

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

May 2026



### **Staff Appreciation Week**

Thank you to the Hooksett PTA for planning so many special treats for the Cawley staff the week of May 4. The PTA created a 90's theme for the week with prizes and games for the staff. There were treats, raffles, breakfast and lots of gratitude for the amazing staff at Cawley. The staff thoroughly enjoyed the radio show trivia in which the 10th staff member calling into the main office with the correct answer won a prize. The staff dressed in their 90s clothes all week and wore the fanny packs provided by the PTA.

Thank you to the Hooksett School Board for the generous tumblers and treats inside. The tumblers are being proudly used by the staff with the Hooksett School District's logo displayed on the tumbler.

During the week of celebration the students and staff also celebrated Cawley's school nurse, Mrs. McCarron, and the wonderful people who work in the cafeteria. Thank you to the Assistant Principal Karin Rogers for cooking the staff lunch. Mrs. Rogers made several types of chili to honor the Red Hot Chili Peppers from the 1990s.

### **Washington D.C. Chaperones**

The eighth grade trip to Washington D.C. was a huge success this year as a result of the hard work and dedication of the chaperones. Thank you to the following Cawley teachers for chaperoning the four day three night trip, Kimberly Gartland, Sarah Rushia, Andrea Meyer, Jessie Palmer, Baylor Anderson, Matthew Govoni, Mikaela Depace, Jennifer Fay and Sarah Piana. Thank you to the medical personnel, Leonore Baril and Kame McAuliffe for supporting the students on the trip. Thank you to the trip coordinator and teacher, Lori Adams who worked diligently the past year with Bennett Travel to ensure the trip was a memorable and educational experience for students. Thank you to the Assistant Principal, Karin Rogers for chaperoning the trip supporting students, staff and continually communicating with parents. A big thank you to Jeffrey Hamilton for helping load the buses before students departed at 5:15 am in the morning and then helping unload the buses when students arrived back at school at 11:45 pm on April 24.

### **Seventh Grade Field Trip to Pinkerton Academy**

All seventh grade students had the opportunity to travel to Pinkerton Academy on May 13 to learn about the school's academic and athletic programs, clubs and school culture. Students were also led on a tour of the campus by representatives from Pinkerton Academy. Pinkerton Academy is the Hooksett School District's high school of record.

### **CPR Introduction Course for Seventh Grade Students**

On May 15, the Hooksett Fire Department taught the seventh grade students about performing CPR with only their hands. Students did not earn a certification, but they were introduced to hand techniques and the benefits of knowing CPR.

### **May Staff Meeting**

At the May Staff meeting Captain Joseph Stalker from the Hooksett Fire Department trained members of the Cawley staff in CPR and First Aid. It continues to be an ongoing goal of the Emergency Management Team to have as many adults trained in CPR and First Aid. The training also included a review on how to safely and correctly use the AEDs in an emergency situation.

### **Sea Monkey Day**

Cawley sixth graders celebrated National Sea Monkey Day on Friday, May 15. 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 many different Sea Monkey themed activities in science.

### **NH SAS Assessment**

Cawley Middle School students participated in the New Hampshire Statewide Assessment System in Math and English Language Arts in May. Only the 8th grade students were assessed in Science. These assessments are a web-based computer adaptive test. State assessments are an important part of a student's core educational program. They provide an evaluation of student mastery of content and skills in various academic areas, serve as one tool for measuring the degree to which students are on track to graduate high school and be college and career ready and help inform future instruction in the classroom. Along with student work on classroom assignments, projects, essays and the state assessment, the results give teachers and parents important information about where students are on their path toward academic success.

### **Londonderry High School Update**

On May 29, Londonderry High School Athletic Director James Lauzon will visit Cawley and meet with eighth graders attending LHS next year about athletics. In addition, future 8th grade LHS students will be attending a step up day at Londonderry High School on June 2 starting at 9:30 am. Transportation for the rising and future Lancers will be provided by the school.

### **Fifth to Sixth Grade Orientation**

Incoming fifth graders will be touring Cawley Middle School on Wednesday, June 3. Students will eat lunch at Cawley, be introduced to their homeroom teachers and administration, and tour the building. That evening, starting at 6:00 pm, there will be a parent orientation in the Cawley Media Center. The presentation by the Cawley administration will provide an overview of the academic and extracurricular programs offered for all students.

### **Camp Mi Te Na**

Eighth grade students will be attending Camp Mi Te Na on June 3, 4 and 5 in Alton, New Hampshire. Students will have the opportunity to swim, sail, use a ropes course and participate in other team games. Camp Mi Te Na is an overnight camp.

### **Sixth Grade Advanced Learning Program**

Students are working toward sustainability goals and recently launched a compost collection system. In the first week alone, they collected more than 10 pounds of fruits and vegetables to be composted. Sixth grade students are also collaborating with seventh graders and Mrs. Olsen's Family and Consumer Science classes on beautification and sustainability projects for Cawley Middle School. Their work includes landscape designs, sketches for a potential Cawley garden, and educational materials such as flyers, videos, and presentations to inform students about the benefits of composting and environmental sustainability.

### **Seventh Grade Advanced Learning Program**

Seventh graders are applying their math skills through hands-on problem solving and collaborative projects that encourage critical thinking and real-world applications. Recently, students researched different statues and images for inspiration as they began designing their own 3D polygonal busts and statues out of cardboard. Using measuring tools and the ChompSaw, students have been working carefully to create precise geometric designs. This project has challenged students to apply mathematical concepts, spatial reasoning, creativity, and perseverance throughout the design and construction process. Their finished projects will soon be on display.

### **Eighth Grade Advanced Learning Program**

Eighth graders have been developing a proposed interdisciplinary STEAM project connected to a "Cawley Coldplay Concert" concept, which was recently approved for technology grant funding.

As part of the project, students have been exploring how coding, geometry, engineering, design, and music can work together to create a large-scale interactive experience inspired by the song A Sky Full of Stars by Coldplay. Students plan to design and construct constellation models while programming Ozobots to trace constellation pathways synchronized to music. Using principles of geometry and spatial reasoning, students are experimenting with angles, positioning, and perspective to create constellation displays that appear three-dimensional from the audience's viewpoint. This innovative project integrates computer science, mathematics, engineering, design, and arts integration while providing students with meaningful hands-on learning experiences in creativity, collaboration, computational thinking, and problem-solving. The recently approved technology grant funds will provide additional Ozobots, allowing more students to participate simultaneously and expanding opportunities for coding and STEAM experiences throughout the school year.

### **Student Council**

The Student Council is exploring ways to celebrate and remember this school year. During the week of May 11 students will have the opportunity to share their ideas and thoughts on questions composed by the Student Council to learn more about the school year. Video question stations will be set up in all grade level halls and students can choose to participate. Once completed the Student Council will montage the clips and once approved will be shared with the Cawley students and staff. In addition, the Student Council is planning a spirit week for the end of year celebration.

### **National Junior Honor Society**

Before April break, members of the National Honor Society from Pinkerton Academy came back to Cawley to clean up and help with landscaping around the building. Approximately 30 NHS members volunteered and the NJHS advisors were pleased to see some former members of Cawley's NJHS. Thank you to 7th grade science teacher Mr. Hamilton for also volunteering at the Clean Up Day and leading the charge with the landscaping.

The National Junior Honor Society is preparing for their last visit to read to the 1st grade at Underhill for Reading Buddies. The 8th grade members have really enjoyed getting to know their first grade buddies this year.

The members are currently planning for the annual talent show which will be held on May 22 in the Cawley gym at 6:30 pm. Over 20 performers have signed up with acts including singing, dancing and instrumentals. This annual event is free for students and families and includes a bake sale to benefit a local charity.

### **Builders Club**

The Builders Club is wrapping up the school year with elections for the new board, and a year end celebration on May 20. This spring has been very busy for us with a multitude of different events including book fairs, ice cream socials, and clean ups around town.

### **Unified Sports**

The Unified Sports team will be playing Rundlett and Bow Middle Schools in soccer on May 26. Cawley will host the games and provide lunch for all the student-athletes.

### **Athletics**

The baseball, softball, girls lacrosse, boys lacrosse, track and field and golf teams are in the middle of their regular season schedules. Playoffs begin at the end of May and end in early June. Despite the cool spring weather the teams are all off to excellent starts.

### **Performing Arts**

On Tuesday May 12 the band, jazz band and chorus students traveled to Memorial School to perform the spring concert. On Thursday May 14 the band, jazz band and chorus performed in the morning for the Cawley staff and student body and then for families and the community in the evening.

In May the the following students participated in the New Hampshire Music Educators Association South Central District Middle School Music Festival: Lily Fitzpatrick (chorus), Bidisha Gurung (chorus), Shelby Ryerson (chorus), Lyla Scheyd (band), Piper Stewart (chorus), Christian Thibault (band), and Dean Wayman (band). These students were nominated by Mr. Davini and Mrs. Vanderhoek for the festival, where they spent a full day rehearsing music with selected students from other area middle schools and performed a concert in the evening. It was an amazing day of creating music with other talented young musicians across the state. Congratulations to those students on their accomplishments.

Additionally, students of the Cawley band will be marching in the Hooksett Memorial Day Parade on Sunday, May 24 at 12:00 pm. The Performing Arts Department will host the annual Step-Up Day event on June 11. This is when we bid farewell to our 8th grade musicians and welcome the 5th graders into our middle school ensembles. The students will rehearse after school with the Cawley chorus and band directors and perform at 5:00 pm for families.

The following students received the Performing Group Awards for the 2025 - 2026 school year:

**Musicianship Awards:**

Dean Wayman  
Christian Thibault

**Band Director's Awards:**

Lyla Scheyd  
Olivia Tremblay

**Musicianship Awards:**

Lily Fitzpatrick  
Shelby Ryerson

**Choral Director's Awards:**

Violet LaRosee  
Piper Stewart

**Upcoming Dates to Note at Cawley:**

May 18: NH SAS Reading Assessment  
May 19: NH SAS Writing Assessment  
May 20: Quarter 4 Progress Checks  
May 21: NH SAS Math Assessment  
May 22: NJHS Talent Show, 6:30 pm  
May 24: Cawley Band Marches in Hooksett's Memorial Day Parade, 12:00 pm  
May 25: No School, Memorial Day  
May 26: Unified Sports, 9:45 am - 1:30 pm  
June 2: Londonderry Step Up Day, 9:30 am

June 3 - 5: 8th Grade Trip to Camp Mi Te Na  
June 4: 5th to 6th Grade Step Up Day, 12:05 pm - 2:00 pm  
June 4: 6th Grade Parent Orientation Night, 6:00 pm  
June 11: HMS to Cawley Step Up Concert, 2:30 pm  
June 17: 8th Grade Students Last Day of School  
June 17: 8th Grade Recognition Ceremony, Dinner and Dance, 6:00 pm - 8:45 pm  
June 18: Last Day of School for 6th and 7th Grade Students  
June 18: Early Release Day for Students, 11:30 am  
June 18: Reports Cards Posted in PowerSchool and Honor Roll Distributed

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Matthew Benson".

Matthew Benson, Principal