



Aug 23, 2021

Dear Caledonia Community Schools community,

While some may lament the passing of summer, we here at Caledonia could not be more excited to return to learning tomorrow. We are looking forward to seeing our amazing families, staff and students as they begin the 2021/2022 school year!

Despite a challenging year, we truly have a lot to celebrate in Caledonia. Working together we have been able to provide a high-quality education to thousands of students year after year, and even during a pandemic.

We improved our graduation rate to 96.3 percent, which is 14 points higher than the state average. More than 16 percent of our graduating seniors this year took one or more AP courses and received a 4.0 or higher and 81 percent of our graduates are planning to continue their education next year. Additionally, all schools in our district received an "A" for proficiency based on standardized testing prior to the pandemic.

These accomplishments are the direct results of our high quality teachers and supporting staff as well as the strong partnership we have created between our families and students. As we begin each new year, we thank you for entrusting us with your child's education.

In response to recent media reports, discussions at our school board meetings, and questions from our families, I also wanted to take a moment to address the topic of Critical Race Theory (CRT) and curriculum development here at CCS [[LINK TO FAQ](#)].

At CCS, all our curricula are designed to meet all state requirements. Our curricula are reviewed by highly trained and professional educators and are approved by our local school board. CRT is not part of our curricula, it has never been part of our curricula, nor is it being considered to be taught in the future.

It is important that our school community knows that we have a process for reviewing and updating what we teach each year to stay current and to maintain our exacting standards. Our teachers are all equipped to teach the required state curriculum and are empowered to make appropriate and professional decisions in the moment and use supplemental materials to support that curriculum. The evidence above shows that this process has worked well and we will continue to strive for excellence by staying true to this process and while always exploring ways to improve. If parents have additional questions about curriculum or specific lesson plans, we encourage them to contact their child's building administration team.

We hope you find this update helpful and look forward to seeing you in person beginning tomorrow. Please visit our website and social media sites for additional updates.

Thank you,

Dr. Dedrick Martin
Superintendent
Caledonia Community Schools