

School District of Cameron
700 S. First Street
PO Box 378
Cameron, WI 54822

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Our school . . . where staff, students excel and parents, community care.

Northwood Tech-Rice Lake
YOUTH ART MONTH EXHIBIT



**Over 350
works of student art!**

Exhibit will be on display from March 4th-20th, 2023 and
can be viewed during Northwood Tech's business hours,
M-TH 8am-5pm and Friday 8am-4pm.

Questions about the exhibit or how to participate?
Contact: Sara Cornell 715-458-4560 or scornell@cameron.k12.wi.us

Cameron
School District

715-458-4560
PO Box 378
Cameron, WI 54822-0378
www.cameron.k12.wi.us

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April 4 referendum

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 The study assessed and recommended addressing aging infrastructure, outdated learning environments, safety, and security.

A Facility Task Force was assembled to research and discuss improvement measures. This Task Force is made up of twenty-one community members along with four students from Cameron High School and was initially charged with providing community input to the Cameron School Board on the following items:

- *The District's capital needs
- *The District's overall operating budget
- *Possible/potential referendum

Understanding the community's level of support of future planning was a major goal of the Task Force and steps

were taken to gather this data through a community-wide survey. The survey results were key to the Task Force's recommendation to the school board. On January 11, the Task Force presented its recommendations to the Board. This recommendation involved a two-pronged approach to meet the District's needs. The first phase of this planning involves an April 2023 referendum to address a rather small number of more immediate facility needs. The second phase will be targeted for fall of 2024 and will look to address further facility improvements focused on academics and the potential for additional operational funding. 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.

Why a referendum question now?

The long-term planning study reported facility improvements that will prevent expensive repairs, create energy efficiency, and improve safety while modernizing spaces, especially in the high school that is 44 years of age. Additionally, if the April referendum passes, the debt will

referendum, continued on page 2



District

referendum, continued from page 1

create no additional tax burden to our taxpayers. This is only possible because of a decrease in the structure of our current levy.

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/Security/Accessibility Improvements

**High School - Safe and secure

entry, and office improvements for student services

**Middle School – Safe and secure entry, and office improvements for student services

**Elementary School Office – Visibility/Line of sight to outdoor entry improvements

**Building & Site Repairs
Replace obsolete building indoor air quality and environmental controls at the high school and middle schools to improve performance while lowering utility expense.
Replace obsolete building fire safety system in the high and middle schools to meet current fire code compliance.

Replace roofs – high school (28+ years) and middle school roofing, address high & middle school facade tuckpointing / replace broken brick and middle school window

maintenance.

District-Wide - Capital Purchase
District transportation vehicles (replacement buses, outdated vans)
What is on the ballot?

Ballot Question: Shall the School District of Cameron, Barron County, Wisconsin be authorized to issue under Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$6,100,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of a school facility improvement project consisting of: building systems, infrastructure, capital maintenance improvements at the Middle and High Schools; secure entrance improvements and main office remodeling at the Elementary, Middle and High Schools; school bus and district vehicle replacement; and acquisition of furnishings, fixtures, and equipment?



Get the Facts

Referendum Town Halls

6:30 PM Monday
MAR 20
Middle School Auditorium
TALK & TOUR

6:30 PM Tuesday
MAR 28
Middle School Auditorium
TALK & TOUR

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF CAMERON | THE FUTURE OF OUR FACILITIES

High School

Faces in the news

Tough kid.

CMS 8th grader Aydin Cormier has been boxing for five years and has fought in six matches so far in his career.



He qualified for the Silver Gloves by winning a bout in Marinette and then in Neillsville. Next, he went to Hinkley to fight his final match to qualify for Nationals in Independence, Missouri. In Missouri, 675 athletes were there weighing 50 - 275 pounds. Aydin fought in the 85-pound weight class. He has to watch his weight and diet to stay in this weight class!

At the four-day National tournament, Aydin fought on Day 2--he had a bye on Day 1. He fought tough against his California opponent and won in the first round. The second round was close, and in the third round, Aydin's opponent switched to "south paw" and defeated him.

Aydin can continue in the Silver Gloves until he is 15; then he will switch to the Golden Gloves. Aydin said, "I really like being physical and getting hit. I like knowing the skills and the adrenaline rush."

Good luck, Aydin, and congratulations!



Twenty-five and counting. Mr. David Martin raced his 25th American Birkebeiner race this year. He started in 1996 and raced every race since then, but missed the three years due to cancellations because of weather or unsafe trail conditions. Joining Mr. Martin here are Mr. Joe Leschisin and Mr. Martin's daughter, Jessica.

Cold carnival

by Kennedy Ladehoff

Cameron High School provides plenty of educational opportunities, but what about opportunities for fun? On January 25th, 2023, students had the opportunity to partake in an activity of their choice for the day. This winter activity day was dubbed the Winter Carnival. Students had the choice of doing one of the various activities or staying home.

Students could sleep in for some activities and not come to school until later. Students could also go home early for many activities. Teachers also partook in the activity day. They went with the students on their various activities.

Students had the option to do things like go ice skating, bowling, and ice fishing. However, students could also travel to places such as Action City or Christie Mountain. Chanhassen Dinner Theatre was also an option for students in band or choir. The students who went on



Game on. Freshmen Kia Plucar, Audrey Grady, and Savannah Sadowski play an arcade game at Action City.

the trip to Chanhassen got to see the musical *Footloose*.

Chanhassen Dinner Theatre was a new destination for the winter carnival. Cameron High School sophomore Kierra Schuebel was one student who went on the Chanhassen trip. Kierra stated that she was glad for the new opportunity and found it very fun. Chanhassen is just one example of the many fun opportunities for students at Cameron High School, whether it be the Winter Carnival or otherwise.



Something's fishy. Mr. Brent Whittenberger and various students survey how many fish they caught while ice fishing.

High School

National History Day

by Caitlin Quarders

Getting college ready!

Cameron High School juniors have been working diligently on their National History Day (NHD) assignments. According to the National History Day website, they are a “nonprofit educational organization that promotes the teaching and learning of history in middle



Photo courtesy of www.nhd.org

Visit <https://www.nhd.org/newsmedia>.

and high schools around the world through a variety of programs for teachers and students.” Additionally, NHD has an annual contest where students around the world write an extensive research paper on the history topic of their choosing.

High school teacher Mr. Ryan Mikula learned about this organization during his college education at UW-Eau Claire. Mikula volunteered as a judge for two years, and he found that the contest proved to be beneficial for everyone involved. When asked why he wanted to include this school year-long project into his Global Studies curriculum, Mikula stated, “From the start I wanted to have students do an NHD project because I believe it provides

Mr. Ryan Mikula believes that the NHD project is important because “At the end of the day a lot of kids get stuck in the mentality that they just need to jump through the hoops of the educational system, get their piece of paper, and get out. But I want to make sure that diploma means something.” He hopes that the skills students are practicing within the project are going to be applicable later in life. Future hefty projects won’t seem so bad because they will remember having gone through NHD.

students with the opportunity to develop skills of persuasion, research, organization, and tenacity.” The NHD assignment is unlike anything the juniors have had before, and it truly tests all the skills they have learned up until now.

This year’s NHD theme is “Frontiers in History,” and the projects flowing in have been extremely creative. Participants of the contest are to write a paper, exhibit, documentary, website, or performance based on a frontier in history, whether that be a literal, geographical frontier or an idea-based frontier. Projects from this year’s juniors include the space race between the US and Soviet Union, the evolution of mathematics, LGBTQ+ rights

in the United States, the first heart transplants, the origin to compulsory education, the emergence of cell phones, and how Elizabeth Blackwell became the first female doctor. While that is only a handful of projects, there are around 50 students doing the project this year. Imagine all the research being done by the junior class!

Check out <https://www.nhd.org/newsmedia> for more exploration into what National History Day is. You can also find previous winners by searching “Project Examples” in the website. There will also be a website put together by Mr. Mikula that will showcase the completed work of all the students. Make sure to follow CHS socials for that!



Brainstorming. Juniors Chloe Wall and Madalyn Gilles are brainstorming their final exhibit.

District—continued

Open enrollment

The regular open enrollment application period for the 2023-2024 school year is now open. The open enrollment period ends at 4:00 p.m. on April 28, 2023. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason. The application is web-based and the use of the online application is highly recommended. The



link to the online application form is www.dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment.

If needed, paper applications can be picked up in the District Office. For more information on open enrollment please access the state website by going to <https://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment>.

Spring board election

The spring election is April 4, 2023. Scott Keeler and Bethany Stevens are running for the available seat vacated mid-year by Randy Hill. Learn more about each candidate here!

Scott Keeler

My name is Scott Keeler. I am a father of 4 all who attend the Cameron School District. My wife and I both grew up in the area (Rice Lake and Cumberland). We are happy to call Cameron home and are grateful to be a part of the District. I am running to be on the school board because I am passionate about students and want to see them have successful and enjoyable lives. I have worked with youth and kids for more than 15 years through local youth

groups as well as being a school bus driver in Rice Lake and Cameron. Our students are our future. I would love to be involved in the great work that the Cameron School District does.

I believe that I can bring a unique experience and perspective to the board. I received a degree in Music from UW-River Falls. On my path to being a local business owner, I have worked in the construction trades, was a youth ministry director, and was a school bus driver. I have experienced many different avenues, and I am a firm believer in our students being prepared well to find a career path that they enjoy. A quality education is vital to our student’s future. It is the foundation that will allow them to find what they love and build an enjoyable life. I hope to be able to serve the community and students on the school board to help students achieve a bright future.

Bethany Stevens

My name is Bethany Stevens, and I would be honored if you would vote for me on April 4 for the Cameron District School Board. My husband Lucas and I have been a member of the Cameron community for

8 years after moving here from North Dakota. We have 2 children in the Elementary School, Mac and Bre, and 2 dogs, Stella and Bailey. I am currently working as a Nurse Practitioner with the Oakleaf Clinic System.

My dad was a long-time school board member in my hometown back in North Dakota and instilled into our family a strong need to serve the community you live in. I am an active member at St. Peter’s Catholic Church, accompanying both the mass on weekends and the cluster choir on special occasions. I am also active at the Blue Hills Sportsman Club, working closely with the youth team.

Coming back to school after the pandemic break, I was hired as the school nurse. Working through the challenges of a constantly evolving viral disease that caused constant vigilance and creativity, I always kept the safety of the children, staff, and their family members at the forefront of every decision I was consulted on. During that time, I was able to form unique relationships with the students and hope that I made a lasting impression on them.



District- continued

Snow days!

by Nicole Kargus

Who doesn't love snow days? Good days to stay at home and relax, right? Not quite when you need someone to watch your child(ren) when you go to work. Many kids get to school early or stay late after school. They are able to stay at Comet Club, an after-school program that provides a safe, supervised program for kids grades Pre-K through 6th.

With the last-minute snow days, the staff at the school have to quickly come up with ideas of fun things for the kids to do during the snow



days.

Some of the activities that the kids did during the snow days at Comet Club included: sledding, arts and crafts, making hot cocoa, playing musical instruments, and even watching a Disney movie. Most of the time, the staff must play things by ear--they aren't always sure who is going to show up, and if they can even go outside to play or must stay inside due to the temperature.

Helen Goosby, the high school library aid, is the first one to show up and start whipping something together for the kids that day. From educational Power Points to

bringing instruments from her home, Ms. Goosby is always able to find something. To enjoy the snow on these days, if the temperature permits, the kids may also go sledding down the hill behind the elementary school. On most days, the children play in the gymnasium enjoying the treat of playing with the janitors who were able to stop by.

Thank you to all the staff who have helped with Comet Club during the snow days and have put much of your their time and effort to help take care of the kids in our school district.

For more information about Comet Club, please contact the director of the Club, Mrs. Winkler at 715-458-5606 or kwin-kler@cameron.k12.wi.us.

Comet Club Before/After School Pricing 2022-2023

Morning Time of Arrival	6:00-7:45 am	6:30-7:45 am	7:00-7:45 am	7:15-7:45 am	7:30-7:45 am
	\$8 per child	\$7 per child	\$5 per child	\$3 per child	\$2 per child
After School Departure time	3:00 pm- 3:30pm	3:00 pm-4:00 pm	3:00pm-4:30 pm	3:00 pm -5:00 pm	3:00 pm-5:30 pm
	\$2 per child	\$4 per child	\$6 per child	\$8 per child	\$10 per child

Comet Club 4k Wrap-Around Program Pricing

ALL DAY--NO SCHOOL \$30 per child per day

½ Day Wrap-Around Pricing	8:00 am-Noon	\$16 per child per day
	11:00-3:00pm	
4K Wrap-Around all day Fridays	8:00 am-3:00 pm	\$30 per child per day

Middle School After School

3:40 pm-4:00pm	3:40- 4:30 pm	3:40- 5:00 pm	3:40 – 5:30 pm
\$2 per child	\$4 per child	\$6 per child	\$8 per child

High School

CAMERON AREA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Striving for Educational Excellence



YES! I would like to help the Cameron Area Scholarship Foundation help deserving students reach their dreams.

My tax deductible contribution is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

If applicable: Cameron H.S. Grad Year(s): _____
Maiden Name _____

Name to be published on Donor List: _____

- ☐ I do not need a receipt
☐ I would like a receipt for tax purposes
☐ Sent via mail (using address above)
☐ Sent to the following email address _____

~~~~~

Please mail donation to:

**Cameron Area Scholarship Foundation**  
**Cara Duerkop, Treasurer**  
**PO Box 152**  
**Cameron, WI 54822**

Make checks payable to: **Cameron Area Scholarship Foundation**

*Thank you for your support & donation.*

## High School

### CAMERON AREA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

*Striving for Educational Excellence*



February 2023

Dear Cameron Area School District Residents and supporters:

Education holds the key to a better future. Because we are so committed to supporting the dreams of Cameron students, we invite you to join us in our efforts to help them access that key.

This annual solicitation is our primary fundraiser, and our future scholarships depend on the contributions given. Our goal each year is to award \$1250.00 scholarships to current graduates and an additional one to a Cameron alumnus. Our goal is to give a total of \$10,000 in financial assistance per year.

Our success depends upon the generosity of caring individuals like you. In addition to financial donations, we also earn money through Amazon smiles and financial gifts designated through Thrivent Financial Choice Dollars and through stock donations.

Cameron graduates need our financial help and encouragement to pursue their goal of higher education. We hope that you will support their efforts through a donation to the Cameron Area Scholarship Foundation.

- **The Cameron Area Scholarship Foundation was established in 1985**
- **Over the past 38 years \$240,000.00 in scholarship money has been awarded**
- **256 former Cameron students have benefitted from these awards**
- **Annually approximately \$8750 - \$10,000 is awarded**

All donations are tax deductible. Any financial contributions that you are willing to give will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wilson

Michelle Wilson, President  
Cameron Area Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

*President: Michelle Wilson Vice President: Liza Schroeder Treasurer: Cara Duerkop Secretary: Allison Martinson*

*Directors: Brandon Olson Jaleesa Manecke Breanna Larson*

## Elementary and High Schools

### Child Find Screening

The Cameron School District invites families with children ages 2 to 4, that live in the District, to participate in our Child Find Screening. Our screening process will provide you with information about how your child is growing and developing.

Families will be asked to fill out a developmental questionnaire. District staff will review and score the questionnaire and provide families with the results.

If interested, please call the Cameron Elementary School office at 715-458-5710, by March 17, 2023 to have a questionnaire mailed to you.

### 4-Year-Old All Aboard Preschool registration for 2023-2024

Cameron Elementary School has begun compiling a list of potential

4-year-old kindergarten students for the 2023-2024 school year. Children who will be four by September 1, 2023 are eligible to attend. Please call 458-5710 to receive registration papers.

### Kindergarten registration for 2023-2024

Cameron Elementary School has begun compiling a list of potential kindergarten students for the 2023-2024 school year. Students who do not currently attend the Cameron School District All Aboard Preschool should contact the elementary office for registration paperwork at 715-458-5710.

Children who will be five by September 1, 2023 are eligible to

attend. Students who currently



attend All Aboard Preschool should have received their kindergarten packets in February and do not need to call unless their student will not be attending school at Cameron Elementary next year.

### Skyward Family Access reminder

Keep important numbers and emails updated in the Skylert tab in Family Access.

The Cameron School District will be using the Skylert/School Messenger that is tied to the Family Access/Skyward student database. This messaging system allows the District to quickly send out notifications in an emergency situation, school closing and reminders from individual schools.

Contact the elementary office if you have questions or problems.



## Future aviators



**Learn to fly!** The CHS aviation class made its annual trip to the Boyceville airport on Wednesday, February 13. The trip is sponsored by Joel Timblin and the Boyceville airport boosters. Timblin and his wife Becky treat the kids to a day of hands-on experiences as well as exposure to careers, airplane mechanics, and more. Several guest speakers were on hand to share their experiences and answer questions.

## Middle School

### Open the door to kindness

by Emma Somerville

According to Google, the definition of kindness is “The quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate.” The middle school practiced kindness by participating in a worldwide Great Kindness Challenge,

where the goal is to encourage students

to create a culture of kindness. They

took part in the challenge by decorating their classroom doors with kindness as the theme.

Mrs. Anna Roherty said that the door decorating was a fun activity for the students to jazz up their

school halls and think about kindness. She also said that the students all have a

“When given the choice between being right and being kind, choose kind.”

Author  
~R.J. Palacio

great kindness checklist to complete individually.

Mrs. Roherty’s classroom door was inspired by the book *Wonder* that students have read and they included the following quote from the author, R.J. Palacio. “When given the choice between being right or being wrong, choose kind.”

To raise the stakes and motivate the students to do their best on their door decorations, they made it into a competition and gave the winners bragging rights for having the most votes on their door. The winner of the contest was Mrs. Longmire and Mrs. Voelker’s 6th grade WIN group. The winner’s door was Pac-Man themed, saying, “Pac kindness into your day.”

“It was great teamwork between the groups,” said Mrs. Voelker. She said that the 6th graders in her WIN group did a great job and split into

groups to complete their door and that they all worked well together as a team.

The door decorating was a success as it got students to work in teams and think about how they can bring kindness into the world.



**“Pac”ing kindness.** The Pac-Man themed door and winner belongs to Mrs. Longmire and Mrs. Voelker’s 6th grade WIN group.



**“Wonder”ful door.** Mrs. Roherty’s class decorated their classroom inspired by the book *Wonder*.

## Middle School

### What’s going on in middle school science?

by Sydney Leschisin

Middle school students have had a lot of activities going on recently, and a few of the most exciting ones have been happening in Mrs. Pumala’s science classroom.

First, the eighth graders had a final on forces. They experimented with vehicles and crumple spots that are built in to prevent severe injuries. After learning about forces, the students were then assigned the challenge of creating their own “cars” that would keep an egg from cracking. Students were provided with K’nex and their choice between bubble wrap, cotton balls, or a cup. Then, the eighth graders built the vehicles and tested them. The cars were rolled down a ramp into a wall. There were many successful vehicles, and the students learned a lot about how real cars function.



**Final products.** The eighth grade force final was a big success. Many of the eggs survived.

Another exciting part of Mrs. Pumala’s class is her outdoor classroom. The garden has picnic tables, grasses, and wildflowers that are native to our area. Overall, the goal was to have a prairie space. Mrs. Pumala reached out to a master gardener, Carol Kettner, so she could have help starting this process. Carol pointed out that it could be possible to attract monarch butterflies to the outdoor classroom if they planted the right flowers and grasses. With her

husband, John Peter, Carol was able to donate funds to the school to get Cameron put on the Monarch Waystation map. In class, Mrs. Pumala



**Please don’t break.** Eighth grader, Taryn Schneider, lets her egg cart go--hoping it doesn’t break when it hits the wall.

had a contest to determine a name for the waystation. Seventh grader, Colin, had the winning title of The Comet Zone.

Exciting news from the middle school science classes is filtering throughout the school and community. Congratulations to all participants of the car project, and good luck to the middle schoolers as spring comes for the Monarch Waystation.



**Testing it out.** Students are excited as they witness the results of their hard work.