

Clearspring Middle School Newsletter

May 2016



Principal's Message

CMS has been working to hear student voices on what is great about our school and what students would love to see us change to make the school better. Some things we do well are that our school looks, sounds, and feels happy. We have a great library, and students hear plenty of welcoming and encouraging words. Some things students said they thought would make our school better all linked to improving their sense of belonging. They suggested we add more clubs, which we did. It was not perfect, and we intend to improve it next year, but we were pleased with the results of this first response. Students asked us to help them address gossip and rude talk. We made these the focus of our Pink Shirt Day, and now have the results of that day posted around the school in the form of reminders to speak well of one another. Students asked us to consider purchasing more welcoming furniture. This will take a bit more time, but we are working on that. Students asked about getting more encouraging words around the school. We have purchased a vinyl cutter, and have begun the process of adding bright, encouraging messages around the school. This one could also take time, but our students will be part of the group that will make decisions about which messages we put up, and where we will put them.

Last week, Hanover School Division is inviting parents to add their voices to helping us know what we do well as a school, and what we can improve. We hope that all of our parents will contribute to that process. We continue to seek ways to be an exemplary middle school, and hope that your encouragement and comments can help us meet our goals.

We have had several highlights over the past month including a powerful performance by Robb Nash (Grade 7 and 8), internet safety presentations by the RCMP (Grade 7 and 8), a trip to the Human Rights Museum (Grade 7), Band trip to Edmonton (Grade 8), and we are beginning to have Grade 4 students visit as they prepare to become Grade 5 students at CMS next year.

With two months left in the school year, there are still many highlights to come. These include learning trips, Track and Field days, the Grade 8 Medieval Feast, Dragon Boat Races, and the Parent Advisory Council Barbeque on June 24th. Please save the date, and if at all possible, join your child (ren) for a hot dog lunch at school that day.

Principal:
Ed Neufeld

Vice Principal:
Merrilee Plett

Secretaries:
Marcie Friesen
Lucy Martens

Bus Delays

Any bus that will be late due to weather or mechanical issues is listed on the HSD website in the bus delay area.

Go to: www.hsd.ca
(there is a link on the CMS website)

Then go to: drop down menu of Departments/
Transportation

Thank you for checking these options before calling HSD Transportation Department.

If you have other bus related questions, please phone 204-320-2347.

CMS Website - Your New Location for CMS news

Check out www.cms.hsd.ca to keep up to date with what is happening at CMS!

- Principal's Blog about Learning at CMS
- Canteen menu and prices
- PAC news
- Athletics and Music Information
- CMS Student Handbook

- Important CMS Calendar dates
- Daily Announcements
- CMS Twitter Feed
- Bus Schedules
- A link to the HSD Website

Next Year: Learning Partners

In the next week, all grade 5-7 students will be given a sheet to take home where they are asked to list other students whom they work well with. Parents are asked to go over this carefully with their children and sign the sheet. These lists will be given careful consideration as class lists are made for the following year.

We are committed to doing our best to create an environment which promotes deep learning for all students. While we value this information and will use it as we create class lists, we cannot guarantee that students will be in classes with the people named on this list.

PHONE CALLS

If students have an urgent reason to contact their parents, they may do so with teacher permission. We urge parents to leave messages at the office if they need to contact their child.

In order to limit interruption of classes, messages to students will be given to them at breaks, lunch or after school. We will generally not call students out of class for a phone call unless it is an emergency.

We ask that, whenever possible, parents communicate after school arrangements with their children in the morning.

PAC Family BBQ

**Friday, June 24
11:30 a.m. -12:45 p.m.**

You are all invited to come and spend the lunch hour with us!

Food order forms will be sent home in the week prior to the event.



www.pinterest.com

Thought Exchange

Thought Exchange is an online survey for parents of CMS students. We want to know what we are doing well and what we can improve.

Please check your email inboxes for your personal invitation. If you did not receive it by email, please sign up for this survey using the links on the HSD Website (www.hsd.ca).

If you do not have access to email, you can pick up a paper copy at the HSD offices located at 5 Chrysler Gate, Steinbach.

Follow CMS on Twitter

Keep up to date by following student learning at CMS
[@clearspringhsd](https://twitter.com/clearspringhsd)