



# GREYHOUND AZETTE

## CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL

VOLUME 17 ISSUE 3 [www1.ccs.k12.in.us/chs/home](http://www1.ccs.k12.in.us/chs/home)

For newsletter submissions, corrections and questions contact [CHS.PTO.Newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:CHS.PTO.Newsletter@gmail.com).

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Athletic Director**  
Jeff Hester

**Phone Numbers**  
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Attendance  
317-571-5915  
Counseling  
317-571-5922

OCTOBER 2023

### A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL DR. TIM PHARES

As I write this, I'm filled with gratitude for our PTO and Student Government and the wonderful job they did helping our students and staff celebrate homecoming this year. The week was full of excitement and energy with dress-up days, music filling the halls during passing periods, treats for teachers and staff, the parade and homecoming festivities, a victory at the football game, and loads of fun during the dance. It takes many hands to make all of this happen and we are thankful for each and every one who played a part in making Homecoming 2023 a huge success.

Fall Break is fast approaching and I hope the entire Greyhound Nation has a safe and enjoyable time during our first weeklong Fall Break on October 7-13. Prior to the start of Fall Break, we hope you will join us for the football game on Friday, October 6. Looking ahead after Fall Break, we will have the PSAT testing day on Thursday, October 19. Grades 9, 10 and 11 will be involved in standardized testing during the morning hours. It is important all of our students have a charged and updated Chromebook for testing day. Information about the programming for seniors on that morning will be sent directly to parents of seniors in early October. Please look for more information in the Counseling Section of this newsletter.

This month, I have been enjoying the start of the 23-24 Performance Season for our fabulous Performing Arts department. I hope you have a chance to catch one of their performances so you can witness their talent first hand. Some of the upcoming events are Marching Band Community Night on Friday, October 13, Fall Theatre Production of Puffs on November 9-11, and Holiday Spectacular on December 6-10. For information on tickets, please [visit here](#) or email Natalie Cook at [ncook@ccs.k12.in.us](mailto:ncook@ccs.k12.in.us).

At the School Board meeting in October we will recognize our National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. These 55 students are among the less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors who are recognized as Semifinalists by the National Merit Scholarship program. I am proud of these students and I recognize the impact their families and teachers have in helping them reach this level. Best wishes to each of them as they apply to receive scholarships through the National Merit program. I look forward to seeing what their futures hold!

Dr. Tim Phares



## Note from the PTO Team

Thank you to all of our CHS PTO families! We have had a successful start of the year with meeting our fundraiser goal through donations and spiritwear sales, we appreciate your support! The Homecoming Dance was also a huge success with over 2,000 students attending and a great crew of parents volunteering to make this event possible. A special thank you to Jennifer B, Reham S., Amy B., Maria G., Kathleen O., Lindsay S. and Hutton Marketing.

Other areas we have been able to support are the retractable badges/lanyards for all staff, teacher grants, Media Center funding for student activities, Homecoming Week daily staff treat events, and more. Thank you for your donations and volunteer time to assist in these!

If you would like to learn more about PTO activities, please follow us on social media, go to our website, and/or **join us at our next General Meeting at the Carmel library on November 1st @ 1pm in "Meeting Room C" upstairs.**

- [Follow Carmel High School PTO](#) on Facebook
- [Follow @CarmelHS\\_PTO](#) on Twitter
- NEW! [Follow carmelhighschool\\_pto](#) on Instagram
- Visit the PTO website at [Carmel High School PTO](#) webpage

## 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:

OCTOBER-  
[LINK](#)

NOVEMBER-  
[LINK](#)

DECEMBER-  
[LINK](#)

...continues on next page

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



## BACKPACK PROGRAM

### CHS PTO Backpack Program Collecting Gift Cards for Breaks

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. The program is currently collecting gift cards from Meijer and Kroger in \$10 or \$25 amounts to send home over the upcoming longer breaks. Financial donations to assist with the purchasing of gift cards can be made via paypal or via check made out to CHS PTO with Backpack Program in the memo. Gift cards and checks can be dropped off with Freshman Center Administrative Assistants at Door 13. To learn more about the program and additional ways to support it please visit our PTO website. Questions: Email Jennifer Cassidy at [chsbackpackprogram@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:twanning@ccs.k12.in.us).

### Website:

<https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/pto-chs/fundraising>

### Paypal donations:

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=E44S624ZUH7VG](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=E44S624ZUH7VG)



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## OPEN POSITION

We are still looking for some Co-chairs for the AfterProm celebration that will be held on May 4, 2024. You will work alongside last year's chair to create a fun event for the students. Many resources are available to help make this an easy one to do!

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## Family Fun

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## Counseling News

### STANDARDIZED TESTING

The SAT will be offered at CHS on Nov 4, and Dec 2 for seniors who want to try to improve their score for college admissions and for juniors who want to take it before the required SAT on March 5th. Remember that you can choose to send your scores to 4 colleges for FREE through your SAT registration. Colleges will only look at these scores if you decide to include your test scores with your applications. The ACT will be offered on Oct 28 and Dec 9 at other testing locations. You have the option of signing up for the test with or without the writing test. Most colleges do NOT require the writing portion of the test anymore, so be sure to check college websites before signing up for the writing test.

### TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS

Testing accommodations have been requested for all SOPHOMORES and JUNIORS who currently have an IEP or a 504 Plan. Families should have received a letter from the CollegeBoard stating the accommodations approved for PSAT/SAT/AP testing. Students should receive these accommodations when taking the PSAT in October and the SAT on March 5th. If you are signing up to take the SAT on a Saturday, you must include the SSD number assigned by the College Board when you register for the test so that your approved accommodations are applied to the Saturday test.

If you need accommodations to take the ACT, please indicate that when you register for the ACT test. Accommodation requests for the ACT are made as students are registering for the ACT. If you have questions about testing accommodations, please contact Stephanie Paynespayne@ccs.k12.in.us in the Counseling Center.

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19TH TESTING FOR GRADES 9, 10 & 11 / SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR SENIORS

CHS freshman, sophomores and juniors will be involved in standardized testing during the morning hours of Thursday, October 19th. Information about the programming for seniors on that morning will be sent directly to parents of seniors in early October. Students will attend classes that afternoon.

### TEST DAY LOGISTICS

- Room assignments will be shared during testing week in SSRT and posted in various locations throughout the building starting Monday, October 16th, following Fall Break.
- Testing will commence at 9:05 am on Thursday, October 19th. The testing timeline should take approximately three hours for regular testers.
- All students are expected to attend their revised Gold day schedule, and dismissal remains 4:05 pm.

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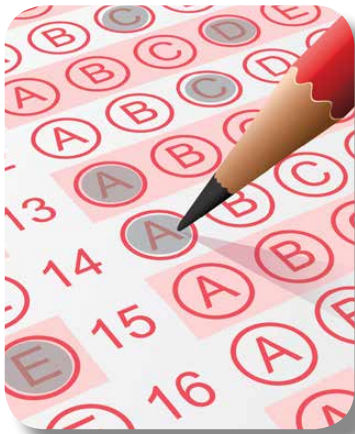
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WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD BRING

- Students are encouraged to bring a pen or pencil to use on scrap paper if needed.
- While students may bring their own calculator, it's not mandatory as calculators will be available for use in Bluebook. (The testing app that has been placed on their Chromebook desktop.)
- Students MUST bring their school assigned Chromebook, fully charged, and charging cord. Please ensure students turn their Chromebook on a week prior to the test date to allow the necessary automatic updates.



REGISTRATION AND FEES

- There is no need for students to register or sign up for this test. The State covers the test for all 9th-11th graders.

HOW TO PREPARE

- Your student's best effort on the exam is important for identifying whether you are meeting college and career readiness benchmarks. It will provide valuable insights into their strengths and areas where they may want to focus on improvement.
- All students received a Canvas message with a Study Guide to help prepare them on what to expect and included a practice test.

If you have any questions concerning the above testing programs, please contact your student's counselor. You can find CHS Counselor assignments and contact information in the Canvas Counseling Department course.

NEW & IMPROVED WAY FOR A CHS STUDENT TO REQUEST TO SEE THEIR COUNSELOR OR MAKE AN APPOINTMENT IN THE COLLEGE CAREER READINESS CENTER

Beginning Monday, October 16th students will no longer need to scan a QR code to make a request to see someone in the Counseling Department. We will be sending out information the first day back on our new process. Students will actually go into their Powerschool portal and click on forms to begin their request. All QR codes will display the directions for the new process if scanned.

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO 55 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SEMIFINALISTS

Fifty-five seniors have been named National Merit Semifinalists this year. Only the top one-half of one percent of all U.S. high school seniors are named semifinalists each year by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation based on scores on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT). This year, about 16,000 high school students earned semifinalist status out of the 1.5 million juniors who took the PSAT for the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program.

### Carmel High School's National Merit Semifinalists are:

Yash Bhargava, Elena Budyak, Shravan Chengalva, Rosalyn Chu, Charles Coriell, Lorna Ding, Miles Dunbar, George Emerson, Kyra Escobar, Alex Foster, Srikrishna Ganeshan, Richard Gao, Sai Shritan Gudepate, Sahithi Lakshmi Hastavaram, Claire He, Mahmoud Homs, Kevin Hu, Bolong Huang, Carolyn Jia, Sujal Joshi, Ghajan Kalainesan, Samantha Lin, Yichen Liu, Karma Maloney, Aaronson Mansberger, Amanda McDonald, Bhargava Mortha, Melaina Munson, Robert Nies, Elizabeth Palmer, Amanda Pan, Matthew Paraboschi, Dhanya Pathangi, Anna Pennington, Nora Perkins, Paras Punater, Arjun Purohit, Eva Qiao, David Racovan, Varun Rao, Joseph Sabelhaus, Colin Santangelo, Siddhesh Songirkar, Zhanqi Su, Sara Susant, Carson Szotek, Angelina Tan, Srianjana Valleballi, Karthik Varigonda, Bingrui Wang, Sydney White, Alexandra Yang, Charles Yuan, Nancy Zhang, Oliver Zhu

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2024 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM COMMENDED STUDENTS

Forty-seven Carmel High School students were recognized and received Letters of Commendation in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program. These students were among the top 50,000 highest scorers on the 2023 PSAT.

### National Merit Commended Students include:

Alison Adair, Rishab Anand, Arriya Arif, Samuel Barbato, Emerson Barrett, Max Burton, Jacob Forrest, Kent Fujita, Ojus Giri, Kyle Grove, Yousif Heikal, Isaac Hsu, Russell Hunt, Aidan Jeffers, Jacob Johnson, Roxana Johnson, Andrew Jones, Ava Justin, Sai Amruta Varshini Killampalli, Ava Kinney, Erin Kong, Cameron Lawson, Ethan Liao, Sage Lowe, Owen Mei, Nicolas Mikola, Zara Niazi, Maria Perez, Abhinav Perumalla, Ryan Poziviak, Alexander Qu, Kwamena Quist, Athulya Ramkumar, Pranavi Sambathur, Roohi Sanka, Sonya Schuster, Nolan Scozzaro, Owen Siders, Michael Spech, Sara Standish, Nicklas Stittle, Nikolai Viswanath, Nathan Wolfe, Nicholas Wu, Jonathan Yang, Kotoe Yoshitomi, Yuan Yue.

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2024 COLLEGE BOARD NATIONAL RECOGNITION AWARD RECIPIENTS!

The following CHS juniors and seniors were named College Board National Recognition Award recipients in the following areas: National African American Recognition Award, National Hispanic Recognition Award, and National Indigenous Recognition Award. Recipients have a 3.5 GPA or higher and outstanding performance on the PSAT and/or AP exams. Recipients include:

- Gabrielle Aitken 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Joseph Arroyo 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Adama Barry 12 National African American Recognition Award
- Avery Beteet 12 National African American Recognition Award
- Emmanuel Carrillo 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Emmersen Cate 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Isaac Cazares 12 National African American Recognition Award;  
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- Joseph Del Busto 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Adolph Flores 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Julien Gourgue 12 National African American Recognition Award
- Liam Hansen 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Alexander Herron 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Farrah (Finn) Inmon 12 National African American Recognition Award;  
National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Alexander Jones 11 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Jackson Jones 12 National African American Recognition Award
- Drew Macias 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Sophia Malerbi 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Sara McGowan 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Meron Michael 11 National African American Recognition Award
- Arielle Sorelle Nousse Fotso 11 National African American Recognition Award
- Chukwudume bi Nwafo 12 National African American Recognition Award
- Michael Frank Okoye 12 National African American Recognition Award
- Yezenia Palacio Villavicencio 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Leo Prosser 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Kofi Quist 11 National African American Recognition Award
- Hillary Riley 12 National African American Recognition Award
- Bethany Sanchez 12 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Arthur Schiltz 11 National Hispanic Recognition Award
- Priscilla Smith 11 National African American Recognition Award
- Samuel Tiek 12 National Indigenous Award
- Jimmie Winbush Jr 11 National African American Recognition Award

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2023-24  
SEASON

**the PROM**  
10/6-10/21

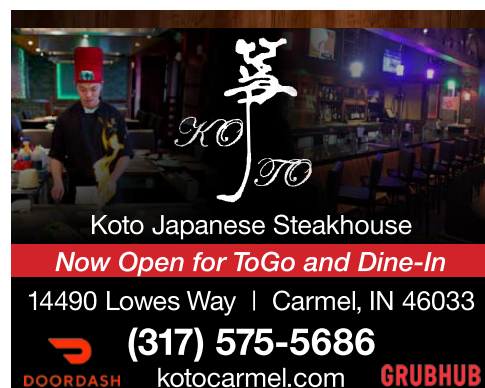
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12/1-12/24

**Romeo & Juliet**  
2/9-2/24

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3/15-3/30

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4/26-5/11

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## COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Popular college application deadlines are quickly approaching (November 1, December 1, January 1, etc.) Seniors should be certain to double check all deadlines and plan ahead in order to ensure that all application materials arrive on time. If counselor/teacher or recommendations are required, please allow recommenders at least two weeks to meet their deadlines. Application materials DO NOT all have to arrive at the same time, and students should NOT wait to request transcripts, test scores, or letters until they are done with their part of the application. Instead they should make those requests now to ensure timely delivery of materials.



**IMPORTANT:** The deadline for submitting any college application related requests that need to be processed before the winter break is December 4th. If you have any questions regarding the college application process, please contact your student's Counselor.

## FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

- The 2024-25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will become available for families in December 2023. This is a change from previous years, and as CHS receives more details we will share that with students and families. Families can access information about the FAFSA at <https://studentaid.gov/>.
- NOTE: Recent state legislation now requires all Indiana high school seniors to complete the FAFSA in order to maximize all financial aid and scholarship opportunities. Families will have an opportunity to opt-out of FAFSA submission if they choose. More information about this requirement will be sent to seniors/parents in the coming weeks.
- Information about applying for Financial Aid will go out to all CHS seniors in early-October, and CHS will offer a Financial Aid Night for students and parents on October 25th at 6:30 pm in the CHS Auditorium. Our partners at INvestE [www.investedindiana.org](http://www.investedindiana.org) will be the featured presenter.
- CHS will offer a FAFSA Completion Event on February 13th from 4:30-7 p.m. in the Media Center. Seniors and their families can get assistance with the FAFSA

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from our partners at INvestEd during this event. More information about how to sign-up for the FAFSA Completion Event will be sent home via email to seniors and parents after the winter break.

- The deadline to submit the FAFSA in the State of Indiana is April 15th, but please note that some colleges set an earlier FAFSA deadline for scholarship and financial aid consideration. IU GROUPS SCHOLARS PROGRAM CHS is a nominating school for the IU Groups Scholars Program on the Bloomington campus. The Groups Scholars Program was created as a way to increase college attendance among first-generation, underrepresented students at Indiana University. The program provides academic, financial, and social support to help students attain a bachelor's degree at Indiana University. Income guidelines are part of the eligibility requirements. If you are interested in learning more about IU Groups, contact Mrs. Stephan to learn more. IU Groups Scholars Program applications for current seniors are due by November 1 st, along with a completed IU Bloomington application.

Class of 2024



### Attention Seniors!

After we return from Winter Break, the Distinguished Grad Application will be available online. This program celebrates the well-rounded Carmel Greyhound. Approximately 135 seniors will be recognized as either commended or distinguished at our CHS Graduation Ceremony. One extremely exceptional senior will be recognized as *THE Distinguished Graduate* for the Class of 2024. Seniors will receive information at the start of 2nd semester as to how to access the application and the Distinguished Graduate (DG) Worksheet online.

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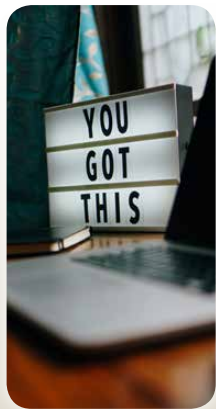
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## ATTENDANCE OFFICE REMINDERS

- We encourage you to use School Dismissal Manager 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 [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).