

Cheektowaga Central Middle School



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

WELCOME BACK!

CCMS is dedicated to having a strong start to our 2022-23 school year. Our Project Positive Committee has collaborated with each grade level to ensure that the first week of school is focused on reviewing and practicing expectations pertaining to our 5 Bs. Our goal is to implement a proactive approach to support students in self-advocating, as well as establishing systems for minimizing distractions from learning. Please read about our new cell phone procedure on page 2, as well as our CCSD Code of Conduct on page 7. Be sure to complete the Guardian Consent Form as well. We look forward to seeing you at OPEN HOUSE on Thursday, September 15th from 5 - 7 PM!

Upcoming Dates

September 1 - 14 PTA Spirit Wear Sale PTA September 7 Welcome Back Students September 12 - 15 **CCMS Book Fair** September 13 Board of Education Meeting 6 PM September 15 CCMS Open House 5-7 PM September 19 -23 CCMS SPIRIT WEEK *themed Schedule forthcoming September 21st -PTA Cookie Fundraiser October 5th

National Junior Honor Society

LOCKER LADDER SALE Now-September 30th \$30 CASH Please contact Ikwilas@ccsd-k12.net



CCMS CONTACTS & RESOURCES

School Information

Student Hours (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri)	7:45 a.m 2:37 p.m.
Student Hours (Wednesday)	7:45 a.m 1:37 p.m.
Main Office	716.686.3660
Student Service	716.686.3649
Principal: Mr. Cullinan	716.686.3662
Asst. Principal: Dr. Daniels	716.686.3663

Stay Updated



Check out what is new in your child's classes by downloading the ClassDojo APP!

https://www.facebook.com/CheektowagaMiddleSchool/



https://twitter.com/cheektowagaMS

New Cell Phone Procedure

CELL PHONE PROCEDURE

CELL PHONES OFF AND IN LOCKERS

- It is mandatory for phones to be off and kept in lockers.
- Stored in your locker for the entire school day.
- Off and out of sight includes not using your cell phone during any part of the school day.
- If you need to communicate with your parent/guardian, visit the Main Office to use the student phone.
- Parent/guardians can communicate with their child at anytime throughout the school day by calling the Main Office at (716) 686-3660.

THIS INCLUDES EARBUDS AND SMART WATCHES

- · Earbuds are not allowed to be worn during the school day.
- Smart watches that are able to receive text messages and phone calls are not allowed to be worn during the school day.



WHY IS THIS RULE IMPORTANT?

- Face-to-face communication skills are essential.
- Excessive exposure to phones can impact grades and relationships with others.
- Cell phones are built to hold your attention and are a distraction while in school.

Meet Our Newest Faculty

¡Hola a todos! My name is Ben Bengert and I'm really excited to join the Cheektowaga Central family. I am going to be teaching 7th grade Spanish and this will be my 7th year teaching. I've taught both Spanish and French during my career. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family, traveling, and being out in nature. I look forward



to meeting all of my students and having an awesome year together!

Hello everyone! My name is Kayci Hauser, and I am so excited to be joining Cheektowaga Central Middle School as a School Psychologist! I grew up in Cheektowaga and am thrilled to be back after finally obtaining my doctorate degree. Beyond my role, I love to spend time with friends and family, and hang out with my newly



adopted puppy Stanley! I cannot wait for the upcoming school year, and am looking forward to working with the students, families, and faculty of the Cheektowaga Central School District.

Bonjour! My name is Terri Bierasinski and I am so excited to be teaching French to the 7th, 8th and 9th graders. I spent the last 5 years teaching at Gateway Longview and before that St. Mary's High School in Lancaster. I am a proud momma of 3 University of Rochester graduates. When I'm not in the classroom, you can find me taking my dog, Pepper, for long walks or out gardening in my yard. Looking forward to an awesome 2022-2023 school year at Cheektowaga Central School District.



Hey everyone! I'm Jenna Hallmark and I'm excited to join the Cheektowaga family as the Middle School art teacher! I have a Fine Arts degree from Villa Maria College and recently graduated from Buffalo State with a Bachelor's in Art Education. I grew up in West Seneca and Cheektowaga and am excited to get to know the students and help them

discover more things they love about art. In my spare time, I love working on my own art, riding my bike and gardening when the weather permits and spending time with my dog Rocko. Looking



forward to the upcoming school year!

Hi! My name is Adam Silverman and I am delighted to be joining the Cheektowaga Middle School family as an 8th grade special education teacher. I am originally from Long Island, but Western NY has been my home for the past 3 ½ years. I previously completed

my Bachelor of Arts degree in Adolescent Social Studies Education at SUNY Fredonia and obtained my Master of Science degree in Special Education at Canisius College.



I enjoy playing and watching sports (especially hockey), reading, collecting, and spending time with friends. I look forward to meeting all of my students and beginning a fun and engaging school year at CCMS!

Hello! My name is Jennifer Valeri and I am excited to be joining the Cheektowaga Middle School team as a Literacy Specialist for Grades 5 & 6. This is my 7th year as a Literacy Specialist and my 11th year in education, most recently at Orchard Park Middle School and St. Amelia School in Tonawanda. I have been married 31 years to my husband Steve, and we have 3 sons in their 20's that are a great joy to us and my favorite hiking partners! Besides hiking and walking outdoors, I enjoy reading (of course!), and spending time with my church family.



Meet Our Newest Supportive Staff

Hello everyone! My name is Kailee Kish and I am thrilled to be joining the Cheektowaga Central Middle School family as one of your new secretaries in the Main Office. I love listening to music, spending time outside, and going on adventures with my husband and two kids. I have a golden retriever named Lottie and two cats named Loki and Lydia. I come from a big, loud, loving family. I look forward to working with and meeting all of you!



Hello, my name is Karen Lash and I started working with kids in church as a Sunday teacher. At my previous job I worked at St. Joseph University School as the after-school program Director for eight years. I ensured that each student completed Homework, provided snacks, and supervised play activities. I have been working with children at my current church for fourteen years. I'm currently attending SUNY Erie Community College to pursue an associate degree in Childhood Education. I anticipate completing this degree December 2022. I enjoy cooking, taking nature walks, taking pictures, and playing



kick ball.I strongly believe in this participator proverb for teachers, "The wise person makes learning a joy." I'm excited to be a part of Cheektowaga Central Middle School team, as a 5th grade Teacher Aide.

Be sure to be on the lookout for additional faculty and supportive staff bios next month!







CCMS Project Positive

5 Behavioral Expectations

Be On Time & Ready to Learn Be Responsible Be Respectful Be Kind Be Safe

"Kindness is a gift everyone can afford"

- Monthly "Way to Go" nominations from Faculty & Staff: students are nominated by faculty & staff for demonstrating the 5 Bs
- Monthly Character Education nominations for demonstrating good character (Tasty treat & reward provided)
- Monthly raffles to win prizes (Ex. New Era hats, sports jerseys, and gift cards)
- Student pictures taken and placed on grade level bulletin board and on Midway TV
- Individual student letter of congratulations sent home
- Monthly incentives for grade levels that demonstrate the 5 Bs consistently
- VIP Good Character Cafe table; students rewarded with a treat for demonstrating both the 5 Bs & good character while in the cafeteria

CCMS NEWS

BOOK FAIR INFORMATION

September 12-15

Dear Cheektowaga Middle School Families:

Get ready! This year's Book Fair is going to be epic! We've turned up the volume with more fun, more choices and more excitement, so kids will arrive curious and leave bolder, prouder, and stronger than ever before. Here's what you need to know about our upcoming fair:

- Every dollar you spend will benefit our school directly by earning Scholastic Bucks that will contribute to friendly reading environments at CCMS.
- Classes will get the chance to go to the book fair during the week of September 12-15.
- The book fair will be open the night of our Open House on September 15!
- There will be a variety of books to choose from, for every grade level.
- There will be an online feature to place orders. Look for the link that will go live starting on September 12!



WALKING ON SUNSHINE

The PTA extends a warm welcome back to all of our students, families, and staff! We plan to

"walk on sunshine" during the 2022-2023 school year and hope that you will join us!

Need Warrior Gear? Check out the PTA's Spirit Wear Sale from August 31st -September 14th !

*SpiritGearDirect.com

Coming Soon: Believe Kids Cookie Catalog Fundraiser-September 21st -October 5th !

CCMS is currently planning and encouraging suggestions for 2022-2023 activities. Please consider becoming a member via the link below and help us plan a memorable school year for your child!

ccmswarriors.memberhub.com

For any questions, contact PTA President, Staci Sass: **stacisass5@gmail.com**.

Stay connected-let us be a resource! Check us out on Facebook:

Cheektowaga Middle School PTA 2022-2023

Better Together!



Parent/Guardian Resources

SCAN and READ our 3 School Policies SCAN and COMPLETE the Google Guardian Consent Form

CCSD Student Code of Conduct

(Read)



G Suite Parent or Guardian Consent (Read)



Chromebook Policy, Procedure, and Information Handbook





Google Consent Form (Please Complete)

