

FALL 2020

# Communicator

CALEDONIA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER



# Back to School



**Letter from the  
Superintendent**

**Conversion to  
Semesters**

**Food Service  
News**

**CCS 2020 Bond  
Update**



# A letter from the Superintendent

## Staying on Mission, Keeping the Vision

I am excited to welcome everyone back to school for the start of the 2020-21 academic year. Who would have ever imagined how much our world would change within the past six months due to COVID-19? During times of uncertainty, it is easy to become overwhelmed and lose our way. However, individuals and organizations who are destined for greatness find a way to remain focused on their mission while adapting to the challenge at hand. I firmly believe this district is destined for greatness and this belief is affirmed through some of the core language found within our Mission Statement:

**“Caledonia Community Schools will empower and equip all persons to achieve their best...”** and our District Vision statement that indicates this will be accomplished by:

**“Cultivating Agile Learners who are empowered and prepared to compete in a global environment.”**

Even though we are beginning the school year during a time of great uncertainty, you can rest assured Caledonia Community Schools will do our part to stay on mission and keep the vision.

Our staff was able to put together a fully online K-12 learning experience due to COVID-19 for our Caledonia families during a time of need. Through the rapidly changing demands brought on by the pandemic, I am encouraged by the many positive things I see as staff, students and parents make great personal adjustments and sacrifices to protect those around us who may be more susceptible to this virus.

Given the challenges of COVID-19, our school and our community must be “agile” so we can continue moving forward on several key strategic plan goals. Over the course of this year, we will continue our progress on the new bond project, plan for the upcoming reorganization of elementary and middle school facilities and improve upon our efforts to build a positive school culture and climate, as well as continue our efforts to align our curriculum through implementation of our new math series.

***I look forward to working together and getting the school year off to a strong start.***

Dr. Dedrick Martin  
Superintendent



## Special Note of Thanks

*Thank you to the Caledonia Education Foundation for their gift of \$75,000 to the district to assist in Student Social and Emotional support for the 2020-21 school year.*

# Return to Learn Planning 2020

**Kristin Flynn, Executive Director of Student Achievement**

The start of the 2020-21 school year will be like no other. The intensity and ever-changing landscape of the summer has made planning the start to school a strenuous endeavor. However, the dedicated team at Caledonia Community Schools persevered despite those challenges to create a **Return to Learn Plan** which ensures equity and access for every student. We enlisted family and educator voices in the design process, and utilized what we learned during online learning to launch this plan and eliminate inequities.

Since the first week of June, planning has been underway to address safety and health protocols while being flexible to unique situations that could evolve with students or staff. Additionally, the work has involved the transformation of our traditional learning models to ones that:

1. Are more agile
2. Better equip students to be learners and leaders in preschool, elementary, middle school, high school, college and beyond
3. Allow for increased intentional and comprehensive professional development for our staff so they can continuously improve and innovate learning

This will result in delivering positive outcomes for all students, regardless of their circumstances or how flexible we have to be in supporting students as learners in this constantly evolving world we are all living in.

For this year and beyond, our outcomes are associated with critical thinking, leadership, literacy and numeracy. **The Return to Learn 2020 Playbook** outlines a plan with this in mind.

While it has always been a focus, now more than ever we are keeping a wellness-centered, trauma-informed approach. Trauma-informed schools prioritize strategies that fuel a sense of safety for students and adults, promote trusting relationships with adults and peers, help to build the social-emotional learning skills students need to cope with stressors and offer individualized support for students with greater needs.

We continue to monitor the constantly changing health and educational environment. One thing remains steadfast: Our commitment to the health and safety of our students, teachers and staff. This priority is the foundation of all our policy and procedure adaptations during the summer and will continue to be as students return to school in August.

Whether your child will be at school, in-person or learning remotely, you are part of the Caledonia Community Schools family. Your child's schedule and learning experience will be fully managed by the school district. We look forward to serving you in new ways while still meeting the unique learning needs of your child. As the year progresses, we will continue learning, improving and leading in this new age of education. To this end, we look forward to hearing your voice in intentional ways throughout the year.

We eagerly anticipate the start of this new school year.

It's the hard knocks in life that soften out our rough edges and shape us into something more refined and resilient. We will all be stronger on the other side of this school year. For as Austrian psychiatrist, neurologist and Holocaust survivor Viktor Frankl says, "When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves."

***We look forward to serving your child...together!***





## Conversion to Semesters

One big move Caledonia Community Schools has made this summer is transitioning Caledonia High School (CHS) from a trimester schedule to a semester schedule. The District has been considering this transition for several years. We expedited the change to help balance expenditures and budgets for the next school year due to the financial impacts of COVID-19 on all Michigan school districts.



Although the transition to a semester schedule decreases the number of elective courses students may take throughout high school, there are other changes that positively impact and create flexibility for our students. **One significantly positive impact is the semester schedule now aligns with approximately 80 percent of the county/region.** This means we now align with all Kent ISD (county-wide) programs, Advanced Placement timelines, CTE programs and dual-enrollment options.

Additionally, the semester schedule provides students with additional time spent in each course (18 weeks versus 12 weeks for a trimester), allowing greater depth and application of learning, and creating natural supports that allow extra time for instructional differentiation and interventions. Moreover, knowing that CHS could possibly need to pivot to virtual instruction for all students if state COVID-19 guidelines change, the district believes these positive changes of the semester schedule could become even more beneficial for our students and staff.

**CHS and the District remain committed to ensuring the transition to a semester schedule is done with care and consideration for our students.** In addition, this process will be supported by finding flexibility for our students, ensuring they can access quality programming at both the local and county levels, and fostering the development of strong post-secondary planning and options for all students. The District's goal is to use this transition to support systemic alignment, focus on continuous school improvement to meet our students' needs and ultimately to positively impact the post-secondary outcomes for all of our Fighting Scots.



## **Welcome Our New Principals**

### ***Caledonia Elementary - Brent Huck***



It is with great excitement that I join the Caledonia Community Schools team for the 2020-21 school year. I look forward to partnering with staff, students and families of Caledonia Elementary and the greater CCS community.

After graduating from the University of Michigan in 2006 with a master's degree in Educational Studies, I began my teaching career at Milan Middle School in Milan, Michigan. In 2013, my wife and I relocated to the Grand Rapids area and I accepted an elementary teaching position with Jenison Public Schools. During the summer of 2016, I was hired as the principal of Bursley Elementary School in Jenison. I held that position for the past four years. This school year will be my 15th year in education.

My wife and I absolutely love raising our three sons in West Michigan. We enjoy spending time at the beach, exploring new bike trails and traveling up north to ski during the winter months. West Michigan has so much to offer and we are privileged to call this area home.

### ***Duncan Lake Early Childhood Center - Janel Switzer***



I am honored to return to the Duncan Lake Early Childhood Center as principal. I've been an educator for 30 years, both as a teacher and administrator. I served as an Early Childhood Special Education teacher in Caledonia and helped lead the opening of DLECC, where I became principal for several years. I have also been a principal at Paris Ridge Elementary and most recently worked as the curriculum director for Caledonia Community Schools. While I appreciated the opportunities for system work in that role, I have always missed working directly with early childhood students, parents and staff and am looking forward to reconnecting with families and our youngest children in the district.

My husband, Tim, and I live in Grand Rapids and have three children who are Caledonia alumni. Joshua and his wife, Neysa, are close by in Wyoming with our granddog, Cora. Our daughter, Lilly, lives in Florida and works at Disney World, which makes for fun visits. Our youngest son, Joseph, graduated this spring from Michigan State University and works in finance in Grand Rapids. We all love to spend time together boating, kayaking and swimming at our cottage.

# Introduction to New Principals

## Emmons Lake Elementary - Jenn Schultz



I am excited to begin my Cal journey as the principal at Emmons Lake Elementary. Over the past 19 years, I have had the honor to serve in a variety of roles and educational settings. Much of my time has been spent as an elementary teacher, both in general and special education. Other experiences have included serving as an elementary principal and instructional coach. I love learning and embracing new opportunities, so I am especially excited to be joining the Cal team.

Along with my passion for education, I love spending time with my family. My husband and I are grateful for our three active children. My oldest son, Trevor, will be attending Aquinas College this year while my other two children, Dylan and Jaley, will be starting their junior and sophomore years in high school. When we aren't traveling to and from soccer or dance activities, we love spending time at the beach, taking family vacations and enjoying the outdoors with our two family dogs. In my spare time, I love to read, exercise and get together with friends.

## Kettle Lake Elementary - Megan Ballmer



My name is Megan Ballmer and it is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as the new principal at Kettle Lake Elementary School. I can't wait to meet all of you and share in your child's educational experience.

I was a classroom teacher for 15 years in a Pre-K-4th grade building and a principal at Duncan Lake Early Childhood Center the last three years. During that time I taught multiple grade levels, built solid connections with students and families, embraced leadership and a team approach and collaborated with teachers and administrators. Throughout all my experiences I have prided myself on establishing positive relationships and being a support system for students, staff, families and the community.

Family is incredibly important to me. My husband Corey and I recently celebrated our 12th wedding anniversary. We are each other's biggest support. Corey is also in a leadership position at Spectrum Health Hospital. We have two children who have embraced their time at home but are looking forward to going back to school this fall. Grayson is 10 years old and entering fourth grade. He loves to read, write, solve math problems and dominates any sport he plays. Sylvia is 8 years old and entering third grade. She has a spunky head of curls that fits her bold personality. She is a voracious reader, loves telling stories and is extremely creative.

I am looking forward to expanding my family by getting to know all of you. My leadership approach is one of honesty, integrity and compassion. I believe strongly in a team approach with the same goal in mind — doing what's best for our students. By creating a safe and nurturing environment with a strong home-to-school support system, we will collaborate to achieve this goal. Being a parent myself, I understand how critical it is to have a sense of belonging in your child's educational experience. I hope to empower you and encourage you to actively be involved. Sharing this common goal will bond us and keep us focused on what's truly important.

I look forward to building a relationship with your child(ren) and your family.

# Introduction to New Directors

## **Executive Director of Student Achievement - Kristin Flynn**



**A**s an educational and military career leadership professional and change agent with the insight, vision and enthusiasm necessary to inspire teams and garner impressive results, I am a high-energy individual who is committed to educational excellence, maintaining exceptional relationships and working diligently to communicate through many venues, in an effort to provide resources to the educators working with me. I am a firm believer in building leadership capacity in those working with me on behalf of students and focusing on using research and data to drive school improvement decision-making. My core values include excellence, integrity and service before self.

I am the Executive Director of Student Achievement and joined the organization in March 2020. I earned a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education (English/Communications) and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership, both from Western Michigan University. I hold an Instructional Technology Certification from Michigan State University and have previously served in the education profession for 24 years in various roles as a high school English teacher and coach, building administrator at the elementary, middle and high school, a district curriculum director and executive director as part of an education nonprofit organization. Additionally, I served 22 years in various leadership roles in the Air National Guard & Army National Guard, retiring in January 2014.

Aside from a passion for education, my other passions are family and traveling. My husband, Doug, and I have three children: a son in college, and a son and daughter in high school. I spend time on and near the water, kayaking, reading and am always seeking to be a better human today than yesterday.

## **Executive Director of Operations and Transportation - Matt Hess**



**I**began my journey with Caledonia Community Schools on Feb. 3, and this is a dream-come-true role and community for my wife and me. Although I grew up in northern New Jersey and my wife in the thumb area of Michigan, we met, married and called the Grand Rapids area our home 30 years ago. Since then we have moved around and traveled, always looking to this area for the right opportunity.

This is my 23rd year in K-12 School Operations. I have worked in both rural and suburban districts in Michigan, most recently for eight years at Birmingham Public Schools. I started my career in school transportation and have been involved in the direct management of transportation, custodial, maintenance, grounds, food service, bond construction and a variety of contracted services.

When not at work I can be found with family, reading, cooking (and eating), video gaming and enjoying all types of music.

# Food Service News

**Online Access** – Parents have online access to student balances and history and can make deposits and submit free and reduced lunch applications. Information and instructions are available at [www.calschools.org](http://www.calschools.org) by clicking on Parent Resources and scrolling to Food Service.

**Please note** – If your student received free or reduced priced meals in our school district last year those benefits expire on Oct. 7. You must reapply before then to be eligible to continue those services/benefits. Please complete your new application for the 2020-21 school year as soon as possible to prevent any interruption in your student's benefits. If you are new to Caledonia Community Schools, you will need to fill out a new application in our district. The most efficient way to fill out an application is online at [www.lunchapp.com](http://www.lunchapp.com).

**Did you know** if your student receives free or reduced lunch, they also receive free and reduced breakfast? We have a number of breakfast options available, including Grab & Go Package options that can easily be put in a backpack for a snack anytime.

**New Meal Prices** for the 2020-21 school year:

- *Elementary, middle and high school Breakfast* – \$1.45
- *Elementary lunch* – \$2.40
- *Middle and high school lunch* – \$2.65 (Type A Lunch) to \$4 (Meal Plus Options)
- *Adult lunch* – \$3.75
- *Milk* – 50 cents
- *Reduced Breakfast* – 30 cents
- *Reduced Lunch* – 40 cents

***If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Food Service Department at (616) 891-0227.***





# Frequently Asked Questions about Free and Reduced-Price School Meals

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **Caledonia Community Schools** offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs **\$1.45**; lunch costs **\$2.40 elementary and \$2.65 middle and high school**. **Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals.** Reduced-price is **30 cents** for breakfast and **40 cents** for lunch. This packet includes an application for free or reduced-price meal benefits, and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

## 1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from the **Food Assistance Program (FAP), Family Independence Program (FIP),** or **Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)** are eligible for free meals.
- Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Children participating in their school’s Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway or migrant are eligible for free meals.
- Children may receive free or reduced-price meals if your household’s income is within the limits of the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

FEDERAL INCOME ELIGIBILITY CHART for School Year 2020-21

Household Size	Annually	Monthly	Weekly
1	23,606	1,968	454
2	31,894	2,658	614
3	40,182	3,349	773
4	48,470	4,040	933
5	56,758	4,730	1,092
6	65,046	5,421	1,251
7	73,334	6,112	1,411
8	81,622	6,802	1,570
Each additional person:	8,288	691	160

2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven’t been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail **Caledonia Food Service at 616-891-0227 or stonere@calschools.org**.
3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. *Use one Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.* We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: **Caledonia Food Service, 9757 Duncan Lake Rd, Caledonia, MI 49316**
4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but please read the letter you received carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact **Caledonia Food Service at 616-891-0227** immediately.
5. CAN I APPLY ONLINE? Yes! You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if you are able. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit **www.lunchapp.com** to begin or to learn more about the online

application process. Contact **Caledonia Food Service at 616-891-0227** if you have any questions about the online application.

6. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year, through **October 7, 2020**. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free meals, your child will be charged the full price for meals.
7. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Please send in an application.
8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
9. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced-price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
10. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **Mrs. Sara DeVries (Business Manager, Caledonia Community Schools); 9757 Duncan Lake RD, Caledonia, MI, 49316, (616)891-8185.**
11. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced-price meals.
12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1,000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1,000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime occasionally. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application, or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.
14. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY, DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.
15. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper, and attach it to your application. Contact **Caledonia Food Service** to receive a second application.
16. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for **Food Assistance Program (FAP)** or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call **1-855-275-6424**.

If you have other questions or need help, call **616-891-0227**.

Sincerely,

**Mimi Mahaney-Stalzer, Food Service Director, Caledonia Community Schools**

# 2020-2021 Household Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals

Apply online: [www.lunchapp.com](http://www.lunchapp.com)

Complete one application per household. Please use a pen (not a pencil).

## STEP 1 List ALL Household Members who are infants, children, and students up to and including grade 12 (if more spaces are required for additional names, attach another sheet of paper)

Definition of Household Member: *Anyone who is living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related.  Children in Foster care and children who meet the definition of Homeless, Migrant or Runaway are eligible for free meals. Read How to Apply for Free and Reduced Price School Meals for more information.	Child's First Name	MI	Child's Last Name	Grade	Student?		Check all that apply			
					Yes	No	Foster Child	Homeless, Migrant, Runaway	Child	
					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## STEP 2 Do any Household Members (including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, TANF, or FDIPIR?

**IF NO** > Go to STEP 3. **IF YES** > Write a case number here then go to STEP 4. (Do not complete STEP 3)

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Write only one case number in this space.

## STEP 3 Report income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered 'Yes' to STEP 2)

**A. Child Income**  
Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income. Please include the TOTAL income received by all Household Members listed in STEP 1 here.

Child Income: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**B. All Adult Household Members (including yourself)**  
List all Household Members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total gross income (before taxes) for each source in whole dollars (no cents) only. If they do not receive income from any source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report.

Name of Adult Household Members (First and Last)	Earnings from Work			How often?			Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	How often?			Pensions/Retirement/ All Other Income	How often?				
	Weekly	Bi-Weekly	2x/Month	Monthly	Weekly	Bi-Weekly		2x/Month	Monthly	Weekly		Bi-Weekly	2x/Month	Monthly		
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**INSTRUCTIONS** Sources of Income

Sources of Income for Children	
Sources of Child Income	Example(s)
- Earnings from work	- A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages
- Social Security - Disability Payments - Survivor's Benefits	- A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits - A Parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits
-Income from person outside the household	- A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money
-Income from any other source	- A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust

**OPTIONAL** Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities

We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

Ethnicity (check one):  Hispanic or Latino  Not Hispanic or Latino  
 Race (check one or more):  American Indian or Alaskan Native  Asian  Black or African American  Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  White

The **Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act** requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We MAY share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Sources of Income for Adults		
Earnings from Work	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	Pensions / Retirement / All Other Income
- Salary, wages, cash bonuses - Net income from self-employment (farm or business) if you are in the U.S. Military: - Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances) - Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	- Unemployment benefits - Worker's compensation - Supplemental Security Income (SSI) - Cash assistance from State or local government - Alimony payments - Child support payments - Veteran's benefits - Strike benefits	- Social Security (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits) - Private pensions or disability benefits - Regular income from trusts or estates - Annuities - Investment income - Earned interest - Rental income - Regular cash payments from outside household

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

**To file a program complaint of discrimination**, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
 1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
 Washington, D.C. 20250-9410  
 fax: (202) 690-7442; or  
 email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52, Every 2 Weeks x 26, Twice a Month x 24 Monthly x 12

**Total Income**  **Household Size**  **Categorical Eligibility**

How often?  Weekly  Bi-Weekly  2x-Month  Monthly  Free  Reduced  Denied

**Determining Official's Signature**  **Date**  **Verifying Official's Signature**  **Date**





# 2020 Bond Scope and Timeline



## Caledonia Community Schools 2020 Bond

**Matthew Hess, Executive Director of Operations and Transportation**

**W**e would like to begin by saying THANK YOU to everyone who supported the bond and to everyone offering their time and experience to make the next five years of bond work a success.

**On May 5, the residents of our district overwhelmingly supported an \$88 million bond that is improving a wide variety of areas in every school building and our athletic facilities.** The bond also allows us to add an athletic complex for students and the community.

The list of projects around the district starts with additions to safety and security at each location. We will evaluate each of our current secure entrances and our secure entry systems for improvements and upgrades. Adding impact-resistant window film to entry area windows is a key part of these updates.

Repairs and upgrades throughout the district will include roofing replacements, pavement replacement, furniture, playground updates, signage improvement, restored bleachers, landscaping and many more projects across departments. The district will see a new and up-to-date Dutton Elementary School, new music program equipment, the Athletic Complex on the west side of Kraft Avenue and districtwide technology upgrades that will impact every student's success.





# 2020 Bond Scope and Timeline



With the assistance of our partners at Plante-Moran CRESA we published a Request for Proposals for Architecture and Engineering Services, used a weighted criteria selection process that put the needs and priorities of Caledonia Community Schools FIRST and maintained an open and transparent process to select and recommend two architectural firms to the Board of Education. On June 27, the Board of Education moved to hire the firms of Tower-Pinkster Architects (Grand Rapids) for the school projects and Stantec (international) with C2AE (Grand Rapids) for the athletic complex project.

We will use the same process to select a construction management firm and a technology design firm with the goal of recommending two firms to the Board of Education in August.

You will also hear a term used called Design Prime. This is an industry term that describes the actions of the district using a separate, specialized architectural engineering firm to design, bid and manage specific projects. In our case, we are working to select a partner firm for our roofing and paving bond projects. This relationship will benefit the district for the future outside of the bond scope. Most importantly, this method of design specialization allows us to save several percentage points in design costs - putting more funding into the other bond programs and purchases.

**The priorities of the 2020 bond program start with technology hardware, the necessary construction that allows for the middle school realignment, the major roofing projects and the first design steps of the athletic complex.**

Why two architects and construction managers? In order to best serve the community and district it was recommended to split the projects, having the athletic complex set apart. That one project requires a different focus and concentration, specialized and separate from the repairs, new school construction and equipment installations.

Our website [www.calschools.org/2020-bond/](http://www.calschools.org/2020-bond/) has more information about the bond projects. We will be posting regular updates and photos on that site. Bond-related questions can be sent to [Bond2020@CalSchools.org](mailto:Bond2020@CalSchools.org).

***Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve our community with these projects. We look forward to these improvements that will help meet the needs of students, staff and the community.***



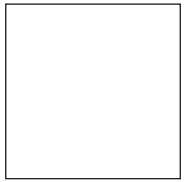
# Caledonia Community Schools District Calendar (2020 - 21)

<b>August 19</b>	Optional Teacher Professional Development Day
<b>August 20</b>	Optional Teacher Professional Development Day
<b>August 24</b>	Teacher Professional Development - Welcome Back
<b>August 25</b>	<b>First Day of School</b> - Full Day for Students
<b>September 4-7</b>	<b>No School</b> - Labor Day
<b>September 23</b>	<b>AM Half Day for Students</b> - PM Teacher Professional Development
<b>October 26 &amp; 28</b>	Middle School Conferences
<b>October 30</b>	<b>AM Half Day for Students</b> - PM Teacher Records
<b>November 2 &amp; 4</b>	High School Conferences
<b>November 5 &amp; 10</b>	Elementary Conferences
<b>November 12</b>	<b>AM Half Day for Students</b> - PM Teacher Professional Development
<b>November 13</b>	End of K-8 Marking Period
<b>November 25-27</b>	<b>No School</b> - Thanksgiving Break
<b>December 19-January 3</b>	<b>No School</b> - Holiday Break
<b>December 1-11</b>	Notification Window for Learning Option Changes at 2nd Semester
<b>January 13-15</b>	High School Final Exams, End of 1st Semester (1/15)
<b>January 18</b>	<b>No School</b> - All Day Teacher Professional Development
<b>February 17</b>	<b>AM Half Day for Students</b> - PM Teacher Professional Development
<b>February 18-19</b>	<b>No School</b> - Mid-Winter Break (Snow day make-up, if needed)
<b>March 5</b>	<b>AM Half Day for Students</b> - PM Teacher Records, End of K-8 Marking Period
<b>March 9 &amp; 11</b>	Elementary Conferences
<b>March 15 &amp; 17</b>	Middle School Conferences
<b>March 22 &amp; 24</b>	High School Conferences
<b>April 2-9</b>	<b>No School</b> - Spring Break
<b>April 23</b>	<b>AM Half Day for Students</b> - PM Teacher Professional Development
<b>May 25</b>	High School Graduation
<b>May 31</b>	<b>No School</b> - Memorial Day
<b>June 2-4</b>	High School Final Exams
<b>June 4</b>	<b>Last Day of School</b> , End of K-8 Marking Period, End of Semester 2

### Half-Day Schedule

### Full-Day Schedule

Building	Start Time	Dismissal Time	Start Time	Dismissal Time
Caledonia High School	7:50 am	11:05 am	7:50 am	2:46 pm
Duncan Lake Middle School	7:40 am	10:50 am	7:40 am	2:30 pm
Kraft Meadows Middle School	7:40 am	10:50 am	7:40 am	2:30 pm
Caledonia Elementary	8:50 am	12:05 pm	8:50 am	3:45 pm
Dutton Elementary	8:50 am	12:05 pm	8:50 am	3:45 pm
Emmons Lake Elementary	8:50 am	12:05 pm	8:50 am	3:45 pm
Kettle Lake Elementary	8:50 am	12:05 pm	8:50 am	3:45 pm
Paris Ridge Elementary	8:50 am	12:05 pm	8:50 am	3:45 pm
Duncan Lake Early Childhood Center (Y5)	8:40 am	11:55 pm	8:40 am	3:35 pm



# School Bus Safety

## *What do bus lights actually mean?*

**W**e are pleased to announce that you will continue to see hazard light stops in addition to the traditional red light stops in our Caledonia community. Michigan law permits school bus stops to be made under certain prescribed conditions, which allow for either red light or hazard light stops as provided in MCL257.1855. There are many instances where a school bus can safely perform a hazard light stop and allow traffic to flow when students do not have to cross the roadway and all criteria are met according to Michigan law.

The Transportation Department is working together to provide the safest and most efficient transportation for

our students, with safety being our number one concern. **Please keep our kids safe by approaching school buses with caution and observing the light systems.**

In the event that you observe a reckless driver ignoring the flashing red lights, please assist our transportation department by contacting the Kent County Sheriff Department at (616) 632-6100, to report the location, approximate time, make, color or model of the vehicle. While our drivers are trained to report these violations, we encourage everyone to be vigilant regarding bus traffic safety and our students.

### **School Buses With Overhead Red and Yellow Lights**

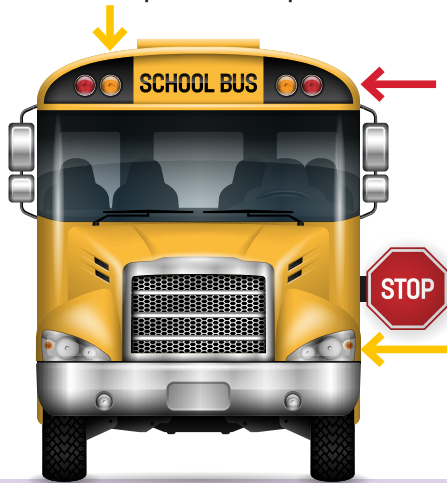
(With or Without Bus Stop Signs)

**Yellow lights are flashing:**

Prepare to stop

**Yellow lights are flashing:**

Prepare to stop



**Red lights are flashing:**

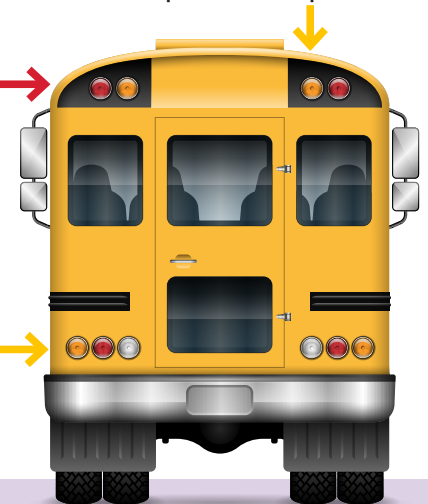
Stop no closer than 20 feet from the bus

**Red lights turned off:**

Proceed

**All School Buses  
Yellow Hazard Lights**

**Yellow hazard warning  
lights are flashing:**  
Proceed with caution



Learn more about the Caledonia Community Schools at:



[www.calschools.org](http://www.calschools.org)



[facebook.com/CALSCHOOLS](https://facebook.com/CALSCHOOLS)