

# THE TRAILBLAZER

Collinsville Middle School's Newsletter



## From the Principal's Desk

CMS Families,

We are now back into full swing with a month under our belt. It is great to see students back in the school and people getting vaccines. Hopefully we can remain in a hybrid learning mode for the time being and then begin to bring more students back in the building if our COVID numbers stay low.

We also announced last week that spring sports will be starting up. Boys' basketball and girls' volleyball have already had sign-ups and are having tryouts. Girls basketball will be pushed back until after the volleyball and boys' basketball season. This will allow us to make better use of our gym time.

Students who are interested in bowling can participate in the weekly trainings at Camelot Bowl. Unfortunately, we will not be allowing spectators in the gym during the games. We are still limited on how many people can be in the gym at one time.

I would like to remind everyone about our digital library. Log into the Collinsville Media Center/Library page to access the database and check out books.

Our next holiday will be February 15th for President's Day. If we have any e-learning days due to weather, make sure your child is logging in to their classes and checking Google Classroom.

Finally, we are able to do COVID testing at CMS. If your child is showing symptoms, make sure to complete the permission slip for our nurse to perform the test.

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

**February 8<sup>th</sup>** 10:00-11:30am

**March 8<sup>th</sup>** 10:00- 11:30am

**April 12<sup>th</sup>** 10:00- 11:30am

**Collinsville Middle School (CMS)**

9649 Collinsville Rd, Collinsville, IL 62234



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.

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 more information please contact our Collinsville Unit 10 social workers

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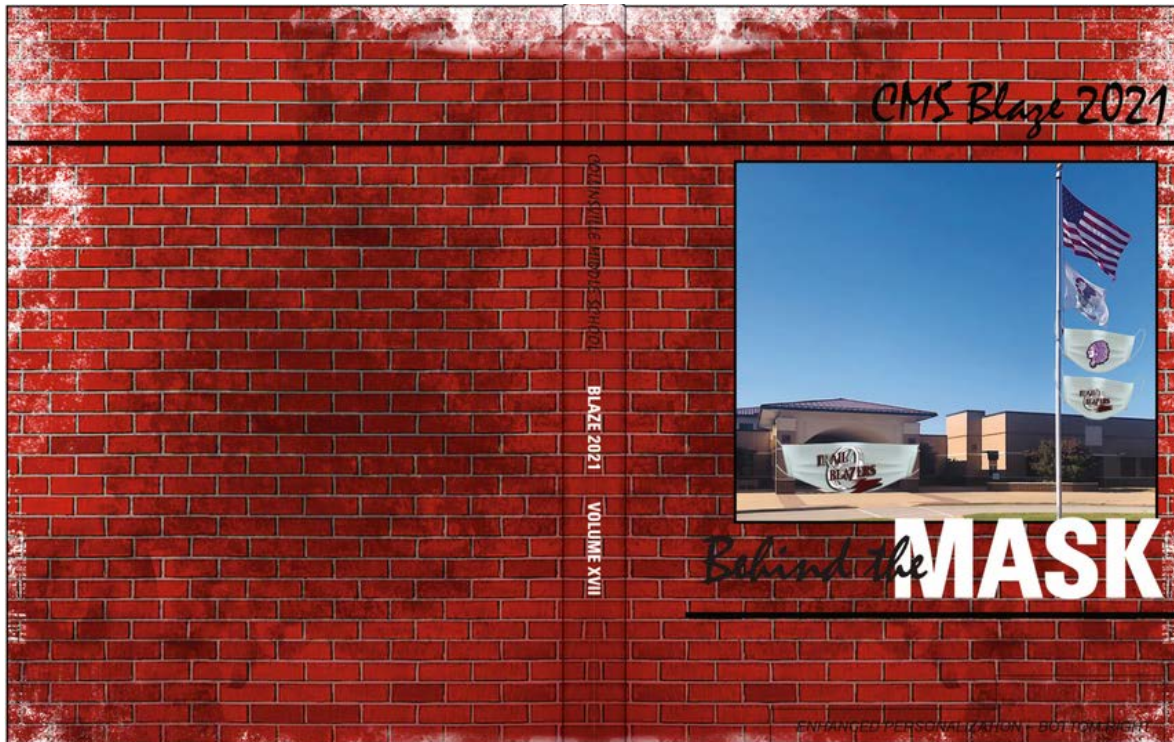
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Congratulations to seventh grader Kylie Noonan for winning the annual yearbook cover design contest. She was assisted by Laila Hutchinson and Ashley Janini. These girls will receive free yearbooks.

Yearbook sales continue through February! Don't miss out on this special year! See the link to Jostens on our school's website. See Mrs. Juelfs if you have any questions.





The NJHS completed their December/January service project, and delivered the cat food to Paulette in the cafeteria. She was so thankful and said it would last her into the Spring. Way to go NJHSers!

January/February service project will be to make cards for local healthcare workers, thanking them for their hard work. We will also be delivering goodies to local first responders.

January/February are busy months for us. We will also be visiting all of the 7th grade study halls here at CMS, to share with students what NJHS is and how they can qualify to become an 8th grade member.





The CMS Choir completed their 2nd Virtual Concert! They have been rehearsing daily both in Google Meets with me and on their own. They then videoed themselves at home while singing with a recording of my directing. The amount of work that goes into a virtual concert is pretty amazing!

Thanks to Mr. Hayman's expertise of putting it all together for us, we have been able to continue to perform this year!

Please enjoy their concert at the following link:  
[https://youtu.be/-\\_u6qNIF9p0](https://youtu.be/-_u6qNIF9p0).

Mrs. McDonald

## 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.

## *February Sports Snapshot*

CMS Track 2021: We will have a season, even if it is only practices and competing intra-squad. At this time, we do not have a start date. What you can do is make sure you have a current physical on file that is valid through May 21, 2021. Please call the CMS school nurse at 618-343-2162 to check. No athlete will be able to try-out without a valid physical on file.

**Please see next page for more important sports related information!**



## **IMPORTANT DATES!**

**February 5- Midterm**

**February 15- President's Day- No School**

On Friday January 22nd, the Governor and IDPH made a major announcement dealing with athletics within the state of Illinois. Up until Friday, our region among many others has been in Tier 3 mitigation status. This meant that we had a "pause" on all athletics at the point. Our Governor and IDPH, on the 22nd, announced that they have changed the state's guidance of each individual Tier status and what they mean in regards to each level of scholastic athletics.

The announcement moved our COVID region (region 4) from Tier 3 status to Tier 2 status. At this moment this information means the following for our winter sports...

#### **Lower Risk Sports (Cheerleading, Dance)**

1. Full practices are permitted.
2. Contests may be conducted with opponents within conference, or their EMS region. All contests must be conducted with opponents at a mitigation level that allows contests to be played.

Gathering Limitations

### **No spectators are allowed.**

#### **Medium Risk Sports (Volleyball)**

1. Full Practices may be conducted.
2. Intra-squad scrimmages may be conducted with parental consent.
3. No contests may be conducted

#### **High Risk Sports (Basketball)**

1. Non-contact practices may be conducted.
3. Intra-squad scrimmages may NOT be conducted.
3. No contests may be conducted.

**Wrestling** is deemed a High-Risk Sport but at this time in accordance with the IHSA, we are still unsure of the direction of our wrestling program at this time.

**\*\*All athletic participants MUST have a current up to date physical (395 days) on file with Collinsville Middle School.**

**\*\*All participants and coaches must wear a face covering that fully covers their nose and mouth and fits snugly against the sides of the face with no gaps, whether indoors or outdoors, when unable to maintain at least 6 feet social distance from another individual, unless a medical condition prohibits the participant from wearing a face covering.**

Our association, the **Southern Illinois High School Athletic Association (SIHSAA)** has adjusted the schedule of athletics for the rest of the year.



# 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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