



## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



### Message from the Principal

Dear CCMS Families,

We have had a wonderful start to the 2024-2025 school year! Our teachers are in their classrooms, our students are moving from class to class, drop off and pick up has been wonderful, and people of all ages are smiling. It has been a great start and our students are acclimating themselves nicely to their new environments. We have different events that go into the start of the school year which help lay the foundation for success. We are excited to see our students prepared to accomplish their best this year.

Safety and security is a priority for CCMS. It all starts with our teachers and staff creating a safe and supportive environment and continues on with fire drills and safety training. In these first few weeks of school we work collaboratively with our district to support our different safety drills. Our students and staff understand the importance of these and routinely do a great job with them.

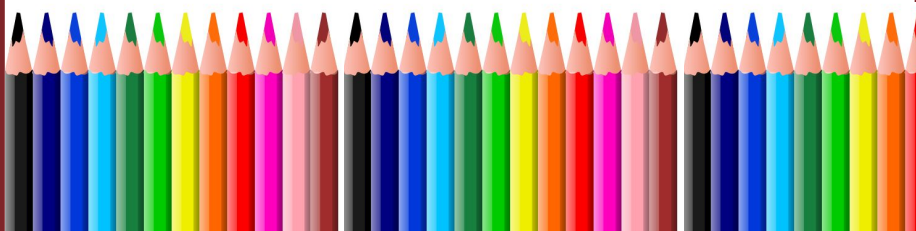
I would like to take this opportunity to thank our talented staff for a great start to the 2024-2025 school year. Every year they do a wonderful job supporting our students as they transition to the next level. In as much as we welcome a new 5th grade class as well as new students, we also have the privilege of welcoming new staff. We are excited for the team of professionals who have joined us at CCMS and are confident they will do great things for students. For all of our staff their hard work and dedication is to be commended.

Welcome  
Back!

# Important Information

## Upcoming Dates

September 3	Modified Sports Begin
September 13	Picture Day (See p. 3)
September 16	Picture Day (See p. 3)
September 18	Open House (See p. 4)
September 23-27	Spirit Week (See p. 5)



## CCSD Student Code of Conduct 2024-2025



**SCAN ME!**



## School Contact Information

Main Office	716.686.3660
Student Services	716.686.3649
Principal: Dr. Salinas	716.686.3662
Asst. Principal: Dr. Daniels	716.686.3663

## Stay Updated!



## School Hours:

**Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri**  
7:45am - 2:37pm

**Wednesday**  
7:45am - 1:37pm

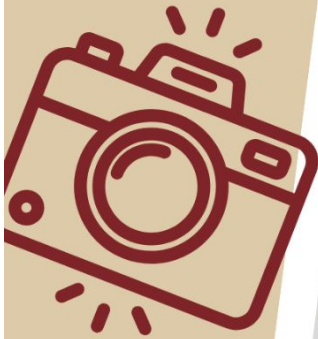
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and Twitter!

<https://www.facebook.com/CheektowagaMiddleSchool/>  
<https://twitter.com/cheektowagaMS>

# PICTURE DAY



## CCMS PICTURE DAY 2024-2025



Students will take  
their pictures  
during their gym  
period!



- September 13th - Students who have P.E. on BDF
- September 16th - Students who have P.E. on ACE



# OPEN HOUSE



# OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday September 18, 2024

5:30-7:30pm

Cheektowaga Central  
Middle School

\*\*\*Follow your child's  
ACE Schedule\*\*\*



***Join us !!***

📍 3600 Union Rd, Buffalo NY 14225

Please enter through the Middle School  
Athletic Entrance Door #29

# SPIRIT WEEK



## 2024 CCMS Spirit week September 23-27th

**23rd** **Football Day**  
Show off your favorite football team attire.



**24th** **Royalty Day**  
Dress in your finest attire.



**25th** **Fall Flannel Day**  
Fall is upon us! Wear your favorite flannel to embrace the colder months to come.



**26th** **Western Day**  
Get your cowboy hats and boots showing off your wild wild western side. Yee Haw!



**27th** **Cheektowaga Day**  
Show your pride for the school by showing off your favorite Cheektowaga Chargers Gear.



# 5TH GRADE

The fifth grade team is excited to welcome a new group of students to the Middle School. Thank you to all who attended the orientation in August and took time to practice locker combinations and drop off supplies.

If you haven't already, please make sure that your student has all of their supplies from the supply list that was provided. These color coded supplies will help your child to stay organized, do their best work, and ensure their success.

We value communication with our families. Every student at CCMS has been provided an agenda and a take home folder. We ask parents to sign the agenda daily. This will allow parents to stay informed about assignments and classwork. We will also be using Class Dojo and ask you to join your child's class if you haven't already done so. You can monitor your child's progress via the parent portal. If you have a login from Union East, it will remain the same. The portal allows parents and students to see all grades that teachers enter so that there are no surprises when report cards are issued. If you have trouble logging in, please contact the counseling center.

We understand that the transition from elementary to middle school can be a time of anxiety. Rest assured that we will work hard to ease anxiety, establish routines, and provide an exceptional educational experience for all students. Hope to see everyone at Open House on September 18 at 5:30 pm.



# 6TH GRADE

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! We are thrilled to have your child join our vibrant 6th grade community. This year marks an exciting new chapter filled with growth, learning, and new opportunities. Our team is committed to supporting your child as they navigate the academic challenges and personal milestones that come with being a 6th grader.

We have an exciting curriculum planned, designed to engage and challenge our students while encouraging creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration. From hands-on projects to team-building activities, we'll ensure that every student has the chance to shine.

## Important Reminders:

- **School Supplies:** Please ensure your child has all the required supplies, which can be found on our school website.
- **Communication:** Feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns throughout the year. The best place to contact your child's teacher is through the school email addresses listed below. We believe in working together to ensure every child's success.

We can't wait to see all that our students will accomplish this year. Let's work together to make it a memorable and successful year for your child!

<b>Math:</b>	<a href="mailto:lbraddock@ccsd-k12.net">lbraddock@ccsd-k12.net</a> <a href="mailto:klambert@ccsd-k12.net">klambert@ccsd-k12.net</a>
<b>Social Studies:</b>	<a href="mailto:agranat@ccsd-k12.net">agranat@ccsd-k12.net</a> <a href="mailto:szajdel@ccsd-k12.net">szajdel@ccsd-k12.net</a>
<b>ELA:</b>	<a href="mailto:lkwilas@ccsd-k12.net">lkwilas@ccsd-k12.net</a> <a href="mailto:spanikowski@ccsd-k12.net">spanikowski@ccsd-k12.net</a>
<b>Science:</b>	<a href="mailto:jcarroll@ccsd-k12.net">jcarroll@ccsd-k12.net</a> <a href="mailto:aniederhauser@ccsd-k12.net">aniederhauser@ccsd-k12.net</a>
<b>Special Education:</b>	<a href="mailto:bchristopher@ccsd-k12.net">bchristopher@ccsd-k12.net</a> <a href="mailto:mpetre@ccsd-k12.net">mpetre@ccsd-k12.net</a>

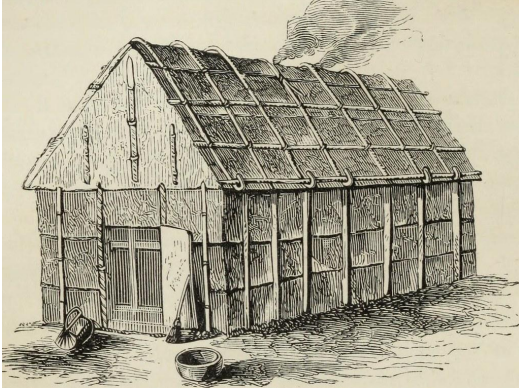


# 7TH GRADE

## Social Studies:

First Week: Introductions, student expectations/handbook, and team building activities were taught.

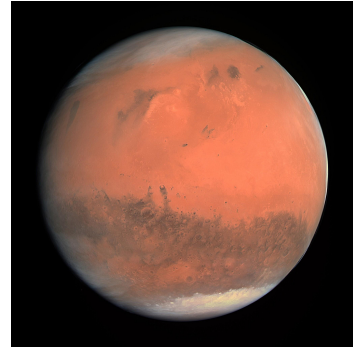
Students will start Unit 1: Native Americans and how they adapted to their environment (including geography, early people and migration to the USA).



## Science:

First Week: Introductions, student expectations/handbook, and team building activities were taught.

Students will begin to learn about Geology on Mars



## English:

First Week: Introductions, student expectations/handbook, and team building activities were taught.

Students will start by reading about community and its importance in society. As well as how to write a paragraph.



## Math:

First Week: Introductions, student expectations/handbook, and team building activities were taught.

Math 7 will begin working on probability.

Math 7 Honors will begin working on laws of exponents and pythagorean theorem.



## New to the 7th Grade team:

Science - Mr. Alqaysi  
AIS Math and ELA - Mrs. Campbell  
Social Studies - Ms. Gozzo  
Spanish - Ms. Casper

## 7th Grade teachers:

Social Studies- Mr. Buscaglia, Ms. Gozzo  
Math- Mrs. McGill, Mr. Torrillo  
Science- Mr. Hess, Mr. Alqaysi  
ELA- Mr. Lewandowski, Ms. Scheffler  
Spanish- Ms. Casper  
AIS Math and ELA- Mrs. Maloney, Mrs. Campbell



# 8TH GRADE



Welcome back for another exciting year of school in the Cheektowaga Central Middle School. Because your child is in the 8th grade, this also serves as your last year in the Cheektowaga Central Middle School. Everything this year will be about preparing your child for life beyond Middle School, in other words High School.

Math (Campbell and Garrison) - Welcome Back! To begin the school year we will be working on numerical integers and the various operations that go with them. This means adding, subtracting, multiplying, dividing, understanding their values in relationship to one another.

Science (Stonebraker and Huber) - We will begin working with the Amplify Science program next week starting with the Microbiome Unit that will focus on bacteria in the human gut.

Social Studies (Accurso and Shehadi) - We will spend the month of September studying the events of 9/11 and the War on Terror.

ELA (Orlowski and Baker) - We will open the school year reading the famous book “The Outsiders” by SE Hinton. Students will be reading the book both inside and outside of class.

We as the 8th grade team wish you and your child a happy and successful school year. If you have any issues or concerns, please feel free to contact your child’s teachers.

## Your 8th Grade Teachers

- Mike Accurso - Social Studies
- Marlo Shehadi - Social Studies
- Jill Orlowski - ELA
- Alex Baker - ELA
- Tricia Stonebraker - Science
- Chuck Huber - Science
- Rebekah Burnett-Agliata - Math
- Carrie Garrison - Math
- Brittany Schu - Counselor
- JJ Duval - Special Education Teacher
- Luke Silliman - Special Education and Team Leader

# JOIN NJHS

## National Junior Honor Society [N.J.H.S.]



The National Junior Honor Society (N.J.H.S.) is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding middle school students. More than just an honor roll, N.J.H.S. serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, Character and Citizenship. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1929. The purpose of N.J.H.S. is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, to develop character, and to encourage citizenship. The Cheektowaga Central Middle School Chapter of the N.J.H.S. is administered by Mrs. Lynnae Kwilas, the induction process is demanding and the selection process is extremely difficult.

### How do you become a member?

- ⌘ At Cheektowaga students are considered for membership when they are 2<sup>nd</sup> semester 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> graders.
- ⌘ Students must have a semester cumulative grade point average of 93% (This includes 6<sup>th</sup> grade).
- ⌘ Students must demonstrate excellence in character, scholarship, leadership, service, and citizenship.

### What are the membership expectations?:

- ⌘ Maintain a minimum grade point average of 93%
- ⌘ Demonstrate character, leadership, citizenship, and service
- ⌘ Attend all meetings and participate in group service projects
- ⌘ Complete 3 hours of community service monthly

### What is the selection process?:

Step 1: If students qualify academically for the N.J.H.S., they are notified in February. To be considered for membership, students must fill out the information sheet, and write an essay.

Step 2: The teachers and staff at Cheektowaga provide feedback about students who are seeking membership. They are asked to comment on the students' strengths and weaknesses in the areas of character, leadership, service, and citizenship.

Step 3: A Faculty Council is assembled to review the information sheets, essays, and staff recommendations. When reviewing candidates, the Faculty Council will not have the names of the candidates while making the decision for membership. The actual selection of new members must be made by a **majority vote of the five appointed members of the Faculty Council**. With the vote on each candidate, those candidates receiving a **majority vote of the faculty council** should be invited for induction into the chapter.

Step 4: Formal notification of all selected and non-selected candidates and their parents will be done with a letter by the chapter advisor to inform them about selection and the timing of the induction ceremony.

**The N.J.H.S. The Selection Process as outlined above conforms to the national guidelines, is applied fairly and consistently to ALL candidates, and provides a meaningful recognition of deserving students.**

# Important Information

## Grade Level Leaders

The following staff are delegated grade level leaders for each grade. To contact them, you can email them with their first initial, last name and @ccsd-k12.net (ex: [csalinas@ccsd-k12.net](mailto:csalinas@ccsd-k12.net))

<b>5th Grade</b> Mr. M. Skierczynski	<b>6th Grade</b> Ms. L. Braddock
<b>7th Grade</b> Mr. M. Buscaglia	<b>8th Grade</b> Mr. L. Silliman

## CCMS Student Handbook 2023-2024



Scan Me!

## School Counselors

Our school counselors and school social worker are:

- Mrs. Goc
- Mrs. Dudas
- Mrs. Schu
- Mrs. Kean (Social Worker)



Please note the assignments to learn of your son or daughter's school counselor:

5th Grade	
School Counselor:	Teacher:
<b>Mrs. Goc</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wasner</li><li>• Richter</li><li>• MacVittie</li><li>• McKinney</li></ul>
<b>Mrs. Schu</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Skierczynski</li><li>• Zilliox</li></ul>
<b>Mrs. Dudas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gandy</li><li>• Lewis</li></ul>

Grades 6-8	
<b>Mrs. Goc</b>	6th Grade
<b>Mrs. Dudas</b>	7th Grade
<b>Mrs. Schu</b>	8th Grade

# PTA NEWS

Cheektowaga Central  
Middle School

**PTA**

everychild.one voice.®

## **SPIRIT WEAR FUNDRAISER**

**Orders must be in by September 27th**



## **FALL FUNDRAISER**

**Packets coming home 3rd week of September**

### **DONATE YOUR BOTTLES AND CANS**

Support our PTA by dropping off your cans and bottles to  
*Any Fast Cash Redemption Locations – 3 local locations are*

2377 Harlem Road Cheektowaga (Corner of Walden Ave).

1350 Harlem Avenue (Corner of Parker)

10 Hyland Avenue Depew (Corner of George Urban)

Make sure you ask for the funds to go to the “Cheektowaga Middle School PTA”.

## **JOIN OUR PTA**

No commitment necessary to be a member! Meetings are optional. There are volunteer opportunities for in-school events such as dances, our fall event, book fair, and the Honor/Merit Roll Breakfasts. Any help is appreciated and your membership helps our cause.

*\*\*To become a member just join via the link or QR Code\*\**

[ccmswarriors.memberhub.com](https://ccmswarriors.memberhub.com).



*If you have any questions feel free to contact our President,*

Angela Scholl at [cheektowagamiddlepta@gmail.com](mailto:cheektowagamiddlepta@gmail.com)





# SPIRIT WEAR

ORDERING DEADLINE

SEP 27



CONVENIENT  
SIZING CHARTS

PRODUCT  
INFO

EASY ONLINE  
SHOPPING

PURCHASE ONLINE AT

[www.SpiritGearDirect.com/Shop](http://www.SpiritGearDirect.com/Shop)

CHEEKTOWAGA MIDDLE SCHOOL



YOUTH/ADULT  
PERFORMANCE TEE

**\$18**



YOUTH/ADULT L/S  
PERFORMANCE TEE

**\$24**



YOUTH/ADULT HOODIE

**\$37**



YOUTH/ADULT PERF POLO

**\$28**



M/W/Y FLEECE JACKET

**\$46**



ONE SIZE FITS MOST  
BEANIE

**\$20**



Support  
CHEEKTOWAGA MIDDLE  
SCHOOL



Shop Your Gear Drive

[www.SpiritGearDirect.com](http://www.SpiritGearDirect.com)

Size Charts Available Online

# Clubs, Advisors & Team Leaders

## Middle School Clubs and Leaders

Team Leaders	
Grade 5	Martin Skierczynski
Grade 6	Lenette Braddock
Grade 7	Mike Buscaglia
Grade 8	Luke Silliman
AIS	Rebecca Haines

Club Advisors	
Jazz Ensemble - Kacy Dolan	Media Club - Alex Baker
NJHS - Lynnae Kwilas	Yearbook - Nancy Kean
Student Council - Brenda Panikowski Katherine MacVittie Melissa Goc	Junior Challenge Club - Jill Orlowski Kate Barbati
Art Club - Jenna Hallmark	Chess Club - Mark Cultrara
Girls Chorus - Katherine Santoro	International Club - Walter Wasner
Math Club: Jennifer Lewis	Musical Director - Katherine Santoro
Science Club - Walter Wasner	Unified Leadership - Lynnae Kwilas
"O" Ambassadors - Michelle Zilliox Kaitlynn Reilly	Literature Club - Samantha Scheffler Heidi Maloney
STEM Club - Jessica McGill Patricia Stonebraker	