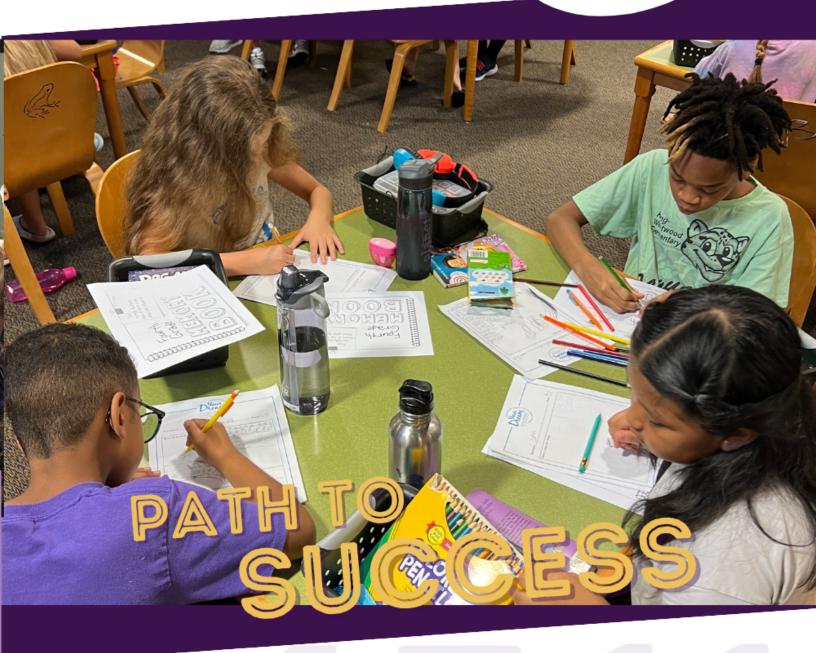
Communicator CALEDONIA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER





New Dutton Elementary Groundbreaking

Bond Updates Building Updates Free Lunch/ Reduced Lunch Application



A Letter From the Superintendent

Dear Caledonia Schools Community,

It is with great anticipation that we welcome everyone back to Caledonia Community Schools for the 2023-2024 school year! I am honored to return to this wonderful community that holds such a special place in my heart. Your generous reception has been heartwarming, and I look forward to working closely with all of you to make this academic year truly remarkable.

There is so much to be thankful for as we begin this year! With the community's support of the 2020 and 2023 bond proposals, we've successfully completed several bond projects this summer. You can follow all of the exciting progress by clicking on the "Bond Updates" menu item on our website homepage. We are particularly excited to break ground early this fall on the new Dutton Elementary. More information can be found on the next page of this newsletter. We hope you will join us for this wonderful celebration!

As we embark on a new academic year, we are eagerly anticipating the opportunities it holds for each of our students. Our outstanding, dedicated staff is prepared and ready to cultivate agile learners, empowering them with the necessary skills to thrive in the 21st century and beyond. We firmly believe in a whole-child approach to education, encouraging students to get involved in co-curricular opportunities and explore their passions beyond the classroom.

Your continuous support and active involvement also play a critical role in shaping our educational environment – a strong school-home partnership creates a positive climate and culture where students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

Due to the new "Free Meals for All" legislation passed by the State of Michigan this year, all students attending Caledonia Community Schools are eligible for free breakfast and lunch. However, even with the new legislation, it is still very important that parents



fill out and return the free lunch/reduced lunch application. Qualifying families can receive additional benefits and Caledonia Schools will be provided with added funding to support all of our students. More information can be found beginning on page 10 of this newsletter.

As always, you can stay informed about important dates, events, and activities throughout the year by visiting our website. To get a firsthand look at the remarkable accomplishments of our students and staff, connect with us on social media and join in celebrating the inspiring stories and achievements happening daily at Caledonia Community Schools.

We are excited to have students and staff back in our buildings and are looking forward to a memorable and successful school year. Go Scots!

Sincerely,

Dirk Weeldreyer Interim Superintendent

Board of Education Meetings

The Caledonia Community Schools Board of Education meets monthly on the third Monday at 6 pm in the Administration Office located at 8948 Kraft Ave., unless noted differently.

Remaining 2023 meetings include:

Sept. 18, 2023
 Nov. 20, 2023

 Oct. 16, 2023 Dec. 11, 2023

Board of Education Members

Marcy White

President

John Brandow Trustee

Brittany Barber Garcia Vice President

Tim Morris Trustee

Jason Saidoo

Treasurer

Jennifer Nichols Trustee

Katie Isic Secretary



GROUNDBREAKING **CEREMONY**



Wednesday, September 27, 2023 6:00 PM

Join us as Caledonia Community Schools breaks ground on the **New Dutton Elementary!** The public is asked to park at the current Dutton Elementary (3820 68th Street). Shuttle buses will take attendees from there to the site of the groundbreaking ceremony starting at 5:15 p.m. Please plan to be parked and on a shuttle bus no later than 5:45 p.m. The buses will return attendees to the current Dutton Elementary immediately following the ceremony.

Parking:

Dutton Elementary (Current) 3820 68th Street SE Caledonia, MI 49316

*Rain or Shine!



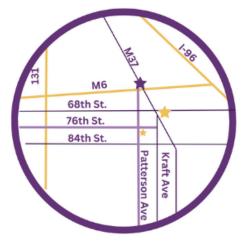
Groundbreaking



Parking

Park at Dutton Elementary (Current). Shuttle

service provided from current Dutton Elementary to New Dutton site from 5:15 pm - 5:45 pm and after ceremony.





Questions? calbond@calschools.org





Bond Updates

Thanks to the wonderful support of our community for the 2020 and 2023 bond proposals, the Cal Community Center has made significant strides this summer with the competition per constructing a new pavilion at Paris Ridge, and installing new turf at Ralph E. Meyers Stadium the installation of new playground equipment at Caledonia and Emmons Lake Elementaries,



Follow our website for the most up to date information about the progress

we're thrilled to update you on the progress of various bond projects this summer. Notably, bol taking shape, and we've also been actively engaged in projects like improving roads, n. Renovations to the high school weight room are now complete, and this fall we anticipate as well as having work begin on the connector at Caledonia High School.



of our bond projects. Note: All renderings are conceptual representations.

New! MiPSE Parent Portal

We are excited to announce that families of students with disabilities now have online access. to MiPSE, Michigan PowerSchool Special Education, to view their child's finalized educational documents.

MiPSE is the county wide special programs software hosted by the Kent Intermediate School District, that is used to create and review IEPs, behavior plans, health plans, Section 504s, and more. MiPSE's parent portal will provide families access to current and past finalized documents.

Families who have not received their login information, please contact the Special Programs Department at 616-891-0219.



- · Login information, including ID and Temporary Password, will be provided by the Special Programs Department.
- Website: www.calschools.org/resources/mipse
 - School/District ID: KENTISD
 - User ID:
 - Temporary Password:
 - o Log in to: (local)

Once you use your temporary password, MiPSE will prompt you to create a new password and then you will have access to any finalized documents in MiPSE.

www.calschools.org/resources/mipse



Bus Drivers Gear Up for a Magical School Year Ahead!



Our bus drivers are super excited for the new school year, and want the same for our students too! They recently took part in open house events around the district, where students could check out the school buses and meet the drivers who will be there to say hello every day.

At Caledonia Elementary, two of our drivers dressed up like the cool teachers from the Magic School Bus, Miss Frizzle and Liz. They made everyone smile and made the buses a fun place to be. During these events, you didn't just look at the buses – you could go inside, ask questions, and even pretend to ride the bus.

This is more than just a fun day for students- it helps them feel comfortable about riding the bus to school. Let's give a big cheer to our bus drivers! They do an amazing job of making the school journey really awesome!



Duncan Lake Early Childhood Center

At Duncan Lake Early Childhood Center, young fives students eagerly watched caterpillars transform into their chrysalis stage and were thrilled when beautiful butterflies emerged. The butterflies gently landed on their hands before being released into the sky. It's a joy to see nature's wonders unfold before these curious learners!



ING CALLS

Caledonia Elementary

Kindergartners at Caledonia Elementary are immersing themselves in valuable lessons, with a major emphasis on kindness and supporting one another's well-being. Their focus includes identifying acts of kindness and distinguishing them from less considerate actions. Throughout their classroom, small buckets on the wall serve as reminders of their commitment to adhering to the agreed-upon rules, showcasing their dedicated efforts to create a positive and caring environment within the classroom.







Dutton Elementary

Maranda from WOOD TV8 paid our students at Dutton Elementary a special visit for a back-to-school spotlight! Fourth graders in Mrs. Oosterhouse's class shared their future dreams and excitement for the start of the year. It's truly heartwarming to see our students' aspirations and ambitions!

A big shoutout to all our dedicated staff members here in Caledonia who work tirelessly to pave the way for student success. We'd like to thank School News Network for their work in setting up this special day! So many smiles around the room!



Emmons Lake Elementary

Our adorable kindergartners from Emmons Lake had a special visit from Deputy Stewart, our School Resource Officer (SRO) to learn about kindness. Big smiles and valuable lessons – what a wonderful experience for our little ones! Thank you Deputy Stewart for taking the time to read to our students and instill these important values.



Kettle Lake Elementary

The 4th graders of Kettle Lake Elementary are engaged in an exhilarating "Treasure Island" teamwork relay, a spectacle of cooperation and excitement. Armed with hockey sticks and scooters, they worked to gather their team colors. Laughter and cheers echoed as the young adventurers showcased their coordination and unity, transforming the gymnasium into a vibrant and spirited "Treasure Island" arena.







Paris Ridge Elementary

Traditions hold a special place in the school learning experience, like Paris Ridge Elementary's annual flag raising ceremony during the first week of school. This event introduces new staff, sets school expectations, and teaches the official Paris Ridge "ROARS" cheer. The Paris Ridge flag, raised with the American flag, embodies the larger community and school unity. With lively chanting and music, the ceremony energizes the new year's start, followed by a similar event at year-end to bid farewell to leaving staff and students. It's an exciting tradition welcoming the school year's beginning.



Kraft Meadows Intermediate School

At Kraft Meadows Intermediate School, sixth-grade students started the year with a team-building experience that encompasses a range of essential life skills. Through a collaborative project, students learn the value of teamwork as they work in pairs to tackle challenges. The journey involves embracing failures as important learning opportunities, fostering resilience and adaptability. Amidst it all, the main focus is on embracing the joy of learning as they learn to walk on stilts.



Duncan Lake Middle School

Duncan Lake Middle School began the school year by fostering personal growth and strong relationships among 7th and 8th graders. During a special assembly, Assistant Principal Mrs. Stauffer discussed not only school expectations but also the significance of positive behavior. Encouraging a sense of responsibility, students can earn points for good behavior and use them at the school SCOTS store. Exciting times await our Scots!







Caledonia High School

The eagerly awaited first day of senior year has arrived, and the Class of 2024 celebrated it in style with a stunning senior sunrise. As the sky was adorned with shades of gold by the rising sun, these seniors marked the start of an incredible journey ahead. To our determined and aspiring seniors, as you navigate your final year's path, we send you our best wishes. Seize every chance, conquer challenges, and enjoy the unique experiences that await. From treasured moments with friends to academic victories, may this year be a canvas of joyful memories. Embrace each moment – it's your time to shine!



FREE meals for all enrolled CCS students It's more than just free meals...

Even though lunches are free, families are still highly encouraged to complete the free or reduced lunch application since other funding and grant eligibility for the district is tied to these applications. For qualifying families, this application also reduces pay-to-participate fees for student-athletes and provides the district with discounted rates on internet services and network equipment purchases.

The Federal Free/Reduced Meal Application determines the amount of federal funding for the district, impacting **ALL** students.

7 Reasons to Complete the Free & Reduced Lunch Application:



Increased funding to support your child's school



Discounts for fees associated with college application process



Discounted fees for SAT, ACT & AP tests along with scholarship opportunities





Additional funding for technology and internet access



Receive discounts on fees associated with credit recovery



Discounts on Chromebook Care Plans for qualifying families



A new application is **REQUIRED** each school year. So, even if you applied a year ago, a new application must be submitted for the 2023-24 school year. Applications are accepted after July 1 for the 2023-24 school year. Contact our food service department at 616-891-0227 for additional assistance. https://caledonia.familyportal.cloud

What is provided...

All students attending Caledonia Community Schools are eligible for free breakfast and lunch during the 2023-24 school year. This is due to the new "Free Meals for All" legislation passed by the State of Michigan this year.



Although regular meals are free for all students, a la carte selections will still carry a charge. Parents have online access to view student balances, histories, and make deposits at any time.

2023-2024 School Meals and Summer EBT Application

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

STEP 1: List ALL children, infants, and students up to and including grade 12. Attach another sheet of paper if you need space for more names

Apply online: caledonia.familyportal.cloud

List ALL children in the household. Do not forget to list infants, children attending other schools, children not in school, and children not applying for benefits. This includes children not related to you in your household

Printed Name of Adult Signing Form	Street Address (if available)	Lertify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal Full (confirm) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws'	STEP 4: Contact information and adult signature.	Total Household Members Last (Children and Adults) Prim		4)\$	3)\$	2)\$	1)	PLEASE PRINT Name of Adult Household Members (First and Last) Earning	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 and deductions) 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.		A. Child Income Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income. Please include the TOTAL income received by ALL children listed in STEP 1	STEP 3: List ALL household members and income for each member (before taxes and deductions). Skip this step if you answered "YES" to STEP 2. List all Adult Household Members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. For each Household Member listed, if they receive income, report total gross income (before taxes and deductions) 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	INO A GOTO STEP 5. IT FEST A WITH A CA	Hous	5)	4)	3)	2)	1)	Child's First Name
	Apt#	lication is true a losely give fals	signature.	Four Digits of any Wage Earn						Earnings from Work H	ncluding your (including your cents) only. If th		eive income. Pl	s and income TEP 1 (including cents) only. If the	se number ner	(including y						M
Signature of Adult	City	and that all income is reported. I understand tha e information, my children may lose meal benefi	RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO: Caledonia Food Service	Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of Primary Wage Earner or Other Adult Household Member (if Applicable)	\$					How often received? Weekly B-Weekly 2x Month Monthly Annual Airmony/Child Support	ourself) self) even if they do not receive income. For eacl sey do not receive income from any source, write		ease include the TOTAL income received by AL	e for each member (before taxes and digyourself) even if they do not receive income. Find you not receive income from any source, writh	II 1E3 / Wille a case number nere, men go to o IEF 4 (Do not complete o IEF 3).	ou) currently participate in: SNAP, TA					Yes	Child's Last Name
	State	<u>t this inf</u> ormati ts, and I may b	: Caledonia F	able)							h Household N e "0". If you en		L children liste	eductions). for each House te '0'. If you en	,	NF, or FDP					 □ s	dent?
	Zip		ood Service 9749 Duncan Lake Ave, Caledonia MI 49316	 						How often received? Weekly Bi-Weekly 2x Month Monthly Annual	//////////////////////////////////////	63	here.	Skip this step if you answered "YES" to STEP 2 shold Member listed, if they receive income, report total groter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising the control of the control o	Case Number:(M							School
Today's Date	Phone (Optional)	receipt of Federal Fu ate and Federal laws	Ave, Caledonia MI	Check if no SSN	\$	69 	€9 	69	69	1	come, report total gr ม are certifying (pron		Child Income	red "YES" to STE e income, report tota u are certifying (pror	rite only one case							Grade
	Email (Optional)	connection with the receipt of Federal Funds, and that school officials may verify under applicable State and Federal laws".	49316							Pensions/Retirement/ How often received? All Other Income Weekly Bi-Weekly 2x Month Monthly Annual	ross income (before taxes and mising) that there is no income to report.		How Often? Please put an X Weekly Bi-Weekly 2x Month Monthly Annual	EP 2. al gross income (before taxes and mising) that there is no income to report.	(Write only one case number in this space)		O RPAIN C.	Instruction's Step 1: Part C	refer to the Application	any of these	Child Migrant, Runaway	Foster

Total Income: \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ Month! Weekly Bi-Weekly 2x Month Monthly Determining Official's Signature Date	DO NOT FILL OUT: For School Use Only Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52, Every 2 Weeks x 26.	 by: mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; 	To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should Complaint Form (https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docume a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complain Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of a	The contact information below is solely to file a complaint or institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, or Program information may be made available in languages other audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the respon the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.	Use of Information Statement: The Richard B. Russell Nation only approve complete forms. We may share your eligibility into may also use your information to make sure that program rules at the adult does not have one, 'Check if no Social Security Numbe Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance in children qualify for free meals without an application. Please con	Ethnicity (check one): Hispanic or Latino (A person of Cuban, Mexi	We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnic and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals	OPTIONAL: Children's ethnic and racial identities. This	Pensions / Retirement / All Other Income	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	Earnings from work	Sources of Adult Income	Income from any other source	Income from person outside the household	Social Security - Disability Payments - Survivor's Benefits	Earnings from work	Sources of Child Income
\$ Household Size: Categorical Eligibility: Eligibility: Free Reduced Denied Confirming Official's Signature Date Confirming Official's Signature Date	DO NOT FILL OUT: For School Use Only Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52, Every 2 Weeks x 26, Twice a Month x 24, Monthly x 12. Do not annualize income to determine eligibility unless more than one income frequency is listed.	(2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or *Do not mail applications to this address, only complaints of discrimination This institution is an equal opportunity provider.	To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at <u>USDA Program Discrimination</u> Complaint Form (https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf), from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA	The contact information below is solely to file a complaint of discrimination: In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retailation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.	Use of Information Statement: The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires that we use information from this application to see who qualifies for free or reduced price meals. We can only approve complete forms. We may share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them deliver program benefits to your household. Inspectors and law enforcement may also use your information to make sure that program rules are met. Please be sure to provide the last four numbers of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult does not have one, 'Check if no Social Security Number' Applications for a foster child do not need to list a Social Security number. Applications for children in households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) do not need to list a Social Security number. Some children qualify for free meals without an application. Please contact your school to get free meals for a foster child, and children who are homeless, migrant, or runaway.]Hispanic or Latino (A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish Culture or origin, regardless of race)	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.	This information is kept confidential and may be protected by the Privacy Act of 1974.	≤ δ	 -Unemployment Benefits -Workers compensation -Supplemental Security Income (SSI) -Cash assistance from State or local government -Alimony payments-Child support payments -Veteran's benefits -Strike benefits 	Salary, wages, cash bonuses / Net income from self-employment (farm or business) / -If you are in the US Military: - Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances) -Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	Examples	A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust.	A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money.	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.	A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages	Examples



9749 Duncan Lake Ave., Caledonia MI (616)891-8117 www.inspiremenow.org Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday: Closed Sunday: Closed The Caledonia Resource Center is committed to enriching the lives of every member of our community by providing innovative, cost-effective, and engaging lifelong educational, social and recreational opportunities.

Programs Offered

Adult Enrichment
Adult Health & Fitness
Youth Enrichment
Youth Sports
Summer Camps

Caledonia Theatre Programs
55 and better programs
A.W.O.L. programs
Caledonia Senior Center
Caledonia GlobeTrotters

Connect with us! @ Caledonia Resource Center Follow COMMUNITY on the school app for the latest updates!

Follow Best Bus Safety Practices

School Buses With Overhead Red and Yellow Lights

(With or Without Bus Stop Signs)



Caledonia Community Schools

2023 - 2024 School Calendar



START & END TIMES

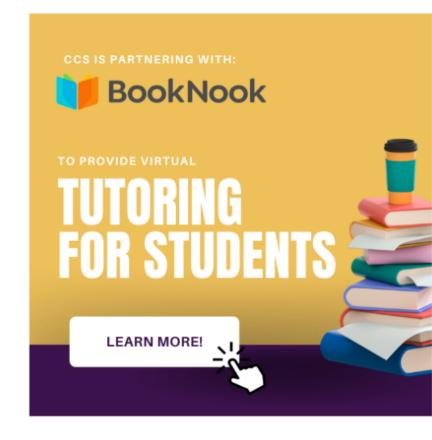
Caledonia Community Schools **2023-2024 School Year**

	Full Day Times	Half Day Times
Duncan Lake Early Childhood	8:45 am - 3:40 pm	8:45 am - 12:00 pm
Caledonia Elementary	8:45 am - 3:40 pm	8:45 am - 12:00 pm
Dutton Elementary	8:45 am - 3:40 pm	8:45 am - 12:00 pm
Emmons Lake Elementary	8:45 am - 3:40 pm	8:45 am - 12:00 pm
Kettle Lake Elementary	8:45 am - 3:40 pm	8:45 am - 12:00 pm
Paris Ridge Elementary	8:45 am - 3:40 pm	8:45 am - 12:00 pm
Kraft Meadows Intermediate	7:35 am - 2:30 pm	7:35 am - 10:45 am
Duncan Lake Middle School	7:35 am - 2:30 pm	7:35 am - 10:45 am
Caledonia High School	7:40 am - 2:36 pm	7:40 am - 10:55 am
Caledonia Transitions Program	7:20 am - 2:15 pm	7:20 am - 10:30 am

Tutoring Opportunities for Qualifying Students

As a result of grant funding received from both the state and federal government, CCS has partnered with BookNook to provide free virtual one-to-one reading tutoring for our students who qualify.

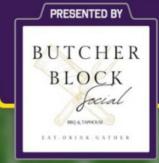
BookNook provides high-impact tutoring through intentional, multifaceted programming that is geared toward accelerating student learning. High-impact tutoring is about addressing the learning skills necessary to make progress and advance to those instructional next steps identified at each grade level. Check out the website homepage (www.calschools.org) to learn more!



Fun for the whole family!









FRIDAY 9/22/23 - 11:30am - 7:00pm

Caledonia Football Stadium

EVENT SCHEDULE

11:30am Event Opens

Noon-3:00pm Kids Punt, Pass & Kick Competition

Noon-7:00pm Food Trucks Open

3:00-6:15pm Caledonia Gameday Broadcast

4:00-6:00pm Live Band: Pretty Kool

5:00pm Homecoming Parade

5:45pm Honored Alumni Presentation

7:00pm Homecoming Football Game Kickoff



calapalooza.com



Success starts at CCS!

ENROLL NOW!

Enroll online at www.calschools.org

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- **Young Fives**
- Kindergarten
- All School
 - **Age Students**

#calpride



CCS Administration Office: 8948 Kraft Ave SE, Caledonia MI 49316





