

Attribute 5.2 Work-based Learning

Once CMS students leave our school they continue their education at CHS [Cleveland High School] where there is a robust, cutting-edge, rigorous and relevant Career and Technical Education Program. It consists of eleven nationally recognized career clusters whose ultimate goal is to prepare them for meaningful post-secondary college and/or career pathways. CMS faculty work towards preparing our students by providing learning opportunities and skill development for high school. WBL is not available in a middle school setting, however we have CTE teachers with WBL certification.

- Tennessee Technical University
Our CTE Engineering teacher works with TTU to bring university engineering students to his classroom for demonstrations and simulations of engineering in real-world situations. This connectivity to a post-secondary institution permits students to obtain a greater understanding of career exploration and its possibilities in the field of engineering.
- Cleveland State Community College Career Fair
8th grade CMS students go on a field trip to CCSC for information about local industry job prospects and training available through CCSC, Cleveland High School, Walker Valley High School and Bradley High School CTE programs. Students are able to speak to individuals currently engaged in obtaining their training through one of the above stated programs or working in a specific industry such as law enforcement or construction.
- Cleveland High School
8th grade students participate in a field trip to the high school to investigate the CTE curriculum. This is traditionally completed in the springtime prior to high school course selection. They are invited to attend a high school orientation in the evening where they can visit CTE classrooms and ask questions.
- Mock Interview for CTE 8th grade Students
CMS hosted a mock interview for all of our 8th grade CTE students. The students had 4 days to prep by rotating through the CTE classes learning about soft skills and work ethic, resume writing, and interview skills. Many different members from community businesses, colleges, Better Business Bureau, and police officers to interview our students and give feedback for them. This event was not only eye-opening for our students but also received many positive comments from the individuals interviewing about the high level of some of our students here at CMS.
- CMS Career Explorations
One of the courses available to our students during their Related Arts period is Career Explorations. In this course, students research possible career goals and the requirements needed for attainment. Students investigate post-secondary career opportunities in terms of educational requirements, specifics regarding what does the job actually do and which industries provide employment.

- CMS Community Best Partners through the Bradley/Cleveland Chamber of Commerce
In the City of Cleveland, we have a special rapport with our "Best Partners" . These are businesses and organizations that generously support many of our outreach activities, provide guest speakers, academic programs and hold fundraising events that help with our school's warm culture and spirit. These organizations are the following: First Tennessee Bank; CHI Memorial Convenient Care facility; Cleveland Country Club; Westwood Baptist Church; and State Farm Insurance.

Service Learning

CMS, as an entire school, participates in various service learning experiences that are student-directed through curricular and extracurricular opportunities. One class participated in a service project with the Salvation Army to fill and carry bags in an effort to teach conversational skills to its class members. The Interact Club organizes our Veteran's Day program where students and veterans create a positive connection to our military organizations. The CMS Student Council yearly focuses on a school-wide effort to provide families in need Thanksgiving meals and groceries. This past year feeding over 45 families. The Beta Club adopts nursing home recipients with small gifts and cards at Christmas and Valentine's Day. It also has a community service requirement of its members to obtain 8 hours of volunteering through school, church, scouts or personally each year. Many members exceeded this total with over 2000 hours earned total in one year of volunteering.

Citizen Science Projects

At this time, our science classes do not have an ongoing partnership for collecting data. As we move forward in our pursuit of pursuing a more STEM-centric education for our students, this is an identified area of focus to look for areas of opportunity.

PBL Learning Units

CMS faculty have informally been creating and writing PBL lessons individually or with content areas for numerous years. It is only that as a faculty/STEM Leadership Team that we began to formally recognize the learning strategies that our classroom teachers engage student learning. As our leadership team began to organize its evidence for STEM Designation, it became obvious that PBL instruction is at the heart of CMS instructional strategies. In pursuit of this goal, we have begun to implement PBL PD and support and encourage the continuation of this instructional strategy.