

# THE TRAILBLAZER

Collinsville Middle School's Newsletter



## From the Principal's Desk

CMS Families,

Now that we have Thanksgiving behind us, the new year will be quickly approaching. While enjoying the break this weekend, I had some time to think about things I am thankful for. I am very thankful for all of our staff at CMS who have worked extremely hard this semester to adjust to our hybrid/remote schedule. I have seen great ideas that would not have happened had we been in a traditional learning model. I love seeing Ideas shared and help being given to a coworker who is trying something new. I am thankful for the students who fight through adversity and log in daily to complete their work. I hope everyone had a great break and is ready to finish 2020 strong. For the remainder of the 1st semester starting December 7th, we will be in a remote setting. We will look at COVID numbers after the winter break and make a decision about the 2nd semester. We are all anxiously awaiting guidance on all spring sports. While very little has been normal about this school year, we hope to see some normalcy return after the first of the year. I hope everybody has a great December.

Sincerely,

Mr. Snow

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## ITEMS TO NOTE AT CMS

- The CMS Virtual Coin Club will meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month via Google Meets. If you are interested in joining, please email Anne Lacy at [alacy@cusd.kahoks.org](mailto:alacy@cusd.kahoks.org).

### Food Mobile Market

**Cost: FREE**- supporting families in need

**Monday December 14<sup>th</sup>**

10:00-11:00 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.

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.

For more information please contact our Collinsville Unit 10 social workers

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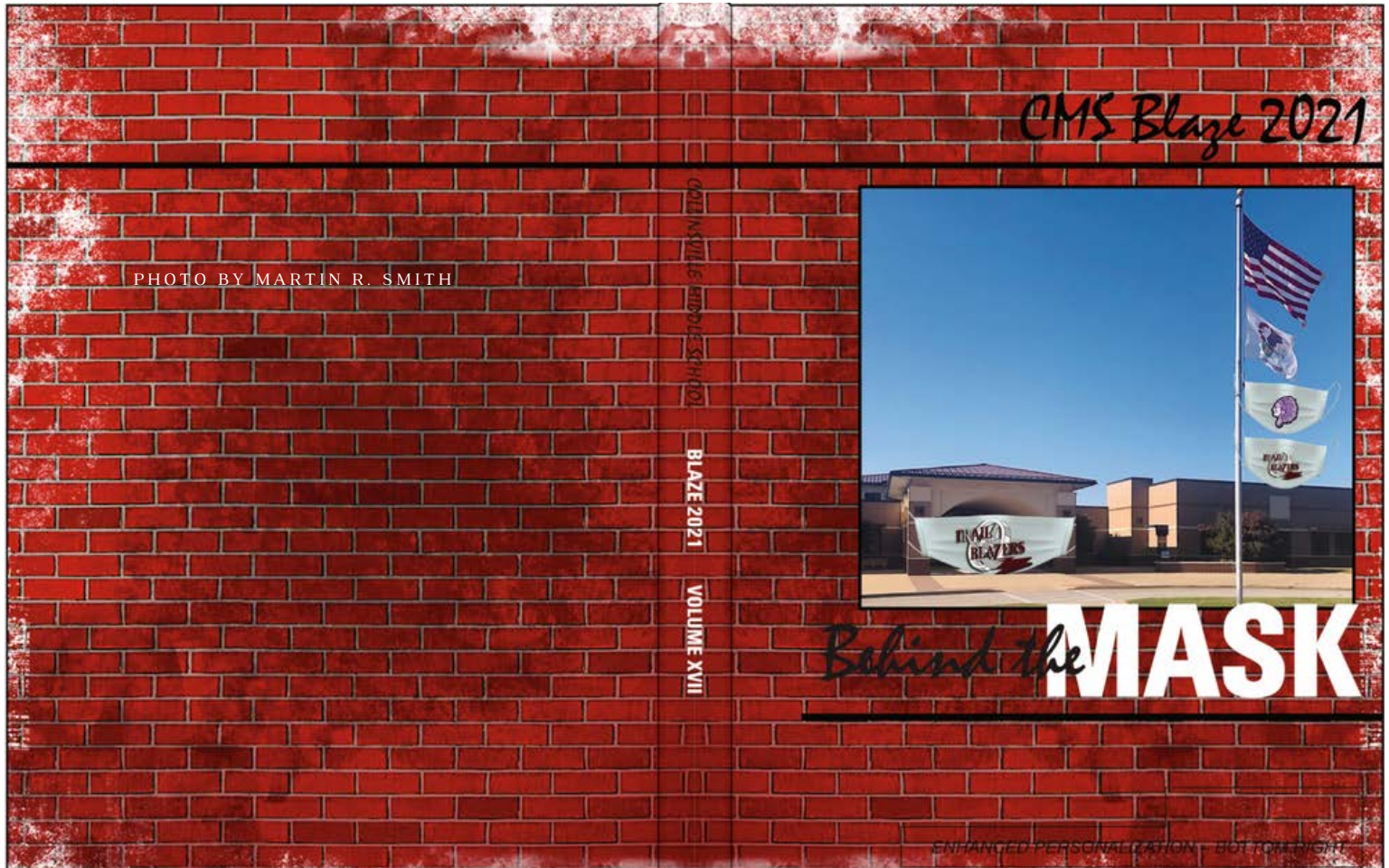
NJHS has been busy so far this year. For our October/November group service project we are going to be helping out Paulette, who works in the CMS cafeteria, feed the cats she cares for year round at Fairmont Park RaceTrack. She is very dedicated as she feeds many, many cats 7 days a week, 365 days a year! We ended up collecting 6 small, 4 medium, and 11 large bags of cat food. If anyone is still interested in helping out, you may bring a bag of cat food to Mrs. Goeken's room and she will make sure it gets to the correct person.

NJHS was asked to help out with CHS Deca and Multi-cultural club with a community service project to collect coats, scarves, hats, hoodies, gloves, mittens, and anything to keep our St. Louis/Metro-East homeless or needy WARM this winter. You can donate any of the above items that are new or used and cleaned or cash by bringing them to Mrs. Goeken's room in C139. A \$5 donation buys coats for 10 people. As of Friday, we have collected 7 children's coats, and 2 pairs of kid's snow pants, and 7 adult coats, 1 adult snow suit, and along with \$45. We completed this service project, but we will still take donations and get them to the appropriate individuals.

For our December service project, we will be adopting 2 families for Christmas. NJHS members will be required to bring in a donation of a gift for the family member they choose. We always look forward to helping out our community.



**Congratulations to seventh grader Kylie Noonan for winning the annual yearbook cover design contest. She was assisted by Laila Hutchinson and Ashley Janini. These girls will receive free yearbooks. Be sure to order yearbooks before March on Jostens website. There is a link on the school's website.**



**The CMS Choir has had their first concert! It was a virtual video concert! Here is the link if you didn't see it on the school website:**

**<https://youtu.be/I8HuRAMksjQ>**

**Stay tuned for the Christmas Concert coming in January!**

**FYI- ELL is getting ready to give the annual ACCESS test that will begin January 11. The current plan is for these students to take the test on Mondays. As we get closer to the date, we will be pulling students one-by-one to discuss their current scores and their testing dates.**

# The Annual YOUNG AUTHORS CONTEST



## Interested in writing a book?

- No copyrighted characters (Spongebob)
- Partner projects are allowed, but no groups larger
- Substantial book cover required
- Deadline will be in mid-January
- Questions? Contact Mrs. Juelfs

# Christmas/Holiday Remote Spirit Week

## ***Monday 12/14- Dress to Impress...Santa! Day***



Wear your holiday best and dress like you are headed to work or a fancy party!



## ***Tuesday 12/15- Ugly Sweater Day***

Wear a Christmas/Holiday shirt or sweater...the tackier the better!



## ***Wednesday 12/16- Christmas/Holiday Character Day***



Wear a Christmas/Holiday character or theme: Santa, elves, reindeer, presents, tree topper, angels, the Grinch, snowmen, etc!



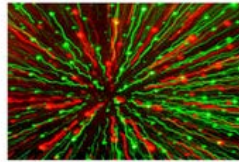
## Thursday 12/17- Christmas/Holiday Family Photo Day



Dress up as twins or in a group, wear a Christmas/Holiday themed outfit!



## Friday 12/18- Christmas/Holiday Explosion Day



Wear extreme red, white, and green from head to toe!



## Monday 12/21- Pajama Day



Wear \*school appropriate\* pajamas!



## Tuesday 12/22- Hat Day!



Wear a Santa hat, elf ears, or antlers if you've got 'em! Otherwise, any hat will do!



## HEALTH OFFICE PROTOCOLS FOR IN PERSON INSTRUCTION

### **Symptoms of COVID-19: Do not send your child to school with any of the following symptoms:**

Fever 100 degrees or greater- Chills- Cough- Shortness of Breath/Difficulty Breathing- Fatigue- Sore Muscles/Body Aches-Headache-Loss of Taste or Smell- Sore Throat - Congestion/Runny Nose- Nausea/Vomiting- Diarrhea

### **Symptoms and Suspected Case of COVID-19**

If a student becomes ill with COVID-19 like symptoms while at school, the school nurse will be notified. Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidelines will be utilized to assess when /if students should be sent home due to their symptoms. If any of the above symptoms are present and new to the student and not the result of a recurring health condition such as seasonal allergies or asthma, your child will remain in the health office and a parent/guardian will be notified to pick up their child as quickly as possible.

### **Symptomatic or suspected students will need to follow one of the following procedures in order to return to school:**

- **10 day isolation at home** with remote learning: **OR**
- **A medical doctor's note** ( written documentation) stating the diagnosis to explain the symptoms; **OR**
- **Proof (written documentation) of a negative COVID-19 test**

If your child is sent home from school with symptoms of COVID-19, the rest of the household must be quarantined. **Siblings in unit 10 schools, will also need to be picked up from school as quickly as possible.**

**Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 will need a Health Department Release (written documentation) if positive for covid or close contact to a positive family member.**

### **Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 and Close Contacts**

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 at school or in your child's classroom, the CHS staff will work closely with the local county health department to determine which individuals are considered "close contacts" to that positive person. Close contacts will be identified through contact tracing, a public health measure used to stop the spread of the virus. Your cooperation is appreciated. Confidentiality will be preserved as required by law. *Close contacts are defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes (cumulative ) with or without a mask starting from 2 calendar days before the onset of illness and until the positive person isolates.*

You will be notified if your child is ever considered a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case. Close contacts are required to quarantine in their home and utilize remote learning for 14 days ( starting after the last day of exposure to the positive person) , per IDPH guidelines. If your child is in contact with someone outside of school who tested positive for COVID-19 , or is a family member of a suspected case of COVID-19, please notify your school nurse/attendance office immediately. At that time your child will need to stay home for 14 days after the last day of contact with the positive person. They will receive remote learning during this time.



*December  
Sports  
Snapshot*



**IMPORTANT DATES!**

**December 7- Math MAP Test**

**December 23-31- Winter Break- No School**

# 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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