



CHELSEA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**PIERCE LAKE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER
AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION**

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To: Board of Education
From: Sarah Bentley
RE: Board Report
Date: Wednesday, May 13th, 2026

Community Engagement

- **Community Connections** – The Fall issue will begin its planning process in early summer. The cover art for the Fall issue will come from a Camp Gabika student!
- **Arts Collaborative Advisory Board** - Since our last meeting, course offerings have been suggested from multiple community members to add art and music courses for all ages. We are hopeful this excitement continues to grow and we are able to continually add to our course offerings that align with this art initiative.
- **Social Media Initiatives** - our social pages have been able to highlight Chelsea Little League along with Future Bulldog Night. The main initiatives right now are filling up the remaining spots in summer camp programs.
- **Preschool Program Highlights**

Our students loved spending time outdoors on nature walks where we explored the changing season, searched for signs of spring, and observed the beauty all around us. The children have especially enjoyed gardening with the seniors, creating special connections while learning about planting, caring for gardens, and working together as a community.

In our classrooms, we have been busy planting seeds and learning what plants need to grow. The children are eagerly checking on their plants each day and practicing patience as they watch them sprout and change. One of the most exciting experiences has been observing our caterpillars transform into butterflies! The children have been fascinated by each stage of the life cycle and can't wait to see the butterflies take flight.

We also had such a wonderful time at our Preschool End of Year Picnic! It was so special to gather together with our families and celebrate a fantastic year filled with friendship, laughter, and learning.

As the school year begins to come to a close, we are looking forward to our Preschool Celebration honoring the Classes of 2039 and 2040. We cannot wait to celebrate our amazing students and all they have accomplished this year. We are so proud of how much they have learned, grown, and achieved.

Aftercare Program Updates

One of the highlights this month was our May 4th Star Wars Celebration! The children had a

blast participating in themed activities, games, crafts, and enjoying all things “galaxy far, far away.” The force was definitely strong in aftercare that day!

We also celebrated a Very Merry Unbirthday, bringing extra smiles, laughter, and special moments to our afternoons. The children loved joining in the whimsical fun and festive activities inspired by this silly and exciting celebration.

With the arrival of warmer weather, we have been taking full advantage of our outdoor spaces. Students are enjoying more time outside playing games, exploring nature, staying active, and spending time with friends in the sunshine. Outdoor play has brought so much excitement and energy to our afternoons.

We are also thrilled to welcome the YMCA for outdoor enrichment and sports programming! The children have been enjoying engaging activities that encourage teamwork, movement, sportsmanship, and active play while trying new games and skills.

Mobee and the Library continue to be an important part of our aftercare program as well. We are so grateful for the opportunities they provide for children to discover and enjoy new books while in care. Encouraging a love of reading remains an important part of our afternoons, and students are always excited to explore fresh stories and reading adventures.

- **Aftercare registration remains open for the 2026/2027 school year.** We are excited to welcome both returning and new families for another full year of engaging programming.

Community Education

- **Youth Programming** - WRAP Camp, Safety Town, and CAP Camp are the hot ticket items for summer programming. Registration is open and spots are filling up. Summer swim lessons were just released for a fun summer at the pool learning everything they need for water safety!
- **Youth Sports** - Despite some very rainy weather, our spring sports have really gotten off to a great start. The new Little League uniforms are a hit, and our teams look great now that they are able to get out on the fields.
- **Registration Update** - Our transition to our new Arux system has gone very smoothly. We have had no obstacles with this move and seem to have had little to no impact on our families.