

CAWLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

"Make a Mark, Make A Difference, Believe and Achieve"

2017 New Hampshire Middle School of the Year

September 2023



Cawley's New Teachers

On August 22, Cawley's new teachers attended a teacher orientation with the Cawley Administration. The day was very productive in welcoming the following people; Kendall Frizzell, grade 8 social studies, Robert Anderson, grade 8 math, Jen Brenner, special education, Ryan Quinlan, grade 6 language arts, Kathryn Dwyer, ELL, Sandra Moore, Reading Specialist, Sofia Barassi, grade 7 science, Jennifer Fay, Title I math teacher.

Summer Academy

In June of 2023, core teachers completed a survey to identify the major skills that students in need of intervention struggled with in the two content areas of reading and math. Using this information, along with NWEA and NH-SAS data, students were selected for the Cawley Summer Intervention program. As done in previous years, this program ran for three weeks, for four days each week in tandem with the Summer Academy program for students to make up for failing two or more classes for the year.

Twenty five students attended and participated in intervention, in language arts, science, social studies, math classes, as well as extension sessions focusing on close reading and vocabulary skills. Students' specific areas of strength and weakness were identified and utilized to design lessons and activities to best support their needs as individual learners.

Title I

This past summer Matina Goulakos coordinated the Title I summer program. Title I at Cawley was from July 31 - August 10. Nine students ranging from incoming sixth grade to rising ninth graders participated in the program. Students received targeted math and ELA support from certified teachers.

In language arts students worked on strengthening vocabulary specifically with parts of speech, affixes, base words and Greek and Latin Roots. Students also built upon their reading fluency along with reading informational text and discussed findings.

In math, students calculated operations with rational numbers including whole numbers, fractions, decimals and integers and built upon multiplicative strategies. In both areas, students engaged in activities where they had the opportunity to collaborate with peers, work one-on-one with teachers and complete work independently with noticed confidence.

This year Cawley will have a full time Title I math teacher who will provide targeted instruction for all grade levels. The addition of this program will support students with foundational math skills.

Portrait of a Cawley Learner Assembly

The student body and staff all participated in an assembly on September 8 to celebrate the return to school and officially unveil Cawley's Portrait of a Learner. Karin Rogers, Lea Maguire, Jeff Hamilton and myself coordinated the assembly that had students dancing, cheering and learning about the five key components of the Cawley Portrait of a Learner.

Captain Hawkins ran through the banner to get the students excited. Anastasia Judge and Captain Hawkins (Parker Waddington) led the school in the Cawley Cheer. Jeff Hamilton wrote and led the school with the singing of the "Hawk Song." Teachers Jessie Palmer, Kristin Yeaton, Brandon Davini and Andrea Meyer each selected a word to speak to students about and explained how they have demonstrated the traits in their youth, high school, college and careers. The first word that the students and staff will be focusing on this month is "Responsibility."

Open House

The annual Open House for parents was on August 30. Teachers gave an overview of the curriculum, scheduling, events for the year and structure of the school. The event was well attended and positive feedback was received from parents. Members from the Cawley Builders Club volunteered to guide parents to the various locations in the school.

Student Presentations

As a part of the NH Bullying Law, the Cawley Administration presented to all students regarding bullying in the second week of school. These in-depth presentations provided students with strategies to identify bullying, stop bullying and treat others with respect and kindness. In addition, the administration presented the emergency management drills to all students with a focus on "See Something, Say Something."

High School Information Night

This year's annual High School Information Night was on September 11. During the informational night I outlined the process for parents and students that detailed the process for students transitioning to high school.

After the informational presentation, representatives from Pinkerton Academy spoke about the school's academic co-curricular and athletic programs and also provided valuable information about the transition to high school.

Students may petition to attend one of the schools that the Hooksett School District has a Memorandum of Understanding with if the percentage of students petitioning does not go below 63.26% of 8th grade students attending Pinkerton Academy.

Starting on September 12, parents can request a High School Petition Request Form by sending me an email at mbenson@sau15.net.

Petition forms are needed for the following schools, Londonderry High School, Goffstown High School, Bow High School, Pembroke Academy, Manchester Central High School, Manchester West High School or Manchester Memorial High School. **The due date for a petition request to be reviewed is October 3.** Petition requests will not be accepted after October 3.

8th Grade Trip to Washington D.C.

On September 18, there was an informational meeting for parents and students regarding this year's 8th grade trip to Washington D.C. in the media center. This year's 8th grade trip to Washington D.C. is scheduled from Tuesday, April 16 to Friday, April 19, 2024. At the meeting Assistant Principal, Karin Rogers, Washington D.C. Coordinator, Lori Adams and owner of Bennett Student Travel, Doug Bennett provided a detailed overview of the trip and answered any questions.

ImPACT Concussion Testing

On September 29, Cawley Middle School will be offering ImPACT testing for students who are 12 years and older free of cost. ImPACT testing is a computerized exam that measures cognitive functions such as memory, processing and reaction time. This test is used by healthcare professionals to determine a child's readiness to return to play after a head injury. This first test provides a baseline that is used for comparison if a head injury is suspected.

Athletics

Fall sports began on September 6, with boys and girls soccer, cross country, and field hockey practicing. The first cross country meet was at Cawley on September 13. Field hockey, boys and girls soccer all had their first games on September 14.

Performing Arts

Band and chorus began on September 12. The band currently has 47 students and the chorus has 55 students. Jazz Band and after school chorus will begin in October.

Key Dates:

September 18:	School Pictures, 8:00 am
September 18:	8 th Grade Washington D.C. Trip Informational Night, 6:30 pm
September 22:	Student Council Dance, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
September 26:	6 th Grade Adolescents Parent Presentation, 6:00 pm
September 29:	No School for Students, Professional Development Day
September 29:	ImPACT Concussion Testing, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Benson, Principal