

cms.mntm.org



From the Top

CEDAR MOUNTAIN SCHOOLS

DISTRICT OFFICE
PO BOX 188 • 207 GALLAGER STREET
MORGAN, MN 56266
PH: 507.249.5990 • FAX: 507.249.3149

CEDAR MOUNTAIN ELEMENTARY
PO BOX 38 • 231 4TH AVE. E. • FRANKLIN, MN 55333
PH: 507.557.2251 • FAX: 507.557.2116

CEDAR MOUNTAIN MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOLS PO BOX 188 • 207 GALLAGER STREET MORGAN, MN 56266 PH: 507.249.5880 • FAX: 507.249.5887

Homecoming





,2017



Back: Josh Wolling, King Carter Kleinschmidt, Matt Larsen & Brandon Leenerts • Middle: Erica Bock, Queen Makenzie Kerkhoff, Taylor Rose & Katelyn Green • Kindergarten Attendants: Ava Radermacher, Chase Steffl

















Mr. Robert Tews

Winter Weather Information

No matter how much I hope we don't, I think that we are going to have severe weather this winter. Based on the assumption that cold temperatures, high winds and heavy snow will come eventually this school year, I want to assure everyone that Cedar Mountain SUPERINTENDENT Schools are ready to respond, as needed, when severe weather occurs.

When the weather turns bad, we consider several factors to determine whether to keep schools open, delay school openings, close schools for a day or close schools early. Road conditions are checked, and the temperature and wind chill is monitored closely. I also check weather radar and listen closely to forecasts for our area. If a decision is made to cancel school or adjust the school schedule, I begin to call radio and television stations with that information. Please do not call the radio or television stations, as this tie up their phone lines. Some weather conditions, such as fog, are harder to react to, and the District respects parental decisions if you would choose to keep your child home until the conditions improve.

We live in Minnesota, which is famous for extremes in weather. I believe that we need to have school on days when the weather is not always ideal. If a parent or guardian feels it is unsafe to send their child to school, the school will respect that decision. You need to do what you feel is best for your child.

Listed below are the general procedures we follow at Cedar Mountain:

PROCEDURES FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER

1. All school closings, delayed starting times, and early dismissals will be announced on KLGR- AM 1490, FM 97.7; KNUJ-AM 860; WCCO-AM 830, WCCO-4 TV; KARE-11 TV and KSTP-5 TV. They are also communicated through the Instant Alert system and on the district website at: http://www. cms.mntm.org/. Parents and pupils are urged to listen to one of these stations daily, but especially when the weather

is inclement. Normally these stations will be notified of the closing of schools as soon after 6 a.m. as possible. Hearing no announcement, parents and students should assume that the schools will be in session.

- 2. There are also times when schools are closed earlier than the regular time. If an adult will not be at home, arrangements should be made so that young children have an appropriate place to go. Please make sure that all Snow Emergency Forms have been completed and returned to the principal's office at your child's school.
- 3. All school activities will not be held when school is closed due to inclement weather.
- **4.** All after-school activities will be canceled when school is dismissed early because of inclement weather.
- **5.** In case of a late start, breakfast will not be served that day.

Winter Busing Procedure

Winters can be very difficult due to snow, wind, and generally crummy weather. In the past, special procedures were put in place regarding bus transportation. I want to review these procedures, as we will follow them again this vear.

We have always looked at transportation in terms of safety and we won't take buses on roads that have not been plowed. We will again be following a very strict "plowed roads only" policy for this school year. If you live on a rural road, I ask that you think about an alternate pick up or drop off point for your child in the event we are not able to travel on your road. An example of an alternate pick up or drop off point would be the nearest current stop on a plowed road. If you have questions, I encourage you to contact Cedar Mountain Bus Service at 249-3136. They can work with you to find an appropriate alternate stop. We cannot risk a bus becoming stuck on an unplowed road.

Our goal is to get students to school each day safely. We hope that the weather and road conditions are not a problem this year. But I believe it is best for everyone if we "prepare for the worst and hope for the best".



District Advisory **Committee Members**

Cedar Mountain is looking for parents and community members to serve on the District World's Best Workforce committee. The World's Best Workforce committee is active in all phases of planning and improving the instruction and curriculum affecting state and district academic standards. If you are interested in serving on this committee please contact the District office at 507-249-5990.



Mrs. P. Machart Elementary PRINCIPAL

Elementary News

It has been a busy fall at Cedar Mountain Elementary!

• Our Kindergarten Jump Start students are excited to be attending all day on Fridays. It is amazing all the routines they are learning. Walking

in the hallway quietly, going through the lunch line, running laps in PE, packing up your backpack....... are all skills that we take for granted but are usually taught in kindergarten. Some kids are able to do all these things – but can they do it within the time frame we need and with the distractions of 20 others? These kids are now able to practice all these school expectations this year and are doing great at it! Plus they are mastering prekindergarten skills and having fun with the

kids in their grade.

- Technology is ever changing and we are using it daily in our instruction. Students can practice their math facts and chart their progress on a math app. The program even keeps track of which facts they are repeatedly getting wrong. Some classrooms are using an app called See Saw to communicate with parents and send examples of their work! Be sure you are not missing out on this fun if your child's teacher is using it!
- Don't worry --- we still believe in books at Cedar Mountain! The library is some of our kid's favorite place and we encourage our kids to READ READ READ! Prizes are given out monthly to those students that read and pass a quiz to prove their comprehension. Be sure you are modeling the importance of reading at home and are making time to read with your children no matter what age they are!

• We are keeping our eye on attendance as we know being is school regularly is so important to school success! As of today – 75% of our students have had perfect attendance! Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half the

students who miss 2¬-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school. We appreciate your help in getting your children to school daily!

Happy Fall!

We look forward to... **Halloween Red Ribbon Week**

Mix-It Up at Lunch Day and so much more!

$m{\mathcal{E}}lementary$ $m{\mathsf{TECHNOLOGY!}}$

Technology has become part of the educational process and it is exciting to see how we are integrating it at Cedar Mountain Elementary!

The teachers and students are excited about using technology --- in the classrooms students are , following along with books being read to them on their Ipads, watching a live weather report, creating picto collages and I movies, responding to teacher created quizzes and getting immediate feed-back and lots more.

- Teachers are able to incorporate technology into their daily lessons with SMART boards and Ipads for each student.
- We purchased the World Book on –line encyclopedia and it is amazing. You can look up an item, watch a video on it, listen to the sound it may make, and view several other sites that may be related to your topic. Our families can access this on our school website. The user name is cedarmountain and the password is cougars.
- Check out our school webpage at www.cms.mntm. org. Go to the Elementary section and the Cougar Pride link. From there you can watch videos created by Blue Crue Tue high lighting our behavior expectations.



We learned the latest in technology integration ideas from our colleagues and had the opportunity to hear how other schools are digitizing their curriculum and using technology for instruction, intervention, assessment, etc.

• Follow our school on Facebook --- you can see and read about highlights and reminders for our school!





Cedar Mountain Elementary enjoyed Critters and Company's presentation called Teasing Hurts! Students learned that saying I'm sorry is good...but changing our behavior is better!





The Cougar Cub Daycare has a new addition! This fall the playground was installed behind the daycare center in Franklin, this was possible by the over \$25,000 in donations received. Thank you to everyone who donated for this project, the children are loving their new play area outside.

CMS Fall Play

Tune in to

Murder by Craig Sodaro

November 10 & 11 at 7:00pm *CM MS/HS Auditorium*





CMS Elementary Positions
Cedar Mountain is looking for the following

 Long term sub/elementary teachers 4th grade & 3rd grade.

positions:

 Long term sub/Pre-school Readiness 3 days/week.

These are medical leaves and will begin in December and last for 9-12 weeks. Send an application to:

Patti Machart CMS Elementary Principal Box 38 • Franklin, MN 55333

Application forms are online at www.cms.mntm.org
Positions are open until filled.

The first annual **Cougar COLOR RUN** sponsored by Blue Crue was a huge success! There were over 120 runners/walkers who participated prior to the homecoming football game on Friday, September 29. Congrats to the winners and thank you to all who volunteered and took part, it was a wonderful evening!

Color Run Results

Mens (13+)

1st Russell Lumbar 2nd Dakota Lumbar 3rd Matthew Larsen

Boys (12 & Under)

1st Blake Steffl 2nd Dante Otto 3rd Cooper Freitag

Womens (13+)

1st Lauren Zeug 2nd Emma Sullivan 3rd Heather Lemcke

Girls (12 & Under)

1st Paulina Gre

1st Paulina Gregg 2nd Ellarie Blomeke 3rd Lauren Baringer



CM Students Canoe MN River Cedar Mountain 8th grade students went on a canoe trip the end of September. Students spent the day floating down the Minnesota River. This is the 2nd year that Cedar Mountain has offered this wonderful learning opportunity for our students.



Thirty Cedar Mountain sophomores attended the Career Expo at Southwest State University in Marshall on Tuesday, October 3. Students learned about a variety of careers available to them in southwest Minnesota and the education necessary to be qualified.





School Attendance

The new federal education law (Every Student Succeeds Act, or ESSA) requires states to use five measures of student success. The first four are related to academics — like annual tests and graduation rates. The fifth is up to the state and is aimed at measuring "student success or school quality." Minnesota picked consistent attendance for the fifth measure of school quality and student engagement.

For schools, consistent attendance defined as 90% attendance. This means if you are gone 10% of the time, you are considered "chronically absent." This includes excused and unexcused absences. While attendance is a non-academic measure, it's very much tied to academics and achievement. In addition to attendance being a primary cause of low academic achievement, it is also a powerful predictor of those students who may eventually drop out of school.

Research shows that kids who are chronically absent in Kindergarten don't perform as well as their peers in first grade, based on Education Week research. Some of the factors that contribute to chronic absenteeism include students' leading

troubled lives and/or living in poverty and avoiding class because of reading deficiencies. Another reason was parents allowing their kids to miss school for vacations or "mental health" days.

Attendance in the workplace is also important. For students, school is their workplace. It is important that parents, teachers, and administrators work together so student attendance becomes a high priority. Student with poor attendance habits can become an unemployable adult if he or she keeps those same habits.

As a school, we work very hard to connect with students and for students to have connections to our staff and other students. When students are absent, this does not happen. It is important in our schools that everyone, both adults and students, is here every day. As I say every year, we need to find reasons to be here, not excuses to be gone.

I believe strongly that education is the great equalizer. A quality education is the most consistent tool that allows people to advance their socio-economic status. I also believe that education is something that can't be taken from you. As educators, it is our privilege and responsibility to provide ALL students with the best education possible. Thank you for all you do as parents and guardians. Like you, we want what is best for your children.

A summary of consistent attendance can be found on MDE's Implementing ESSA page at http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/dse/ESSA/Imp/



Mr. R. Brandl High School PRINCIPAL

Middle / High School

The school year at Cedar Mountain MS/HS is off to a great start and we have a lot to be proud of. Our students and staff came back from summer prepared to make 2017-2018 a year of learning, positive experiences and great memories. So far this year our students have experienced changes to our math curriculum and some are currently taking new classes such as ACT Prep and middle school Study Skills. Our 8th grade students went on a field trip canoeing the Minnesota River in early September and Cedar Mountain National Honor Society inducted a large group of talented new members. Homecoming week went extremely well starting with our seniors entertaining the crowd at the always popular variety show and being capped off with the first annual Blue Crue Homecoming Color Run. It is our goal to make coming to

school each day a rewarding experience for our students and the opportunities we provide do just that. We hope to keep this positive momentum going as we continue to work to reach our goals. We have put a renewed emphasis on improving school attendance and so far we are seeing positive results. The MS/HS attendance team meets weekly to determine ways to address attendance concerns while also rewarding students for consistently being present and on time. Our students and families have responded to the changes and we truly believe that the improved attendance will directly relate to student success in the classroom. On behalf of Cedar Mountain MS/HS, I want to express my appreciation to our students, parents, staff and community for your continued support of our schools and programs. We know that together we can accomplish great things while providing out students a top-notch education.

Go Cougars!

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

National Honor Society

On September 19th, the Cedar Mountain National Honor Society held their induction ceremony in the CM MS/HS Cafeteria. Eleven new members were inducted into Cedar Mountain NHS. To become a member, a student must show the following qualities: leadership skills, be of good character, minimum GPA of 3.5 and willing to perform community service. Students are invited to apply by demonstrating these skills and providing letters of recommendation. After the applications are reviewed by a staff committee, students are notified of their acceptance.



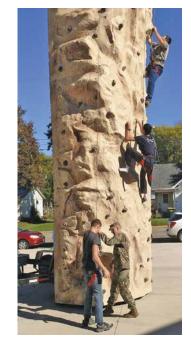
Front Row: Carter Kleinschmidt, Connor Johanneck, *Brady Forbrook, *Nolan Freitag,* Ethan Bock, Ben Nissen, Josh Wolling, Matt Larsen • *Middle Row:* *Kalli Kodet, Jordan Kevelin, Erica Bock, Becca Tietz, Kayley Spaeth, Abby Jemmings, Makenzie Kerkhoff, Torie Lemcke, *Ashley Rothmeier, *Alli Ahrens *Back Row:* *Trenna Jeppesen, *Haley Hacker, Lauren Zeug, *Emma Schouvieller, *Brooke Hoffbeck, Heather Lemcke, *Bailey Madsen, Kylie Wersal *Denotes new member

Cedar Mountain High School starts a Male Leadership program

Cedar Mountain High School recently started a Male Leadership program as they look to prepare their young men to be great citizens and leaders. This program is mandatory for boys in grades 9 and 12 and optional for others. The first year of the program is set up as a speaker series where an outside speaker will share a message on how they are a leader in their given field. Speakers currently scheduled are from the National Guard, Minnesota politicians, a college football coach, leaders in local agriculture and much more. The goal is to provide our students information and experiences that help shape them during this crucial time in their lives.

Mr. Brandl shared "We as a school often talk about how we want our students to be great leaders, but many are not sure what that looks like or where to start. We are really excited to give our students the tools necessary to be great leaders while at Cedar Mountain and for after graduation."

Special thanks to all of the speakers for donating their time to us and also to the Cedar Mountain PBIS team for designating funds to helps make this program a success. We look forward to another great year at Cedar Mountain!





"I absolutely loved it! Wished I had done this sooner."

orking here

Have you thought about being a substitute teacher or paraprofessional?

Need a part-time job? Decide when you want to work when you become a substitute teacher or paraprofessional at Cedar Mountain. CM uses a company called Teachers on Call (TOC) to find substitutes at our schools, you can find more information about applying for these positions online at www.teachersoncall.com. Once you apply and are hired by TOC, you have access to the substitute jobs posted online and you decide if it works for you to work that day or not!





For more information and to apply online, go to https://www.teachersoncall.com/substitutes



Nurse's Nook Flu Vaccine



Reminder to get flu vaccine!

Cedar Mountain will hold a flu vaccine clinic on November 9 for grades K-12

Forms will be sent home with students in grades K-6 grade. Forms will also available on the school website.

Prevention is the best medicine! Wash your hands often and do not touch your face, especially your eyes, nose and mouth.

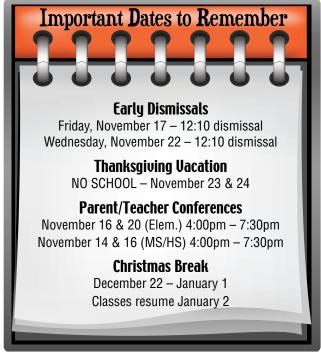
TECHTIPS

Talk to your kids about technology. Ask them questions about what game they are playing or what app they are using. This will create a trust relationship in which they will feel comfortable sharing issues with you when they arise.

Set specific windows of time when technology is allowed at home. Too much screen time has been linked to poor sleep, a shorter attention span, and decreased physical activity.

Make your kids earn their time online. Change the passwords for your wifi or devices. Make a list of chores that will earn them the password, such as make your bed, do your homework, brush your teeth...

Set tech free zones (or times) in the house. For example, no gadgets allowed in the dining room. Or, no technology after 7pm. (This is good for adults too. And great for sleep hygiene.)





in the toddler and preschool programs.

For more information,

contact

Center Director Jody Rose at 507-557-2254.



Famer's Market

The Farmer's Market was once again a huge success at Cedar Mountain Elementary and this year we raised over \$3,600. This event has become a popular event for our communities!

It is fun to see how creative parents have become with their baking, crafts, and packaging! We hope you all enjoyed the yummy supper prepared by our cooks! Thanks to the families for donating, purchasing and working at the Farmer's Market! All proceeds are used for class activities and field trips.



Community Scholarship

Cedar Mountain High School has a scholarship fund set up called the Cedar Mountain Community Scholarship. This is a scholarship that is used to enhance the



future of our students who are pursing any type of education beyond high school. Each year, the Cedar Mountain Scholarship awards three scholarships to graduating seniors. This scholarship is available to graduating seniors through generous donations by community members and organizations.

Cedar Mountain also has a Children's Fund that has been set up. It is a great program that provides resources to students who may be lacking basic things such as garments for winter, proper shoes, or needing some money in their account due to a negative lunch balance, or just for projects that are getting done in class which require materials and the student doesn't have the funds to get those materials.

If you are interested in supporting any of these funds or have more questions about them, please contact Preston Palokangas, the school counselor at Cedar Mountain. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Phone: 249-5880 Email: ppalokangas@cedarmt.org High School Address:

> Cedar Mountain High School Preston Palokangas PO Box 188 Morgan, MN 56266

SOCKTOBER

Do you know that socks are one of the most needed items for homeless shelters? Cedar Mountain Blue Crue

is organizing a community service event to raise awareness of homelessness. "Socktober" is running for the month of October and students are asked to bring new socks and place them in the respective buckets for each grade. The grades are having a friendly competition to see who can raise the most points. Points are given for each pair of socks donated, extra points are given for "themed" sock days such as fuzzy socks, tall socks and crazy socks. If a student would like to "sabotage" a grade, they can drop white socks into a bucket and that grade will lose a point! All the socks will be donated to a homeless shelter in St. Paul the end of October, so far, over 500 pairs of socks have been donated!



Early Childheed Development

Preschool Options

3-Year-Old (AM) School Readiness Class

This class is offered in Franklin & Morgan and is for students who are entering Kindergarten in 2019-20.

Days & Time: Mondays & Wednesdays from 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Location: Morgan & Franklin

Cost: \$60 per month - billed the month prior to services

4-Year-Old (PM) School Readiness Class

This class is offered in Franklin & Morgan and is for students who are entering Kindergarten in 2018-19.

Days & Time: Mondays & Wednesdays from 12:45 PM – 3:15 PM

Location: Morgan & Franklin

Cost: \$60 per month - billed the month prior to services

Kindergarten Jumpstart - Franklin Site

This program will be held all day every other Friday in Franklin for Cedar Mountain students going to kindergarten in 2018-19. This class will help prepare your child for kindergarten by teaching various routines such as using the lunchroom, visiting specialists in other parts of the building such as Phy. Ed, computer lab, library etc..., emphasis will also be on letter recognition, phonemic awareness, and math skills to prepare for the transition to kindergarten. Transportation is unique to this program, you will work with your child's teacher to plan a smooth transition for your child.

Days & Time: Fridays from 8:20 AM – 3:20 PM

Cost: \$20 per session – billed the month prior to services

FUN FRIDAY - Morgan Site

This is a mixed aged class for 3 & 4 year olds and will be offered every Friday in Morgan. This is a literacy based program and each day will be set up around a "book of the day" theme. Transportation will be provided between the schools in Franklin & Morgan for no charge. This is for students who will be attending kindergarten in 2019-20 or those not in Jumpstart.

Days & Time: Fridays from 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Cost: \$30 per month - billed the month prior to services (scholarships are available to those who qualify)

For more information about preschool, contact Sarah at ssullivan@cedarmt.org or 249-5990 or Rachel at rkrenz@cedarmt.org or 557-2251

Pre-School Screening

Cedar Mountain held their annual
Pre-School Screening in October.
All students that are three years old
by Sept 1 were screened by trained
professionals in the areas of cognitive/
thinking, language, communication and
large and small muscle use. Nurses and social

workers also visit with parents about immunization schedules, social and

emotional development and medical history. Early Childhood Screening is free and a simple check of how your child is growing, developing and learning. This is also a time to connect families with other programs we have for early learners. If you would like to know more about our Pre-School, ECFE or Kindergarten Jump Start - please call the elementary school at 507-557-2251.

Questions about ECFE? Contact Dawn Tietz at 249-5990 or dtietz@cedarmt.org or Emily Dahmes at 557-2251 or edahmes@cedarmt.org



Santa's Workshop Tuesday, December 5th 6:00pm -7:00pm MS/HS Cafeteria in Morgan

Winter Kick Off "Sand Between My Toes"



Community Education / Youth Activities

Cougarettes Dance

Preschool - Grade 8

Classes start November 6 @ CM Elementary, Franklin

Cost: \$125 - 4 year olds & Kindergarten

\$150 - Grades 1-8

- · Cost includes registration, t-shirt & costume
- Family discount 1st child full price, 2nd child \$25 off, 3rd child \$35 off

Mondays

Tentative 5:15 – 5:45 p.m. 4 Year olds & Kindergarten

Schedule: 5:45 – 6:30 p.m. Grades 1, 2, 3

6:30 – 7:15 p.m. Grades 4, 5 7:15 – 8:15 Grades 6, 7, 8

Coach: Tasha Zieske

Questions: Please contact Sarah Sullivan 249-5990 or ssullivan@ cedarmt.org or Tasha at 320-894-4154 or tzieske@cedarmt.org Scholarships are available, please contact Sarah for more

information.



SCHOOL CENSUS: If you are new to the Cedar Mountain area or recently welcomed a new baby, please be sure to call the school and put your child's name(s) on our school census.

Call CM Elementary at 557-2251 or email bradermacher@cedarmt.org

55+ Driver Improvement Program Class

Where: MS/HS Media Center, Morgan
Dates: 4 Hour – Monday, November 20

8 Hour - Monday, November 20 &

Tuesday, November 21

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Cost: 4 Hour - \$20

8 Hour - \$25

(Sorry, no discount for AARP members)

Please register by dropping off a copy of your current driver's license, what class you are registering for and payment at the school office in Franklin or Morgan or send to: CM Schools

d to: CW Schools

Attention: Community Ed.

PO Box 188 • Morgan, MN 56266



CMBA - Cedar Mt. Basketball Association

Serving Boys & Girls in Grades 3rd-6th

Registration Night • Sunday, October 29 • 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Cafeteria at the Morgan High School

- Register & pay fees for the 2017-18 season
- Information about the upcoming season
- Order jerseys (4th grade)
- Team/individual photo information
- Clothing information

If your child is interested in playing youth basketball this season, please plan to come sign up. I can answer questions you may have that night about the youth basketball program. This is a come and go registration night. If you aren't new to the program and know how it works, just come and sign up, pay the fee, and grab the information.

Jolene Lueck, Coordinator • jlueck@cedarmt.org

For more information on area offerings, contact Sarah Sullivan at ssullivan@cedarmt.org or 249-5990

ISD 2754 Cedar Mountain Schools 310 Somerville Ave. N. PO Box 188 Morgan, MN 56266

PRSRT STD ECRWSS U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 20

POSTAL PATRON



CEDAR MOUNTAIN SCHOOLS 2017-18 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Nov. 14, 16 MS/HS Parent/Teacher Conf	
Nov. 16, 20 Elem. Parent/Teacher Conf	
Nov. 17Early Dismissal – 12:10)
Nov. 22 Early Dismissal – 12:10)
Nov. 23, 24 Thanksgiving Vacation	า
Dec. 22 – Jan. 1 Winter Break	K
2018	
Jan. 2School resumes	S
Jan. 19 Teacher Workday (No School)
Feb. 19 Presidents' Day (No School)
Feb. 26 Parent/Teacher Conf	
March 9 No School	ار
March 23 Early Dismissal – 12:10)
March 28 Early Dismissal – 12:10)
March 29-April 2 Spring Break (No School)
May 28 Memorial Day (No School)
May 31 Last day of school	ı
June 1	1

Winter Sports Start Dates

November 13:

Girls Basketball / JH Basketball

HOCKEY

November 20:

Boys Basketball / Wrestling





NOVEMBER 21st

Cedar Mountain MS/HS

To set up appointments, community members can go to www.redcross. org and click on Give Blood. You can choose their appointment time online.

We always accept walk-ins as well!