Comet Comments—

Coloma High School Newsletter

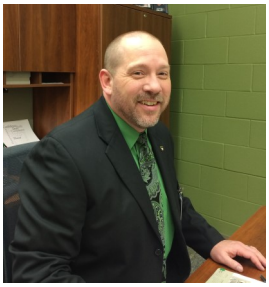
Principal, Mr. David Ehlers

August 2016

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 PRINCIPAL, DAVID A. EHLERS

Welcome back to Coloma High School! We are excited to begin school as we have had staff training all summer long to implement technology into instruction and classrooms to support the district's initiative of placing a Chromebook in each 9th - 11th graders hands for the 2016-17 school year. This is an exciting time for students and staff as the sky's the limit in terms of the use of these devices to support and promote student learning!!! You should receive a form via regular mail that will need to be completed and returned with your student on the first day of school so that he or she can receive their device and thus not have to miss any class time to get the device later.

The CHS staff is in year two of its work as a Professional Learning Community (PLC) which guides us to determine what all students should know, what it will look like when they know it, what to do when they don't get it and what to do when they already know it. Our next logical step is to implement a special period in our schedule that will allow teachers to work with those that do not get it during regular class instruction or who just need a little more time to develop mastery as well as challenge those that who might already know or who get it quickly. This period will run twice a week (Tuesday & Thursday) starting the 3rd week of September. As we are still in the process of our PLC work, this intervention period and the work students do in it will constantly evolve to fit the needs of the students. The implementation of this period speaks strongly to the staff's philosophy that all can and will learn!

I spend most of my time during the day out in classrooms observing students learning and working with our staff to improve their teaching practices to benefit our students. Since it is rare to catch me in the office, please call and make an appointment if you wish to meet me as opposed to popping in for a quick meeting and having to wait. Also, due to my work that can only be done during the school day, I return the majority of emails and phone calls after the students leave for the day.

Finally, it is our goal to communicate with you as frequently as we can with regards to your student and what is going on in our building. If you feel that you are not getting enough communication about your student, please reach out to his or her teachers via email or a phone call. Our staff is dedicated to working with you to educate your student!

PLEASE FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @COLOMAHS

UPCOMING DATES

Sept. 20th— Jostens here to give class ring packets to sophomores

Sept. 30th— Jostens here to take class ring orders during both lunches

Sept. 30— Homecoming vs. Fennville

Sept. 26- HS Picture Day

VISION STATEMENT

Coloma Community Schools is committed to providing a distinctive, contemporary education within a compassionate, structured environment which draws on our unique heritage.

We are determine to cooperate with families to produce independent, responsible, and confident citizens.

COLOMA HIGH SCHOOL WELCOMES NEW STAFF !

Mrs. Marilyn Paulsen,
Media Center to
High School Secretary

Mrs. Tammy Gorzynski
Coloma Elementary Teacher
Aide to High School Secretary

Mrs. Carla Getz,
Special Education Teacher
from Coloma Elementary to
Coloma High School

Mr. William Schmidt,
Business, returns to High
School from Coloma Junior
High

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

On the first day of school (Tuesday September 6, 2016), all high school students will report to the High School Auditorium for a quick information meeting. From there, students will be organized by class and released to follow a four period bell schedule. On the first day, students will receive their schedule, update their enrollment card, receive a rules/ procedures briefing, be issued their student planner, lockers and sign up for parking passes. 9 - 11 graders will be issued their Chromebook*, and 12th graders will attend an information meeting about making final plans to attend college or enter the workforce.

**Parents of 9 -11 grade students should look for a mailing next week. The mailing will contain a form that will need to be signed and brought back to school on the first day in order for their student to receive his/her Chromebook.*

NO BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!

Coloma High School
"Home of the Comets"

2016-17 HIGH SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULES

NORMAL DAY SCHEDULE

1st Hour	**8:00 – 9:01**
2nd Hour	**9:06 – 10:08**
3rd Hour	**10:13 – 11:13**
***A* Lunch**	**11:13 – 11:43**
4th Hour	**11:48 – 12:29**
4th Hour	**11:18 – 12:19**
B Lunch	**12:19 – 12:49**
5th Hour	**12:54 – 1:54**
6th Hour	**1:59 – 3:00**

2-HOUR DELAY
PLC DAY SCHEDULE

1st Hour	**10:00 – 10:41**
2nd Hour	**10:46 – 11:27**
3rd Hour	**11:32 – 12:13**
***A* Lunch**	**12:13 – 12:43**
4th Hour	**12:48 – 1:29**
4th Hour	**12:18 – 12:59**
B Lunch	**12:59 – 1:29**
5th Hour	**1:34 – 2:15**
6th Hour	**2:20 – 3:00**

½ DAY SCHEDULE

1st Hour	**8:00 – 8:32**
2nd Hour	**8:37 – 9:09**
3rd Hour	**9:14 – 9:46**
4th Hour	**9:51 – 10:23**
5th Hour	**10:28 – 11:00**
6th Hour	**11:05 – 11:37**

SCHOOL HOURS

Students are not permitted inside the school building more than 30 minutes before the start of their first class (7:30 am) without prior approval or supervision of a teacher. Students are not permitted to remain in the school building beyond 30 minutes after the completion of their last class (3:30 pm) unless they are involved in an after school activity supervised by a club advisor or being supervised by a teacher. The main vestibule area will be the designated waiting area for students waiting for a ride after 3:30 pm. Referral to an administrator for disciplinary action may result if students do not comply with school hour exceptions.

STUDENT PARKING

Students who drive to school are required to park in the east lot, have a completed Application to Drive on School Property form (5514F1), and a valid parking pass displayed in the window of the vehicle. The cost for the decal is $5 (one time fee) and the decal can be used with multiple vehicles and used throughout the student's stay in high school. Students will have the opportunity to register their vehicle on the first day of school. Students who fail to register their vehicle run the risk of being towed (at the owner's expense). Students will be given a grace period of one week in which to register their vehicle. Beginning with the second week of school, warning tickets will be given. Students will be given 3 warning notices before their vehicle will be towed. We appreciate your compliance as this is one piece to helping us provide a secure environment for your student.

Students arriving late for school must park in the east lot and follow the sidewalk from the parking lot to the main entrance. The main entrance is the only authorized access point for the high school during school hours.

IMPORTANT!
UPDATED TARDY AND ATTENDANCE POLICY

TARDY POLICY

Parents will no longer be able to excuse students who are tardy to school 1st hour. Special considerations will be given by the principal when there is bad weather. Tardies are tracked by the hour and are as follows; 1st tardy – warning, 2nd tardy – 15 minute teacher detention, 3rd tardy 30 minute detention, 4th tardy – 45 minute detention, 5th tardy – 1 hour detention, 6th tardy – suspension, 7th tardy and beyond – assigned unexcused absence for that class. Students are to be in their assigned seat ready to learn when the bell rings to avoid being marked tardy.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is tracked at the high school by semester. Students are allowed to accumulate 8 absences (*excused or unexcused*) per class before credit is withheld pending time being made up on an hour per hour basis. There are some instances of exempt absences which do not count towards the 8 absences such as a stay in the hospital, college visit, or a death in the immediate family. Students will be briefed on the attendance policy on the first day of school. Parents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the full policy located in the student handbook.

REPORTING YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE

If your student will be absent from school, we ask that you call the school before 9:00am to report the absence. The office is staffed beginning at 7:15am to take your call, but you may call earlier and leave a voice mail. If we don't hear from you, we must assume you do not know your student is not here, and either something happened to them on the way to school, or they are skipping. We will try to inform you via automated alerts when your student is absent unexcused. For their safety, please keep your phone and email information current so we can reach you. Remember that you can check attendance online any time through the PowerSchool Parent Portal.

STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Parents who transport their students to school are encouraged to use the west parking lot in order to avoid the student parking lot. The main entrance and circle drive is off limits for student drop off and pick up immediately before or after school and is only to be used to drop off students who are late or pick up students who leave early for appointment. The circle drive needs to be accessible to emergency vehicles immediately before and after school since the east and west lots are quite busy.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Please refer to the dress code section located in the student handbook which can be found on the high school's web page. All students will be issued a handbook contained in the student planner. When issued, students will sign a form acknowledging receipt and responsibility for adhering to the rules contained within.

Here are a few of the rules to be aware of before issuing the handbook.

1. Shorts or skirts worn must extend to the mid-thigh in length.
2. No tank tops are allowed as all shirts worn must have sleeves.
3. No back packs are allowed to be carried during the day. Back packs must remain in lockers during school hours.
4. No hats, beanies, or other head gear may be worn in the building at any time.

Violations of the dress code will be addressed on a case by case basis and will not be tolerated. Questions regarding the dress code my be addressed to Mr. Ehlers or Mr. Paulsen.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Coloma Community Schools provides information through the web site. It provides a great deal of information including calendars, announcements, teacher web pages, athletic information, fine arts information, and much, much more. We invite you to take a look at the high school's site at www.ccs.coloma.org/colhs. This news letter (and future editions) will be posted on-line. Future information will be provided to parents via e-mail or by going to the web site. Please ensure your email address is current and listed in PowerSchool so we may contact you at your convenience as well as reduce costs by saving paper. During the year, we will also use the PowerSchool email service to send out report cards and progress reports.

HOW TO SIGN UP ON POWERSCHOOL

When you create your PowerSchool account you will begin receiving e-mails sent by the school to keep parents informed as to what is going on in the high school. You will also be able to check your child's grades and attendance. Go to www.ccs.coloma.org, click on "Parents" and "Resources". There are Online Grade Book Instructions to help you .

PICTURE DAY SEPTEMBER 26

ALL STUDENTS **MUST** HAVE THEIR PICTURE TAKEN

FOR STUDENT I.D.

There is no charge for 1st I.D.—$5.00 charge for lost I.D.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

Any student in 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade may enroll in a post-secondary (dual) enrollment program providing he/she meets the requirements established by law and by the district. Any interested student should contact the guidance counselor to obtain more information.

SAT TESTING

This year we will again be administering the SAT and M-STEP to our juniors while sophomores will take the PSAT 10 and the freshman class will take the PSAT8/9. These tests will be administered on April 11th, 12th, and 13th and are mandatory. While we believe that the education your child receives at CHS prepares your student for the state testing cycle, you can visit Kahn Academy online and after establishing an account, your student can take a self assessment and Kahn Academy will use the assessment to make a customized program to help your student improve his or her skills that will be assessed on the test. This is particularly important for juniors as the SAT is used for college admissions and scholarships.

PERSONAL CURRICULUM

A parent or legal guardian of a student who has completed grade 9 may request a personal curriculum for the student that modifies certain Michigan Merit Standard requirements. If all of the requirements for a personal curriculum are met, then the Board may award a high school diploma to a student who successfully completes his/her personal curriculum even if it does not meet the requirements of the Michigan Merit Standard. If the request for a personal curriculum is made by the student's parent or legal guardian or, if the student is at least age eighteen (18) or is an emancipated minor, by the student, the school District shall develop a personal curriculum for the student. Developing a personal curriculum does not guarantee that it will be approved by the district. The District shall not limit or discourage the number of students with a personal curriculum on any basis other than the best interests of each individual student. Please contact the guidance counselor for more details should you feel this is an option for you.

MENTOR STUDENTS

Mentor Students will be available to assist students. On the second day of school, they will be located at various locations around the school wearing bright green shirts. These students are here to help students who need assistance.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Coloma High School does not discriminate on the basis of sex, religion, or race in its education programs and activities required by Title IX. Questions regarding Title IX may be referred to the Title IX coordinator or the Office of Civil Rights. Our Title IX Coordinator is Superintendent of Schools, Pete Bush. He can be reached at 468-2424 or pbush@ccs.coloma.org. His office is located in the Administration Center located at 300 West. St. Joseph Street, Coloma, MI 49038.

Coloma High School
2016-17 Calendar

AUGUST

M	8/29	1st Day for New Teachers
T	8/30	2nd Day for New Teachers
W	8/31	Teacher PD Day
		Open House/Orientation

SEPTEMBER

M	9/5	NO SCHOOL – Labor Day
T	9/6	1st Day for Students – ½ day
W	9/14	2 hr delay- PD Day
W	9/28	2 hr delay- PD Day

OCTOBER

W	10/12	2 hr delay- PD Day
W	10/26	2 hr delay- PD Day

NOVEMBER

F	11/4	**End of 1st Marking Period**
T	11/8	K-12 All Day;
		HS Evening Conferences
W	11/9	2 hr delay- PD Day
W	11/23	½ day – Comp Time
Th	11/24	NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving Break
F	11/25	NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving Break
W	11/30	2 hr delay- PD Day

DECEMBER

W	12/14	2 hr delay- PD Day
W	12/21	Winter Break begins end of day

JANUARY

W	1/4	Classes Resume from Winter Break
W	1/11	2 hr delay- PD Day

FEBRUARY

W	2/8	2 hr delay- PD Day
W	2/22	2 hr delay- PD Day

MARCH

W	3/8	2 hr delay- PD Day
W	3/22	2 hr delay- PD Day
F	3/31	K-12 ½ day
		Spring Break Begins
		End of 3rd marking period

APRIL

M	4/10	Classes Resume
W	4/12	2 hr delay- PD Day
F	4/14	K-12 ½ day – GOOD FRIDAY
W	4/26	2 hr delay- PD Day

*Mandated state testing may cause altered schedules in April/May

MAY

W	5/10	2 hr delay- PD Day
W	5/24	2 hr delay- PD Day
M	5/29	NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day

JUNE

Th	6/8	K-12 Students ½ day; 9-12 Exams
F	6/9	K-12 Students ½ day; 9-12 Exams
		Last Day of School

GRADUATION
June 2, 2017
Coloma High School Gymnasium
7 p.m.

Coloma Boosters

Striving to support athletic and academic excellence and sportsmanship for all student athletes in the Coloma School District.

Coloma Boosters Committees:

1. **Sept 9th Tail Gate Event**
2. **Pumpkin Hustle Run/Walk**
3. **Holiday Bazaar**
4. **Poker Tournament Fundraiser**
5. **New Fundraising Plans**
6. **Spring Fest event**
7. **After Prom**
8. **Website/Social Media**
9. **Concessions/Volunteers**
10. **Senior Banners**
11. **Basketball halftime events**
12. **Business Sponsorships**
13. **Weight Room Renovation**

2016-17 Meeting Schedule

Aug 23rd- 7pm Information meeting on committees in high school cafeteria

Aug 28th- 6:30pm Regular monthly meeting in the high gym area

*Monthly meetings will take place the last Sunday of month at 6:30pm at the high school gym area

*Committee meetings take place as needed

Website: http://www.colomaboosters.com/

Facebook: The Comet Crew- Coloma Athletic Boosters

Twitter: Comet Crew @colomaboosters

For more information send an email to:
info@colomaboosters.com