

Comet Comments—



Coloma High School Newsletter

February 2015

Principal, Mr. David Ehlers

MISSION STATEMENT:

We are dedicated to fostering pride in the school, the community and nourishing a positive self-image for every student. Our belief is that all students can and will learn best when excellence is expected; educational achievement will be obtained only when students are encouraged and challenged to attain this excellence.



FROM THE DESK
OF
PRINCIPAL,
DAVID A. EHLERS



Hopefully the winter weather we have experienced will leave us soon! As we have exceeded the number of snow days allotted to us by the state, we will now have to extend the school year. This extension will not have any impact on the seniors. Once the winter weather is gone and the calendar is set, you will receive it so you can make plans.

As you receive this newsletter, the junior class is working on fulfilling a graduation requirement by taking the ACT and ACT WorkKeys. This is only part 1 of the redesigned state test that is a graduation requirement. Phase 2 is completed online and will not interfere with the school calendar. Juniors will be pulled out of class to complete 6 tests (each about an hour in length) on April 21, 22, 28, and 29. All tests will start at the beginning of first hour. Please avoid scheduling any appointments for your student on the mornings of these dates as completion of all 6 tests is mandatory and required for graduation.

Here is to a much warmer March!!!!

GO COMETS!

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

by Mrs. Frances Megyese

Reminder to seniors:

1. Pick up applications for local scholarships and return or mail before the deadline date.

2. If you are interested in giving the "Commencement Address", please see me for more information. The address should be about the 2015 graduating class, past, present and future. Deadline: is spring break.

SCHEDULING FOR THE 2015-16 SCHOOL YEAR

Incoming 2015-16 9th grade students have already been scheduled. This took place during their social studies classes in December.

All incoming 9th grade students are required to take the following courses: English 9, Math, World History, Physical Science, Foreign Language and one elective from the following classes: Band, Choir, Computers, or PE.

Incoming 10th grade students are required to take the following courses: English 10, Biology, Math, U.S. History and 2 electives. Because of the large enrollment in our vocational classes these classes are often limited to 11th and 12th grade students.

All existing 9th, 10th and 11th grade students have had their scheduling orientation during their English or 9th grade World History classes.

During the week of March 16th and 23rd students will be able to input their tally choices

online in the library with me during their scheduled time during English class.

Remember 4-year plans are a guide for students and parents. This guide does not take the place of yearly scheduling.

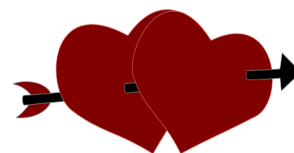
VISION:

TOGETHER.....

STRIVING AND
WORKING FOR

EXCELLENCE IN

EDUCATION



UPCOMING DATES

March 3—ACT Testing,
Only Juniors report

March 4—ACT Testing,
Juniors report all day,
delayed start for 9th,
10th, and 12th grades

March 5—Regular
School Day



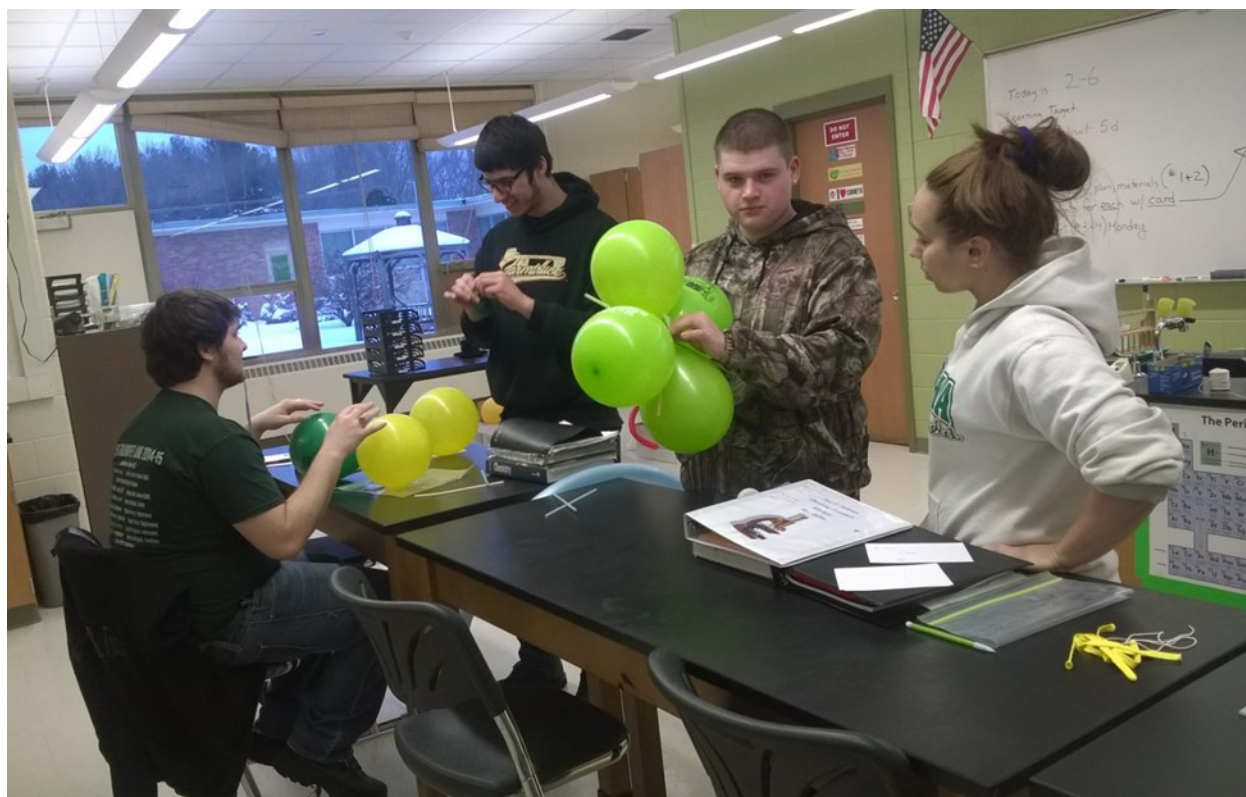
SCIENCE MODELS IN CHEMISTRY ESSENTIALS

by Mrs. Julia Collins

Scientific models are a central component of modern science. They represent objects or systems that are complex and difficult to observe directly. Scientists constantly work to improve and refine models as new knowledge is learned.

When students study electron orbitals in atoms, it is difficult to accurately represent them using only two dimensional drawings. So Chemistry Essentials students were asked to work in small groups as “atomic architects” to design and construct 3D models of five “d” type electron orbitals.

They collaborated to first write a short description of their plans before building the models. Then students used available materials to construct the models with the most accurate shapes and orientations possible. Afterwards, the groups reported on problems they encountered, and how they adapted to those problems. They also were asked to discuss ways in which the models fell short of accurate representation of the models. This was a good collaborative activity to apply concrete science skills as students learned about the structure of atoms.





CW TECH ROBOTARIANS

by Dr. Dale Quattrin



The CW Tech Robotarians are all smiles during a presentation ceremony when a check for \$3,000 was awarded the team from a Palisades /Entergy open grant. This generous contribution helps with the \$35,000 - \$40,000 annual expenses necessary for the team to raise each year to build the robot and compete successfully at up to five competitions.

Thanks!



**WELDING PROGRAM THANKS
LIBERTY STEEL AND
SOUTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
By Mr. Nathan Kramb**

The welding program at Coloma High School would like to extend a special thank you to Liberty Steel and Southwestern Michigan College for donations made during the fall semester. These donations are the lifeblood of our program here at the high school, and we greatly appreciate them.

I had the opportunity to speak to Andy Gantenbein, owner of Liberty Steel, at the November meeting of the Berrien Tooling Coalition. During our conversation, he mentioned that he had some steel he would like to donate to our program and I gladly accepted his offer. In December, Liberty delivered the steel to our shop, which totaled around 3000 lbs. of very high quality 10 gage mild steel. We have been using this material for student sculptures and for assigned welds.

Southwestern Michigan College also donated to Coloma High School during the fall semester. Mike Chaddock, Lead Welding Instructor for SMC, donated welding helmets, welding jackets, gloves, and mild steel for welding to the program. These materials were used, but were in excellent shape and we gladly accepted. It allowed our program to replenish items that are constantly being used up.

Donations are always a critical component of any high school CTE program, and Liberty Steel and SMC have really helped us out. We would like to thank them for their time, materials, and dedication to our program here at CHS, and we look forward to working with them now and in the future!





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MATH DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Mrs. Cari Houston

The number one question I get from students is, "when am I ever going to use this". Sometimes it can be difficult to find a real life connection with certain topics in math—especially transformations in geometry.

However, this month your students became animators! Students worked together to create an animation using the stop motion app on their phones. The main activity was set up as a "flip pad". However it's really cool when the flip pads are put into a real animation that can be presented to the class on the computer. They created an actual moving animation. We had fun integrating translations, rotations and reflections along with technology to meet our standards.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

MARCH 8

**DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR
CLOCKS !**

MORE DATES FOR MARCH

Please mark your calendar

March 7 Band Fundraiser—Fazoli's in the HS cafeteria—5—7 p.m.

March 25 End of 3rd Marking Period

March 27 1/2 day. Spring Break begins at the end of the day. Report cards will be e-mailed to parents



**COLOMA HIGH SCHOOL
FEBRUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH !!**

Congratulations to:

**(l-r) Freshman--Divine Parker, Sophomore—Destiny Motton,
Junior—Alex Castillo, Senior— Chris Trammell**

Congratulations!





*Congratulations to the cast and crew of
“Just Another High School Play”*

The first play in our new theater was a huge success!

Cast members include: Lane Alsup, Luke Alsup, Amanda Armstrong, Billie Coleman, Maxime Daniel, Gabby Ezell, Meredith Green, Corey Hamilton, Tessa Hebner, Carly Lentz, Bailey O'Neal, Becka Plitt, Danielle Trammell, Ellie Warren, Allison Woodard, and Jaden Wurn. Crew members include: Dax Conley, Ally Jarvis, Allie Martinez, and Derrick Plitt. Director: Mrs. Sara Glisson