

# CAWLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

2017 New Hampshire Middle School of the Year  
*"Make a Mark, Make a Difference"*



## March 2025

### Key Dates

#### Middle School Month Opening Assembly

Middle School Month kicked off with an opening assembly on March 3. The cheerleading team brought energy to the assembly with their award winning routine. Captain Hawkins made his annual appearance to fire up the crowd. A dance-off between all three grade levels occurred, in addition to the team building hula-hoop relay. The first theme week was World Language Week, followed by Teamwork Week and then "Middle School Madness Week." Middle School Month concludes on March 21 with the Spirit rally during the school day and dance from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.



#### Pi Day

Sixth grade students participated in a grade level celebration of Pi Day on March 14. Students moved around math related stations celebrating circles and the many digits of Pi. Students had the option to enter up to four contests: best tasting pie, memorization contest, best T-shirt design, and a Pi research project.

#### Eighth Grade Recognition Evening Date

This year the 8th Grade Recognition Ceremony and dinner and dance will be at Cawley Middle School on Wednesday, June 18. The ceremony will begin in the gymnasium at 6:00 pm and conclude at 7:00 pm. There will be a dinner and dance for the Cawley Class of 2025 students after the ceremony from 7:15 pm – 8:45 pm. June 18 will be the last day of school for eighth grade students.

#### Trimester 2 Report Cards

The second trimester ends on March 20 with the third trimester beginning on March 21. Report cards and honor roll for the second trimester will be sent home with students on March 27.

March 20: Trimester 2 Ends

March 21: Dance, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

March 27: Trimester 2 Report Cards Distributed

March 31: Eighth Grade Washington DC Parent Meeting, 6:00 pm

April 10: Eighth Grade Musical Performance, 9:15 am and 7:00 pm

April 11: Eighth Grade Musical Performance, 9:15 am, 7:00 pm

April 11: Quarter 3 Ends

April 16: NH SAS Writing Assessment

April 17: Cawley Talent Show, 6:30 pm

April 23: Project Safeguard, Grade 7

April 22 – 25: Eighth Grade Trip to Washington D.C.

April 25: Early Release Day, 11:30 am

April 28 – May 2: April Vacation

# Cawley Middle School Principal's Report



## Hawks Honoring History

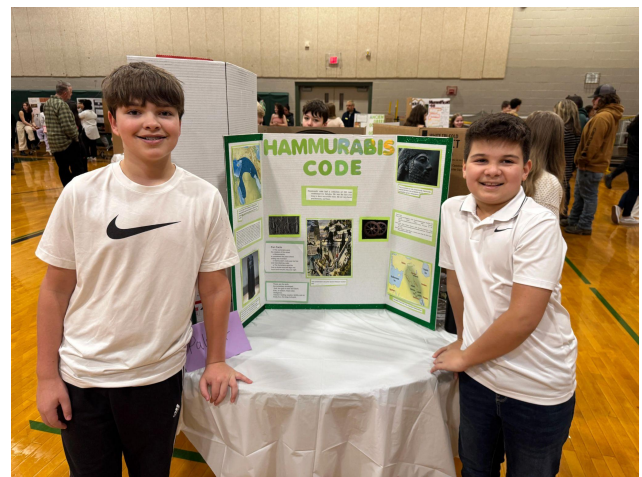
This year, the Social Studies Department launched the Hawks Honoring History Project as a school-wide initiative for all students in grades six to eight, serving as a local adaptation of the National History Day project.

Students selected historical topics aligned with the annual theme and conducted extensive research using both primary and secondary sources. Their projects reflected the theme "Rights and Responsibilities." Students had the option to present their findings in one of the following formats: essay, performance, documentary, website, or exhibit.

The Social Studies Department collaborated with grade level Language Arts colleagues, Special Education, ESOL teachers, and other support staff, along with the Director of Media, to provide research and writing instruction.

On March 5 and 6, students showcased their work at the Hawks Honoring History Day Expo. Students presented their projects to the Cawley community, where parents, teachers, fellow students, and community members had the opportunity to explore their essays, performances, documentaries, and exhibits.

On March 27, grade level winners from each project category will be honored at the inaugural H3 Ceremony. Finalists will receive information about the National History Day Competition should they wish to pursue state and national competitions independently.



## National Junior Honor Society

The National Junior Honor Society held the annual Pancake Breakfast last month and raised over \$1000. The money will be split between two local organizations, Becky's Gift and Honor Flight New England. The NJHS advisors would like to thank all of the families who came out to support the community for this amazing event.

The members are now in the planning stages for the annual NJHS Talent Show. This event will be held on April 17 from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm in the Cawley gym. There will be a bake sale in the cafeteria with all proceeds donated to The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

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## Performing Arts

March is a busy month for the Performing Arts Department. On Saturday March 18 the chorus and band students will be participating at the New Hampshire Music Educators Association Large Group Festival. Students will observe other local middle school performances, perform three prepared pieces, and sight read, which is when students have to perform a new piece of music for the first time and decode on the spot. This will all be performed in front of adjudicators who will judge the students' performances as ensembles, and give the band and chorus a grade. The students have been preparing for this performance for months and are excited to show off their hard work.

Rehearsals for the eighth grade musical Beetlejuice Jr. are underway and students have been working on singing in harmony with proper technique, physical acting through blocking and character work, and adding movement to music through choreography rehearsals. Regardless of their experience levels in music and/or drama, the growth in their confidence and performing abilities is incredible. The dates of the performances are April 10 and April 11.

Congratulations to Abby Brown for her performance with the New Hampshire Band Directors Association Honors Band. On March 10 Abby and her fellow middle school musicians who passed the audition rehearsed together for the day and put on a spectacular performance in the evening.

## Athletics

Co-ed Volleyball: The sixth and seventh grade volleyball team has shown immense improvements in ability and confidence in their two home matches. The seventh and eighth grade team have been working hard in practice and games.

Spring Sports: Tryouts for boys and girls lacrosse, baseball, and softball will begin March 31. Day one of track will be April 3. Golf dates to be determined.



## Professional Development Day - March 11

On March 11 the Cawley staff participated in Active Shooter training that was presented by the Hooksett Police Department. In addition, the staff was recertified in First Aid and CPR by the Hooksett Fire Department. The afternoon concluded with content specific teacher meetings to review data and make informed instructional decisions and collaborate about instructional programs.

## Staff Meeting

At the March staff meeting representatives from the ATOM Group presented to the Cawley staff about cyber security. The ATOM Group supports schools and municipalities on how to deal with a cyber attack.

# Cawley Middle School Principal's Report



## Women in Leadership Conference

Assistant principal Karin Rogers will be attending the Women in Leadership Symposium on March 28. This symposium, hosted by the New Hampshire Association of School Principals (NHASP), addresses the unique challenges women face in leadership roles, providing valuable insights and networking opportunities for female educators dedicated to fostering inclusive and effective learning environments.

## Reading Conference

On March 31, six Cawley language arts teachers and the assistant principal will participate in the Granite State Literacy Summit. The event is hosted by the New Hampshire Reading League and NHASCD focuses on the science of reading by equipping educators with research-based strategies to enhance literacy instruction. By attending this summit the teachers aim to deepen their understanding of effective reading practices and ultimately improve student outcomes in literacy.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Benson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Matthew Benson, Principal