

Cedar Cliff High School Board of School Directors Report
September 20, 2018
Lily Markley Presenting

The Art Department implemented our new curriculum this year and it has been very well received by our students. The new Independent Studio courses were designed to include those students who were not intent on attending art college but wanted to expand their artistic voice and approach. We are excited to see the student growth fostered by our curricular rewrite.

In Mr. Buterbaugh's orchestra ensemble, six students were selected for admission to the elite Harrisburg Youth Symphony Orchestras! Congratulations to violinists Breyelle Charles, Kierra Heinly, Annie Hyde, Skylar Skarupa, violist Sydney Angus, and cellist Jonah Petruschke. They will be performing in the Forum throughout the year with top musicians from other regional schools.

The Business Department is offering two new courses this fall. The first is Management 105 which is a college in the classroom course from Penn College. There are two sections up and running and the students will earn three transferrable college credits. The best part is that there is no cost for the students! The second class is Webpage and Multimedia development where the students are learning to code web pages. Look for updates throughout the year!!

Mrs. Engelhardt's astronomy class is taking advantage of the classroom telescopes. Students are able to borrow the classroom telescopes to view the night sky at home. Meteorology class is keeping an eye on Hurricane Florence as it approaches the eastern coast. They are also studying the impacts of Hurricane Gordon and the Yellow Breeches Creek flooding in our area.

Cedar Cliff teachers are eagerly adopting Schoology as they're learning management system and are reaching out to the building Teach IA for assistance.

The Physical Education Department members will be applying for a grant for technology to help track data, steps, and activity time.

Cedar Cliff mini THON has kicked off their year with their corporate sponsor mailings, a car wash, bake sale, and power minute so far.

Student, Maggie Myers, has auditioned for American Idol. She is going to audition again soon.

Freshman class officers have been actively involved in service projects within the community already.

Students in Mrs. Wolfe's theater arts class are studying popular movie monologues and rehearsing their own monologues to perform for the class. Meanwhile, in her ninth grade English class, students are contemplating moral dilemmas such as survival of the fittest while reading "The Most Dangerous Game."

West Shore Academy students are planting a vegetable garden outside of the planetarium. We've cleared weeds, cultivated soil, and planted seeds while learning about horticulture, agriculture, and global climate change.

Academy students who have met behavioral, academic, and attendance goals will enjoy our first experiential education outing of the year at Gifford-Pinchot State Park. Students will be hiking, canoeing and team-building while learning cooperation, communication and perseverance.

In Mrs. Clarke's freshmen English classes we are practicing the station rotation model while reading short stories with analysis. Students have been focusing on the short story "The Most Dangerous Game." As they read, analyze and discuss, they are creating quick visuals in the form of comics. As we are preparing to conclude this assignment, students have noted that the comics are very helpful in allowing them to organize their thoughts on foreshadowing and sequence.

Students in the Emerson School at CCHS traveled to the Pennsylvania State Museum in Harrisburg on September 19th. While there, they had the opportunity to peer behind the walls of the museum and tour the general collection storage area. The museum only displays 10% of its collection to the public. Cedar Cliff students got see the other 90%. The curator of the museum describes it as Pennsylvania's attic. The visit was designed specifically for the Emerson School at CCHS. Students in the program are currently working on their first personalized learning projects. In doing so they are required to make many decisions about which topics and research to include in their final products. The museum curators talked to the students about how museum exhibits are created and displayed by making thoughtful selections from the general collection.

Students in Mr. Lucci's World History and World Geography & Global Issues classes began the year participating in small group activities with the goals of getting to know each other and sharing information and topics that they remember learning about in previous Social Studies classes. The students then used the information that they compiled to create Social Studies Summary posters. For the past few days students have been working in a "station rotation" format in which they spend 10 minutes at three separate stations working on reviewing notes in a group, completing a guided reading in small groups, and discovering current events individually while utilizing laptops in the classroom.

Ms. Forsyth's freshman English classes are learning to analyze vocabulary words by separating them into prefixes, roots, and suffixes and then looking up the meanings of their parts. They are working extensively on this with the goal of looking at unknown words analytically and memorizing common roots and affixes to help them decipher new words.

Four sections of College Composition 1 students have started the year off with extensive writing opportunities. After considering advice gleaned from the essays of professional writers, the students have moved through critiques and narratives to description and process analysis. The 76 College in High School students are demonstrating their growth in the short time since the semester began.

In Mrs. Eisner's Biology class we just completed the introduction to Biology Unit. A favorite lab on scientific method was conducted where the students were trying to see what type of gum stretched farther and blew the biggest bubbles. Our next unit on Ecology we will be diving full force into personalized learning. Students will have some choice into what they want to do. At the end they will be taking a survey letting Mrs. Eisner know what they thought.

On August 29th, several JROTC Cadets served lunch at a local VFW to WWII and Korean War Veterans. Cadets were able to enjoy the meals they helped serve while listening to stories told by area veterans. On September 5th, Cadets served as a Color Guard at Hershey Lodge for an early morning Leadership Breakfast. On the 12th, the Raiders Team garnered 1st place in a planned dual meet vs. Red Land.

Students in Mrs. Plassio's biology classes have enjoyed seeing class information being shared on Twitter. Mrs. Plassio tweets out a class event that involves students or activities, they are re-tweeted in the Cedar Cliff community and enjoyed at home.

Middle School West Shore Academy students began their reading program with the 1st grade students at Highland Elementary.

Cedar Cliff students love their library! Every morning students flood the library to meet friends, print a paper, do some last minute homework, or use the computers and databases. We recently welcome two new members to the library family; Mickey & Minnie are orange Mickey Mouse Platty fish. We hope they'll soon be joined by a crew of aquatic turtles. Freshman are getting the lay of library-land through a welcome presentation and a scavenger hunt app, GooseChase. Our College in the Classroom classes have visited for advanced database searching sessions and the importance of the Boolean operators, and, or, not. We've seen lots of new and old friends ready to check out the latest fiction and borrow some DVDs for movie night. We have lots of plans for this school year and can't wait to get started in earnest.

Cedar Cliff's video game club is running again this year. Due to overwhelming support from the wonderful faculty, the club was able to purchase two video game systems as well as numerous games and controllers for the club to use. Also purchased was a modified controller to fit the needs of all who attend. Many students enjoy staying after school to play games together and make new friends. The club is led by Mrs. Haley Haun.

Ms. McGurk's Chemistry classes are learning about physical and chemical changes in matter. The students seem to really be enjoying lab experiments that delve deeper into the content (especially roasting marshmallows!)

The CCHS Friends Forever Club will hold its first meeting September 21st. The club's leadership team will meet once a week and organize monthly activities and be paired with a buddy. The president of the club is Reagan Robinson. The general members will be matched with a buddy. Members are required to attend all monthly events and assist with organization of monthly events, and touch base with their buddy once a month.

The Cedar Cliff faculty, staff and administration are having their second annual college door decorating contest to promote the college fair and encourage students to ask about these colleges and universities. Prizes will be distributed for first second and third place winners.

Cedar Cliff Athletics has been at it since the beginning of August for the fall sports season. One thing that has been constant, is that the weather just does not cooperate. It's either too hot or too rainy and it is really creating havoc on the schedule. Despite this, our athletes persevere and have been competing this season. Field Hockey has led the charge compiling a 6-0 record to date and have only allowed 2 goals overall. Football is in the midst of a tough non-league slate and 4 game road trip. Currently their record sits at 2-2. They are anxious to return home on Sept. 28th v Lower Dauphin in the annual 4 Diamonds Bowl to benefit both CC's and LD's Mini-Thon. One other highlight is that of girls' tennis player, Kali Aughenbaugh who is currently undefeated at #1 singles and is one of the top players in the Mid Penn Conference. I am proud of all of our student-athletes as they compete and represent Cedar Cliff well.

Sculpture students completed a paper-folding project exploring the relationship between creativity and limitations. According to the artist, Phil Hansen, "Embracing the limitation can actually drive creativity. We need to first be limited in order to become limitless." Students embraced the challenge and created an array of creative forms using the medium of copy paper.

