

COLOMA COMMENTS

AUGUST ISSUE 2025



A Message From The Principal

I hope you are enjoying the final days of summer! As we gear up for the start of the 2025-2026 school year, I want to extend a warm welcome back to all of our students and families. Whether you're returning for another exciting year or joining the Coloma High School family for the first time, we are thrilled to have you with us.

This summer, our students stayed active and engaged in many meaningful ways. We are proud to share that students who attended summer school collectively earned **20 high school credits**, demonstrating their commitment to academic success and growth.

The **Coloma Marching Band** has been hard at work preparing for an incredible season. They kicked things off by performing in the **Coloma Glad Peach Festival Parade on August 2nd**, proudly representing our school and community. From **August 4th through 9th**, the band participated in their annual **band camp**, where they began preparing their show for this year. The 2025 marching band theme is "**Sunshine**", and we can't wait for you to experience the energy, spirit, and joy they bring to every performance.

Meanwhile, our **varsity athletes** are also back in action. Official practices for fall sports began on **August 11th**, and our coaches and student-athletes are putting in the work to make this a strong and successful season across the board. We look forward to cheering them on in the weeks ahead.

As we begin the new school year, our focus remains on fostering a safe, supportive, and challenging environment for every student. We are excited for the learning, growth, and achievements to come.

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 (<https://www.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 see what is happening.

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 great start to the 2025-2026 school year! Go Comets!



**Last day to email Mr. Shaffer
with a valid request for a
schedule change is:
August 28th by 3:00pm**

Important information for Seniors!

Follow the steps below to stay on track for life after high school.

Important: Always use a personal email, not your school email, for these steps.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions to:

gshaffer@ccs.coloma.org

MAY I REQUEST TO CHANGE MY SCHEDULE?

Examples of YES reasons

- You need to take or repeat a class to meet graduation requirements
- You received credit for class in summer school
- Pre-requisite not met for current class
- You have a valid health issue with valid 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 in "xyz class" and I want to be with them.

STEP 1: Start in October

Begin visiting and applying to colleges, trade schools, or potential employers.

To simplify the college application process, use CommonApp commonapp.org, which lets you apply to multiple schools and track your applications. Create a free account and list Mr. Shaffer as your counselor (gshaffer@ccs.coloma.org). Please do not forget to mark that you qualify for free/reduced lunch.

You may need the following when applying:

- Official transcripts: Order them at parchment.com by creating an account.
- SAT scores: Access your scores by logging in at collegeboard.org.

FAFSA is anticipated to open on October 1, 2025.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required to access scholarships, grants, and loans for college. Visit [HERE](#) for detailed instructions on completing FAFSA.

STEP 2: Start in November

Scholarship season is here!

Finding scholarships can feel overwhelming, but these resources can help:

- Berrien Community Foundation: Click [HERE](#) to apply for multiple local scholarships with one application. (Application opens late 2025).
- Going Merry: Personalized scholarship matches based on your profile. Sign up [HERE](#).
- Student Scholarships Newsletter: Get regular emails with scholarship opportunities and deadlines. Sign up [HERE](#).



WELCOME

BACK TO SCHOOL

**ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL BREAKFAST
WILL BE SERVED 7:30 - 7:55**

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

On the first day of school (Monday, August 25, 2025), **all high school students will report to their designated areas which will be announced at 7:55 am.** Students will be organized by class and released to follow a four period bell schedule. On the first day, students will have a rules / procedures briefing, receive their lockers, sign up for parking passes, Pay for Chromebook insurance and have their school pictures taken. 9 - 12 graders will be issued their Chromebook on the second full day of School, Tuesday August 26, 2025

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

It is the policy of Coloma Community Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, disability, height, weight, marital status, or any other status covered by federal, state, or local law shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to, discrimination during any program, activity, service, or in employment. Any person suspecting a discriminatory practice should contact complaint@ccs.coloma.org.

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 unsupervised beyond 3:10 pm.

The main vestibule area will be the designated waiting area for students waiting for a ride after 3:10 pm. Referral to an administrator for disciplinary action may result if students do not comply with school guidelines.

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).

If a student does not have parking permit by the second week of school, they will be called to the office to buy their parking passes. 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 students.

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.

**PICTURE
DAY
AUGUST
25th!**

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

store.geskusphoto.com/search/4035DIWUYBZCHN

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.

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 anytime through the PowerSchool Parent Portal.

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.

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. 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 the beginning of school:

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.

HOW TO SIGN UP ON POWERSCHOOL

You will need to create your PowerSchool account to be able to check your child's grades and attendance. Please contact the office and they will set you up with your username and password.

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.

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 are "OFF LIMITS" for student drop off and pick up immediately before or after school. The main entrance and circle drive are only to be used to drop off students who are late or pick up students who leave early for an 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.

Chromebook Insurance

\$20.00

Payment due by 08/28/2025



CHROMEBOOK FEE SCHEDULE

CASE	\$26
CHARGER	\$40
SCREEN	\$25
CAMERA	\$10
PALMREST	\$30
KEYBOARD	\$22
TOUCHPAD	\$13
BEZEL	\$20
TOP COVER	\$20
BOTTOM COVER	\$22
BATTERY	\$40

CHROMEBOOK REPLACEMENT \$201



Coloma Community Schools

302 W. St. Joseph Street, Coloma, MI 49038
(p) 269.468.2424 (f) 269.468.2440 | www.ccs.coloma.org

2025-2026 Academic Calendar

Aug 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Sep 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Oct 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Nov 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Dec 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Jan 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Feb 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Mar 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Apr 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Jun 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4		

Description Codes	
	Delayed Start Wednesday
	Half-Day All Students
	Half-Day K-5 ; Full Day 6-12
	No School

Marking Period Dates

End 1st MP – October 17
End 2nd MP – December 17
End 1st Semester – December 19
End 3rd MP – March 20
End 4th MP – June 2
End 2nd Semester – June 4

Parent-Teacher Conferences

October 21 – Evening for 4-5 & 9-12
October 22 – Evening for K-3 & 6-8
October 23 – Afternoon K-5, Evening K-12
February 24 – Evening K - 3 (CES)
February 25 – Evening 4 - 5 (CIS)
February 26 – Evening 6 – 8 (CJHS)

Exams

December 18 & 19
June 3 & 4

Adopted April 14, 2025

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2025-26 HIGH SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULES

Regular SCHEDULE

1ST Hour	8:00 - 8:53
2ND Hour	8:58 - 9:58
RTI	10:02 - 10:37
3rd Hour	10:42 - 11:35
A Lunch	11:35 - 12:05
4TH Hour	12:10 - 1:03
4TH Hour	11:40 - 12:33
B Lunch	12:33 - 1:03
5TH Hour	1:08 - 2:01
6TH Hour	2:06 - 3:00

2 HOUR DELAY

2ND Hour	10:00 - 10:45
1ST Hour	10:50 - 11:30
3RD Hour	11:35 - 12:15
A Lunch	12:15 - 12:45
4TH Hour	12:50 - 1:30
4TH Hour	12:20 - 1:00
B Lunch	1:00 - 1:30
5TH Hour	1:36 - 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

EXAM DAY SCHEDULE

EXAM 1/4	8:00 - 9:07
EXAM 2/5	9:12 - 10:25
EXAM 3/6	10:30 - 11:37

Jostens®



Parents— Jostens will meet with your Sophomore student on September 18th during RTI to talk about the class rings.

For seniors, Jostens will meet November 12th for Cap & Gown, etc. Get a head start and order online at: [Jostens.com](https://jostens.com) or use the above QR code.



~~Miss Wisniewski~~

Mrs. Mazigian

We would like to congratulate Olivia Mazigian and her husband, Hunter, on their wedding this summer! Olivia will be starting her second year at Coloma. Mrs. Mazigian teaches science classes at Coloma High School.



- Aug. 19: Freshman/New Students Orientation 6:00 pm**
- Aug. 25: Half Day - Picture Day, Students receive Chromebooks, and Chromebook insurance due.**
- Aug. 30: No School**
- Sept. 1: No School**
- Sept. 10 Late Start - Classes begin at 10:00 am**
- Sept. 24 Late Start - Classes begin at 10:00 am**
- Sept. 29 Picture Make-up/Retakes**

SENIORS PAINT YOUR PARKING SPACE!!

This year you have the opportunity to participate in a new and exciting senior tradition—painting your parking spot in the student parking lot. This is a fun and creative way to leave your mark and kick off your senior year with pride and spirit. Painting will take place August 11-15 and on August 18th. Follow this [link](#) to apply.



chartwells
serving up happy & healthy

Coloma Families

Meals are FREE again this year for all students.

Summer EBT Eligibility: While Coloma schools provides free meals to all students during the school year, we do not automatically qualify all students for summer EBT benefits. Household Surveys are used to determine summer EBT eligibility for students. Only one survey per family is needed.

Also to ensure we are allocated the correct amount in funding, please fill out the household survey by using the web address below or scanning the QR Code.



[Coloma.familyportal.cloud](https://coloma.familyportal.cloud)

Please contact Shelley Mazigian with any questions.

smazigian@ccs.coloma.org

269-468-2598