

Commonly

Asked

QUESTIONS

What are the requirements?

MUST attend **ALL lunch meetings** unless excused or absent from school that day. You are allowed 3 **unexcused** absences from meetings for the entire school year. If you miss more than 3 meetings, this could effect your position on the coalition. Lunch meetings are scheduled ahead of time and are all listed in the Google Calendar.

Must attend at least 1 full coalition meeting at the board office by April of every school year. Full coalition meetings are offered each month. These are run by Dr. Charlene McGunn. The meetings fall on the 2nd Tuesday of each month and are currently also online. They are from 3:30 pm -4:30pm. It is recommended you get your meeting in early in the school year because many things come up.

Must attend at least 3 events. At least 1 event must be done by the **Holiday Party In December** of the currently year.

Members are expected to complete the lunchroom mini informational quizzes and to read remind. One summary remind is sent 1x/week.

Each new member is required to have at least 1 guardian attend an informational virtual meeting.

Each CTC member is expected to attend at least **1 day of camp**, but it is highly encouraged to attend all 3. Camp days are once a month in the summer.

Every member must have at least 1 CTC T-shirt or sweatshirt to wear to all events and meetings. If you a member is unable to afford a T-Shirt, the coalition will cover the expense. Please let the advisor know prior to the clothing order.

How much time is involved in the different events?

Events vary in time commitment. You can see how much time an event takes by reading the description on the SignUp Genius. For example:

- If you do the Ninth Grade Center announcements, it might be 4 weeks of announcements, but each day is less than 5 minutes (or a total of 80 minutes for the 4 weeks)
- If you cover the lunchroom informational table, it's only 25 minutes.
- The showcase might be a total of 4 hours to earn "1" event credit.
- Other events like the Be Aware walk is usually 3.5-4 hours.
- Lunchroom posters may take one person an hour and another person 3 hours.

When are the events?

Events vary. There are events during school, before school, after school, and on weekends. This information is also contained in the SignUp Genius. Some events allow the advisor to drive you to and from the event; other events require you to get a ride. If you need events at a certain time, such as only after school, talk with the advisor or an executive board member that will be able to help you which events are most often offered during your desired time.

How do I find out more about CTC (Coalition Teen Council)?

Ask a member, reach out to Mrs. Adams or Mrs. Lemley, or visit the CTC Webpage at:

<https://www.chippewavalleyschools.org/schools/high-schools/cvhs/students-parents/student-assistance-program/coalition-teen-council/>

Attend as many of the camp days as possible and the interest meeting in September. The more involved you are, the more you will learn and know about CTC.

How many people are in CTC?

In recent years there has been between 90-111 members from all 4 grades.

Is it only about being drug-free?

Coalition Teen Council provides information on teen mental health concerns, such as suicide preventions. CTC also addresses substance use (vape, alcohol, marijuana, and other drugs).

What am I suppose to wear for meetings and events?

It is expected that you will wear your CTC t-shirt or sweatshirt to ALL events and meetings to show your pride and support for the coalition.

How much does the club cost?

The cost for a T-shirt is about \$20; however, if needed the advisor can waive this and provide a T-shirt to a member in need. Sometimes, members are asked to bring something to a potluck, but again, this can be waived if needed. We also have an Amazon Wishlist for those interested in donating items to CTC.

What are some of the best things past members enjoyed?

Some of the things past members enjoyed are the holiday party, that we host right before December's break. In the past, we've done a cookie decorating contest, white elephant, a potluck and many other games. It is a great way to connect with other CTC members, as well as have fun.

Some members believe that you have to do things like the sidewalk chalk, showcases, lunchroom tables, and other events before getting to the fun events. It is helpful to do these events, so the advisor gets to know you quickly and then can recommend specific events that you may enjoy more. However, you do not have to do these events. Keep in mind, that some events fill up fast and may have a seniority aspect.

Do I have to attend ALL the lunch meetings?

You **MUST** attend ALL lunch meetings unless excused or absent from school that day. You are allowed 3 unexcused absences from lunch meetings for the entire school year.

Do I have to attend the summer camp days?

You **MUST** attend at least 1 camp day. The other days are highly encouraged as you meet members, learn educational materials, get introduced to the events for the upcoming CTC year, and do team bonding activities. The more camp days you attend, you will have a better understanding of expectations, events, and your fellow members. The camp days are once a month for about 3 hours. All camp days are at Chippewa Valley High School Main Building. Camp IS NOT considered as one of the 3 events you are required to complete even if you attend more than 1 camp day.

Are there due dates for events/activities?

1 event must be completed before the holiday party in December of the current year. We encourage the full coalition meeting to be completed as soon as possible as it is easy to get busy later in the year and forget to attend. Other events might have deadlines to turn in paperwork or sign up by a particular date, but all that is on the SignUp Genius or in the paperwork you receive.

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Will I automatically be picked for an event if I sign up for it?

No, unfortunately some events have a higher demand than others and require so many volunteers but there are plenty of events to choose from!

How do advisors decide who will attend each event?

Several factors determine who is picked for events. They include:

- Who signs up
- If a member returns their paperwork by the deadline
- Whether there is a need for a particular set of people (ex: a balance of males and females represented at the event, seniors having years of experience, members with greatest speaking abilities, if someone attended a particular middle school, etc.)
- If someone requires an event whereas another member that is signed up has completed all of their events
- If someone is interested in gaining experience such as talking to middle school students or is “in-training” to be able to do an event for the future.

What if an event I am extremely interested in is filled, what can I do?

You can always express your interest to the advisors. There are times when individuals drop events at the last minute and replacements are used. By talking to the advisor, even if no spots are available or a particular event you hope to participate in, the advisor could look for similar events you may enjoy.

What kind of information or training will I receive?

During camp, members will learn about vape, addiction, and substances. Throughout the year, lunch meetings may have informational/educational components to increase your knowledge on suicide prevention, teen mental health concerns, and other teen challenges. There might be afterschool presentations or information sent out via remind. In addition, the full coalition meetings often has speakers on assorted topics. The lunchroom mini informational quizzes also provide some additional facts.

You are not expected to know a particular set of focus. Many times, you will have a briefing before the event informing you of your role, materials that will be covered, and expectations. Always ask questions when you are unsure.

Do we get a cord for graduation if we participate?

Graduating seniors participating in CTC for all grades 10-12 (or all years eligible if a student moves in later in high school), and meeting the eligibility criteria describe below by February 10th of the SENIOR YEAR will earn the appropriate sash (red or white CVHS sash; CV Logo on one side, "Connected" on the other side) to wear at the Chippewa Valley High School Commencement Ceremony.

- A 3.0 cumulative GPA
- A member in good standing of CTC, including participating in the club during all grades 10-12 (or all year eligible if a student moves in the district later).
- Student must have a record of discipline that includes NO MORE than FIVE detentions during grades 10-12. In addition, any suspension during grades 10-12 could make a student ineligible and will be reviewed by administration.

Am I required to be able to speak in front of people?

No, but there are many opportunities to develop public speaking skills by taking small parts in the different events if you choose. Advisors allow members to sit in and watch teen panels for example to prepare for the next year. You can also attend events, but may only pass out materials out get a feel for the event and expectations. Some events have small group discussions with your peers, some have individual presentations. There are different levels for all members. If you are not comfortable with public speaking, you will not be forced to presents. The advisors will encourage you to participate in small pieces with your fellow members. Often times, many presentations are done in teams.

Are there ways to help without having to present materials to the community or peers?

There are many behind the scenes events, such as making lunchroom posters (Ninth Grade Center), showcases (Main Building), and giveaway items for the lunchroom tables, passing out materials, creating invitations, or other documents about various events and putting up signs.

Who are the advisors and how do I reach them?

Virginia Adams, Main Building Room 161: (586) 723-2561 vadams@cvs.k12.mi.us

Marla Lemley, Ninth Grade Center Media Center: (586) 723-3151 mlemlay@cvs.k12.mi.us

You can ask questions through remind, Schoology, or by email. You can also stop by their offices or call them. They are usually very quick to get back to you.

CTC seems very formal, is it?

In some ways CTC is “formal” in the expectations of its members are higher than the average student. Students are not required to hold a specific GPA, but are expected to act and behave professionally that demonstrates respect, acceptance, and leadership. Members are expected to follow the code of conduct including dress code, being to class on time, and acting appropriately. CTC is more than a “club” and requires commitment.

What are the social events?

CTC also does “social events” outside of the coalition. These are not counted as an event but are a great way to have fun in a safe environment, get to know your fellow members, and enjoy different activities. Example of social events might include:

- Cider Mill
- Movies
- Game Night
- Roller Skating
- School Musical
- Variety show
- Big Oscars and more

I heard about this “color group” thing. What is that and why? How are “color groups” picked?

Color groups were first created in 2022. With the concept being learning process, changes may be made in the following years. It's goal was to have a core group of members in each group that each person could connect with.

With over 100 members, it is important that each member has a connection, and the group would prefer if this connection were with various grade levels so that knowledge, information, and modeling would be evident. It was created so each member had a designated executive board member as a mentor who is available for members to ask questions, address concerns, or other pieces as peer-to-peer. This allows the executive board members to gain additional leadership skills.

In past years, you could not pick your color group, however, starting in 2024-2025 school year, if you have a friend in CTC you may indicate that on your application and requests will try and be honored, but no guarantees.

How many people are on the executive board (e-board) and what do they do?

There are typically 16-20 individuals on the CTC executive board, though the number of people varies per year. There are usually at least:

- 1 president
- 1 vice president
- 1-2 secretaries
- 1- 2 social activities planners
- 1-2 social media coordinators
- 1-2 photojournalists
- 2 ninth grade center liaisons
- (1 male/1 female)
- Several general executive board members
- 2 ninth graders are moved up in January each year.

Every year members will be assigned to an executive board member. Members will also receive all the contact information for all executive board members.

What events are recommended for new members?

New members are encouraged to do events in September/October. This includes:

- Welcome Back Chalk for the 1st day of school.
- What is CTC lunchroom table.
- Attend the interest meeting and bring a friend
- Homecoming Parade
- Showcases
- Educational trainings
- Be Aware 5k Suicide Preventions Walk/Run
- Social Events
- Take What You Need Board (at the Ninth Grade Center)

Do all the grades do things together?

All members have the ability to participate in camp, the induction, social activities, and events. CTC encourages a mix of individuals for events to closely represent the actual study body at CVHS.

Even though there are 2 buildings, it is encouraged that members interact with all fellow members regardless of the grade. The Ninth Grade Liaison was created to help bridge this gap between the building and encourage cohesiveness.

Are we required to do fundraisers?

In past year, CTC has not officially conducted “fundraisers.” We have been fortunate to earn some money from our collaboration with KnowResolve for the Be Aware 5k Walk/Run event. The Chippewa Valley Coalition for Youth and Families at times assist with training costs and other materials. However, CTC is not funded by the school district and generally receives about \$500/year to function. We have also used Custom Ink in the past that allowed a fundraising option. With CTC growing each year, it has been increasingly difficult to provide main meal items at our celebrations.

Last year, was the 1st year we started an Amazon Wishlist and Kroger Rewards. Both of these ventures have been helpful. CTC parents have been generous and supportive. We could not have been as successful without their support.

Fundraising will be evaluated each year based on the needs, events, and projects CTC will be conducting.

Remember, there is no fee to participate in CTC. We ask that you purchase a T-shirt if you are able, otherwise no other monetary commitment is required.

There is so much information, where do I find everything?

CTC has set up a Linktree that has all the links to SignUp Genius, Remind, the Google Calendar, Executive Board contact information, Advisor contact information, Amazon Wishlist, By-laws, Social Media Accounts, CTC Application, CTC Brochure, and more.