

PUBLISHED BY THE  
COLLINSVILLE HIGH  
SCHOOL "SCHOOL  
IMPROVEMENT TEAM"

# The Kahok Current

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OCTOBER 2007

"WHERE  
WE STAND  
IS NOT AS  
IMPORTANT  
AS THE  
DIRECTION  
IN WHICH  
WE ARE  
GOING"

-OLIVER  
WENDELL  
HOLMES JR.

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## Welcome To Collinsville High School

Parents and students, get ready for the most exciting year of your life! Collinsville High School is up and running and ready to take you on a journey of discovery. This discovery is all about you! It is about what you wish your future to look like and what kind of person you want to be. Collinsville High School is here to aid you on your voyage of discovery and help you in every way possible.

The faculty, staff, and administration welcomes you to the Collinsville High School family. We are all committed to providing you the best possible experiences in all facets of

school life. High school is the place to experience a wide variety of academic, athletic, and co-curricular opportunities. A student who actively participates in all walks of high school life will find his or her experience very rewarding. And a parent that stands behind that child and is actively involved in his or her child's education will feel the same way. The more you put into the experience and journey, the more success in the future you both will have!

Collinsville High School has a rich tradition of excellence in academic and co-curricular accomplishments. We ex-

pect you to meet the goals which have been set for you: to carry on the Kahok tradition and to make our learning environment a better place by taking part in it.

We look forward to seeing all of you, both parents and students, on campus and at school activities. If you ever need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me here at CHS. We are all in this together at Collinsville High School because we are "The High School of Champions!"

*Mr. Eric Flohr*  
Principal-CHS

## Improving Collinsville High School

This year the staff at Collinsville High School is pulling out all the stops to make this school the very best it can be! Raising our scores on standardized tests is one area of focus. Once a week everything in the school stops for approximately ten minutes as every student in the building takes a sample PSAE Reading test. By the end of the year,

every student will have taken 34 "Reading Modules" to help prepare them for state reading tests. This strategy allows students to get the practice they need to not only excel on the PSAE Reading test but to prepare them for their future endeavors either in college or on the job. "Math Modules" are also being implemented in all math

and vocational classes offered at CHS on a weekly basis. Working together, we can raise our test scores and demonstrate to people all over Southern Illinois that Collinsville High School is "The High School of Champions!"

*CHS School Improvement Team*



**Collinsville  
High School  
Home of the  
Kahoks**

**“Get all the  
education you  
can, but then,  
do something.  
Don’t stand  
there; make it  
happen!”**

**-Lee Iococca**

**“Life is a great and  
wondrous mystery,  
and the only thing  
we know that we  
have for sure is  
what is right here  
and right now.  
Don’t miss it!”**

**-Leo Busaglia**

# The Guidance Department Spotlight

A new course will be offered at Collinsville High School for parents and students! Financial Assistance 101 will be offered to all 11th and 12th grade students and their parents. The presentation will be conducted by Washington University on November 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Subjects to be discussed include:

- \* How to estimate an expected family contribution (EFC) and how to use EFC to estimate a financial aid award
- \* The difference between need-based and merit scholarships and how to apply for both
- \* How scholarships, student loans and campus job opportunities work together to build a financial aid award

\* Practical advice on how to communicate with the Financial Aid office to make sure students have the resources they need to attend the college of their choice

The presentation will last about 30 minutes and will be followed by a question and answer session.

*John Smith-G.D. Chairman*

## Homecoming 2007

Homecoming 2007 has been set for Monday, October 15 through Saturday, October 20, 2007. This year’s theme is “Hollywood Nights.” The CHS Student Council has been hard at work planning this year’s events. The Homecoming week schedule includes:

- Monday: Disney Dress-up Day
- Tuesday: Class Color Day (Freshmen wear green, Sopho-

mores red, Juniors Blue, and Seniors Purple). Class Clash will take place at 3:05pm in the commons area.

Wednesday: Celebrity Couples Day and Mr. Homecoming will take place at 7:00pm in the Auditorium.

Thursday: Action Hero Day and the Homecoming Parade will start in downtown Collinsville at 4:30pm.

Friday: Purple and White Day, Pep Assembly 7th Hour in the gym, Tailgate Party at 6:00pm in the AVC Parking Lot, and Homecoming football game at 7:00pm.

Saturday: Homecoming Dance starts at 7:00pm in the gym. The Coronation will begin at 9:30pm in the gym.

Show your school spirit and take part in all the fun!

## Kahok Sports in Full Swing

The “High School of Champions” is off to a great start in the world of sports. First, our varsity Volleyball team is 17-2! The lady Kahoks won the Collinsville Invitational Tournament and placed third at the Edwardsville Tiger Classic and Senior Michelle Bartsch was named Arby’s “Impact Player of the Month” for September!

Our Varsity Boy’s Golf Team has an incredible record of 17-3 with Sophomore Colin Ahlvers taking a medal in the Edwardsville Tournament in late September.

The Girl’s Varsity Golf Team has the best record in the history of the high school! Their record is 13-4, and they head to the regional playoffs in early October.

Kahok nation is eagerly looking forward to the start of the boys and girls basketball seasons, which kick-off November 21 and November 19 respectively, and the debut of our incredible bowling teams! So, come and show your Kahok spirit and watch these young men and women play for CHS!

*Matt Badgley-Athletic/Student Activities Director*

# Collinsville High School: The High School of Champions



## The Importance of Communication

In our efforts to improve communication between parents and school, Collinsville High School is instituting a telephone broadcast system that will enable school personnel to notify all households and parents by phone within minutes of an emergency or unplanned event that

causes early dismissal, school cancellation, or a late start. The service may also be used occasionally to communicate general announcements or reminders. This service is provided by SchoolReach, which specializes in school-to-parent communications. Collinsville High School will continue to report school closings

due to snow or weather on local radio and television stations and will use this system as an overlay to the public announcements. Our first anticipated “launch” of the system will be on October 22<sup>nd</sup> with a friendly reminder about Parent Teacher Conferences.  
*Mr. Eric Flohr  
 CHS Principal*

## CHS Mission

### Statement:

*“The Kahok family offers and embraces opportunities for everyone to reach his/her fullest potential.”*

# Character Education Program Begins At CHS

This year, our district has joined a county-wide initiative to integrate character education into the school’s mission, policies, professional development and academic curricula. Consequently, it becomes a critical component in student learning. We believe that one of the most important functions of schools is to reflect and reinforce positive character traits and to teach the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Working in partnership with our community, we hope to improve each student’s chances of experiencing life-changing success.

Character Education is the shared responsibility of parents, teachers and community members, who come together to support positive character development. Character education teaches the habits of thought and deed that help people live and work together as families, friends, neighbors and communities. The Collinsville Community Unit School District No. 10 character education initiative will be an ongoing learning process that enables students and adults in our

community to understand, care about, and act on core ethical traits. These character traits will help form the attitudes and actions that are the hallmark of a safe, healthy and informed community that serve as the foundation of our school. Quality character education helps schools create a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment for every student and supports academic development. It fosters qualities that will help students be successful as citizens, in the workplace, and with the academic curriculum. It lays the foundation to help students be successful in all of the goals we have for our public schools. It is the common denominator that will help schools reach all of their goals!

Collinsville Community Unit School District No. 10 invites you to help share the responsibility by joining with schools, businesses, industries, families and communities in demonstrating character excellence in our district. There is no cost to be a partner. We only ask that you do ONE visible thing each month that corresponds with the trait of the month. Actions may include posting the trait of the month on your marquee, or posting the trait on your website or in

your newsletter. As a member of the faith community, your visible action may be incorporating the trait of the month into a sermon or planned activity at your church. As a parent, you may put the trait of the month on your refrigerator. The possibilities are endless; you simply become intentional about teaching and demonstrating good character. Together, we can make a positive impact for student success!

## Collinsville CUSD No. 10 Character Traits of the Month for First Semester

AUGUST: Be Responsible - Know And Do The Right Thing.

SEPTEMBER: Be Respectful - Treat Other People As You Would Like To Be Treated

OCTOBER: Be Honest - Be True To Yourself And Others.

NOVEMBER: Be Cooperative - Work Together With Others.

DECEMBER: Be Courteous - Show Consideration For Others.

*Mr. Brad Hyre  
 Assistant Principal CHS*

# **Important Fall Dates to Remember:**

**October 15 through October 20, 2007: CHS Homecoming Week**

**Wednesday, October 17, 2007: 2007-PSAT/NMQST Test**

**October 25 and 26, 2007: Parent/Teacher Conferences**

**Saturday, October 27, 2007: PSAE Retakes-Day 1 (ACT plus Writing) test**

**Tuesday, October 30, 2007: PSAE Retakes-Day 2**

**Wednesday, November 7: PLAN and EXPLORE Tests**

**Monday, November 12: No School-Veterans Day**

**November 15-November 18, 2007: Fall Play in the Auditorium**

**November 22 and 23, 2007: No School Thanksgiving Break**

**Wednesday, December 5, 2007: ASVAB (Armed Services) Testing**

**VISIT US ON THE WEB AT: [WWW.KAHOKS.ORG](http://WWW.KAHOKS.ORG)**

Collinsville High School

2201 South Morrison Avenue

Collinsville, Illinois 62234