BOXHOLDER Coleman, MI 48618

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February 2023

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From the Desk of the Superintendent

Jennifer McCormack, Superintendent jmccormack@colemanschools.net

Dear Comet Community,

Over half of the school year has already come and gone and it just doesn't seem possible! This season brought some fantastic staff members to add to our Comet Team. While some schools are still looking for teachers, we have a full faculty, have added additional help



on the custodial team, and are able to use at-risk funding to bring in paraprofessionals and a full-time secretarial aide to assist in the main offices of the schools. We had our choice of many applicants and it's exciting so many quality people want to work for Coleman Schools so we can serve you. New programming and supports have been added as well. Some of the new State health and safety categorical funds provide additional people and resources such as Critical Incident Mapping to assist First Responders in helping our community should there be a need. Coupled with the community's support of the recently renewed School Resource Officer enhancement millage, we ensure the safety of all who enter our buildings. Our work with Clare-Gladwin RESD and the 21st Century State grants are allowing for elementary before school SPARKS programming to complement the current after school and summer programs. And, the Jr./Sr. High will have a SPARKS/Ignite program before and after school and during the summer, thanks to this grant. The Culinary Career-Technical Education (CTE) Program at The Depot recently received a \$110,000 grant from Midland Area Community Foundation and Midland County Youth Action Council toward start-up and building costs.

Later in this newsletter, you'll read about our visit from MDE and the positive things that they had to say about our district. It's the constant goal of every person in the Coleman District to provide these positive and varied opportunities for our students. As part of the multi-year Facilities Plan, we are asking the community to VOTE by Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023, either by absentee or in-person ballot for the updated Coleman District Bond Proposal. More information will be posted on our website and sent to community members' homes and businesses. Specific facts about this new bond can be found later in this newsletter. Please know that the Board listened to the input shared by the community and responded. This proposal

is a significant reduction in "ask" from the previous bond proposal in August 2021 and focuses specifically on the Jr./Sr. High School, which is our greatest current need. Recapturing and renovating space and updated HVAC systems will provide more classrooms better suited to 21st century hands-on collaborative instruction, instructional support offices and conference rooms while replacing all furniture including lockers. The auditorium and auxiliary gym proposed previously have been removed; a minor renovation of the current auditorium and gym locker rooms/ wooden bleachers will be completed. Don't forget to VOTE by Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023 on this bond proposal! We are also looking for those interested in getting information to the entire community. If you would be willing, please contact me at 989.465.6060 or jmccormack@colemanschools.net as soon as possible.

- Jennifer McCormack, Supt./Special Education Supervisor

18th Annual Booster Bonanza!

By the time you are reading this, we will have already celebrated our 18th Annual Booster Bonanza featuring our guest, former Red Wing Darren McCarty (pictured, right)! This huge event is hosted annually by the Coleman Athletic Boosters Club in support of Coleman Schools Athletics. This year's event was on Saturday, February 11th. Historically, funds that we earn from this event are used to purchase necessities like uniforms, equipment, concession licenses, AED upkeep, and any other essentials that pop up for our 24 athletic teams. Your engagement is a strong show of support for our students and



your belief in the Comet Family. If you attended this event, THANK YOU for helping to create a sense of pride and allowing us to provide rewarding experiences for our young athletes! If you didn't make it this time, we hope to see you next year!

From the Desk of the Athletic Director

Christian Maloney, Athletic Director cmaloney@colemanschools.net

Go Comets!

With the winter season well underway, there are many things I would like to fill everyone in on.

In the fall, many Comets made all-conference teams. In 8-Man Football, Isaiah Biers made 2nd team offense and defense all-conference. Sam Bovee, Mason Tucker, and Jared Devrieze made the 2nd team defensive all-conference team. Ty Murray, Vance Sysak, and Dakota Lattimer made the Honorable Mention team. Of course, these boys couldn't have done it without the support of our tremendous sideline cheer team by their side. Led by their head coach Amy Klopf, the girls did fantastic this year.

Katherine Schallhorn entered her 1st year as the Varsity head volleyball coach, and accomplished a lot this season with hosting a special teacher's appreciation night and leading the girls to the district finals. Nevaeh Chaffee, Amber Nehrig, Brooklyn Lattimer, and Maddie Miller all made the Honorable Mention Volleyball team for the MSAC. The middle school volleyball team and the 7th and 8th Grade Girls basketball team had a lot of fun! I would like to give a shoutout to Melissa Allen (JH Volleyball Coach) and Hunter Frisbie (JH Girls Basketball Coach) for doing a tremendous job coaching these girls. I heard and saw nothing but great things from these two.

Our Cross Country boys and girls teams for middle and high school did a tremendous job this fall. Kaylee Aultman made 1st team all-conference, and Logan Dudley made 2nd team all-conference. I would like to give a shout-out and special thanks to all of our fall coaches: Chad Klopf (Varsity Football Coach), Katherine Schallhorn (Varsity Volleyball Coach), Jerry Falor (Boys/Girls Cross Country Coach), Laken Berthume (JV Volleyball Coach), Jessica Araway (Assistant Volleyball Coach), Nick Katzinger (Assistant Varsity and JV Football

Coach), Steve Fox (JV Football Coach and Assistant Varsity Football Coach), Amy Klopf (Sideline Cheer Coach), Rob Glazier (Assistant Varsity Football Coach), Melissa Allen (JH Volleyball Coach), and Hunter Frisbie (JH Girls Basketball Head Coach).

Separately, I would like to recognize Chad Klopf, Steve Fox, Rob Glazier, and Nick Katzinger. Between the four of them they coached Varsity, JV, and the Middle School Football teams this year. It is because of dedicated individuals like these four that we are able to give students the best middle school and high school experiences possible.

Now for the Winter season: The Co-op Wrestling program with Beaverton High School has been very successful. Coach Ostahowski has done a tremendous job with the boys this season. Our girls and boys bowling coaches Bill Francis (Girls Head Coach) and Scott Hayes (Boys Head Coach) have been working hard to continue the success of the bowling program.

Nick Katzinger entered his 7th season as the Varsity Girls Basketball Coach. He is assisted by Chad Klopf. Laken Berthume enters her 2nd year as the JV Girls Basketball Coach. Laken has done a great job working with the varsity staff to ensure the future of Comet basketball is successful. Amy Klopf returns as the Head Coach for the Competitive Cheer team this year, and a former Comet cheerleader and long-time assistant to Amy, Summer Yancer, is the JH Competitive Cheer Coach. Dirk Smith and the JV Boys Basketball team continue to work hard everyday to prepare the future of Comet Basketball.

I would like to take this last paragraph to give a special shoutout to Chad and Amy Klopf. The amount of time they sacrifice and dedication they give to our student athletes is nothing short of incredible. I am extremely grateful for all of their help and support they have given the school, athletics, and the community. Everything they do they do in the best interest of our student athletes, and I am proud to work with them.

Girls Basketball Districts will be hosted by Montabella on February 27. Boys Basketball Districts will be hosted by Breckenridge on March 6th. Boys and Girls Bowling Regionals will be in Gaylord on February 24/25. Competitive Cheer Districts will be on February 18th and hosted by Marion. Spring sports first practice begins on March 7th. **Go Comets!**



The 2022-2023 school year has been full of learning, growing, achieving, and making memories. This year,

From the Desk of Mrs. Hess Jennifer Hess, Jr/Sr High Principal

jhess@colemanschools.net

we have a goal to have each student connect with one adult. Our staff has been working extra hard to be sure students feel important, heard, valued, and noticed. This has been done through making concerted efforts of asking how students are, setting goals with students, having students keep track of their progress/growth, and joining in some fun together.

Our AG and Culinary programs continue to provide students with unique opportunities. In AG this year, students have raised feeder chickens, grown salmon, taken care of beef and dairy feeders, produced vegetables, and attended the FFA convention in Indianapolis. In Culinary, students have learned the basic skills of cooking/cleaning/safety, made omelets for the Country Club, and catered a Gerstacker Christmas party in Midland.

We continue to weave our Leader in Me practices into our everyday learning. Students are often told to "put first things first," "think win-win," "keep the end in mind," etc. We are also supporting students with extra social-emotional learning, sensory breaks, and mindful activities. This helps us all maintain focus and stay emotionally healthy.

Our students participated in art and writing contests, band and choir events, drama productions, college field trips, career/tech happenings, athletic events, Quiz Bowl, blood drives, and community service. We continue to help them become well-rounded citizens and contributors. We are so very thankful for all of our students, parents, and community members. Your support and partnerships will help us continue to create tomorrow's leaders through academics, arts, athletics, and agriculture. - Jennifer Hess, Principal

Our Visit from MDE!

The district gave a tour of our buildings and facilities to Ms. Teri Rink and Ms. Rebecca McIntyre from the Michigan Department of Education on January 12th! Ms. Rink said more than once how many things we have going on and that even being small, we haven't let that stop us; there are so many great things happening here. Ms. McIntyre had this to say after their two-and-a-half hour tour: "A few things that interested me were the **real-world opportunities** that are available for students to learn while in school so they can **seamlessly transition into the adult world** and apply skills such as communication in American Sign



Language, raising livestock, working on John Deere tractors, operating a restaurant and preparing and ordering food. Classrooms were very quiet and full of student engagement in each building we went into, and the closed campus certainly has benefits for the entire community. We appreciated the opportunity!!" Thank you, ladies, for your visit. We are so glad you had a nice time! Ms. Rink and Ms. McIntyre are pictured here meeting Mrs. Lattimer, Opie, and Dairy Moo, in the agriscience barn.

Leaderin Me.

Our Leader In Me Extravaganza at the elementary school was so much fun! In December, we invited our families for a night to learn about Leader In Me and the 7 Habits. We had been working so hard and couldn't wait to share our learning. There were games, activities, a selfie station, and food. Students at each grade level led the activities and games to help teach the 7 Habits. Most importantly, there was a wonderful amount of energy throughout the building. It was a great turnout and we can't wait for our next event!







From the Desk of Nurse Weber

Korin Weber, School Nurse kweber@colemanschools.net

LET'S GET PUMPED FOR HEART MONTH! February is Heart Awareness Month, and I am encouraging you to focus on an organ no bigger than a large fist and weighing 8 to 12 ounces... your heart! Heart disease is the number one killer of both men and women in the United States. Managing our diet and adopting healthy eating habits is one way we



can protect our heart. I hope you find this chart helpful in deciphering portion size and in deciding healthy food choices.



Family Center Upcoming Programs & Events

February 21st - March 28th; Tuesdays 5:30 - 6:30 pm March 2nd - April 13th; Thursdays 6:30 - 7:15 pm March 2nd - April 13th; Thursdays 5:30 - 6:15 pm March 6th; 10 am - 12 pm (call to make pickup appt) April 22nd, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Adult Yoga Class (\$45/6 wks)
Kids' Ballet Class (\$40/kid)
Kids' Tumbling 2 Class (\$40/kid)
Free food distribution
Spring Craft Bazaar (\$25/vendor)

To register for any of these programs or events, please call (989) 465 - 2079 or email rdeshone@greatermidland.org

Job Opportunities www.colemanschools.net/page/employment-opportunities/

We're looking for both subs and permanent employees! Visit our website to apply. Listed below are our current open positions:

- Para-Professional
- LEGO League advisor
- Robotics Advisor
- Tech Challenge Advisor
- Kitchen Staff
- Bus Driver
- Substitute Teachers
- Substitute Para-Professionals

Haven't done the job before but think you might be great at it? A little nervous about learning something new? We are willing to train those with the right qualifications!



New Microscopes for Jr/Sr High Science Classes!

Recently, Mr. McCormack's Biology class completed a cell lab comparing plant to animal cells using 15 top-of-the-line microscopes. The students objective was to use their own cheek cells to compare with common onion cells. Coleman puts a strong focus on securing funds in Science to provide students resources that will best guide their learning at a high level. Zoology courses are also funded for dissections at a level to rival many Division 1 colleges for the same course. Thank you to our anonymous donors for providing the funding for these microscopes. You are appreciated!

DAR Good Citizens Award Winner!

Congrats to our Comet Ty
Murray for earning the
prestigious DAR Good Citizens
Award! Ty was chosen by our
teachers to represent Coleman
in this contest. He was chosen
for his character, leadership
qualities, and involvement in
school activities. Pictured is
Ty, his father, Jason Murray,
and Mrs. Shumaker. We are so
proud of your hard work and
commitment, Ty. Congrats to
the other area recipients of the
award, as well!



From the Desk of Mrs. Araway

Cindy Araway, Elementary Principal caraway@colemanschools.net







Did you know...

- That Coleman Elementary is a Leader in Me school, which helps us create well-rounded learners by developing the whole-person and helping students become life-ready learners? Our students have the opportunity to fulfill a variety of leadership roles. Some of those roles include: News Reporter, Paparazzi, Greeter, Lost and For
 - those roles include: News Reporter, Paparazzi, Greeter, Lost and Found Patrol, Technology Turn-Off Leaders, and Habit Huddle Emcee.
- That Coleman Elementary is home to the Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) program where those males significant in a student's life (dads, grandpas, uncles, family friends) are invited to spend a day volunteering in our school? Contact Richard Templeman at 989-465-6179 if you would like to be a Watch D.O.G.S. volunteer.
- That at Coleman Elementary School, we play I Spy every day? Adults throughout the school are constantly on the lookout for opportunities to reward leadership behavior. Ask the CES Comets that you know if they have recently earned any "I Spy a Leader" tickets.
- That CES regularly incorporates agricultural science learning throughout the curriculum? Students in all grade levels, K-6, have the opportunity to weave agriscience concepts and practices into their daily learning. Whether it's growing plants, studying seeds, learning the composition of a pizza, or learning the process for maple syrup production and preparation, the ideas and practices of agriscience are talked about, written about, studied, and practiced throughout a child's learning experience at Coleman Schools.
- That Coleman Elementary is home to a Student Council, National Elementary Honor Society chapter, Elementary Choir, and a before and after-school SPARKS program?

Kindergarten Registration Night!

It is nearly kindergarten registration time! All children who will be five (5) years old before September 1, 2023 are invited to send their adults to Coleman Elementary School (CES) on Thursday, March 2 at 6:30 PM for Kindergarten Registration Night (adults only please). Attendees at this event will have the opportunity to win prizes, meet kindergarten teachers, visit classrooms, ask questions, and learn about the CES kindergarten program. Adults are asked to bring these items for registration:

Birth Certificate, Proof of Residency (2 items), Immunization Record, and Hearing and Vision Screening Results.

Schools of Choice applications will be available for those who live outside of the Coleman district. We are looking forward to the opportunity to meet the families of our newest Comets! Questions regarding Kindergarten Registration Night may be directed to the school office at 989-465-6179 or by email to Mrs. Araway at caraway@colemanschools.net.

Welcome Class of 2036!

6th Grade Outdoor Education

"What do you mean we're going outside to learn?"

This year Mrs. Klopf and Mrs. Lynch's 6th grade classes have focused some of their learning outdoors. The land lab and forest area located on the District's campus have become an extension of their classroom. Outdoor education takes the organized, typical lessons of a traditional classroom and puts it into an environment that allows for more engagement and investigation. Instead of applying their learning with worksheets, papers, or discussions, students are getting dirty and applying their learning in real world ecosystems. Within those lessons students are investigating and creating educational spaces that can be shared with the whole district. Currently, students are working with Chippewa Nature Center educator Mr. Rod Kitzmiller to create trails, open spaces, and learning spots within the 2 acres of forest behind the high school. This spring students will lead other classes through the trails and learning spaces and teach lessons that can be used to engage students of all ages.





Patriot's Pen Essay Contest Winners!



In October, 7th grade students wrote essays for an essay contest called "My Pledge to Our Veterans" sponsored by the VFW. Winning first place was Emmi Carr, and second place was awarded to Raegen McCoy. Charlee Rhode earned third place. Each winner was awarded a cash prize, courtesy of VFW Post #1071. Congratulations to our essay winners, and a special thank you to VFW Post #1071 for their generous prize donations!



Voices of Democracy Essay Contest Winner!

Freshman Emma Ranck won 1st place in the VFW Voices of Democracy contest when she wrote an essay in English entitled, "Why is the Veteran Important." She had to record herself reading the essay and won 1st prize in her grade level. She earned a certificate for being "An Outstanding Spokesperson for Freedom," as well as a cash prize. Congrats, Emma!



Drama Club Presents "Cinderella" For their annual Spring performance! Coming up on March 17th and 18th

The high school Drama Club will be presenting Rogers & Hammerstein's "Cinderella" this year for their annual spring production! This event is open to the community: Tickets are \$5 for kids ages 5-12 and \$8 for kids and adults 13+. Students from Elementary to High School will perform in this play, and some awesome teachers are helping out! Mrs. Tallman is doing vocals/choreography, Mrs. Zylman is Assistant Director, Mr. Brown is guiding the STEAM class with set-building (thanks, students!), and Mrs. Shumaker is directing.

Also, a big thank you to the community members that have helped us find set pieces and costuming! If any business would like an advertisement in our program, please contact Joanna Shumaker at jshumaker@colemanschools.net.

Come and take photos with Cinderella and a REAL carriage after the play!

New Bond Proposal Information - You Spoke, We Listened!



After eight community meetings, several paper and online surveys, and considering all the feedback in-depth, we have settled on plans for a new bond proposal! We've reduced it to reflect only the most important district needs at this time with a focus on student **safety, instructional excellence, and additional opportunities.** This bond vote includes: minor renovations to the current auditorium and renovations of the current gym locker rooms, addition of two classrooms along with reconfiguration and renovation of the existing building to recapture space, replacing furniture and lockers and modernizing updates to all building

systems including HVAC, among other necessary improvements. The community has taken good care of the building for over 48 years, but it is time to update!

BOND FACTS

\$15.36 MILLION FUNDS GENERATED \$10.42/MO (TAXABLE VALUE \$50,000) 2.5 MILLAGE RATE INCREASE \$125.00/YR FOR \$100,000 HOME

FFA Awards!

Congratulations to the following students who will be receiving degrees at Michigan FFA State Convention this Year! **Outstanding Junior Degree:** Hannah Burkhard, Sam Bovee, Mallory Croslin, Izzy Diehl, Harley Lattimer, Timeea Middleton, Madison Miller, Rhea Robison, Gunner Staley, and Vance Sysak. **State FFA Degree:** Katelyn Cozat, Brooklynn Lattimer, Abigail Yancer, Cole Bailey and Dalton Rinehart. Additionally, Hannah Burkhard has been selected to be in the State FFA Band and perform at State FFA Convention. Congratulations to all!





This year's big 24-hr donation event, Give Local Midland, is on Tuesday, May 2nd 2023! Donations from this event go to our Endowment Fund, which can be used for student needs, projects, programs, electives, and extracurriculars. Although you can donate to our endowment fund anytime of year, there are extra prizes and matching funds that are rewarded to Midland County nonprofits that raise a significant amount of donations during this event! If you would like to help fundraise or sponsor this event, please contact Natalie Rogers for more information! Email her at nrogers@colemanschools.net.

Calling all Coleman Class of 1973 Grads!

If you graduated from Coleman High School in 1973, you are coming up on your 50th graduation anniversary! We cordially invite you to join us preceding our students' graduation ceremony to recognize those of you that still have that same Comet pride -- 50 years later! Graduation this year will be on May 21st at 2 pm. Please contact Kerry Berthume to confirm that you are attending so we will have a certificate for you! Call (989) 465-6060 or email her at kberthume@colemanschools.net.

AWARD DONOR FORM

The Coleman Board Scholar Program was started forty years ago. The purpose of the program is to award students who display academic and citizenship excellence. The Coleman Community School District appreciates the generous support of donors such as you; without you there would be no program.

Awards are distributed based on years of achievement (6-year scholars would each receive the highest amount, followed by 5-year scholars, etc.). We feel being a 6-year scholar is a tremendous accomplishment and should be awarded accordingly.

We ask for your help in honoring students for their years of maintaining high academic standards. If you have any comments or concerns, please contact Kerry Berthume at (989)465-6060. The students of Coleman Community Schools and staff thank you for your interest and generosity.

Donor's Name:	Pho	Phone # ()		
Address:				
(Street, Box)	(City)	(State)	(Zip)	
\$ Amount Donate	ed			
(Optional): Donor's Contribution in honor ly (All donors will be listed in the pro	•	n they are honoring if	one is named)	
Yes, I would like	e to have a copy of the pro	gram sent to me (ple	ease check).	
Thank you again for your support	!			

Please enclose your check (made out to: <u>Coleman Board Scholars</u>) along with this Awards Donor Form and send it to: Coleman Community Schools, Attn: Board Scholars, 4823 N. Coleman Schools Drive, Coleman MI 48618 no later than **March 1, 2023**.

This year's program is scheduled for <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>March 21</u>, <u>2023 beginning at 6:30 p.m</u>. If you have any questions, please call (989)465-6060.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING COLEMAN SCHOOL STUDENTS!

Board Members

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates

President: Lorie Fox

Vice President: Travis Aultman

Secretary: Angela Brooks
Treasurer: Chris Blake
Trustee: Jennifer Murray
Trustee: Nathan Clarke
Trustee: Joe Grabowski

February 20th, 2023 March 20th, 2023 April 17th, 2023 May 15th, 2023 June 19th, 2023 Each meeting (except June's) will take place in the **Jr/Sr High Auditorium at 6:30 pm.**The June meeting begins at

6:00 pm.

Contact the Board directly anytime at

board@colemanschools.net

All Board Meetings are accessible to the public. Agendas and minutes are always viewable on the Board of Education page on the school website:

colemanschools.net/page/board

Important Numbers

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ADMINISTRATION OFFICE 4823 N. Coleman Schools Drive Hours: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Phone: (989) 465-6060; (989)465-1891 Fax: (989) 465-9853
Superintendent/Special Education Supervisor: Jennifer McCormackx2104Board/Superintendent Administrative Assistant: Kerry Berthumex2108Business Manager: Sara Hegelx2102Payroll/Benefits Specialist: Lorrie Nilssonx2101Community Relations Specialist/Accounts Payable: Natalie Rogersx2105Athletic Director: Christian MaloneyK-12 Dean of Students: Karly Larsen
AGRISCIENCE BUILDING 4858 N. Coleman Schools Drive
Instructors: Eric Fischer & Marie Zwemmer
CULINARY BUILDING 320 E. Railway Street
Instructor: Chef Matthew Fitchett
BUS GARAGE 5200 W. Comet Lane
Phone: (989) 465-6811; Fax: (989) 465-6859
Transportation Supervisor: Michael Cowell x2502 Maintenance/Custodial Supervisor: Wade O'Dell x2500
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL1010 E. Washington StreetHours: 8:00 am - 4:00 pmPhone: (989) 465-6179; Fax: (989) 465-9854; Special Education Fax: (989) 465-9861Principal: Cindy Arawayx2252Head Secretary: Linda Lovejoyx2200Special Education Secretary: Breanna Bressettex2256
JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL 4951 N. Lewis Rd Hours: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Sr High Phone: (989) 465-6171; Jr High Phone: (989) 465-6177; Fax: (989) 465-9222

Principal: Jennifer Hessx2451Head Secretary: Nancy Sianx2400Athletic Secretary: Laurie Bellx2300