Before School Tutoring and Homework Help – We will be offering a before school tutoring and homework help program from 7:30-8:00 a.m. Monday – Friday at CMS. We have offered this program for the past seven years and we have received many positive comments from parents and students. This year Agatha Wieckowicz (SpEd Aide and certified Math Teacher) will lead this program.

Accelerated Math and Successful Reader Training – We have trainings scheduled for our 'intervention' teachers that will be using Accelerated Math and Successful Reader as Tier 2 interventions this year. Our Math interventionists will be Mr. Huseth, Mrs. Czyscon, Mr. Klabunde, Mrs. Heldstab and Mr. Ebner. Our Reading interventionists will be Mrs. La Vallie, Mr. Borstad, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Heldstab and Mr. Ebner.

Accelerated Math and Successful Reader Parent Contacts – Mr. Spanel has sent a letter to the parents of all middle school students that have been chosen for Math and/or Reading interventions. In addition, he called the parents of students whose schedules may be impacted by these interventions. These programs are in addition to the CCSS Math and Reading curriculum that is taught. So far we have had a 100% participation buy-in for these new learning programs!

Get It Started Classes – We had several students signed up for our Welcome to 5th Grade and Just the Facts classes from August 18-22.

Chromebooks – We have added a classroom set of Chromebooks. We now have 5 carts of 30 MacBooks and one set of 30 Chromebooks for student use. We have designated one MacBook cart for 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade and one will be assigned to the LMC for checkout. The Chromebooks will be based upstairs for classroom use. In addition, we have 2-3 PC computer labs for classroom use at CMS.

Middle School Athletics – Middle school fall athletic teams have begun practicing. Preliminary numbers have many of our 7th and 8th graders out for a fall sport. Tim Borstad is coaching our cross-country team, Val Pumala and Daric Klabunde are our volleyball coaches, and David Martin and Ron Peckham are our football coaches.

Meet the Teacher Night – Meet the Teacher Night is scheduled for Wednesday, August 27 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. At 7:00 p.m. there will be a brief orientation for all students, parents, and faculty members. We will then break into grade level meetings to discuss changes in curriculum and assessment. The remainder of the time will be to get to know the teachers and to take care of school needs such as locker assignments, assignment books, free/reduced lunch, etc.

Opening In-service – Opening in-service is August 27-28. There are many changes occurring in education that have caused the need for many informational and discussion meetings. Some of the topics to be covered are RtI, PBIS, Educator Effectiveness, SLOs, new SLD laws and specific needs of students.

First Student Day Activities – Our first student day will be Tuesday, September 2. We will begin with a general assembly and then get students into their regular classes to establish daily routines and procedures. All teachers have been asked to get students working on the first day and to go over school wide positive behavior expectations for CMS.

Building Preparations – All of our custodians did an excellent job preparing the middle school building for the upcoming school year.

Principals Networking Session – On August 6 and 7, the principals took part in a CESA 11 Principals Networking Session that included training on Educator Effectiveness, SLOs and RtI.

PBIS – On August 5 the principals and Mrs. Knickerbocker met to complete school and District level PBIS readiness checklists. This year we are forming District and building level teams to begin the process of implementing PBIS. PBIS stands for Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies and is the student behavior arm of RtI (Response to Intervention).

Tentative Enrollment Numbers for 2014-15 – Grade 8 - 66, Grade 7 - 76, Grade 6 - 65, Grade 5 - 72 for a total of 279. The January, 2013 enrollment was 255 students and January, 2014 enrollment was 263.