



CJI Newsletter

March 2026

HOW
ARE
YOU?

How was your day?

Ways to find out what happened at school:

- "What was the 'pot of gold' (best part) of your day today?"
- "Did you spot any 'signs of spring' or something new growing today?"
- "Where did you feel especially 'lucky' at school today?"
- "If you found a four-leaf clover, what's one thing you'd wish for your classroom?"
- "What was a 'stormy' moment today, and how did you find the sunshine afterward?"
- "Which friend was a 'rainbow' for you today (made things brighter)?"

Spring Sports Schedule Links

Tennis

JV Tennis

Track

JH Wrestling

Elementary Basketball

CJI SportsYou

CJI Now has a SportsYou page to help keep everyone up-to-date on school happenings.



CODE: LWUT-ANXF

Board Action



- The board voted to hire Maria Forrest, Will Bryan, and Jeanne Kucera as substitutes.
- Hired Lacey Lalum as head Tennis Coach.
- Special school board meeting on March 5th to hire track coaches.

After School Activities

Beyond the Bell 4:00pm-5:00pm.
Beyond the Bell Paperwork

Upcoming February Events

4th Fire Drill
12th End of 3rd Quarter
16th 1st day of track practice
17th School Board Meeting
19th Parent Teacher Conferences. 1:00 pm release



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Visit our School Website





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Staff Spotlight

Rhonda Petersen

I grew up in several places because my dad was in the army. I lived in Virginia, Wisconsin, Washington (twice), and Montana. I went to high school in Havre so Chester was not a big change for me. My favorite hobbies are reading, cooking, and baking. Two fun facts about me are that I was born in Germany where my parents met when they were both in the Army and I attended Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts one of the Seven Sisters Colleges. I flew to Smith by myself never having seen the campus before I arrived. I have coached the CJI Speech and Drama team for nine years, which is one less than the ten years I have taught at CJI. One of my favorite school events are when we host speech meets. I teach 9-12 Social Studies and Accounting.

Staff Spotlight

Gloria Behem

I grew up in Terre Haute, Indiana where, those in the age group to remember music clubs, sent their request to Columbia Records. It is probably no surprise that my favorite hobby is reading, but I do like to walk/hike and when able to travel. I taught in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia in my first teaching job. My favorite school event is watching students gain knowledge through our wonderful staff.

Family Activity Ideas

- *Build a Leprechaun Trap
- *Make a green-themed dinner- some ideas are broccoli, lime Jell-O, pesto, and green punch.
- *Search for the pot of gold scavenger hunt. Hide gold coins around the house or yard.
- *Start seeds in an egg carton. Great early starters are beans, sunflowers, or tomatoes.
- *Celebrate Pi Day (3/14). You can also sneak in some fraction work:)
- *Fly a kite.
- *March Madness. Create a family bracket and find out who had the best choices.



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Counselor's Update

- Upcoming Scholarship Deadlines:
 - CHS-Big Sky: March 16th
 - MT Clerk and Recorder: March 13th
 - MUS Honor Scholarship: March 15th
 - Triangle Communications: April 1st
- REACH Camp will be held at Logan Health on March 25th
- Hill County Electric and Triangle Communications held a trades exploration day on March 2nd.
- The final MAST Window opens on March 30th for 3rd-8th Graders
- MT Science Assessment will be happening this month for the 5th and 8th grades.
- 4th and 8th-grade students will take the NAEP assessment on March 18th
- Juniors will take the ACT on March 24th.

Updates From Mr. Haggerty

- Received over \$60,000 in tax credit donations. Thank you to everyone who donated!
- Congratulations to Trent and Jonny for winning state in their drama event.
- Jonathon Waters Serrato won the Liberty County Spelling Bee and will compete at state in March
- Huge thank you to Jeff Boucher for filling in for HS science classes, and Chris and Shy Case for filling in for Music classes the past month.
- We received two applicants for the two open positions on the school board.
- The preliminary school budget for 26-27 shows a little over a 1% increase.
- We have an opening at Sage Creek Colony for a teaching position for the 26-27 school year.

Updates From Mrs. Grammar

- We finished I Love to Read Month. Students and teachers had a great time celebrating each Monday in February!
- The end of the 3rd quarter is on March 12th. I cannot believe how fast the year has gone by. One more quarter until summer break.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences are on March 19th from 1-7. We will send a link to sign up the week of March 9th for grades 4K-3rd. No appointment necessary for 4th-12th grades. These will be drop-in style, running the same way they did during fall conferences.
- We will be hosting Safe at Home for 4th and 5th grades on March 19th and Safe Sitter on March 24th for 6th grade, and on March 25th for 7th grade, through Public Health.





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March Math Game: "Lucky Clover Sums"

- Skills: Addition, Subtraction, or Multiplication (can be leveled for K-6).
- Supplies: Green paper (or white paper colored green), scissors, and a marker.
- How to Play:
 - a. Cut out several three-leaf clovers and four-leaf clovers.
 - b. On the three-leaf clovers, write a math problem (e.g., $\$15 + 12\$$ or $\$6 \times 8\$$).
 - c. On the four-leaf clovers, write the answers.
 - d. The Challenge: Students must find the "Lucky" four-leaf clover that correctly solves the three-leaf problem.
- Challenge Version: * Timed Sprint: How many clovers can you match in 60 seconds?
 - The "Gold" Round: Use yellow circles (Gold Coins) for the answers instead of four-leaf clovers.

March ELA Game: "Lucky Limerick Writer"

- Skills: Rhyming, rhythm, and syllable counting.
- The Goal: Write a silly five-line poem (a limerick) about a leprechaun, a rainy day, or a piece of lucky clover.
- The "Math-in-ELA" Rules:
 - a. Lines 1, 2, and 5 must rhyme and have 7-10 syllables.
 - b. Lines 3 and 4 must rhyme and have 5-7 syllables.
- Example: >

There once was a fellow named Pat, (A)

Who wore a very green hat. (A)

He stepped in a puddle, (B)

And got in a muddle, (B)

Now he's flat as a floor mat! (A)



March Reading Goal Ideas

- The "Pot of Gold" Challenge: Set a goal to read 17 minutes a day (for St. Patrick's Day). Every day completed earns a "gold coin" sticker. A full month earns a special treat!
- Spring into a New Series: Use the change of season to start a new book series. Research shows that once kids finish book one, they are 70% more likely to finish the whole set.
- March Madness "Book Bracket": Pick 8 favorite books and "pitting" them against each other in a family vote until you crown the "Champion Book of March."
- Read-Aloud Nature Walk: Take a book outside on the first day of Spring (March 20) and read a chapter under a tree or at a park.

Books