

A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL DR. TIM PHARES

This time of year always provides an opportunity to focus on being thankful. We, at CHS, have a great deal to be thankful for as we look towards the end of our first semester. From our students and staff members who are the heartbeat of our school each day, to a supportive community who values education, to our wonderful facilities where we get to engage in learning each day, we are very fortunate. I get the opportunity to visit other schools from time-to-time and I can assure you our school community is a leader in many areas of education. I am thankful to lead CHS with a great staff who wants the very best for our students each and every day!

CHS moved towards a more balanced approach for the end of semesters regarding assessments over the last couple of years. Please read in detail about our ACE week in this newsletter. We will be communicating this information in many different ways throughout the coming weeks. Your student will receive information via SSRT, we will send this information via School Messenger to all families, and our social media accounts will send reminders for dates and times.

Recently, we were able to announce CHS had 55 National Merit Semi-Finalists recognized for their academic success in the classroom. We want to take this opportunity to share how proud we are of each of these individuals and look forward to their continued success in the future. It is guite an accomplishment to be recognized for this award. I am thankful for each of these individuals, their families, and our staff members who all have made a commitment in their role to gain this achievement. We should all be celebrating with these Greyhound students!

I would like to give a special shoutout to our State Champions Unified Flag Football team. They captured their very first ever state championship several weeks ago. If you have never been to a Unified event, I encourage you to find the time in your schedule to attend one of their events. The Unified program partners students with and without intellectual disabilities. The relationships and impact within these teams go far beyond the wins and losses. We are proud of our students for their commitment to excellence both on and off the field!

Also, this past week we were able to recognize close to 200 students for a Class Award. Students are nominated for this award by teachers who have seen an improvement in an area from the beginning of the year. The area of improvement might have been seen in attendance, behavior, academics, participation, etc. Again, this is something we can all celebrate with our students.

As you can see, we have a great deal to be thankful for within our community. I am thankful to be a Greyhound and for all of those who are a part of CHS.

Go Hounds!

Dr. Phares



Assistant **Athletic Director** leff Hester **Phone Numbers** Switchboard 317-846-7721 Attendance 317-571-5915 Counseling

Christopher Glander Valerie Piehl Joseph Schaller

Amy Skeens-Benton

Athletic Director

Bradley Sever

Toby Steele Brittany Wiseman

Jim Inskeep

Carmel PTO Holiday Pop Up Shop Available NOW!

Looking for gift ideas? This limited time pop up shop offers fun gift ideas for Carmel families. Offerings include Carmel spiritwear and cozy blankets for all, plus Class of '24 wear and yard signs for this year's graduates. **Order deadline is November 26th.** Click on this link to start shopping https://carmelhighschoolwinter.itemorder.com/shop/sale/.











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:

NOVEMBER:

www.signupgenius.com/ go/10C0F4FA5A729A3F5C16-44617786-november#/

DECEMBER:

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

PREP FOR THE SAT/ACT

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HUNTINGTON IS ABLE TO GIVE YOUR STUDENT AN ADVANTAGE BY PROVIDING:

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ON AVERAGE, HUNTINGTON STUDENTS WERE AWARDED MORE THAN \$57,000 EACH**

IN SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS





Backpack Program HELP SUPPORT THE CHS PTO BACKPACK PROGRAM DURING THE HOLIDAYS

The 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. A huge thank you to the many volunteers and organizations who have supported us so far this year

by organizing and volunteering at food drives and packing bags each week.

You can support the program during this upcoming holiday season by:

- Donating gift cards from Meijer or Kroger in \$10, \$20 or \$25 amounts. Gift cards can be dropped off to the Freshman Center Administrative Assistants at Door 13 during school hours and are sent home to help meet nutritional needs over the longer breaks.
- Donate to the program via paypal or via check made out to CHS PTO with Backpack Program in the memo. Checks can be mailed to the High School or dropped off at Door 13. Those donations are used to purchase gift cards and food and fresh fruit for weekly packs
- Donating food. A list of needed items can be found on <u>PTO website</u> and can also be dropped off at Door 13 or you can visit our <u>Amazon wish list</u> and send needed items directly to the school.

Questions? Please email Jennifer Cassidy at chsbackpackprogram@gmail.com. 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.

Original links if needed:

- Website: https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/pto-chs/fundraising
- Amazon: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3H7VKB3FX8TPA?ref_=wl_ share
- Paypal: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted button id=E44S624ZUH7VG

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 PTO</u> webpage













Kroger ProgramFREE & EASY WAY TO EARN MONEY FOR THE PTO!

Join Kroger Rewards and select Carmel High School PTO - Kroger will donate a percentage of every purchase to the PTO at zero cost to you. The Fall Kroger Contest with chance to win \$50 Gift Card starts soon, please see image for details:

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



CHS Counseling News SCHEDULING INFORMATION FOR 2024-25



In November, counselors will begin individual advising meetings with students to schedule courses for the 2024-25 academic year. The Scheduling Module in the CHS Counseling Canvas course will provide students the general resources and information needed to select their 2024-2025 courses. We encourage parents and students to review the curricular opportunities available at CHS before the students' individual meetings in order to maximize the student advising time with CHS counselors.

ADVISING MEETINGS 9th Graders:

Freshmen students will meet individually with a Freshman Counselor during English classes in the month of November. Students are not required to schedule these appointment times.

10th Graders:

Sophomore students will need to schedule individual advising meetings with their counselors. Each counselor is sending an email to your child through their Naviance account with a link to set up this meeting using Google Calendar. Please encourage your student to complete this step in the scheduling process no later than November 10th.

11th Graders:

Juniors will not schedule with counselors until after Winter Break. Counselors will email Google Calendar links to students after we return to school in January.

Helpful Resources for Students and Parents to Review:

- CANVAS: The Scheduling module in the Counseling Canvas course will walk students through all the information needed to select their courses and prepare for their advising meeting. All CHS students have been invited to join the Counseling Canvas course, and parents may view it as observers.
- Program of Studies: The Carmel High School Program of Studies
 provides course descriptions for all CHS Departments. This is a
 great place to start to understand all of the course options available
 to CHS students. The Program of Studies for the upcoming year
 is posted in the CHS Counseling Canvas course and on the CHS
 website under Academics.

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3. Videos: Learn about Indiana graduation requirements as well as the wide variety of programs available at CHS by viewing our "Exploring Graduation Pathways and Other Programs at CHS" virtual resource. This is posted in the Counseling Canvas course and includes short informational videos on topics such as Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Career & Technical Education (CTE) options, AVID, and more.

ENROLLMENT FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Enrollment for 8th grade private school students will be on February 13th and 14th, 2024. Private schools will be providing CHS with contact information for students who want to enroll. The Counseling office will reach out with additional information to private school parents in January 2024.

INFORMATION FROM THE CHS COLLEGE & CAREER RESOURCE CENTER (CCRC)

UNDERSTANDING THE FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

Paying for college is on the minds of all parents of college-bound 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 FAFSA application will open in this year in December, but usually opens on October 1st each year. The FAFSA is typically 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)
 - pulse in the property of t
 - ¤ INvestEd Indiana (www.investedindiana.org)

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EYEGLASSES
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EYE DISEASES

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Powerwashing
Mowing / Edging
Event Maintenance

317.238.4500 * Free Estimates * continued from previous page...









P 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, the State of Indiana requires all high school seniors to submit a FAFSA or complete a waiver indicating their plans not to do so.

• The CHS Counseling Office maintains scholarship resources online in Naviance Student...encourage your seniors to explore the scholarship resources in their Naviance Student Account early and often! Also, follow us on Twitter @ CHSCollege411 or Instagram @ chscollegecareer for updates on scholarship information that we receive throughout the winter months.

CARMEL EDUCATION FOUNDATION (CEF) SCHOLARSHIPS

Founded in 1966, the Carmel Education Foundation (CEF) has as its mission to support the academic achievement of Carmel Clay students through scholarships and teacher grants. Over its 45-year history, CEF has provided more than \$1.7 million in scholarships to CHS graduates. CEF offers over 100 scholarships. These scholarships have specific eligibility requirements that differ from scholarship-to-scholarship, such as evidence of financial need, academic achievement, leadership, extracurricular involvement, etc. Any

CHS senior pursuing higher education by attending a college, university, or vocational school is invited to apply for a CEF scholarship. Information and instructions for CEF's 2024 scholarships will be sent to seniors prior to winter break and can also be found at https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/foundation/scholarships/application-process.



UNDECIDED ABOUT COLLEGE MAJOR/CAREER CHOICE?

Naviance Student is an online tool that CHS students can use to identify career interests, explore career options, investigate educational pathways, 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

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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:

November 15, 2023 6:00-8:00 p.m. Healthcare Majors & Careers Fair, Freshman Cafeteria

January 31, 2024 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. (SSRT) Military Academy/ROTC Panel Program, CHS Community Room

February 13, FAFSA Completion Event 4:30-7:00 p.m. CHS Media Center

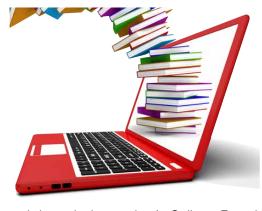
February 29, 2024 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Freshman/Sophomore College & Career Planning Night, Auditorium

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

STANDARDIZED TESTING INFORMATION

On October 19, all freshmen took the PSAT 8/9 and sophomores and juniors took the PSAT/NMSQT. If students included an email address on their PSAT, the access code to their score will be emailed to them from the College Board on November 16. 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



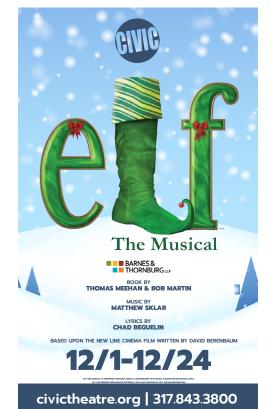
the Khan Academy, which can be accessed through the student's College Board account in the PSAT section.

All JUNIORS will take the SAT at school on March 5, 2024 paid for by the state of Indiana. Please keep this in mind as you begin to plan SAT and ACT testing dates for your student. CHS will <u>not</u> offer the March 9, 2024 SAT since all juniors will have just taken this exam at school the same week.

We recommend that students who plan to attend college take the SAT <u>and/or ACT</u> at least one time during the winter/spring of their junior year. We recommend retaking the test that resulted in the highest score, and there are comparison charts available to make that determination. Because most colleges will consider the highest combination of any college admission test scores submitted with an application, many students will take either the SAT or ACT two times prior to submitting applications.

Please keep in mind that ALMOSTALL colleges are now TEST OPTIONAL. This means that students can choose whether or not they would like test scores considered as part of their application. It is important to know that some colleges still require a test score for scholarship consideration, so it is very important to research and understand the importance of test scores before making a final decision.

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The ACT will be given at CHS on February 10 and April 13 in the paper format. The ACT is also offered at other testing locations on June 8 and July 13. The SAT will be given on May 4 and June 1 at Carmel High School in the NEW digital format. The testing companies prefer that students register online at either www. act.org 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 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. Even if you don't know whether or not you will report test scores as you apply to college, you can still send your scores to colleges. They will only match up your scores with your application if you indicate upon application submission that you are including your test scores. This will save you a LOT of money if you later decide to include test scores and have already sent scores to 4 colleges for free.

TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS

On March 5, 2024, all JUNIORS will take the SAT during the school day. If your student has a 504 Plan or an IEP with testing 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

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make the accommodations request and you will be notified once that is approved or denied.

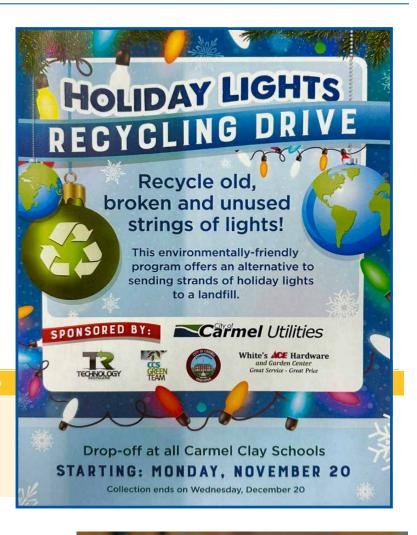
If you are a current freshman with an IEP or 504 Plan who will need testing accommodations for any AP exams in the spring, please complete this google form before the January 18. 2024 deadline.

If you have a current 8th grader with an IEP or 504 plan with testing accommodations who will need testing accommodations for the freshman 8/9 PSAT, please be sure to have your student create a College Board account so I can request accommodations for him/her before the end of the school year.

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

Holiday Lights Recycling Drive

Starts November 20th. More information can be found at https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/services/community-relations/ environment/.



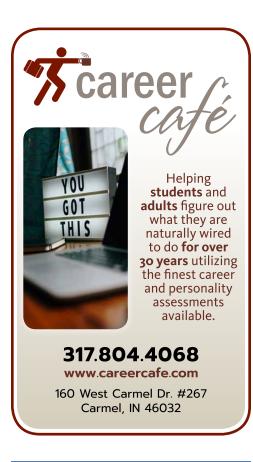
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Assessment & Culminating Experiences





Carmel High School creates a more balanced approach to the end of our semesters through our ACE end-of-semester schedule, which addresses:

- Students' desire for more preparation and intervention time with teachers.
- A balanced approach with scheduled periods for assessments and culminating experiences.
- Opportunities for unique classroom experiences.

UNDERSTANDING "ACE" & "P&I" TERMS:

Assessments & Culminating Experiences (ACE) are required in-person, endof-term assessments or culminating experiences such as presentations, projects, exit conferences, passion projects, Genius Hours, unique laboratory activities, etc.

Preparation & Intervention (P&I) time is scheduled for students to connect with teachers in-person, via Zoom, Canvas messages, or email to prepare for any upcoming ACE. P&I sessions will occur in the morning during e-learning instruction from 9:05 am - 12:05 pm each day.

Attendance is mandatory during all ACE classes, with no exceptions. Students will be engaging in meaningful classroom activities such as presentations, projects, exit conferences, passion projects, Genius Hours, unique laboratory activities, etc. Following these attendance expectations ensures we maintain a high level of educational excellence at CHS.

In-person attendance is not required during the morning P&I time on Dec. 19, 20, and 21. Students can use their morning P&I time preparing off cam-

pus or at CHS on ACE days. Students may schedule meetings with specific teachers or will be assigned to a quiet study session monitored by staff. Teachers may also require individual students to be in attendance during P&I time if work is not complete and additional support is necessary.

Monday,	Tuesday,	Wednesday,	Thursday,
Dec 18	Dec 19	Dec 20	Dec 21
Full Day (Gold)	Half Day (Blue)	Half Day (Gold)	Half Day (Blue)
G1	Preparation & Intervention Time 9:05-12:05 Lunch 12:05-12:35	Preparation & Intervention Time	Preparation &
G2 - SSRT See Below		9:05-12:05 Lunch 12:05-12:35	9:05-12:05 Lunch 12:05-12:35
G3	B1	G1	B3
	12:50 - 2:20 (ACE)	12:50 - 2:20 (ACE)	12:50 - 2:20 (ACE
G4	B2	G3	B4
(ACE)	2:35 - 4:05 (ACE)	2:35 - 4:05 (ACE)	2:35 - 4:05 (ACE)

SSRT: 10:45 - 12:15

Parents/caregivers who want their students to remain on campus for the entire day (9:05 am – 4:05 pm) in supervised study areas on Dec. 19-21 must complete a Google Form (sent in early Dec.) This will assist us in preparing for lunch service and appropriate supervision. Students working off campus during P&I time or only attending scheduled meetings with teachers do not need to fill out the form. Students registered for the full P&I time are expected to remain on-campus all day.

ACE SPECIFICS:

- ACE sessions begin Dec 18 during G4, a full in-person school day.
- On Dec. 19, 20, and 21, ACE classes begin at 12:50 each day. Students not already on campus may start arriving at 12:05. Please read through transportation details for drop-off details.
- Students must remain on campus during an ACE period unless it is an emergency or necessary absence, and Student Services give permission.
- Any student with a family-related conflict during ACE periods will make up their work once they return from their pre-approved conflict.
- Medical documentation must be provided to the Attendance Office for excused medical absence. Without a doctor's note, students must be seen by our Health Center nurses. The absence will be excused if the Health Center staff finds the student too ill to attend. Otherwise, students will be expected to complete the ACE. If medical documentation is provided and the student feels better before the end of the week, they are allowed to work with their teacher(s) to complete the ACE. If unable to complete their ACE during the final week of the semester, the student will complete their ACE when they are well enough to return. This may require entering an Incomplete for the student's grade until the ACE is completed. Students who are not medically excused and have not been pre-approved through the Attendance Office to complete their ACE later will not receive credit for their ACE.

P&I SPECIFICS:

- Students should request a pass from each teacher in advance for in-person visits. Students will have their passes verified by school personnel before being allowed access to the building before 12:05.
- Students with their own transportation not signed up for a full day of attendance may sign in for the P&I visit, then depart CHS until classes begin at 12:50. If you prefer to stay on campus after your teacher meeting, you may do so by reporting to one of the designated study session locations.
- Students must present their ID at sign-in tables inside Doors 9 (main cafe), 13
 (freshman center) or 17 (fieldhouse) and keep it visible in the hallways, as hallway
 supervisors will monitor student activity. Students must be on a pre-approved list
 to visit a teacher.
- Students must use the study sessions to prepare for their upcoming ACE only. No games (card, board, or video) will be allowed. Students are allowed to bring individual-sized snacks/drinks and use headphones for listening to music.
- Students registered for the study session can show supervisors a pass to be released to a teacher's classroom. You would then report back to your previous study session location until campus opens at 12:05.
- All students on campus prior to 12:05 must be accounted for and will not be allowed to gather in unsupervised areas of the building such as the gym, Greyhound station, main office commons, etc.

LUNCH DETAILS:

- Students working off-campus on Dec 19, 20 or 21 may eat lunch off-campus or at CHS.
- Students registered by their parents for a full day on campus may not leave to eat lunch.
- CHS cafeteria menu offerings will be limited and will be served from 12:05 -12:35 for students wishing to eat lunch at school.

TRANSPORTATION, ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL INFORMATION:

- Buses will provide transportation to and from school on the normal schedule.
- Dismissal will operate as usual for all students, including parent pick-up at the stadium.
- Students who wish to work off-campus in the morning will be responsible for their own transportation to school and must be ready for ACE sessions starting at 12:50.
- Campus will be open and lunch served at 12:05.
 Students are welcome to arrive before campus opens but must report directly to their respective study location unless possessing a pass to work with a teacher.
- Students may be dropped off at Door 9 (main café) or Door 13 (freshman center). Please note traffic volume may be high. To avoid traffic congestion, students should arrive by 12:15 pm.

From Student Services

2023 2024

ATTENDANCE OFFICE REMINDERS

- We encourage you to use <u>School Dismissal Manager</u> to help us manage absences, late arrivals, appointments, and leaving early. We encourage parents and guardians to download the app or bookmark the site. However, families may still call as needed. You may enter a School Dismissal Manager message a few weeks in advance of an absence.
- 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. If needed, please use the notification as a reminder to call in any planned absences. You will receive a follow-up notification indicating they arrived tardy when they return to class. The PowerSchool app also allows parents and caregivers to monitor your student's attendance, regardless of push notifications.

DRIVING & PARKING ON/NEAR CAMPUS

Parking on campus property and adjacent to school buildings will be limited to staff and by permit parking only. All students should park at the stadium. Any exceptions must be approved by the Student Services office. Vehicles are to be parked properly in designated parking spaces with parking permits clearly displayed. Vehicles not parked properly in the designated parking spaces may face disciplinary consequences.

SCHOOL ID REMINDERS

- To enhance safety and efficiency, students are required to scan IDs in the cafeterias, Media Center and when signing in and out with attendance. In the event students don't have their ID card, they should stop by the Activities Office (across from the radio station) to have a new one printed. The cost is \$5 for a replacement ID card.
- Since keypads are not going to be utilized, students will want to keep their ID easily accessible. At the start of the school year, students and staff were provided a lanyard. While not required, students are encouraged to use it for convenience purposes.
- Students who do not have their ID readily accessible will be asked to wait until those with IDs are assisted. For example, students without their IDs ready in the lunch line will have to wait until others with IDs are served before checking out.



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 <u>Parents</u> 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).



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