

COBLESKILL-RICHMONDVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL FALL 2020 NEWSLETTER



Students at Radez Elementary decorate pumpkins for the school's annual Turkey Trot. The pumpkins were placed around the village of Richmondville as decorations.

Joy for staff, students as C-R schools reopen New health, safety protocols in place

For the first time in six months, Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District welcomed students back into classrooms on Monday, Sept. 14.

It was a first day of school unlike any other, with students and staff adjusting to a host of new health-and-safety protocols in school, while other students began learning remotely from home. Still, staff and students were overjoyed to reconnect, whether it was virtually or in person.

"Thanks to the support, patience, and flexibility of our families, staff and students, we are proud to report that we have enjoyed a very successful reopening," said Carl J. Mummenthey,

Superintendent of Schools. "We are so glad to see our students and teachers engaging again."

The reopening of schools culminated months of work by the district to both formulate a plan to safely return students to school and to bolster its ability to teach students remotely.

The reopening plan largely was a product of the Reopening Task Force, a committee of about 30 members that included administrators, teachers, local health professionals, parents and students. They steered key decisions, raised important questions and helped ensure the plan would conform to all

See Reopening, page 8

District urges advocacy for school funds

State aid withholdings could
force cuts to staff, programs

Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District is urging all residents to call their federal representatives and advocate for our students in the face of a looming financial crisis.

The economic toll of the COVID-19 pandemic has prompted New York state to withhold a portion of aid payments to school districts, casting a long shadow of uncertainty over the district's financial outlook during this school year.

During the summer, the state withheld 20 percent of aid payments to school districts. It is uncertain whether that level of withholding will continue throughout the school year.

The loss of 20 percent of C-R's state aid would have a devastating impact on staff and programming. It amounts to about \$4.1 million, or the equivalent of 50 full-time positions.

See Advocacy, page 4

What's inside

»» **Page 2:** Staff directory, Board of Education

»» **Page 3:** 2020-21 School calendar

»» **Page 4:** Food services

»» **Page 5-7:** Annual notices

District Directory

District Office

155 Washington Avenue, Cobleskill, NY, 12043	518-234-4032
Carl Mummenthey, Superintendent of Schools	ext. 2000
Tracy Fraleigh, Director of Finance & Operations	ext. 2008
Melissa Ausfeld, Director of Student Services	518-234-3165
Scott McDonald, Director of Teaching & Learning	518-234-3165
David Sander, Director of Information Technology	ext. 2222

High School (Grades 9-12)

1353 State Route 7, Richmondville, NY 12149	518-234-4032
Brett Barr, Principal	ext. 1001
Jeffrey Klenk, Assistant Principal	ext. 1000
John Henry, Athletic Director	ext. 1123
Amy Stuart, Food Service Supervisor	ext. 1052
Lynn Bramski, Assistant Director of Student Services	518-234-2742

William H. Golding Middle School (Grades 6-8)

193 Golding Drive, Cobleskill, NY 12043	518-234-4032
Jeremiah Haslun, Principal	ext. 2011
David Russell, Dean of Students	ext. 2010

Joseph B. Radez Elementary School (Grades 3-5)

319 Main Street, Richmondville, NY 12149	518-234-4032
Eric Whipple, Principal	ext. 4001

George D. Ryder Elementary School (Grades Pre-K-2)

143 Golding Drive, Cobleskill, NY 12043	518-234-4032
Jessie Westfall, Principal	ext. 5000


Transportation Center

284 Elm Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043	518-234-4032
William Himme, Director of Facilities	ext. 5303
Laura Rickard, Head Bus Driver	ext. 5301

Follow us online

Visit us at CRCSD.org for updates on all district news. You also can follow us on social media at [Facebook.com/CRCSDistrict](https://www.facebook.com/CRCSDistrict) and [Twitter.com/CRCSDistrict](https://twitter.com/CRCSDistrict).

COBLESKILL-RICHMONDVILLE
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Carl J. Mummenthey
Superintendent of Schools


HOME CALENDAR DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION OUR SCHOOLS ACADEMICS ATHLETICS DEPARTMENTS CONTACT US

Coronavirus updates

- District Reopening Plan
- COVID-19 news
- Superintendent's Message

Upcoming Events

Monday September 28, 2020 BOE Meeting Cobleskill Middle School Library	7:00PM 9:00PM
Monday October 12, 2020 Columbus Day	All Day
Friday October 16, 2020 Fall Mountain Race	All Day



Welcome to Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School

Just 40 miles west of the state's capital, Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School was created in 1993 when two neighboring districts in the heart of Schoharie County were consolidated. Our district serves families in Cobleskill, Richmondville, and 13 other rural townships spanning more than 181 square miles. Approximately 1,750 students, from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, attend one of our four schools.



Board of Education

The Board of Education is a seven-member board elected by the community that is the official policy-making body of the school district. Board members are elected on a rotating basis to three-year terms, and they serve without pay.

The board is responsible for establishing the quality of education in the district.

As elected officials, they represent the public in:

- defining the philosophy of the district;
- setting goals and objectives to achieve educational progress;
- establishing policies for the operation of the school district;
- evaluating the effectiveness of district programs and services;
- developing a budget consistent with educational needs and community resources.

C-RCS Board of Education meetings are normally held in the William H. Golding Middle School library at 7 p.m. Meeting dates are marked in yellow on the calendar on Page 3, and agendas can be found on the district website.

Board of Education meetings are videotaped by Schopeg. For those residents who have the public access channel, check your local guide for broadcast times.

2020-21 Board of Education

Bruce Tryon, President
Steven Philbrick, Vice President
Mary Black
Dominga Lent
Joshua McCann
Susan Emerson Strasser
Aimee Yorke

Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School

2020-2021 School Year Calendar

July					August					September				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
		1	2	H	3	4	5	6	7		1	(2)	(3)	4
6	7	8	9	10	BOE	11	12	13	14	H	S	S	S	S
BOE	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21	BOE	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	BOE					BOE	29	30		
October					November					December				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
			1	2	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	BOE	10	H	12	13	BOE	8	9	10	11
H	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	S	14	15	16	17	18
BOE	20	21	22	23	BOE	24	25	H	H	BOE	22	23	H	H
26	27	28	29	30	30					28	29	30	31	
January					February					March				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
				H	1	2	3	4	5	BOE	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	BOE	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12
BOE	12	13	14	15	H	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19
H	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	BOE	23	24	25	26
BOE	26*	27*	28*	29*						29	30	31		
April					May					June				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
			1	H	3	4	5	6	7		1	2*	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	BOE	11	12	13	14	BOE	8	9	10	11
BOE	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16*	17*	18
19	20	21	22	23	BOE	25	26	27	28	BOE	22*	23*	24*	25
BOE	27	28	29	30	H					28	29	30		

Attendance Days

180 Student Attendance Days
5 Staff Development Days
185 TOTAL Faculty Work Days

Key to symbols

H	Holiday - Buildings Closed
	No Students
S	Staff Development Day
	Faculty Work Day
	Early Dismissal for Students
*	Regents Days

Adopted by BOE 3 9 2020

Revision adopted by BOE 8/31/2020

July 3

September 7

September 8, 9, 10, 11

September 14

October 12

November 11

November 20

November 25

November 26-27

December 24-January 1

January 18

January 26-29

January 29

February 15/16-19

April 2/5-9

May 31

June 2, 16-17, 21-24

June 24-25

June 25

June 26

Independence Day (Observed) - Buildings Closed

Labor Day - Buildings Closed

Superintendent Conference Days - No Students PK-12

All Students in Attendance

Columbus Day - Buildings Closed

Veterans Day - Buildings Closed

Superintendent Conference Day - No Students PK-12

Early Dismissal for Students PK-12

Thanksgiving Holidays Buildings Closed

Holiday Recess

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Buildings Closed

Regents Exams

Early Dismissal for Students PK-8/ PM Staff Development

Winter Recess

Spring Recess

Memorial Day - Buildings Closed

Regents Exams

Early Dismissal for Students PK-8/ PM Staff Development

Last Day for Students PK-8

Commencement

Fall Newsletter

C-R students will receive meals at no cost through June

Thanks to a waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District is proud to offer breakfast and lunch at no cost to all students.

Breakfast is served grab-and-go style as students enter the buildings, and lunches are delivered to classrooms. Students learning remotely can pick up their meals at their school building during designated times. Please contact your school's Food Services department for more information.

Students may still choose to bring their own lunch, but the school meals are available any day. No advanced sign-up is required.

Every student is eligible to receive a breakfast and lunch at no cost, regardless of whether you have applied for the Free and Reduced Meal program in the past.

However, if you think your child might be eligible, we strongly encourage you to apply for the Free

and Reduced Meal program.

If we process your Free and Reduced Lunch application now and your family qualifies, your child would seamlessly transition to the Free and Reduced Meal program in the event that the waiver for no-cost meals ends unexpectedly. An application for Free and Reduced Lunch is available on our website, CRCSD.org

We strongly believe that good nutrition is an essential ingredient in any student's school success. Our program offers quality meals that exceed the Healthy, Hunger-free Kid Act regulations. We offer a wide range of options to meet your child's wants. Whole grains, fresh fruit and assorted vegetables are offered every day. Our program is always on the lookout for new delicious and nutritious ideas to add to our menus.

Thank you for your continued support of C-RCSD's Food Service Program, a vital ingredient in your child's education and well being.



Advocate for C-R Students!

Call our federal representatives and tell them to insist on money for New York state in the next COVID-19 stimulus bill.

Congressman Antonio Delgado
Phone: (202) 225-5614

Senator Charles Schumer
Phone: (518) 431-4070

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
Phone: (518) 431-0120

Advocacy, from page 1

Should the withholdings become a permanent cut, C-R would be forced to make dramatic spending reductions, including mass layoffs, eliminating most extra-curricular activities and reducing our offering of academic programs.

To restore state funding to full levels, the state likely will need Congress to pass another COVID-19 stimulus package that includes money for state and local governments.

C-R Superintendent of Schools Carl Mummmenthey recently wrote a letter to our federal representatives — Congressman Antonio Delgado, Senator Chuck Schumer, and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand — asking them to insist on money for New York in any new stimulus legislation. A copy of that letter is available on the district website, CRCSD.org.

The district is encouraging residents to write and/or call our representatives and tell them C-R students need their help.

Annual Notices

ATTENDANCE POLICY SUMMARY

The Board of Education recognizes that student attendance in school is a vital part of academic achievement and overall school success. Student interactions with teachers and other students in class help to enhance the academic learning experience and provide a basis by which students can demonstrate mastery of subject matter. It is important that students, parents and the school work together to achieve the goals set forth in the attendance policy.

The attendance policy of Cobleskill-Richmondville schools is designed to accomplish the following:

1. To accurately monitor the attendance, absence, tardiness and early release of students;
2. To ensure sufficient pupil attendance of classes so that pupils may achieve state-mandated education standards;
3. To verify student location for safety reasons and to account to parents regarding the location of children during school hours.

For the 2020-21 school year, please note that attendance is taken daily for both students attending school in person and those who are learning remotely. The parent and student responsibilities outlined below apply to all students.

Parent Responsibilities

It is expected that parents will ensure their children attend school regularly and on time. When it is necessary for a student to be absent from school, the absence will be excused if it is based on one of the following:

- Personal illness;
- Illness or death in the family;
- Religious observance;
- Quarantine;
- Required court appearance;
- Attendance at medical/dental appointments;
- Approved college visits;
- Military obligations;
- Absences approved in advance by the principal;
- Other reasons as may be approved by the Com. of Education.

All other absences, tardiness or early departure for which the pupil has no valid school-approved excuse shall be considered unexcused. It is the parents' responsibility to notify the school office on the day their child is absent. Parents must also provide a written excuse upon the student's return to school. If a written excuse is not received within three school days of a student's return to school, the absence will be recorded as an unexcused absence.

Student Responsibilities

The building principal and/or classroom teacher may determine that a certain percentage of a student's grade be based on classroom participation. Students who are absent from instruction shall be afforded the opportunity to make up the class participation portion of their grade, as well as any work missed. Upon returning to school following an absence, tardiness or early departure, it shall be the responsibility of the student to consult with his or her teacher(s) regarding arrangements to make up missed work, assignments, tests and class participation requirements in accordance with a time schedule and in a manner specified by the teacher. Unexcused absences will result in disciplinary action consistent with the district's Code of Conduct. Those penalties may include, for example, detention, in-school suspension and/or referral to Family Court. Students may also be denied the privilege of participating in or attending extracurricular events.

Attendance will be taken during each class period in Grades 6–12, and once per school day in Grades K–5. Continuous monitoring will be conducted to identify students who are absent, tardy or leave class or school early. In the

event a student is absent without prior notification, the district shall attempt to contact the student's parent(s) or persons in parental relation. All attendance information will be recorded and analyzed periodically to identify patterns or trends in student absences.

CHANGES TO IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

On June 13, 2019, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed legislation removing non-medical exemptions from school vaccinations requirements for children. As a result, there is no longer a religious exemption to the requirement that children be vaccinated against measles and other diseases to attend either:

- Public, private, or parochial school (for students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade); or
- Child daycare settings

Children who are attending child day care or public, private or parochial school who had a religious exemption to required immunizations should direct questions to their child's school nurse and/or review the "Frequently Asked Questions" document provided by the New York State Department of Health at: https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2170/docs/nonmedical_vaccine_exemption_faq.pdf.

Questions regarding required immunization schedules should be directed to the school nurse in your child's building and/or by consulting the NYS Department of Health website: <https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2370.pdf>.

All students, including both those learning remotely and those attending school in person, must be vaccinated in order to participate in school.

School nurses

High School: Stephanie Cooney, ext. 1104

Middle School: Leslie Crooks, ext. 2018

Radez School: Lynn Rickson, ext. 4001

Ryder School: Kristi Miner, ext. 5060

CODE OF CONDUCT SUMMARY

This summary, based on the district's Code of Conduct, Board of Education policies and state laws on Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE), outlines the rules and procedures under which C-RCSD operates. A complete copy of the Code of Conduct can be obtained on the district website and from the main office of any school building. The Code of Conduct includes Board of Education policy statements regarding the following:

- Student rights and their corresponding responsibilities;
- Definitions of the community partnerships which include parents, bus drivers, teachers, guidance counselors, principals, the superintendent and the Board of Education;
- The student dress code, which delineates expectations for acceptable and unacceptable student grooming and appearance;
- Expectations for student conduct, which outline acceptable and unacceptable student behavior;
- Procedures for reporting violations of the Code of Conduct related to harassment or discrimination;
- The disciplinary process with an outline of disciplinary procedures and penalties;
- The expectations of visitors to the schools; and
- The expectations for public conduct on school property, both during regular school hours and at after-school activities and sporting events.

The intent of this Code of Conduct is to promote responsible behavior that creates an orderly and safe school environment. It is the belief of the Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District that everyone in our community must contribute to the achievement of this goal. The discipline code applies to the behavior of all students while they are on school grounds, in school

Annual Notices

buildings and/or participating in school-sponsored activities. C-RCS will operate on a progressive discipline philosophy designed to bring about behavior change. The history and disciplinary record of each student will be considered on a case-by-case basis. However, every effort will be made to respond in a firm, fair and consistent manner.

SCHOOL CLOSING PROCEDURES

Cancellations, delays or early dismissals are posted on the school district's website at CRCSD.org and announced via SchoolMessenger automated calling system. Please ensure your child's building office has your most recent contact information so that the school can reach you by automated phone call. School closings are also announced on the following local TV and radio stations: WRVE (99.5 FM); WFLY (92.3 FM); WGY (810 AM); WYJB (95.5 FM); WRGB Channel 6, Spectrum Local News, WTEN Channel 10, WNYT Channel 13, WXXA FOX23, as well as the Times Union website (<http://timesunion.com>).

It is best to rely on more than one source of information when it comes to weather-related announcements. This is particularly true in situations that involve power outages, which can affect the district's ability to send electronic notifications. Emergency preparedness agencies have advised that residents have access to a battery-powered radio so that they can receive information if other communication channels are unavailable.

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES

It is the Board of Education's policy to maximize the community's return on its investment in school facilities. This means that our playing fields, tennis courts, gymnasiums, auditoriums, cafeterias and meeting rooms are available for use by nonschool groups for other than commercial and political activities. Applications for use of school facilities are available on the district website and in each school office and should be submitted in time for the building principal's recommendation and Board of Education's review prior to the regular meetings. The application will require evidence of liability insurance for formal groups and of the supervision to be provided during the activity. Fees may be charged to help defray associated expenses incurred when the buildings are not normally staffed. Procedures may be modified to comply with COVID-19 health and safety precautions.

DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS

The intent of the New York State Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) is to ensure that elementary and secondary school students have the right to attend school in an environment that is free of discrimination, harassment, and bullying. DASA went into effect on July 1, 2012. Cobleskill-Richmondville Board of Education policies are consistent with DASA regulations. DASA requires that at least one person at every school be thoroughly trained to handle harassing behaviors that may be related but not limited to a person's actual or perceived: race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practices, sexual orientation, gender, sex and/or mental and physical disabilities. Designated school professionals will be trained to act as Anti-Bullying Coordinators for Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District and each of the buildings within the district.

C-RCS's roles and responsibilities include: prevention, intervention, training, reporting and investigating by the Dignity Act Coordinator as determined by New York State Education Department's Regulation and Dignity for All Students Act.

Key Definitions from DASA

Bullying: A hostile activity which harms or induces fear through the threat of further aggression and/or creates terror. Bullying may be premeditated or a sudden activity.

Bullying often includes the following characteristics:

Power imbalance: Occurs when a bully uses his/her physical or social power over a target.

Intent to harm: The bully seeks to inflict physical or emotional harm and/or takes pleasure in this activity.

Threat of further aggression: The bully and target believe that bullying will continue.

Terror: When any bullying increases, it becomes a systematic violence or harassment used to intimidate and maintain dominance.

There are several types of bullying, including verbal, physical and social/relational.

Discrimination: The act of denying rights, benefits, justice, equitable treatment or access to facilities available to all others, to an individual or group of people because of the group, class or category to which that person belongs (as enumerated in the harassment section).

Harassment: The creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being; or conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical safety. The harassing behavior may be based on any characteristic, including but not limited to a person's actual or perceived: race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and expression), and/or mental and physical disabilities.

Hazing: An induction, initiation or membership process involving harassment that produces public humiliation, physical or emotional discomfort, bodily injury or public ridicule or creates a situation where public humiliation, physical or emotional discomfort, bodily injury or public ridicule is likely to occur.

FIREARMS PROHIBITION

By Board of Education policy, no student shall bring a firearm on any portion of the premises of a school that is owned or controlled by this school district. In accordance with the Gun Free Schools Act of 1994, any student who, after a hearing held pursuant to Education Law Section 3214, is found guilty of bringing a firearm onto the premises of any school that is owned or controlled by C-RCS will be subject to a penalty of at least a one year suspension from school. However, in determining an appropriate penalty, the Superintendent of Schools may modify the suspension requirement on a case-by-case basis, considering among other things, the totality of circumstances surrounding the offense and the student's previous record. These may include, but are not limited to, the age of the student; the student's grade in school; the student's prior disciplinary record; the Superintendent's belief that other forms of discipline may be more effective; and other extenuating circumstances. Police officers on duty are the only people permitted on school property to have a weapon in their possession. New York State Penal Law Section 265.01(d) addresses possession of firearms on school property.

DRUG FREE/TOBACCO FREE SCHOOL ZONE

Our school district is considered a Drug Free/Tobacco Free School Zone. This includes electronic cigarettes and similar devices. Anyone arrested and convicted of selling or using illegal drugs within 1,000 feet of school property would be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law by the civil authorities. The penalties are harsher than those in the community at large. Signs are posted at the entrances to our campuses and on district buildings as a warning that our district has no tolerance toward illegal drug possession or usage.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL-HARASSMENT GUIDELINES

It is the policy of the Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District to not discriminate on the basis of handicap, sex, national origin, religion, race, sexual orientation or age in its education programs, activities or employment as required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Copies of the full policies (9140 and 0110.0) are available on the district website.

Annual Notices

The Board of Education has a policy prohibiting sexual harassment in our schools. Sexual harassment is generally defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. The C-RCS administration, faculty, staff and students are responsible for assuring that the environment for work and study is free from sexual harassment. Sexual harassment violates the dignity of individuals and will not be tolerated. The Board of Education seeks to eliminate sexual harassment through education and by encouraging faculty, staff and students to report concerns or complaints. Prompt corrective measures will be taken to stop sexual harassment if ever it occurs. Any student, employee or school district officer who believes discrimination or sexual harassment has occurred should report the alleged misconduct immediately so that corrective action may be taken. Please contact the building principal; Section 504 & Title IX Compliance Officer Melissa Ausfeld (518-234-3165); Title IX Compliance Officer Scott McDonald (518-234-3165); the U.S. Department of Education (800-421-3481); or the New York Office for Civil Rights (646-428-3900).

PESTICIDE NEIGHBOR NOTIFICATION

The Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District is taking an aggressive, yet precautionary approach to dealing with pesticides in and around its schools. The development and implementation of the district's integrated pest management (IPM) program is the key to achieving pesticide-use reduction, while providing effective and economical pest control. Any public or non-public elementary or secondary school that decides to use a pesticide product as a last resort in addressing a pest problem must comply with the Pesticide Neighbor Notification Law (Section 409-H of the Education Law). This notice is to inform all parents, guardians and staff that pesticide products may be used periodically throughout the school year. Any parents, guardians and staff who wish to receive a 48-hour written advanced notice from the school of an actual pesticide application should call William Himme, Director of Facilities, at 518-234-4133.

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN

In accordance with the EPA's Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) of 1987 (40 CFR Part 763), the Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District is required to give annual notification stating that the Asbestos Management Plan for each building is available and kept in the main office of each building and in the office of the Director of Facilities. These records are available for review during normal school business hours. In addition, in accordance with this act, a six-month periodic surveillance is conducted in each building that contains asbestos. The periodic surveillances are conducted in June and December of each year. Before the start of any project, we will make sure all building occupants are properly notified and all signage will indicate the scope of the project. For more information, please contact William Himme, Director of Facilities and LEA Asbestos Designee, at 518-234-4133.

COMPREHENSIVE WELLNESS POLICY

The C-RCS Board of Education has adopted a comprehensive wellness policy that provides a coordinated approach to student and staff wellness. The policy is based on the belief that students who begin each day as healthy individuals can learn more, learn better and are more likely to complete formal education. Staff members who are healthy can perform assigned duties more effectively and can model appropriate wellness behaviors for students. The policy provides guidance in the areas of nutrition; health education and family and consumer science; physical education and activity; counseling and psychological services; health services; family, school and community partnerships; and staff wellness. The District Wellness Committee has developed a detailed action plan to address each area, with more information to be shared with each phase of implementation. For more information on this policy, please contact the Wellness Coordinators, Melissa Ausfeld at 518-234-3165 or John Henry at 518-234-3565, ext. 1123.

STUDENT PRIVACY

Student Privacy Policy

The C-RCS Board of Education recognizes that student surveys are a valuable tool in determining student needs for educational services. Parents have the right to inspect all instructional materials that will be used for a survey, analysis or evaluation as part of a U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) funded program. In addition, no minor student may, without parent consent, take part in a survey, analysis or evaluation funded in whole or in part by the USDOE that reveals information concerning certain types of personal behavior or political beliefs. It is the policy of the board not to permit the collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or selling that information or providing it to others for that purpose. For more information or a complete copy of the policy, please contact the Office of Student Services at 518-234-3165 or any building principal.

Student Publicity Policy

To recognize student achievement and/or to depict student activities at Cobleskill-Richmondville Central Schools, students' names, grade levels and photos may be published on the C-RCS website/social media sites, in school publications or released to the media. Parents who object to the use of their child's name or image for such purposes should notify BOTH the superintendent of schools and their child's building principal in writing.

PLEASE NOTE: While the district will honor the request of any parent who has submitted written notification opting their child out of publicity efforts, the district is not responsible for media that covers news happenings, sporting events or school events.

Release of Student Directory Information

From time to time, officials of the school are contacted to release certain information about their students. The Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District has a policy for handling the release of student directory information, as required under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

(FERPA) and the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

The C-RCS policy states that no personally identifiable information about any students other than student "directory information" may be released to a particular person or institution without the written consent of the parent or eligible student. However, such information may be made available under certain conditions.

This policy further specifies that student "directory information" may be released unless the student or parent requests that it NOT be released. "Directory information" includes the pupil's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, height and weight of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, diploma and awards received, most recent school attended and class schedule.

If a parent or student wishes that this student "directory information" not be released, please contact the appropriate building principal.

In addition, FERPA allows parents, legal guardians and 18-year-old students to arrange an appointment to review official records relating to that student, including: progress reports; grades; aptitude and achievement test scores; psychological tests; and teacher evaluations. Appropriate school personnel must be present at the time of record inspection to prevent any misinterpretation of the records. If you would like to review your child's records, please contact the building principal to schedule an appointment. A copy of the full district policy on the release of student directory information is available on the district website and in each school office.

Sports return

Cobleskill-Richmonville student-athletes are back on the field. High school students are participating in off-season training. The sessions are open to all students, whether or not they've played sports in the past. It's been great to see the Bulldogs back in action!



Reopening, from page 1

federal, state and local regulations.

"The work of the Reopening Task Force guided the district as critical decisions were made," said Bruce Tryon, C-R's Board of Education president. "That work is now paying off. There will be more challenges ahead, but I am confident and excited to know we have the right people around the table on our task force."

Key aspects of C-R's Reopening Plan include:

- Students at Ryder, Radez and Golding can attend school in person five days a week, with a shortened instructional day. C-R High School students can attend on a schedule that alternates in-person instruction with remote learning.

- Families at all grade levels can choose "remote learning," which means their students learn from home, but the curriculum is provided by the district and materials are taught by C-R teachers.
- Several important health-and-safety measures are in place: Classes were divided into smaller cohorts; masks are worn by students and staff at all times, except when eating; and social-distancing is maintained whenever possible.

About 1,400 C-R students chose to return to in-person learning, while another 300 are learning from home. But no matter the means through which learning is taking place, the district is committed to educating, inspiring and empowering all our students.

