

**Course of Studies
and
Scheduling Guide**

Dear Students and Parents:

This publication has two sections: the Course of Studies and Scheduling Guide. The Course of Studies contains a brief description of each class offered at Coloma Junior High and the Scheduling Guide details graduation and college requirements as well as career pathway information.

The Junior High school day consists of five class periods and a half-hour lunch break. The school year is divided into three terms. All students register for 15 term units of course work. Select classes carefully as classes, once chosen, can only be changed if space is available and with demonstrated need.

Parents, you have a very important role to play in the education of your child. Ask each day how s/he is doing. Discuss things that happen and should happen at school; visit school and get to know the teachers. No one is better than a parent for personal encouragement, direction, advice, and assistance. We look forward to working together as our students prepare for their individual plans and goals.

Coloma Junior High School

Peter Olsen, Principal



EIGHTH GRADE COURSE OF STUDY

LANGUAGE ARTS

Title:	General Language Arts	This course integrates the learning and reinforcement of skills in reading, literature, and the writing process. Students use classroom texts, library materials, and their own writing to improve skills and build confidence in their use and understanding of language. Another major goal of the course is to increase students' enjoyment of reading as a leisure activity.
Length:	Two terms	
Grade:	8	

MATHEMATICS

Title:	Pre-Algebra	Pre- Algebra is designed to prepare and motivate students for success in future math courses by linking math with real-world themes. Instruction for this course is accomplished through cooperative learning groups, where students work together to learn the skill and are assessed individually. The student will review basic arithmetic processes and use them to learn new ideas and approaches to problem solving that will serve as the foundation in all future math classes. Some of the topics covered are: rates, ratios and proportionality, solving graphic and linear equations, study of sets of numbers, inequalities, quadratic functions, basic geometry and spatial relationships, measurement, basic probability, how to collect and interpret statistical information, the fundamental counting principal, and problem solving.
Length:	Two terms	
Grade:	8 and 9	

Title:	Focus on Algebra	This course is a traditional freshman level algebra class and more! Before a student will learn the traditional methods, s/he will learn to express the relationships between quantities verbally, pictorially and graphically. The student will be <u>required to explain in essay form the step-by-step process of solving all problems</u> to demonstrate s/he has a thorough understanding of the math concepts. The emphasis of this class is to connect Algebra to the real world as well as to prepare for future math classes. <u>Students must maintain a B average every marking period to stay in this class.</u>
Length:	Two terms	
Grade:	8	

SCIENCE

Title: Eighth Grade Science
Length: Two terms
Grade: 8

Eighth grade Science is a general science course. Topics range from Physical Science to Earth Science with an emphasis on the Life Sciences. Students can look forward to an activity-oriented class. Science skills are practiced and acquired through lab work and special projects.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Title: U.S.. History through 1900
Length: Two terms
Grade: 8

The U.S. History course is a comprehensive study of the important people and periods of time from the early history of our country through 1900 and the rise of big business. Students will see the correlation of what happened "yesterday" and how it affects what is currently happening in Michigan and the rest of the United States.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

Title: Health
Length: Two terms
Grade: 8

Health, a two term course, is designed to increase the awareness of each students' personal health. Students will leave knowing the steps to and the benefits of a healthy life style. Class topics will include: mental health, physical fitness, nutrition, alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs, disease, reproduction, and systems of the body.

Title: Physical Education
Length: One term
Grade: 8

This class offers the student the opportunity to be physically active while learning the rules and playing strategies for team and individual sports. Students have the option to take additional terms of PE as elective courses.

Ninth Grade Course of Study

LANGUAGE ARTS

Title:	Literature and Composition	This course is to further students' understanding of various types of literature by becoming familiar with literary elements. Reading is done in fiction, non-fiction, drama, and poetry. The course is also designed to further students' abilities to communicate in the written form by placing emphasis on grammar, vocabulary building, spelling, and writing (including exposition essays, and research papers). Oral skills will also be stressed throughout the course.
Length:	Two terms	
Grade:	9	

MATHEMATICS

Title:	Pre-Algebra	This course is designed to prepare and motivate students for success in future math courses by linking math with real-world themes. Class instruction is often done in cooperative learning groups, where students work together to learn skills and are assessed individually. Students review basic arithmetic processes and use them to learn new ideas and approaches to problem solving that serve as the foundation in all future math classes. Some of the topics covered are: rates, ratios and proportionality, solving graphic and linear equations, study of sets of numbers, inequalities, quadratic functions, basic geometry and spatial relationships, measurement, basic probability, how to collect and interpret statistical information, the fundamental counting principal, and problem solving.
Length:	Two terms	
Grade:	9	

Title:	Focus on Algebra	This course is a traditional freshman level algebra class and much more! Before students learn the traditional methods, they learn to express the relationships between quantities, verbally, pictorially, and graphically. Students are required to <u>explain in essay form the step-by-step process</u> of solving all problems to demonstrate that they have a thorough understanding of the math concepts. The course emphasis connects algebra to the real world as well as prepare students for future math classes.
Length:	Two terms	
Grade:	9	

Title:	Geometry	Geometry is the traditional follow-up to Algebra. The class is designed to strengthen the student's deductive reasoning, logic skills, and written argument skills while studying the properties of lines, polygons, polyhedrons, planes, and circles. Students will use visualization and drawing skills to model geometric solutions for real-world situations. Various proof formats are introduced and compared throughout the class. The last portion of the class is designed to introduce students to basic trigonometry and how to apply these basic theories to real-world situations. This is an accelerated class and the students will be expected to learn more topics and a wider range of problems within those topics than students in a traditional high school geometry class.
Length:	Two terms	
Grade:	9	
Prerequisite:	B or better in Algebra	

SCIENCE

Title: Earth Science
Length: Two terms
Grade: 9

Earth Science is the study of the Earth and the Universe. In this course, students explore specific topics that fall under the broad categories of Geology, Meteorology, Oceanography, and Astronomy. Through classroom and laboratory activities, students will study Earth's systems and sub-systems, which are useful in explaining natural phenomena. Students will not only learn the basics of Earth Science, but also the impact humans have on the Earth.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Title: World History
Length: Two terms
Grade: 9

Understanding the antecedents of today's modern world gives the student a historic framework to draw upon when evaluating current events. World History emphasizes the political, economic, social, and religious development of the world's civilizations from the early fertile crescent to the Cold War and its aftermath.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Title: Physical Education
Length: One term
Grade: 9

This introductory course will offer instruction in team sports, individual sports, and cardiovascular fitness training. Emphasis is on body maintenance through participation. Students have the option to take additional terms of PE as elective courses.

BUSINESS/COMPUTER

Title: Microsoft Applications/Career Forward
Length: Two terms
Grade: 9

Microsoft Applications is the required introductory course for further vocational-technical training in the business/computer area. Students work through self-paced modules in Microsoft Office: word processing, spreadsheet, and database software. Other topics include keyboarding improvement, Power Point, employability skills, and Internet research techniques. Students complete the 20 hour on-line learning experience, Career Forward to earn both a graduation and MMC credit.

Eighth and Ninth Grade Electives

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

Title:	German I	This course is designed for the student interested in exploring the language and culture of the German speaking countries. By the end of the first year the student will be able to converse in simple sentences learned in dialogs, pattern drills, and in role-playing situations. Songs, videos, and audio cassettes reinforce the few basic grammar structures introduced in German I. The German culture and language will also come alive through an annual field trip, German Club activities and by meeting native Germans. Any student will benefit from this course, but it is especially recommended for the college-bound student.
Length:	Two terms	
Grades:	8 and 9	
Prerequisite:	Recommendation of language arts teacher	
Title:	German II	This course continues the methods of German I. The students will concentrate on increasing their vocabulary and will learn new grammatical concepts. Students will be encouraged to speak German, using the basic material from short reading selections and dialogs. Sampling German foods, cooking, having a German dinner, bringing in a live pet for discussion, and viewing videos of German life will enhance the regular classroom work. By the end of the year the student should be able to speak in complete sentences, using various tenses. Supplementary materials concerning the life of the German-speaking people will be used.
Length:	Two terms	
Grade:	9	
Prerequisite:	German I	
Title:	Spanish I	This course is an introduction to the Spanish language. The main emphasis of Spanish I will be on vocabulary building with some concentration on geography, grammar, culture, music, and cuisine. Ultimately, students in Spanish I will be working towards fluency of the language by practicing their spoken, written, listening, and reading skills throughout the entire year. The students shall also practice diversity through learning to recognize, understand, and appreciate different global communities.
Length:	Two terms	
Grades:	8 and 9	
Prerequisite:	Recommendation of language arts teacher	
Title :	Spanish II	This course is a continuation of Spanish I. Vocabulary building continues with more of a concerted effort placed on grammar. Extensive verb conjugations and new verb tenses are introduced throughout the year. Each student continues to work toward the goal of becoming fluent in the language by practicing written, spoken, reading and listening skills. The use of videos, projects, and cultural units enrich students' understanding of the text and the Hispanic world.
Length:	Two terms	
Grades:	9	
Prerequisite:	Approval of Spanish I teacher	

FINE ARTS

Title: Art
Length: One to three terms
Grades: 8 and 9

Throughout the course of the year, art students use a variety of media to enhance skills and develop creativity. Art is approached from a different angle each trimester.

Areas explored are 2D flat media such as basic drawing and painting, collage, and cartooning. Design and composition, color theory and basic traditional art elements are included. The 3D realm is explored through the mediums of sculpture, ceramics, textiles, and assemblage techniques.

In addition, studies in graphic design, lettering, photography and architecture, are presented. Each term, students will have an opportunity to use the **Coloma Animation Studio Lab** to create an animated short film. The relationship between art and technology is also examined as part of each unit.

Students that wish to have a full art experience are encouraged to elect Art each term in both eighth and ninth grades.

Title: Choir
Length: Three terms
Grades: 8 and 9
Prerequisite: Instructor approval for entry after initial registration.

This full-year course is part of a comprehensive sixth through twelfth grade choral music curriculum. Students will acquire the basic skills and knowledge needed for successful participation in high school choir. Junior High Choir participates in at least four major concerts per year. In addition, the choir attends District Choral Festival. Singers can elect to go to Solo and Ensemble and the Junior High Choir Invitational.

Title: Band
Length: Three terms
Grade: 8
Prerequisite: 5-7 grade Band and/or audition

The eighth grade Band is a continuation of instrumental music previously taught in Middle School. It consists of qualified eighth grade students. Students will be required to participate in all band-related functions as well as home practice. Junior High Band students will be expected to increase their technical abilities, musical styles, and tone production. The band participates in festivals sponsored by the Michigan Band and Orchestra Association. Individual members are also encouraged to participate in Solo and Ensemble Festival.

Title: High School Band
Length: Three terms
Grade: 9
Prerequisite: 5-8 grade Band and/or audition

A student must display satisfactory performance in eighth grade Band to qualify for High School Band. A personal record of good class behavior and good attendance is essential. Each band member is expected to participate in:

Marching Band: This group performs at all home football games and various parades throughout the year. Several styles of marching are used along with contemporary marching music. Extra evening rehearsals are held during the marching season and are required for each band member. The band participates annually in the MSBOA Marching Festival and one or two other marching band competitions. Pep Band is a continuation of Marching Band.

Concert Band: This organization devotes itself to the study of the finest in band literature, concepts of ensemble performance, ear training, basic musicianship, and technical achievement. Concert performances are scheduled throughout the year. The band participates in festivals sponsored by the Michigan Band and Orchestra Association. Individual members are also encouraged to participate in the annual MSBOA All-Star Band, Solo and Ensemble Festival, and Lakeland Fine Arts Festival.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Title:	Bigger Faster Stronger	Bigger Faster Stronger (BFS) is a weight lifting class designed for extra-curricular athletes. Students lift weights for strength and use drills, jump roping, and Plyometrics for agility and speed improvement. Ideally, this class is scheduled for off-season conditioning. BFS serves a graduation credit for Coloma and Michigan Merit requirements.
Length:	One Term	
Grade:	9	
Prerequisite:	Instructor Approval Recommendation from coach	

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Title:	Woods	Students will become familiar with basic woodworking machine operations and power hand tools. Safety procedures and basic skill mastery will also be stressed. Students will also be required to maintain a clean and safe work environment. Some projects require a materials fee.
Length:	One term	
Grade:	8 & 9	

ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES

Title:	Environmental Studies	The Environmental Studies elective is a one term class that focuses on current environmental issues affecting our world -- particularly those issues affecting our own community and school. Those topics covered are global warming, habitat destruction, and the quality of water, soil, and air. Besides an examination of the causes of environmental problems, the class explores and students implement possible solutions to alleviate specific problems. This inquiry and discussion based class requires students to work on both indoor and outdoor projects as well as participate in classroom discussion. Classroom activities will include community service projects, such as paper recycling. All students are expected to participate in the service projects.
Length:	One term	
Grade:	8 & 9	

Title:	Core Curriculum Lab	Placement in the Curriculum Core Plato Lab class is by teacher recommendation. Plato students are prescribed specific unit tasks that are designed to improve reading comprehension, writing, and math skills. In addition, Plato has units that enhance science and social studies. The teacher monitors progress closely and adjusts tasks individually to enhance each student's unique progress.
Length:	One to three terms	
Grade:	8 and 9	

Title:	Great Books	Great Books is designed to enhance reading comprehension skills as well as personal enjoyment of reading. Five or more high interest novels are read and discussed as a class during the term. The novels selected explore contemporary issues of high interest. Students, with teacher guidance, have the opportunity to read, analyze, and share a book with the class.
Length:	One Term	
Grade:	8 & 9	

CJHS Course of Studies

Description Below:

Title: JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) Jobs for America's Graduates, JAG, is a course that is designed to introduce multiple post-secondary options for future graduates. Exploration of these options helps teens answer the following questions: Is college the right choice for me? What jobs are in demand? How do I find and apply for a real job? How can I become an interview ace? What do I need to do to become a _____? How do I get better at my job to ensure long term employment? JAG's curriculum focuses on these questions and many more pertaining to the career interests of each student.

Length: Full year

Grade: 9 -10

All JAG students who successfully complete the course receive two college credits from Lake Michigan College at no cost to them or their families. JAG students can potentially be rewarded with paid summer work experience to help them establish positive references and work histories.

Young students face many challenges and opportunities; they are entering the workforce as business and industry moves to the knowledge economy that requires high-skills for employment. The new Michigan Merit curriculum has expanded academic requirements and includes employment training through individually selected career paths. A high school graduate, after four years of focus and dedication, can have the necessary skills to enter today's competitive job market and pursue higher education. The staff at Coloma Junior High is working hard to ensure that each student will take advantage of his/her individualized educational opportunity.

Employment professionals now consider 4+2 (four years of high school + two years of further training) the minimum base for full-time employment with insurance and retirement benefits. High school classes are an excellent beginning -- however, our global economy requires further training or college after high school graduation for Americans to maintain current lifestyles. High school programs are available to prepare students for immediate entry into the workforce with further training continuing while employed.

Decision-making about class selection becomes increasingly important as admission requirements and college costs continue to climb. Following are some general guidelines to consider when choosing classes to **REACH** ahead:

- **REVIEW** personal strengths and weaknesses in both academic and employability skills. Required state testing measures the academic skills of reading, mathematics, writing, and science. Consider taking courses that best develop these skills.
- **ECONOMIZE** – Know the minimum course requirements for college entry and employment. For example, foreign language. Completing a foreign language requirement in college will cost at least \$3500.00, whereas courses completed in high school are free. Select the most difficult courses you can master, including those you can access by early enrollment, testing-out, direct credit, and dual enrollment. Remember, the goal is to *do well* in college or on the job, not just simply to *get in*. Read the EduGuide, available for download at www.pcsum.org, Presidents Council State Universities of Michigan The guide, designed for high school freshman, outlines high school strategies to maximize college preparation.

Coloma offers vocational skill training through shared time programs. Students can qualify for job-placement during their senior year and immediately obtain full-time employment after graduation.

- **ACCEPT** the need for an education. Once developed with a counselor, the EDP is a consistent progression of classes leading to immediate employment with continued education or immediate higher education after high school graduation. Avoid credit loss.
- **CONTACT OTHERS** – Ask family, friends, and older students about their jobs, training and other classes. Make sure your interests and abilities are communicated to your counselor. Job shadowing with family and friends often leads to a solid career decision and further commitment to training.
- **HELP YOURSELF** – Learn to access the career resources available in Media Centers and the Internet. Use www.data.berrienresa.org and access.bridges.com to access career and education links. Up-to-date information on college and training is readily available. Protect your employability and keep a portfolio up-to-date and organized.

Please call if you have any questions or concerns.

ACADEMIC LETTER

Students begin to qualify for an academic letter during the ninth grade. The letter is awarded for grades earned during high school. (Grades 9-12). The qualified student receives a chenille letter "C" similar to the athletic letter given to varsity athletes. Requirements:

- Grade Point Average - GPA of 3.5 or higher
- Four academic classes during the freshman year and six academic classes in grades 10-12
- Once lettered, students receive a chevron by maintaining a 3.5 GPA and taking six academic courses
- Seniors who maintain a 3.6 GPA, take five academic courses, and have previously earned an academic letter receive a chevron
- Academic courses are listed on the high school web site

CAREER PATH PLANNING

Students select a career pathway and a career major after participating in an eighth grade career unit. Each student will construct an Educational/Employability Development Plan (EDP). An EDP is an individually planned program for a student to move smoothly from school to work. Students take a sequence of courses that allow a transition from high school to Certificate Programs, Professional Degrees, or Apprenticeships.

Career Majors

Arts and Communications
Business, Management, Marketing, and Technology
Engineering, Manufacturing, and Industrial Technology
Health Sciences
Human Services
Natural Resources and Agri-Science

Students select courses in a career major that leads to their individual desired level of career preparation. Students select a career pathway based on post-high school training plans. EDP's and four-year plans are reviewed annually with a counselor.

Career Pathways

1. **TECHNICAL** – for a student preparing for an Associate's Degree or an apprenticeship
2. **PROFESSIONAL** – for a student preparing for a Bachelor's Degree and beyond

EDP development and course selection occurs after students, parents, teachers, and counselors consider each student's individual educational and occupational goals.

CREDITS

One-half or .5 credit is awarded for each term class. It takes two terms to earn one full credit. Most academic classes require two terms to complete EX: Algebra A + Algebra B = Algebra. Course credit is awarded with a final term grade of a D- or better.

CREDIT RECOVERY

Required courses must be completed before graduation. When possible, failed sections will be repeated during the school day by dropping electives and rescheduling. Rescheduling of lost credit sections results in reduced elective choice and may delay graduation. Repeats can become expensive for those who can't complete all failed classes during the school day.

Junior High students need to remember that failing any academic class in the first or second term may result in an immediate elective drop and rescheduling of the failed class for the next tri-term.

As students progress through high school, academic recovery during the day becomes more difficult. Repeated failing of classes often results in summer school or delayed graduation.

MATH AND SCIENCE CENTER

Eighth grade students apply to attend the Berrien County Math and Science Center program in grades 9-12. The center, at Andrews University, offers advanced studies in math and science as well as accelerated elective and computer offerings. Applicants must earn a qualifying score on the SAT test and complete an application by March 1st. **Interested students should take Algebra in eighth grade.** Occasionally there are sophomore openings for those with computer skills and who have successfully completed Geometry.

MICHIGAN PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP

Beginning with the class of 2007, students can receive up to \$4000 after successfully completing two years of post-secondary education. Specific criteria for the award is available at www.michigan.gov. The Promise Scholarship replaces the Michigan Merit award. The scholarship requires legislative funding and may or may not be provided to students.

PORTFOLIOS

All students are expected to build a portfolio documenting their individual progress and achievements. The portfolio is evidence of a student's growth in the three broad employability areas of Academics, Personal Management and Teamwork. Construction of multiple exhibits begins in tenth grade. The portfolio is presented as part of the senior project.

Students assume the responsibility of portfolio ownership and maintenance. Replacement of a lost portfolio is the responsibility of the individual. An organized portfolio is positive documentation for a job interview, scholarship consideration, admission process, military recruitment, and school-to-work job placement. Students who demonstrate weaknesses in any of the employability skills should elect classes that help develop employability skills strength.

NCAA ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility for freshman participation in collegiate athletics at NCAA Division I and Division II colleges is determined by NCAA requirements. These requirements include provisions for Grade Point Averages (GPA's), minimum scores in ACT/SAT tests, and specific required high school academic classes. In addition, athletes must graduate on-time.

An initial-eligibility clearinghouse certifies an athlete's college eligibility. Information and eligibility applications are available from the CHS Athletic Director. More information is available on the web at www.ncaa.org. NCAA student athletes must successfully complete a core curriculum of at least fourteen to sixteen required academic courses including:

Division I -				
<i>Core Curriculum Area</i>	<i>One Credit</i>	<i>Two Credits</i>	<i>Three Credits</i>	<i>Four Credits</i>
English	X	X	X	X
Mathematics -- Algebra I or higher	X	X	X	
Natural Physical Science One year of lab	X	X		
Social Science	X	X		
One year of additional English, mathematics, or natural/physical science. Four additional courses from any area above, world language, or non doctrinal religion/philosophy				
Students who wish to participate in collegiate athletics should inform counselors and coaches of their intent early in high school.				

Any student serious about college athletics should:

- Inform his/her current coach of the intended sport
- Read and follow the information on the www.ncaa.org and related clearinghouse sites
- Keep the high school counselor and athletic director informed of plans and recruiting activity

DIRECT CREDIT

Some courses taught at the high school are taught by a teacher credentialed by a college. The course syllabus, standards, outcomes, and tests are the same as used at the college. High school students pay 15% of the college tuition and grades and credit are recorded on a college transcript as college level classes. Direct credit courses will appear in both the college and high school course schedules. Assessments and required papers are completed at the high school.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

Students can attend classes at local colleges or universities in an effort to meet their needs and interests. The 1996 Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act, contains a provision that directs school districts to help students in paying tuition and fees for a class at a public or private college or university if all the following conditions are met:

- The student is classified as a Junior or Senior
- The student is enrolled for the class in the high school and in the post-secondary (college or university) institution during the district's regular academic school year.
- The college class must be one not offered by the local school district and must be an academic course. An exception could occur if the local board of education determines that a scheduling conflict exists, which is beyond the student's control. The following courses cannot be considered for dual enrollment: Physical Education , hobby, craft, recreation, theology, divinity or religious education courses.
- The student earned a qualifying score on one of the following assessments, PSAT, ACTPLAN, ACT or MME.

The school district is required to pay toward a student's tuition and fees for one class with some limitations. Students are responsible for any balance of funds due. Eligibility ends when all high school graduation requirements are met.

Dual enrollment students report gains in confidence and preparation for the rigors of full-time college work. In addition, students may be granted college graduation credits from the institution they attend after high school. Further information is available from the Junior High Principal.

EARLY ENROLLMENT

Students earn high school graduation credit for courses taken before the freshman year that meet the Michigan High School Content Expectations. Commonly, these are eighth grade Algebra, Health, and world language courses. This term is also used when young students enter college or take college-level classes as a guest before high school graduation.

JOB SHADOW

Junior High students can arrange a job shadow experience to visit and observe a worker in a career of interest. A job shadow packet detailing the process and the required assignments is available on the web site. Annually, one excused absence is allowed for job shadowing. Students are expected to complete the job shadow activities when participating in *Take Your Child to Work* days.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

Michigan's Merit Curriculum mandates two credits of world languages beginning with the graduating class of 2016. Students who want to go to four-year college should consider taking additional foreign language courses; some colleges require world language study for admission. It is wise to check what each college or university requires. Scheduling a language class during the senior year may improve scores on college placement exams .

MULTIPLE TERM CLASSES

Students enrolling in world languages and multiple term electives are making a complete-course commitment and may not be able to change.

HONOR ROLL

A Honor Roll is published for each tri-semester consisting of those students who have a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.00 or higher and no more than one C. A student receiving all A's is placed on the Principal's List for that tri-semester.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of the Coloma School District to administer this policy and the school programs in a consistent and equitable manner and to provide equal opportunity to students without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, weight and height, or handicap.

Questions concerning Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, discrimination on the basis of sex should be directed to Title IX Coordinator.

Concerns regarding compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Age Act of 1975 should be directed to the 504 Coordinator.

269-468-2424
Administrative Building
2518 Boyer Rd
Coloma, MI 49038

SCHOOL TO CAREER (CO-OP)

Students can qualify for on-the-job training and experience while in high school. The Career-Tech Coordinator monitors qualified seniors in a job that matches a skill area studied in high school. Students get paid for their work as well as earn graduation credit. Interested students should contact the high school coordinator as soon as sophomore year.

SENIOR PROJECT

Seniors must submit a written and oral report detailing their completion of a project in their chosen career pathway. The senior project is required for graduation and students earn ½ credit for this project. Information and guidelines are posted on the high school web page, www.ccs.coloma.org

SHARED TIME COURSES

Students can choose specific vocational programming in designated Berrien County School Districts. Students split their day between Coloma and the selected course site offered through another district. Students with poor attendance records, poor grades, missing credits, and/or a discipline record may not be allowed to take shared time classes.

Examples of offerings:

Hospitality and Food Service	Benton Harbor HS
Cosmetology	Twin Cities Beauty College
Dental Assistant	Lake Michigan College
Health Care Academy	Lakeland Hospital
Landscape Design and Development	Andrews University
Networking Administration	Lake Michigan College
Theatre Technology	Lakeshore HS

TESTING OUT OF CLASSES

Students can request to take a final exam for any class offered in grades 9-12. Students must follow the guidelines below to earn credit through testing.

- Submit a written request to the principal before registering for the class
- Make arrangements to take the test
- Earn a C or better on the final exam

On successful completion of the process, the student's transcript will show the class grade as CR with full credit for the class.

Minimum Admissions Requirements
President's Council State Universities of Michigan
www.pcsum.org

On April 20, 2006, Governor Granholm signed into law one of the most comprehensive sets of high school graduation requirements in the nation, the Michigan Merit Curriculum. The Merit Curriculum will prepare students for a rigorous college curriculum. It is important to check with institutions for additional curriculum requirements for admission, especially for specific degree programs. Remember that high school classes are planned not to simply gain college admission but more importantly, to prepare one to do well in higher education and graduate on-time with a degree.

	9	10	11	12
English Language Arts	1	1	1	1
Mathematics - Algebra I & II, Geometry and one class in the final year of high school	1	1	1	1
Science - Biology, Physics or Chemistry and one additional science credit.	1	1	1	
Social Studies - US History and Geography, World History and Geography, .5 Economics, and .5 Civics	1	1	1	
World Language - 2 credits required for HS graduation in 2016 A senior language class will improve college placement testing				
Visual, Performing and Applied Arts - 1 Credit				
Physical Education and Health - 1 Credit				
On-Line Learning Experience - 1 Credit Course, Learning or Integrated Learning Experience				

Please note:

The Michigan Merit Curriculum is designed to meet minimum admission requirements for college. It is always wise to exceed the minimum with a more demanding academic program. High school preparation is focused not on simply getting *into* college but also on skill development to to **complete a** college degree.

Universities and colleges set additional requirements for specific programs of study. Counselor's will match requirements with individual goals. Please check with a counselor if plans change.

The web sites of colleges and universities will list specific entrance requirements under their admissions pages. The Presidents Council State Universities of Michigan, www.pcsum.org, has links to the 15 public Michigan universities. Community colleges are found at mcca.org, the Michigan Community College Association.

The National Guidance Foundation site, www.collegesource.org, is a complete resource with an advanced criteria search that eases the college match process. Review.com, is a great resource for students entering business, medical, legal, or engineering professions.

Coloma High School Graduation Requirements – Class of 2012

Students must successfully complete 27.5 credits for graduation.
The 27.5 credits must include the following specific courses:

English	4.0 Credits
Mathematics: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Math or math-related Must have final year math	4.0 Credits
Science: Biology, Chemistry or Physics	3.0 Credits
Social Studies: US History, World History, Civics .5, Economics .5	3.0 Credits
Physical Education .5 Health .5 *	1.0 Credit
Computer Education On-line learning experience	1.0 Credit 1.0 Credit
Visual, Performing, Applied Arts	1.0 Credit
Senior Project	.5 Credit
Total	18.5 Specified Credits
Elective credit	9
Total Graduation Credits	27.5

* Health is earned in the eighth grade

Credits may be earned in principal-approved course situations. These may include approved summer school, testing out, dual enrollment, correspondence, or on-line school courses.

Credit is awarded to those who earn a final term grade of a D- or better in a course . Each freshman term tri-semester class is worth one half (.50) of a credit.

No more than one credit as a teacher assistant or library assistant may be counted towards graduation requirements

Students must participate in the Michigan Merit Exam in the spring of their Junior year. Students who do not pass the test are required to participate in all free testing opportunities.

**COLOMA JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS
FOUR YEAR PLANNING CHART
CLASS OF 2014**

Twenty-seven and one-half credits are required for graduation from Coloma High School

FRESHMAN YEAR 9		SOPHOMORE YEAR 10	
306 Lit A	306 Lit B	904 Lit 10 A	904 Lit 10 B
Math A	Math B	Math A	Math B
339 Earth Sci A	339 Earth Sci B	935 Biology A	935 Biology B
343 World History A	343 World History B	945 US History A	945 US History B
315 MS Appl A+	315 MS Appl B		
JUNIOR YEAR 11		SENIOR YEAR 12	
905 Lit 11 A	905 Lit 11 B	LA	LA
Math A	Math B	Math A	Math B
950 Govt	953 Econ		
Chem or Physics A	Chem or Physics B		

* Elected anytime in grades 9-12
 One credit of visual, performing, or applied arts in grades 9-12.
 A one-half credit senior project must be designed and presented.
 +One on-line learning class in grades 9-12. MS Application students earn this by completing Career Forward