



# GREYHOUND AZETTE CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 3 [www1.ccs.k12.in.us/chs/home](http://www1.ccs.k12.in.us/chs/home)

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## A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL DR. TOM HARMAS

As we dive into the latter part of the semester, I would like to thank all CCS parents, teachers and students for your part in making the first semester a success. Our students and teachers are continuing to learn and grow in all the challenges hybrid or virtual learning present.

I am so proud of how hard our staff is working to meet those challenges. With the intricacies of the hybrid and virtual schedules, delivery of curriculum looks more different than ever before. Teachers have worked long hours to better understand how to blend in-person with virtual learning. Teachers have also learned how to effectively deliver a fully virtual curriculum.

Understanding the unique nature of our schedule this year and thinking more holistically, one of the ways we are better serving our students is the way student academic performance is calculated over a semester. Grades at the end of the first and third quarters are simply a snapshot in time of a student's progress in class. We are offering students the chance to demonstrate understanding of important concepts through the entire semester, which will be reflected in a semester grade. Since those opportunities look different in each class, certain classes may opt out of a semester final exam. If you have any questions about grades for your child, please don't hesitate to reference the class Canvas page or reach out to the teacher.

Outside of the classroom, our staff has been meeting the needs of our students and parents by answering questions no one ever thought would be asked, feeding our kids in a safe manner, and keeping the building cleaned daily so we can return the next morning without interruption. It truly takes everyone in our building to keep our students safe and healthy.

As students and staff have adjusted to new educational realities of going to school in 2020, we are reminded how important it is to continue our traditions. While they may look different, we have been so grateful to offer so many extracurricular opportunities for our students to become a part of the CHS culture. From one act plays, performing arts showcases, and marching band performances to athletic contests, a Homecoming parade and a Homecoming dance, our students, staff, and community have come together to continue to build our Greyhound Nation.

Greyhound Nation is not complete without you and your support. To you, the parents, we all say thank you. Your learning curve has been steep and you have been willing to be patient and learn along with the

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**PARENTS: PLEASE CONFIRM ALL DATES ON THE WEBSITE.**





## A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL DR. TOM HARMAS

*continues...*

rest of us. We appreciate your support of your children and the encouragement you give to them. Your positive attitude allows us to partner with you to sustain and educate your children.

We look forward to continuing this adventure with our students and families. As always, thank you for your continued support of your children and Carmel High School.

*Thomas L. Harms*



### STAY UP TO DATE:



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### PTO Meeting Dates 2020-21

Carmel High School PTO: Everyone is welcome! For the December PTO meeting, all CHS parents are welcome to participate, whether or not they have officially joined the PTO for this year. Visit the PTO web site for details and meeting information: <https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/pto-chs/activities>

| DATE             | LOCATION       | TIME |
|------------------|----------------|------|
| December 1, 2020 | Zoom Meeting   | 9 am |
| January 12, 2021 | Community Room | 9 am |
| February 2, 2021 | Community Room | 9 am |
| March 2, 2021    | Community Room | 9 am |
| April 13, 2021   | Community Room | 9 am |
| May 4, 2021      | Community Room | 9 am |

### Distinguished Grad Information

#### ATTENTION SENIORS!

After we return from Winter Break, the Distinguished Grad Application will be available online. This program celebrates the well-rounded Carmel Greyhound. Approximately 125 seniors will be recognized as either commended or distinguished at our CHS Graduation Ceremony. One extremely exceptional senior will be recognized as THE Distinguished Graduate for the Class of 2021. Seniors will receive information at the start of 2nd semester as to how to access the application and the Distinguished Graduate (DG) Worksheet online. Seniors should complete the DG Worksheet prior to completing their application online, as seniors can only submit their online application one time and in one session. Seniors will be able to submit their applications until 4:30 p.m. on February 12th, 2021.



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## Backpack Program Update

The Backpack Program provides food on the weekends for CHS students who need extra nutrition. The number of students receiving assistance this year has more than doubled from last year. The program is funded entirely by donations and run by volunteers. Monetary donations through the PTO website are gratefully accepted at <https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/pto-chs/fundraising>. Canned or boxed food items can be donated by dropping them off at the Freshman Center lobby during school hours.

In addition to providing food, the program also sends home gift cards with students over the longer holiday breaks to assist with purchasing food during those times. If you are interested in helping support that effort, gift cards in \$10 increments from Meijer or Kroger can be dropped off with the Freshman Center Office staff.

So far this fall, the program has partnered with the CHS Cross Country teams, the CHS Marching Band, and the Tri Kappa service sorority to hold food drives. We are so grateful for their generous support! Carmel Choirs is also partnering with us again this year to plan a food drive in conjunction with Holiday Spectacular.

Please e-mail Darlene Mundy or Jennifer Cassidy at [CHSbackpackprogram@gmail.com](mailto:CHSbackpackprogram@gmail.com) for additional information or with any questions. Thank you so much for your support of The Backpack Program!



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## Counseling Center Information (Julie Van Buren)

NOVEMBER 2020

### SECOND SEMESTER SCHEDULE CHANGE REQUESTS

Now through the first week of second semester counselors are working with students to plan for any changes to their second semester schedules which were necessary because of first semester failures or teacher recommendations. If you are considering a request for a change to your student's schedule for reasons other than failing a class or following a recommendation made by a teacher, please be sure to check the information about schedule changes found in your student's *Pathways* beginning on page 27. If you have any questions, please contact your student's counselor.

### MID-YEAR TRANSCRIPTS

There are often occasions when a college/university requests that you send them a mid-year or 7th semester transcript. This might include the following scenarios:

1. You applied to a Common Application college which requires a mid-year report.
2. Your admission decision was deferred until the college receives a 7th semester transcript.
3. You applied to a college with a regular admissions deadline in January or February and your 7th semester GPA would be beneficial to your application.

**If any of these scenarios pertain to you or you need a 7th semester transcript sent for a different reason, please follow the directions below:**

- Common Application Schools: Counselors will send out a mid-year school report and 7th semester transcript to all Common App colleges in which you have applied. There is no need to request a mid-year transcript for these Common App schools.
- Non-Common Application Schools: If you need a mid-year/7th semester transcript for any other reason, please email your counselor with the following information:
  - » Name of College
  - » Deadline for submission
  - » Reason for transcript request (i.e. Deferred admission, scholarship, school requires mid-year, etc.)

It is very important that you only request a mid-year transcript for those schools which require them. These transcripts should be ready to send out beginning the 3rd week of January. Please contact your school counselor if you have any questions.

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## CHS SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION BEGINS

The session of CHS summer school will run from June 1 through July 1. Classes meet Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. No classes are scheduled for Fridays. Students who plan to attend summer school are reminded to see their counselor to register and to take care of any necessary changes to their schedule of courses for the upcoming academic year. Please note that a summer school reminder will not be sent to students. Students who have signed up are automatically in the class UNLESS notified directly from the high school. Registration forms for current CHS students will be available through the counseling Canvas course.

PLEASE NOTE: CHS summer school courses could be canceled if enrollment or funding is insufficient.

## INDIANA ONLINE ACADEMY SUMMER SCHOOL

Carmel High School students have the option to take one or two courses through Indiana Online Academy (IOA) in the summer if they are retaking a course, needing PE I or PE II or would like to take College Entrance Preparation. IOA summer school dates are June 7 through July 18. Students interested in taking a summer course through IOA must register for the course directly with IOA during their registration window, November 1 through May 28. Registration for PE I or PE II must be completed by March 1.

## ENROLLMENT FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Enrollment for 8th grade private school students will be on February 9 and 10, 2021. Private schools will be providing CHS with contact information on students wanting to enroll. The counseling office will reach out with additional information to private school parents in January 2021.

## HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE

The Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology is again offering their homework hotline assistance program. The service is free and is geared toward help in the subjects of math and science. Call 1-877-ASK ROSE. Hours of operation are Sunday – Thursday, 7p.m.-10:00 p.m. Online chat and email questions can also be answered during these hours of operation by clicking this [LINK](#) to their website.

## STANDARDIZED TESTING INFORMATION

On October 14 and 29, all freshmen took the PSAT 8/9 and sophomores and juniors took the PSAT/NMSQT. If students included an email address on their PSAT answer sheet, the access code to their score will be emailed to them from the College Board sometime during the second week of December. Please take some time to look at your student's scores and evaluate what skills need to be improved. There is free SAT prep available through the Khan Academy, which can be accessed through the student's College Board account in the PSAT section.

We recommend that students who plan to attend college take the SAT and ACT at least one time during the winter/spring of their junior year. Because most colleges will consider the highest combination of any college admission test scores presented with an application, many students will take either the SAT or ACT two times prior to their senior year.

The ACT will be given at CHS on February 6 and April 17. The ACT is also offered at other testing locations on June 12 and July 17. The SAT will be given on March 13, May 8, and June 5 at Carmel High School. The testing companies prefer that students register online at either [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) or [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org). The cost for the SAT is \$52 or \$68 with the optional writing section. The ACT costs \$55 or \$70 with the optional writing section. Most colleges are NO LONGER requiring the writing section, so plan ahead to see if you need to take either test with writing or without. Be sure to include the Carmel High School code (150445) with your registration. **We also encourage you to select up to four colleges to have your test scores sent directly.** This is offered as a part of your registration process for both the SAT and ACT tests and is free of charge.

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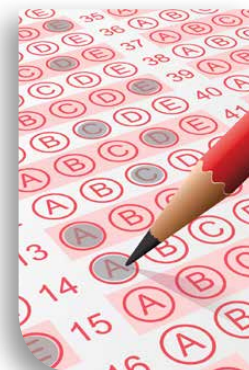
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## STANDARDIZED TESTING INFORMATION (CONTINUED...)

A few highly selective colleges require the SAT Subject Tests. If a student is concluding the study of a subject this spring, he/she may want to consider taking the appropriate SAT Subject Test in May or June.

Please keep in mind that standardized testing is only part of all the information that represents and presents students and their accomplishments. For most colleges and universities, the most important part of the student's record is the quality of the student's academic course work and the grades that they have earned in those classes. For highly selective schools, the quality of the student's character and her/his leadership in school and/or community activities weigh heavily.



## TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS

To request testing accommodations, please visit the CHS Counseling Canvas page, under the Testing section for instructions. Contact Stephanie Payne at [spayne@ccs.k12.in.us](mailto:spayne@ccs.k12.in.us) with questions.

## UNDERSTANDING THE FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

Paying for college is on the minds of all parents of college-bound students, and having a clearer understanding about the financial aid process, scholarship resources, and important due dates can help make the college cost and affordability question a little less confusing. The Counseling Office has created two documents to help students and parents navigate the financial aid and scholarship process. These documents: *Understanding the Financial Aid Process and Finding Scholarships and Merit-based Aid Opportunities* are available in the Counseling Canvas Course in the resources section. To summarize these documents, students and parents should know that:

- All state and federal aid consideration requires completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Some merit-based aid and scholarship opportunities also require completion of the FAFSA.
- The FAFSA application became available on October 1st and is completed for the first time during the senior year prior to attending college in the fall. The deadline to submit the FAFSA in Indiana is April 15th, however some schools may require students to submit the FAFSA earlier.
- There are several resources where families can gain information and get assistance with the financial aid process including:

- » U.S. Department of Education Office of Federal Student Aid ([studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov))
- » Indiana Commission for Higher Education ([www.in.gov/che](http://www.in.gov/che))
- » INvestEd Indiana ([www.investedindiana.org](http://www.investedindiana.org))

- **ALL graduating seniors should plan to complete the FAFSA to keep all of their financial aid and scholarship options open.**
- The CHS Counseling Office maintains scholarship resources online in Naviance Student...encourage your seniors to explore the scholarship resources in their Naviance Student Account early and often! Also, follow us on Twitter @CHSCollege411 or Instagram @chscollegecareer and Like us on Facebook at "Carmel High School College Counseling" for updates on scholarship information that we receive throughout the winter months.

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### Holiday Pops

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## CARMEL EDUCATION FOUNDATION (CEF) SCHOLARSHIPS

Founded in 1966, the Carmel Education Foundation (CEF) has as its mission to support the academic achievement of Carmel Clay students through scholarships and teacher grants. Over its 45-year history, CEF has provided more than \$1.7 million in scholarships to CHS graduates. CEF offers over 90 scholarships. These scholarships have specific eligibility requirements that differ from scholarship-to-scholarship, such as evidence of financial need, academic achievement, leadership, extracurricular involvement, etc.

Any CHS senior pursuing higher education by attending a college, university, or vocational school is invited to apply for a CEF scholarship. The online application form and instructions for CEF's 2020 scholarships will be available on December 18th at <http://www1.ccs.k12.in.us/foundation/Scholarships>. The CEF scholarship application MUST be submitted no later than March 18, 2021. For more information, contact Melinda Stephan, College & Career Programming and Resources Coordinator, [mstephan@ccs.k12.in.us](mailto:mstephan@ccs.k12.in.us).

## SCHOLARSHIP CONFIRMATIONS

If your student has earned a scholarship, please submit a copy of the official confirmation letter, including the amount, to Mrs. Melinda Stephan or Mrs. Julie Van Buren in the counseling center. Please submit only those confirmed college scholarships for the school the student will be attending. All monetary information will remain confidential. Submission of confirmations will enable your student to be recognized in the graduation program. The last day to submit scholarship confirmations for recognition is Monday, May 3, 2021. Due to coordination and printing deadlines, any awards received after this date may not be included for recognition in the graduation program. **The scholarship confirmation form will be available for seniors after winter break.**

## JUNIORS - COLLEGE INFORMATION SESSIONS

In March, all juniors will participate in college information sessions presented by our College and Career Resource Center (CCRC) staff. CCRC staff will provide information about the process for finding a college fit, advice on steps students should be taking related to the application process, access to tools and resources to support their college search, and encouragement that there is a post-secondary education option for all students who graduate from Carmel High School and wish to continue their education. Juniors will participate in these presentations in mid-March, and specific details about those presentations will be shared after the winter break.

## TIPS FROM THE CHS COLLEGE AND CAREER RESOURCE CENTER (CCRC)

Junior year is the time to investigate college options and compile a list of schools to which you want to apply. Students needing assistance getting started or understanding the process should consider making an appointment with a College & Career Resource Center (CCRC) staff member. CCRC College & Career Advisors can assist students in a variety of ways, including: understanding the search and application process, generating a list of schools to consider, identifying how their student profile measures up to admissions data/criteria, and more. Students can request an appointment for themselves as well as with their parent by using the link below. Students should be sure to mark "College & Career Resource Center Appointment Request" as their reason for visit - <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdkiHk8nxthpFy3F1kfVEUvSiCbc23Ojh aUegM-ayTKTdfHkA/viewform/>.

## UNDECIDED ABOUT COLLEGE MAJOR/CAREER CHOICE?

Naviance Student is an ideal online tool that CHS students can use to identify career interests, explore career options related to those interests, investigate educational pathways related to various careers, search for colleges/universities that match specific criteria, and more. Naviance Student offers comprehensive information for students at all grade levels. Counselors will be highlighting Naviance Student resources during individual advising meetings with students in the coming weeks and months. Information about Naviance Student can also be found in the Counseling Department Canvas Course. Students can access their Naviance Student account by logging into the CCS Student Portal and clicking on the Naviance icon.

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# COUNSELING CENTER

## CCRC PROGRAMMING EVENTS FOR SPRING 2021

The College & Career Resource Center (CCRC) staff is eager to provide as much information and programming related to post-high school planning as possible during the upcoming spring semester. In light of the current pandemic and restrictions related to visitors in the CHS building, we are working to create virtual programming that closely matches the in-person programming we are typically able to offer. As we are able to develop and share these virtual resources, we will be sure to share them with students and parents in multiple ways.

## Counseling Center Update (Melinda Stephan)

- **CHS Counselors have begun to communicate with students in grades 9 and 10 about scheduling processes for the 2021-22 academic year. NOTE:** current juniors and 8th grade students will receive scheduling information prior to and immediately after the winter break.
  - » A brief **video** outlining the scheduling process was shown during SSRT during the week of October 26th, and the video link was also sent home to parents on 10/29 with information about exploring graduation pathways and special programs at CHS.
  - » Freshman participated in a **group Zoom presentation** during SSRT on November 2nd and 3rd, that allowed counselors to review the process moving forward. Freshmen will meet individually with their counselor via Zoom (during their English class period) in the coming weeks to review course requests and answer questions. Freshmen parents received an email on 10/30 with details about the scheduling process.
  - » Sophomores (and their parents) were sent an email on 10/29/20 with detailed steps related to the scheduling process. Sophomores must sign-up for their individual advising meetings (in-person or virtual) using the counselor-specific links sent in that email. **Sophomores must sign up for their advising appointment by 11/8.**
  - » **General Scheduling Processes for all students include:**
    - All scheduling information is being communicated to students through grade-level-specific scheduling modules in the Counseling Department Canvas Course. Students



who have not accepted the Counseling Canvas Course invite should do so immediately. Parents who are observers in their student's Canvas account can view this information as well.

- **The CHS Program of Studies can be found electronically at** <https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/chs/academics/program-of-studies>
- **Scheduling timeline:**
  - » Online Course Registration (OCR) in Power School opened on November 1st and closes on November 8th at midnight for current 9th and 10th grade students.
  - » Counselors will meet individually (in-person or virtually) November 9th through December 9th with current 9th and 10th grade students.
- Application Courses. Some courses at CHS require an application for approval. The deadline to submit these applications is February 3rd. A list of courses requiring applications is included in the Canvas scheduling modules.

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- **Scheduling Note: Summer School.** Students should consider summer school options when planning their schedule for next year. Summer School options and registration process information will be updated in the Canvas scheduling modules as soon as it is confirmed. Counselors will discuss summer school options during individual advising meetings.
- **CHS Social Workers are working to support students by:** collaborating with PTO to implement the backpack program; meeting individually with students, in person and virtually, to provide support for mental health, emotional needs, family crisis, and more; providing community resource information; guiding students through organizational and academic concerns.
- **Seniors should pay close attention to college application deadlines,** especially those that must be met for full scholarship consideration. While the November 1st deadline has passed, November 15th, December 1st and January 1st are popular upcoming deadlines. Seniors must use their Naviance Student account to request their transcripts and indicate to which schools they have submitted applications **before** Counselors can send materials to schools. **NOTE: all transcript and letter requests for January 1st deadlines MUST be submitted no later than December 4th to ensure that they will be processed BEFORE the Winter Break.**
- **The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opened on October 1st!** CHS Seniors received FAFSA information in October that included checklists for completing the FAFSA as well as upcoming

events to help with the process. Families can complete the FAFSA online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). If you missed the CHS Virtual Financial Aid Night you can view it at: <https://youtu.be/jbwjlpzu7zU/>.

- **CHS FAFSA Completion Event scheduled for Monday, November 9th from 4-8 p.m. by appointment only.** CHS Seniors and their parents can get in-person help completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)...no matter where they are in the process. Our partners from **INvestEd** will be at CHS to help families navigate the FAFSA process. In order to adhere to social distancing guidelines, seniors/families must sign up for an appointment in advance in order to participate. They can do so at: <https://calendly.com/ccrcprogramming/chs-fafsa-completion-event>
- **Virtual College & Career Programming is in the works!** With the current limitations on visitors in the building and social distancing guidelines, we are working in the CCRC to move some of our more popular college & career programming to a virtual format. Please keep your eyes open for virtual programming opportunities during the Spring Semester, including: Majors & Careers Fair events, Military Academy Day, and the Freshman/Sophomore College & Career Planning Night. More details will be forthcoming as they are confirmed.
- **Local & private scholarship information is beginning to come into the Counseling Office more frequently.** Seniors can browse scholarship opportunities that they may wish to pursue in the Scholarship List located in their Naviance Student account. Scholarship information is updated frequently from November through April, and seniors are encouraged to check Naviance Student

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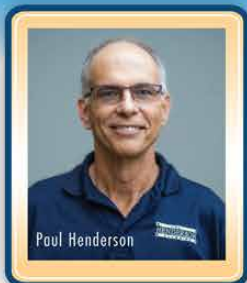
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# COUNSELING CENTER

regularly. **Specifically, the Carmel Education Foundation (CEF) offers over 90 local scholarships to CHS students.** The CEF scholarship application will open on December 18th. The deadline to submit the CEF application is March 18th. Don't forget to "like" us on Facebook or "follow" us on Twitter or Instagram for scholarship updates!

- **Mrs. Stephan, along with CHS College Advisors, Mrs. Ann Boldt and Mr. Pettibone, have met with and assisted close to 300 students and families needing assistance with the college search and career exploration process since the start of the year!** We can help you too! Now is a great time for juniors to start thinking about making an appointment, but students in all grade levels are welcome to take advantage of our services. College Advisors are in the office everyday between 9:00 a.m. and 4 p.m.! Students can request an in-person or virtual appointment with a CCRC staff member by completing the electronic counseling appointment request form. Parents may join these meetings virtually, if requested in the **form**. The CCRC is located in B107 across from the 10-12 Counseling Office.
- **In the near future:**
  - » December 3rd/4th: Current juniors will receive information and instructions for the 2021-22 scheduling process.
  - » December 18th: CEF Scholarship application opens
  - » January 11th: Virtual CHS Academic Transition Night for current 8th grade students
- **Don't forget to use the following resources to learn more about the services and resources offered by the Counseling Department and the College & Career Resource Center (CCRC):**
  - » Visit the Counseling Canvas Course to see a variety of resources
  - » Like us on Facebook at "Carmel High School College Counseling"
  - » Follow us on Twitter @CHSCollege411
  - » Follow us on Instagram @chscollegecareer

## CALENDAR

### School Calendar

<https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/chs/about/calendar>

### PTO Calendar

<https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/pto-chs/about>

## Student Services (Maureen Borto)

### ATTENDANCE OFFICE REMINDERS

- For any COVID-related absence, please call the CCS District Hotline at 317-571-4630.
- For any other absence, virtual or in-person days, please call the attendance line at 317-571-5915. We ask that you call in any absence, even on a virtual day, as that allows the teachers to be prepared to work with your student on any missed work.

### STUDENT IDS

Our students are doing a great job of following safety guidelines this school year. One of those new guidelines is each student having CHS ID visible on their person during the school day. Students can use any school-appropriate lanyard or clip to display their ID. Please check with your student each day they are in-person to ensure they have their CHS ID visible.

### PARKING

Students parking at the stadium are required to have a Carmel High School parking permit. If your child is going to start driving to school and needs a park permit, you can find the link to the application on the Carmel High School website, under Student Services, Student Parking.

Parking closer to the school is reserved for students who earn a class award and our staff. As the weather gets colder, it becomes more tempting to park closer to the school. Please remind your student if they do not have a designated parking pass to park close to the school, they need to park at the stadium.

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