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School Board
Trey Ising, Chair
Cindy Puckett, Vice Chair
Judy Derpack
Cyndi Garza
Zachary Miller

District Administration
Dr. Tracey Beckendorf-Edou, Superintendent
Dwight Remick, Executive Director of Business and Operations
Elia Ala’ilima-Daley, Principal of Cascade High School and Director of Professional Learning
Tim Bentz, Transportation Director
Dominique Coffin, Dean of Students at Icicle River Middle School and District Athletic Director
Teresa Disher, Facilities and Grounds Director
Mike Janski, Principal of Icicle River Middle School
Brett Johnson, Special Education Director
Colin Levi, Food Services Director
Rudy Joya, Assistant Principal of Cascade High School and CSD Truancy Officer
Tanna Munoz-Hursh, Payroll
Terry Muscutt, Principal of Home Link
Dr. Kenny Renner-Singer, Principal of Alpine Lakes Elementary School and Beaver Valley School
Emily Ross, Principal of Peshastin-Dryden Elementary School
Marcia Smith, Accounts Payable, Human Resources
Kirk Sunitsch, CTE Director
Julie Winters, Executive Secretary

Strategic Framework
The School Board completed the strategic framework process that had taken place during the 2019-2020 school year in the summer of 2020. The mission of the school district remains Continuous Student Development. In addition, the process identified six core values of the district and the communities that the district serves. They are Every Student, Quality Education, Connected Relationships, Inclusive Diversity, the Outdoors, and Artful Creativity.

COVID-19
The 2020-2021 school year stood out due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cascade School District (CSD) wrote a Healthy Start Plan that contained four stages of reopening in order to guide how the district would respond during the school year. The four stages of reopening were:
School started remotely for all except small groups of students. Students came back in hybrid mode on October 12 for grades PreK-2, then for grades 3-5 on November 9, then for grades 6-12 on January 19. During most of the school year, the district had to abide by 6 feet of social distancing, mask wearing, cohorting students as much as possible, screening all students and staff before coming on campus, intensified disinfection procedures, and other health and safety guidelines. After spring break, the 6-foot rule was reduced to 3 feet in all except the high school.

In order to navigate the constantly changing guidance, we collaborated with the Chelan Douglas Health District on a weekly basis and Cascade Medical Center on a regular basis. As a result of the safety measures that CSD had in place and a strong partnership with parents for daily health attestations, there were no outbreaks on school campuses or in athletics programs.

**Pacific Education Institute**

CSD was selected to be part of a program called FieldSTEM with the Pacific Education Institute. Part of participation included leadership training for administrators and teachers. Emily Ross, Molly Ravits and Tracey Beckendorf-Edou participated in the initial leadership training and a team of teachers participated in teacher leadership training in the summer of 2020. COVID-19 delayed some of the implementation of FieldSTEM in the 2020-2021 school year, but CSD is planning to continue implementation during the 2021-2022 school year.

**Leavenworth Farmer’s Market**

The school district and the Leavenworth Farmer’s Market started collaborating in the summer of 2020. At the time, Chelan County was in Phase 1 of reopening and school grounds were closed to all except essential business. However, the Farmer’s Market fell inside essential business since they conducted food distribution. Due to the pandemic and the need to socially distance, the Farmer’s Market requested use of the Alpine Lakes parking lot in the summer of 2020. Positive feedback for the school-Farmer’s Market partnership resulted in a request to use District Office property in the summer of 2021.
Healthy Start Swag Bags

Cascade School District partnered with community organizations and community members to distribute healthy start swag bags to every Cascade family at the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Each bag contained a thermometer, soap, watercolors for elementary children, masks made by volunteers in the Great Kodiak Sew, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and more.

Contributors to the Healthy Start Swag Bags included Cascade Medical Center, PD-Alpine Lakes PTO, Upper Valley MEND, Great Kodiak Sew, Costco, Leavenworth Rotary, Cascade Medical Foundation, Cascade Education Association, the Lions Club, the Free Medical Clinic, the United Methodist Church, and the Cascade School Board. Putting together the bags themselves was led by school board member Cyndi Garza.

Orientation

In order to start the school year successfully remotely, we held student and family orientations outdoors on our school campuses for the first three days of school. These orientations allowed us to meet students and families, check out laptops and iPads, show students and parents how to access learning management systems Canvas or Seesaw, hand out Healthy Start swag bags, and more.

Internet Access

The digital divide was something that we knew about, some students had access to technology at home and some did not, but the COVID-19 pandemic brought it to light in a very concrete manner. In order for students to engage remotely, they needed access to devices and to internet. Thanks to the past passage of the technology levy, we were able to send laptops and iPads home with students. In addition, we received several grants in order to provide hotspots or LocalTel Wi-Fi to students. The grants were received from Upper Valley MEND, Chelan Douglas School Retirees Association, the Community Foundation of North Central Washington, InvestED, and AASA, the School Superintendents Association. In addition, the state did eventually provide access to internet to some low-income families. In Cascade School District, affordability and availability were both challenges.
Family Zooms
In order to collaborate with families during remote learning and the pandemic as a whole, the district put on several family question and answer zooms. These zoom meetings had interpretations available and allowed families to communicate in a different format than through email or phone. The family zooms were largely successful.

Continuous Learning 2.0
Since Chelan County was in Phase 1 of reopening in the summer of 2020, schools in Chelan County needed to start the school year remotely. Cascade School District called this phase Continuous Learning 2.0. Continuous Learning 2.0 was an improvement on the Continuous Learning framework that occurred in spring 2020, based on feedback from students, parents and staff. In addition, based on information from the Washington State Department of Health, staff were able to meet indoors with up to five students at a time as long as everyone participated in daily screening, wore face coverings, and met social distancing guidelines. These small groups of five students started meeting in-person in our Special Education and Career and Technical Education departments, where in-person, hands-on learning was essential. In addition, CSD provided library services to students, often by delivering books to children’s homes. CSD also provided learning management systems, Canvas for grades 3-12 and Seesaw for grades K-2, in order to provide a consistent online learning platform for students and families.

Hybrid Learning
Hybrid learning, a combination of in-person and remote learning, started in grades PreK-2 on October 12. It expanded to grades 3-5 on November 9 and to grades 6-12 on January 19. Hybrid learning included focused instructional attention when students were in-person and additional asynchronous instruction. When students were in-person, they had to be socially distanced, wear face coverings and come to school healthy.

Home Link Expansion
During the 2020-2021 school year, Home Link enrollment approximately doubled. Home Link is an alternative learning experience based on a partnership between homes and schools, in which a portion of the instruction occurs at home. The remaining coursework is provided by Home Link staff. During the 2020-2021 school year, Home Link teachers led courses that took place outdoors, in all kinds of weather, or through online remote instruction. Home Link courses included experiential learning, applied math and science, enrichment units,
Spanish and Art. Due to the enrollment expansion, staffing also increased. Home Link went from one teacher and one paraeducator to two teachers and two paraeducators. Terry Muscutt led staff through the change process.

**School Meals**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Cascade food services, led by Colin Levi, had to fundamentally change. Rather than providing daily hot lunches, food services staff had to put together sack lunches that could either be delivered at school or at locations around town. The food services department worked with the transportation department in order to provide lunches to children who needed them. The federal government ensured that food was free during the 2020-2021 school year to any children, not just those who qualified based on free and reduced lunch forms.

**Maintenance Department**

The maintenance department, led by Teresa Disher, is comprised of custodial, grounds, warehouse/delivery and maintenance. During the 2020-2021 school year, the maintenance department team never backed down from a challenge. They were all ready and willing to do anything it took to make the school year a success. It was a challenging school year in that there was a lot of stress and anxiety for everyone. The news, the Presidential election, controversy over COVID added more stress to their lives; however, the team committed themselves to following health and safety guidelines and were not overly distracted by media hype. All year, the team covered for each other because there was a major shortage of substitutes. Their goal was for staff and students to feel safe at work, and they committed themselves to that task every day. Some special examples include Val Hall, who created face shields and masks with any spare time she had in her schedule. Michele Early covered for Beaver Valley when the custodian there resigned. Jason O’Brien and Andrew Disher covered anywhere and everywhere. In addition, the grounds team took on snow plowing for schools in Leavenworth for the first time as the previous contractor stopped providing that service.

**Transportation Department**

Due to starting the school year with just small groups of in-person instruction, CSD started the school year with just nine bus routes rather than the normal sixteen to cover our entire district with the exception of a few roads, mostly at the far reaches of the district. Tim Bentz, Transportation Director, was pleased that parents were generally understanding in the areas where our buses didn’t serve and in which they had to drive their students to a designated bus stop (e.g., Plain Hardware, entrance of Merry Canyon). As the year progressed adding more and more students, we added two more routes, bringing us to eleven total routes. A few of the unique challenges which accompanied the hybrid bus routes were as follows:

- Drivers wearing masks, which continuously fogged up glasses, especially when the weather was cool or outright cold;
• Bus windows or roof hatches had to be left open all school year to ensure fresh air circulating through the buses. This made it challenging to keep the bus warm and kept the drivers’ glasses fogging up;
• Hybrid routes were especially challenging for drivers since different children were riding on Monday and Tuesday than rode on Thursday and Friday. Added to that were the students from Alpine Lakes and Icicle River who rode on Wednesday. We had to create two or three sets of routes for the various groups who rode every week. Constant changes to the bus routes were the norm. Changes kept Tim's head spinning most of the year;
• Buses had seating assignments for students so we could keep tabs on who each child was sitting by incase someone came down with COVID and we had to identify potentially exposed students. Those seating charts were especially challenging with the various groups of kids riding on different days; and
• We had two drivers resign prior to the current school year and three more during the 2020-2021 school year. With the reduced number of routes this year, we were able to get everything covered despite the resignations. We are trying hard to get all those vacancies filled for the 2021-2022 school year.

All in all, the transportation department crew weathered every challenge with a lot of class and grace. Tim looks forward to having a prosperous and successful 41st year in student transportation during the 2021-2022 school year.

Child Care
The 2020-2021 school year was the first with a partnership between the YMCA and CSD. YMCA provided child care at Alpine Lakes Elementary School for children in grades K-6 when school was not in session. In addition, CSD provided child care for first responders and health care workers at Peshastin-Dryden Elementary School through Thanksgiving break.

Kodiak Cubs Demonstration Site
The Kodiak Cubs were selected to be a Preschool Inclusionary Demonstration Site for Washington State. During the school year, the Kodiak Cubs worked with the University of Washington Haring Center and offered virtual site visits. The virtual visits included storytelling, shared experiences to strengthen inclusionary practices, artifacts to support implementation and professional learning, and opportunities to learn the structures, systems and relationships that build strong inclusive frameworks in Washington State schools. In addition, the Haring Center worked with the Kodiak Cubs; as an example, the Haring Center conducted some professional development with the Cascade High School Child Development students “big kids” who work with the Kodiak Cubs students. Lindsay Camp’s enthusiasm for early childhood education made compelling virtual visits for other school districts in the state.

Inclusionary Practices Grant
For the 2020-2021 school year, the Cascade School District received a grant totaling $126,523 through an OSPI Inclusionary Practice Professional Development Project. This grant was largely written by Brett
Johnson, Special Education and Special Services Director. The purpose of this grant was to support local systems with the implementation of inclusionary practices. As a district, we focused on equity issues that might be impacting learning gaps for all students. No matter their first language, social-economic status, current living situation, or current performance levels, we strive to have equal access to the curricula that are being taught in the general education setting. We focused our grant funding on improving our technology for students to have better access to the general education curriculum, the hiring of an inclusion specialist to provide supports for students and staff for the school year, and helpful items such as sensory resources, speech language materials, and assistive technology devices. In addition, our staff received trainings from an educator from the Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, access to trainings through the NCESD on inclusionary practices, and updated behavior management instruction that focused on de-escalation techniques and crisis response steps.

**Professional Learning**

Professional Development for the 2020-2021 school year began in July of 2020 with a heavy emphasis on our Learning Management Systems, Seesaw for grades K-2 grades and Canvas for grades 3-12. Learning management systems are software applications that allow online delivery of instruction, assignments and submission, reporting, and more. Kindergarten through 2nd grade staff took part in Seesaw trainings beginning on July 15th in a self-paced course and then a two day training beginning on August 19, 2020. Alpine Lakes, 3rd – 5th grades, also had two separate two-day trainings, one beginning on August 13th and the other on August 19, 2020 where they were joined by Icicle River and Cascade High School staffs. Additionally, staff took part in a course that instructed them on how to deliver instruction remotely, featuring Malia Renner-Singer and Flor West. On August 18, 2020, staff took part in a series of trainings throughout the day. The first was on trauma-informed practices, led by Katie Schmitten; CharacterStrong, a chance for buildings to decide how they would implement the program remotely; and the state-required annual training for Anti-Bias delivered by Dr. Scotland Nash from the Anti-Defamation League.

Staff worked at their own pace to complete the yearly required Safe Schools training, which are done online.

During the school year, a large grant provided the opportunity to allow Special Education staff to take sessions based on Inclusionary Practices. Finally, we offered staff an introductory American Sign Language course with Rachael Drolc. The ability to offer this course came through the inclusionary practices grant as well.

**Transition to Teaching Program**

The 2020-2021 school year was the first year that CSD participated in a grant supporting the Eastern Washington University’s Transition to Teaching program. Through this grant, CSD was able to sponsor one staff member as a scholarship recipient to obtain their teaching certificate. Sharylnn Parker, paraeducator from Beaver Valley, was CSD’s first scholarship winner. She did her student teaching with Heidi Flake at Beaver Valley; this program was successful in that she did obtain her teaching certificate and she will be teaching at Beaver Valley during the 2021-2022 school year as Heidi Flake will be moving to Peshastin-Dryden Elementary School.
Home Visits
CSD had a referral system in place for both IRMS and CHS. Teachers would notify Rudy Joya and Dominique Coffin when a student needed a book, classwork, was absent, or had not been connecting. Rudy and Dominique conducted home visits every Friday. The benefits of the home visits were that they saw students in person. Parents also appreciated having them come see them because many times, they were able to explain what their child needed to focus on. Home visits also gave Rudy and Dominique a glimpse into the student’s home life, which helped staff better understand what the respective student was dealing with.

Fire Sciences
Fire science students were some of the first students to come to school in-person. When the district was approved to have small groups of students in-person, we were able to allow fire science students to work with the fire department. Students successfully learned in the 2020-2021 school year and were also able to complete a controlled burn at the end of the school year.

Physical Education (P.E.)
During the 2020-2021 school year, much of physical education took place at home or outside. CSD received a $900 grant from the North Central Washington Foundation for Youth in order to purchase and send home jump ropes for students for home physical education programming. In addition, some lessons took place outdoors, such as the pictured outdoors bicycle unit with teacher Micah Riecke and IRMS students.

Trey Ising Elected as WSSDA Resolutions Committee Chair
Trey Ising, Chair of the Cascade School Board, was elected Chair of the Washington State School Directors’ Association (WSSDA)’s Resolutions Committee. The Resolutions Committee of WSSDA is in charge of the foundational beliefs of WSSDA; the purpose of this committee is to review and recommend permanent association positions to be acted on at the General Assembly.
Highly Capable Services

We made the most of this year, given the unique circumstances we faced, to give our highly capable (hi-cap) students the most enriching experience we could. Starting in the fall, Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) were developed for students K-12 who had previously qualified as highly capable. These plans, created with the input of teachers, parents, and students, outlined the most effective strategies to help each student excel in school in light of their unique needs and talents. Throughout the year, hi-cap group Zoom meetings were held for an hour each week with Alpine Lakes and Icicle River students. We remotely conducted activities, debates, and discussions on everything from philosophy to physics. We also talked about the challenges we were facing and what we wanted from the hi-cap program in the future. Because screening could not take place last year, there were no identified highly capable students at Peshastin-Dryden. CHS students were served with Advanced Placement, honors, and college-level courses, ILP accommodations in the classroom, and consultation as necessary with the school psychologist and counselor, in order to help them achieve their greatest potential as they finished their time in secondary education. In order to universally screen for eligible highly capable students, we administered the NNAT3 cognitive assessment to over 230 students in 1st, 2nd, 5th, and 6th grades in addition to a handful of nominees. We identified 17 eligible students whose scores exceeded the cutoff at the 96th percentile. Perhaps the most fun highlight of the year was the model rocketry event we held during the last week of school, where Alpine Lakes and Icicle River hi-cap students built and launched model rockets. We are excited to continue to improve the hi-cap offerings in Cascade, with in-person groups and classes, consistent ILP implementation and progress-monitoring, and offering enrichment opportunities at Peshastin-Dryden as we begin the 2021-22 school year.

The Arts

The CSD art programs had to be very creative during the 2020-2021 school year, not only in content but also in performance. At the elementary level, CSD had a partnership with the Methow Arts Alliance to provide visual art instruction every week in a variety of mediums in addition to other occasional forms of art such as dance and storytelling.

In addition, Mandi Wickline led two fast-paced and quirky one-act plays on November 12 and 13, in which performances occurred in students’ homes. The performances were livestreamed by Broadway on Demand. Another example was the middle school online winter choral concert led by Mindy Wall. There was also a virtual winter concert performed by secondary musicians. By spring, we were able to host outdoor, socially distanced concerts, such as the Night of the Arts on June 1. Student performances and artwork were led by James Mitsuyasu, Mindy Wall, Mandi Wickline, and Teara Dillon.

New School Resource Officer

CSD welcomed new school resource officer Daane Dunlap in January 2021. Officer Dunlap replaced Officer Morrison, who completed his work with the district in June 2020.
**Athletics**

Although it was a waiting game in order to get athletics started at Cascade during the 2020-2021 school year, it was well worth the wait. As challenges came and went, there was one thing that stayed consistent and that was the push to make sure our student-athletes had a chance to compete. Due to the pandemic, we were forced to get away from our traditional Caribou Trial League and join the North Central Region (NCR). Traditional fall sports (XC, Cheer, Football, Volleyball, and Girls Soccer) competed from 2/16-4/3, Traditional Spring sports (Baseball, Softball, Boys Soccer, Tennis, Golf, and Track) competed from 4/5-5/15, and Traditional Winter Sports (Boys and Girls Basketball, Wrestling, and Cheer) competed from 5/17-6/19. The administration, coaches and athletes made this a smooth transition and it allowed our teams to match up against schools and teams that were at their skill level from 1B-4A. We are set and excited to be heading back to the Caribou Trail League in the fall of 2021, but are thankful for the many great relationships and experiences we were able to gain in the NCR this year. In addition, CSD Athletic Director Dominique Coffin was awarded the AD Service Award from the Washington State Secondary Athletic Administrators’ Association Conference due to his leadership in promoting safe athletics during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Icicle Bicycle, although it is actually considered a club rather than a sport, was also able to have a modified season.

**Sports Medicine**

CSD now offers three courses in the Sports Medicine Pathway that include *Introduction to Health Careers, Sports Medicine I* and *Sports Medicine II*. In the *Sports Medicine II* course, they are to do 25 hours of hands-on volunteer work as a Sports Medicine trainer. During the 2020-2021 school year, CSD received a Perkins Reserve Special Projects grant of $2,600 for digital feedback CPR dummies and an AED simulator for training students.

**Ski and Snowboard Program**

Thirty students in grades 3-8 participated in the after school program at Ski Hill. There were lots of big smiles, laughs, and skills learned during the five Wednesdays at the Leavenworth Ski Hill. The season ended with the Pond Skim Event, where student Atticus Zehm got a face full of cold water.

**Levies**

CSD had two levies up for renewal in February 2021. Local levies support educational activities that are not funded by the state. Dwight Remick started providing information to the school board in September 2020 so that the board would have the information they needed to determine how best to proceed. The school board adopted resolutions regarding the ballot propositions in November 2020.
There were two propositions on the ballot. Proposition 1 was a proposed replacement Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O, formerly called M&O) levy. Proposition 2 was a proposed replacement technology/safety levy. These proposed levies were not new taxes but would replace the ones that were previously being collected.

The Cascade Citizens for Schools committee was very active in providing information to CSD communities. Canuche Terranella was the chair of the committee. Aaron Simon was the treasurer, and some additional involved committee members included but were not limited to Christine Jakobsen Morgan, Karen Bohlinger, Mall Boyd, Tim McElravy, Kevin Farrell, Darin Palmer, Miriam Rodriguez, James Mitsuyasu, Troy Campbell, Elia Ala’ilima-Daley, Kenny Renner-Singer, Aidan Rigel, MaryJo Sanborn, Sofia Bjorklund, Julie Winters, and school board member Zachary Miller. Dwight Remick and Tracey Beckendorf-Edou participated in the meetings for informational purposes. The EP&O proposal on the ballot was at a rate of $0.99/$1,000 of assessed value, a decrease in rate as compared to what was approved by the voters in 2017. The EP&O levy provides approximately 20% of the CSD budget, and pays for school nurses, counselors, extracurricular activities, athletics, facilities and grounds support, instructional support and more. The technology/safety levy was proposed to be at the same rate of $0.15/$1,000 of assessed value, the same rate as was approved by voters in 2017. Thanks to the previous levy, CSD students and staff had the resources they needed to be able to quickly move to remote learning when the pandemic closed schools across the state in March 2020. On February 9, proposition 1 passed at 61.89% and proposition 2 passed at 63.15%.

Learn to Return

Learn to Return was a pilot program of several school districts in Washington State in partnership with the Washington State Department of Health in which COVID testing was integrated into school districts as an additional mitigation strategy. In Cascade, this included Everlywell testing for interested staff and secondary students. Staff sent swabs in twice a week, and students could do the testing once a week. In addition, nurses Kesha Smith and Shelly Zehm provided symptomatic testing in partnership with Cascade Medical Center.

Intervention Services

Peshastin-Dryden Elementary School provided all-day support to identified English Learners once a week from fall 2020 through the end of the year. Alpine Lakes Elementary School provided English Learner and intervention services every afternoon.

Then in the spring of 2021, elementary schools provided “double bubble” services to students who needed full-week support, utilizing common or shared spaces and the support of our specialist teachers until the hybrid model changed to full-week in-person school in April 2021. “Double bubble” Services meant that identified students were in two cohorts- one in their main classroom, and one in their intervention classroom.
Osborn Property
The property defined by Osborn school and the playground next to it was sold to the City of Leavenworth in March 2021. The City of Leavenworth and the School District had a memorandum of understanding regarding this potential sale in place since 2016. The tennis courts and district office remain school district property.

Color Me Important
School Board member Judy Derpack received two grants, one from Empty Bowls and one from the Faith Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, to provide Color Me Important bags of inclusive supplies to preschool and elementary classrooms. Included in the bags were items such as Band-Aids in different skin tones, multicultural crayons, multicultural markers, and body cutouts in different colors. There was also a book and video called All Are Welcome. A total of 30 bags were gifted to preschool and elementary classes.

AVID
AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) is a program aimed at promoting college and career readiness. It is especially intended to help future first generation college students get the support they need in order to be successful in upper level classes in high school and then in college and careers after graduation. Cascade High School continued a robust AVID program during the 2020-2021 school year. In fact, one valedictorian and the salutatorian were both AVID students.

In addition, the regional AVID office received a grant from Panda Cares and selected five districts in Washington as grant recipients for training called Leading Change for Equity. Cascade was able to send seven leaders due to this grant starting in the spring, 2021. Participants included Elia Ala’ilima-Daley, Malia Renner-Singer, Rudy Joya, Kenny Renner-Singer, Dominique Coffin, Emily Ross and Tracey Beckendorf-Edou. Malia was included as she was the high school AVID site coordinator. These trainings allowed leaders to consider how CSD’s systems were set up vertically, including AVID itself as a district initiative along with other district initiatives.

During the summer of 2021, AVID elective teachers as well as the new middle school principal James Swanson were scheduled to attend AVID training. In addition, Kenny Renner-Singer will start District Director training in summer, 2021.

Equestrian Team
Following over six months of practicing with their horses through rain and mud, snow and ice, and finally the sunshine of spring, the CHS Equestrian Team had three very successful district competitions and earned the High Point Small Team District Award again this year! Our athletes competed in over 21 events and earned several first, seconds and thirds on their way to their District Championship. We had our Drill Team and several athletes qualify in individual events at State in Moses Lake.
Planning for Transitional Kindergarten
Transitional kindergarten is a kindergarten program for children below the age of five who do not have access to high-quality early learning experiences prior to kindergarten. Additionally, they have been deemed by the school district through a screening process to be in need of additional preparation to be successful in kindergarten the following year. During the spring of 2021, we started planning to have our first transitional kindergarten classroom at Peshastin-Dryden Elementary School starting in fall 2021. In addition, CSD was awarded a start-up grant in order to purchase materials and curriculum. Emily Ross led the search for a transitional kindergarten teacher and paraeducator.

Migrant Services
CSD was awarded a health and safety grant for migrant families that was organized under the direction of CHS English Learner teacher Jill Weil. This grant led to direct support and services for our migrant families through the coordinated efforts of community partnerships, including Upper Valley MEND. We had a health fair over spring break that was very successful, providing food and support services. We also provided summer bags full of activities designed to support the health and wellness of our students at the beginning of summer. Each bag was hand-delivered.

Journalism Award
Congratulations to English teacher Roselyn Robison and publications students! CHS Publications won 1st and 2nd place in the American Scholastic Press Association national competition! The high school newspaper took 1st place with special merit and the yearbook (from 2019-2020) took 2nd place in the nation.

Cascade Medical Center Vaccination Clinics
Cascade Medical Center held a flu shot clinic in October 2020 in the Alpine Lakes parking lot. In addition, they held a COVID-19 vaccination clinic at Cascade High School for students and families 12 years old or older in May and June 2021. 140 students participated in the COVID-19 vaccination clinic with parent permission. Samantha Jerome from Cascade Medical Center was the lead organizer.

Space Project
The 7th grade team at IRMS has led a space project for their students for four school years. This year was the second year that a representative from Blue Origin helped provide guidance and feedback to students. The M.I.S.S.T. team won the competition this school year with their Martian habitat project.

Mr. Janski’s Retirement
Mike Janski announced that he was retiring as principal of Icicle River Middle School as of June 2021. Mike worked for Cascade School District for 25 years. Mike was originally a 6th grade math teacher and has been principal for the last six years.
In order to find his replacement, there was first a process to review with IRMS staff the qualities they were looking for in a principal and then updating the job posting and job advertisement. The job was posted for one month. Then finalists came to Cascade School District for full days of interviews, including touring the district, interviews with a 9-person interview team, meeting with staff, meeting with Tracey Beckendorf-Edou and Dwight Remick, and a community forum. After three finalists participated in these intensive days, the interview committee, comprised of parents, staff and administrators, selected Mr. James Swanson as the next IRMS principal.

James Swanson is currently a middle school principal in the Whidbey Island School District. He grew up in Moses Lake. He previously taught in both Tonasket and Wenatchee School Districts. Mr. Swanson will be the new IRMS principal as of July 2021.

**High School Graduation**

Graduation looked vastly different than in years past. However, it still had the small town community feel that makes our celebration special for our families and students. The biggest difference is that the graduates were placed in the stands and the families had squares on the field to assist with physical distancing. Each square measured 8 feet by 8 feet, separated by 7 feet between each square. Families were able to decide how many members they could fit in their square. We created two stages, one for the school board (diploma handout) and one for the speakers. Each student received a graduation mask; each speaker was able to take off their mask and students pulled their mask down for the graduation photo with diploma. Fireworks were moved to the baseball field area, but not far enough as some debris landed on spectators. There were many elements that were better during this year’s ceremony and we will keep this in mind when planning for next year and beyond.
Kindergarten Graduation
Kindergarten had their first ever-outside graduation ceremony. This ceremony was received very positively by our community, families, and school staff.

Eighth Grade Transition
Eighth grade transition took place outside of Icicle River Middle School. Students were brought in cars by their parents. Then their name was radioed in. Their name was announced and they got out of the car through an area lined with staff members all cheering and making noise. They received a certificate and had their picture taken in a special transition backdrop created by paraeducator and artist Kerry Siderius.

Partnership with the Leavenworth Fisheries Complex
In 2021, CSD and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service renewed their memorandum of understanding for the purpose of environmental education and volunteerism. The Leavenworth Fisheries Complex (LFC) provides a strong onsite partnership and educational program for the CSD Discovery School. The primary goal of Discovery and LFC is to provide opportunities for educational exchange with 9th through 12th grade students regarding fish, wildlife, plants, habitat conservation and natural resource protection and enhancement while connecting youth and nature. The agreement offers opportunities for involvement in hatchery operations, projects in fish production, aquatic habitat enhancement, and more. This agreement will last through the end of the 2025-2026 school year.

Peshastin-Dryden Elementary School Cub
Local artists Cordi Bradburn and Amanda Gibbs collaborated to create the beautiful concrete sculpture of a bear cub reading with a jay, a squirrel, and whomever sits on the log. This sculpture was installed at Peshastin-Dryden Elementary School on June 14, 2021. This project was sponsored by the Cascade Education Foundation and is a beautiful permanent addition to the school.

National Board Accomplished District
The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards selected Cascade School District as one of 79 districts in the country for recognition as a National Board Accomplished District. This recognition is based on the high percentage of Cascade teachers who hold National Board Certifications.