

Coloma High School

COMET' COMMENTS

October 2018 Issue

FROM THE DESK OF Principal
Michael Churchill

It is a great honor to be back in Coloma to serve the school and community as the high school principal! Things are going great as we, as a school are working into a daily routine where students and teachers are comfortable and more familiar with the “new guy!” The transition has been quite seamless and inviting by all, thank you!



October has been quite a month! The high school halls have been covered in school spirit as Homecoming was one of the greatest that I have ever been a part of! We are closing in on the end the 1st marking period with that said, please be sure to check PowerSchool to ensure your students potential is being reached.

As we approach November, please look ahead at the following dates for parent/teacher conference on November 7th and 9th from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you at conferences.

Go Comets!



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**

UPCOMING DATES

November 5th: Flu Clinic

November 6 & 8: Parent/Teacher Conference 4-7pm

November 9th: No School

November 13th: Academic Letter 7pm

November 14th: Late Start- School Starts at 10am

November 21: 1/2 day- School ends at 11:37am

November 22 - 23rd: Thanksgiving Break

November 28th: Late Start - School Starts at 10am



SENIORS:

YOU SHOULD BE APPLYING FOR COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, JUNIOR COLLEGES OR TECHNICAL

SCHOOLS AT THIS TIME. ONCE YOU HAVE APPLIED GO TO YOUR "PARCHMENT" ACCOUNT AND ORDER YOUR TRANSCRIPT TO BE SENT TO THESE COLLEGES.

MAKE SURE THAT YOU APPLY FOR ANY SCHOLARSHIPS THAT YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR AT THESE COLLEGES. IF YOU ARE AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP FROM LMC, SMC, KVCC AND YOU DECIDE TO GO TO WMU OR ANOTHER COLLEGE IN JUNE YOU CAN ALWAYS DECLINE LMC'S OR SMC'S OFFER IN JUNE. ACCEPT ANY AND ALL SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE SEE ME.

THERE ARE SEVERAL SCHOLARSHIPS LISTED IN THE FIRST "CB" COLLEGE BULLETIN PUBLISHED IN SEPTEMBER. YOU CAN ALSO FIND THE "CB'S" ON OUR HIGH SCHOOL WEB SITE UNDER COUNSELOR CORNER. WATCH THE DEADLINE DATES FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION.

THIS IS COLLEGE READINESS MONTH. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU MEET WITH MR. HOULEHEN OUR AMERICORPS COLLEGE AND FINANCIAL AID PART TIME SPECIALIST. HE WILL HELP YOU WITH COLLEGE APPLICATIONS AND COMPLETING THE FAFSA.

Are your children safe while online? Michigan families, especially minors, are becoming inundated with advertisements from alcohol, tobacco, pornography and gambling marketers through different internet and cell phone inboxes. Texting their advertisements is the newest marketing effort that many of these companies are using. Thankfully, the State of Michigan offers a free program to stop adult advertisements from reaching e-mails, mobile phones (text messaging ads) and instant messenger IDs. The Michigan Child Protection Registry, like the federal Do Not Call List, is a free do-not-contact service for Michigan's families and schools and can be found at www.ProtectMIChild.com.

As a strong supporter of this registry, I would like to encourage you to sign your entire family up for the registry and inform your friends and colleagues about how they can protect children and families from unwanted adult advertising. To sign up only takes seconds. Just go to www.ProtectMIChild.com and keep your family safe.

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Parent/Teacher Conferences

CHS will hold Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 6th and 8th from 4 - 7 pm in the high school cafeteria. Parents will need to park in the east lot due to CHS hosting a MHSAA Regional Volleyball Tournament and follow the sidewalk to the front entrance. After entering the front entrance, parents will be given their student's report card and directed to the high school cafeteria. We have several teachers that are shared with the junior high. Here is a list of those teachers and when and where they will be during conference.

Teacher	Date	Location	Date	Location
Mrs. Ferguson	11/6	High School	11/7	Junior High
Ms. Rocca	11/6	High School	11/7	Junior High
Mrs. Selvidge	11/6	High School	11/7	Junior High
Mrs. Thomas	11/7	Junior High	11/8	High School
Ms. Kimmerly	11/6	High School	11/7	Junior High

You are welcome to see these teachers during their Junior High conference time if that fits your schedule.



Coloma Comet Marching Band placed 1st in Class C at the Hastings Marching Band Invitational on Oct. 6th. They also earned the caption award for Best Music in Class C. Students pictured with the awards include (left-right): Morgan Hosbein (drum major), Phoebe Browne (color guard captain), Ian Ishmael (drumline section leader), and Paige Burgess (drum major).

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As a math teacher, I eagerly await students to challenge me with the question of, "When will I use this?" Such challenges are truly appreciated and help me improve as a teacher. If I don't have a real-life application for a given concept, I immediately search for a problem that can be solved using that concept.

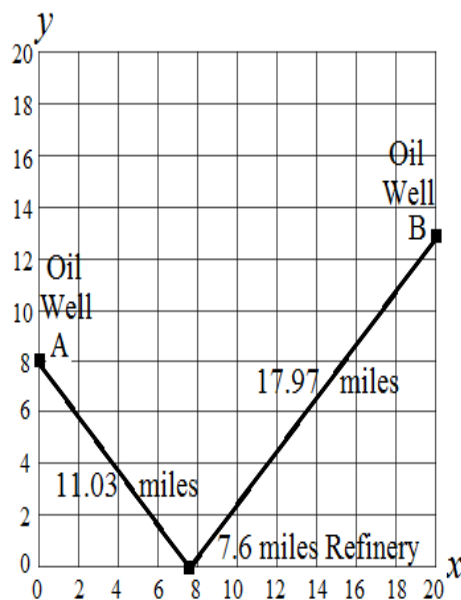
One such example is applying the Distance Formula

$d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$, to determine how minimal amount of pipe needed to connect oil wells to an oil refinery. The past 2 years, Geometry students have been challenged to search for the solution to the following problem to earn an automatic A+ on their 1st Quiz:

"An oil company has drilled two oil wells that are 8 miles and 13 miles out from the shore. The distance that they are apart is 20 miles horizontally along the shoreline. What is the best location on the shoreline, to the nearest tenth of a mile, to build an oil refinery that will require the LEAST amount of pipe to be laid to both wells?"

The distance formula is really just a more detailed variation of Pythagorean Theorem

$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$, but applied to graphing on the coordinate grid. Many students used a "guess and check method" in which they knew that the distance of the pipe could be calculated using $c = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$ because the pipeline would be the diagonal hypotenuse shown in the diagram. They would then proceed with the following guess keeping the sum of the bolded numbers 20 because of the distance along the shoreline:



$$\sqrt{10^2 + 8^2} + \sqrt{10^2 + 13^2} = 29.207 \text{ miles of pipe}$$

$$\sqrt{9^2 + 8^2} + \sqrt{11^2 + 13^2} = 29.071 \text{ miles of pipe}$$

$$\sqrt{8^2 + 8^2} + \sqrt{12^2 + 13^2} = 29.006 \text{ miles of pipe}$$

$$\sqrt{7^2 + 8^2} + \sqrt{13^2 + 13^2} = 29.015 \text{ miles of pipe}$$

Applying the Distance Formula

by Mr. Brian Klee

At this point students realized that the least amount of pipe would occur between 7 and 8 miles horizontally from Oil Well A so he then checked each tenth in between until he found the smallest possible value using

$\sqrt{7.6^2 + 8^2} + \sqrt{12.4^2 + 13^2} = 29.000 \text{ miles of pipe}$ to concluded that the Refinery should be located 7.6 miles horizontally from Oil Well A and 12.4 miles horizontally from Oil Well A. Meanwhile, the distance of

pipe to Oil Well A would need to be $\sqrt{7.6^2 + 8^2} \approx 11.03 \text{ miles of pipe}$ and to Oil Well B would need to be

$$\sqrt{12.4^2 + 13^2} \approx 17.97 \text{ miles of pipe}$$

While not everyone will use the Distance Formula or Pythagorean Theorem to decide where to place an Oil Refinery, there are endless problems in architecture, construction, engineering and many other applications that can be solved using this concept. In fact, anytime a right angle exists, the Pythagorean Theorem can likely be applied to find missing distances. Makes the nerdy math teacher inside of me excited for Chapter 6 and Chapter 9 in our Geometry books!

AUTO SHOP

By: Mr. Ransom

Coloma Auto Shop advanced students Steve Pounders (Picture #1) explaining and demonstrating the usage of our Coats 55E tire changer and Conor Linderman (Picture #2) our Ranger 2420 series balancer. Leadership skills are as important as technical skills and when we can join the two we give our students the best opportunity to succeed. As students move through my program I observe their abilities and those that show aptitude beyond the average and seem to be natural teachers in that they help their peers without being asked then get chosen as group leaders. Almost every student will get this opportunity at some point in their second year in some topical area. Not every student reaches this level in all areas but most do in a few. Other ways these students get to show their knowledge is though making training videos of various equipment and or processes, for some this is easier than directly interacting on the fly with 1st year students. Finally the reason I feel this is a powerful tool for teaching and learning is that when a student can effectively teach something there is no doubt that they understand it thoroughly.



Picture #1 - Steven Pounders



Picture #2 - Conor Hutchins -Linderman



The pile of dead bodies from 3rd hour after The Plague had swept thru Mr. Marfia's class.

Students in World History took part in a simulation of 14th century Europe during the time of the "Black Death." Each student was assigned a role of Merchant or Pilgrim. Each desk was a European city and the traveler would roll the dice to see how many nights they would stay in the town. For every night in the town they would pull a bean out of the bag with the town's name on it. If they pulled were infected. Their classroom and usu- longer they stayed their chances of get- 40% would not make bring history alive and moving around. would be nervous and become worried when they came to a town that was infected, very similar to the real life experience. Each student then would write a reflective essay about their experience in the form of a post card entry back home.

World History Survives the Bubonic Plague

out a colored bean, they trip took them around the ally had 10-15 stops. The in their town the greater ting sick. Generally, 20- it. It was a great way to and get the students up Many of the students when they rolled the dice

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***Families of High Schoolers:
Buy a Yearbook Today!***

Don't miss out on the memories! The Coloma yearbook is an amazing, professional quality publication that documents all the highlights of the year, as well as the many little moments that make school life special.

Get yours today for only \$40.00 with a free name stamp!

Two ways to purchase:

Bring cash or check to Ms. Kimmerly

Or

Purchase online at www.yearbookordercenter.com

Order # 3180

Yearbooks are delivered in September 2019.



BE A YEARBOOK ANGEL!

Purchase an extra yearbook and we will pass it on to a student unable to purchase one themselves.

Priority will be given to seniors.

To make a yearbook angel donation, contact Ms. Kimmerly

tkimmerly@ccs.coloma.org or 269 468 2400

Fall Is Flu Shot Season!

Everyone is Eligible for a Flu Shot Thankfully, in North America most of us can get a flu shot free of charge. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the U.S. makes many flu shot clinics, as well as shots through your medical practitioner available free of charge. Why wouldn't you take advantage of a free flu shot to protect yourself against influenza?

Suffer Fewer Sick Days from School You already have enough to worry about without having to suffer the stress of missed school days due to the flu. Taking time off to recoup from the flu at home inevitably effects your school work with missed assignments.

The Flu Shot is Custom Made for your Protection Shockingly, influenza is the 8th-leading cause of death in the U.S. As mentioned, seniors are particularly at risk, but so are infants and those with compromised immune systems due to another health issue. Luckily, seniors, infants, children, healthy adults, and those with low immunity are eligible for a custom flu shot that not only protects against that year's flu strain, but also for that particular person (i.e., an infant with asthma) so the immune system creates the proper amount of flu-fighting antibodies.

You Get a Bigger Bang for your Flu Shot There are a lot of misnomers about the flu shot actually causing illness. That is not true. Although certain individuals can experience side effects from the flu shot vaccine—including swollen glands, headache, stuffy nose, muscle stiffness, and sore throat—these mild side effects only last a few days. Compared to getting the full blown flu; getting the flu shot and experiencing a few mild side effects is worth it!

The Flu Shot Protects Those with Weakened Immunity Influenza can worsen chronic medical conditions – don't put yourself or those in your family with compromised immune systems at risk of further health complications by skipping your flu shot and bringing illness into your home. Particularly individuals with underlying medical conditions, such as cancer, asthma, diabetes, or heart disease, can become compromised if they catch a nasty bout of influenza.

The Flu Shot Protects Children who Can't be Immunized Unfortunately, babies less than 6-months of age cannot get a flu shot. However, they are among the highest risk age group for flu-related hospitalization and death. This means that getting the rest of the family immunized against the flu will be their only protection. This is why it's wise for entire families—mom, dad, grandparents, and siblings with young infants in the family to get their flu shots.

The Earlier you Get Immunized—the Better! Did you know that you increase your chances of getting the flu the longer you wait to get your flu shot? That's why the sooner you get your flu vaccine—the better! Flu season begins in October and stretches all the way through May. The CDC suggests getting your flu shot as soon as possible, either through your doctor or a flu shot clinic, as the body takes approximately 2 weeks after to build up the necessary antibodies to fight off flu germs.

Getting your Flu Shot Can Save your Life Many of us expect to deal with a nasty flu at least once a year, but it doesn't have to be that way. For a healthy adult the flu might be a mild annoyance, but for a senior or infant with weakened immunity it may cause serious complications and result in hospitalization, a chronic illness, bacterial pneumonia, or even death. So protect yourself, those you love, your co-workers, fellow students, and even strangers by getting your yearly flu shot.

Health Heroes

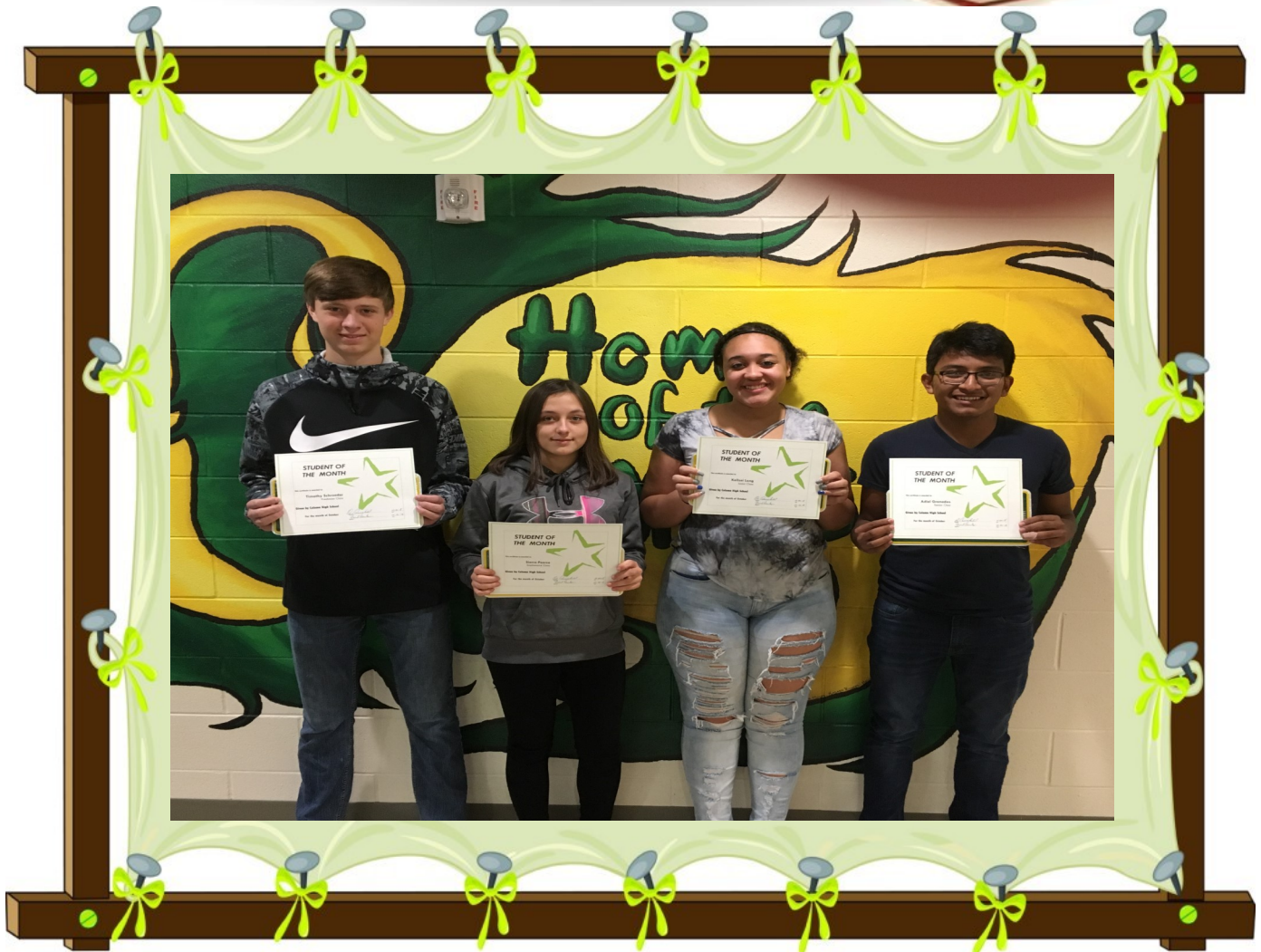
Monday, November 5th

Pick up your form in the office.



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Students of the Month



October Students of the Month!

Freshman: Timothy Schroeder

Sophomore: Sierra Pearce

Junior: Kellsei Long

Senior: Adiel Granados