

Mr. LaPeen's Advisory Newsletter

April 2026

Instructional Focuses & Learning Targets:

Literature: Students are beginning their next read-aloud unit with *Red Scarf Girl*, diving into the memoir of Ji-li Jiang to explore the personal and societal impacts of communism in China. Students will analyze how political systems shape individual lives and communities, and will use these insights to create their own memoirs, reflecting on experiences that have shaped them. In addition to this unit, students will select a novel from a curated list of classic literature for their Independent Novel Project, which they will read and engage with for the remainder of the year, further developing their reading, analytical, and writing skills.

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 geometry (Foundations Math), probability and statistics (Applied Math); functions, exponents and scientific notation (Intro to Integrated Math), basics of Geometry, reasoning and proofs and parallel and perpendicular lines (Integrated I Math); and relationships with triangles, quadrilaterals, and similarity (Integrated II Math).

Science: In the next unit, Chemical Reactions, students act as chemists to solve real-world mysteries using key chemical concepts. They investigate a reddish-brown substance in well water, using their understanding of properties and atomic structure to identify it as rust formed through a chemical reaction between iron pipes and fertilizer. As they learn about chemical reactions and conservation of matter, they explain how new substances are created and persist in the system. The unit culminates in a forensic investigation where students apply their knowledge to identify an unknown substance and determine the most likely suspect.

Social Studies: This month, students will begin an engaging unit on the origins and development of major world religions, including Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, exploring their beginnings in the ancient world and their lasting influence on societies today. Throughout the unit, students will examine these religions through multiple social studies lenses such as geography, culture, politics, and belief systems to better understand how they developed, spread, and shaped civilizations over time. They will take a closer look at the Ancient Hebrews and the origins of Judaism, the origins and growth of Christianity, and the foundations of Islam alongside the rise of early Islamic empires, analyzing key figures, events, and ideas while making connections to the modern world. To conclude the month, students will shift their focus to early American civilizations, studying the Aztec and Inca and exploring their achievements, societal structures, and cultural contributions through engaging activities that encourage critical thinking and meaningful discussion.

Comprehensive Student Reviews (CSRs): Comprehensive Student Reviews provide an important opportunity for families and teachers to partner in supporting each child's growth and success. During these scheduled meetings, parents will sign up to meet with their child's teachers to discuss academic progress, as well as physical and sensory needs, social and emotional development, and character growth. Teachers will share and review assessment data to give a clear picture of each student's strengths and areas for improvement. Together, families and educators will collaborate to set meaningful goals for the remainder of the school year, ensuring that each child is supported holistically and set up for continued success.

[**SIGN UP LINK**](#)

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).

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.

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,



Monday, April 6th	School Resumes after Spring Break; Term 3 Enhancements Begin
Wednesday, April 8th	PSAT for Third Year Students
Wednesday, April 15th, at 4:30 PM	Third Year Presentations for LaPeen Advisory (4:30 PM)
Sunday, March 15th	Beluga Ball Virtual Silent Auction Opens
Thursday, April 23rd	Comprehensive Student Reviews (CSRs) – No School
Friday, April 24th	Comprehensive Student Reviews (CSRs) – No School
Tuesday, April 28th	MSTEP Reading Part 1 (1st & 2nd Years); Science (3rd Years)
Wednesday, April 29th	MSTEP Reading Part 2 (1st & 2nd Years); Social Studies (3rd Years)
Thursday, April 30th	Evening CSRs (4:00–8:00 PM, by appointment)

Advisory Program:

This month in advisory, our third-year students took center stage to deliver their speeches, demonstrating both creativity and the hard work they put into crafting their presentations. Second-year students contributed in a meaningful way by providing thoughtful and constructive feedback, helping their peers reflect on their strengths and areas for growth. This exchange not only strengthened public speaking skills but also fostered a supportive environment where students could learn from one another. Overall, the month highlighted the collaborative spirit of our advisory, as older and younger students worked together to celebrate effort, build confidence, and grow as a community.



POWERSCHOOL

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



CLASSROOM CONSTITUTION

We, the members of The LaPeen Crew, agree to the following principles – in this classroom and throughout our school community:

Respect Everyone and Everything

We treat each other, our teachers, our classroom space, and our entire school community with respect.

One Voice at a Time

We listen when others are speaking and value every voice in our classroom.

Make Time for Fun

We believe learning should include joy, celebration, and positive shared experiences.

Own Our Actions

We take responsibility for our choices – both positive and negative – and always strive to grow and improve.

Act with Integrity

We do the right thing, follow school rules, and hold ourselves accountable – even when no one is watching.

Follow Directions and Expectations

We respond promptly and respectfully, follow classroom procedures, stay in our assigned seats, read during silent reading, and keep our hands to ourselves so our classroom stays safe, focused, and ready to learn

Value and Celebrate Our Community

We intentionally recognize one another, celebrate our progress, and strengthen the LaPeen Crew through shared experiences like movies, games, breakfasts, and special celebrations.

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.

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.

In partnership with you,

Logan LaPeen

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