

THE TRAILBLAZER

Collinsville Middle School's Newsletter



From the Principal's Desk

CMS Families,

Happy February!

Maybe it is just wishful thinking or is Spring around the corner? We have had just enough warm days and sunshine for us all to be looking forward to what is to come. In the school environment, this means that for many days, students have been stuck inside for both recess and PE and are itching to get outside, some of us thrive on the fresh air and sunlight. Because of the weather and feeling stuck inside, this is often a time we see a rise in student behavior while also a decline in grades. Overall student behavior continues to improve this year and it is important to me that we keep moving through the school year with high expectations. I mention it in every correspondence, but now more than ever, we need your support in encouraging our young people to push through the winter wall and gain that second wind needed to make it to the end. We need to help them stay focused on their work so they can end the year with the same sense of pride and accomplishment that they have worked so hard to gain throughout the year.

February not only flies by because it is a short month but it also a time of year when we elevate our push on 7th graders to get ready for their 8th grade year and work to fine tune our 8th graders in preparation for high school. Our 8th grade students have completed their class selections for high school and just about have one foot out the door. As I have conversations with them, it always reminds me of how it feels to be making that big jump to the next level and the fear that is associated with it. Please proactively talk to your students about the various events that have been going on in preparation for next year to open up conversations that help them with that fear. If you have questions or concerns that we can help with, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us for assistance. Growing up is hard; it takes a village!

Sincerely,

Dr. Jackson

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ITEMS TO NOTE AT CMS



- The 11th annual FAMILY READING NIGHT will be held on Thursday, February 27, offering games, prizes, a book fair, and booths from various clubs and departments. 6:00-7:30 Don't miss it!
- Collinsville Middle School Track & Field Registration- Online registration is closed. Please see Mr. Hayman in the library for forms required for try-outs. All forms must be turned in by February 24th. Physicals on file must be good through May 9th, 2020. All grades must be passing. Try-outs begin after school Tuesday, March 3rd, 2020- <https://www.kahoks.org/schools/collinsville-middle-school/activities/>
- February is the last chance to order your copy of the 2020 BLAZE yearbook! See the link on the school's website to contact Jostens.
- Our current Million Word Readers: Brayden Patterson, Hayden Barrera-Kite, Logan Branstetter, Elliott Schusky, Isabel Perez, Alanah McHone, Madeline Mueller, Jim Kruta, Alexis Clair, Kendrick Davis, Priscila Solano-Cenovio, Aidan James, Dominic Horras, Kimberly McQuay, Hayden Myers, Brian Slesinski, Livia Montgomery., Jack O'Hara, Dustin Taylor, Alexis Gassman, Caleb Burkard, Karley Calandro, Kailey Stauthammer, Ian Yakstis, Selah Hart, Lane Ferguson, and Kaylee Cooper.



BUY  YOUR
Yearbook



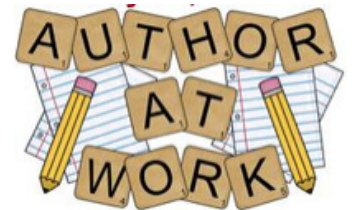


ITEMS TO NOTE AT CMS

- Choir Concert is coming up March 3, 2020. It will be held at Webster Elementary School in the auditorium. The concert starts at 7 pm and is open to the public. "Admission" is a donation of non-perishable items for the area food banks. Please join us!
- The English Department encourages students to enter the YOUNG AUTHORS' CONTEST and their quarterly writing contests. See your English teacher for details.
- The newly formed CMS DRAMA CLUB (sponsored by Mrs. Voss and Mrs. Juelfs) would like to thank TRIBOUT'S of Belleville for their donation of costumes! This is a great start to a great organization! We enjoyed our first field trip on Feb. 11 to the Fox Theater.
- Washington DC Trip! There is still time to sign up for the DC Trip. If you would like more information, please contact Ms. Goodson at mgoodson@cusd.kahoks.org or Mrs. Digirolamo at sdigirol@cusd.kahoks.org. To sign up:

Online: www.worldstrides.com/signup use TRIP ID# is: 185206.

By phone: Call WorldStrides' customer service team at 1-800-468-5899. You can view the complete trip flyer on the CMS web page.



Food Mobile Market

Upcoming Events

Cost: FREE- supporting food unstable families

Friday February 28th

10:00-11:30 am

Collinsville Middle School (CMS)

9649 Collinsville Rd, Collinsville, IL 62234

We are excited to announce that Collinsville Unit 10 is partnering with the St. Louis Area Foodbank to provide a Food Mobile Market for our Collinsville area families. This market is free of charge and though the available items rotate, often include dairy, meat, and fresh produce. This is a first come first served event with a capacity to serve around 100 families.

For student safety reasons, please arrive at the hosting school no earlier than 10 min before the event. The event will be using a 'drive through' model. You will drive through the line, and we will have volunteers load the food items into your car. You will not need to leave your vehicle. Again, this is all provided free of charge.



EVENTS ARE WEATHER PERMITTING. IN CASE OF A CUSD10 CLOSURE OR UNCOOPERATIVE WEATHER CONDITIONS, THE EVENT WILL BE CANCELLED. PLEASE CHECK KAHOKS.ORG OR LOCAL NEWS FOR WEATHER RELATED UPDATES.

For more information please contact
our Collinsville Unit 10 social workers

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Lisa Melzer (Renfro)
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Foodbank
St. Louis Area Foodbank

Let's Talk Perseverance!

Perseverance, also called grit or tenacity, is the ability to overcome setbacks in order to accomplish a goal. In childhood, when children learn to deal with minor setbacks, they are learning perseverance. Why is it important? Recent research shows the positive impact of perseverance on a person's overall success; grittier people are more likely to graduate high school, stay married, and keep a job. Try not to worry if your middle-schooler doesn't seem to be passionately working toward an important life goal right now, as many children's interests change through this time in their lives, and many go on to be successful. By helping your child deal with failure and setbacks now, you can help prepare him for setbacks later in life.

Encourage your child to stick with a hobby or extracurricular. As your child ages, competition can become more intense, making a game that used to be fun more serious. Additionally, many children are influenced by their peers at this age, and a hobby your child loves may suddenly be "uncool" in middle school. Give your child room to make his own decisions, but talk to him about his options and reasons for wanting to give up on a hobby. Before you say it's O.K. for your child to decide not to participate anymore, make sure he understands the reasoning behind his choice and the consequences. It may also help to revisit the conversation after a week or two. His mind may change, or not, but it's an opportunity for you both to discuss decision-making and dealing with adversity.

Reward your child's effort. Part of learning resilience and perseverance is being able to continue working even if the work is hard. If your child is putting forth a lot of effort to get a good grade, tell him, "I noticed how hard you're working on your math homework, and I'm really proud of you," rather than "You're going to get an A on that test because you're really smart." By praising your child's effort rather than his intelligence, you're showing him that getting a good grade is something he can control, not just something he's born with the ability to do.

[https://www.parenttoolkit.com/social-and-emotional-](https://www.parenttoolkit.com/social-and-emotional-development/advice/self-management/developing-perseverance-in-middle-schoolers)

[development/advice/self-management/developing-perseverance-in-middle-schoolers](https://www.parenttoolkit.com/social-and-emotional-development/advice/self-management/developing-perseverance-in-middle-schoolers)

February Snapshot

2/1- Wrestling @ GCHS (George Nemeth Tournament)
 2/4 - Volleyball @ East St. Louis
 Wrestling @ Home (Triad)
 Boys Basketball @ ?? (Regionals)
 2/5 - Bowling @ Home (Waterloo)
 Volleyball @ Cahokia
 2/6 - Wrestling @ Jacksonville
 Bowling @ Home (O'Fallon)
 Volleyball @ Home (East St. Louis)
 2/8 - Madison County Band Festival
 2/10 - Bowling @ Home (Cahokia)
 Volleyball @ Home (Dupo)
 2/11 - Drama Club FT @ Fox Theater
 Bowling @ O'Fallon
 Volleyball @ Home (Mascoutah)
 2/12 - Bowling @ Home (Waterloo)
 Volleyball @ Home (Alton)
 2/13- Volleyball @ Carriel
 2/14 - Volleyball @ Highland
 (Tournament)
 2/15- Volleyball @ Highland
 (Tournament)
 Wrestling @ Glenwood (Invite)
 2/17- No School: President's Day
 2/18- Bowling @ Columbia
 Volleyball @ Fulton
 2/19- Wrestling @ East St. Louis
 Volleyball @ Home (Millstadt)
 2/20- Volleyball @ Triad
 NJHS Study Hall Meeting
 2/22- Volleyball @ Alton (Invite)
 2/24- Bowling @ Waterloo
 Volleyball @ Wesclin
 2/25- Bowling @ Cahokia
 Volleyball @ Home (Highland)
 2/27- Bowling @ Home (Columbia)
 Volleyball @ Mascoutah
 2/28- Volleyball @ Wesclin (Invite)
 2/29- Bowling @ Salem (Tournament)
 Volleyball @ Wesclin (Invite)

Tote Me Home

In collaboration with the Collinsville Food Pantry, CMS is happy to offer families with the Tote Me Home program. Tote Me Home provides families with additional grocery assistance over the weekend. Students involved in the program are given a bag of groceries to take home on Fridays.



For more information please contact our CMS social workers.

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