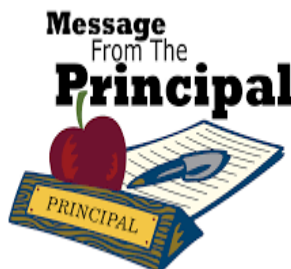


Comet Comments

BACK TO SCHOOL ISSUE – AUGUST 2024



Welcome back to another exciting year at Coloma High School! I hope this message finds you all in good health and high spirits. As we embark on this new academic journey together, I am filled with enthusiasm and a sense of great anticipation for the remarkable opportunities and achievements that lie ahead.

This summer we have had some great achievements already.

- Our students that were in credit recovery this summer worked really hard and earned 20 credits this summer.
- Tyler Cantrell led a group of students to tour Italy and Greece.
- Band Students attended Band Camp from July 29th through August 2nd. On August 3rd, the students participated in the Glad Peach Festival Parade. The students worked really hard to get ready for the upcoming school year.
- Varsity sports began official practice August 12th. We are looking forward to all of our student athletes competing.

Our school community has always prided itself on fostering an environment that nurtures both academic excellence and personal growth. At Coloma High School, we firmly believe that education extends far beyond the confines of textbooks and classroom walls. It is about igniting curiosity, developing critical thinking skills, and instilling a lifelong love for learning.

Throughout the years, our dedicated staff has been devoted to providing the best educational experience for your children. We encourage and support students in discovering their unique talents, strengths, and passions, preparing them to become well-rounded individuals and contributing members of society.

This year, we have an array of exciting events and programs planned to enrich the learning journey of our students. From cooperative learning activities, labs, and extension lessons to engaging extracurricular activities, there will be plenty of opportunities for students to explore their interests and broaden their horizons.

Additionally, I urge parents and guardians to actively participate in school activities and stay involved in your child's education. Together, we can create a strong support network that empowers students to thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

I encourage you to regularly check our school website (ccs.coloma.org) and newsletters for updates, important announcements, and glimpses into the many achievements of our students and staff. Following Coloma High School on Facebook is also an excellent way to stay connected with us and witness the vibrant life of our school.

As we step into this new academic year, let us remember that every day is a chance to learn, grow, and make a positive impact. I am truly honored to serve as the principal of Coloma High School, and I look forward to working closely with all of you to create an exceptional educational experience for our students.

If you ever have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, my door is always open. Please feel free to reach out to me or any member of the staff. Together, let us make this academic year an unforgettable and transformative one.

Here's to a successful and fulfilling year ahead! Go Comets!

**Welcome to a
new year at
CHS!**

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



Counselor's Corner

May I request to change my schedule?

Examples of **YES** reasons

- Need to take or repeat a class to meet graduation requirements
- Received credit for class in summer school
- Pre-requisite not met for current class
- Valid health issues with Doctor documentation

Examples of **NO** reasons

- I don't like that class or teacher
- I want a different lunch hour
- I don't like "xyz" student in my class
- My friend is "xyz class" and I want to be with them

Last day to **email** Mr. Shaffer with a valid request for a schedule change is: **August 29, 2024 by 3:00pm**

Important information for Seniors!

FAFSA and Scholarships

FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid and it is necessary to complete if your senior(s) wishes to receive any kind of funds, such as scholarships, grants, and/or loans for the college/university they wish to attend. Here is a link with more detailed information on the steps needed to complete the FAFSA: <https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out>

You may also want to check out the "Going Merry" website to complete the FAFSA (another way to do the FAFSA; comparable to TurboTax format) and you can also use this website to look for scholarships for free: sign up for Going Merry.

Furthermore, you may want to sign up for the notifications of many various scholarships that are regularly updated at: <https://studentscholarships.org/newsletters>

Official Transcripts

Seniors will need to request official high school transcripts as they apply to colleges/universities and may also need to request them for certain jobs. To order your official high school transcripts for free, create an account (if you do not already have one) at: [Parchment.com](https:// Parchment.com)

Simplify the application process to colleges/universities

Seniors may be applying to more than one post-secondary institution and using CommonApp is an efficient way to do this in one location. This website allows for students to apply to multiple colleges/universities and to track the status of their applications. Create your free account at: [Commonapp.org](https:// Commonapp.org)

SAT scores

Seniors may want to obtain their SAT scores. These scores may be obtained by accessing their accounts at: [Collegeboard.org](https:// Collegeboard.org). Official scores are released typically mid June.

Remember to never use your school email; use a personal email.



Coloma Families

Meals are FREE again this year for all students. To ensure we are allocated the correct amount in funding could you please fill out the household survey's by using the website or scan the barcode.

Coloma.familyportal.cloud



Please contact Shelley Mazigian for any questions.

smazigian@ccs.coloma.org

269-468-2598

chartwells
serving up happy & healthy

Dates to Remember

August 20 - Freshman Orientation, 6:00pm

August 26 - First day of School (1/2 day) and Picture Day!

August X - Last day for schedule changes and to turn in Chromebook Insurance payment

August 30 - No School

September 2 - Labor Day, No School

September X - Jostens Sophomore Rings

September 11 - Late Start, School starts at 10:am

September 16 – No Schools

September 20 – Homecoming

September 23 - Progress Reports

September 25 - Late Start, School starts at 10:00am

September 20 – Picture Make up Day

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FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

On the first day of school (Monday, August 26, 2024), 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, receive a rules/procedures briefing, receive their lockers, sign up for parking passes, and have their school pictures taken. 9 - 12 graders will be issued their Chromebook on the first full day of School, Monday, August 28th, 2023



NOTICE OF DISCRIMINATION

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/Compliance Officer or the Office of Civil Rights. Our Title IX/Compliance Officers are **Principal, Craig Fisher: 269-468-2400** cfisher@ccs.coloma.org) and **Wendy Tremblay: 269-468-2405** wtremblay@ccs.coloma.org).

PICTURE DAY AUGUST 26TH!

Pre-Order Online at:
geskusphoto.com/fall orders

store.geskusphoto.com/search/4035DIWUYBZCHN

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). 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.

ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED 7:30 - 7:55

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 permit displayed on the front windshield of the vehicle. The cost for the permit is \$10 (yearly fee). Students will have the opportunity to register their vehicle after the first week of school. Students who fail to register their vehicle run the risk of being towed (at the owner’s expense). Students will be called to the office to buy their parking passes during the second week of school. 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.**

SENIOR RESERVED PARKING

New this year seniors will have to opportunity to reserve and personalize a parking space. The fee is \$50 in addition to the \$ 10 parking permit fee. Seniors will be responsible to the cost of paint and painting supplies as well as cleaning and/or repainting fees. A drawn proposal of the parking space must be pre-approved by Coloma high school administration. The administration has the right to revoke this privilege at their discretion.

Parent Information

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.

Tardy per semester per class:

1st warning

2nd 15-minute detention

3rd: 30-minute detention

4th: 2–30-minute detention - Parent meeting with Principal

5th: 1-hour detention

6th: 2-hour detention (behavior Intervention Plan)

7th: unexcused absence for the class

Students are to be in the assigned seat ready to learn when the bell rings to avoid being marked tardy.

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.

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.

HOW TO SIGN UP ON POWERSCHOOL

You will need create your PowerSchool account to 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.

REPORTING YOUR CHILD’S ABSENCE

If your student will be absent from school, we ask that you call the school before 9:00 am to report the absence. The office is staffed beginning at 7:30 am to take your call, but you may call earlier and leave a voicemail. 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.

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 more. We invite you to take a look at the high school’s site at www.ccs.coloma.org/colhs. This newsletter (and future editions) will be posted online. 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.

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 hats, beanies, or other headgear 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 may be addressed to Mr. Churchill.

STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Parents who transport their students to school are encouraged to use the west parking lot and 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.**

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TO OUR NEW STAFF!

Ms. Athan
Special Education

Mrs. Ferris
Spanish

Mr. Hartman
Band

Mr. Mammel
Geometry

MR. PRATHER
CHOIR

Ms. Trail
Secretary

Miss Wisniewski
Biology

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Band will be released TBA to get their instrument and head to the auditorium.

We will try and seat students by class so we will stagger student release - so hold your students until we call them even though the bell will ring.

Parents— Jostens will meet with your Sophomore student on September 9th during RTI to talk about the class rings. For seniors, Jostens will meet before Christmas break for Cap & Gown, etc. Get a head start and order online at: Jostens.com

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