



Stallion Times

Carbon Valley Secondary Academy's Online Newsletter

March 2010

From Principal Walsh's Desk

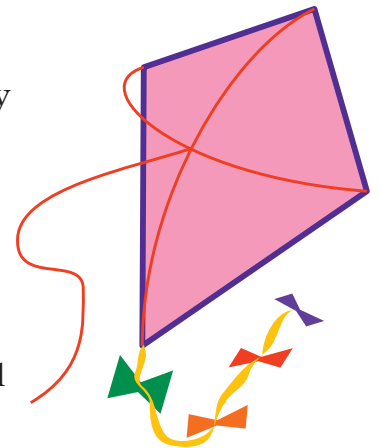
2010–2011 Enrollment

The Secondary Academy is looking to increase enrollment for the 2010–2011 school year. The administration and students are currently working on several projects in order to accomplish this. Students are putting together a flyer that we can use to help make more people aware of what we are doing and accomplishing at CVSA. The flyer highlights the kind of education our students receive as well as some unique features of our school. In addition to the flyer, CVSA will be represented in at least one "High School Night" where area high schools are invited to talk about their school to parents of eighth graders. If you are interested in hosting a meeting so we can talk to potential students and their parents, call us at 303-485-7729, or email Mr. Walsh at walsht@cvamail.com. You can also call or email if you would like your student to spend a day with us.

Classroom News

While some students complete their work on the information flyers about CVSA, other history students just conducted a mock trial of Marie Antoinette. Language Arts students wrote and are in the process of presenting modern adaptations of a Shakespearean play that they just read. Some science students have recently launched bottle rockets, while others have built toothpick bridges only to destroy them and analyze how well they were built. If you get upset with our students and tell them "Go fly a kite!", don't be surprised if they tell you they flew the ones they designed just the other day!! Math students have measured the heights of a variety of objects in and outside of their classroom, using "instruments" they created with common household objects. A few of our Art students may design murals for the outside of our modular units to attract your attention. In Technology, Music, and Spanish classes, our students are learning to communicate using technology, music, and oral as well as written Spanish.

Since we do not have the best athletic fields nor the finest gymnasium in the state, we are planning to utilize the Wii Fit program to encourage our students be more active. We are also starting a Video Game Club, which will challenge other schools to a variety of school appropriate games or sports. The students are restarting the Robotics Club, which has been a successful group at CVSA. And our Technology teacher is planning to teach our young ladies a self defense class after school starting soon.



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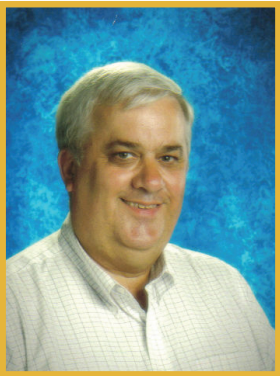
These are just some of the things that have occurred or have been put in motion in the month since I became Principal of CVSA. You may be surprised by all we are doing, but the students and teachers here see it as a fairly typical month. Come to CVSA, where our expectations for our students are as high as the ceilings in our halls – which go beyond the stars!

CSAP Testing

Besides continuing to make use of a variety of instructional and assessment strategies, our students and teachers are preparing to take the CSAP test like every other student in Colorado. While getting the students ready for CSAP, the teachers have recently taken a “test” of their own. Not really a test, but rather a survey, to help them look at their personal teaching styles. By analyzing their teaching style, our teachers will be able to consider other ways to present and assess content in order to achieve even greater student learning.



Mr. Walsh Introduction



I have made a couple of references to myself in this article, so let me introduce myself. My name is Terry Walsh, and I recently became Principal of CVSA. I moved to Colorado from Illinois almost three years ago, and am learning to fly fish while enjoying the mountains. I was a math teacher at Hinsdale Central High School and held a variety of administrative positions at Homewood-Flossmoor High School, both located in the suburbs of Chicago. I co-authored a book on learning styles, written specifically for math teachers, and have led numerous Pre-AP Mathematics Workshops for the College Board as well as Learning Styles workshops around the country.

In my short time here, I have been impressed by the hard work of the teachers and most of the students. I am working with parents to ensure that all students get the best possible education. Along with the teachers, we are all challenging students to push themselves to be active, life-long learners. I look forward to getting to know many of you as CVSA continues to grow and becomes a more prominent school in the community. If you have a student in a K–8 Charter School, remember us when you are looking into what high school your son or daughter will attend. If you have home schooled your children and are looking for a middle or high school that can help your student continue to grow, both educationally and as a citizen, come by and look us over. If you have a student in a large traditional high school, and they are looking for a place that is a bit smaller, we may be the school for them.

Important Dates

March 1st – No School – Professional Development Day

March 18th – 6:00 pm Board of Directors Work Session; 7:00 pm Board of Directors Regular Meeting at CVA

March 23rd & March 25th – Parent/Teacher Conferences for all schools – 4:00 – 8:00 pm at CVA

March 26th – Deadline for submitting application to run for Board of Directors vacancy

March 29th – April 2nd – No School – Spring Break

April 5th – No School – Professional Development Day

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Whether you think of CVSA as a diamond in the rough, a well kept secret, or just a great place to send your children to school, come and get an education that will last a lifetime. Since big things sometimes come in small packages, you should not judge a book (or our school) by its cover. So become smarter the fun way and remember to work hard, be nice. Sorry about all the sayings in this paragraph. Most are things the students and teachers have in the flyers they developed. One is the school motto (WHBN).

Please give me a call or send an email so you can find out more about us.

5Q+5Q!

Terry Walsh,
CVSA Principal

Volunteers Needed

Breakfast is being served during CSAP testing and we need parents to bring in their griddles and cook pancakes. This is a great way to fulfill your required volunteer hours. Please call the front office to volunteer.

