

McCloskey Message



I hope everyone had a lovely, restful and/or fun spring break! I stayed home, did some bathroom redecorating, hung out with my kids and dogs, and had a blessed Easter with my family.

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.

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).

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.

APRIL 2026

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.

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Monday, April 6th: School Resumes after Spring Break. Term 3 Enhancements Begin

Wednesday, April 8th: PSAT for Third Year Students; MJR Field Trip for Second Years

Wednesday, April 15th: Third Year Presentations for McCloskey Advisory 6pm

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 for 1st and 2nd Years; Science for Third Years

Wednesday, April 29th: MSTEP Reading Part 2 for 1st and 2nd Years; Social Studies for Third Years

Thursday, April 30th: Evening Comprehensive Student Reviews (CSRs)

<https://calendar.app.google/p9e2pF58cwtpMJdZA>

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

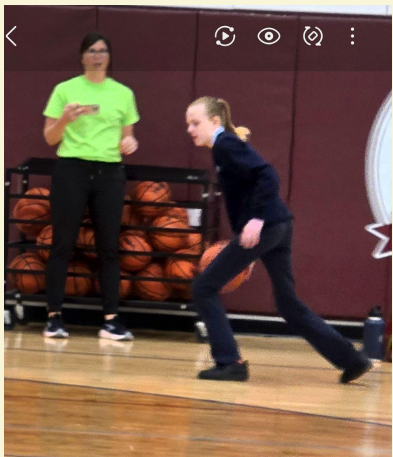
Time: 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

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.



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 on Google Calendar at this link <https://calendar.app.google/p9e2pF58cwtPmJdZA>

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.

Parent Support:

As your child embarks on this new school year, we encourage you to regularly engage with them at home. Establishing consistent routines—such as practicing math with flashcards, reading together, or setting aside dedicated homework time—can significantly contribute to your child's success!

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).

Adopt-A-Family

The CSAMS Student Government is hosting the Adopt-a-Family Food Drive during the week of November 18th to collect items to provide a Thanksgiving meal for families within the CSA community. Each advisory will collect donations for a basket of food items during the week of November 17th. The baskets will be assembled and distributed on Friday, November 21st. Suggested items for donations include boxes of mashed potatoes, jars of gravy, canned vegetables, cans of soup, boxes of muffin mix, boxed dessert mixes, macaroni and cheese, pasta sauce, canned tuna, and stuffing.

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.