# CAWLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT "Make a Mark, Make A Difference: 2017 New Hampshire Middle School of the Year



## November 2019

# **Veterans Day Assembly**

On November 4, at 1:30 pm, Cawley Middle School will have a Veterans Day assembly to honor all members of the military. Members from two local Boy Scout Troops will present the colors. The Cawley select band and chorus will perform the National Anthem and also "You're A Grand Old Flag." Students from Cawley will also read a poem and passage on the meaning of Veterans Day. Joseph Byron, the Founder of Honor Flight New England (a branch of the National Non-Profit Organization: Honor Flight) will be the keynote speaker. In the weeks leading to this assembly, students created cards, and wrote letters for WWII, Korean and Vietnam Veterans who took their Honor Flight the weekend leading to this assembly. Students and staff have submitted names and photographs of family members or close friends who have served or are currently serving in the military. These photos and names are posted in the halls of Cawley.

# Washington D.C.

One hundred thirty-three eighth grade students will be going to Washington D.C. November 5 - 8. Students will cruise the Potomac River, take a picture in front of the White House, tour the Capitol Building, visit National Arlington Cemetery, the Newsuem, the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, World War II and Korean War Memorials, and Smithsonian Museums.

## **Arlington National Cemetery**

On Wednesday, November 6, Camden Marasco, Sarah Maddox, Jenna Russel, and Conner Dolbec will have the honor of placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington Cemetery as part of the 8th grade trip to Washington D.C. These students were chosen randomly through a raffle. The students and staff of Cawley Middle School are humbled to be chosen to participate in this ongoing memorializing of all those who served and made the ultimate sacrifice defending our freedom.

## **Parent Conferences**

Parent conferences will be on November 12. Parents will have the opportunity to meet with all of their child's teachers to discuss academic and social progress.

## **GRIT - "Girls Re-Imaging Tomorrow"**

In September and October, Kaitlin Santosuosso who works for ePlus Technology met with Principal, Matthew Benson about bringing the ePlus/Cisco "GRIT" program to Cawley Middle School. "Girls Re-Imaging Tomorrow," is a program designed to introduce diverse groups of middle school girls to technology-focused career

possibilities with an emphasis on cyber security and AI (Artificial Intelligence). "GRIT" seeks to build confidence in young women by providing mentorship, as well as supporting young ladies in the areas of public speaking, online safety, stewardship skills and business etiquette. Fifteen seventh grade girls will have the opportunity to participate in this program. The girls will participate in four field trips to businesses such as Cisco, ePlus Office and other businesses starting in January and ending in May. Seventh grade science teachers Miss Blais and Mrs. Ward will be the school contacts for coordinating the program.

# **Geography Bee**

Cawley is participating in the National Geographic Bee again this year. This is a national competition open to all middle school students. The intent of the bee, sponsored in part by the National Geographic Society, is to promote geographic literacy. The 2019 - 2020 bee begins in October with the classroom level of the competition. All students will participate in this level of the bee in their social studies classes. The top thirty students from the classroom level will be invited to take part in the school level of the bee. The school bee will be held on December 16. The school champion will then take a qualification exam for the state bee to be held in the spring. State champions are invited to Washington, D.C. to compete in the national bee.

# **National Junior Honor Society**

On November 1, the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) held the Induction Ceremony for new members who have demonstrated scholarship, leadership, service, character, and citizenship. This year, 26 students were recognized for their achievement. Former Cawley student and NJHS member, Madeline Downer was the keynote speaker at the induction ceremony.

## The new inductees:

Kvra Courtemanche Kasarah Juneau Isabella Rivet Olivia Crockwell **Emily Lachance** Nora Robichaud Reagan Delude Connor Lord Maggie Roy Reagan Louiselle Arushi Saravanan Ava Dulac Abigail Gowern **Emily Marshall** Makenzie Towne Arushi Gurung Olivia McIntire Ava Udina Ashwini Gurung Anna Perkins Carson Walls Joseph Hoang Owen Perrotta Taylor Wheaton Shylah Johnson Zoey Piccolo

#### **CODERZ**

Cawley students have begun "The Hour of Code" a little early this year by participating in the New England Cyber-Robotics Coding Competition. This challenge was open to all students. Classroom teachers have enrolled interested students during their flex classes to work on the missions. As a result of the Chromebook program there are 234 students participating this year. Students are currently in the Bootcamp phase where they are learning about touch sensors, repeat loops, smart

blocks and gyroscopic sensors. The missions will be throughout the next phases of the competition. The online portion of the competition ends November 20.

## **Red Ribbon Week Update**

During the week of October 28 - November 1, the Cawley community celebrated Red Ribbon Week. Red Ribbon Week began nationally in 1989 to provide drug awareness to students around the country as a way to recognize Kiki Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Agent, who was killed in Mexico in 1985. To honor his commitment to battling illegal drugs, his family and friends began to wear red badges. Red Ribbon Week serves as a way to get communities and schools working together to educate youth in drug prevention activities. Red ribbons donated by the Hooksett Police Department, with different themes promoting healthy choices and drug awareness, were distributed to students in homerooms. The School Resource Officer, Officer Angela Bergeron, awarded raffle prizes, also donated by the Hooksett Police Department to students who demonstrated positive behavior toward others during this week. In addition, morning announcements were made by Hooksett community members and members of the fire and police departments. Friday, November 1 was RED OUT/Wear Red Day to demonstrate support for leading a healthy, drug-free life. In addition, students participated in a Wellness Walk during FLEX to promote healthy choices and exercise.

#### **Builders Club**

Builders Club has started the school year with three well-attended general meetings. The members have supported the PTA at the ice cream socials at Underhill and Memorial. Students also volunteered at the Kiwanis 5K by working the water station.

In October, the members worked at both the PTA's Spooktacular and the Hooksett Library's Halloween Party. Volunteers sold "SpookyGrams" Halloween week and the proceeds will be donated to charity.

The Builders Club has committed to Kiwanis "One Day," where members will work making food packets for the needy. This will take place on November 2. Students have also committed to two days of bell ringing for the Hooksett Salvation Army. The dates are November 30 at the Bass Pro Shop and December 14 at K-Mart. In addition, The Builders Club is sponsoring a Hooksett family with three children for the Holiday Assistance Program. Students will be shopping and supplying holiday gifts for the family. Jeffrey Hickey and Abby Gowern represented the Builders Club at the Kiwanis Dinner on Oct. 16, and did an awesome job sharing the club's activities.

#### Athletics

The cross-country team had a great season. Logan Huard ran very well in the Tri-County Finals and Sarah Bolduc earned a medal. The girl's field hockey had an excellent first year in Tri-County and hosted and won a quarterfinal playoff game. In addition, the girls' soccer team finished third place and also hosted and won a quarterfinals game on October 21. The boys' soccer team competed all year and earned a spot in the playoffs.

Winter sports will offer boys and girls basketball with tryouts beginning the last week in October. Cheerleading tryouts will begin in November.

## **Performing Arts**

Things are well under way in the Performing Arts Department at Cawley. There was a very successful "Coffee House" fundraiser on October 23. This was an event where students were invited to perform music of their choice in a small comfortable venue. There were acts ranging from a soaring performance of The Beatles "Hey Jude" on vocals and piano to combined acts like "Dream" by Persila Ann, in which students were singing and dancing.

On October 25 and 26, the Drama Club, performed "Cinderella" in the cafeteria. Congratulations to all of them on a successful and memorable show.

On November 4, the chorus and band members performed at the Cawley Veterans Day Assembly. The band performed the "Star Spangled Banner" and "You're a Grand Ol' Flag." The chorus performed, "Proud to be an American."

## **Upcoming Key Dates to Note at Cawley:**

November 1: National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony, 6:30 pm

November 4: Veterans Day Assembly

November 4: 1st Quarter Ends for Unified Arts Classes
November 5: 2nd Quarter Begins for Unified Arts Classes

November 5 – 8: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Washington D.C.

November 11: No School, Veterans Day

November 12: No School, Parent Teacher Conferences

November 27 – 29 No School, Thanksgiving Break

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Benson, Principal