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Associate Principal Karen McDaniel

Assistant Principals Maureen Borto Wesley Drew Christopher Glander Valerie Piehl Joseph Schaller Bradley Sever Amy Skeens-Benton Toby Steele Brittany Wiseman

> Athletic Director Jim Inskeep

> Assistant Athletic Director Jeff Hester

Phone Numbers Switchboard 317-846-7721 Attendance 317-571-5915 Counseling 317-571-5922

DECEMBER 2023



A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL DR. TIM PHARES

This time of year contains many holidays observed by our Greyhound family. I have to always remind myself to slow down and enjoy the holidays with my family and friends because of the hustle and bustle for the time of the year. At CHS, we always have a lot of successes to celebrate within our Greyhound family and I'd like to highlight two of the many events.

Our Marching Greyhounds wrapped up another successful year as they finished second at Bands of America Grand Nationals. Their dedication to their craft and skill is something that all individuals could emulate. Their precision and attention to detail is something that I admire. Our special band community could not do it without our amazing staff and parent volunteers. We are very appreciative of their efforts to bring another successful year to Carmel High School!

As you are reading this, our Holiday Spectacular is in the middle of five wonderful performances. It just blows me away at the talent on the stage. It was fun for some of our elementary students to come over and see the production this year for a special matinee performance. The countless number of hours our students, staff, and parent volunteers commit to this program is greatly appreciated. We are so fortunate to have this production as part of CHS traditions.

If you haven't already read information regarding ACE week, please make sure to read the information provided in this newsletter. Your child should be aware of ACE week from presentations given to them during SSRT. If your child has questions, have them ask their SSRT teacher for any clarifying information.

It is hard to believe we are wrapping up our first semester. It just seems time is going by faster and faster. As a parent of two CHS students, it has seemed even faster once they enter high school. I hope each of you find time to relax and rejuvenate over winter break with friends, family, and those you love. We look forward to seeing our students on Tuesday, January 9 to start our second semester. Before long, we will be talking about graduating the Class of 2024!

Go Hounds!

Dr. Phares



TOP SCHOLAR

The CHS Top Scholars Recognition will undergo a transition in the spring of 2024. For the 2023-2024 school year, the Top Scholars program will recognize students in grades 11 and 12 who have earned excellent grades. This recognition honors roughly 3% of students with outstanding grade point averages. CHS seniors who are designated as Top Scholars and/or who qualify to be Distinguished Graduates will be invited to participate in an evening recognition program in April. For the 2024-2025 school year, CHS will transition this program to recognizing CHS Distinguished Graduates at the evening program in April. This year's Senior Top Scholars/Distinguished Graduate Celebration will be held in conjunction with the CHS Hall of Fame Induction on April 22, 2024. The in-person event will be limited to seniors, their two guests, honored mentors, and school administrators. Juniors will be recognized separately for their achievements. Notification of selection will be sent to parents via email in February. For more information, visit the *Activities* tab on the Carmel High School PTO webpage.





MARK YOUR CALENDAR March 5, 2023

On Tuesday, March 5th, all Carmel High School Juniors will take the SAT as required by the Indiana Department of Education. To ensure a successful testing environment, students in grades 9, 10 and 12 will have an E-Learning day. Additional information will be provided through school messenger in early 2024.

PREP FOR THE SAT/ACT

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FROM STUDENT SERVICES

ATTENDANCE OFFICE REMINDERS

We encourage you to use School Dismissal Manager (SDM) to help us manage absences, late arrivals, appointments, and leaving early. We encourage parents and guardians to download the app or bookmark the site.

- Any time your student is going to be late to school, please send us a message using School Dismissal Manager or the phone line. This will allow us to excuse your student's late arrival.
- You may elect to receive notifications from the PowerSchool App when your student has an unreported absence for any portion of school or tardy to a class throughout the day. If you would like to start receiving push notifications, please install the PowerSchool App on your mobile device. When downloading, use CCS Code GKZX. Once you are in the app, go to settings and allow notifications. If you receive a notification and your student is supposed to be at school, please contact your student and have them report to class. The PowerSchool app also allows parents and caregivers to monitor your student's attendance, regardless of push notifications.
- If you receive a push notification from PowerSchool that your student is marked UNV or TDU, this means we do not have a message from home about your student's absence. Please use School Dismissal Manager or the phone line to report the absence or late arrival.

STAYING INFORMED

We thank you for your partnership in helping your child(ren) be successful at Carmel High School. With so many avenues of support, we wanted to remind you of some of the best ways to stay informed:

- Be an observer in your child(ren)'s Canvas courses. This will allow you to see what they see including assignment information and deadlines. Please follow this link for instructions as to how to set up a parent Canvas account.
- Have access to PowerSchool through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. This will allow you to see the most current grade for your child(ren)'s courses. Please follow this link for instructions on how to access the PowerSchool Parent Portal.
- Reference the Parents section of the Carmel High School website for information about: reporting attendance, bus stops, lunches, calendars, textbook payments, tutoring, technology support (Canvas, Chromebook, Edmentum, PowerSchool).



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KROGER PROGRAM CONTEST

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Follow instructions at the link below and be sure to search for "Carmel High School PTO" or "NY210".

https://www.kroger.com/i/community/ community-rewards



November 10th - December 8th) and supporting Carmel High School PTO. (there will be one CHS parent winner & one CHS staff winner)

Email photo image of your Kroger Receipt to: "CHS.PTO.Central@gmail.com" no later than December 11th Winner will be announced via email by December 12th



To enroll your Kroger Community Rewards Program follow these steps:

- If you are not currently a Community Rewards Participant, sign up today!
- Go to krogercommunityrewards.com

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- 2. Log in using your Kroger.com information or create an account. Follow the prompts to link your Kroger Plus Card to 'Carmel High School PTO'.
- Organization #NY210. Select the "enroll" button at the bottom of the page. It will also display our address at 520 East Main Street to ensure you are selecting correct school PTO.

(EY STONE DENTISTRY

317 575-1120

BACKPACK PROGRAM

CHS PTO BACKPACK PROGRAM THANKS OUR **SPONSORS**

The CHS PTO Backpack Program sends food home on the weekends with CHS students who need extra nutrition. The program relies entirely on volunteers and donations from the community. We want to share our gratitude for the organizations who supported us during the fall semester by hosting food, toiletry, and monetary drives:

- CHS Marching Band
- Tri Kappa

- CHS Lady Hounds Soccer
- CHS Men's Soccer
- CHS Choir .
- CHS Staff .



We would also like to thank Northview Missions for its monthly financial support of the program.

If you would like to learn more about the program and what donations we collect, please visit the PTO website for additional information. Monetary donations can be made online via paypal or mailed to the High School via check made out to the CHS PTO with Backpack Program written in the memo line. Donations are used to purchase food items and fresh fruit each month. Food donations can be dropped at the bin outside the Freshman Center office (door 13). Grocery gift cards to Meijer or Kroger and check donations can be left with the Freshman



Center Administrative Assistants.

Please contact Jennifer Cassidy at CHSBackpackProgram@gmail. com with any questions. If your family could benefit from the Backpack Program, please contact Taryn Wanninger at (317) 846-7721 ext 7106 or twanning@ccs.k12.in.us.



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STAY CONNECTED

- Follow Carmel High School PTO on Facebook
- Follow @CarmelHS_PTO on Twitter
- NEW! Follow carmelhighschool pto on Instagram
- Visit the PTO website at <u>Carmel High School</u>
 PTO webpage

AFTER PROM COMMITTEE

Are you interested in helping with the planning, offering creative ideas and/or setting up AfterProm? If you'd like to be a part of the fun, please email Lisa at <u>carmelptopresident@gmail.</u> <u>com</u>. You can take on a small or large role depending on your schedule.





SENIOR CELEBRATION

The PTO Senior Celebration committee is already hard at work planning fun surprises and prizes to celebrate the Class of 2024 throughout the month of May! If you would like to donate specifically to the Senior class, please do so at the link below:

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=U5MPFZDXF88NN



- Winter Session 1 runs from November to January
- Winter Session 2 runs from January to March
- To ensure your spot in either session, register early!

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CHS COUNSELING NEWS: DECEMBER







STANDARDIZED TESTING INFORMATION

On October 19, all freshmen took the PSAT 8/9 and sophomores and juniors took the PSAT/NMSQT. Students can access their scores by using their College Board student account or view their score on BigFuture School app if they provided their mobile number on test day. Please take some time to look at your student's scores and evaluate what skills need to be improved. There is free SAT prep available



through the Khan Academy, which can be accessed through the PSAT online scores.

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It is recommended that students who plan to attend college take the

SAT and ACT at least one time during the winter/spring of their junior year. Because most colleges will consider the highest combination of any college admission test scores presented with an application, many students will take either the SAT or ACT two times prior to their senior year. Please know that many colleges are now TEST OPTIONAL, so check out the admission requirements for colleges you are interested in applying to in order to see if the SAT or ACT are necessary to take. All juniors will take the SAT at school on March 5, 2024 for free. This testing is part of our state required accountability report. Please be aware of this testing date on vour calendar.

The ACT will be given at CHS on February 10 and April 13. The ACT is also offered at other testing locations on June 8 and July 13. The new digital SAT will be given on May 4 and June 1 at CarmelHigh School. The testing companies prefer that students register online at either www. act.org/student or www.collegeboard. org. The cost for the SAT is \$60. The ACT costs \$66 or \$91 with the optional writing section. Most colleges are NO LONGER requiring the writing section, so plan ahead to see if you need to take the ACT test with writing or without. Be sure to include the Carmel High School code (150445) with your registration. We also encourage you to select up to four colleges to have your test scores sent directly. This is offered as a part of your registration process for both the SAT and ACT tests and is free of charge. Please keep in mind that standardized testing is only part of all the information that represents and presents students and their accomplishments. For most colleges and universities, the most important part of the student's record is the quality of the student's academic course work and the grades that they have earned in those classes. For highly selective schools, the quality of the student's character and her/his leadership in school and/or community activities weigh heavily.

TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS

In March 2024, all JUNIORS will take the SAT during the school day. If your student has a 504 Plan or an IEP with testing



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Counseling News

accommodations, accommodations have been requested through the College Board. You should have received a letter indicating the approval or denial of accommodations along with an assigned SSD#. Any accommodations your



student is approved for MUST be administered on the March 5 School-Day SAT. These accommodations will also be in place for any future SAT or AP tests. If any additions or deletions need to be made, the deadline for additional requests is January 16, 2024.

If your student has an IEP or 504 Plan with testing accommodations and will need testing accommodations for an ACT test, please indicate the need for accommodations during the ACT registration process. I will receive an email to make the accommodations request and you will be notified once that is approved or denied.

If your current freshman has an IEP or 504 Plan with testing accommodations who will need testing accommodations for any AP exams in the spring, please complete this <u>google form</u> before the January 18th deadline. (<u>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftcL9rgdpaWIAP1jqWsqdHqERIc0BC5hC89tM3vEWfIXwmng/viewform?usp=sf_link</u>)

If you have any questions about current or future testing accommodations, please contact Stephanie Payne at spayne@ccs.k12.in.us.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER: NCAA Initial-Eligibility Webinar for College-Bound Student-Athletes

Do you want to compete in college sports? Watch this NCAA Initial-Eligibility Webinar for College-Bound Student-Athletes offered by the NCAA Eligibility Center

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMJu0tiH-no

They go over the requirements students must meet to pursue their dreams of studying and competing at an NCAA Division I, II, or III school.

HOOSIER BOYS & GIRLS STATE

Applications will be available in late January for juniors interested in attending Hoosier Boys State or Hoosier Girls State this summer. **Hoosier Boys State** will be held from **June 16- June 22, 2024** at Trine University in Angola, Indiana. **Hoosier Girls State** will be held **June 23 - June 29, 2024** also at Trine University. Hoosier Boys/ Girls State programs are sponsored by the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary. Participants learn about government processes, citizenship, and leadership.

Due to the generous support of organizations such as Carmel Lions, Carmel Rotary, Carmel American Legion Post 155, and Carmel High School, our selected delegates incur no cost to attend. Students interested in attending must complete an application (including three teacher recommendations) and must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average. Delegates must be able to attend the entire week-long session.

Information on the application process will be available through U.S. History teachers, as well as the CHS Counseling Canvas course, beginning in late January. The online application will only be available through the CHS Counseling Canvas course and will be due in late February. For more information, see <u>www.boysandgirlsstate.org</u> and <u>https://www.aladeptin.org/ala-hoosier-girls-state1.html</u>.

MID-YEAR TRANSCRIPTS FOR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

There are often occasions when a college/university requests that you send them a mid-year or 7th semester transcript. This might include the following scenarios:



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Counseling News

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- 1. You applied to a Common Application college which requires a mid-year report.
- 2. Your admission decision was deferred until the college receives a 7th semester transcript.
- 3. You applied to a college with a regular admissions deadline in January or February and your 7th semester GPA would be beneficial to your application.



If any of these scenarios pertain to you or you need a 7th semester transcript sent for a different reason, please follow the directions below:

• **Common Application Schools:** Counselors will send out a mid-year school report and 7th semester transcript to all Common App colleges in which you have applied. There is no need to request a mid-year transcript for these Common App schools.

- **Non-Common Application Schools:** If you need a mid-year/7th semester transcript for any other reason, please follow the directions below:
 - ¤ Login to Naviance Student
 - ¤ Select the Colleges link followed by the Colleges I'm Applying To link
 - Check the box next to each college's name for whom you need to send a mid-year transcript.
 - ^a Click on the **+Request Transcript** link
 - What type of transcript are you requesting? Check the *Mid-Year* box (initial transcript box will automatically be checked as well).
 - » What additional materials, if any, do you want included? Leave blank
 - » Where are you sending the transcripts? Confirm that you have selected the correct colleges to send your mid-year transcript.
 - » Select Request and Finish

It is very important that you only request a mid-year transcript for those non-Common App schools which require them. These transcripts should be ready to send out beginning the 3rd week of January. Please contact your school counselor if you have any questions.

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FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCES

Understanding the Financial Aid Process

Paying for college is on the minds of all parents of collegebound students, and having a clearer understanding about the financial aid process, scholarship resources, and important due dates can help make the college cost and affordability question a little less confusing. The Counseling Office has created two documents to help students and parents navigate the financial aid and scholarship process. These documents: Understanding the Financial Aid Process and Finding Scholarships and Merit-based Aid Opportunities are available in the Counseling Canvas Course in the resources section. To summarize these documents, students and parents should know that:

- All state and federal aid consideration requires completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Some merit-based aid and scholarship opportunities also require completion of the FAFSA.
- The 2024-25 FAFSA application will open in late-December 2023 and is completed for the first time during the senior year prior to attending college in the fall. The deadline to submit the FAFSA in Indiana is April 15th, however some schools may require students to submit the FAFSA earlier.
- There are several resources where families can gain information and get assistance with the financial aid process including:
 - ¤ U.S. Department of Education Office of Federal Student

Aid (studentaid.ed.gov)

- Indiana Commission for Higher Education (www.in.gov/che)
- ¤ INvestEd Indiana (www.investedindiana.org)

ALL graduating seniors should plan to complete the FAFSA to keep all of their financial aid and scholarship options open. *NOTE: Starting with the Class of 2024, new state legislation requires all high school seniors to submit the FAFSA OR complete a waiver indicating that they do not intend to do so. More information about the waiver process will be communicated with students/parents.*

Local Scholarships List in Naviance Student

Seniors searching for scholarship resources should check the scholarship list in Naviance Student regularly. These scholarships are primarily local in nature and provide opportunities to supplement the aid that colleges and universities offer as part of their merit- and need-based financial aid packages.

Scholarships are updated year-round as the most updated information is received, with most coming in between November and March. It is a good idea for seniors to check the list weekly to make sure they stay aware of all available opportunities. Also, be sure to follow us on Twitter @ CHSCollege411 or Instagram @chscollegecareer to receive scholarship updates via social media.

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Does This Sound Like You?

Do you...

- Have a passion for creativity, fun and working with kids?
- Love the water and want to teach others to enjoy it too?
- Want to learn lifesaving skills and make new friends?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, we think you'd be a great fit for the Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation team! We're currently hiring **after-school counselors, swim instructors, and lifeguards.** Employees enjoy flexible scheduling, competitive pay, a \$5 Monon Community Center membership, and more. Apply today!



Apply at carmelclayparks.com/work

Carmel • Clay Parks&Recreation continued from previous page...





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CARMEL EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The Carmel Education Foundation (CEF) provides financial scholarships to at least 80 CHS seniors each year, ranging in value from \$500- \$5,000. CEF scholarships can be used for expenses related to college, certification, or trade school. Seniors are encouraged to review the CEF scholarship materials available at https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/foundation/scholarships/application-process. Here, they will find a directory outlining all scholarships and their criteria, application instructions, and the **application link which is NOW OPEN**. As an applicant, seniors will be asked to create a profile and respond to a series of questions in a common application format to determine which scholarships they are eligible for. Once the general application is submitted, applicants will be directed to a list of scholarships for which the will be considered and may be asked to complete a required essay for specific scholarships. Approximately half of the scholarships require a short essay, and the prompts are listed in the directory found on the CEF website.

The **CEF** application deadline is Friday, March 1st, at 5:00 p.m. All applicants will be contacted to verify their application content before they are notified of their application status in early May 2024. Scholarships will be presented at the CHS Community Scholarship Night on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. It is important to note that because CEF awards no more than one scholarship to a single student, they are truly spreading the wealth!

SCHOLARSHIP CONFIRMATIONS

Seniors who earn scholarships from their college of choice or a private organization will be asked to submit that information to the Counseling office for recognition in the graduation program. We ask that seniors submit only those confirmed college scholarships for the school the student will be attending. All monetary information will remain confidential. Seniors will have until



May 2nd to submit their scholarship awards for recognition. Due to coordination and printing deadlines, any awards received after this date may not be included in the graduation program. An online scholarship confirmation form will be available for seniors after winter break.

TIPS FROM THE COLLEGE & CAREER RESOURCE CENTER (CCRC)

Junior year is a great time to investigate post-high school education and training options and compile a list of schools to which students may want to apply. The CCRC Staff will be sharing information about the college search and application process with all Juniors and their parents in March. Students needing assistance getting started or understanding the process can get a head start on this process by requesting an appointment with a College & Career Resource Center (CCRC) staff member. CCRC College & Career Counselors can assist students in a variety of ways, including: understanding the search and application process, generating a list of schools to consider, identifying major and career options, and more. Students can request an appointment by submitting a request in PowerSchool. Those who request an appointment will receive a link via email to choose an appointment time that works best with their schedule. Parents are welcome to join the meeting if they wish to do so.

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UNDECIDED ABOUT COLLEGE MAJOR/CAREER CHOICE?

Naviance Student is an ideal online tool that CHS students can use to identify career interests, explore career options related to those interests, investigate educational pathways related to various careers, search for colleges/universities that match specific criteria, and more. Naviance Student offers comprehensive information for students at all grade levels, and students have been learning about the resources in Naviance Student through brief SSRT lessons throughout the fall semester. Counselors will also be highlighting Naviance Student resources during individual advising meetings with students in the coming weeks and months. Information about Naviance Student can also be found in the Counseling Department Canvas Course. Students can access their Naviance Student account by logging into the CCS Student Portal using their usual CHS login information and clicking on the Naviance icon.

UPCOMING COLLEGE & CAREER RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAMS

Save the date and be sure to keep an eye out for more information about these upcoming CCRC events for students and families:

January 31, 2024 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. (SSRT) Military Academy/ROTC Panel Program, CHS Community Room (Program open to students in all grades and parents)

February 29, 2024 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Freshman/Sophomore College & Career Planning Night, Auditorium

March 19, 2024 6:30 p.m. After the FAFSA: Finalizing Financial Aid (for seniors/families), CHS Community Room

April 24, 2024 6:00-8:00 p.m. Skilled Trades Majors & Careers Fair, Freshman Cafeteria

ENROLLMENT FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Enrollment for private school students will be on February 13th and 14th, 2024. All private school families are invited to attend the Academic Transition Night January 16th in our Freshman cafeteria anytime between 5:30-7:30. We will have a Private School table set up for you to provide us with your contact information and provide steps on how to register for enrollment with us for next Fall. If you are unable to attend, you can provide your contact information to Pat Barker by calling 317-571-4621 after January 16th.

2023 SUMMER SCHOOL OPTIONS

Carmel High School Summer School Offerings

PE I and PE II



Carmel High School is not using Indiana Online for PE I or PE II. Dates for Summer School PE I and PE II: May 28-July 3

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Cost: None

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Registration:

- If your child indicated they were going to register for online PE in their course requests for next year, you don't have to do anything else to register.
- If your child can not remember, they can login into their PowerSchool portal and click on Class Registration in the dashboard (left side) to see their course requests for next year.
- If your child did not indicate they wanted to register for PE I or PE II this summer and they want to register now, please email or contact their counselor by March 1st.

More detailed information will be forthcoming as we approach the start date of summer School.

Indiana Online Summer School Offerings

CHS students have the opportunity to retake approved courses during the summer offered by Indiana Online. At Indiana Online, course content is delivered online with the opportunity for students to communicate with the instructor throughout the summer session. During Summer 2024, final exams for Indiana Online courses will be unproctored and project-based.

Eligible Courses:

- Any course the student has earned a grade of C+ or lower to improve their grade or need to recover credit.
- Math courses to get back on sequence, must be approved by counselor.
- IB diploma students who have questions about summer school should reach out to their counselor.

Indiana Online Summer School Dates: June 5-July 16, 2023

<u>Cost</u>: None. (Note: some advanced courses may require students to purchase their book. CHS will not provide textbook rental for IO summer courses.)

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Students can enroll in a maximum of two summer courses regardless of platform.
- Questions about summer school enrollment should be directed to your child's counselor. Counselor contact information is available in the Counseling Canvas Course and will be posted in the 8th Grade Transition Canvas Course.
- Parents can also call: (317) 571- 4621 Pat Barker (current 8th and 9th grade students) OR Jill Korblick (317) 571-5922 (current 10th-12th grade students) for assistance.

Current CHS students and incoming freshmen who want to take PE I or PE II in the summer can take one PE course online utilizing a computerbased program called Edmentum.

TEACHER TREATS

Each month, the PTO tries to highlight different departments at Carmel High School to celebrate and recognize. Please consider signing up to donate some fun treats for staff to enjoy this **December**:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FA5A729A3F5C16-44617850-december#/

January:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FA5A729A3F5C16-46458451-january#/

February:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FA5A729A3F5C16-46458448-february#/



HOLIDAY LIGHTS RECYCLING DRIVE

Now available through January 19th. More information can be found at <u>https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/services/community-relations/environment</u>.







View the School Calendar https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/chs/about/ calendar