

April 2023

# CATCHING UP WITH THE COMETS

Cameron High School Event and Activity Updates

## IN THIS EDITION

Referendum

Who is our new  
teacher?

Athletics

Madrigal Dinner

And more

## LET'S GET INTO IT...



# MUSICAL MADRIGALS

Hast thou ever traveled into the past to the hour of the Middle Ages?

On March 25 and 26, the Cameron Mixed Choir, and a few members from the band, hosted a Medieval dinner banquet at Castle Cameron.

The middle school cafeteria was utterly transformed into an elegant banquet hall. A platform ran parallel to the windows for the “royalty” to sit. Banners hung on the walls. And pine trees lined the room.

Walking in, guests were greeted by a melodic flute quartet and were seated by servants, played by middle school choir members. The night was filled with many traditional carols and a few Gothic pieces with a trumpet fanfare. Mr. Joseph Leschisin and Mrs. Angela Leschisin played the king and queen, and choir members served as the royal court. The students wore medieval costumes and took on the persona of royalty. Guests were served four courses and music was constantly playing. Flute music was filtering throughout the hall when the choir wasn’t



*Picture courtesy of Scott Jensen*

**Peering down the table.** The jester, Colton Melton, looks past Mr. and Mrs. Leschisin waiting for his cue to start the play.

singing, and courses were announced by the sound of two trumpets.

Towards the middle of the night, five choir members put on a short play. The audience was able to interact and had a lot of good laughs over the cut-and-dry humor.

Overall, the nights were successful. The students wanted to say a special

thank you to Mr. Scott Jensen, Mr. Tyler Halverson, and all the kitchen staff for an extraordinary few nights. The preparation, organizing, and set-up work had a fantastic effect. The Cameron Medieval Dinner was definitely an event to remember!

**LUKE SALM WANTS YOU TO DONATE SUMMER CLOTHES.  
SUPPORT HIS NHS PROJECT TODAY.**

# LEARNING BIOLOGY WITH MS. ABBATACOLA

CHS's biology classroom has a new look highlighted by a new teacher. Ms. Madeline Abbatacola started this year as our biology teacher. Ms. Abbatacola is from the Chicago area and went to college at UW-Stevens Point for biology. She graduated last year from UW-Madison and did her student teaching in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. This trimester, she is teaching all of the freshmen and one section of Advanced

Biology. Students are learning about being real scientists--posing questions and finding solutions.

Ms. Abbatacola said, "So far, I have really enjoyed teaching at Cameron. I really like the low numbers of students because it allows me to get to know every one of my students. My previous school had 1,800 students and I often felt disconnected from the school."

Ms. Abbatacola is married

to her husband, Brendan and has a dog named Hank. She is also pregnant and looking forward to having a child. So far, they are enjoying their "up north" living.

Welcome, Ms. Abbatacola!



## National Honor Society

### ATTENTION ALL JUNIORS...

NHS induction for the 2023-24 membership year is on April 26, talk to the adviser-Mrs. Kuffel-or President-Sydney Leschisin-for more information.



### Benefits of NHS

- Resume Builder
- Helping the Community
- Spending Time with Friends
- Gaining Leadership Skills

**FORENSICS STUDENTS:  
STATE IS APRIL 21-22, KEEP PRACTICING**



# SPRINGING INTO SPRING SPORTS

Track and field, baseball, softball, and golf are excited for their seasons. Each team has had an exciting start.

Track and field had two indoor meets this year. It was a great start to the season, and the Comet girls placed fifth out of 32 teams at one of the meets. Way to go ladies! There have also been some exciting state recognitions on the team. Lexi Kuffel, Jordyn Lundequam, Sydney Leschisin, and Lauren Pearson made the Wisconsin Division three Week two State Honor Roll. Making the week three Honor Roll includes the following: Cole Lundequam, Jacob Pearson, Lauren Pearson, and Lexi Kuffel. The next meet is on April 20 at home.

Baseball just got out on the cleared field, and they are excited to start the season. So far, the boys have played four games and have come away with two wins. It's just the start of the season, so there is a lot of time to improve. The team has had a lot of fun playing in tournaments, including one in Mauston where they got to visit Wisconsin Dells. The first home baseball game is on

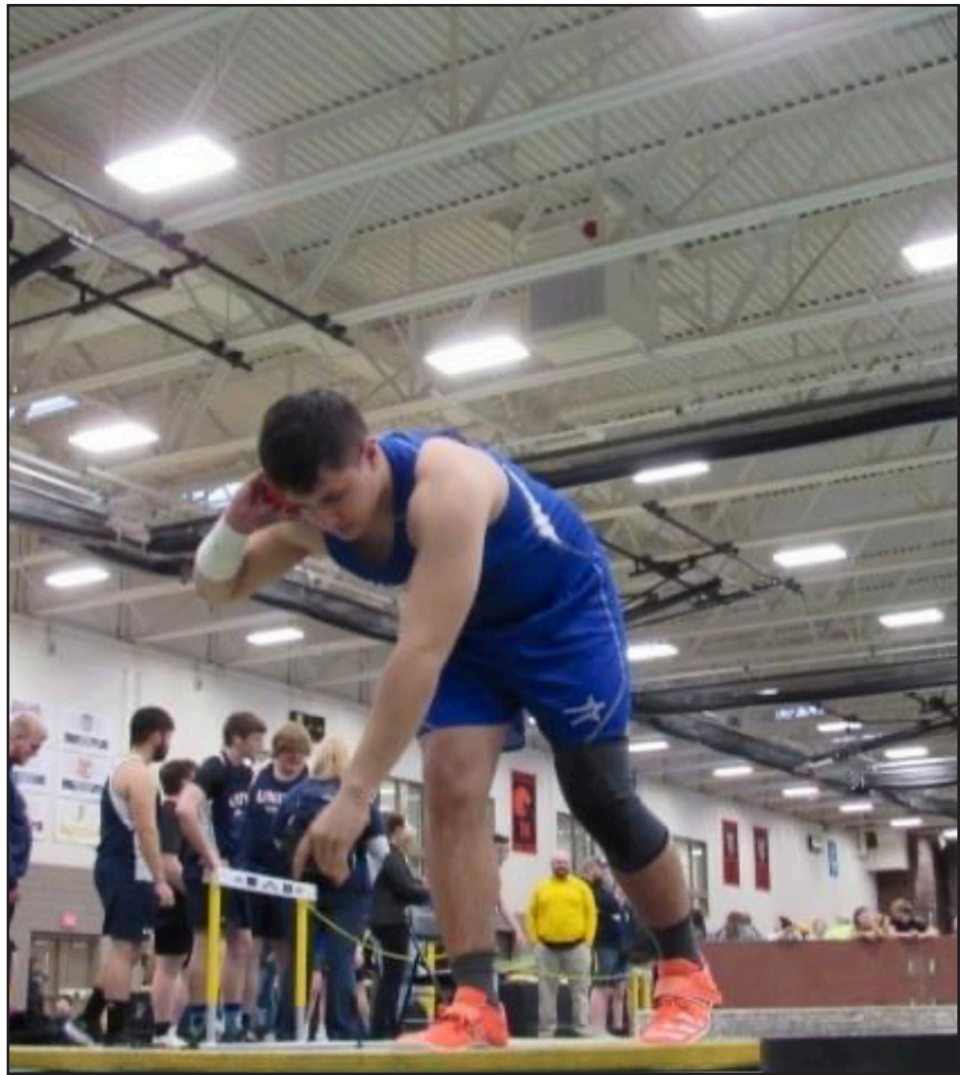
April 20. Stop by at 5:30 for the JV and 7:00 for the varsity.

Softball has also recently started. They have played in multiple tournaments, and hope to get some wins as the weather gets better. The next home game is on April 24. It would be awesome to pack the stands.

Golf hasn't had any meets

yet, but practice started a few days ago. If you are interested in joining the golf team, email Mr. Sauve or Mr. Rohrety. They would love to see you at practice on April 24

Comet athletics are doing great, and we can't wait to see how the rest of the year turns out.



*Picture courtesy of David Martin*

**Above and beyond.** Weston Chandler got a new shot put personal best at the UW Superior indoor track meet.

**CHOIR SPRING CONCERT: MAY 15**  
**BAND SPRING CONCERT: MAY 8**

# COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



*Picture courtesy of Olivia Leschisin*

**Young Ambassadors.** Students who are a part of the Rice Lake Chamber helped at a parade. If you want to join, contact Bert Richard.

As we are officially almost done with the school year, take some time to support your community. It's important that we show Cameron that we care for them. After all, the people in our community come to games, tournaments, matches, meets, and concerts.

As a recurring event, Rudy's Pantry is the third Saturday of every month. Plan to be at Living Water Church at 7:00 a.m. It is an

outdoor event where volunteers fill vehicles with canned goods. If you want more information, talk to Ms. Pacholke.

Another monthly event is packing Comet Care Packs. Typically, this takes place the first Wednesday of every month. See Mrs. Sanborn for further details.

Stay tuned to the daily announcements if you are looking to get involved. Remember, volunteer work looks great on applications!

## CLUB UPDATES

CHS students are not only busy with school work and athletics; they are also busy with their clubs. In the past few months, the school clubs have been very active.

**FCCLA** went shopping for their adopted family. They were given a short description about the family they adopted including how many kids and what they needed and what their interests were.

**FBLA** volunteered for the Easter Village at the Pioneer Museum. Additionally, every month they show gratitude to different heroes, this month it was



**Ready to work.** Student Council will once again be helping at the Memorial Center on community service day. Talk to Mrs. Sanborn to sign up.

bus drivers and snow plowers. FBLA members made a card and packaged treats to show their appreciation for them. Lastly for FBLA, they went to the elementary school to read the Gingerbread Man to the first graders.

The **Spanish club** also

went to the elementary school. They went to talk to the fourth graders about international holidays. They presented about Spain, Belgium, Sweden, and Israel.

**FFA** is getting ready to go to a rodeo at the end of May.

## JUNIORS:

## SIGN UP TO RETAKE THE ACT IN THE OFFICE



# WHAT'S ALL THE TALK ABOUT A REFERENDUM

*From our school*

*Administrator, Mr. Joseph Leschisin:*

Early in 2022, the Cameron School District began to review its long-term facilities plan, its building configurations, and its educational program goals. Following a comprehensive facilities study, the District identified improvement measures over the next decade that would extend the useful life of the school district's buildings and advance how we educate our children. The study assessed and recommended addressing aging infrastructure, outdated learning environments, safety & security.

A Facility Task Force was assembled to research and discuss the improvement measures. They were charged with providing community input to the Cameron School Board on the following items:

1. The District's capital needs
2. The District's overall operating budget

## 3. Possible/potential referendum

On January 23, 2023, the Board of Education approved a resolution to pursue a bond for \$6,100,000 on April 4, 2023 following the recommendation from the Task Force.

What is included in the facility improvement plan?

The facility improvement plan is a comprehensive list of building and ground improvements needed over the next ten years to not only increase the life of the high school and middle school buildings, but also to address some issues within the District related to educational and student support services. The list of measures below explains the significant projects included in the referendum question, but does not identify all of the needs reported in the comprehensive facility plan.

- **Safety:**  
Safe and secure entry, and office improvements for student services
- **Building & Site Repairs:**  
Replace building indoor air quality and environmental

controls to improve performance while lowering utility expense.

## • District-Wide Capital Purchase:

District transportation vehicles (replacement buses, outdated school vans)

The referendum was recently approved. Get excited for the improvements!



**Socializing seniors.** Carli Wilson and Jordyn Allen chat in the hallway of our high school.

**SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER**  
**SEE MRS. PACHOLKE TO HELP AT RUBY'S PANTRY**





**THANK YOU FOR...**



**NEXT EDITION COMING IN JUNE**  
**CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY EXCITING EVENTS**

***C★mets***