

# Cape Cod Hill Community School

September 26, 2023

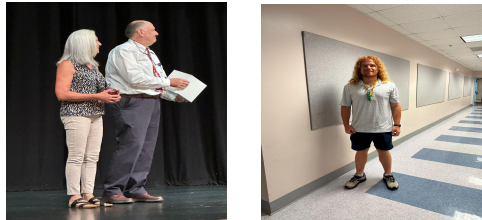
*Carol M. Kiesman, Principal*

## Thank You!

Our amazing custodial crew worked very hard this summer cleaning the entire school and making everything shiny and bright for the start of a new school year - A big thank you to Bonnie Oliver (head custodian), Bob Tourtelotte, Joyce Smiley, and Cory Young.



CCHS held an enrichment summer program under the direction of Liz Tracy and Lydia Gauthier. Approximately 20 students attended each day for two weeks, learning about animals and habitats, incorporating math and literacy into each project, as well as having the opportunity to use our wonderful outdoor pavilion as a learning facility. Thank you Liz & Lydia! We also want to thank our wonderful School Board representative Judith (Libby) Kaut. Libby volunteers tirelessly for CCHS, has many ideas for community involvement, and follows through on anything that is brought her way. We appreciate Libby so much! The beginning of the school year always brings lots of new changes and excitement. We are very fortunate to have an amazing staff who work well together and recognize each other as professionals. The opening day celebrations for RSU 9 at MBHS encompassed this excitement with the recognition of Delana Yeaton for 35 years of service and Nick Levenseller as "Novice Teacher of the Year".

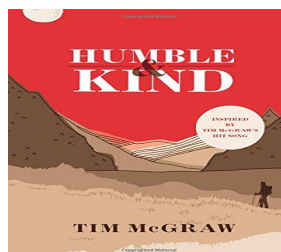


## Open House

Our Open House for CCHS was held on Aug. 28. It was well attended by many families, including parents, grandparents, students, and siblings. Everyone had the opportunity to visit classrooms and tour the school, meet the staff, check out the playground, and tour a school bus.

## Opening Assembly

To kick off a great start to a new school year and end our first day of school all students and staff gathered in the gym for our first all school assembly of the year. We did a little phonics lesson to learn how to pronounce the new principal's last name (Kiz\*man). We celebrated summer birthdays, recognized our "famous" staff, reviewed some expectations for the school and while at assemblies, and learned to "Always Be Humble & Kind" through a book by Tim McGraw as read by Mrs. Kiesman.



## **Field Trips and More**

Many of our students will have the opportunity to attend some exciting field trips to local areas in September. On Sept. 18 grades 2 and 4 attended Agriculture Day at the Farmington Fair Grounds. Kindergarten and 1st grade will be traveling to a local apple orchard to learn how apples are grown, lots of different uses for apples, and harvesting. 5th Grade students have an exciting year ahead with the start of instrumental music lessons (beginner band!) for those wishing to participate.

## **Community School Grant**

CCHS is excited to again this year be the recipient of a Community School Grant. Funding from the grant will support all students and families at CCHS. Students will have the opportunity to participate in many enrichment activities throughout the school year. We will be able to offer both Before Care and After Care programs for families needing child care services before and after school hours. We are able to host both a fall and spring Dental Clinic as well as school year health and counseling services for students. We are also expanding our CCHS Food, Clothing, and Book Pantry.



## **Dyer Fund**

CCHS is fortunate to be the recipient of funding from a local (town) fund which was started many years ago by a resident who cared very deeply about the town, citizens, and the continuation of the growth of the local community, especially the children and school. This year the committee along with Superintendent Elkington and Principal Kiesman voted to use the funds to purchase a beautiful new sign for the front of the school and to do some much needed landscaping in the front of the building. We are very appreciative of these funds.



## **BARR**

CCHS is excited to be participating in the BARR (Building Assets, Reducing Risks) program as a school-wide initiative this year. We will be using a train-the-trainer model to implement BARR. Five staff members have been through the initial training with trainers and coaches from the national BARR program. Some of our LAW days will be used to train remaining staff and incorporate the principles and programming of BARR. We are looking forward to being able to strengthen our culture and community throughout the entire school. BARR will allow us to continue using PBIS (positive behavior intervention system) as well as reach the literacy, math, behavior, and attendance goals we have set for this year.



## **PTO**

CCHS is also fortunate to have a very active PTO. The first meeting was held on September 8 in our outside pavilion. The group made plans for many activities for students and families as well as the community as a whole. Some upcoming exciting plans for this fall include "Touch A Truck" in conjunction with Fire Safety and Prevention Month, "Trunk or Treat", "Parents in Uniform", a bake and craft sale, and a "Holiday Night" in December.