

Cal Communicator

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Preserving Tradition, Pursuing Excellence

Year End 2019



Congratulations CHS Class of 2019!

Communications

from Superintendent Dr. Dedrick Martin



Dear Caledonia Community,

Through the assistance of the Board of Education (BOE), our administrative staff has worked to engage over 200 parents, high school students, staff and community members in a number of focus group discussions. These focus group discussions covered a broad range of items in the areas of Student Achievement, Culture & Climate, Student Activities and Facilities. Our district also received over 1,800 responses from the above mentioned groups, through our district-wide climate survey. With this tremendous amount of engagement and input, I am proud to report that we have strategic direction that will guide our work through the next several years. This new strategic plan was adopted by the BOE during the June meeting and can be located on our district website at www.calschools.org under District Publications.

Through this process, we have identified the four primary goal areas of:

- Teaching and Learning,
- Whole Child/Whole Community,
- Fiscal Sustainability, and
- Organizational Coherence & Systemic Improvement.

We have already conducted several Strategic Plan dialogue sessions with staff and community members, to build an understanding of our new strategic direction and what you can expect in the coming years. With the recognition that strong schools are a product of strong communities, we plan to provide other opportunities during the 2019/2020 school year to engage our school community in taking various parts of our strategic plan to action. Through the collective impact and effort of our educators, parents and community, we are confident that we will continue to build upon the legacy of educational excellence that Caledonia Community Schools has established and that our students deserve!

By way of our new Strategic Plan, we look forward to the support of our parents and community to live up to our vision of “Cultivating Agile Learners who are empowered with 21st Century skills and prepared to compete in a global environment”.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Dedrick Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Superintendent

Preserving Tradition ~ Pursuing Excellence



Teaching and Learning

Student Achievement:

- Early Literacy Skills, Critical Thinking in Math & Science
- Systematic Supports for At-risk Learners

Academic Options & Opportunities:

- Early College & Career Opportunities, Gifted & Talented/Accelerated Learning
- STEM (STEAM), Project Based Learning

Curriculum & Program Alignment:

- Articulated & Aligned Curriculum, Professional Development and Professional Learning Communities



Whole Child/Whole Community

Building Positive School Culture & Climate

Comprehensive Student Supports & Services

Student Health & Wellness

School/Community Partnership & Engagement



Fiscal Sustainability

Student & Staff:

- Athletics, Curriculum, Fine Arts, Safety & Student Supports

Operations

- Facilities, Grounds, Maintenance, Technology & Transportation

Needs Based Budgeting Process

Multi-year Operations & Capital Needs Planning

Improving Fiscal Accountability/Best Practices



Organizational Coherence & Systemic Improvement

Student Information Software Systems Conversion

District/Building Communications Process

Improving Transportation Efficiency

Program & Systems Alignment

Vision:

Cultivating Agile Learners who are empowered with 21st Century skills and prepared to compete in a global environment.

Mission:

In pursuit of excellence, Caledonia Community Schools will empower and equip all persons to achieve their best by ensuring the highest quality system for learning.

Values:

- Student Centered Learning Environments
- Whole Child Focus
- Community & Family Partnerships
- Collaboration
- Opportunities for Students
- Climate of Care
- Embracing Diversity

Congratulations Caledonia



High School Class of 2019!



Caledonia High School held commencement ceremonies in honor of its 2019 graduating class, on Thursday, May 23 at 7:00 PM, in the high school gymnasium. It was a beautiful spring evening, perfect for the graduates, their families and friends to celebrate. Valedictorian, Vivian Le, addressed her classmates with a reflection on their time spent at Caledonia, and wished her peers well on their path ahead. There was much excitement as the class of 2019 accepted their diplomas, signifying the years of hard work and dedication they had spent on their K-12 education. Congratulations class of 2019, you have made Caledonia proud. Best wishes on all of your future endeavors.



EHS Class of 2019

Academic Top 11



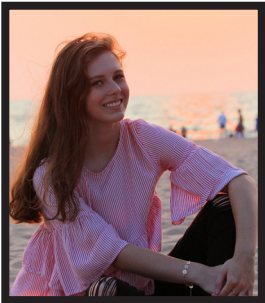
Olivia Black



Abigail Diekevers



Audrey Dozeman



Emma Larsen



Jared McLean
Salutatorian



Vivian Le
Valedictorian



Parker Nanzer



Harrison Norkus



Casey Restau



Jeremy VandenHout



Christopher Wrogg

"Top Eleven" students are listed alphabetically by last name.

Class of 2019 Grad Stats

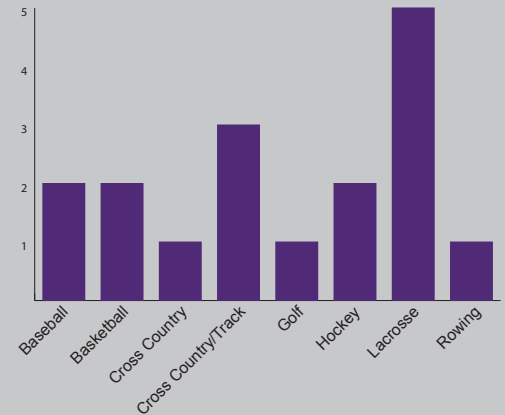
- 365 graduates
- 259 scholarships and grants awarded to 123 students, totaling \$1,197,729, with the potential to total \$4,212,644 after four years
- 194 graduates are planning to attend a four year institution
- 94 graduates are planning to attend a two year institution
- 10 graduates are planning to attend a technical school or apprenticeship
- 19 graduates are enlisting in the military



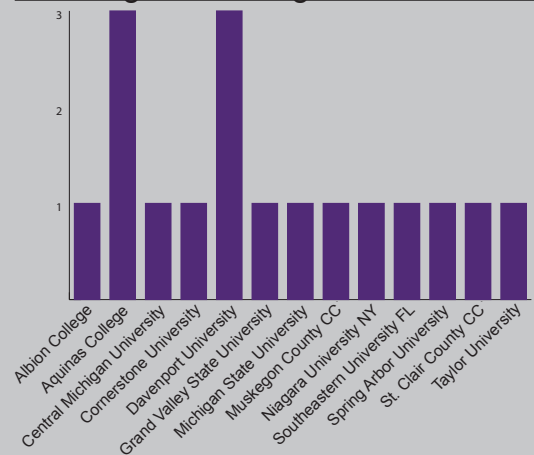
2019 Military Recognition Celebration

Congratulations to the seventeen Caledonia High School 2019 graduate athletes who have signed to play at the collegiate level!

2019 Collegiate Signees Affiliate Sports



2019 Signees Collegiate Destinations



CCS Welcomes Three New Administrators

Joe Lienesch CHS Principal



I have been blessed to work at Caledonia Community Schools for the entirety of my professional career. My heart has always told me that Caledonia is the place for me, a place where I could develop myself as an educational leader, become an active community member, and establish strong roots for my family.

Fortunately for me, all of these things have come to life in the last fifteen years. I am indebted to Caledonia Community Schools for giving me a chance to become a valued member of the Caledonia community and the opportunity to lead CHS. Moreover, I am excited about the opportunity and challenge to continue leading CHS, to ensure that we are providing excellence in our approach to education, so that our students continue to receive the quality education that generations of CHS families have valued and appreciated.

Leadership is something that I have always been passionate about, and I have taken advantage of many opportunities to use that passion positively and become an active member of this great district and community. My leadership skills have been honed by the professional experiences that Caledonia has blessed me with, and I am excited to have the opportunity to loyally give back what has been given to me.

After twelve years of being a special education teacher and teacher consultant, I was given the opportunity to be the interim Director of Special Programs and Early Childhood Center Principal. This experience prepared me for becoming an Assistant Principal at CHS in 2017, where I have spent the last few years using my special education background and leadership experiences to help foster a collaborative school environment that provides all students at CHS the opportunity to develop 21st-century skills (critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity) and achieve their post-secondary goals.

These experiences have helped me build my passion for education. My goal moving forward is to use this passion to foster a positive school climate that continues to meet the diverse needs of the students and families we serve. I believe that Caledonia has helped prepare me for this opportunity, and I look forward to continuing to collaborate with our students, parents, and staff to ensure CHS continues to achieve this goal.

Go Scots!

Fred Townsend Director of Athletics



My family and I are excited to begin our journey with Caledonia. As Athletic Director for Caledonia High School, I bring with me my wife Shelley, son Brevin, age 19, son Blake, age 16, 11th grader, son Brock, age 12, 8th grader. We also have a daughter and son-in-law, ages 30, two granddaughters, and a grandson on the way.

Prior to coming to Caledonia, I gained over 25 years of experience in athletics as an Assistant Athletic Director and Director of Athletics for Arthur Hill High School. In addition to those positions, I served as an assistant football coach for Central Michigan University and Saginaw Valley State University. I have served as a head coach for the indoor professional football team, Saginaw Sting, winning back to back championships. Over the years, I have served as the boys and girls track coach, head football coach and JV basketball coach. I have assisted and volunteered with the tennis, soccer and baseball programs, as well.

I believe that interscholastic athletics exist to teach valuable life lessons for student athletes. It is also my belief that athletics should serve as an extension of the classroom. The role of the athletic department is to help each student athlete develop the whole person; physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually. It is imperative that the athletic director and coaches of the Athletic Department be teachers first, teaching crucial life lessons that will help develop the whole person.

It is my goal, through education based athletics, to promote an atmosphere of learning that will help to develop leaders on the playing field, in the classroom, and in the community. As an athletic administrator, I will be resolute in my approach to equip our student athletes with the essential skills needed to build strong character. We will strive to teach valuable life lessons that will help each student-athlete understand the true meaning of selflessness, accountability, respect, and discipline.

My Family thanks you for helping to make our transition to the Caledonia district a great one. We look forward to meeting and working with everyone on a daily basis.

Go Scots!

Administrator Welcome Continued

Wendy Dubuisson Director of Special Programs



It is my personal belief that all students can achieve and become productive members of our global society. As Director of Special Programs, I look forward to collaborating with the Caledonia administrators, staff and community to cultivate agile learners with 21st century skills!

Over the last several years I have served as Director of Special Education at Allegan Area Educational Service Agency. Prior to that position, I served Fennville Public Schools as Elementary Principal, Supervisor of Special Education, and Director of Instructional Services. My educational career began as an elementary teacher at Glenn School, followed by a variety of teaching positions at South Haven Public Schools. One of the most enriching experiences was teaching in a multi-age/inclusion setting as part of a teaching team. I earned my Bachelor degree at Hope College, my Master's degree at Walden University, and my Educational Specialist degree at Grand Valley State University.

When I'm not at work, you'll find me downhill skiing with my family in the winter and kayaking with friends or reading at the beach in the summer! We love to be outside and take the opportunity, every chance we get. My husband and I have two children; one in pharmacy school at the University of Michigan and the other will be attending Southern Utah University for Rotor Wing Aviation in the fall.

Since beginning my journey at Caledonia in early May, I've had the privilege of meeting staff, parents and community members who have all been exceptionally welcoming and it is clear that they are dedicated to student success. I am excited to be a part of the team, and look forward to the journey ahead, as together we work to achieve great strides in education.

CAL Communicator

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The official newsletter of
Caledonia Community Schools

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Trustee William Donohue
Trustee Kyle Clement
Trustee Jason Saidoo

Contact: zoetm@calschools.org

We would like to thank the many school coordinators, staff personnel and community members for contributions of time and information to this issue.

Your assistance is valued and greatly appreciated.

Community contributions that enhance the learning, safety and enjoyment of all Caledonia students, regardless of age, will be considered for community connections by contacting the editor.

Although not every contribution can be published due to space and time constraints, information and articles will be considered by the Caledonia Community Schools' staff.

Future editions of the CAL Communicator will be available electronically and can be found on our website at www.calschools.org

It is the policy of Caledonia Community Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, age, disability, height, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program or activity or in employment.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies:

Superintendent
9753 Duncan Lake Avenue
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(616) 891-8185

For questions regarding this publication's distribution, please contact:

zoetm@calschools.org
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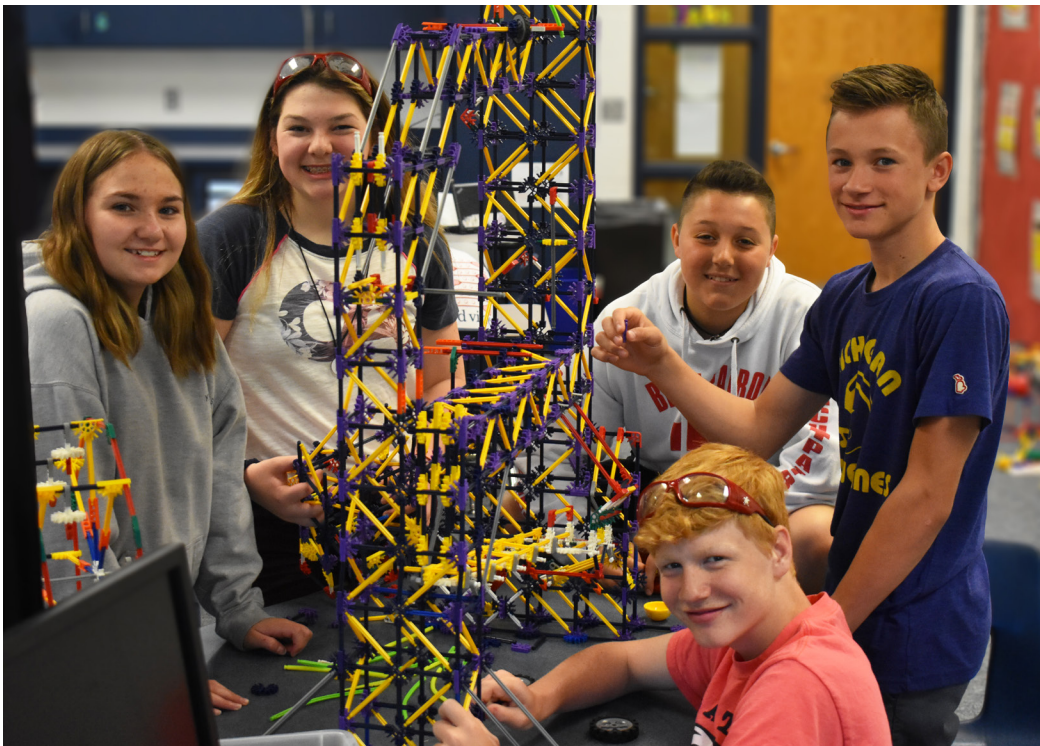
A Case for STEM Education in Caledonia Schools

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, “In 2015 there were 22,486 open computing jobs in the state of Michigan with only 2,486 graduates to fill them. These vacant positions total \$1,805,089,734 in annual salaries. Nationwide, there are over 500,000 STEM-related jobs available and not enough STEM-trained people to fill them. This number will continue to grow; by the year 2020, there will be over 2.72M STEM-related jobs available, according to PWC (Price Waterhouse Cooper). Furthermore, it is anticipated that over time artificial intelligence (AI), automation, robotics, and machine learning will cause 47% of present day jobs to disappear or completely transform over the next 20 years.”

Upon reflection of the above statement and consideration of the constant rate of change lead by technological innovations, it’s clear to see that we must create an educational environment where our children are taught to be creative, agile learners who can adapt to rapidly changing environments. Can this be accomplished? Absolutely! Can our school do this alone? Absolutely not!

In order to build upon the outstanding education that Caledonia Schools have become known for, our district will move forward towards strengthening our STEM curriculum over the next few years. While we will start with a STEM class at the middle school level, our overarching goal is to infuse sound engineering principles into multiple areas of our system from elementary into high school over time. We will also use a collective impact project approach to convert Caledonia into a STEM Town in which local stakeholders help our schools provide a STEM-based education for the benefit of all children.

By collaborating with our community and business, we believe that we can better prepare our kids for future jobs and develop a strong workforce that maintains and enhances Caledonia as a premier place for people to live, work, learn and play. Look for more STEM information in the future, including opportunities for partnerships to help us provide an educational experience that is the best in the region.



Cal
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STEM@MS

THANK YOU to the CCS community for the passage of the 2014 bond.

We are happy to report that we are nearing the very end of the five-year project that began with the passage of the 41 million dollar bond in May of 2014. The final projects that are scheduled to be completed this summer are as follows:

- HVAC controls at DLMS: \$64,703
- Fire panel system at DLMS: \$397,000
- High School track & KMMS parking lot: \$654,845
- Renovation of girls varsity softball field: \$356,403**
- Boys varsity baseball press box completion: \$23,866

During the start of the 2018-19 school year, the district had expended \$39,662,168 of the \$41.1 million from the 2014

bond. During a facilities assessment the district identified a number of projects which exceeded the amount of remaining bond funds available. As a means to address these projects, we created a Public Improvement Fund (PIF) in the summer of 2018, which earmarked \$2.5 million from the district's fund balance to cover additional renovation costs and begin a multi-year plan to address other district needs.

Again, we would like to publicly thank the Caledonia community for their trust and generosity towards our school district as we strive to improve upon the quality teaching and learning environment that our students and teachers deserve!

Public Improvement Fund

Transportation	Purchased three new buses	\$284,929	Complete
Central Office	Administration Office renovation due to environmental issue	\$10,000	Complete
TMC	Added card access	\$12,000	Complete
DE, KL, PR, CE, Glenmor	Replaced card access with Lenel System	\$42,000	Complete
PAC/FAC	Replaced LED stage lights	\$2,526	Complete
Duncan Lake PAC	Stage curtain	\$11,363	Complete
District	Upgrade security for buildings (identified in grant request)	\$215,000	Summer 19
DL, DE, KL	PA system for DL, DE, KL	\$122,050	Summer 19
Kraft Meadows	Replace wall flashing in entry and sloped windows, or cover with roof	\$10,000	Summer 19
Dutton Elementary	Install built in office work areas	\$5,000	Summer 19
Duncan Lake	Resurface tennis courts	\$59,804	Summer 19
Athletics	**Renovate girls softball field (supplement bond shortage)	\$191,000	Summer 19
Athletics	Upgrade sound system at football stadium	\$40,000	Summer 19
Athletics	Upgrade CHS gym speakers	\$20,000	Summer 19
District	Conduct traffic study and possible solution (light, round-about, etc) at 92nd Street	\$145,000	2019-20
Kettle Lake	Replace bathroom floors in main bathrooms	\$22,000	2019-20
Caledonia Elementary	Replace bathroom floors and partitions near cafeteria	\$20,000	2019-20
Duncan Lake	Replace internal door hardware in classrooms and offices (50 sets)	\$14,000	2019-20
Dutton Elementary	Replace metal facia	\$15,000	2019-20
Transportation	GPS system for buses (requiring yearly cost \$13,860)	\$13,255	2019-20
Dutton Elementary	Replace boiler room door	\$5,000	2019-20
Kettle Lake	Replace boiler room doors	\$8,000	2019-20
CE, DE, PR, CHSN, CHSS	New signage	\$25,000	2019-20

Public Improvement Funds: \$1,292,927

*“Education is the passport to the future,
for tomorrow belongs for those who prepare
for it today.” ~ Malcolm X*

BOND UPDATE

2014 Bond Completed Projects

Beginning Balance \$41,134,586

August 20, 2018 Board Meeting

High School (Existing) \$738,073

- Furniture (entry offices)
- Safe and secure entry
- Repave bus exit
- Widen entry off Kraft at EL drive
- Replace some music equipment
- Tennis court resurfacing

Duncan Lake \$1,186,557

- MS Safe & Secure entry
- ECC Safe & Secure entry
- Fire alarm panel and pull stations
- Repave staff parking (East side)
- Unit Ventilators
- 7th and 8th grade exit doors/frames
- Repair/replace west gym doors
- Internal doors – hardware
- Add cafeteria drinking fountain

Kraft Meadows \$1,361,901

- Safe & Secure entry
- Re-commission HVAC
- Replace water softener
- Carpet
- Domestic hot water
- Ceramic tile
- Add cafeteria drinking fountain

Caledonia Elementary \$497,828

- Replace roofing
- Lockers
- Generator connection
- Replace some drivit (resurface)
- Renovate individual bathrooms (10)
- Add cafeteria drinking fountain

Dutton Elementary \$248,210

- Lockers
- Generator connection
- Replace music ventilator and cab heaters
- Replace kitchen drain line to outside
- Replace walk-in cooler (mechanical only)
- Replace bathroom partitions
- Add cafeteria drinking fountain
- Replace cafeteria doors/frame
- Replace entry door hardware
- Replace boiler room door
- Playground

Kettle Lake Elementary \$382,338

- Lockers
- Exit drive from parking to Whitneyville
- Replace clock system with wireless
- Replace boiler room doors
- Add door from kitchen to cafeteria
- Repave west parking
- Classroom furniture 3 rooms
- Replace bathroom partitions in 4 bathrooms
- Add cafeteria drinking fountain
- Blinds in 4 rooms = 24
- Replace sinks counter tops 21 locations
- Replace some EIFS
- Playground

Emmons Lake Elem \$286,783

- Safe & secure entry
- Add entry turn-out along drive
- Add cafeteria drinking fountain

Paris Ridge Elementary \$38,251

- Add sidewalk across front

Glenmor \$2,380

- Gutters

TMC \$692,562

- Replace driveway
- Replace bus parking

Athletics \$647,653

- Upgrade baseball field
- Add drainage to JV baseball outfield

CalPlex \$88,841

- Parking 100 spaces gravel

Energy

- Replace metal halide lights with fluorescent at TMC shops

District \$4,004,647

- Technology upgrades
- Entry Kiosk for all buildings

New 9+ HS Building \$25,195,513

- 600 Student, 120,000 square feet

Fees/Misc Expenses \$4,290,631

Total expended as of 7/31/18: \$39,662,168

Estimated funds available to complete bond: \$1,500,000

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Caledonia Women's Club Senior Girls Brunch Celebration

Caledonia senior girls and their mothers, gathered at the high school on Tuesday, May 21, to celebrate their accomplishments and reminisce on the years gone by, at the Senior Girls Brunch.

The ladies were greeted by members of the Caledonia Women's Club, who host the annual event. Members did a fantastic job decorating the cafeteria with beautiful hats, tea pots and floral arrangements. The Women's Club also provided a plethora of delicacies to dine on.

After enjoying musical arrangements by Eliza

Henry, Olivia Torres and Eden Witvoet, guest speaker Zanita Adams, performed the National Anthem before taking the stage. Inspired by her struggle after an injury she acquired while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Adams reminded the girls that all things happen for a reason. She continued by reflecting on her journey through those struggles, to a place in her life where she was able to push away any self-hate, and love herself so she could love others as a leader and advocate in her community. Not only does she do this by serving as the President and Founder of WINC: For All Women Veterans, she returned to law school and earned her

degree, so she could assist veterans in their legal affairs.

The Caledonia Women's Club then awarded four Memorial Scholarships worth \$1,000 each, to Baylee DeVos, Vivian Le, Joanna Alder, Emily Petrosky and Evelyn Larson. CHS senior girls with plans to attend a two-year college, degree, so she could assist veterans in their legal affairs. The Caledonia Women's Club then awarded four Memorial Scholarships worth \$1,000 each, to Baylee DeVos, Vivian Le, Joanna Alder, Emily Petrosky and Evelyn Larson. CHS senior girls with plans to attend a two-year college, degree, so she could assist veterans in their legal affairs. The Caledonia Women's Club then awarded four Memorial Scholarships worth \$1,000 each, to Baylee DeVos, Vivian Le, Joanna Alder, Emily Petrosky and Evelyn Larson. CHS senior girls with plans to attend a two-year college, degree, so she could assist veterans in their legal affairs.

Lauren Hudson, who was presented with a \$1,000 scholarship at the Senior Academic Awards Night on May 8.

The graduating ladies of Caledonia look forward to this event every year, and are very thankful for the Women's Club and the efforts they put into making it a success.

