

MR. ELLIS' CHAMPS



March 2026

CSA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

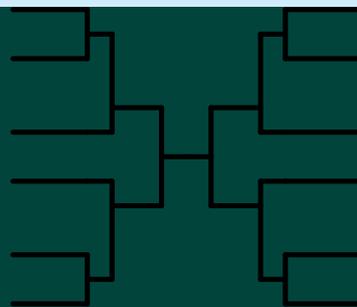
Instructional Focus/Learning Targets

- **Math:** The instructional learning targets of the CSA middle school math curriculum focus on developing students' proficiency in key mathematical areas such as ratios, geometry, algebraic expressions, and statistics, while fostering critical thinking, problem-solving, and real-world application skills. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for high school math and beyond by encouraging a deep understanding of mathematical concepts.

This month, students will be exploring concepts of algebraic equations (Foundations Math), proportions, discounts, markups, and simple interest (Applied Math); data analysis and displays and functions (Intro to Integrated Math), exponential functions and data analysis and displays and Integrated I Math); and probability and relationships with triangles (Integrated II Math).

- **Science:** This month in science, students will continue to play the role of genetic researchers connecting their learning about spider genetics to real-world human examples. Students will apply what they've learned about how traits vary (including from the Darwin's bark spider case study) to a new scenario about a family of runners. They will analyze evidence about the ACTN3 gene to evaluate different claims about why one family member is an elite distance runner when no one else in her family shares that trait. The final focus is on using evidence to support scientific claims and preparing for discussion and argumentation.

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- **Literature:** First year readers have recently begun their next read-aloud unit: *Out of my Mind* by Sharon Draper. This novel explores a heartwarming story about a gifted girl named Melody Brooks, a brilliant 11-year-old with cerebral palsy, who has a photographic memory but can't speak, walk, or write, leading others to underestimate her until she gets a device to communicate, revealing her genius and facing challenges of inclusion and acceptance. Students will engage with the text by collaborating with peers and answering discussion questions, reflecting on the relationships between characters, and designing their own MediTalker before culminating their comprehension in an original essay.
- **Social Studies:** This month, students will be finishing our unit on economics and preparing for their Social Studies Term 2 assessment on March 12th. After the assessment, they will spend the final week of the term putting their knowledge into action through a civics-based portfolio project that will carry us through the end of the term. During the first week of Term 3 – the week before spring break – we will begin our final unit of the year. I look forward to guiding students as we explore what it truly means to be a citizen and the responsibilities and opportunities that come with that role.
- **Advisory:** In Term 2, we transition our focus to the Community, centered on the themes of Optimism and Getting Along with Others. Students will move from managing their own feelings to understanding the feelings of those around them. Specifically, we will target the skills necessary to use positive communication to interact effectively with peers. A major focus will be placed on the "work" of friendship: how to develop and maintain positive relationships through active listening and empathy. Finally, students will be equipped with support for conflict resolution, learning how to navigate disagreements with a helpful, optimistic mindset that prioritizes solution-seeking over blame.

St. Patrick's
Day



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Beluga Ball

Excitement is building for the CSA District Parent Council's premier fundraising event! This year, we are blending tradition with a fresh twist to make it easier than ever to support our students.

Two Ways to Participate:

- The Virtual Action - Bid from the comfort of your home or host a small gathering with friends and family.
- The In-Person Celebration (NEW!) - Join us for an adults-only viewing party! Celebrate alongside CSA faculty and families with great food, drinks, and exclusive bidding opportunities available only to attendees. [Tickets are on sale now! Click the link to purchase.](#)

Our Silent and Live auctions feature an incredible lineup of local treasures and one-of-a-kind experiences:

- **Luxury & Style:** Diamond earrings from Silverstone Jewellers, a spa package from Visions, and a private, permanent jewelry party at Lolly Ella.
- **Local Experiences:** A private shopping party at Brass & Oak, gift certificates to Brighton's favorite eateries, and a 3-month Stemview Howell membership.
- **Sports & Major Items:** A Detroit Red Wings suite, Michigan vs Michigan State football tickets, and high-end surprises.
- **CSA Classics:** Classroom-created projects, Staff Experiences, and the coveted Reserved Parking & First-in-Line Carpool privileges.

Why Your Support Matters: Last year, our community raised over \$90,000. These funds are the "magic" behind our district, directly providing:

- **Tech** - Chromebooks, iPads, Kindles, and projectors.
- **Academics** - Lab equipment, microscopes, math manipulatives, and library books.
- **Arts & Athletics** - Professional stage lighting, musical instruments, and electronic scoreboards.

We are thrilled to welcome back CSPA alum parent Jim Carey as our auctioneer to keep the energy high. Let's come together to make this our most successful year yet!



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POWERSCHOOL and CSA District Annual Student Forms

Remember you can check your child's progress on PowerSchool at any time at <https://csadistrict.powerschool.com/public/>.

All CSA District annual student forms can be accessed and completed electronically through your student's PowerSchool account. Under the PowerSchool Parent Portal, you can update emergency contact information and complete all annual forms. If you need help or support with accessing your PowerSchool account, please let me know.

Yearbooks

Middle School Yearbooks are on sale! Our yearbook is a 68-page color yearbook made by our Middle School Yearbook enhancement that captures events and memories from this school year. If you would like to order a yearbook, please visit this direct link: [Order Link!](#) If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kowalczyk (kkowalczyk@csaschool.org).

National Junior Honor Society

National Junior Honor Society members for the 2025 - 26 school year have already been selected. To be considered for new membership to the CSAMS chapter of NJHS for the 2026 - 27 school year, current first and second-year students must demonstrate outstanding scholarship by maintaining all A's in each content area on this school year's Term 1, 2, and 3 report cards. Invitations for next school year memberships are sent out at the end of the school year.



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Battle of the Books:

Get ready for an exciting showdown of reading knowledge! In March, we will host our first annual “Battle of the Books”: a fast-paced trivia competition where students go head-to-head by answering questions based on novels from a pre-selected reading list. Participants will put their comprehension, teamwork, and recall skills to the test as they compete for bragging rights and schoolwide recognition. It’s a fun and engaging way to celebrate reading, encourage thoughtful discussion of literature, and spark a little friendly competition. Let the reading—and the battle—begin!

RESCHEDULED Career Day: We are excited to announce our school's third annual Career Day, aimed at providing valuable insights into various professions and helping guide our middle school students toward their future careers. We believe that exposing our students to various career paths early on can positively impact their academic choices and future endeavors.

Your participation at this event is crucial in making it a success!

We are seeking Presenters to share their career journeys, educational experiences, and valuable advice with our students. Our goal is to inspire and inform students about the myriad of career possibilities that await them!

If you, a family member, friend, or community contact are interested in presenting during our Career Day, we extend a warm invitation to join us:

Date: Friday, May 8th, 2026

Time: 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Location: Charyl Stockwell Academy Middle School

Kindly RSVP by April 24th, 2026 by completing this [FORM](#). If you have any questions, please reach out to Amanda Woodruff at awoodruff@csaschool.org. Please inquire if you require any assistance or accommodations.

Note: All presenters must have a valid background check on file with the front office before May 1st. Expect a follow-up email with this documentation.

We look forward to seeing you at our school's Career Day and appreciate your support in shaping the future aspirations of our middle school students.

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Thank you!

Your child receives the best education when you and I work as a team. It is a parent's enthusiasm, support, and involvement that inspires children to do their best, and a teacher's ability to teach what they need to learn. Together, we can achieve wonderful things that will allow your child to excel. Thank you for your commitment to your child's education and I feel privileged to be a part of your child's educational journey.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

- Thursday, March 12th Shakespeare Field Trip/Evening Performance
- Friday, March 13th CSA/CSAMS Spirit Wear
- Sunday, March 15th Beluga Ball Virtual Silent Auction Opens
- Wednesday, March 18th Math Term Two Final Exam
- Friday, March 20th Last Day of Term Two
- Saturday, March 21st Beluga Ball Viewing Party and Live Auction Event
- Week of March 23rd Battle of the Books Trivia Competition
- Friday, March 27th CSA/CSAMS Spirit Wear
- Friday, March 27th Report Cards Sent Home
- Week of March 30th No School - Spring Break

