Cloquet Schools, where caring for students is not just an idea, it’s tradition.

Giddy up! And head on over to Kindergarten Round-up

What’s inside...

Calendar  Advice from seniors
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Superintendent Scarbrough  Coffee with cops
Spring Powwow  Cloquet Educational Foundation

This publication is brought to you by the Cloquet School District.
Calendar and school information

Cloquet School Board Meetings

School Board meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Garfield board room, unless otherwise noted. Packet information can be found on our website at www.isd94.org. Meetings are open to the public.

New school board officers: Board Chair Ted Lammi, Board Clerk Dan Danielson, Board Treasurer Nate Sandman

Feb 26-27 - Conferences, 5-12
Feb 26 - Conferences, K-4
Mar 1 - Conferences, K-4
Mar 2 - No school, K-12
Mar 13 - Kindergarten Round-up, Churchill
Mar 15 - Kindergarten Round-up, Washington
Mar 23 - No school, K-12
Mar 26 - 30 - Spring break, no school, K-12
Apr 2 - No school, K-12
Apr 18 - CAAEP Conferences
May 24 - CAAEP Graduation at Garfield School gym, 2:00 pm
May 25 - Graduation, class of 2018 at Cloquet Middle School gym, 7:30 pm
May 31 - Last day of school, K-11 dismissal at 1:00 pm

Cloquet School Board: Nate Sandman, Ted Lammi, Dan Danielson, Jim Crowley, Duane Buytaert and Dave Battaglia.

Cloquet School District is in need of substitutes

Teachers, Short Call Substitute Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Dietary, Secretarial and Custodial

To be added to our list, go to: www.isd94.org for paperwork and return it to: Central Administration Office, Attn: Jessica Loons, 302 14th St, Cloquet, MN 55720 or stop by our office. If you have questions, please call Jessica at 218-879-6721 ext. 6205.

Cloquet Middle School and High School Band & Choir performances:

Monday, Feb 26, 7:30 pm: High School Band Concert
Monday, Mar 5, 7:00 pm: High School & Middle School Choir
Thursday, Mar 15, 6:45 pm Middle School Band Concert
Thursday, May 10, 6:30 pm: 5th grade Choral Program
Monday, May 14, 7:00 pm: High School Band Concert
Tuesday, May 15, 7:00 pm: 6th grade Choral Program
Thursday, May 17, 7:00 pm: High School & Middle School Choir
Monday, May 21, 6:45 pm: Middle School Band Concert
Tuesday, May 22, 7:00 pm: 6th grade Band Concert

Weather & Emergency Alert Information

School closings, delays or cancelations are reported to local stations listed. Check more than one station. Parents or guardians have the right to keep their children at home if they believe the weather conditions are too severe. Alerts are also sent to home phones, cell phones and emails from the contact information on file. Please make sure your information is up-to-date.

Elementary music performances:

Washington:
March 8, 1st grade, 6:30 pm
April 19, 2nd grade, 6:30 pm

Churchill:
Mar 9, 2nd grade, 1:30 pm
Mar 22, 4th grade, 1:30 pm

All Night Grad Party - 2018

CHS graduates are invited to attend an all-night grad party in their honor. Friday, May 25 (right after the ceremony)

Volunteers needed! Help with games, serve food, chaperone. Please help make this special night possible for our hardworking senior class. Donations needed to help cover food expenses, prizes and entertainment. If you can help, please contact Tracy Mattson at: tmattson@isd94.org.

Television Stations
WDIO (10), KBJR (6), CBS (3), FOX (21)

Radio Stations
WKLK AM (1230) or FM (96.5)
KDAL AM (610) or FM (95.7)

www.isd94.org
Superintendent’s Retirement Message

I am using this edition of the Pine Needle to wish the Cloquet School District, City of Cloquet, and Fond du Lac community all the best futures that can be imagined. I have been fortunate to have been the Cloquet Schools’ Superintendent for the last 13 years and to have worked with very dedicated and talented school employees and board members. They have accomplished wonderful things working with our students, families and community members. Carolyn, my wife and Washington first grade teacher, and I will be retiring at the end of June. In our retirement, we will be looking forward to seeing many more wonderful things happen with our Cloquet schools and communities. You all should be proud of the resources, welcoming attitude and care that you have provided our citizens.

Thank you, Mr. Scarbrough!

Superintendent Ken Scarbrough will retire at the end of June and he will be missed! It’s hard to believe he’s been the leader of Cloquet Schools for 13 years. The time went fast! But it was a time of great accomplishments.

Since Mr. Scarbrough came to Cloquet, our community showed its support of our schools by passing a $48 million dollar referendum. These monies, in part, helped build a brand new middle school, which opened its doors this fall. Other schools received upgrades to student bathrooms, main office and space for student support services. The high school has a remodeled media center to better accommodate group learning, use of instructional technology and individual student support services. Wireless access has been improved throughout our district.

These renovations, and others that will vastly improve building security and provide controlled access to the buildings at Churchill, Washington and the high school. Security has been further enhanced with strategically placed security cameras in and around buildings and by improving alarm and notification systems. In addition, Mr. Scarbrough helped coordinate the sale of the old middle school.

Other accomplishments involve increased technology in our schools and classrooms. Students have individual devices to enhance learning; classrooms are outfitted with technology that couldn’t have been imagined 13 years ago!

The reputation of Cloquet schools is as strong as ever. We provide well-rounded and robust choices for students – in academics, athletics and the arts.

A heartfelt “Thank you,” goes out to Mr. Scarbrough for his service and commitment to Cloquet schools, students, families and the community as a whole! We wish both he and his wife, Carolyn, many happy years of retirement.
Who better to give advice to incoming kindergarteners than graduating seniors who were kindergarteners themselves not long ago. In fact, that was a sentiment expressed by a number of seniors, including Noah Kolodge, who said, “Enjoy your time. It goes fast.” That wasn’t the only sage advice shared by Cloquet High School seniors who provided insight for soon-to-be kindergarteners – the class of 2031. Really!

Students shared their favorite memories from kindergarten.

Zachary Strom said his best memories come from “The pure joy and simplicity of playing with everyone.”

Abbie Anderson also has fond memories of kindergarten play. “We had these small log houses that I loved playing in,” she said.

A number of students said they enjoyed naptime, but perhaps Nick Kiehn’s answer summed it up best. “One time I didn’t wake up right after naptime and I got to sleep the rest of the day,” he said.

Chloe Olson remembers show and tell, as does Tim Pokornowski who said, “My cat had kittens and I brought them in for show and tell.”

Rainforest projects and Star of the Week were also mentioned by seniors. “I remember making the giant jungle animals,” said Anna Gunelson.

“My best memory of kindergarten was probably waiting for your turn to be the Star of the Week,” said Carmen Foss.

Other students offered advice to incoming kindergarteners.

“Don’t let your behavior card change from green to red,” advised Lydia Glans. “Because then you can’t go outside for recess.”

Samantha Matuszak offered a number of wise words. “Make friends. Be kind. Listen to your teacher and try your hardest,” she said.

Making long-term friends was at the top of a number of senior lists, including Morgan Smith who said, “Become friends with everyone in your class because you see them every day for 12 years.”

Danielle Vick echoed this sentiment, “One of my best memories is making friends that have stuck by my side while growing up with me,” she said.

Erin Turner said, “Both of my best friends sat next to me.”

When talking about how Cloquet schools have helped them prepare for the future, kindness, good teachers and academic opportunities were three themes voiced by numerous students.

Mollie Chalberg advised, “Be you and be kind.”

Sophia Krikava said, “Always be kind to others!”

Nathan Hammond agreed, “Always work hard and be kind,” he said.

Carmen Foss said dedicated teachers helped her in school. “Cloquet teachers never give up on their students. I feel that was a huge help to keep my education going,” she said. Aahsan Maigag and Pedro Arunda concurred, “I leaned a lot from teachers personally helping me so I think that has taught me a lot,” said Maigag.

“Cloquet has good teachers with a lot of advice,” said Arunda.

Nick Kiehn said, “Being in this school system has truly prepared me for my future. I also believe that the teachers here made the biggest contribution due to how nice and understanding they are.”

Finally, Zachary Strom said, “My education here has given me the tools and education to help further my life outside of high school. And more than that, the teachers and some friends have supported me through the journey.”

Thanks to all the seniors who offered their advice!
If your child will be 5 years old on or before September 1, it’s time!

Kindergarten registration is fun and important!

8:45-10:20 am or 12:45-2:20 pm

★ Tues, March 13 at Churchill Elementary
★ Thurs, March 15 at Washington Elementary

Top 10 reasons to attend Kindergarten Round-up

1. It helps your child connect with other kindergarteners.
2. It helps you connect with other parents.
3. It helps you and your child connect with the school and teachers.
4. It’s informative. You’ll get information about the school calendar, buses, etc.
5. It helps the school know how to plan for the upcoming year.
6. It allows your child to be familiar with the school and kindergarten classroom.
7. It allows your child to see all the neat toys and learning equipment in the kindergarten room.
8. It’s a great way to prepare for the first day of kindergarten.
9. Your child will be registered for kindergarten.
10. It’s fun!

If you are new to Cloquet, are unsure if your child is counted in the 2018-19 kindergarten group or live within another district and plan to have your child attend Cloquet Schools please call the central administration office at 218-879-6721, ext. 6204 to have him or her included.

We can’t wait to meet you and show you all the fun and exciting learning opportunities available at Cloquet Public Schools!
What do you get when you combine students at the Cloquet Area Alternative Education Program (CAAEP), coffee and cops? According to Angela Garbett, CAAEP Teacher, you get a positive environment that allows students and police officers to interact and get to know one another. The goal is to break down barriers between students and law enforcement. Since the beginning of the school year CAAEP has hosted Coffee with a Cop once each month.

“I’m excited about this new, exciting program,” she said. “I appreciate that our principal and the chief of police support it.”

Garbett came across a report about another school doing something similar and thought the activity would be a good match for CAAEP. “We wanted to promote positive interactions with the officers, in hopes of changing any negative opinions that students might have,” she said. “We wanted students to know that police officers are just ordinary people living in their community trying to do their job and keep their community safe.”

All CAAEP students attend the gathering at some time during the day. Garbett estimates that between 10 to 20 police officers from Fond du Lac and Cloquet stop in to visit. People interact over coffee and hot cocoa in an informal and casual environment. Games are available and students have the opportunity to ask the officers questions.

By getting to know the officers on a more personal level, students get the chance to see the person behind the uniform. “We have had law enforcement introduce themselves and tell a little about their personal lives, such as how long they’ve been involved in law enforcement, if they have family or kids and where their kids attend school,” said Garbett.

So far, student reaction to the program has been overwhelmingly positive. “Students have started making positive connections and realize that the officers are indeed everyday people doing their job,” said Garbett. “It’s nice for the students to interact with the officers in a non-threatening environment and have the opportunity to just hang out and have normal conversations.”

Garbett plans to continue the program throughout the school year and beyond. “There’s lots of positive potential for future meetings,” she said. “Students have even asked if we can have Coffee with a Cop more than once a month!”

CMS students help others

Students in the CMS family and consumer science outreach class completed a number of community service projects during the second quarter. These included staff recognition, ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, and all-school candy gram event, a holiday gift collection for children and seniors in the community and Jugs for Pugs – a fundraiser for Friends of Animals. Students learned that hard work and dedication can positively affect their school and greater community.
Ziigwan (Spring) Powwow

Saturday April 28, 2018
Middle School Gym
Registration: noon
Grand Entries: 1 pm & 6 pm
Feast: 5 pm
Everyone is welcome!

The 5th Annual Ziigwan Powwow will be held in the new middle school gym. This beautiful space is a perfect location to bring the community together to honor our students, program and schools. Last year we had 16 drums, 100 dancers and over 400 in attendance. The royalty contest will name a new or returning princess and brave to Cloquet Schools.

There is no entry fee and the feast is free. People are encouraged to bring their families to this public event. Whether it is your first or hundredth powwow, you are sure to see the importance we place on education and the respect we have for our culture.

A special miigwech to the Cloquet American Indian Education JOM & LIEC parent committees, AIE staff and students for their time and support planning this event.

Archery Club – First year a success

New this year to Cloquet Middle School: Archery Club! So far, 21 students in grades 5 – 8 have participated. Practices started in January and will commence in April. There is still time for interested students to join. A big thanks goes out to all the parents, students, club organizers, teachers and school administrators for supporting the club this year!

The club is open to any student who has completed the National Archery in the Schools Program during physical education class. If you are interested in this fun sport and want to be part of the archery club now or next year, contact Bob Weix at CMS. rweix@isd94.org.

Ebooks at Churchill

Students at Churchill have been empowered to use their imaginations to create fiction or nonfiction ebooks using their iPads. The ebooks can be shared digitally with classmates and family. The project involves research and critical-thinking skills as students compile information on a nonfiction topic or brainstorm ideas for storylines. Students practice writing skills as they organize various pieces of information. As they put pages together, students learn how multimedia elements help them tell their story and communicate information effectively.
Online giving... It’s as easy as a click of your mouse.

Go to [www.cloquetedfoundation.org](http://www.cloquetedfoundation.org) and give a gift that keeps on giving to kids in Cloquet.

Contact: Jeannie Kermeen, jkermeen@isd94.org
302 14th St, Cloquet MN 55720
218.879.3806 • fax 218.879.6724

Every gift to the CEF truly does make a difference!

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Read 180 helps students turn things around

Read 180, a program created to help struggling readers, is doing just that at Cloquet Middle School. According to teacher, Tristy Yorston, one of the biggest challenges for struggling readers was finding high interest, age-appropriate books that this group of students was able to read.

“Many of our readers complain that reading is too hard, there are no interesting books for them, the books are too long or they forget what they read,” she said.

CMS purchased a small collection of Read 180 sets last year and teachers noticed positive outcomes as students gained skills and interest in reading. There was just one problem: not enough books. This year, with the help of a grant from the CEF, CMS expanded its library to provide more opportunities for more students.

“The students at Cloquet Middle School were beyond excited to receive the new Read 180 materials,” said Yorston.

“The students’ motivation, engagement and achievement with independent reading has substantially developed because of Read 180! Thank you CEF for this wonderful grant!”

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Visiting musician mesmerized elementary students

The first and second grade music classes at Washington and Churchill experienced the Scandinavian songs, dances and stories of folk artist Ross Sutter during an artist in residency funded by a grant from the CEF.

“The students were captivated by his stories and quickly learned the folk dances that went with the songs,” said Katy Buytaert, music teacher at Washington. “They were fascinated by his instruments, too. It was a great opportunity to learn about other cultures,” she said.

The grant was funded by the CEF through a contribution received from Sons of Norway.
Big Circle Annual Fund Drive

Each year, Cloquet school district employees show their overwhelming support of the CEF during an annual fund drive. This year was no exception. Our extraordinary school staff came out in extraordinary ways! A big thank you goes out to the 120 school staff who participated in the Big Circle Annual Fund Drive. We raised more than $11,480 to provide innovative and extraordinary learning experiences for students in Cloquet. Look at what we can accomplish together!

As part of the Big Circle Fund Drive, one half of all employee gifts circled back to each school to support learning opportunities in that building. These funds are in addition to the CEF’s regular grant funding.

CAAEP used their funds to continue the school-wide work of restorative processes.

Community Education put its money toward fee waivers, which increase the access and opportunities for families and students in need.

Washington Elementary will use funding to initiate a makerspace lab for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) related learning tasks. (Article on page 9.)

Churchill Elementary earmarked funds to support two programs. The Do It Right Club, which supports Churchill’s Positive Behavior Program (PBIS). A second initiative, the Brainpop Program provides classrooms with technology enhanced curriculum.

Cloquet Middle School will Power Up with new supplies for the Power Up enrichment program where students have monthly opportunities to participate in options such as robotics, chess club, art activities, cooking, outdoor experiences, reading clubs, theatre, talent shows and more.

Cloquet High School is providing students with financial hardships opportunities to participate in arts and athletics through fee waivers, which are provided confidentially, so that all students can have equal access to the extracurricular activities offered at CHS.

Every contribution—large or small—makes a positive difference for Cloquet students and helps support the strong tradition of providing an extraordinary education. Every gift to the CEF truly does make a difference!

Blue Jean Ball

Thanks to everyone who participated in or donated to this year’s Blue Jean Ball on February 3. It was a wonderful evening of fun and games, which raised over $51,000 for education. We are very grateful for the generous support of our community. Thank you so much!