

Comet Comments—



Coloma High School Newsletter

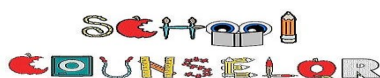
Principal, Mr. David Ehlers

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



FROM THE DESK
OF
MR. DAVID EHLERS



by Mrs. Frances Megyese

PARENTS OF SENIORS:

Reminder: You can file your 2018-19 FAFSA now as early as October 1st, rather than January 1, 2018. This earlier submission date is a permanent change, enabling you to complete and submit a FAFSA as early as October 1 every year. If you file the FAFSA earlier, you'll have an earlier indication of how much your family is expected to contribute, which will help with budgeting for the upcoming school year. College deadlines are on your college websites, and state deadlines are available at fafsa.gov and/or from your college financial aid office.

Several seniors have not applied to a college or trade school at this time. Colleges have scholarships available to incoming freshman. Students can apply for them at the same time they are completing their admission applications.

If you need help you can contact our new AmeriCorp College and Financial Aid counselor, Miss Mena, for more information and help.

I would like to thank all the parents who attended Parent Teacher Conferences this past month! It was awesome to see so many parents in our school! The staff of CHS appreciates the time and commitment you have shown in your student's education. We will not run a spring conference session so please stay in touch with your student's teacher(s) if you have any concerns or questions. We believe communication does not have to be limited to occurring at conferences and encourage you to contact teachers!

The holiday season signals that the end of the first semester is approaching. This is critical as credits are earned at the semester based on grades and attendance. Please stay on top of your child's grades and attendance. Being proactive helps prevent dealing with problems at the end of the semester that were avoidable with a little monitoring and parent-teacher communication.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a happy, safe, and relaxing holiday season as well as a Happy New Year!



UPCOMING DATES

Dec 6th —Jostens

**Dec 10th—Band
Concert at 6pm**

**Dec 13th—Late start
classes start at
10:00am**

**Dec 14th—Choir
concert at 7pm**

**December 22nd--
Half day: Christmas
break begins at end of
day. School resumes
January 8th.**

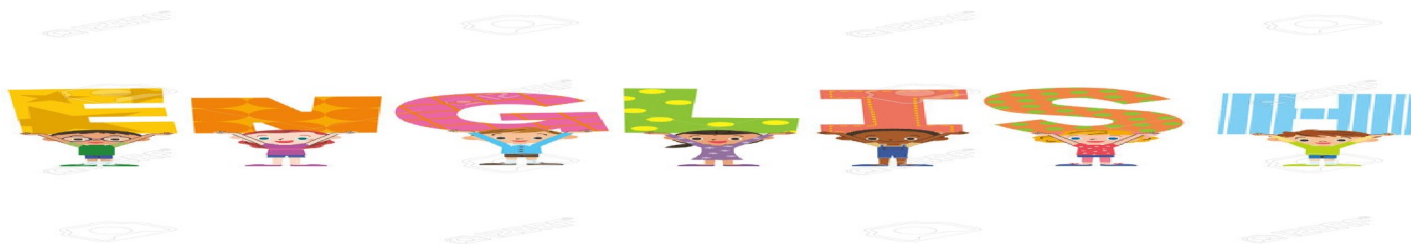
Have a GREAT CHRISTMAS!



FINDING THEIR VOICE -- PUBLIC SPEAKING **CLASS AT COLOMA HIGH SCHOOL**

by Kevin VanPeteghem

In all English/Language Arts courses teachers strive to help students “find their voice.” We all want to see students become adults that can appropriately express themselves in a proper way that is unique to them. While it is important to learn how to structure a piece of writing or a speech, it is equally important for students to find their unique voice. This is never so true as it is in Public Speaking class. Students have to learn how to structure and organize a speech, but the ultimate goal is for them to become a comfortable and confident speaker who is not afraid to professionally present their “voice.” The first marking period of the course is all about making students comfortable through speaking exercises and delivering informative and demonstrative speeches. As we now venture into the second marking period the stakes are raised as we move into persuasive speaking. Persuasive speaking is a step up because now students have to take a stand on something that not everyone may agree with and try to persuade others to look at their point of view. It is one thing to give an informative speech about gun laws, but another thing to try to persuade others to believe that we don’t need further gun laws or vice versa. This is where students find their voice. This marking period students are taking on many challenging topics, including: modifications to the welfare system, how technology really makes us more alone, the paying of college athletes, why more high school students should pay attention to the news, the benefits of musical therapy, abortion, school uniforms, universal health care, and increasing advertising of healthy foods to name just a few. I am really proud of these students for finding their voice and becoming active citizens!





🔥 “LIT” IN ANATOMY 🔥

by Mrs. Sara Glisson



Although we’ve been elbow-deep dissecting sharks lately, every Wednesday my Anatomy students and I have been enjoying a book study. These juniors and seniors have been arriving to class with the scent of freshly brewed coffee (decaf) in the air. I’ve tried to create a coffee-house atmosphere, while they bring their favorite mugs in one hand and their book “Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers” in the other. This best-selling nonfiction work, by author Mary Roach, has challenged our thinking about organ donation and donating one’s body to science.

With topics ranging from cadavers being used as car crash dummies, to ballistics testing, plastic surgery and human composting, we’ve had some lively discussions! Each week I’ve offered a different structure for these student-talk opportunities, such as: Socratic Seminar, Conver-Stations, #BookSnaps, Inside-Outside Circles, and Speed Dating. Listening to the rich conversations that develop among the students has been rewarding for me, and I hope, equally valuable to them.

Why “Lit in Anatomy” you ask? Our Next Generation Science Standards recommend that students “Critically read scientific literature adapted for classroom use to determine the central ideas or conclusions and/or to obtain scientific and/or technical information to summarize complex evidence, concepts, processes, or information presented in a text.” (NGSS 8.1) Annotating their books each week taught students to be active readers. Talking to their peers about morbidly intriguing topics increased engagement and accountability. As we wrap up our novel, students will be writing an old-fashioned Blue Book essay defending their positions in support of, or rejecting, anatomical donation as a personal choice.



Congratulations!

COLOMA CHOIRS WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE LISSIE SYPIAN ON HER ACCEPTANCE INTO THE 1ST ANNUAL MICHIGAN ALL-STATE JAZZ CHOIR.

LISSIE WAS SELECTED AS ONE OF TWENTY OTHER VOCAL JAZZ STUDENTS IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.

WE ARE VERY PROUD OF HER EFFORTS AND WOULD LIKE TO CELEBRATE THIS ACHIEVEMENT.





Congratulations!



Coloma HS Band Students Selected for All-Star Band

MSBOA District 6 All Star Band will perform on Saturday, November 18th at the Paw Paw HS Performing Arts Center at 2 p.m. The guest conductor is Matthew Conaway (Composer & Director of the Symphonic & Varsity Bands at Purdue University). There is an admission charge for the performance. The five Coloma HS Band students pictured auditioned and were selected for the 2017 All Star Band. L-R: Spencer Culby-bassoon, Alice Askren-alto sax, Morgan Hosbein-trombone, Emily Bolis-clarinet, and Emily Greenman-flute.



¡QUE VIVAN LOS TAMALES!

While several hunters enjoyed Opening Day on November 15th, several Spanish Club students enjoyed making tamales after school. Señor Ford supplied the ingredients, the ladies from Chartwell's provided the place and equipment, and lastly the Spanish Club students provided their time with the creation of dozens of tamales.

Tamales are a simple, very traditional food of Mexico and Central America. The recipes can vary, but tamales are basically made from masa (corn flour), pork, salsa, and corn husks. Following assembly, tamales are steamed for an hour. Afterwards, they can be eaten by unwrapping the tamal from the inedible corn husks. Each student, the following day, was given a tamal to try. Some of the comments about the tamales were: "They were all right...needed more meat...they were good...there was a subtle spiciness to it...there were so many..." All in all, it was a huge success providing the Spanish students of CHS an opportunity to try a very traditional Mexican food.

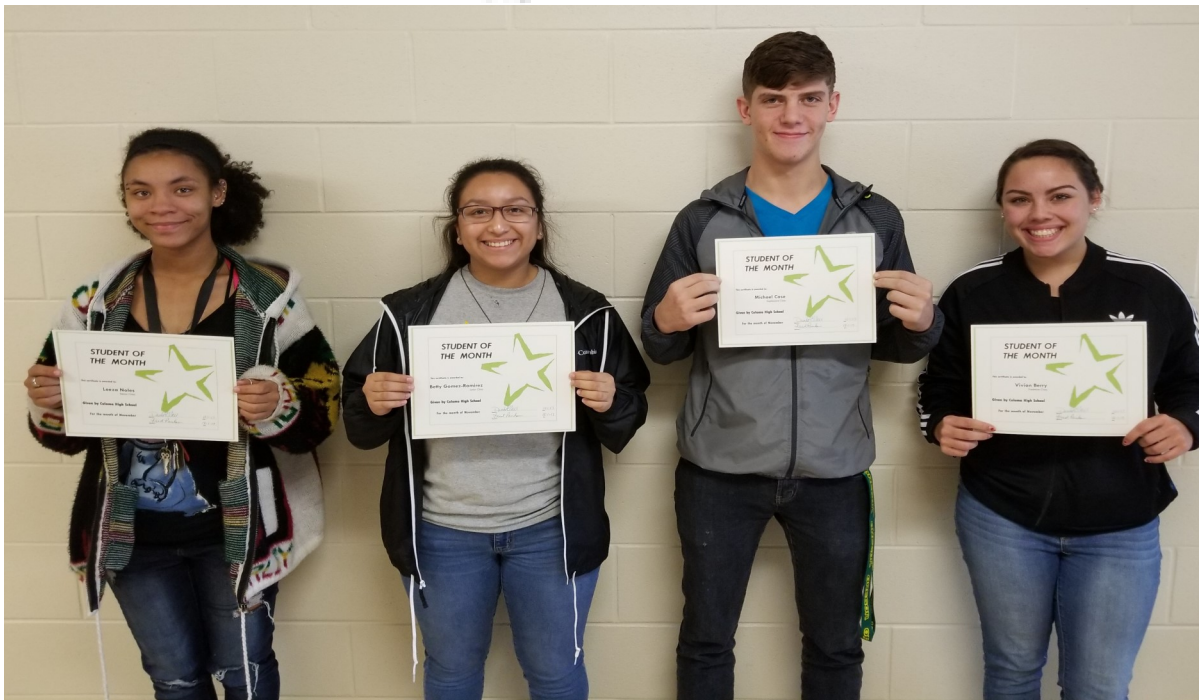
Special thanks to Mrs. Prisk for her help with the equipment in the HS kitchen!





CONGRATS

STUDENT'S OF THE MONTH



Congratulations!
**(l-r) Leeza Noles—Senior; Betty Gomez-Ramirez—Junior;
Michael Case—Sophomore; Vivian Berry—Freshman**

