

News from the Elementary & Middle Schools

VOLUME X, ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 2017

The Principal's Pen

Dear Parents,

This year, our 8th graders traveled to Washington DC on Tuesday, October 24 - Friday, October 27. This trip is one example of all the wonderful experiences that we try to provide for our students. The students put together an amazing itinerary that included: all the major memorials (Jefferson, FDR, MLK, Lincoln), the Washington Monument, Smithsonian, Ford's Theatre, and a guided tour of the floor of the US House of Representatives led by our very own Congressman John Faso! A huge thank you to Mrs. Marotta for organizing this annual trip and to all the chaperones for keeping our children safe.

On November 8, report cards will be backpacked home for students in grades 4-8. We will host scheduled Parent/Teacher Conferences on November 9 and 16 (both days are **HALF DAYS**), and we will have scheduled evening conferences November 16.

On Friday, November 10, the school will be closed for Veterans Day. Please let us all take some time on that day to keep our military families in our thoughts and prayers. The school will also be closed for Thanksgiving on November 22-24. If you are traveling, please drive carefully.

During the month of October, the Elementary School collected baby diapers and wipes for the people of Puerto Rico who were affected by Hurricane Maria. Donations were brought to the Empire State Plaza to assist with the Empire State Relief and Recovery Effort for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Together, we were able to donate a car load of materials. Thanks to all those that participated.

Sincerely,

Jim Farley

Principal

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Washington DC Trip
- Veterans' Day
- Conference Days
- Happy Thanksgiving
- Hurricane Relief

From the Nurse's Desk:

Winter Sports

Tanner Scoring—11/1 MS Health Office
Sports physicals—11/2 HS Health Office
Varsity & JV Sports begin—11/6
Modified sports begin—11/13
Sports physicals—11/16 MS Health Office

Grade 4 & 7 Physical Exams

All students in Kindergarten and grades 2, 4, 7, 10 & **new students to the district** are required by NYS Law to have a physical examination. If your child is in grades 4 or 7, or new to the district, they will need a physical exam. Ichabod Crane Central School will offer school-based physicals for **students without health insurance and/or students who have special circumstances**. Please notify me if your child does not have access to a health care provider.

Documentation should be sent to the nurse on or before October 16, 2017. You may have the physician fax documentation to (518) 758-2230 or (518) 758-1405.

Grade 6 & 7 Immunizations

Students who are entering grade 6 and are 11 years of age or older must receive two immunizations:

- #2 Varicella vaccine - (chicken pox vaccine)
- Tdap- (an immunization containing tetanus toxoids, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis)

Ten year old students who are entering grade 6 will be required to receive a Tdap vaccine when they turn 11 years old (within 14 days after their 11th birthday).

Students entering grade 7 must have one dose of meningococcal vaccine. They will be required to get a booster at age 16.

Please call (518) 758-7676 ext.5041, if you have any questions or concerns.

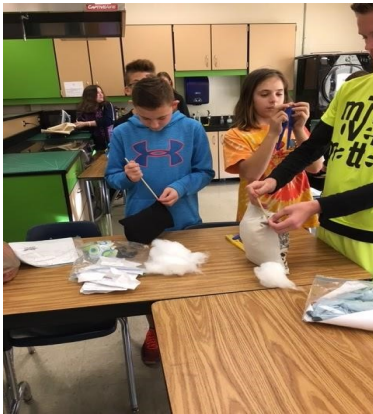
Thank you.

Jo-Ellen Estabrook-Pollack,RN
ICC Elementary/Middle School Nurse

From Mrs. Kuhn—FACS:

Career Days November 30 & December 1

Students in 8th grade will discover why they're in school, by interviewing people in various careers of interest to them. Mrs. Kuhn is looking for volunteers to speak in 8th grade FACS and Technology classes about their careers. Each presentation will last approximately 20 minutes, including a Q & A between students and presenters. Students become more engaged in learning, when they see the connection between school and their future in the work force. Please contact Mrs. Kuhn if you would like more information: mkuhn@ichabodcrane.org.



Using Construction Skills for Sustainability

The 7th Grade FACS students used problem solving, communication, measuring and construction skills to re-purpose textiles. After taking inventory at home, students brought unused items to school to deconstruct and reconstruct. Many students used old shirts that no longer fit, but had sentimental or artistic value. These textiles were re-purposed to become tote bags or pillows.

From Mrs. Colton—Peer Mediation

On October 18th, twelve Middle School students participated in training with Mrs. Colton to become Peer Mediators for the ES/MS building.

Mediation is an opportunity for students to sit face to face and talk without being interrupted, so that both sides of the dispute can be heard. It is a problem solving approach where an agreement is reached by both students involved in the conflict. Student Mediators ensure that the Mediation session is helpful and fair and are there to guide the Mediation thru a six step process.

Mediation is voluntary and all conversation during the mediation remains confidential.

The students gained a better understanding of what "conflict" is, learned about the origins of conflict, gained a better sense of what peace means and how to go about peace-making. We discussed the importance of communication and practiced skills.

The six steps in the Mediation process are:

- 1) Agree to Mediate
- 2) Gather Points of View
- 3) Focus on Interests
- 4) Create WIN-WIN Options
- 5) Evaluate Options
- 6) Create an Agreement

Mediation can be very helpful and students will learn to solve their own problems in a respectful and responsible way, without an adult doing it for them. It helps students to learn to better communicate their feelings effectively and appropriately, ultimately making the school experience a more positive place to learn and grow.

Mediation Request forms are available in the Main Office, and from teachers and school counselors.

Please welcome this year's new Peer Mediators: Fiona White, Elysia, Mott-Tipple, Francisco Sanchez, Alina Keller, Hannah Schermerhorn, Breonica Miller, Liz Holliday, Delaney More and Quentin Barton.

Returning Peer Mediators are Piper DeKraai, Makenzie Elting, and Julia Rivers.

These students should be commended for the work they are doing to make a difference in their school community.

Ichabod Crane CSD

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Non-Discrimination Compliance Statement

The Ichabod Crane Central School District hereby advises students, parents, employees, and the general public that it offers educational opportunities including vocational opportunities without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, handicap or religion. Inquiries regarding this non-discrimination policy may be directed to: Title IX and Section 504 Compliance Officer, Ichabod Crane Central School District, Valatie, NY 12184 (518) 758-7575. A copy of the "In Compliance with Section 1.4 (a)" is available in the Superintendent's Office.

Happy Thanks- giving!

Upcoming Events:

November

- 7 - Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 8 - Reports Cards backpacked home
- PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm (MS Library)
- 9 - **HALF-DAY** (Parent/Teacher Conference)
- 10 - **NO SCHOOL** (Veterans Day)
- 16 - **HALF-DAY** (Parent/Teacher Conference)
- 21 - Early Dismissal Day (1:50 pm dismissal)
- 22-24 - **NO SCHOOL**—Happy Thanksgiving!