



Corunna Public Schools • It's GREAT to be GOLD!

The Communicator



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Fattal's Forum

By Superintendent John Fattal

"Mrs. Fattal? This is Mrs. Jankeje (pronounced Jane-Key), principal of Louise Peacock. I'm calling to let you know that I have little Johnny in my office because he got into some trouble at recess."

That conversation starter was followed by what seemed like 10 minutes of quiet (even though it was probably more like 10 seconds...), as my mom was on the other end of the line asking my elementary principal questions.

Then, Mrs. Jankeje proceeded to tell my mom why I was in the office. Before asking my mom the culminating question: "...and because of that, I am asking your permission to spank Johnny."

"Uh oh," I thought. This is not the way I wanted this conversation to go. Especially when I heard Mrs. Jankeje's response: "Thank you Mrs. Fattal. I'm sure you will handle this at home as well."

Needless to say, this was the first (of two) times I got spanked in school. (For the record, they were both well deserved). The purpose of this short story, however, is not to complain about being spanked. Nor is it to talk about how times were better "back in my day".

No, the purpose of that short story is to share with you that even though I was spanked by the school principal, there never was a feeling that I was being treated unfairly or that Mrs. Jankeje didn't like me. To the contrary. Even at that young age, I knew the difference between right and wrong. I knew I had messed up and it was the principal's job to hold me accountable and prevent me from making the same mistake in the future.

And she did that with grace and respect. Even though I would have preferred to not have any discipline come my way.

Like Mrs. Jankeje, our principals/administrators at Corunna Public Schools treat our students with the same kind of respect today. October is National Principals' Month, and I wanted to take a short time to recognize the wonderful job they do in a very demanding position that gets more complicated each year.

They balance academics, student discipline, and building priorities with making decisions that are firm, fair, consistent and appropriate for each individual they interact with on a daily basis.

It's no secret Corunna Public Schools, has the BEST principals around; I wouldn't trade them for any other group. Period. So if you see one of our principals (featured elsewhere on today's page), please let them know you appreciate them and the amount of work they do on a daily basis making Corunna Public Schools the safest, best school district!

Miscellany

Audit The results of our 2017-18 financial audit were shared at our October Board meeting; I'm happy to announce we were more than \$500,000 in the black! We take great pride here at Corunna Public Schools in taking care of our fiduciary responsibilities to our tax-paying public!

Veterans Day If you are a Veteran with any ties at all to Corunna, please join us for a small tribute 9 a.m. Thursday, November 8 to acknowledge your service to our country. Call Louise Peacock Preschool (989) 743-8848 for more information.

Early release We will have an early release on Halloween. Release times at each building follow: CHS (10:55 a.m.), CMS (11:05 a.m.), and Elsa Meyer, Nellie Reed and Louise Peacock (12:10 p.m.).



Life Cycle



Two students in the second grade classroom of Loresa Finton are shown writing a sentence telling their favorite stage of development in the life cycle of a butterfly and why it is their favorite. The students had just ended their first week of study. This past week, these second graders learned about and studied the migration pattern of the Monarch Butterfly.

October is National Principals Month

The Corunna Public Schools would like to recognize the hard work our principals do each and every day. Principals are the keystone of their building, but often don't get recognition for all the hard work they do each and every day. We thank them for the time and effort they devote to our students, families, staff, and community. Principals serve as educational visionaries, instructional leaders, assessment experts, disciplinarians, community builders, facility managers, special programs administrators, and guardians of various legal, contractual, and policy mandates and initiatives. They are also entrusted with the educational development of young people. Principals set the academic tone for their schools and work collaboratively with teachers and parents to develop and implement a clear vision, high curriculum standards and performance goals. Principals play a vital role in the success of students by creating school environments that facilitate great teaching and learning as well as continuous school improvement. This October, we celebrate our principals and recognize the importance of school leadership in ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education. We thank them for their exemplary examples of service. They are seven more reasons why "It's Great to be Gold!"



(Pictured L to R) Jason Beldyga-Athletic Director, April Woodruff-Director of Children's Services, Barb Birchmeier-Academic Principal at Corunna High School, Stacy Regan-Elsa Meyer Principal, Jamie Johnston-Corunna Middle School Principal, and Paul Brieger-Operations Principal at Corunna High School.



CHS Inducts New NHS Members



On October 22 the Corunna High School National Honor Society welcomed 38 new members. The new NHS Inductees are listed in alphabetical order: Garret Andrejack, Breann Barker, Kylie Brooks, Alexis Bukovick, Ricki Cantu, Jaylee Carpenter, Gurleen Chauhan, Hannah Crist, Madeleine Fairweather, Morgan Fisher-Stockinger, Danielle French, Morgan Fry, Collin Gillett, Michaela Harwood, Stephanie Harwood, Hannah Hollister, Marissa Jackson, Caitlyn Johnson, Madison Kennedy, Colt Kondel, Keegan Kral, Faith Loomis, Elizabeth Norris, Olivia Pearsall, Evan Roka, Nadine Stowell, Gabriella Testa, Allyson Vowell, Elizabeth White, Tucker Woodruff, Nicholas Yarmuth, Isabel Fults, Benjamin Jacobs, Jacob Johnson, Lauren Knight, Logan LePage, Tatum LePino, Shaun Vogan.

Mind and Body Day



Corunna Middle School students participated in the school's annual Mind and Body Day on Wednesday, October 24th. This is the PTO's big fundraiser for the year. Students collect pledges for a walk-a-thon. They also participate in a variety of activities to exercise both their minds and bodies. In addition to the activities planned by the staff, the students were allowed to choose between swimming, dodgeball, board games and a computer/quiet reading room for one hour. The day ended with a staff vs. students flag football game.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Walker Foland graduated from Corunna Public Schools in 2002 and attended Michigan State University where he graduated Summa Cum Laude from Lyman Briggs College with a degree in Human Biology. He attended medical school at Michigan State University and after graduation, he completed a four-year Emergency Medicine Residency as Chief Resident at Genesys Regional Medical Center. After Dr. Foland

became board certified through the American Board of Emergency Medicine, he pursued additional training in Tactical Medicine through the Counter Narcotics and Terrorism Operational Medical Support (CONTOMS) in Washington, DC. He also completed Special Deputy Training through the Saginaw County Sheriff's Department over the following year. He then joined the Saginaw County Emergency Services Team in Tactical Emergency Medicine Services. He currently works as a Medical Operator on the Saginaw SWAT team, an attending Physician at Covenant ER, Clinical Associate Professor at CMU Medical School and he chairs the Covenant ECC Safety Committee. Dr. Foland is active in academic emergency medicine and contributes to national educational podcasts for Emergency Medicine Reviews and Perspectives (EMRAP) and ERCast. This year Dr. Foland was honored to receive MCEP Emergency Medicine Physician of the Year for the State of Michigan. He has 4 beautiful children and an amazingly supportive wife, who has stood with him tirelessly since he was 17 years old.

Should you know of anyone who would make a good feature for this column, please email contact information to John Fattal jfattal@corunna.k12.mi.us or Peggy Friess pfriess@corunna.k12.mi.us.

We're headed to EUROPE Germany, Poland, and Czech Republic June 2020

Don't miss the opportunity to help your Cavalier discover the world. Ready to learn more? Come to a mandatory parent meeting for all the details.

Monday, November 5th at 6:00 p.m.
Corunna High School Media Center

Will you be attending? Please RSVP to let me know if you can make it, can't make it, or are interested, but won't be able to attend. This way, we will have enough materials and space for everyone.

mrshilewskyeurope2020.eventbrite.com

Corunna Community Education Classes

(989) 743-6338. Call to register or for more details.

Heavenly Tumbles Gymnastics with Cindy Schweikert
Six-Week Session at Elsa Meyer Elementary
November 6, 13, 20, 27 December 4, 11
Cost is \$45.00 per child (6 week session)
Mommy and Me Classes, K-1, 2-6

Stuffed Animals Attend School



Students in the second grade classroom of Mindy Palasio earned PJ Day by making great choices. The classroom marble mug was filled, one marble at a time, after students showed kindness to fellow students or made great choices. Students celebrated by wearing their pajamas, bringing in blankets and their favorite stuffed animals. Students used their stuffed companions to practice voice and spent the day having reading fun.