COLOMA HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

# Comet Comments

SCHOOL ISSUE – NOVEMBER 2021

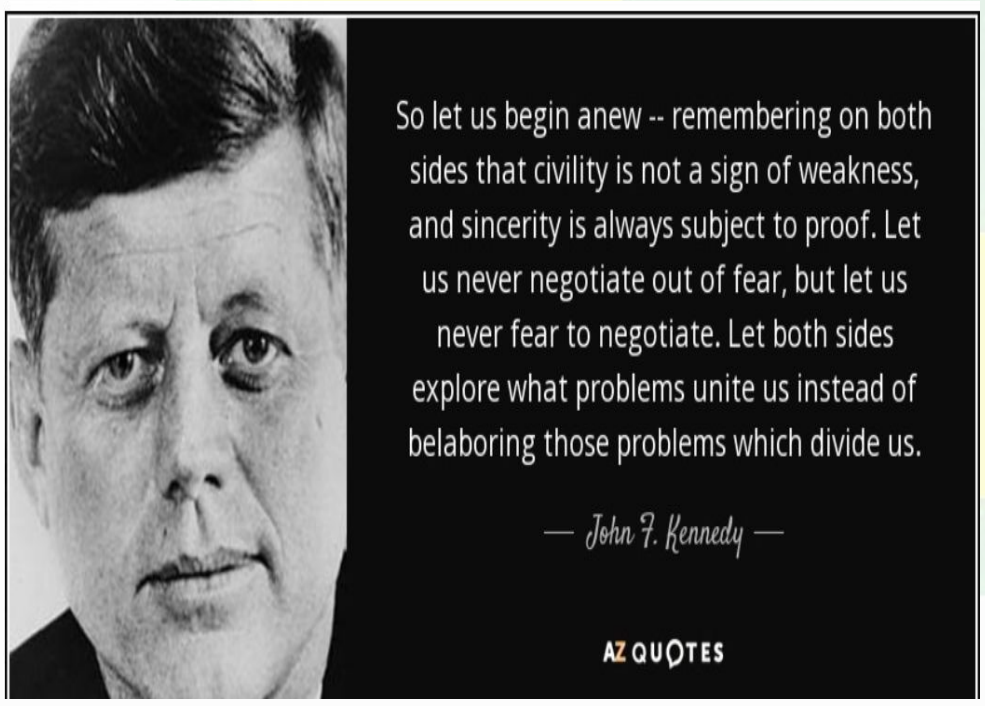
## FROM THE DESK OF *Mike Churchill*

Civility is the theme I will put at the forefront and lead with moving forward. I have always believed in civility, humanity, and selflessness being the top attributes in developing young people, and with the decline of these attributes in society I want to make it clear this is and always will be a mission of mine for the greater good of our community!

Upon the completion of 13 weeks of school, we have seen a plethora of accomplishments among our student body such as a National Merit Scholar semi-finalist, multiple college-bound students being accepted, and scholarships awarded. Many of our students have begun completing FASFA paperwork and continue to apply to 2-year, 4-year, and technical schools for certification and training that WILL prove to complete our students as they move onto adulthood!

Additionally, we have a number of students who have committed themselves to the workforce and Armed Forces with a clear idea of where they are headed and focused on successful preparation and training.

I am proud of what our students have accomplished and will continue to do so in the days to come. Our world is filled with uncertainties and wonder, with preparation we can limit those things and progress with focus and pride. Actions determine outcome, some choose negative actions that result in negative outcomes while those who are determined to succeed make positive choices and receive a positive outcome. Thank you to everyone who have chosen the latter and congratulations on ***YOUR*** positive outcome!




## THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER

### December Happenings

**December 7th - FAFSA NIGHT!**

Lake Michigan College and Southwestern Michigan College will both be here in-person at CHS to help complete your FAFSA and assist with any college-related questions you may have. So, bring in your 2019 tax forms and let's do this!

Children are welcome and there will be snacks and beverages available!

**December 10th - SCHEDULING INFO for 2022-2023**

Current 8th through 11th grades will hear presentations on scheduling for next school year. This will include the many amazing opportunities here at CHS with our CTE programs!

***Looking forward - we anticipate to schedule students the first week back from break for next school year! So, please review the following information to make more informed decisions:***

Click HERE for course descriptions.

Click HERE for a sample 4 year scheduling plan.

As always, please feel free to contact Mr. Shaffer at:
gshaffer@ccs.coloma.org

## OMG WHAT'S HAPPENING

**DECEMBER 1: LATE START - SCHOOL STARTS 10AM**

**DECEMBER 7: BAND CONCERT 7PM**

**DECEMBER 9: CHOIR CONCERT 7PM**

**DECEMBER 10 - EMC APPLICATION OPEN ONLINE**

**DECEMBER 15: LATE START - SCHOOL STARTS 10AM**

**DECEMBER 16 & 17: ½ DAY - SEMESTER EXAMS SCHOOL ENDS AT 11:37 AM**

**DECEMBER 17 - END OF 1ST SEMESTER**

**DECEMBER 20 - 31: CHRISTMAS BREAK**

**MISSION STATEMENT:**
**We will inspire all students to achieve at high levels and empower them for their future success.**
**INSPIRE TO ACHIEVE –EMPOWER FOR SUCCESS**

While I am a certified public speaking instructor in the State of Michigan, I definitely do not have the ability to certify any legal marriages in the state! Nonetheless, there were some mock “marriages” that took place recently in my public speaking class. Public speaking is an elective course offered at the high school that all students should consider taking. The majority of all human communication is done through listening and speaking, yet these are the two LEAST taught communication skills in school. It is important for students to learn about the various verbal and nonverbal messages that are sent while humans engage in their most common form of communication. So, the majority of the course is focused on informative, demonstrative, persuasive, argumentative, and impromptu speaking to prepare students for those types of speaking situations. The other objective of the course, however, is to prepare students for some of those “special occasion” speeches that they may likely be asked to present at some point in their lives. Hence, the presentation of best man/maid of honor speeches. Recently, the class was instructed on the elements of an effective best man/maid of honor speech and asked to prepare one for an actual relative or friend that they know well. We then presented them in front of class during mock wedding ceremonies at “Mr. V’s Banquet Hall.” It was a rousing success and the students presented very fun and honorable speeches for their “bride and groom.” I really hope all students at Coloma High School consider taking the public speaking course as an elective because they are gaining life skills that they can use in many facets of life.

*Kevin VanPeteghem*

**It's a busy time of year for Coloma Choirs as we prepare for our winter concert and other performances. We can't help but listen to holiday music in October!**

**Our Winter Choir Concert is Thursday, December 9th at 7pm in the HS Auditorium and will feature Serenade, Chamber Singers, Varsity Singers, and the JH Choir.**

**But you can also catch Varsity Singers performing around town! They will perform the national anthem at the Junior High FIRST Robotics Tech Challenge on Saturday, December 4th. Varsity Singers will also be seen and heard caroling at Coloma's Santa in the Park on Tuesday, December 7th from 6-7pm.**

**There has been no rest for the Comet bands! We finished an incredibly successful marching season with a second place finish at the Lakeshore Marching Invitational and a Division I (Superior) rating at MSBOA Marching Band Festival. Then, they dove right into preparations for our winter concerts. The High School Concert band is excited to return to the stage on Tuesday, December 7th at 7pm in the CHS Auditorium.**

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# Something Fishy is Going On in Room 207

Thirty Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy students are in the process of studying and dissecting fish that represent each of the three fish classes. The first one they dissected was a member of Class Agnatha - a jawless hagfish. Currently, we are immersed in Class Chondrichthyes (the cartilaginous fish) by dissecting a dogfish shark. Perhaps you've noticed the aroma in the hallway between 5th and 6th hour? Once we're done with the shark, students will explore Class Osteichthyes (the bony fish) by dissecting a perch. Students are focused on learning the taxonomy and evolutionary biology of these animals, while developing their lab and teamwork skills.

*Note: Photos were taken prior to the mask mandate on Nov. 1*

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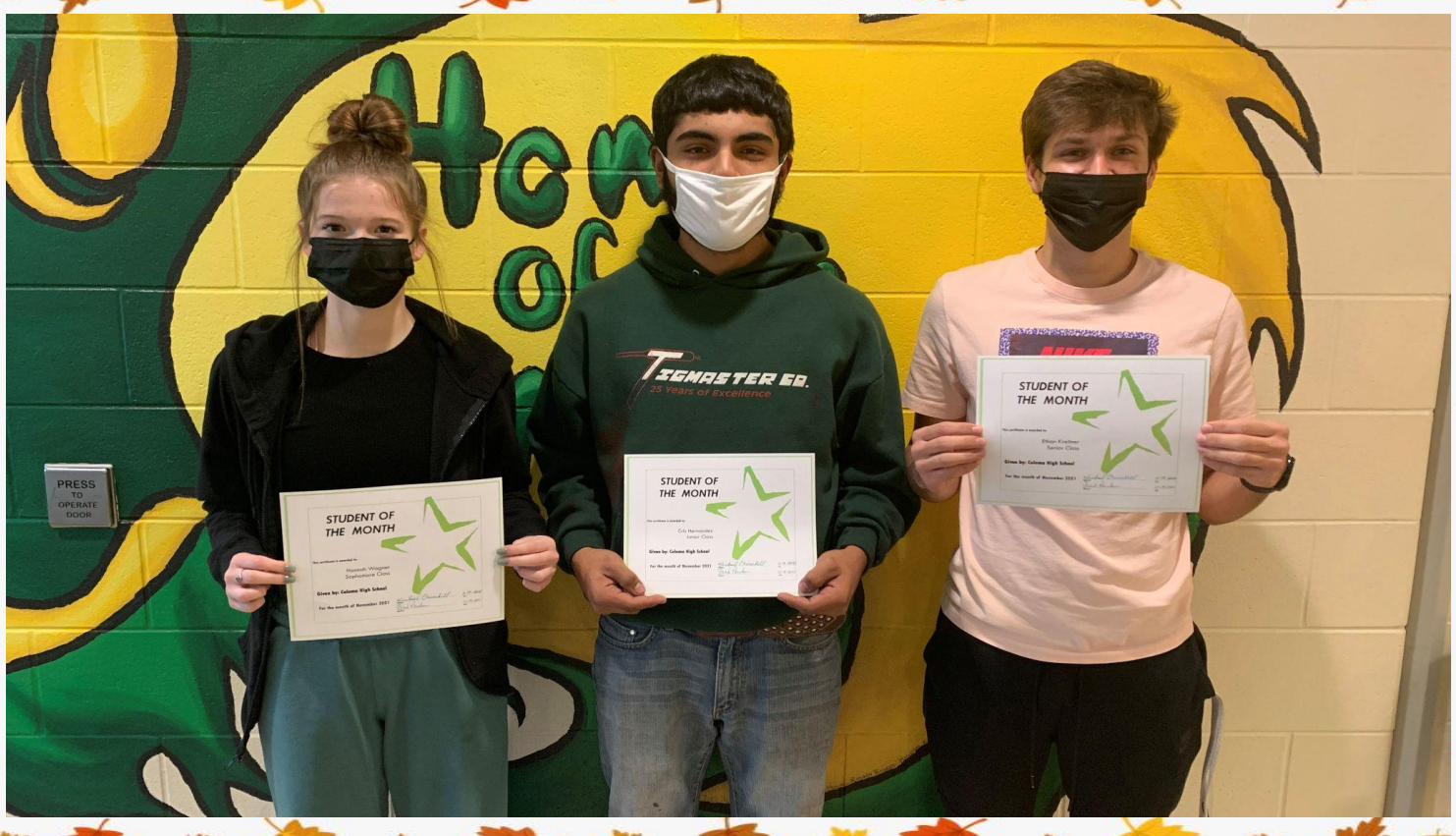
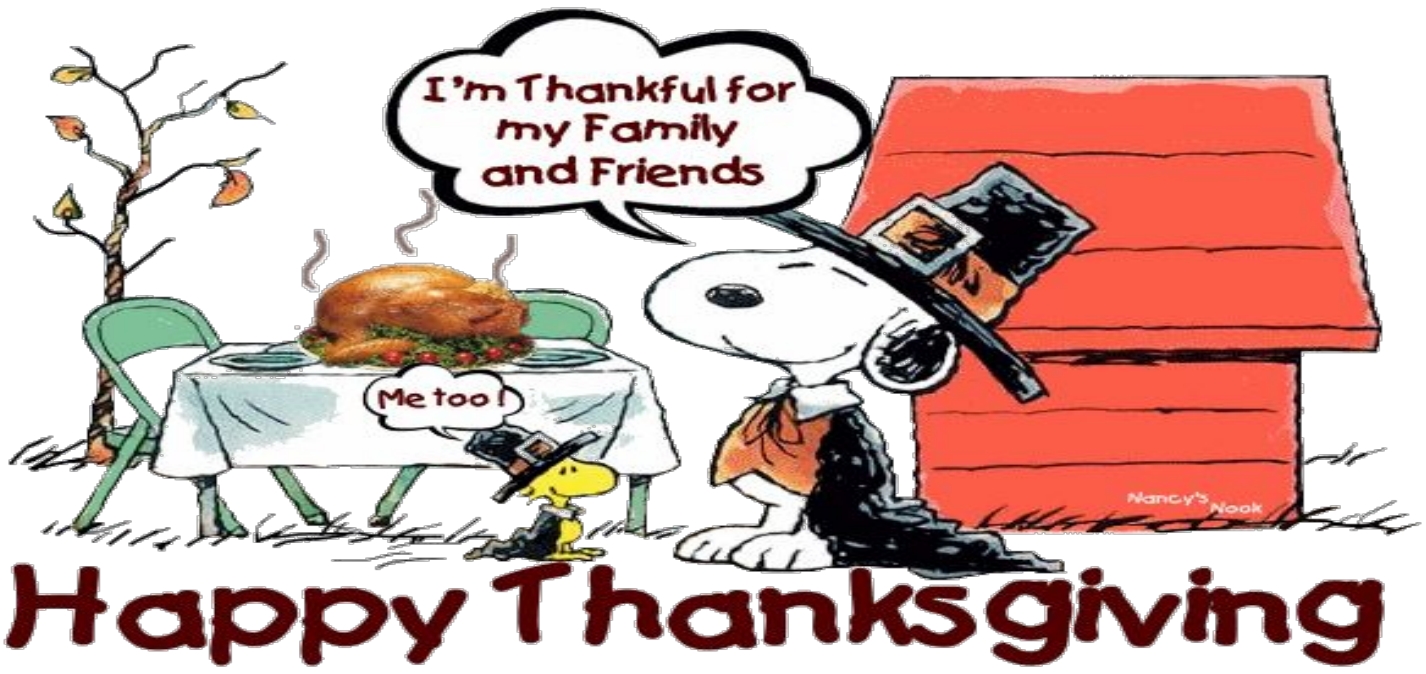



**9th - Brandy Starling (NOT PICTURED)**
**10th - Hannah Wagner**
**11th - Cris Hernandez**
**12th - Ethan Kreitner**

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