

CATSKILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

NEWS AND NOTES

345 West Main Street, Catskill, N.Y. 12414 518-943-5665



2019 ELA ASSESSMENTS

The Middle School will be holding their NYS ELA Assessments on April 2nd and April 3rd beginning at 8:00AM.

The assessments provide our staff with valuable information that allows us to ensure that our students get the best education possible. Below are some facts about the assessments.

- Like the 2018 tests, the 2019 ELA and Math Assessments are two sessions each.
- Tests are untimed.
- Test questions are reviewed and written by NYS Teachers.

So why should all of our students participate?

- Assessment data allows our teachers and administrators to examine how CMS students are performing compared with their peers from across the state.
- Assessment data gives us a tool to ensure that our teaching methods are truly effective.
- Participation in the assessments gives your child practice taking a standardized test, so that they are confidently prepared for the High School Regents test-taking experiences.
- The 2019 Score Reports for parents will feature more information about what students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

Please help us top our 2018 participation rate of 97% by ensuring your student takes the assessment!

If you have any questions or concerns about the assessment please call us at 518-943-5665.

March 28th, 2019
Also available at www.catskillcsd.org

MARK THE DATE!

Parent teacher conferences will be held on the secondary campus on April 17th and 18th. Students will be dismissed at 10:30AM. Please contact the school at 518-943-5665 to schedule a conference with your student's teacher/team.



KNOW THE RISKS ABOUT VAPING

Vaping has become one of the most serious health risks facing our students. Please join us on Wednesday, April 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the CMS Auditorium as the Catskill Central School District will be hosting a public forum on vaping, nicotine, and its effects on our bodies. The presentation is being presented by Jillian Di Perna, Senior Public Health Educator with the Greene County Public Health Department. We encourage all of our families to attend with their students. All students who have a family member attend will receive "Cats Cash."

VAPING 101:

WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

Calendar of Events

March 28th

- Jazz Band Practice
- Art Club
- Student Council

March 29th-March 31st

- Beauty & the Beast Musical

April 2nd

- ELA Assessments
- Business Club
- FCCLA Officers Meeting
- Guitar Club
- Ambassador's Club



April 3rd

- ELA Assessments
- History Club
- BOE Budget Workshop @ 7:00

April 4th

- Art Club
- Jazz Band Practice
- Spanish Club
- Exit 21 Awards
- Summer Soccer Registration @ 5:30



April 5th

- End of 3rd Quarter

April 6th

- PTSO Flea Market/Craft Fair

April 9th

- Business Club
- Chess Club
- Guitar Club



CATSKILL FAMILIES!

Join us for

#OPERATIONOPTIN

this testing season!

Assessment Dates:

- ELA- April 2nd and April 3rd
- Math- May 1st and May 2nd
- Science (Grade 8)- June 3rd

DID YOU KNOW?



Taking the NYS Grade 3-8 Exams are NOT punitive?

They serve as a diagnostic tool for the district to see if your child has made grade level progress throughout the school year

Students **ARE** able to take as much time as they need
If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

518-943-5665

CATS CAN & CATS WILL!

Increase course passing by 10% each quarter, with 50% achieving course mastery

Implement a Positive Behavior Intervention System in each school

Increase by 5% proficiency and mastery on state assessments

Maintain a graduation rate of 90% or above

Ensure at least 80% of students read on grade level by the end of Second Grade

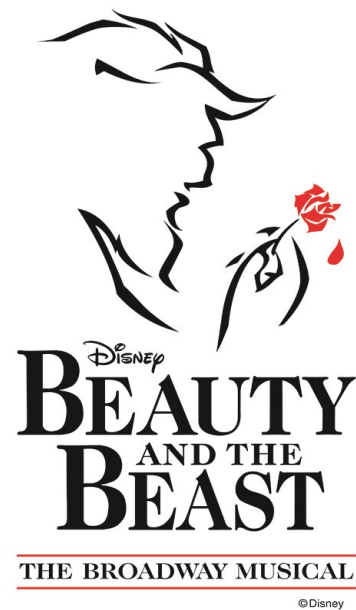
FCCLA Members Speak Out Against Vaping

On Wednesday March 20th, 8th graders Lauren Liberti and Emma Brown presented information to the Board of Education on Vaping. They developed this topic of Advocacy when they participated in the FCCLA (Family Career and Community Leaders of America) STAR State competition project. Lauren and Emma shared important health information and statistics that brought attention to the dangerous effects of vaping. They are hoping that through their advocacy they can encourage local officials to bring about change to laws regarding this topic. They are hoping that these officials will look at increasing the age of when someone can purchase vaping products from 18 to 21, develop laws



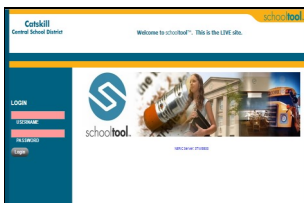
that prevent these items from being sold within a certain radius of schools, and that school officials will impose more serious consequences to students who use these products on school grounds. Their suggestions for administrators includes mandatory community service hours.

Great job Girls!



Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* hits the Catskill High School stage Friday, March 29th at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, March 30th at 7:00 p.m., and Sunday, March 31st at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10.00 for general admission, \$8.00 for students (k-12) and senior citizens (65+). Children under four are free but need a ticket to hold a seat. Tickets are available at the door, but advanced ticket purchases are strongly recommended as these shows can sell out. Contact the High School office 518-943-2300 ext. 2071 for advance ticket purchases.



SCHOOL TOOL CHECK-INS

The third quarter is rapidly coming to an end. At CMS, we have been noticing

that the number of course failures has been on the rise. To help us help your student, please ask them to log into their School Tool account and show you their marking period average as well as the individual assignment information located by clicking on the assignment tab.

School Tool provides an important link from school to home and gives you updated information on how your student is performing in school. This tool in combination with the weekly "Peek of the Week" is your insight into the teacher's expectations and your student's performance.

If you need support or additional information, please contact the main office at 518-943-5665.

CMS Show Your School Spirit

**Join us for Dress-Up Week
April 15th-April 18th**

Monday-April 15th: CMS Pride Day

Wear Blue and Orange



Tuesday-April 16th: Mismatched Day



Wednesday-April 17th:

Sports Day



Thursday-April 18th:

Patriotic Day

