



Stallion Times

Carbon Valley Secondary Academy's Online Newsletter

September 2008

First Day of School at the New CVSA Campus



The entire CVSA Student Body



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From Principal Trautwein's Desk

I am so impressed with our Secondary students! Starting a new school is very tough; there are so many details and issues to deal with. First we wanted to start off the new year by getting our students involved in school by creating a student government. On top of that, we wanted to integrate our classes by doing a cross-curricular project. Too much, of course! Successful, yes! The only way we were able to do so much is because of the level of skills our students have in combination with their ability to work as a community of learners. I do not believe any other school could have done so much. Thank you students, parents, and teachers—without your support, we would be just another school.

Opening Week Festivities

The first week was an exciting week for all of us. The first day we were so glad to see everyone. Students had a chance to check out the new campus and to see their teachers again. On Friday, we celebrated by honoring our country and Carbon Valley Academy with a flag raising ceremony at the Elementary school. Students then created time capsules for each grade. These time capsules included their thoughts and some objects that represent them today and their plans for the future. Each time capsule will be opened on the class' graduation day. For lunch, Mr. Trautwein grilled hamburgers and hot dogs and even a few vegetable burgers for the students. In the afternoon, each student worked on their personal academic and social goals for the year. They had the opportunity to review past data and decide what they should focus on. We wrapped up the day with a ceremonial tree planting. Tony Carey, CVA's Executive Director, with the help of Kelly Kurz, CVA's Counselor, donated a 3 year old Maple tree that signifies CVA's 3 years of existence and the growth of CVSA for the years to come. Thank you all for the great start of a great school. I am thrilled and honored to be leading such an exciting and dynamic school.



CVSA Student Government

This year we had our first all school election for student government. The student government will be structured to have two representatives from each grade as well as a secretary/treasurer, vice president and president. Our student government is based on the United States' political system with executive, representative and judicial branches. The president and vice president will get to appoint Supreme Court justices. The student government will be granted a set of real powers that they must oversee. They will be given the ability to influence and change our campus, the extra-curricular offerings, social opportunities, and policies. The decision making process will be formalized through regular meetings and a balanced system of checks and balances. The president will work closely with Mr. Trautwein to accomplish their goals that will promote CVSA. The

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student government will also get to work with the CVA Board of Directors.

Students who were nominated had three days to prepare a speech and promote themselves through posters, handouts and fliers. During these three days, all students were instructed in persuasive speeches in Language Arts, electoral vote calculations in mathematics, governmental structure in social studies, cooperative/team development in science, and campaign poster design in art.

Nominees were:

President – **Haley Dennis, Daniel Judson, April Silva**

Vice President – **Makaria Judson, Cole Lewis, Daniel Sher**

Secretary/Treasurer – **Sierra Lewis, Hanna Partee, Ladd**

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9th Grade Representatives – **Emily Higbee, Stephanie Rose**

8th Grade Representatives – **Jamika Moes, Jesse Esterbrook, Jacob Perez, Alex Kochheiser**

7th Grade Representatives – **Conner Ashley, Dominique Connolly, Tristan Gifford, Angel Silva, McKina Jewell**

6th Grade Representatives – **Blake Davis, Kirsten Kochheiser, Vinnie Pastore, Jeremy Rivera**

Elected officials for the 2008-2009 Student Government are:

President – **April Silva**

Vice President – **Makaria Judson**

Secretary/Treasurer – **Hanna Partee**

9th Grade Representatives – **Emily Higbee, Stephanie Rose**

8th Grade Representatives – **Jacob Perez, Alex Kochheiser**

7th Grade Representatives – **Conner Ashley, Angel Silva**

6th Grade Representatives – **Kirsten Kochheiser, Vinnie Pastore**

(View photos of the Representatives on Page 5.)

Congratulations to all our students for participating in our new government. All candidates did a great job presenting themselves and should be proud of their accomplishments!

Did you know:

- CVSA has a 9:1 student to licensed teacher ratio!
- CVSA has a 2:1 student to computer ratio!
- CVSA offers Spanish, Art, PE, and Technology to all students weekly!
- CVSA's CSAP scores increased by double digits in all areas from 2007 to 2008!
- CVSA students receive a personalized education.
- CVSA students are given the opportunity to excel through a flexible schedule that allows for students to be in the classes that best fit their skill level.

Important Sept. Dates

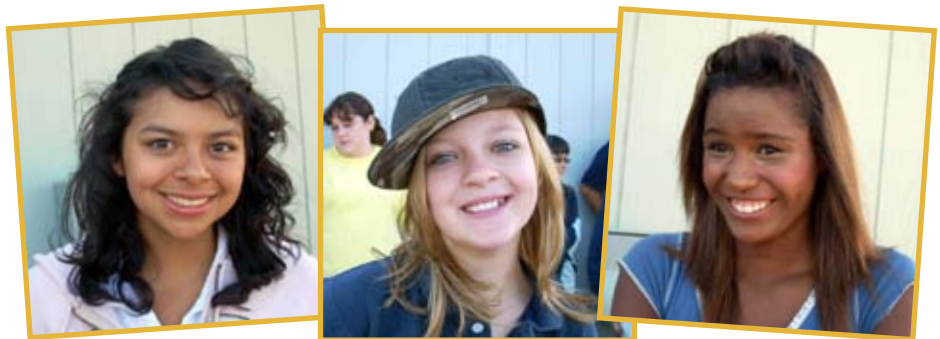
Sept. 1st – Labor Day – No Classes

Sept. 15th – Board of Directors Meeting – 7:00 pm in the Harvard Room

Sept. 19th – Parent/Teacher Conferences – No Classes

Sept. 20th – Miner's Day/Valley Bank Bike Ride

Sept. 22nd – Sept. 26th MAP Testing



President April Silva, Vice President Makaria Judson, and Secretary/Treasurer Hanna Partee

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Volunteers

A BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers that have helped get CVSA going. We appreciate the help and dedication you have shown toward our school as you helped with the move (during an awful rainstorm), helped the teachers put together their classrooms, brought furniture for our outside areas, prepared supplies for our students, provided food for our workers, helped the teachers with web-pages and presentations, and all the other help that you generously donated.

If you are looking for volunteer opportunities, please contact Mr. Trautwein or any teacher for ideas. When volunteering on campus, please sign in at the office and get a visitor's pass. If you doing work at home, please log your time and report it to Mr. Trautwein or the teacher (e-mail is preferred). If you are donating items, the volunteer hours are calculated as: the cost of the item, divided by \$10. If the item is used, calculate your cost by the rummage sale value of the item.

We are still looking for shade, table umbrellas, and canopies. We are also looking for lawn chairs and benches. If you have a talent you wish to share with the students in a mini-class, sports team or weekly club, please let Mr. Trautwein know—all ideas are welcome. Upcoming projects that will lend to volunteer hours include building a patio made from pavers—we will need the pavers and help with the installation. The annual CVSA family ski trip is on December 19th and we will need drivers and \$40 scholarships, so plan ahead and ask for time off now.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Clubs and extra-curricular activities are starting in September!

- **2nd–9th grade students** will be singing & dancing in our **1960's Show**, which will be performed in May. Rehearsals will be on Mondays 3:00–4:00 p.m. at the elementary building.
- **4th–9th grade Chess players** (all levels welcome) will be playing chess against their peers in **Advanced Chess Club** on Tuesdays 3:00–4:00 p.m. at the elementary building.
- Tuesdays will be beginning **Orchestra** (beginning 9/9) at the elementary building music room starting at 3:10 p.m. Mr. Trautwein will teach violin, viola and cello group lessons to students ages 4 and up. Parents will be required to provide an instrument and lesson book and there will be a \$20 fee each semester. Parents and students are encouraged to come and learn more on Tuesday, September 9th from 3:10–4:00 p.m.
- **The Robo-Stallion Robotics Team**, for grades 5 and up, will begin on Wednesday, September 3rd from 3:10 to 4:30 in the multi-purpose room on the Secondary campus. There will be a \$20 fee per semester. Students will learn programming and strategy to be applied to the Lego Robotics competition sponsored by FIRST.
- **Beginner Band** rehearsals will be Wednesdays from 3:00–4:00 p.m. and will begin in November. Beginner Band will be directed by Mr. O'Connor at the elementary building.
- The **CVSA Student Government** will have its inaugural meeting on Thursday, September 11th in the multi-purpose room from 3:00–3:30 p.m. The public is welcome and encouraged to come and participate.
- **Intermediate & Advanced Recorder** will be on Fridays from 3:00–4:00 p.m., directed by Mr. O'Connor at the elementary building.



6th Grade Representatives Kirsten Kochheiser and Vinnie Pastore



7th Grade Representatives Angel Silva and Conner Ashley



Making a campaign speech



8th Grade Representatives Jacob Perez and Alex Kochheiser



9th Grade Representatives Stephanie Rose and Emily Higbee



CVSA's first 9th Grade Class!

Check Out CVA's Stallion News

Stay informed about all of the CVA Charter School activities! Make sure to read CVA's Stallion News. The September edition includes the following great information:

- Carbon Valley Academy Charter Schools Flag Ceremony
- From Principal Murphy's Desk
- Board of Directors Corner
- CVA Charter Schools Community BBQ