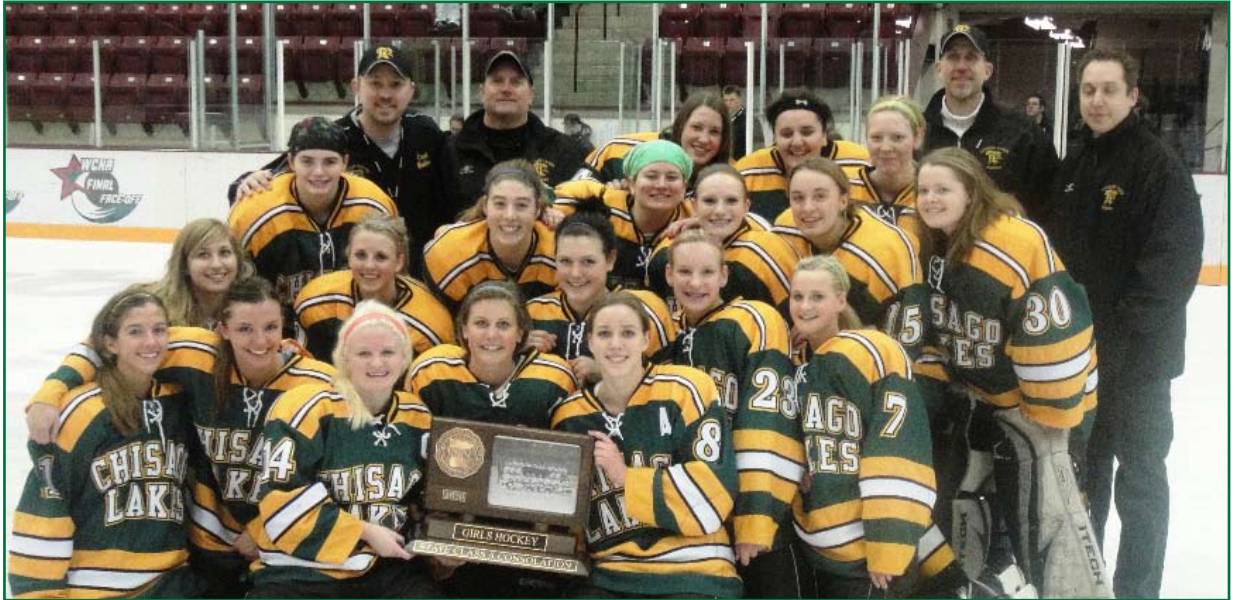




Chisago Lakes

Chisago Lakes Girls Hockey Team Is State Tournament Consolation Champs and Section 7A Academic Champions



The Minnesota State High School Coaches Association gives Team Academic Excellence Awards to athletic teams with outstanding grade point averages. Each Section also recognizes the school with the highest overall GPA as the Section Academic Champion Team.

Chisago Lakes High School proudly displays many team academic awards. Within recent years our **Boys Basketball**, **Boys Soccer** and

Boys Swimming and Diving teams have also had the honor of being named Minnesota State Academic Champions.

2009-2010 Fall and Winter season sports earning awards include Gold Awards for: **Girls Tennis** and **Volleyball**, and Silver Awards for: **Football**, **Girls Soccer**, **Girls Swimming and Diving**, **Girls Basketball**, **Gymnastics**, **Boys and Girls Alpine Skiing** and **Girls Hockey**.

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Lindstrom, MN 55045
Tel. 651-213-2000

Letter from the Superintendent:



With spring right around the corner the Chisago Lakes Schools are closing in on the final three months of the school year. It seems that the school year has flown by and plans are already being made for the 2010-2011 school year.

Those plans include trying to determine what level of funding can be expected from the State of Minnesota to fund public schools. As many of you are aware, the state is facing unprecedented revenue shortfalls and is cutting budgets in most of the state agencies. While K-12 education is supposedly being held harmless, the reality is that if increases in state aid to just cover inflationary increases are not arriving at the school district, then the school district must cut its own budgets to try to maintain valuable programs and personnel.

Chisago Lakes will again cut a million dollars from its operating budget for the coming year to adjust to this revenue shortfall, and the state predicts that things will not improve for at least the next 24 months. If you hear of program cuts and layoffs at the school, it is not because the district has been extravagant in its spending. It is because our funding has not kept up with what it costs to do business. All of our employee groups have been asked to make wage or benefit concessions to help alleviate the financial struggle and they have cooperated with that request.

Presentations on these financial difficulties have been made to staff at all five of our schools, to four parent/teacher organizations as well as at a public forum held on February 25, 2010 at the District Office boardroom. Additional budget and school program reduction information can be found on the school district website at www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us. Feel free to contact me or Heide Miller, Director of Business Services, regarding any specific information on budget reductions.

On a brighter note, we congratulate the nearly 270 seniors that will be graduating as part of the Class of 2010. We are proud of your accomplishments and leadership and wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors. We will also be holding kindergarten roundup in the month of April for all families who will be enrolling a kindergartener in our district for the coming school year. Contact Chisago Lakes Community Education, Primary School or Taylors Falls Elementary for more information regarding the options available for kindergarten for the coming year. There have been major changes in kindergarten programming that need to be communicated to all parents of incoming kindergarten students.



Primary School celebrates Dr. Seuss' Birthday



Primary School celebrates Dr. Seuss' Birthday

Congratulations to all of our fall and winter season athletes and coaches on a fine year of competition. Special congratulations to our Girls Hockey team who were able to participate in the MN State Hockey Tournament this year as well as winning the section academic award.

As we approach the end of the school year, I again encourage your feedback and comments on how Chisago Lakes School District is doing and how and where we may improve. We strive to be better every day and welcome your help in that process. Best wishes for a great spring season. Thanks for your continued support of our public schools.

Chisago Lakes Schools and Chisago Lakes Area Library Partner for “Authors Live”

A collaboration between Chisago Lakes Schools and the Chisago Lakes Area Library brings special opportunities to meet authors, ask questions and get signed copies of books. These events will take place at either the public library or the middle school media center. See calendar below and district website <http://www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/> for specific authors, dates, times and locations.

April 8, 2010 4:30 - 5:30 PM Middle School Media Center

Sue Leaf is a freelance writer and the author of Potato City: History, Nature, and Community in the Age of Sprawl. In The Bullhead Queen, Sue Leaf exemplifies the moral aspect of humans to nature through a collection of engaging meditations on the places she sees every day on Pioneer Lake. Her essays have appeared in Minnesota



Monthly, Utne Reader, Minnesota Conservation Volunteer, and Architecture Minnesota.

A former college instructor in biology and environmental science, she holds a doctorate in zoology from the University of Minnesota. She is president of Wild River Audubon and lives in Center City, Minnesota, on the shore of Pioneer Lake.



* **5:50 PM Dinner** - \$6.50 with advanced reservations and payment through Chisago Lakes Food Service, 651-213-2066 or email dpeltier@chisagolakes.k12.mn.us

Mark your Calendar for future “Authors Live” Events:

- **April 8, 2010** 4:30-5:30 PM Middle School Media Center - **Sue Leaf**
* 5:30 Dinner available - \$6.50 with advanced reservations and payment.
- **May 13, 2010** 7:00-8:00 PM Lakes Area Library - **Roger Stelljes**
- **June 10, 2010** 4:30-5:30 PM Middle School Media Center - **PJ Tracy**

“Authors Live” updates are on the Chisago Lakes District website at <http://www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us>

Suggested donation of \$5.00 to cover expenses. Advance tickets available at Chisago Lakes Area Library, Chisago Lakes District Office, by calling 651-213-2007, or e-mail dmaitrejean@chisagolakes.k12.mn.us. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Voice of Democracy & Patriot’s Pen Awards

Chisago Lakes High School Senior, **Ali Turnquist**, and Chisago Lakes Middle School 7th grader, **Ali Saueressig**, were honored at the 7th District Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen Award Banquet held in January at Post 6587 in Spring Lake Park, Minnesota. Both advanced to the 7th District finals after winning first place in the Local 7267 VFW contests. Ali Turnquist placed first in the Region for her oral essay “Does America Still Have Heroes?” Ali presented her speech to the crowd and advanced to the state level. Ali Saueressig was awarded 2nd place in the Patriot’s Pen Essay Contest at the Regional level. Congratulations to both students for an outstanding effort in these contests.

Pictured are Veteran John Broecker, Ali Saueressig, Ali Turnquist and VFW Commander Wymann Detzler.



Environmental Art: Changing the High School One Wall at a Time

Environmental Art is a course offered to juniors and seniors interested in changing their environment at Chisago Lakes High School in an artistic way. The course is offered only once a year and the group of 16 upperclassmen work as a team to choose the location, design what the mural will look like, and the color scheme that will be used. This year the class chose to paint the large 72 foot wall outside of the Art 1 classroom. *“I think the kids chose this location, because their theme was vague: Art and Color were truly the only requirements.”* The final product is a very large, vibrant and a fun representation of ART. There is splatter paint, gradient color mixing, graffiti tagging, and three dimensional aspects all in one space. The 2009-2010 environmental art class completed the mural January 22nd.



The mural artists were:

Front: **Kaylee Paulson, Danielle Vitali.**

2nd row: **Lauren Weiler, Annie Frohwein and David Angus.**

3rd row: **Cameron Bouwens and David Rieck.**

Back Cluster: **Mitch Lindau, Morgan Magnuson, Carly Savino, Danielle Bigott, Sam Greene, Alli Alldritt and Ashley Carroll.**



North Suburban Conference Art Show

On February 10th the NSC hosted a reception and awards presentation for students, families, and schools entered in the Conference Art Show. Each of the NSC Schools was only allowed to enter 6 original student's artwork. The 6 Students from Chisago Lakes High School were: **Cara Beimert-Photography, Morgan Ford-Watercolor, Hannah Lindeman-Photography, Jake Jerrard-Drawing, Mary Quint-Drawing, and Cecilia Strother-mixed media drawing.** *At the awards presentation Mary Quint (right) was awarded 1st place overall in the drawing category for her colored pencil drawing, “The Abstract Life of Birds”.* The 2010 NSC Art Show was held at the Anoka Ramsey Community College in Coon Rapids.



Parents and Staff at Chisago Lakes Primary Working Together to Build a New Playground

The playground at Chisago Lakes Primary is in need of new playground equipment. The playground that our youngest learners are using is approximately twenty-five years old and not adequate for the number of students using it. Some of the parents of our current students have commented, *“That is the playground I played on when I went to school here.”*

In the last twenty-five years, the building enrollment has grown quite dramatically. In addition, this school year, Primary School has the honor of hosting pre-school. On any given day, the playground is shared by approximately 300 students – ages 4 through 7. The equipment has served us well. However, there just simply is not enough equipment for all of our youngsters to utilize. *Let’s not forget that this playground is also an attraction in the summer months and after school for Kids Club programs and local families.*

The Chisago Lakes Parent Teacher

Organization began planning and fundraising for this project last year. A large drainage ditch that ran through the playground was filled in over the summer to prepare the site for new equipment. The drainage ditch was a magnet for kids when it filled with water over the spring months, so it was a much needed improvement to the area.

A playground committee, led by parent **Amy Ralidak**, was formed this year. The committee collected bids and designs by several companies. A design has been chosen and fundraising has begun. A total of about \$40,000 will need to be raised to move forward with the project - a lofty goal that we truly believe is obtainable.

Several fundraisers have been underway:

- The Primary School held a Wildcat sweatshirt sale which brought in about \$4,000.
- A Wild West themed dinner and silent auction will be held at the Primary School on March 19th.

- Chisago Road House sponsored a snowmobile run on February 20th with all proceeds designated for the playground.
- Pennies for Playground donation jars have been placed around town at local businesses as well.
- Letters requesting financial support have been mailed to Fortune 500 Companies.
- Applications have been completed for playground grants.

The playground committee is convinced that enough funds can be secured to move forward with a June installation so that students entering school in September 2010 will be able to begin using the new equipment.

Our goal is to make our playground safe, fun, and able to accommodate our growing community. If you would like to be involved in this project in some way, please contact Amy Ralidak at 651-261-5810 or Brenda Schell at 651-213-2201.



I Love to Read

Lakeside celebrated I Love To Read month with their annual all school parade on Friday, February 26th. There were over twenty floats or participants celebrating the “Wild About Reading” theme that inspired Lakeside students to read hundreds of books. Lakeside also topped off their month of reading with a *Movie With The Principal* and the all-school celebration of reading on Wednesday, March 3rd. Thanks again to all the hard work put into this by the students, parents and Lakeside Staff.



Principal Leadership Award Goes To Joe Thimm

Taylor Falls principal, **Joe Thimm** was recently awarded the Division Leadership Award at the State Principal's Conference.



In his principalship, Mr. Thimm follows the philosophy of this quote: "People don't care what you know until they know that you care." Whether it is the staff, the students, or the parents, he wants all the people he serves to know that he is there to help. Chisago Lakes colleague Warren Retzlaff, principal at Lakeside Elementary School, said that Thimm has been an inspiration to everyone he has worked with ever since he came to the district some 30 years ago.



Asking a few students around Taylor Falls about Mr. Thimm garnered these comments. "He's tall." – Jillian, "He's nice." – Matthew, "He cares." – Alyssa, "He's courteous." – Peyton, "He's funny." – Jesseca. Chisago Lakes Schools congratulate Joe Thimm on a well deserved award.



Middle School History Day Project

Check out 2010 regional qualifiers at www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us/.

Talk to any seventh grader and they will tell you that the History Day Project is a BIG DEAL. Every Chisago Lakes Middle School seventh grade student spends from October to late February working on this very extensive project, which is part of National History Day. A different theme is selected at the national level each year. Chisago Lakes Students choose historical topics related to the theme. Teachers encourage students to choose a topic wisely. It will take students many hours to conduct extensive research, take notes, write a research paper, make an annotated bibliography, write a process paper and finally, present their work in original papers, websites, exhibits, performances, or documentary films all on the chosen topic.



This highly regarded academic program is under the direction of teachers **Katie Larson** and **Al Schulte**. Associate Middle School Principal **Jodi Otte** said, "They are both very dedicated and put in a lot of time to make sure that students are successful. Both teachers work extended hours to be available after school to provide personal attention and mentoring for students."



Mr. Schulte and Ms. Larson each received the National History Day Teacher of Merit Award: In recognition of commitment to the furthering of historical knowledge and study among young people through National History Day.

When all the projects are done, parents are invited to open houses to see all the projects. After judging, the best projects advance to the regional competition. Regional winners are sent on to the state competition. Last year **Jeremiah Jones** and **Hunter Thompson** (photo left with medals) received honorable mention at the state level for their exhibit One Man's Road to Glory – Don Haskins.

*"History Day is an enrichment opportunity for our students to take historical research to an in-depth level. Because students pick their own topic, they tend to go above and beyond to put together fantastic projects that are creative, organized and well thought out. Time management and teamwork are other important skills learned along the way. Mr. Schulte and Ms. Larson run the program along with media specialist **Mr. Schoeneck** who does a lot to help the students with research. History Day is one of the many programs that make Chisago Lakes a district of high standards." - **Jim Gillach, CLMS Dean of Students***

We've got Lakeside *PRIDE* (...and a thesaurus!)

By Mrs. Freeman's class

Be **POSITIVE** and encourage, inspire, hearten, foster, support and embolden yourself and others!

Be **RESPECTFUL**, nice, kind, pleasant, agreeable, delightful, good, precise, friendly, gentle, generous, caring, happy, smiley, fair, grateful, and non-selfish toward other people!

Have **INTEGRITY**, honesty, uprightness, sincerity, fairness and frankness!

Show **DISCIPLINE**, self control, restraint, and composure!

Do your best, finest, tip top first-rate, **EXCELLENT** work every day!

You are intelligent, quick, alert, clever, shrewd, bright and astute!



Middle School Proposes Schedule Change

Proposed Daily Schedule-6 Period Day

- 7:37-8:02.....Core Connect
- 8:06-8:59.....1st Hour
- 9:03-9:56.....2nd Hour
- 10:00-10:53.....3rd Hour
- 10:57-12:20.....4th Hour/Lunch
- 12:24-1:17.....5th Hour
- 1:21-2:14.....6th Hour

Proposed Student Schedules

All grades: Math, Science, Social Studies and English/Language Arts

- 6th grade: physical education and music (band or choir)
- 7th grade: physical education and music (band, choir or general music), health, computer skills and choice of Spanish/Art /IT
- 8th grade: physical education and music (band, choir or general music), health, FACS and choice of Spanish/Art /IT/Advanced Art/Advanced IT/Advanced PE/Yearbook



Middle School Breakfast Club



December's Breakfast Club presentation featured radio host and author, **Dave Schrader**.

February's Breakfast Club presentation featured **Ron Backes**, an Olympic athlete who competed in the 1992 Summer Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain. Mr. Backes expressed to the students that they all possess the "seeds of greatness" and that with perseverance one can do anything.

Each month, the Breakfast Club will feature a different volunteer speaker who will share his or her expertise with a group of interested students.

*Adults interested in being a Breakfast Club speaker should contact **Jina Saueressig**, Enrichment Volunteer Coordinator, at 213-2014 or jinasaueressig@chisagolakes.k12.mn.us. This is a one-time, very enjoyable volunteer commitment.*

Free Adult Basic Education, GED, English Language and Literacy Classes Now through May 27, 2010



It is more important than ever to have a High School Diploma or GED. Start taking FREE Adult Basic Education classes, at the Chisago Lakes Community Education Center, located at Scottsdale Center in Lindstrom. These classes can help you brush up on basic skills in reading, math, GED, computer basics, keyboarding, resume writing, job seeking skills, English, and more.

We also offer FREE tutoring for adults in the areas of Basic

Reading and English Language Learning. If you know of an adult who would like to learn how to read, write, and speak English, a confidential, trained, private tutor will be arranged. If you would like to become a volunteer tutor, please call Colleen Sponberg at 651-213-2061.

The Adult Basic Education and GED classes are held on Monday evenings from 6-8 p.m., Wednesdays from 4-6 p.m., and Thursday mornings from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. If Chisago Lakes Schools are closed due to school schedule or poor weather, then these classes are cancelled.

For more information, please call Colleen Sponberg or Kirsten Leaf, ABE/GED/ESL instructors, at 651-213-2061.

“Currently, 3 out of 5 Minnesotans in the workforce do not have a postsecondary credential.” Moreover, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has projected that about 45% of all new jobs over the next decade will require a college degree or postsecondary credential.”

ATLAS, Hamline University, November 2009

Save the Date:



March 18, 19 & 20 HS Variety Show
 April 2 No School / Good Friday
 April 5 No School / Staff Dev.
 April 8 Authors Live @ Middle School
 April 24 HS Prom
 May 13 ... Authors Live @ CL Area Library
 May 17 HS Spring Choir Concert
 May 20 MS Band Concert
 May 24 HS Spring Band Concert-PAC
 May 27 MS Choir Concert - PAC
 June 4 HS Graduation
 June 10 Last Day of School
 June 10 Authors Live @ Middle School
Sept. 7, 2010 First Day of School

Chisago Lakes Pool has something to offer for everyone!



Open Swimming, Fitness Swimming, Preschool Swimming Lessons, Youth Swimming Lessons, Adult Swimming Lessons, Coached Workout for Tri-Athletes, Coached Workout for Fitness Swimming, Pre Swim Team Classes.

Go to www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us to view all of our many aquatic offerings and swim schedules.

Aquatic information line:
 651-213-2585

