

**CAWLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL'S REPORT  
"Make a Mark, Make A Difference"  
2017 New Hampshire Middle School of the Year  
May 2024**



**Senora Diane Davila-Colon Wins Award**

Congratulations to Senora Davila-Colon for winning the 2024 Vocesdigital National/International Teacher Spotlight Award. This award is given to world language teachers that have left a significant impact on their community and school. Senora is one of only five teachers to be presented this award.

Senora was nominated by Cawley's French teacher Gregory Bickford who wrote, "This teacher, through her many years of experience and service to various communities, has left a lasting impact on both the students and staff who have had the pleasure of meeting her. She has continued to innovate her classroom and craft through her 27 years in the field. Originally starting as an English teacher in her home of Puerto Rico, she has proved time and again that she is dedicated to teaching not only the language, but the culture of the Spanish-speaking world using her personal experiences. I have been lucky enough to have worked alongside her in our school's World Language department for the past five years and have seen nothing less than greatness. She is a phenomenal teacher who deserves outstanding praise and recognition."

**Meeting with Commissioner of Education**

On May 5, Assistant Principal, Karin Rogers had an in person meeting with the New Hampshire Commissioner of Education, Frank Edelblut and the Director of Higher Education, Stephen Appleby to discuss the importance of providing different alternatives for educators to become certified. The Superintendent, William Rearick, Karin and I are all working on an innovative plan based on the Commissioner's recommendations to support educators in the certification process.

**Staff Appreciation Week**

Thank you to the Hooksett PTA and the Cawley Student Council for planning so many special treats for the Cawley staff the week of May 6. There were ice cream treats, raffles, breakfast and lots of gratitude for the amazing staff at Cawley

**Chess Club**

On May 4, 6th grader Trystian Duquette attended the first annual Granite Gambit Chess Festival in Manchester. There were approximately 40 students from all parts of the state playing various types of chess tournaments. Trystian partnered with the Chess Club Advisor and 7th grade math teacher James Palmieri and they went 4 and 0 to be crowned champions of this tournament. Trystian was 11 and 1 on the day and took home two champion medals and 1 second place medal. Congratulations to Trystian for representing our school and town.

**Family and Consumer Science Class**

Students in Mrs. Olsen's sixth grade Family and Consumer Science have been learning about the environmental and social impact of clothing manufacturing, including labor practices, the amount of water needed to turn cotton into jeans and tee shirts, and the intermodal transportation required to ship raw products and finished materials worldwide. To put their

knowledge into practice, students are upcycling pieces of denim jeans and swatches of classroom fabric into creative works of art. A discussion about azo dyes and other forever chemicals used in textile manufacturing sparked the next project whereby students will use natural plant materials to dye fabrics in class. These are two new projects which precede their tried and true upcycle activity of turning second hand tee shirts into tote bags.

### **“Bite of Reality” Financial Literacy Fair**

Eighth grade Family and Consumer Science and Next Generation classes at Cawley are combining resources for an exciting new financial literacy program. Mrs. Meyer and Mrs. Olsen are collaborating to introduce lessons to help students set and reach future goals for financial wellness.

Instruction will be supplemented by lessons delivered by representatives from Service Credit Union within the Cawley classrooms. Topics will include budgeting, credit and debit, gross pay, personal credit scores, saving and taxes. Students will be practicing independent skills for lifelong financial wellness.

The culminating activity, “Bite of Reality” Financial Literacy Fair”, will take place at Pinkerton Academy on June 4. Students will travel to Pinkerton Academy to attend the authentic learning experience. At Pinkerton the students will interact with professional financial representatives in their fields of expertise. Students will make real world decisions with the help of credit union representatives and financial planning experts regarding personal money management goals.

### **Sea Monkey Day**

Cawley sixth graders celebrated National Sea Monkey Day on Thursday, May 16. Known as brine shrimp in the world of zoology, Sea Monkeys have their own official holiday to recognize their contributions to science. Brine shrimp are frequently used in experiments because they are ideal organisms due to their quick life cycle and simple care requirements. After studying these amazing arthropods, the sixth grade students participated in an afternoon of many Sea Monkey-themed activities in different curriculum areas.

### **Air Cannons in 6th Grade**

While learning about air pressure, students in Mr. Fleury’s sixth grade science classes made “air cannons” that shoot harmless puffs of air that swirl in a donut shape called a torus. Although the air blasts are normally invisible, the students used a fog machine to make “fog rings” that were seen to float about 10 feet across the room. We appreciate the generosity of the Hooksett McDonalds for donating the McFlurry cups and lids that are the perfect size and shape for making air cannons.

### **ALPS**

May is a busy month for the ALPs program. In FACS class, students are discussing upcycling and will be experimenting with natural dyes, creating color for fabric using food, spices, and plants. FLEX students are busy learning about Ancient Greeks and the original olympic games. The students are preparing to learn about the upcoming summer games in Paris in order to compare, contrast, and educate the rest of 6th grade about the olympics. Sixth grade students continue to work hard on their writing skills and will begin reading a short play based in Ancient Greece to complement what is occurring in the FLEX and Social Studies classes.

Seventh grade is entering the courts of law. The students are learning about the jury system, as well as role playing lawyers in the voir dire process. Next, the students will be reading a play as a group, discussing the concepts of bias and witness reliability.

Finally, 8th graders are reading "The Most Dangerous Game," and they will be comparing it to a modernized version that has been created as a podcast.

### **National Junior Honor Society**

The National Junior Honor Society board members are hard at work planning for the Talent Show that will be held on May 22 at 6:30. Admission is free and there will be a bake sale in the cafeteria. The members are hoping to put together a fun night of entertainment that will include singing, dancing, instrumentals, comedy and more. All money raised from this event will be donated to Honor Flight New England. For more information on this great organization please visit <https://honorflightnewengland.org/>.

NJHS will be holding elections at the end of the month to select the new board members for the 2024-2025 school year. This is a great opportunity for 7th grade members to step into a leadership role and demonstrate the Portrait of a Learner qualities of communication, collaboration, perseverance, problem solving and responsibility.

### **Builders Club**

The Cawley Middle School Builders Club had a busy April. The members helped clean up our town on Beautify Hooksett Day. The members also helped with the PTA ice cream socials at Hooksett Memorial. This month the members are planning a garden clean up at Underhill School and preparing for elections for officers for the 2024 - 2025 school year. On June 12 the end of the year ceremony and induction of the new officers will take place at 7:00 am in the Media Center.

### **Student Council**

This month the Student Council celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week with notes of recognition and a special treat for each teacher in the building. Students are organizing one final activity in June for the student body to celebrate another great year and to encourage positivity and togetherness through the summer and into the next school year.

### **Unified Sports**

On May 13, students from Rundlett Middle School visited Cawley for the culminating unified sports event of the year. Students participated in soccer and other fun competitions to celebrate the year. Cawley provided lunch and ice cream for both teams.

### **Athletics**

Spring sports are in full action! The track and golf teams are performing at a high level and having a lot of fun in the process. Track results can be found on the bulletin board outside the cafeteria. Baseball, softball, boys and girls lacrosse standings can be found at the league website: <https://www.tricountyathletic.org/>. Good luck to all teams as the start to prepare for the postseason.

### **Performing Arts**

The Performing Arts students had their spring concerts at Hooksett Memorial and Cawley. On May 14 the band, chorus and jazz band performed at Hooksett Memorial School during the school day. On May 16 the band, jazz band and chorus performed for the student body

and staff at Cawley during a morning assembly and the parents and community that evening. It was a great performance capped off with the announcement of the award winners for the performing arts department. Congratulations to the following students.

**Chorus Musicianship Award** - Lilah Dugas, Natalia Jasiukowicz

**Chorus Director's Award** - Jackson Hayes, Lorelei Sibona

**Band Musicianship** - Emma Tilton, Cyril Wakim

**Band Director's Award** - Jamie Gobout, Maggie McAuliffe

On June 3, fifth grade students from Hooksett Memorial School will join the Cawley Band and Chorus for a step up day concert. At the concert students will rehearse with the Cawley Band and Chorus and then perform a song for the parents.

Congratulations to Emma Tilton who participated in the New Hampshire Band Directors Association Honors Band Festival in April. In October, on her own time, Emma practiced and auditioned for a part in the band. She was one of about a dozen trumpets chosen to participate out of the more than fifty students who auditioned.

In addition, Emma Tilton, Reid Hamilton, Rachel Griffin, Lilah Dugas, Jackson Hayes, Natalia Jasiukowicz, Jonathan Palazzo, and Lorelei Sibona, participated in the NHMEA South Central District Music Festival on Saturday May 4. These students were nominated by their band and chorus directors to participate. In both events, students spent the day rehearsing music with middle school students from all over the state and through that one day of work put on a most impressive concert.

**Upcoming Dates to Note at Cawley:**

May 17:	Quarter 4 Progress Checks
May 17:	7th Grade Hands Only CPR
May 21-22:	NH SAS Reading Assessment
May 22:	Cawley Talent Show, 6:30 pm
May 26:	Memorial Day Parade, 11:00 am
May 27:	No School, Memorial Day
May 29-30:	NH SAS Math Assessment
June 3:	HMS 5th Graders Band Step Day at Cawley, 2:30 pm
June 4:	Londonderry HS Step Up Day for incoming Freshmen, 8:00 am
June 4:	Financial Literacy Fair, Trip to Pinkerton Academy for 8th Grade
June 5:	Step Up Day for 5th Grade Students, 12:45 pm
June 5:	Step Up Day Parent Information Night, 6:00 pm
June 5, 6, 7:	8th Grade Trip to Camp Mi Te Na
June 17:	8th Graders Last Day of School
June 17:	8th Grade Recognition Ceremony, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
June 17:	8th Grade Dinner and Dance, 7:15 pm - 8:45 pm
June 18:	Last Day of School for 6th and 7th Graders, Early Release Day at Noon

Respectfully Submitted,



Matthew Benson, Principal