



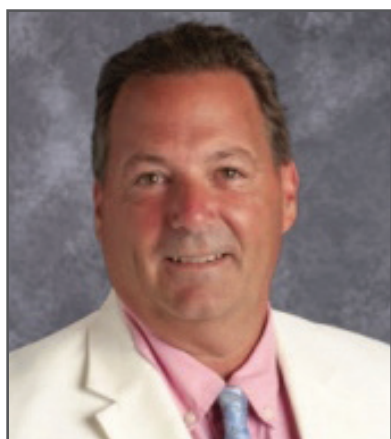
ET CETERA

a newsletter for district families



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June 2020 | volume 17, issue 3



From the desk of DR. SMITS, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

A Sincere Thank You

Many thoughts come to mind when I think about the stress and anxiety which our school community has experienced during the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Reflecting, I ask myself, how does someone prepare for a pandemic? How are our staff and families dealing with these challenges? As I contemplate answers to these questions, I find myself being thankful for how our team and community took on this challenge. My sincere appreciation to:

PARENTS - For your understanding. I have a hard time comprehending the various unique, and often difficult, circumstances which child care, work schedules and virtual learning created for your family. Your creativity, flexibility, resilience, patience and allegiance with the District schools is appreciated. Thank you!

STUDENTS - For listening to your parents, for working hard, doing your best and understanding that a good education is essential to your future. Thank you!

TEACHERS - For instructing using new technologies and learning how to teach through distance and virtual learning platforms. You continued to support your students along this new journey. Thank you!

TECHNOLOGY STAFF - For acquiring computers, coordinating curbside pick-up and delivery of over 600 additional student Chromebooks, and troubleshooting technology problems for families. Thank you!

TEACHER AIDES & FOOD SERVICE - For supporting student learning, gathering materials from lockers, bagging, preparing and helping return student belongings. Thank you!

MAINTENANCE & CUSTODIAL STAFF - For completing home deliveries, getting a head start and completing much of the summer cleaning and maintenance work. Thank you!

HIGH SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE CREW - For continuing to make, and serve, student meals. Thank you!

PRINCIPALS, SUPERVISORS, DIRECTORS, SECRETARIES, & ASSISTANTS - For playing a significant role in balancing workloads with completing the end-of-year responsibilities while planning for unknown back-to-school future scenarios. Thank you!

SCHOOL BOARD - For your leadership and guidance while supporting education. Thank you!



WHAT WILL THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR LOOK LIKE?



That is the million dollar question. There are many factors that go into planning for the next school year, and this summer we have additional challenges to consider.

Please view the video clips below as Dr. Smits discusses how the District is planning for the 2020-21 school year.



WATCH: VIDEO INTERVIEWS WITH DR. SMITS

A REFLECTION ON THE TRANSITION TO VIRTUAL LEARNING



Dr. Smit's reflection on how the HJT1 School District transitioned to virtual learning this spring. **Watch Now.**

PLANNING FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR



Dr. Smit's discusses the District's goal for the upcoming school year. **Watch Now.**

DEVELOPING CONTINGENCY PLANS



Dr. Smits discusses how the District aims to meet the needs of all learners. **Watch Now.**

PARENT FEEDBACK

We value your input and we are here to listen. The District is preparing a Survey for parents and staff to better gauge your priorities, concerns, and feedback.

This survey will be emailed to parents and staff in late June/early July. Please watch for more information soon.

Stay Informed: www.hjt1.org/district-office/district-communications

DISTRICT NEWS



From the desk of **MR. MAJERUS, FINANCIAL MANAGER**

We've reached the end of another school year. It's exciting and bittersweet for me personally. It's exciting because I started as the District's finance manager one year ago and it has undoubtedly been an exciting first year on the job! The administrative team has been working very hard to advance student achievement in a fiscally responsible way and as I plan and budget for next year, we'll continue to do the same.

The school year end is bittersweet this year because I have one child who reached the end of his Hartford Jt. 1 career. The journey has been incredible for him and for our family. He's had great teachers, created lifelong friendships and matured in his academic abilities. We really think he's ready to make the leap to high school. While all of our families don't have the chance to say thank you publicly, I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you to EVERYONE in this District who helped my children and my family over the years.

As I reach this first year anniversary, I definitely want to thank the teammates in the departments I supervise. To Wanda, Cindy and Dina, thank you SO much for your expertise in the accounting/finance area. You do so much more than make sure bills are paid, people receive their compensation and benefits, and that our funds are accounted for. Your abilities and effort allow me to focus on my tasks and the District would not be in the strong financial position it's in without you, period.

To Ed and Doug and your team of maintenance and custodial workers, you had a lot of opportunities to show your skills in maintaining our buildings and grounds. From wrap-up of the new building additions at the start of the school year to coordinating efforts to return student materials and getting a jump on summer cleaning at the end of this year. You handled it all with great pride and positive results. You were distributing computers to families, providing tech support for our machines and families

To Ryan K., Ryan R. and the technology staff, who would have imagined we would have ended the year like this? Our backup plan for educating students centered around technology and whether it was a perfect solution or not, the four of you delivered in a big way. brainstorming ideas for future improvements while staying on top of your normal IT management responsibilities. You've all done an excellent job moving things forward.

Finally to Jill and the food service staff, your year was unlike any other for sure. I think you've always delivered a nutritious, delicious breakfast and lunch to our students. Then, once in-person instruction was halted, you stepped up, took on other tasks and really did an excellent job. The completion of training, deep cleaning the kitchens and cafeterias, assisting with student material collection and distribution, and helping maintenance with getting a start on summer cleaning. The work you completed did not go unnoticed.

Parents and students, enjoy your summer this year. Find the joy in having some time away from school, spending time with family and friends and remember, your attitude determines everything!



DISTRICT NEWS



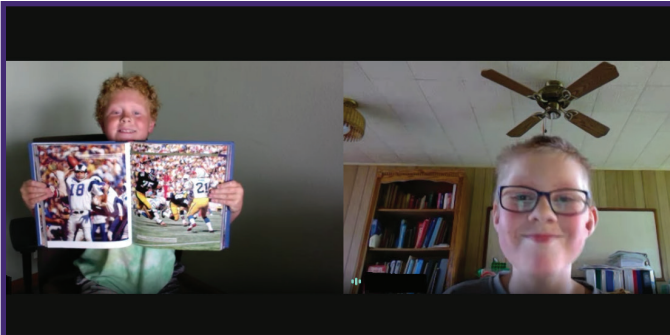
From the desk of **MRS. SIMONSON, DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION**

Celebrating a Community of Learning

For the past few decades technology has been an external pressure for change in education. It has shaped and supported instruction in classrooms as well as extended learning outside of brick and mortar. As the school year winds down, it is an annual process for me to reflect on all that has been accomplished and celebrate the “good works” of the school year.

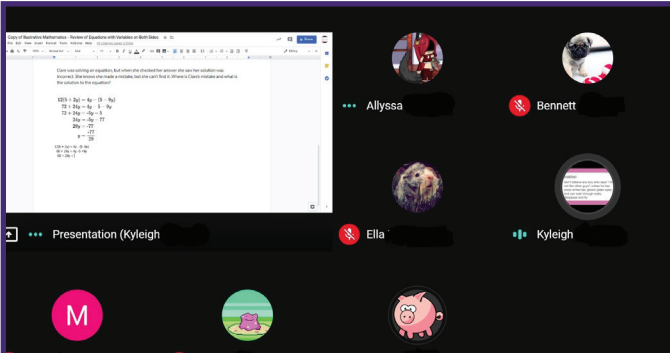
What I have learned about online learning is that students really love talking about themselves and learning more about what classmates think.

The virtual learning format has fostered opportunities for students to do just that! Here are a few examples:



BOOK CLUBS: Mrs. Malterer, fifth grade teacher, uses Book Clubs to keep kids connected and engaged in sharing their thinking.

“I have seen a lot of growth with students as they have evolved from a question and answer book club to an actual book discussion. Moving from question and answer to discussion requires more thinking and understanding about what has been read and how students interpret the text.”



VIRTUAL MEETINGS: Google meets have been the tool of choice to keep teachers and students connected. Mrs. Kennelty's math classes at Central Middle School uses this platform to support and frontload learning with students.

“At the beginning of online learning, I used data to invite specific students to Google meets, but now have moved to inviting all students. The meetings are designed to help prepare for the task students are working on in class.”



One side is without color while the other is filled with it. On side I'm bluer than the skies, the other I'm not. On the left I feel as if I'm a butterfly that is trapped in a net. The clock stops ticking and I can't feel. On the right my life is filled with fun. I'm happier than a pig in mud. But every week I return to the left and am confined to the four walls of my room waiting to return. I try not to let the sadness to swallow me whole but when the day comes to leave you'll see me grinning ear to ear. The dogs and I will play in the water and walk around as long as we can. And I'm praying I don't have to leave.



ROUTINE: A pearl of wisdom learned from virtual learning was to keep virtual instruction similar to face-to-face instruction when appropriate. Mrs. Fyksen, at CMS, has accomplished this through implementing classroom routines, assignments and weekly writes all replicated from her face-to-face instruction.

“I have been keeping things like they were in the classroom with daily reading and journaling. Twice a week I incorporate read-alouds via Google meets as well as Fyksen Friday Free-writes where students gather in Google meet, listen to music and kids write on paper.”

DISTRICT NEWS

FROM THE DESK OF MRS. SIMONSON (CONTINUED)



REAL TIME ONLINE LEARNING: Students in Mrs. Guyette's second grade classroom shared science experiments online. This allowed students to demonstrate and show classmates how states of matter change as it was actually happening in real time - very cool



WRITING CELEBRATIONS: Mr. Frank, third grade teacher, facilitates a writing celebration. Each student reads 4 papers that classmates wrote and used electronic sticky notes to share positive comments. Mr. Frank wrote to some authors that his third grade students studied this year and the authors did a virtual question and answer session as well as a read aloud of a new book that has not been published yet.

2020-21 Registration July 5 - 26, 2020

All Students will need to register for the 2020-2021 school year. Online registration will take place from July 5 – July 26 for all students.

Whether your child is new to the District or a returning student, a parent/guardian must complete the online registration through Family Access. New students may enroll at any time. Forms and fees are included in the online registration.

Family Access is available on the District's website at www.hjt1.org under the "Parents" tab. Please contact your child's school directly with questions regarding Family Access. Computers will be available during the registration period at the District Office for families needing assistance or access to a computer. An email reminder will be sent to parents/guardians as this period approaches.



SUMMER ACADEMY 2020

Summer School Exact Path

June 8 - July 10

Jump Start & Exact Path

July 13 - August 7

To Register: Login to your Skyward account and select "Summer School Registration."

[Click here for Registration Instructions.](#)

VIDEO MESSAGES & CELEBRATIONS!

Since we couldn't be with you to say goodbye on the last day of school, we have lots more video messages and photos to share as a way to celebrate all of the wonderful things that you accomplished this year!



VIDEO: A Snapshot of the Virtual Classroom

Today we celebrate all of the fantastic teaching and learning opportunities that took place this spring.

Watch Now.



VIDEO: Summer Wishes from HJT1 Teachers

Our teachers reached out to us recently and shared special messages to you as we end the school year.

Watch Now.

Thank You

QUARAN-TEACHERS!

To all of the teachers, parents, family members, and the Hartford community who helped to support and teach our incredible students during the Covid-19 Quarantine.



LINCOLN ELEMENTARY

 [Lincoln PTO Facebook](#)



From the desk of **MR. HANLON, PRINCIPAL**

In considering the system at Hartford Jt. #1, I've often discussed the importance of teachers, administrators and parents within this framework, and nothing over the past trimester has changed that view.

Our world changed overnight from snow-blowing driveways and driving to sports practices, to a new, open platform of education where the social component is now completed through a digital screen. The importance of parents and guardians in this current scenario cannot be overstated; but let's be clear, this encompasses those who are essential workers and are continuing to attend their jobs, as well as those who are

now undertaking the role of co-educator at home with children. We are fully aware that everyone's new-normal is anything but, and that our families are trying hard to maintain a semblance of what schooling should be. It is my hope that any and all questions that you have, and have had regarding the current framework, have been answered by our amazing staff.

Rallying Around One Another

It is not often that you can take a delivery model, turn it on its head overnight, and continue working, let alone not dropping pace and retaining standards. Yet this is exactly what occurred at Hartford Jt#1. I am very proud of all departments in how they rallied around each other, supported one another, and were able to communicate clearly, succinctly, and without panic. The importance that we have placed on district safety plans and preparedness enabled quick responses to staff and the community when necessary and I am equally proud to have had a hand in developing these crisis plans with my colleagues.

Listening to the Community

The video conferencing, digital-distance learning, book talks, morning meetings, social-skills groups, reading intervention, and specials lessons have continued unabated, and I am very pleased that we were able to listen to the community regarding managing workloads and offered advice on how to balance time. Mr. Navarre and I have enjoyed putting together the morning announcements and your feedback to those has been nothing short of amazing! Our parade route through town took in 13.5 miles of families, signs, and smiles, which re-charged the staff after reading the wonderful messages that you had for us. I think that it was more emotional than any of us thought it was going to be. Then two weeks after that it was brilliant to see nearly 200 people out again to celebrate Lincoln and each other when I ran the Hanlon Half; the same parade route we had taken a fortnight before, with Mr. Navarre as my pace car and Mr. Majerus as moral support at the finish.

Thank you for recognizing and celebrating all of the tings your child's teachers are doing during this peculiar time in education. I am normally proud of our building and process, but the past few months have proved that we are all in this together and that Lincoln truly is the place for me.

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY



VIDEO: 5th Grade Farewell

Congratulations to the 5th grade students at Lincoln Elementary School. Your teachers have created this wonderful farewell video as you prepare to move on to Central Middle School!

Watch Now.





ROSSMAN ELEMENTARY



Rossman PTO Facebook



From the desk of **DR. BUI, PRINCIPAL**

What Starts at Rossman Changes the World

I believe what starts at Rossman changes the world. I know it is true because I have seen it and lived it each day. The best way I can honor you, is to let you know how it's done.

You have, and will change, the world with your resilience and perseverance. You get up the exact same amount of times you fall, trip, get pushed down, or fail at something. You don't let your fears change your own self-worth.

Brene Brown, famous researcher and author, would tell you that your success could be measured by not only by how many times you get back up, but how many times you have failed. She has researched four hundred thousand pieces of data over 20 years and has never seen a single person build a life, family, or a career that did not require them to have to pick themselves back up and begin again. Dr. Brown's research on vulnerability provides evidence that when you are vulnerable you are able to take risk because, being vulnerable requires courage, curiosity, and you cannot be risky without it. What makes you different is that you are not afraid to fall because you have built the skills to get back up again. In the classroom, is where you learned to think critically, where you learned to connect the dots of the seemingly unconnected experiences, where you learn to make meaning, how you understand what struggle means, why we can't have anything without it, and that's where you build muscles on top of muscles.

At Rossman, and in life, you will continue to fall, make mistakes, and struggle. You are different because you know when you have struggled or failed. You think critically, become vulnerable, and get back up again because you now make meaning and understand what struggle means by connecting the dots.

I know the world may not be ready for your plan but make no mistake, what starts at Rossman will change the world because you own your emotion and do not let it own you. You own your hurt and not let it own you. You do whatever it takes because failure and struggle can be tough and disappointing but you reset, get back up, and begin again.

For all of our 5th graders, visiting most of your homes this summer will be an experience I will never forget but it will never replace the time we had here at Rossman. You've done it! Congratulations and good luck at Central Middle school! For the rest of us thank you for another successful year! Enjoy your summer!

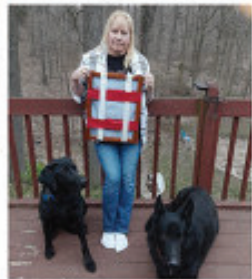
ROSSMAN ELEMENTARY



VIDEO: 5th Grade Recognition

Congratulations to the 5th grade students at Rossman Elementary School. Your teachers have created this wonderful farewell video as you prepare to move on to Central Middle School!

[Watch Now.](#)





CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

 Central PTO Facebook



From the desk of **MR. VISTE, PRINCIPAL**

Central staff have been busy these past few months, working to make sure students are progressing and learning off-site. I believe we were prepared for the challenge and our staff did a lot to think outside of the box by providing engaging work. ALL of our staff stepped up to the plate, but I want to give you a flavor of some of the activities that have occurred recently, highlighting just a few of them.

SCIENCE: Students have been doing some pretty creative labs, in the comfort of their homes. Teachers have been sending students videos with instructions how to construct the different labs, and in some cases, teachers delivered supplies to student's

homes. One of our 8th grade science teachers delivered owl pellets to all of her students, to prepare for an at home lab. Central students learned to make elephant toothpaste, volcanoes, bubbles, and lava lamps, using basic household products.

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY: This fall, we offered two Project Lead The Way classes: "Design and Modeling" and "Computer Innovators." In the Design and Modeling class, students were given a choice of 15 at-home activities, to continue their learning in the class. Just to name a few, students designed school playgrounds, built cars out of food, designed kitchen gadgets, built bridges, and built pendulums to use as timers. The teachers have been really impressed with what the students developed and the problem solving they exhibited in their creations.

7TH GRADE MATH: As a final assignment, students were responsible for constructing a building in the city of Mathville! Each building in the city should have been covered with a specific coating, and every student needed to find the surface area of their building to determine how much the coating would cost. To top it off, everyone was encouraged to get creative with their building and submit pictures of what they had constructed. The math teacher stated it was awesome to see how creative everyone got with their projects, and it was also a great activity to wrap up the school year!

HONORING OUR STUDENTS: We have been trying to honor our students, as we always do, and provide some special opportunities and acknowledgments. We started our virtual morning announcements the first week of April and many students tuned in to hear updates, fun facts, interact with each other. As we aren't at school, we wanted to honor our 8th grade students and make them feel special, as we wrap things up. Our PTO and student council generously donated yard signs for all of our 8th grade students. We have been sending out encouragement and positive postcards to keep students focused and on target. Finally, our staff have been working to plan a live virtual 8th grade recognition ceremony that took place at the end of the year. We also provided an all school assembly in the same format.

I feel very lucky to be the leader at Central Middle School. The staff work hard each and everyday, and they put STUDENTS first. We hope you all have a wonderful, restful, and fun summer break. Congrats to our 8th graders!

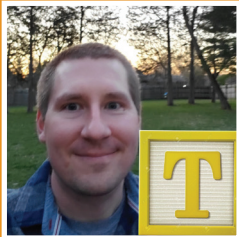
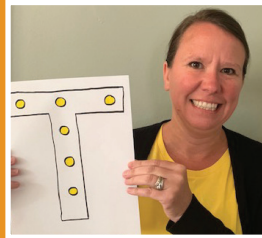
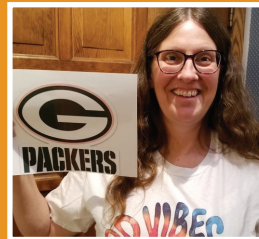
CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL



VIDEO: CMS 8th Grade Farewell

Congratulations to the 8th grade students at Central Middle School. Your teachers have created this wonderful farewell video as you prepare to move on to high school!

[Watch Now.](#)



DISTRICT NEWS

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HARTFORD JT. 1 2020-21 SCHOOL CALENDAR



2020	August 24	Rossman Open House, 3:30 – 6:30 PM
	August 25	Lincoln Open House, 3:30 – 6:30 PM
	August 26	Central Open House, 3:30 – 6:30 PM
	September 1	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL - Classes begin for all students
	September 7	NO CLASSES – Labor Day
	September 22	Central Family Night, 4:00 – 7:00 PM
	September 23	Rossman Family Night, 4:00 – 7:00 PM
	September 24	Lincoln Family Night, 4:00 – 7:00 PM
	October 27	Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4:00 – 7:00 PM
	October 29	Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4:00 – 7:00 PM
		End of 1 st Quarter – Central
	October 30	NO CLASSES, Parent-Teacher Conferences, 8:00 AM – 1:30 PM
	November 24	End of 1 st Trimester – Lincoln & Rossman
	November 25 – 27	NO CLASSES
	December 23 – 31	NO CLASSES – Winter break
2021	January 1	NO CLASSES – Winter break
	January 4	Classes resume for all students
	January 15	End of 2 nd Quarter – Central
	January 18	NO CLASSES – Staff Professional Development
	February 9	Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4:00 – 7:00 PM
	February 15	NO CLASSES – Staff Professional Development
	February 26	End of 2 nd Trimester – Lincoln & Rossman
	March 8	NO CLASSES – Staff Professional Development
	March 19	End of 3 rd Quarter – Central
	March 29 – April 5	NO CLASSES – Spring break
	April 6	Classes resume for all students
	May 31	NO CLASSES – Memorial Day
	June 4	EARLY RELEASE*
		LAST DAY OF SCHOOL – End of 3 rd Trimester – Lincoln & Rossman
		End of 4 th Quarter - Central

***EARLY RELEASE TIMES:** Lincoln and Rossman Schools will release at 11:30 AM and Central School will release at 11:50 AM.

On early release days, only morning early childhood and 4K classes will be in session. Afternoon sessions will not be held.



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February 2020 | volume 17, issue 2

SCHOOL BOARD GOALS:

GOAL: Continue to make school safety a priority.

- Improve and augment safety and crisis management plans.
- Practice drills to better enhance preparedness.
- Upon completion of drills, debrief to assist in upgrading safety practices.
- Educate stakeholders and inform the public of District initiatives, accomplishments and expectations.

GOAL: Be Responsive to Making Decisions that are Student-Centered.

- Work on measuring District priorities and maximizing student learning.
- Set specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely expectations via continuous improvement plans.
- Review and align school programs and competitions.
- Celebrate accomplishments that support behavioral and learning expectations.
- Reward desired outcomes.

GOAL: Promote Fiscal Responsibility.

- Create, optimize, develop and maintain a sustainable balanced budget that reflects District needs and the community's expectations.
- Develop long-range plans for maintenance and capital improvements.
- Communicate success to staff and public.
- Maintain a sustainable staffing plan.
- Leverage opportunities to retain high quality educators.

2020-21 SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

The public is welcome to attend school board meetings. Regular meetings will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM in the District Administration Building at 402 W. Sumner Street, unless otherwise indicated. Meeting notices are posted at each school, District Office, main entrance of City Hall, Jack Russell Memorial Library and on the District website. Questions regarding the agenda should be directed to Dr. Mark Smits, District Administrator, at 262-673-3155.

MEETING DATES

June 16, 2020	Oct 27, 2020	Feb 16, 2021
July 21, 2020	Nov 17, 2020	March 16, 2021
Aug 18, 2020	Dec 15, 2020	April 20, 2021
Sept 15, 2020	Jan 19, 2021	May 18, 2021

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jeff Becker, Presidentjbecker@hjt1.org
Don Pridemore, Vice President .. dpridemore@hjt1.org
Greg Erickson, Clerk gerickson@hjt1.org
Andy Hughes, Treasurer ahughes@hjt1.org
Erin Wilk, Director ewilk@hjt1.org

NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The School District of Hartford Jt. 1 Board of Education is committed to providing an equal educational opportunity for all students in the District. The Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex, (including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability ("Protected Classes") in any of its student program and activities. The Board designates the following individual to serve as the District's "Compliance Officer" - Laura Schieffer, Director of Pupil Services, School District of Hartford Joint #1, 402 W. Sumner St, Hartford, WI 53027, 262-673-8042, schieffer@hjt1.org. Students, parents and all other members of the School District community are encouraged to promptly report suspected violations of this policy to a teacher or administrator. The complaint procedure will follow Board Policy 2260.