)  
5:45 and 7:30 p.m. Main Gym

**DEC 19**  
**Wrestling:** Boys 7/8 Grades (Away)  
4:15 p.m. - Grand Island Walnut Middle School

**DEC 20**  
**2nd Quarter Ends - All Day**  
**Elem/HS Full Day - All Day**  
**MS Half Day - All Day**

**Basketball:** Girls/Boys Varsity vs. Norfolk (Home)  
5:45 and 7:30 p.m. - Main Gym



**DEC 23 - JAN 1**  
**Christmas Break/No School**  
- All Day

## CURRICULUM

**December 2-13:** DIBELS Testing. All students K-6 will be given the DIBELS middle of the year reading screener.

**December 10 - Jan** Hoegh will assist administrators with organizing and reviewing common assessment documents.

**December 11 - Jan** Hoegh will return to CHS to review common assessment documents.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

**December 9-12 - CMS** Art Club will be having a Winter Art Sale.

## Emerson From Page 6

or student council.

The Emerson students even learned about how being involved in activities can pay off when it comes time to go to college or start a career after high school.

The CHS students did a great job of connecting the activities they belong in and how being a part of something bigger than themselves has helped them be successful.

This success carries over into the classroom as well as the court, field, mat or stage.

## CMS From Page 7

From December 9-12 the CMS Art Club will be having a Winter Art Sale. Stop by and pick up some handmade cards and crafts to fill your shopping lists. CMS will host a Science Quiz Bowl on December 14.

We will end the quarter with our quarterly pep rallies on Dec. 20th: 8th grade: 8:00-8:55, 7th grade 9:00-9:55, 6th grade 10:00-10:55 and 5th grade 11:00-11:55.

December will fly by to bring us to the end of semester one. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

December 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

December	
20	MS ONLY Regular Classes AM - Extended Academic Time PM
20	Elem/HS Full Day
20	2nd Quarter Ends - 42 days
23-31	Christmas Break - No School

January	
1	Christmas Break - No School
2-3	Teacher Professional Development No School for Students
6	3rd Quarter Begins

## Another Quick way to Find & Organize Files in Drive: Using "Priority" in Drive



You may or may not have noticed the Priority icon listed above your Drive.

There are two components to Priority in Drive.

### 1) First you will see Priority.

These are files Google thinks are the most important to you right now. Keep in mind, sometimes Google knows and is dead on and sometimes Google is clueless and way off.

### 2) The second is Workspaces.

Here you will be able to create a personalized Workspaces which can be a collection of files from your Drive or a Shared drive. Why might you find this to be

helpful? Currently you cannot Shift+Z a file from a Shared Drive to add to another file. This allows you to put everything in one place for quick access.

Couple things to note: There is a 25 file limit to a Workspace, and you can hide, unhide, or remove workspaces as needed. You can add documents by selecting from within Drive or Shared Drives or you can by one document at a time.

