



Gratefully Blessed

From CHS Student Body Vice President, Cole Pettigrew



Three years ago, I made the inevitable transition between middle school and high school. Although this is a challenging time for all teenagers, being from a feeder school (Latham), I had more of a challenge than most of my peers. Due to a lack of friends and to little connection to the school district, I was building my reputation from the ground up.

Although it would be an uphill battle from the beginning, I was and still am remarkably lucky to be involved in the community that I am. From the classroom to the many extracur-

ricular activities that I have been involved in, the extraordinary teachers and staff made my journey all that more bearable.

I still recall those first couple days of school. I had to stop and ask a teacher in between every hour where my next class was.

Even more so, I am absolutely blessed to live in the community that I do. Whether I was feeling the support from an audience at a musical or concert, or witnessing the bond of our community in fundraisers that I helped plan through student council, I have come to realize that our community here in California, Missouri is like no other.

I would like to wrap up by saying thank you. Thank you to my teachers for challenging me every day academically and shaping me into the student I am today. Thank you to our administrators for organizing this place where myself and others can experience once-in-a-lifetime experiences, not to mention a notably dynamic school atmosphere. Finally, thank you to the community for showing us students invaluable support, and who we do it for.

I am honored to have been able to share myself with this wonderful district and cannot wait to show the rest of the world all I have learned here.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DECEMBER	10 Band Concert in CPAC MS at 2:00 p.m. HS at 3:00 p.m.	11	12 9/JV/V Boys BB @ Centrailea 9/JV/V Girls BB vs SoBoCo 7th Boys/Girls BB vs Warsaw	13	14 1st Grade Concert 7:00 p.m. in CPAC 4th Grade field trip 7/8 Boys BB @ Osage 9th Boys/Girls BB @ Osage	15 9/JV/V Boys BB vs SoBoCo	16 Var BB National Guard Shootout @ JC Girls vs Hermann Boys vs Eldon
	8th Girls Basketball Tournament @ Thomas Jefferson			JV Boys Basketball Tournament @ Blair Oaks			
	17 Christmas Choral Concerts in CPAC HS at 2:00 p.m. MS at 4:00 p.m.	18	19 9/JV/V Boys BB @ Knob Noster 9/JV/V Girls BB vs Centralia 8th Boys/Girls BB vs Eldon	20 School Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. in CHS Library	21 MS STARR Party 9/JV/V Girls BB @ Lebanon	22 Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.	23
24	25	Christmas Break				29	30 Tri-County Tournament
JANUARY	31	1	2 8th Boys/Girls BB @ Sedalia	3 No School (Teacher Professional Development) 9th Boys/Girls BB vs Marshall	4 7/8 Boys BB vs Versailles 7/8 Girls BB @ Versailles	5	6 All-District band @ Warrensburg
	Varsity Boys and Girls Tri-County Basketball Tournament @ Osage						
	7 Boys Basketball Chili Dinner in CHS Commons	8 CES PTO Meeting 6:30 p.m. in cafeteria	9 District FFA Greenhand Conference 8:30 a.m. @ Jefferson City 7th Boys/Girls BB @ Eldon	10	11	12 ES Movie Night in the Gym at 7:00 p.m. Kindergarten Nusery Rhyme Program 1:30 p.m. in CPAC	13 Junior High Honor Band @ Sedalia
	84th Boys and 24th Girls Annual Basketball Tournament @ CHS						
14	15 No School JV/V Girls BB @ Hallsville	16 9/JV/V Boys BB @ Osage	17 School Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. in CHS Library	18 9th Boys/Girls BB @ Fulton JV/V Girls BB vs Skyline	19 JV/V BB vs Versailles	20	
		7th Grade Girls Tournament @ Camdenton			Bi-State Band in Edwardsville, IL		
		7th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament @ Versailles					
		8th Grade Boys and Girls Basketball Tournament @ Eldon					
21	22 9 Boys/Girls BB @ Sedalia JV/V Girls BB vs Fatima	23 7th Boys/Girls BB @ Sedalia	24	25 7/8 Girls BB vs Osage	26 9/JV/V Boys BB @ Hallsville	27	
28	29	30	31	1 JV/V Girls BB vs Eldon	2	3 PTO Me & My Special Guy Dance Tri-County Honor Band @ Eldon JV/V Girls BB @ Helias Shootout	
Varsity Boys Basketball Tournament @ Southern Boone							

Mrs. Friedrich instills appreciation of the arts

by Turner Myers

Stacy Friedrich is the K-5 general music teacher and California Kids director. She is the one in charge of preparing the kids for grade-level performances.

She has a lot of responsibilities when organizing a show.

"I have to pick out the cast, figure out costuming, teach the songs to the kids, and work on the acting and choreography," said Friedrich.

"She does it all," said Deborah Francis, fourth grade teacher. "Helping students memorize their parts, teaching dance moves, and making costumes and props."

Performance preparation takes up a lot of time.

Friedrich said, "There is not enough time during school to prepare everything for a concert. I spend a lot of weekends planning and preparing."

Because of these extensive responsibilities, time with family is limited. Her husband, Brad, is the high school art teacher and CPAC manager. Their daughter Lauren is in seventh grade. Luckily they help out a lot and get to spend time together that way.

She said, "[Brad] makes a lot of the props for me and is also in charge of the maintenance for the Performing Arts Center. I couldn't do a performance without his help!"

"Since Brad and I both play a part in the production of these programs, we sometimes miss out on our daughter's activities, but it doesn't happen very often," said Friedrich.

With six grade-level concerts a year, the fun never stops.

"I really enjoy directing the first grade kids," said Friedrich. "First grade does the Christmas program every year and it's one of my favorite music programs."

She said the hardest grade level is kindergarten because they are little and inexperienced.

"Sometimes they can be a little unpredictable, but they sure are cute when they perform!"

With over 100 students per grade level,



Mrs. Stacy Friedrich encourages her fourth grade students to do their best before their dress rehearsal of "It's Saturday." (photo by Trinity Bays)

each concert is a big undertaking. Thankfully, she receives a lot of help from her family, teachers, and parents.

Teachers work backstage during performances and help with cleanup. The parents provide their kids with costumes.

"This helps me out a lot!" said Friedrich. "The parents in our community are very supportive of the music programs."

Being a music teacher takes a lot of dedication and time. However, Friedrich emphasizes that she profits greatly.

"The benefit for me is feeling a sense of accomplishment when the kids are successful at their performance. Plus, I am teaching kids to appreciate the art of music performance and giving them experiences that they will remember years later."

Kindergarten Nursery Rhyme Day



1:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan 12
CPAC



In my room . . . Skills lessons guide good citizenship

by Paige Johnson

Each month the elementary school counselors teach their students skills organized around social and emotional development, academic development, and career development.

Christiane Goans has been working with children for twenty-two years. She is the California counselor for grades third, fourth, and fifth.

During skills week she provides a 50-minute class period concentrating on the character focus of the month such as being proactive in the community.

"My goal is for the students to acquire some of these skills. Also I want to promote self-awareness, improve self-regulation, and engage the students in positive social interactions with their teachers and peers," said Goans.

Recently, the character focus was the five components of a good citizen, which are responsible, respectful, compassionate, brave, and honest. Students also discussed the importance of having an "Attitude of Gratitude."

The students learned that individuals who focus on what



they are thankful for are much happier as opposed to those who focus on the things they don't have.

To end the November Skills Week, Goans let the students decorate fall leaves and list what they are thankful for.

Skills for Growing is only one aspect for Goans' job. When not teaching lessons in her classroom, she provides responsive services to individual students or in small groups.

In addition to her scheduled time with students, she supervises hallways and tries to visit with students as she travels throughout the building. Goans tries to constantly interact with students from the moment they enter the building to the end of the school day.

1st Grade Concert
"Jingle All the Way"
7:00 p.m.
Thursday, Dec 14
CPAC

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PTO Food Drive

Monday-Friday
December 4-8



Non-parishables support children in buddy pack program

Drop Off Locations:

Elementary school, Cals, C&R, Hawthorn Bank, Central Bank, People's Bank of Moniteau County, Bonecutter Auto Body, Nic Nac, Dollar General, Bond Pharmacy, Winding Road, Something Sassy, Courthouse, and a few local daycares/preschools.

In my room . . . Area of learning = $\frac{a \times p}{2}$

by Cheyanne Harper



Kenny Goans shows his class how to solve math equations. He projects digital images onto a Smartboard, which interacts with digital markers.

“Middle school students do not have to miss as much school as high school students due to athletics and extracurricular activities,” said Goans.

Students in his classroom have an opportunity to learn more hands-on during a time of Response to Intervention (RTI),



which is where struggling students are surrounded with more intensive learning to help their understanding of a concept.

Goans takes it upon himself to give his students the extra push to help them understand math concepts.

Kenny Goans is the seventh grade math teacher. In this class, the students continue to master the foundations of math.

Recently they learned how to find the area of polygons. Goans determines the lessons based on the Missouri Learning Standards, which define the knowledge and skills students need in each grade level and course.

He uses sequential order and reteaches the lessons for which he feels students need extra practice.

Having experience teaching math at both the high school and middle school levels, Goans believes his middle school students are more enthusiastic about learning. He also notes that attendance is “more stable.”

Davis, Bishop attend energy course



There’s no better way to live by the principle of Education, Training and Information than investing time educating those who educate our young about electricity.

In August more than 50 Missouri teachers, including Krista Davis and Jane Bishop, took part in this year’s Energy in Today’s Classroom course on the campus of the University of Missouri.

This course is designed to give teachers an overview of energy, energy production and how Missourians receive energy in today’s ever changing world. The two-day event allows teachers the opportunity to

earn a credit towards a masters degree or just simply the chance at a little continuing education.

Teachers learn everything from the basics of electricity to how Missouri co-ops generate and transmit power for our everyday lives.

“I think this is a wonderful tool to help educate our teachers,” said Ken Johnson, Co-Mo’s general manager and CEO. “This is just another way co-ops are investing in their communities.”

Each year Co-Mo sponsors local teachers. The sponsorship includes tuition and fees, meals and a stay at a Columbia hotel. If you’re a teacher interested in attending this course, please email Ryan Cornelius at rcornelius@co-mo.coop. Or you can contact the co-op at 800-781-0157.

The goal is for all kids to feel safe at school

California R-1 School District adopted a revised version of Policy JFCF in December 2016. This policy defines bullying and lays out the process and procedures for the school to follow should an incident occur. The following is the definition of bullying as stated in Policy JFCF:

In accordance with state law, bullying is defined as intimidation, unwanted aggressive behavior, or harassment that is repetitive or is substantially likely to be repeated and causes a reasonable student to fear for his or her physical safety or property; that substantially interferes with the educational performance, opportunities or benefits of any student without exception; or that substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school. Bullying includes, but is not limited to: physical actions, including violence, gestures, theft, or property damage; oral, written, or electronic communication, including name-calling, put-downs, extortion, or threats; or threats of reprisal or retaliation for reporting such acts.

You can look up Policy JFCF on the school district’s website californiak12.org under District-Policies for more specific information about the policy.

by Peyton Peters

The California school district currently has steps in place to prevent bullying and a procedure in place for reporting and investigating bullying. Bullying Policy JFCF was originally adopted by the California Board of Education in 2005 and most recently revised in December of 2016.

A little over a year ago California Middle School implemented a new system to limit and hopefully stop the bullying in school.

As CMS assistant principal, Rick Edwards is designated to investigate bullying incidents per Policy JFCF.

He said, “bullying is a problem everywhere to a certain extent. The key is to be proactive in dealing with it and try to stop it before it happens.”

That is exactly what California is trying to do, stop it before it happens. Multiple “bully boxes” are around the school where students can fill out bully forms to report an incident for themselves or someone else.

Edwards wants kids to come forward. He said they can always come to him or go to any staff member to discuss an issue. If students are timid and want to avoid confrontation, they can fill out the bully form to let Mr. Edwards handle it.

Bully boxes give kids an opportunity

to speak up and make the staff more aware of when and where bullying is taking place.

“You’re never going to stop it 100%, but we want as close to 100% as we can,” said Edwards.

The bully box is in the elementary too. The high school has a bullying program, but they don’t have a bully box.

Director of Special Programs Julie Bird said, “as a district, we want to promote a safe learning environment for all students. The district has provided students with education and information about bullying and has informed the students on the procedure for reporting bullying. In my opinion, the students understand this process and utilize it as needed.”

“The victim is our first priority,” Edwards said. “We talk to them and emphasize that they need to let us know if things are getting better or if it continues.”

The goal is for all kids to feel safe at school and know their opinion is valued. Middle school is a big time for growth, when kids need to be able to express themselves how they wish without repercussion from others. Kids tend to be unaware of others’ home lives or the effects they might have on a peer when they exclude someone from a group project or lunch.

As for the bullies, Edwards said district policy will be followed for punishment of the bully’s actions.

“Bullying does not always happen at school. It might happen off campus too, but if it disrupts the education of the student, we are obligated to handle it,” said Edwards.

It is clear that Edwards and CMS want to give their kids the best education. If kids are being bullied and do not feel safe, they can’t be putting their education first.

Parents and teachers, it is important and cannot be emphasized enough that we need to all come together as a district to remind our youth to be encouraging, not exclusive. We can’t control others’ actions, but we can control our own: be a friend to all.



Christmas Choral Concerts

Sunday, December 17

High School Choirs @ 2:00 p.m.
Featuring: Sounds of Joy, Mixed Choir, Girls Choir, Women and Men’s Choir and the Alumni Choir

Middle School Choirs @ 4:00 p.m.

California Performing Arts Center

School addresses student needs beyond classroom

by Kyle Hofstetter

In the high school office, behind a door that used to house the district money safe, is now a treasure one wouldn't expect to find in high school: a clothes closet.

The high school clothes closet is a place for kids to get the necessities they need throughout the day. Not only does it provide kids with a variety of clothes to pick from, but it also provides a selection of hygiene products and school supplies as well.

"Our staff is able to support our students in significant ways that hopefully help them concentrate on school rather than worrying about being able to meet some basic needs," said Sean Kirksey, high school principal.

The closet was established for kids that had torn shirts or just needed an extra change for gym class. In creating this closet for kids, many things have developed inside it.

Lori Bailey, high school health aide and administrative assistant, is in charge of the clothes closet.

"There were a few boxes of clothes and hygiene items stored in the nurse's office. The counselors also had some of these items. Over the summer, we combined and reorganized into one central location," said Bailey.

Since the closet was established, the office administration have added hygiene products such as mouthwash, shampoo, and deodorant. Other supplies such as pencils, pens, and notebooks have been added as well.

Also she said, "This is something kind of new, so there is a nice selection of most sizes. We could use more XL and 2XL clothes, both mens and womens.

"I have shirts and ties and a few dresses for senior pictures and gradu-



These donated clothes in the high school "Clothes Closet" are available for students who are in need of them. Also available in this closet are extra supplies for kids at the high school. (photo by Jackie Hibdon)

ation. They can either borrow the clothing, or if they ask, I will let them keep it," said Bailey.

Kirksey said, "I believe it is a really valuable service. Any program that helps others is worthwhile. However, a program that helps our students when they are most in need of help is extremely important.

"Our staff is able to support our students in significant ways that hopefully help them concentrate on school rather than worry about being able to meet some basic needs."

In my room... Lindquist thwarts identity theft

by Trinity Bays

Personal finance is a semester course required for California sophomores. Jon Lindquist uses the Dave Ramsey Foundations of personal finance curriculum to teach students.

In November, students learned about identity theft and how to protect themselves from having their identity stolen. Students in personal finance use class discussion and identity theft research to learn about the current forms of identity theft, such as having credit card information or a social security number stolen.

"Identity theft is becoming a very common occurrence in our society. This lesson will help students lower the risk and teach them what to do if they suspect they have become the vic-



tim of identity theft," said Lindquist.

Jon Lindquist teaches four periods of personal finance.

Lindquist said, "I love everything about personal finance. I love that I get to teach a subject that applies to the everyday lives of just about everyone on this planet."

Sonic funds multiple school projects

by Marni Smith

Sonic is doing more for the community than just providing food. They have a program called Limeades for Learning that provides money for local schools.

High school librarian, Janet Henley, has used this program for seven years. Projects are posted to Limeadesforlearning.com by teachers, and students vote each day for the project. When the project receives a certain amount of votes, it gets funded at a maximum of \$600 to any one project.

"This program allows students to make a difference in their community without having to donate any money," said Henley.

Only California's high school has been using this program, but elementary and middle school teachers have been supporting the projects. This year, three teachers received full funding.

Henley had 3411 votes to buy research books.

Jamie Johnston, science teacher, had 2532 votes to buy resources and amino acid models for study.

Brad Friedrich, art teacher, had 2755 votes to buy oil paint for a special project.

"The project is an oil painting. Students are going to be choosing



some kind of trip they have taken and use that as their subject," said Friedrich.

In total, Limeades for Learning provided \$1,500 to CHS this year alone, and teachers plan to use it more in the future.

Band Winter Concert

Sunday, December 10 in the CPAC



2:00 p.m. - 6th, 7th, & 8th grade Bands

3:00 p.m. - High School Jazz & Concert Bands

California Basketball Tournament January 8-13 at CHS

Boys (Tuesday/Thursday): California, Fatima, Southern Boone, Fulton, Boonville, St. Elizabeth, Warrensburg

Girls (Monday/Wednesday):

California, Boonville, Fulton, Fatima, Southern Boone, Battle, Helias, St. James



Game times 4:30, 6:00, 7:30, 9:00 p.m.

**Consolation Friday
Championship Saturday**