



# EDUCATION IN OUR TOWN

*Cultivate Excellence*



Caro Middle School Student Council sponsored a canned food drive on November 6th-10th. All middle school advisory classes participated in this event. Mrs. Anger's 6th-grade Advisory class collected 197 items and won a pizza party. The school collected 760 food items which were delivered to St. Christopher Catholic Church in Caro for their food pantry.

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# Caro Schools Offers A Wide Range of Learning Experiences for Students

By George Rierson, Superintendent

Our mission statement identifies the priority we place on academic achievement and we also recognize the importance of activities beyond traditional classroom settings as contributing to well rounded, productive citizenship. The mission statement, *“We cultivate academic excellence in an environment that fosters physical, social and emotional growth which empowers students to become responsible citizens in our community and in an ever-changing world.”* acknowledges that preparing our students to pursue their dreams requires multiple learning experiences.

This fall our students had the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and passions through the wide range of activities that are available at Caro Community Schools. Caro High School continues to offer more extra-curricular options for our students than any high school in the region with MHSAA competition in cross country, football, golf, soccer, swim, tennis and volleyball, and additional team activities including cheer, equestrian and our first fall season for the clay target team which was launched last spring. We also offer physical education at every grade level across the district to prepare students physically for an active lifestyle and fitness that is essential to good health.

Our Fine Arts programs offer both the extra-curricular experiences as well as classroom. We continue to offer an outstanding Fine Arts program with our youngest students receiving music instruction in kindergarten at McComb Elementary and continuing through grades 3-5 at Schall Elementary and then including both vocal and instrumental music at Caro Middle School and Caro High School. Our marching band



## Caro Community Schools

### *Mission Statement*

We cultivate academic excellence in an environment that fosters physical, social and emotional growth which empowers students to become responsible citizens in our community and in an ever-changing world.

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competed in two festivals this fall as well as their Friday night halftime performances. Our middle school and high school bands also demonstrated their skills in the fall concert. The vocal music program in the middle school and high school, including our acapella group, performs in a number of community events throughout the year and also held a fall concert and for the second year in a row, held a Saturday morning concert with coffee. Our drama program offers opportunities for multiple grade levels depending on the production and this fall our students delivered an outstanding performance of *Pygmalion*. This year we hired a new art teacher for middle school and high school students. It has been a pleasure to view the artwork created by students that is on display throughout our high school. All of the learning experiences are only possible through the hard work and dedication of our teachers, coaches and volunteers and with support from our Caro Tiger families and community.

Our student's achieve their goals through a combination of factors, including effort, interest, motivation, family support, etc. Students attribute their success to the tireless efforts of teachers, administrators and support staff to inspire, challenge and support them. This fall several members of our Caro Schools family applied for grants to add equipment or programs that will benefit our students. Congratulations to Mrs. Will, Mrs. Weiderhold, Mr. Peters and the McComb PTO on your recent grant award. Thank you for the extra effort to increase achievement for our students. Finally, we want to welcome our new Tiger Athletic's Department Director, Randy Moore. Mr. Moore jumped out to a quick start by promoting our events on multiple social media channels and a weekly newsletter to highlight our student athletes and share results from events across all of our programs. You can catch his frequent updates on the Caro Tigers Athletics Facebook page and instagram account.

# Cultivate Excellence



## Caro Community Schools Board of Education

The Board of Education meets the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Caro Middle School Media Center. The meetings are open to the public.

### 2024 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Sarah Brunet

Brian McComb

Kathleen Curtis

Phoebe Moore

Tina Gomez

Katie Skelton

Susan Holder



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## **Caro Community Schools plans to place two proposals on the May 2024 ballot**

Since early 2023, school officials have been working with construction management specialists and architects to identify facility needs in the Caro Community School District. Following building reviews and identifying both short- and long-range facility needs, a project list was developed.

To gain staff and community feedback on the proposed projects and the overall bond proposal cost, a series of focus panels were conducted. Focus panel participants included community representatives, parents, and staff members. To gain additional feedback, an online survey was also available to all community members and staff. With input from community members and staff, Caro Community Schools finalized the list of proposed projects to address facility needs. Voter approval of the bond proposal will allow the school district to provide facilities that support the educational program at reduced operating costs.

During the focus panel sessions and the online survey, respondents suggested that the project list and, hence, the cost be reduced. They also suggested that the district make every effort to provide information about the project to the community and make sure all questions are answered. In order to provide additional time to share information, the district selected the May 7th election date for the ballot proposal.

Placing the bond proposal on the May ballot also allowed the district to include an additional ballot proposal--the renewal of the Non-Homestead Millage required by the State of Michigan so Caro Community Schools can receive its full share of state aid (foundation allowance).

Below is background information on the Bond Proposal and the Non-Homestead Millage Proposal Renewal.

### **1. A Facility Bond Proposal -- To support the educational program through facility updates**

#### **At the elementary level...**

Proposed updates at the elementary level include updating McComb Elementary School to serve all Pre-kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade students. This plan will provide the necessary spaces to support the Pre-kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade program and reduce operational costs for the school district.

At McComb Elementary, 15 additional classrooms will be added, including two classrooms to support the Pre-kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade special



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education program. To meet the educational needs of Pre-kindergarten-5th-grade students, a new gym will be constructed, and the current gym will become a cafeteria with an updated kitchen. The facility expansion will also include designated spaces to support “specials” classes such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) music and art. A new entry will be constructed for the Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade program, and the current main office entrance will become the designated entry for the Preschool Program.

Following voter approval, the design phase of the construction will take place. It is estimated that all Pre-kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup>-grade programming will begin at McComb by the start of the 2027 school year.

### **At the middle school level...**

Major improvements at the middle school include replacing fire doors, select interior doors, frames, and hardware; replacing select ceiling tiles and floors and furniture; replacing select classroom cabinets and storage areas, windows and window shades; updating restrooms and adding a single-use restroom; updating electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems; replacing the PA/clocks and digital message displays; updating classroom instructional technology; and constructing an outdoor canopy at the main entrance.

### **At the high school level...**

Major improvements at the high school include replacing classroom windows and window shades; replacing select interior and exterior doors, frames, and hardware; replacing select ceiling tile and flooring; replacing select classroom cabinets; replacing music room flooring and instrument storage; replacing all lockers; adding a concrete seating area for students outside of the cafeteria; renovating the locker room; renovating restrooms; renovations to expand the guidance office; updating electrical, mechanical, and plumbing systems; replacing the PA system, speakers and clocks; and, updating instructional technology. In addition, the current bus garage will be remodeled into a fitness space for instructional and athletic programs to use, and a new bus garage will be constructed.

### **The cost of the bond proposal...**

At the request of residents, some projects were eliminated, and the overall bond proposal cost was reduced to \$39.6 million. The length of the bond proposal has also been reduced from 30 to 28 years. Reducing the length of the bond will benefit the community by reducing interest costs.



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## The next steps...

To place a bond proposal on the ballot, school districts must submit their project lists to the Michigan Department of Treasury for review and approval. We have met with Treasury officials and our plan has been approved.

The Board of Education voted on Monday, January 29 to formally set the May 7, 2024 election date. More detailed information about the bond proposal and all updates planned for each site will be provided on the school district website. Information will also be shared with the community and staff members through public meetings, direct mail, social media, and the news media.

### **2. A Non-Homestead Millage renewal – To support the Caro Community Schools’ operating budget.**

The second proposal is a six-year, Non-Homestead Millage Renewal that will support the district’s operating budget. All Michigan school districts must levy 18 mills on non-homestead property to receive their full share of state aid (foundation allowance).

The Non-Homestead Millage Renewal represents 9% of the Caro Community Schools’ operating budget. The operating budget covers everything, including employee salaries, textbooks, utilities, and instructional materials.

The non-homestead millage is levied on businesses, second homes, and rental property. It does not affect taxes on a homeowner’s primary residence (the home in which a homeowner resides). The Non-Homestead Replacement Millage is projected to generate \$1.8 million in the 2025 school year.

Caro residents first approved the non-homestead millage in 1994 and renewed it as required since then. The May ballot proposal asks voters to renew the non-homestead millage at the current rate for six years.

We will continue to keep the community and staff members updated as we complete the necessary steps to placing the Bond Proposal and Non-Homestead Millage Renewal Proposal on the May 2024 ballot.



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# NHS Induction Numbers on The Rise

By Mrs. Shaw, NHS Advisor



With about 100 people in attendance, staff, students, and family members gathered to welcome 21 students into The National Honor Society during the induction ceremony on Sunday, October 22nd in the auditorium. Middle School English teacher, Mr. James Sira, gave a comedic yet powerful and engaging keynote address that emphasized the importance of the four pillars of the NHS; scholarship, leadership, service, and character. He told stories from his childhood about inspirational students he had encountered and how they encouraged him throughout his life. Current NHS President, Gwenyth Geiger presided over the ceremony with help from the other officers: Vice President Nathan Diegel, Secretary Madison Olar, Treasurer Samuel Frick, and Sergeant at Arms Riley Volz. The 21 inductees included: Makena Bristol, Caydence Curtis, Addison Fisch, Scarlett Fischer, Alexandria Goff, Zakiya Jackson, Morgan Long, Cole Marcola, Jacob Moore, Dystinee Overmyer, Ethan Ransford, Molly Salgat, Madalyn Stefanovsky, Kaydin Stewart, Kaya Vrable, Emma Vudures, Claire Warren, Casimir Wasik, Isabella DuRussel, and Landon Hood.

Students invited to join the NHS must have at least a 3.5 GPA and display the four pillars of the elite organization; scholarship, leadership, service, and character throughout the school as well as the community of Caro. Last year alone, our NHS students completed over 1,500 hours of service in our community, helped find donors to give enough blood to save the lives of 255 people, and collected over 1,000 food items that were donated to a local food pantry. Our fourth annual silent auction was a huge success bringing in funds toward scholarships for two well deserving members of the class of 2023. This year, we have already held one blood drive and we look forward to even more service activities throughout our school and town. I am confident that the 40 current members of the NHS have and will continue to make a positive impact on the community of Caro and I am blessed to work so closely with each of them.



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# Caro Bands' Spring Concert and Awards Presentation

By Mrs. Shannon Will

The Caro Band hosted its Spring Concert on May 17, with musical selections performed by the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade and High School Bands. Band Letter Pins were presented to those graduating Seniors who have participated in band for the past four-years. Congratulations to Ethan Fellows who was awarded the John Phillip Sousa Award. The John Phillip Sousa Band Award was introduced in 1955 and recognizes superior musicianship and outstanding dedication, honoring top students in high school bands. Ethan's name will be listed in the national registry. Kudos to Isabella Jerore, who received the Most Improved Award for the 2022/2023 School Year.

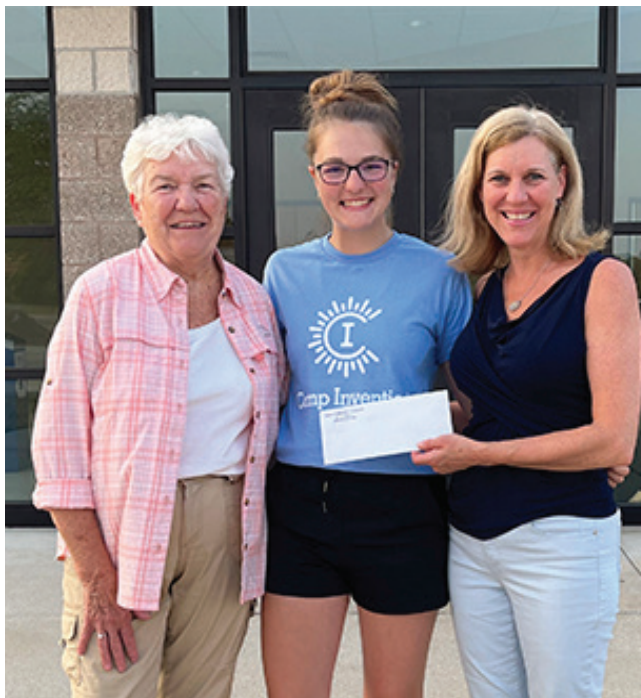
At the Senior Awards Ceremony, Wynn Garrett and Michael Booms were each awarded a \$500 scholarship from the Caro Band Boosters to be used in their pursuit of higher education.

The 2023/2024 Drum Majors have been announced; they are Samuel Frick and Olivia Will. Olivia received a grant provided by the Jerry W. Zuercher Endowment for the Musical Arts Fund to be used towards Drum Major Camp registration fees this summer. During camp, students are taught leadership and performance skills, including conducting, score study, marching techniques, and equipment usage. To support this grant, you may donate by logging onto the Tuscola County Community Foundation's website at [www.tuscolaccf.org](http://www.tuscolaccf.org).

Maryann Diehl donated a beautiful quilt to the Caro Band, which was raffled off as a fundraiser. A special thank you to Maryann for this generous donation!

The Band Booster Board and I would like to thank parents and the community for their support of the Caro Band students and our fundraisers throughout the year. We appreciate you!

Liz Zuercher and Heidi Brown presented Olivia Will with a grant to be used towards Drum Major Camp fees.





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# Caro High School Empowers Female Leaders

By Mrs. Bitzer, Assistant Principal



On November 12th and 13th, Caro High School joined forces with females statewide in Grand Rapids. The purpose was to collaborate, grow, and empower female teachers and student leaders.

Hosted by the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals, the conference was attended by nearly 300 individuals representing 45 schools throughout Michigan. Topics ranged from equity in education, self-advocacy, and empowering young women to lead courageously.

In attendance from Caro High School were Gwenyth Geiger, senior, Sophia DeFino, junior, Eva Will, sophomore, and Normandy Geiger, freshman. The students were selected by CHS staff to represent the school and to help bring awareness to issues that impact females. The students were joined by teachers Rochelle Holloway and Kathleen Gierman and assistant principal, Lindsay Bitzer.

The students intend to speak at the December School Board meeting to share how they were inspired to impact change within their school and greater community. Their priorities include equity, access to feminine hygiene products in restrooms and access to education. Caro High School is proud of its female leaders committed to growing and improving our school and the student experience.



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# Homecoming Was A Busy Time at Caro High School

By Allison Sira, Student Council Advisor

School buses were on the road again, leaves changed colors, and fall sports started in Caro. This can only mean one thing: Homecoming was upon us once again! That's right Caro High School was preparing for the traditional Homecoming festivities, as well as some new ones, that everyone was looking forward to!

On October 13<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 7:00 pm at Stamat's Stadium, located at the Caro High School, our Caro Tiger Boys Varsity Football team matched up against the Sandusky Wolves Boys Varsity Football team in hopes of securing a Homecoming victory. As a traditional prelude to the game there was a parade at 5:00 pm through town showing off our fall sports teams, band, Homecoming Court members, and the floats created by the students of Caro High School. This year the Homecoming Theme was movies, so to promote more school spirit each grade chose a movie and created a float depicting that particular movie. The Senior Class chose Barbie, the Juniors chose Teen Beach Movie, Sophomores chose Star Wars and Freshmen chose Hocus Pocus. The spirit stick, the prize for the class with the most school spirit, was at stake here! Congratulations to the Senior Class for showing the most school spirit all week long!

At halftime the CHS Band played a spectacular halftime performance, first place in the float building competition was awarded to the Seniors, the Homecoming Court was there looking fantastic and finally the Homecoming King and Queen were crowned.

Congratulations to Trace Slezsak and Gwen Geiger! The next day the students of Caro High School prepared themselves for the Homecoming Dance. Even though only the



High School students are allowed at the dance, anyone and everyone was welcome at the parade and game to show their Caro Tiger Pride. Thanks to all for coming to watch the parade, see our Varsity Football Team play and our half-time Homecoming celebration!

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# Audience Captivated by Drama Club's Presentation of *Pygmalion*

By Ms. Swarthout, Director

The Caro High School Drama Club presented their fall production of *Pygmalion* on November 10 and 11 in the high school auditorium. This timeless comedy by George Bernard Shaw and adapted by Christopher Morse highlighted the battle of wits and wills between Henry Higgins (played by Ethan Ransford) and Eliza Doolittle (Gwen Geiger). Speech professor Henry Higgins made a bet with Colonel Pickering (Luke Joslyn) that he could transform cockney flower girl Eliza Doolittle from a low-class nobody to the toast of society at an upcoming ball. He soon realized, however, that this feat might not be so easily accomplished; Eliza had strong opinions of her own, and she was prepared to fight Henry every step of the way on her transformation from guttersnipe to sophisticated duchess. The inspiration for the musical *My Fair Lady*, the story of *Pygmalion* has captivated audiences for decades. While this was not a musical, the audience was a bit when Eliza broke out into a couple of songs.

Rounding out the cast were Kendra Benn, Riley Burcham, Sophia DeFino, Jasmine Delorey, Alexandra Hammac, Lillian Johnson, Madalyn Kurish, Tristin Liss, and Kindalyn Noble. Helping out backstage were Madison Olar and Claire Warren.

Both performances were well attended by the community, who laughed throughout the shows. The cast and crew glowed with the comments and compliments bestowed upon them at the close of each night.



Professor Higgins and Eliza at the ball.



The cast of Pygmalion.

# Student Body Meets Behavior Challenge

By Mrs. Bringard, Principal

Congratulations to 90% of our Middle School student body for meeting the behavior challenge! We celebrated their success by decorating sugar cookies and two students per grade won the opportunity to throw a pie at Mr. Sira and Mr. Moyer! Thank you to our awesome Food Service ladies who prepared the cookies and teachers who helped make this event a success!



Mr. Sira and Mr. Moyer each took a pie in the face!

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# Schall Recognizes Fall Star Students

By Mrs. Warren, Schall Principal

Schall Elementary is pleased to have the opportunity to recognize many Star Students each month for demonstrating outstanding character throughout the building. We thank our families for their support and modeling for our students. We have amazing students and families at Schall Elementary School. It has been a pleasure to recognize students for working hard and following expectations. We are celebrating a love of learning and a future of possibilities.

Congratulations to the following students for being named Star Students for the month of September for the character trait of empathy:

3rd Grade = Levi Sitko, Nolan Downing, Rylynn Harris, Elaina Dibble, Bella Rowe.

4th Grade = Jacqueline Loney, Gracie Hahn, Jameson Downing, and Cheyenne Craft.

5th Grade = Alexis Dennis, Serenadee Stone, Avalon Smith, and Aiden Green



September Star Students showed the character trait of empathy.

Congratulations to the following students for being named Star Students for the month of October for the character trait of self-direction:

3rd Grade = Makenzie Elenbaum, Amelia Fowler, Greyson Hill, Aubrey Clark, and Brinley Bush.

4th Grade = Addison Bamberg, Harper Schlaud, Alivia Russel, and Oliver Percy.

5th Grade = Riely Liponoga, Troy Hiser, Drake Skinner, and Zoeyjane Tumblin.



Star Students for the month of October demonstrated self-direction.

Congratulations to our November Star Students who were recognized for demonstrating outstanding teamwork.

3rd Grade = Mary Skinner, Iliza Lopez, Molly Taylor, Brennan Scott, & Easton Cook.

4th Grade = Colson Wegner, Journey Dibble, Logan Radley, & Ella Zamora.

5th Grade = Emma SanMiguel, Nikko Wonnacott, Emerylee McLeod, & Peyton Maguire



Outstanding teamwork was demonstrated by our November Star Students.

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# Calling All Inventors! Join Us for STEM Fun

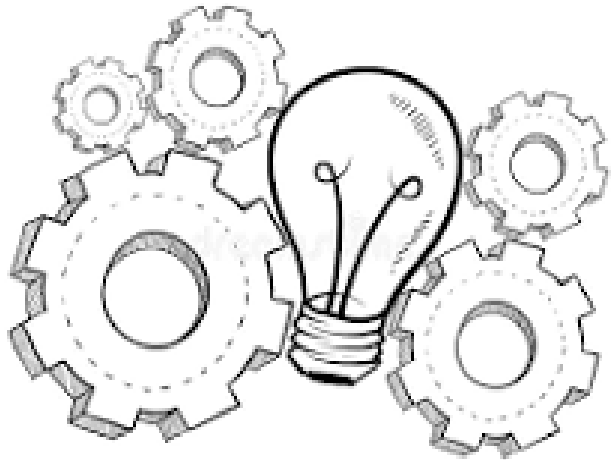
By Ms. Amy Kuntz

Camp Invention is returning to Tuscola County! Come join us this summer for an action-packed week of STEM fun for students entering into grades K-6.

In partnership with the National Inventors Hall of Fame®, Caro Community Schools is pleased to offer the all-new and nationally acclaimed Camp Invention® program, Illuminate. This exciting, weeklong adventure provides lessons that explore connections between science, technology, engineering, and innovation. Be an innovative all-star with In The Game, shine bright with Let's Glow, explore the earth and water with Operation: HydroDrop, and build big ideas with Prototyping Studio! Camp Invention's activities give participants the opportunity to explore, create, and build confidence as they bring their biggest ideas to life. Check out <http://experience.invent.org/> for more details about this year's activities.

Open to all county children, Camp Invention will run from June 17-21st. The camp will be held from 8:30 AM-3:00 PM each day at Schall Elementary. Participants will need to bring their own lunches, and a snack if they prefer.

Availability is limited. Visit [invent.org/camp](http://invent.org/camp) and search zip code 48723 or call 800-968-4332 to secure your child's spot today! For more information, questions, or available discounts, or visit [tinyurl.com/Caro-CampInvention](http://tinyurl.com/Caro-CampInvention) or contact Amy Kuntz ([akuntz@carok12.org](mailto:akuntz@carok12.org)) or Ashley Nicol ([anicol@carok12.org](mailto:anicol@carok12.org)).



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# Schall Visits Temple Theater

By Mrs. Warren, Schall Principal

On Tuesday, November 28, 2023 Schall staff and students had the wonderful opportunity to see the Suessified Christmas Carol at the Temple Theater in Saginaw.

This event was free for everyone due to a grant that supports the arts. This is the first time the whole school has been able to attend a field trip all together. For many of our students, this was their first time experiencing a live theater performance. As it turns out, the Temple Theater is about the same age as Schall School (100 years). A fun time was had by all.



# Carols at Medical Care Facility

McComb students sang Christmas carols and delivered affirmations to residents of the Medical Care Facility in December. What a great experience for all ages to share.





# Caro High School

## First Trimester Honor Roll

### Twelfth Grade

Mason Allard, Jeremiah S. Anderson, Zachary Bareither, Aden Blankenship, Kaiden Bliss, Carl T. Bolton, Matthew Booms, Gatlin Brissette, Bonnie Browning, Naudia Brumley, Aiden B. Brunet, Jaidon T. Buniack, Valin J. Buniack, Bridget Colosky, Leah M. Daniels, Alexander Davis, Makenzie DeCorte, Molina Dewald, Nathan S. Diegel, Isabella DuRussel, Trace R. Engelmann, Alicia Farmer, Samuel E. Frick, Alexandria Garza, Kaileigh Garza, Garrett A. Gast, Gwenyth L. Geiger, Benjamin D. Giddings, Gabriel Gohs, Amber Gomez, Sofia Goodro, Cody Gregor, Brooke Halyckyj, Alanna Harmon, Makayla Hennessey, Paige Herron, Tristin Hessling, Zachary Hiiter, Landon Hood, Jasmine Jackson, Madelyn Jansen, Lindsey Johnson, Liz Karr, Adrian Koepf, Owen W. LaPratt, Presten Lasiewicki, Tristen Liss, Alexa R. Long, Madison Martin, Xandar McComb, Logan M. McGarry, Jacob Middaugh, Alexis Nesbitt, Madison Olar, Matthew Pattullo, Kayleigh Princing, Wyatt Pulse, Fernanda Ramos, Hailey Rizzo, Hunter A. Schenk, Alaina R. Smith, Morgan Swanson, Faith Swenor, Colin M. Thabet, Tad O. Vandemark, Katlyn M. Vanderpool, Riley Volz, Rachael Walch, Hailey Walker, Kenzie White, Olivia Will and Sidni Wood

### Eleventh Grade

Nathan Ackerman, Madilyn S. Bach, Caeley J. Ball, Tyler Balwinski, Makena Bristol, Nicholas Case, Olivia Clish, Dakota Clouse, Caydence Curtis, Sophia DeFino, Anthany D. Dibble, Rhyse Downing, Anna L. Engelmann, Addison Fisch, Scarlett Fischer, Gregory Giddings, Alexandria Goff, Isabella F. Holmes, Jack Ingram, Zakiya Jackson, Emma Jones, Skylar Kirby-Mason, Kaden J. LaDrig, Evan J. Langmaid, Sophia G. Lanza, Nevaeh Lemmon, Morgan Long, Chloe Malloy, Cole Marcola, Jacob Moore, Dystinee Overmyer, Ethan Ransford, Alena Riedel, Alluryce Saddler, Molly Salgat, Christian Samuelson, Emma B. Stapleton, Madalyn Stefanovsky, Kaydin Stewart, Kaya Vrable, Emma Vudures, Claire Warren, Casimir Wasik, Kallie Wegner, Julian T. Wilding and Rylan Wilson

### Tenth Grade

Marshall Armstead JR, Kelsie R. Bailey, Jenna L. Bareither, Tristen Bazan, Aubrey J. Beecher, Viviann Behrenthz, Bristol Downing, Adisyn Englehart, Audrey R. Fisch, Ella M. Frick, Cash Fullerton, Jackson Fulton, Kaden Gonzales, Alexander D. Grice, Amelia Herzog, Sullivan M. Hiiter, Brooklynn Hutchinson, Luke Joslyn, Mackenna Katus, Madelynn L. LaPratt,

### Caro Community Schools Direct Line Telephone Numbers

Central Office	673-3160	Schall Elementary School	673-3168
High School Office	673-3165	McComb Elementary School	673-3169
Middle School Office	673-3167	Alternative High School	673-6845
		Transportation Department	673-7718



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Kenneth A. Lown, Chase MacDonald, Brody McCarthy, Connor McGarry, Kayden C. McInerney, Ruben A. Mendez Holman, Charly I. Menzel, Juston Michael, Quintin Mihalic, Margaret Miller, Ion A. Nelson, Jazlyn Pattullo, Bradford Quick, Britney E. Quick, Emma Scharf, Devyn Skelton, Dmitri Sylvester, Lucio Torrez, Payton M. VanCoillie, Lexi Wegner, Eva A. Will and Kelana Zbytowski

### **Ninth Grade**

Nehemiah J. Anderson, Jack A. Arquette, Brayden W. Beebe, Nevada Crittenden, Brayden Davis, Dani Dise, Olyver Downing, Ava Eremia, Colton J. Farver, Nicholas P. Felice, Addyson J. Fowler, Addisyn Garza, Normandy Geiger, Brooke Gilbert, Charles Guigar, Jacoby Gutierrez,

Mason Henry, Luke Herron, Trentin C. Hessling, Vanessa M. Huber, Benjamin R. Ingram, Lillian P. Johnson, Michael Kern, Ethan Z. Kocher, Madalyn Kurish, Abhilash Kuthala, Marley Lemmon, Drew Long, Makayla L. Maguire, Paige L. Martin, Chloe M. McIntosh, Mayson J. McIntosh, Brooklyn Osborn, Austin J. Pietrzykowski, Nolan R. Radzwion, Cameron Ransford, Raidin S. Redmond, Jaxon T. Risdon, Hudson M. Rohlfs, Kylee Rose, Landyn M. Stine, Hayden W. Tait, Jordyn Thomas, Sarah M. Thouin, Lillyonna Trevino, Becka L. Trisch, Jackalynn Walters, Morgan Walters and Lillian Warren



## **Caro Middle School** First Trimester Honor Roll

### **Eighth Grade**

MaryLue Allbee, Ayuki Almario, Noah Barber, Kira Baudoux, Kalleigh Bellant, Curtis Bisnett III, Aiden Blackwell, Tyler Blaylock, Cooper Brissette, Jordyn Brown, Emercyn Cannon, Addison Clink, Taylor Curtis, Connor Diegel, Mason Ferree, Karter Flikkie, Emilia Fulton, Violet Glaspie, Maya J. Gordon, Maxwell Grice, Emma M. Hall, Kadence Heinlein, Ethan Huber, Willow Kirby-Ma-

son, Nevaeha Knaggs, Gary Kunse, Wyatt McGowan, Aiden McIntosh, Kylie McIntosh, Landen N. Montei, Deshawn Moore, Kristi Osborn, Brady Parker, Branson Pisha, Brinleigh A. Princing, Brayden Proper, Isabella Putnam, Dominic Rodriguez, Karlee Smith, Lucas Spaulding, Claire Stavely, Averie Stefanovsky, Taelor S. Stephens, Olivia Syck, Johnathon Teets, Aaliyah Thompson, Sophie E. Warren and Alexander Wilcox

### **Seventh Grade**

Lillian Ackley, Isabella R. Albin, Aki Hiro Almario, Hosanna J. Anderson, Jace Arquette, Chelsea Bailey, Jace W. Barber, Noah Barr, Amia Bell, Lexie Bommarieto, Brandon Brower, Evelyn O.



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Bruce, Abigail Campbell, Parkyr Campbell, Colton Claude, Adrinna O. Clouse, Jacob Daisy, Dara Del Real, Jeffrey Jon Dibble, Vincent Dzielinski, Addison L. Ewald, Nolan Eyer, Carson Garner, Kaylan Goodro, Hayden Harrison, Camden Hartwick, Grayson Heckroth, Maggie Hildinger, Lily Johnson, Teaira Jones-Wilson, Braden Kaatz, Addison Kern, Aubree Kocher, Giada Koepf, Seraphina Koepf, Wade Kzinowek, Cash Libby, Greg Marygold, Alexander McCollum, Devin McPhail, Abigail R. Melton, Izick W. Mendez, Alejandria Mendez Holman, Brooklynn Merritt, Karly Middaugh, Sophia Mihalic, Kenneth Miller, Maggie Mothersell, Trace O'Dell, Olivia Olar, Peyton Opper, Ashlyn Osborn, Kaitlyn Osborn, Margaret Percy, Kynzi Porter, Jackson Ransford, Grace Reinelt, Ashton C. Richardson, Zeke L. Rickwalt, Lyla Riehl, Izayah Rittenberg, Kendall A. Schaudt, Macie Schmidt, Kelsey M. Skinner, Felicia J. Smith, Dante A. Spence, Elizabeth Tait, Benicio S. Torrez, Lilianna Tumblin, Colton Warden, Laura-Marie H. Weidman, Caleb B. Wheeler, Brooklynn Wilson, Izabelle J. Withers and Lilly J. Wolken

### **Sixth Grade**

Cecilia Allbee, Mandi L. Bamberg, Ariana Bartlett, Annabella

L. Bauman, Trinity R. Bisnett, Clara J. Bruce, Bentley Buniack, Landyn Carpenter, Lamia L. Ceditlo, Ameliah Chase, Karleigh Cole, Alyvia Craig, Olivia Creutz, Mason Crossno, Elliott Daisy, Bristol L. Dicks, Andrew Diegel, Carson Dise, Lincoln Donovan, Blake Dutcher, Mikylah Elenbaum, Madison Gere, Wyatt Gibson, Addison Gilberg, Jasmyn Gomez, Kinsley Heinlein, Ayla Hill, BrieAnna Hiser, Abigail Johnson, Airianna Johnson, Arabella Johnson, Kaylee Johnson, Ellie Kern, Kendra Kern, Blake Lawrie, Jasmin Lesosky, Will Maguire, Kaylee McInerney, Kennan McNeil, Zoe Montei, Reilly J. Moore, Elijah Morrison, Elijah Myers, Jessa F. Myers, Kennedy F. Myers, Maxton Neuville, Emmett Ney, Peyton North, Morgan Periso, Wyatt J. Pincomb, Melina Redmond, Niklas Richardson, Cassidy T. Rickard, Dontavius Rickard, Chloe Rose, Dade J. Rostrom, Ethan J. Scharf, Logan J. Self, Brodee S. Shay, Brayden A. Shepherd, Noah Shields, Karter Short, Kassondra Shrontz, Kylie A. Sitko, Alexis Skinner, Emily A. Stadler, Zachary J. Stavely, Jessie Swift, Brody Taylor, Ava TerBush, Landric Vrable, Zoey E. West, Ahna Wilding, Kendra Winchell and Vida Wright





## Fall Sports Recap

### Cross Country Coach Schember

2023 was a great season for the Caro Tigers Cross Country program. Many of the runners established lifetime best and or improved on their times from the previous season. All the work put in this summer and throughout this season and prior seasons has proven beneficial. The women won the Greater Thumb Conference West division and the men finished as runner up. The ladies won with 19 points, claiming back to back conference titles. The middle school boys won Caro's first ever MHSAA Middle School Regional title with 48 points.

#### Greater Thumb Conference West

1ST TEAM Matthew Pattullo 1st 17:14.31, Kaya Vrable 1st 19:37.31, Luke Herron 3rd 17:39.63, Paige Herron 3rd 20:30.05, Jacob Moore 4th 17:45.27, Faith Swenor 5th 21:05.21, Rachael Walch 6th 21:05.31

2NDTEAM Alexa Long 8th 21:23.58  
HONORABLE MENTION Mayson McIntosh 15th 18:57.09, Lexi Wegner 19th 23:23.68, Isabella Jerore 21st 24:03.78

#### Regional Medalist

Paige Herron 4th 19:34.2, Luke Herron 9th 17:06.7, Kaya Vrable 9th

20:23.3, Faith Swenor 12th 20:49.2, Rachael Walch 13th 20:49.7, Jacob Moore 15th 17:24.3, Avery Stefanovsky 3rd 13:08.37, Zeke Rickwalt 4th 12:16.78, Jacob Daisy 6th 12:33.88, Jackson Ransford 8th 12:39.91, Elliot Daisy 17th 13:38.07

The MHSAA State Finals is always a focus for both the teams. We always strive to be one of the top teams in the regional with hopes of qualifying for the State Finals. With this in mind, our runners dedicate themselves to running and getting into shape during the summer months. All the dedication led to qualifying of Luke Herron and Jacob Moore and the women qualified as a team for the State Finals, back to back years. The ladies captured back to back Regional titles. The women capped the season off with an awesome day with a top ten finish, placing 6th.

The PROM Race provided the middle school runners the opportunity to race a 5K and non-regional runners the opportunity to improve their time. Zeke Rickwalt 18:49.6, Jacob Daisy 19:39.3, Jackson Ransford 19:57.4, Elliot Daisy 22:38.2, Joshua Walch 22:59.6, Jeffrey Jon Dibble 25:19.9, Averie Stefanovsky 20:38.7, Kylie McIntosh 23:30.3, and Evelyn Bruce 24:49.6, and Addison Fisch 26:00.9.

**For information regarding Caro Athletics,  
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@ Caro Tigers Athletics**



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To add to the running achievements, they shined on the academic side as well. The ladies also finished MITCA Academic All State as a team with a team GPA of 3.803. Alexa Long, Paige Herron, Faith Swenor, and Kaya Vrable were also named MITCA Academic All-State as individuals.

Overall it was a great season. We look to continue the tradition of Caro Cross Country success. We would like to thank all the runners for their hard work and dedication. We also want to thank all the help from the parents and workers throughout the season at our meets. A special thank you goes out to Nancy Thane and Janet Swarhout for timing and coordinating our Thumb Area Cross Country Championship Meet. As always, a huge thanks goes out to Steve Matuszak the best assistant coach in the State.

### **Varsity Football Coach McDaniel**

Our overall record this season was 3 wins and 6 losses. We finished 1 and 4 in the league which was good enough for a tie for fourth place. I put in an entirely new offense that the players and coaching staff had to learn. They were all very focused and eager to learn the new system. There were a lot of questions and explanations given to everyone to help them understand the “why” behind everything I asked them to do. I believe this helped the team and coaching staff buy into what we were trying to teach them.

Throughout the season we had great support from our team mom, Lisa Savage. Lisa, along with sev-

eral of the other moms, prepared our team dinners, cleaned up the cafeteria and served the team some great meals throughout the season. They were probably some of our biggest fans.

Friday nights were special for our players. The support we received from the administration, families and community was encouraging. I have to say the students that came to our games were amazing and were there cheering and supporting us on every play regardless of the score or the outcome of the games. You can tell the students are a tight-knit group.

Overall, I believe the 2023 season was an educational and positive experience for all our players throughout the football program.

### **JV Football Coach Warack**

Our season record was 2–7. Many of our team members started the season with little knowledge of the game of football. Interest in the game grew after beating Reese in the final seconds of that game. As we trained throughout the season the boys began to understand that to have a winning team we need to work hard together and prepare not only during the football season but in the offseason as well.

I look forward to coaching next year and ending the season with a winning record.

### **Girls Varsity Golf Coach Omstead**

The 2023 Girls Golf Team was a mixture of seasoned Veterans and Rookies. The team gained a ton of experience and it showed as the season progressed. Each week



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the team lowered their overall score and eventually shot a team low score of 208. The girls placed 3rd at the Regional tournament, which gave them an opportunity to compete at the State Finals. This was the first time ever that the Girls Golf Team competed at the State Finals. The team placed 17th at the State Finals. The one thing that the girls learned this season is that a bad day at the golf course is still better than a good day at the office.

### **Girls Varsity Swim & Dive Coach Sutton**

The 2023 Girls's Swim & Dive season was a blast. This year's co-op team consisted of 12 great girls. There were 5 from Caro, 6 USA, and 1 Cass City. We had 3 seniors, 3 juniors, 4 sophomores, and 2 freshmen. We finished the season with 4-Wins, 6-Losses, with 5th place finish overall for the Independent Swim Conference Championship. The last 3 weeks of the season became more of a battle with the illness taking its toll on a lot of our swimmers. If the team had been in better health I'm sure our record would have been differ-



ent. New personal records were set at every meet totaling 98 overall this season. The season included swimming over 130,000 meters in training, and including some memorable moments like body surfing at McGraw beach and the 200 freestyle race at Garber.

#### **Top Times:**

Kadence Arnold 50 Freestyle - 35.65, 100 Freestyle 1:21.41, 100 Breaststroke - 1:59.83; Adel Cseh 50 Freestyle - 40.98, 100 Breaststroke - 1:38.96; Nataley Harder 50 Freestyle - 33.62, 100 Freestyle - 1:15.83; Madlynn LaPratt 200 Freestyle - 2:43.96; 100 Freestyle - 1:16.10, Olivia Martens 200 IM - 2:42.32, 100 Butterfly - 1:14.18; Jazzy Pattullo 200 IM - 3:05.48, 50 Freestyle 32.37, 100 Butterfly 1:33.70, 100 Breaststroke 1:32.57; Taleisha Tageson 50 Freestyle - 43.77, 100 Freestyle - 1:43.44, 100 Backstroke 1:46.45; Bree Tomlinson 50 Freestyle - 39.64, 100 Freestyle - 1:28.93, 100 Breaststroke - 2:01.86; Sophia Wanless 50 Freestyle - 26.86, 100 Freestyle - 59.25, 100 Backstroke 1:15.48; Claire Warren 200 Freestyle - 2:24.88, 500 Freestyle - 6:30.62; Cheyanne Wicks 200 Freestyle - 2:18.78, 500 Freestyle - 6:17.58; Eva Will 50 Freestyle - 28.24, 100 Freestyle - 1:03.66

### **Boys Varsity Tennis Coach Stapleton**

TJ's tennis season was combined with Frankenmuth's and Hemlock's matches. Because TJ was the only player on the Caro roster, Frankenmuth and Hemlock let us join them for all their home matches. TJ stayed positive despite not having any home matches. He had a winning attitude and was



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friendly to all the opponents he faced, showing great sportsmanship. This was his senior season and he has played for all four years of high school. I'm so proud of his commitment to the team even without having any teammates. He has been a joy to coach and has gained a lot of tennis skill over his high school tennis career.

### **JV Volleyball Coach Wassa**

The 2023 JV Volleyball team members have a high degree of volleyball skills. Ten of the girls played volleyball before and two never played on a team but developed skills very quickly. The team participated in two tournaments, winning one match during each. Unfortunately, the team was unable to win a match during the regular season. As these girls mature and gain playing experience they will be valuable assets to our Tiger volleyball program.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach Moore**

The 2023 season was an up and down one. Our 8th grade team played very well but always started a match a little slow. Our overall record on the season was six wins and six losses. We played each team once at home and once away and we split those meetings almost across the board. With the exception of Cass City, who beat us both home and away, and Reese who we beat both home and away every other team we won one and lost one.

There was a lot of good competition in our league and we were able to compete with all of them. We worked hard on transitions, blocking, passing and serving. We

also learned offense and defensive plays. We had 11 total on our team and each one of these ladies worked hard on improving their volleyball game. Several ladies started the season serving underhand and finished with a strong overhand serve.

It was a privilege to coach these young ladies this season and I look forward to seeing them move in to their high school volleyball careers. I know that they will all be successful and bring something to our program.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach Zapfe**

The 7th grade volleyball 2023 season was a great season. This season our league consisted of Reese, Vassar, Capac, Cass City, Lakers and USA. We played each team twice, one at home and one away. We started off really strong winning seven out of our first eight games. Our record at the end of the season was eight wins and four losses. There were fifteen total on our team this year which is a lot more than in years past. By having this many on our team we were able to practice many different things during our season. We started our season learning the basics of bumping, setting, serving, and moving our feet. As the season progressed we practiced over hand serving, spiking, rotations with two setters and even pancaking a ball.

This team worked well together and will do great things as they continue to practice and enjoy playing the game. I am thrilled that I was able to be their coach this year and to teach them all the skills to help them move on in their volleyball career. GO TIGERS!



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# Woody Crutchfield Natatorium

## CCS Indoor Pool

Lap Swim: **\$5 per person**

Mon, Wed, Fri 6:00 - 7:45 AM

Open Swim: **\$5 per person**

Sunday 3:00 - 6:00PM

***Planning a party or group activity? Why not swim?***

Private Rentals:

\$85 for 2 hours for up to 35 swimmers.

\$105 for 2 hours for over 35 swimmers.



To book your pool party complete the  
Private Pool Usage Form at  
[www.carok12.org/community/ccs-pool](http://www.carok12.org/community/ccs-pool)

### Upcoming Scheduled Closings:

President's Day

February 16 and 19, 2024

Spring Break

March 23 - April 1, 2024

### ***Pool Schedule & Closings***

*Indoor pool schedules will follow the regular school calendar for Caro Community Schools. Visit our website at <https://www.carok12.org/our-district/school-calendar/> to check our school calendar. **If day classes are cancelled due to weather, the pool will also be closed.** Be sure to tune in to Caro Community Schools Facebook page for school closings. Please check our website often for special events. <https://www.carok12.org/community/ccs-pool/>*