Coloma High School
Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2018

September 2018

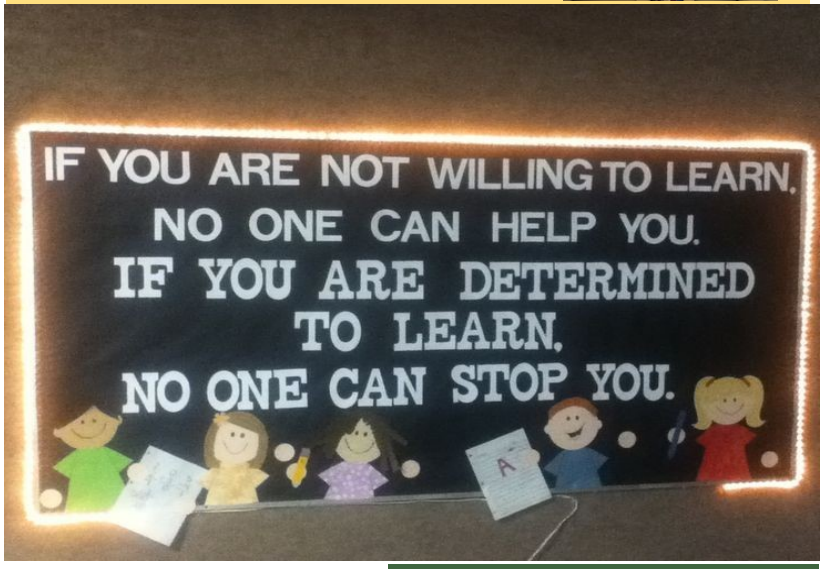
FROM THE DESK OF Superintendent
David A Ehlers

The 2018-19 school year is in full swing and with that, some change at Coloma High School. On October 15th, Mr. Mike Churchill, will officially become the principal of CHS. Mr. Churchill is a CHS graduate and a lifelong resident of Coloma who has worked at Dowagiac Union High School as an assistant principal for the last 4 years. Mr. Churchill will do an awesome job and will be spending a few days at CHS as he transitions! CHS is in great hands moving forward.

We just witnessed one of the most school spirited Homecoming weeks of all time!!! CometPride was on full display everyday last week culminating with an all day event created by the students for the students! The day ended with the high school assembly and then a district wide assembly. It was definitely a proud day to be a Comet!

As this is my last piece for the Comet Connection, I want you to know that it has been an honor to serve our community as the high school principal for the past 8 years and I look forward to many years of service as your superintendent!

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

Oct 3rd: COUNT DAY!

Oct 4th: Progress Reports

Oct 10th: Late Start; School starts at 10am

Oct 24th: Late Start; School starts at 10am/Health Heroes Flu Clinic

Oct 25th: Fall Choir Concert, 7pm

Oct 30th: Picture Retakes

Happy Halloween!

September 2018 Issue

Juniors: Please plan on taking the **PSAT/NMSQT** exam on October 10th here at Coloma high school, cost is $20 you can register for the exam until October 5th in the high school office. You will be given a practice booklet at that time.

Seniors: Mr. Houlehen our new college counselor will strive to have a plan for you for after graduation. All seniors whether you are planning on attending a trade school, junior college or college/ university will be helped to have an application for any additional schooling after graduation along with a completed financial aid application. This will give you an additional option that is already completed in case you change your mind.

Transcripts: Seniors in order to have a transcript sent to a college, employer, etc. you must set up an account with Parchment at parchment.com. This is the only way you can have a transcript sent. If you are having any problems setting your account please contact Mrs. Megyese or Mr. Houlehen our new college counselor. Mr. Houlehen will be meeting with all seniors to complete their Parchment accounts by the first of October.

Tips for a Successful Year!

Be in school every day-
Attendance determines your main success in school.

Get involved-
We have athletic teams, music programs, and clubs that you could get involved in. You will meet new people and develop new skills. Most of all, have fun.

School's rules-
A list of rules can be found in the student handbook. Be sure to educate yourself with the school rules and policies.

Don't be afraid to ask for help-
Issues can be resolved just by talking to the correct person.

Set Goals -
Set realistic academic goals to give yourself something to work towards.

Responsibility-
You are responsible for the choices and decisions you make.

Know your counselor-
Your counselor will help you schedule your classes, that will coordinate with making career and college plans.

Be healthy and active-
To be at your best, eat healthy foods, be physically active, and get plenty of sleep.

Plan for your future-
Graduation may seem like a long way off. It's not too early to start thinking about what you want to do after you graduate.

Give your best effort every day-
Work hard in your classes. Have a high school record you can be proud of!

OBSEVATION AND EXPERIMENTATION IN CHEMISTRY

BY: BRANDE VAN NIEL

Chemistry is defined as the study of matter. Matter is anything that has mass and takes up space. Chemists observe what substances are made of, the structure and properties of matter and the many changes it can undergo. Experiments in chemistry should be designed so that the effects of different variables on the behavior of a substance can be studied independently. Scientists and students can do this by making observations under controlled conditions, where only one variable is changed at a time. Controlled experiments make it possible to separate the variables that are responsible for a given observation in a complex series of events.

For the first lab of the school year, chemistry students designed and conducted controlled experiments as they attempted to explain the complex series of chemical reactions that occurred in the Observation and Experimentation lab. When calcium chloride, sodium bicarbonate and a solution of bromothymol blue and water are combined, a series of temperature, color, and states of matter changes can be observed. Students, working in collaborative groups, were then tasked with determining which variables caused which of the changes. To do this, the groups had to devise and conduct a variety of controlled experiments. This year's chemistry students did an amazing job of observing and experimenting.

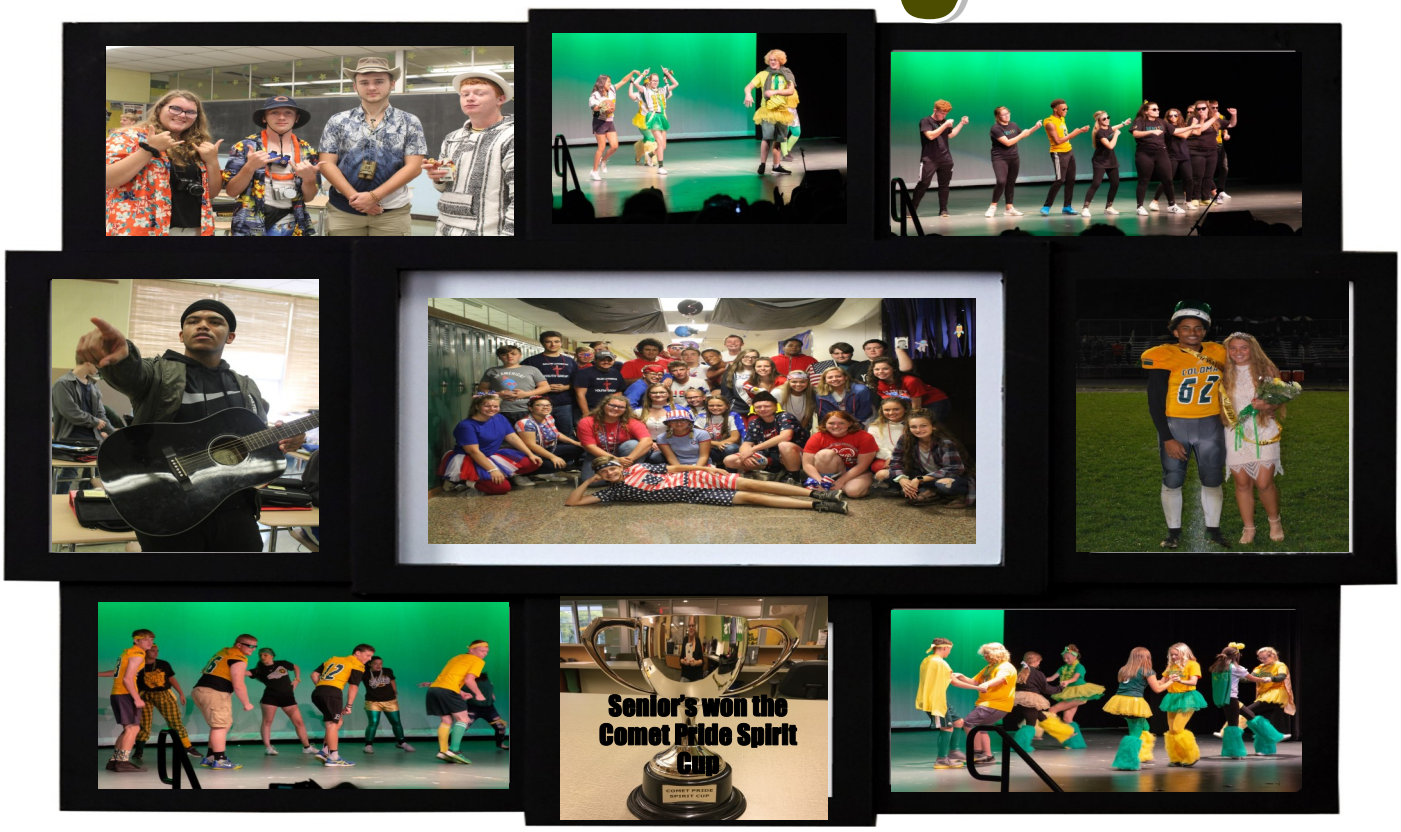
READING PHILOSOPHY

Reading is a language process which from the earliest stages involves reader interaction with the ideas of the author. Combining personal knowledge of language and the world, the reader uses information from three cueing systems: semantic, syntactic, and graphophonic, to make sense of print. Thus reading goes beyond simple decoding to become a search for patterns in meaning, problem-solving, judgment, evaluation and synthesis. An integrated approach to language programming which provides the reader with extensive oral language and practical experience with the subject area seems the most appropriate vehicle for reading instruction. In this approach reading skills are taught when the need is apparent.

There are, however, certain elements of the reading process which should receive emphasis if students are to become high-progress learners. These elements are not specifically isolated skills but rather are certain reader behaviors which emerge at various stages of development when appropriate learning condi-ions are provided. Underlying all reading instruction and provision of appropriate learning conditions must be a concern for the affective development of the child. A child's attitude toward reading is of such importance that more often than not it determines his/her scholastic fate. Therefore, the aim of the reading instruction must go beyond the achievement of simple competency, to the development of readers who come to the activity willingly with the feeling that "I can read because I am a reader".

The works selected at Coloma High School represent a broad spectrum of literature. We are committed to reflecting our dedication to racial and gender equity in the works of literature in the classroom. We will do everything that we can do to reflect the values of the community in our choices. We respect the rights of each person to learn in a comfortable environment. If a student finds any book unacceptable, an alternate work will be provided without any negative inference of any kind. We welcome parental involvement in selecting or suggesting suitable books for study.

Homecoming 2018



Sangha

Powered by Edlio, Sangha will enable you to stay in the know about your child's classroom and the school while on the go. The school and teachers will be adding calendar events and sending newsletters, sign up requests and messages through the Sangha mobile app. You will soon receive an invitation from Sangha (support@sanghapp.com) on behalf of our school. The subject line will read "invite from" and include our school name. Don't miss this email! When you open it on your mobile device, there will be a link to walk you through the steps to download our new Sangha app and create a password. The invitation email will also include instructions. **If you have not received an invitation,** please send an email with your student's name, grade, mobile number and email to:

tkimmerly@ccs.coloma.org address

September Students of the Month!

Freshman: Da'Quan Edwards
Sophomore : Vivian Berry
Junior: Erin Morris
Senior: Hannah Mathis