

CECEXPLORER

The latest news and updates from Chain Exploration Center



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ALWAYS STAY UP TO DATE:

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CEC Advisor, Aimee Lusic, shares her story.

My Story | by Aimee Lusic

My name is Aimee Lusic and I have been a special education for 14 years! I grew up in Burlington, WI and went to college at UW-Whitewater. I was a Biology and Psychology major, but started working with kids with autism and decided to go back to school to become a special education teacher. I finished my Master's program at UW-Stevens Point when we moved to the Waupaca area for my husband's job. I taught in Manawa for five years and have been here in Waupaca since January 2012.

I have a daughter, Maddie, who is in 6th grade and a son, Callen, who is in 4th grade at Amherst. My husband, Mark, is also a teacher. He teaches History at Amherst High School. We all love living in this area mostly because of all the lakes!

I love working in so many different classrooms because I get to learn from all the amazing teachers that we have here in Waupaca!

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Continued, Aimee Lusic Shares Her Story...

This year has been especially exciting for me since I get to be a part of the CEC. I believe that learning is a lifelong process, and exploring different ways to provide that learning is definitely a passion that fits well with the beliefs of the CEC. I have always said that I am not sure what I want to be when I grow up, so helping students with the variety of topics and projects has been a way for me to personally explore and learn about so many new concepts and ideas!

Grant Writing Committee

The dream team... written by Becky Lange

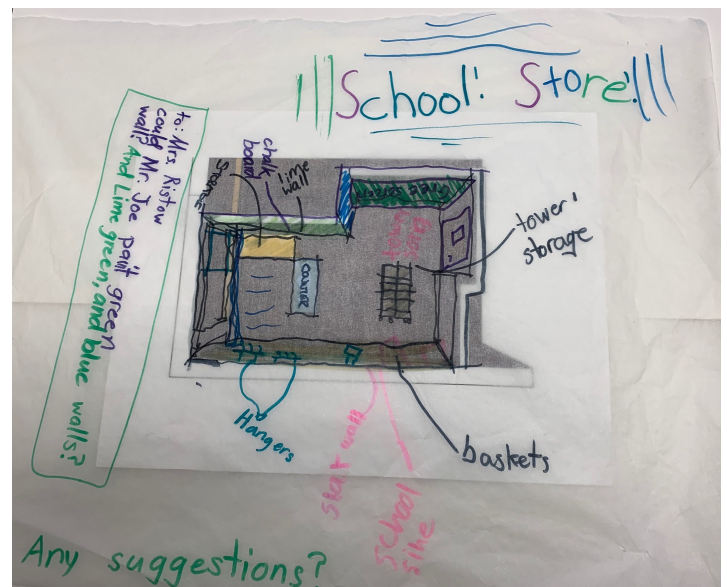
The Grant Committee has been busy this year applying for and securing funds for special and unique equipment and materials for the students at the CEC. (The CEC relies solely on grants, fundraising and donations to fund anything above and beyond what the school district provides to all its schools.) Thus far, the total amount that the Grant Committee has been awarded is \$3,535.00. We received \$600 through a grant from the UW-Extension to purchase 2 kayaks, life-jackets and water-quality testing kits. The Waupaca Rotary Club awarded the CEC \$1500 for additional kayaks and life jackets. We recently learned that the CEC was chosen to receive \$435 from the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin to obtain hand lenses, water sample containers, magnification containers, binoculars and a freshwater invertebrate field guide. All of this will be used for the study and exploration of Silver Lake and other areas of our beautiful campus. Ms. Olsen received \$1,000 from Fuel Up to Play 60 to promote and implement a walking club as well as composting. The Grant Committee typically meets on the first Thursday of each month, and all are welcome to participate. Please keep your eyes and ears open for future funding opportunities for the CEC!

CEC School Store

A student run store

Last fall, a group of 4th grade CEC students met to brainstorm and create a conceptual design for the school store. Room 128 on the first floor of the CEC, across from the main office, was designated as the new space for the store. The students discussed how the store will be used, what types of displays they wanted to see, and how to allow for future flexibility. During their discussions, the students created a conceptual sketch that illustrated all of their ideas. The students then chose new furniture, displays, counters and paint colors that reflected the ideas in their conceptual sketch.

The school store is currently under construction, and it should be completed shortly after spring break! Walls are being painted, slat wall is being installed, and the displays are being assembled. The store will carry the typical merchandise as well as some apparel and additional swag items. Please stop in to see the completed project!



The CEC Operated School Store conceptual sketch

We Are Monsters!

By Emma Adams, Ryker Heckens, Kaleigha Forseth, and Anna Martens

The C.E.C did a performance called WE ARE MONSTERS. We wanted to share some things about this great show.

Students were in committees and to help prepare for the musical. Some of the committees worked on designing the tickets, programs and invitations, creating the dances in the choreography committee, and exploring options for makeup and hair.

Other committees designed and sewed all the costumes, sketched the set and props, set worked backstage on stage crew. The students all had something important to do.

Another group was the advertising group and went to W.D.U.X. and the Waupaca Woods breakfast show.

There were many people that came to see the show. We sold tickets and flower for a fundraiser for the C.E.C. and we raised lots of money.

Thank you to everyone that came to support our show!



CEC Students Wrap Up History Project

By: Sawyer Buenning, Aubrey Barbeau, Lily Cichy, and Eli Johnson

The CEC students have finished their history projects. The students all wrote reflections and are looking to improve the next project.

The students have a project cycle. It starts out by picking the topic then writing a rationale, having a parent meeting, and discover a driving question.

Then we start our research. After a research phase we made a zine and presented telling about the history project. The students will have their zines put in a traveling exhibit.

Each grade had a history focus. Third grade researched Waupaca, fourth grade researched Wisconsin, and fifth grade researched USA history. The final phase was we had to write about the things we did well and the things we wanted to improve on.

“We had fun with it.” Says Sawyer Buenning. “I thought it was fun.” says Aubrey Barbeau. In conclusion, it was an interesting way to conclude the project cycle.

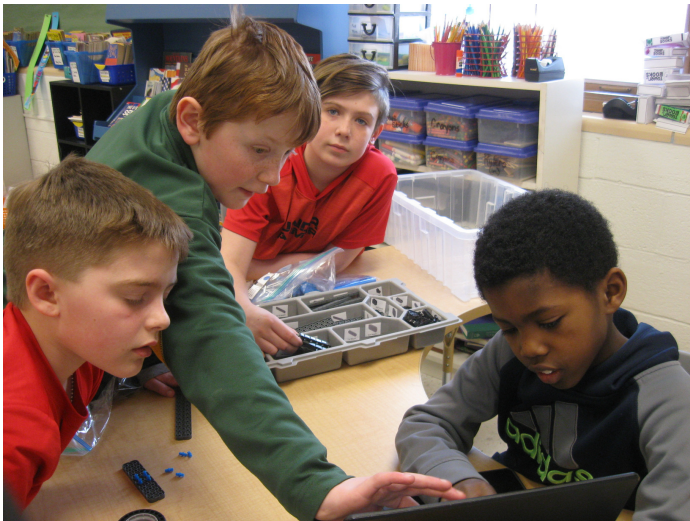


January Project Night

The Chain Exploration Center Inc. does not discriminate on the basis of a student's sex, race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability/handicap.

Project Lead the Way

Students at the CEC are currently engaged in the S.T.E.M curriculum purchased with funds from the Federal Grant. The modules are designed to guide the students through different fields of science and engineering. The CEC purchased the elementary curriculum and will be adding the middle school components for next year.



Students are working on designing a restraint system strong enough to protect an egg in the Energy and Collision Unit.

Federal Grant Dollars

In June of 2018 the CEC received notice of a \$650,625 grant from the Wisconsin Department of Instruction through a federal charter school funds.

The dollars awarded are spread out for 5 years. This year the CEC will spend a total of \$154,000!

Upcoming Meetings

Fundraising Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:00 pm in the Community Room at the CEC.

Grant Writing Committee meets the first Thursday of each month, 3:00 pm in the Community Room at the CEC.

Governance Council meets the 4th Thursday of the month, 5:30 pm in the Community Room at the CEC.

March 28, 2019 (5:30pm)

April 25, 2019 (5:30pm)



Student work in the great room.