



Chippewa Valley 9th Grade Center
Weekly Announcements
Week of December 11, 2023



NEWLY ADDED AND CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS for 12/11/2023 – 12/15/2023 (please read)

- **New from the You-Know-That-Word's-Not-Right Corner:** Because students often write how they speak, Mr. Williams announces a new word or phrase that he overhears incorrectly used in the hallway, and he uses it correctly. Students listen, quickly learn, and laugh, especially since many have used a few of these words. The goal is to increase proficiency in writing, even if only by small gains. Like a penny, these gains in vocabulary add up. Last week's words and phrases were as follows:
 - **Brought** is the past tense of *bring*. *Brung* is not a word. I know we use *sing, sang, sung*, but there is no *bring, brang, brung*, even if your family is from Alabama!
 - **Blasphemy** – A student used *blasphemize* to share that someone was spreading lies about him and to unwittingly declare his divine status. Unfortunately, *blasphemize* (verb attempt) is not a word unlike its distant cousin *blasphemy* (a noun). Nice try. Don't stop seeking new words.
 - **Add, subtract, multiply, divide** – While in elementary school, some of you were allowed to say, *I timesed it, I plussed it, and I minused it* as you worked through the mathematical process. In high school, we recognize that not only are *timesed, plussed, and minused* not verbs, they also cannot be conjugated in the past tense. Please remember to say, *I added, I subtracted, I multiplied, and I divided*.
 - **Run** - Of course, the simple past tense is *ran*, as in *I ran to the store*. With participles, the word reverts back to *run*, as in *I have run in marathons for years*, instead of *I have ran*. The correct use even sounds better. I will remind you about some of the special verbs in the upcoming days. We will continue to work on using *I saw* instead of *I seen*, as well. It's apparently a hard habit to break. If you can't remember, please start jotting down the words that apply to you.
- **Lockdown Drill** – Our second lockdown drill and subsequent discussions that took place Tuesday, 12/5/23, were very informative, and students asked a lot of very important questions. Students were reminded of our emergency pull stations, which included how they look, how they sound when activated, and when to pull them. Students were reminded that being aware means leaving earbuds out of at least one ear as they walk through the hallway. They should also observe their surroundings periodically as they walk instead of having tunnel vision. Although students were given guidance on how they should react in specific locations, they were also provided with these three terms to consider during an actual lockdown:
 - **Avoid** - Staff and students should assess where the threat is and decide if they can evacuate the building. Once outside, staff and students should proceed to a rally point with their hands in the air if they encounter law enforcement.
 - **Deny** - Staff and students should barricade the door to the classroom. Look for any items that can be stacked against the door to secure the entry way and scatter throughout the room.
 - **Defend** - Staff and students should have an object in their possession to use to defend themselves if an intruder enters the classroom. If possible, attack the intruder by securing major body parts and controlling the weapon.
- **CVHS' Giving Tree** – For over a decade, Chippewa Valley High School has helped the less fortunate in our building. This year, we have created a giving tree to help as many students as possible and could use your help. We are asking for a \$25 gift card to stores like Meijer, Target, or Walmart, which would enable students to purchase food or clothing for the holidays. Please consider donating and/or sharing this message with friends and family. Donations are due no later than December 15th at 2:11 p.m. They must be gift cards, not cash. All cards should be delivered to Mr. Valentine in the main building or Mrs. Wall in the 9th grade center. Contact Mr. Valentine with questions (avalentine@cvs.k12.mi.us; 586-723-2500).
- **Positivity Quote** of the week: Every experience you have is an opportunity for growth.
- **Missing Information:** Should you ever delete an email with *CV9's Weekly Announcements*, all of them can be found at [CV9's Weekly Announcements](#).

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- [Student Clubs and Activities](#) : The opportunity to participate in the following teams, clubs, and activities was *recently announced* to students:
 - **Rock the Mic** night, an open mic event for all singers, writers, musicians, and performers, is Wednesday, December 20th. If you'd like to perform, please sign up with Mrs. Martin in room 110 or Ms. Lucido in room 321.
 - Boys' **lacrosse** workouts will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays through February in the weight room. For more information, please contact Dr. Lawrence at danielfl1998@gmail.com.
 - Would you like to share your thoughts and concerns with Mr. Distelrath, plan a project, paint a wall, and/or make an impact? Come to the **Student Impact Team** meeting Wednesday, December 6th, from 2:15 - 3:00 p.m. in room 227.
 - **GSA** meets right after school every Monday in room 103, which is located in the D hallway.
 - **Homework Help** meets every Tuesday from 2:15 – 3:15 p.m. in the main building's media center.
 - The **Giving Tree** is located in the kitchen for pizza. Pick an ornament from the tree and purchase the item written on it. Bring the item and ornament back to have your name entered into a drawing. Prizes include moving to the front of the line for a month, free cookies for a week, and one free cookie. All items will be donated to CV9's Corner Closet, which is open to all of you.
- **Upcoming Sporting Events** – Please click on [CVHS' Sports Schedules](#) to stay abreast of all sporting events.

Choose to have an awesome week!

 **ON-GOING ANNOUNCEMENTS for Parents (please review only as needed)**

- **Attendance:** Please view the [attendance policy](#) so that you are fully aware of the process.
- **Backpacks:** For the 2023-24 school year, students will not be allowed to carry clear backpacks or backpacks of any other material into their classrooms. Only laptop carrying cases will be allowed inside of classrooms. Students may, however, bring backpacks to school, but the backpacks must be stored in the students' assigned lockers during the school day. Larger instruments or sports-related bags can be brought to the main office for storage. **Students who travel to the main building first or sixth hours for band, choir, German, or non-freshman-level courses will be allowed to carry clear backpacks (no other type i.e., fabric, mesh) to the main building.** For any other type of backpack, students will need to report to their lockers before traveling to the main building first hour or return to their lockers after traveling to the main building sixth hour. Students who travel to the main building during hours two through five should carry only what is needed for that particular course. Traveling students are given additional time to reach their designated class on time, which also includes time to stop at their lockers.
- **ClassLink:** You (parents/guardians) now have the option to sign up and access a ClassLink dashboard that includes common district-websites, such as PowerSchool Parent Portal, Meal Magic, PaySchools Central, and more! Like staff and students, you can also add additional apps to customize their dashboard. Please click on the link for step-by-step directions.
- **Communications:** If you call or email Mr. Williams during school hours, please expect a response on the same day, even if the correspondence comes after school hours. If you do not receive an email or call, please verify that you used the correct email address, which is rwilliams01@cvs.k12.mi.us, or contact the office the following morning to confirm that your message was received.
- **COVID Cases:** Should your student receive a positive COVID test, please complete the [Community COVID Reporting Form](#). Our COVID assistant will confirm the case, provide the 5-day isolation dates, and your child's return date. **If your child is well enough, he or she should live stream during each class period.**
- *From the CV9 Counseling Department:* Hello Freshmen Parents! This past week, counselors visited all Freshman Global History classes and reviewed lots of helpful information including the importance of having a strong freshman year, academic help available, how to see their counselor, and other resources available. You can find the information on our

Daily Class Schedule	
Periods	Times
1 st Hour	7:10 – 8:09
2 nd Hour	8:15 – 9:14
3 rd Hour	9:20 – 10:19
4 th Hour	10:25 – 12:56
5 th Hour	12:02 - 1:01
6 th Hour	1:07 - 2:06

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website <https://cvhs9guidance.weebly.com/academic.html> by clicking “Welcome Class of 2027 Study Tips” and “Success Tips.” Please review this information with your student. By working together, we can help them have a successful year!

- **Dress Code:** Please be sure to review Chippewa Valley High School’s [Universal Dress Code](#) with your child to help ensure an amazing start to each day.
- **Free and Reduced School Meals:** For the 2023-24 school year, breakfast and lunch will be free to all students, regardless of income; however, in order to ensure that CV9 has full access to federal and state funding for educational programs (i.e., credit recovery) to which our students are entitled, please fill out the application for free and reduced lunch, even if you don’t believe you qualify. **If you’ve never filled out this form, please start. If you’ve ever completed the form, please continue.** Click on [Free & Reduced Lunch Application](#) and select *Apply for Benefits*.
- **Gym Apparel:** Click on [CV9 Gym Apparel](#) if you would like to purchase t-shirts and shorts with the high school’s name.
- **Helpful Documents:** Please review the documents that are posted on the [Big Red Check-In](#) page with your son or daughter so that he or she is as familiar as possible with CV9.
- **House Slippers, Hoods, and Other Head Gear** – Slippers must not be worn during school hours. Please remind our students that full head scarves, bonnets, and do-rags are prohibited; however, hoods and hats can be worn during lunch and in the hallways but not during class.
- **IDs:** If your student has a mobile phone, please encourage him or her to **take a picture of the ID** (once available) and be sure that the barcode is visible. The cost to replace an ID is \$2.
- **Inappropriate Language** – Recently, there has been an increase in students using inappropriate language (profanity/n-word). Even if they can use this speech at home, please speak to your child to ensure they are using productive, positive language and that they are being respectful of those who are near while at CV9. Students were given this message and were reminded that they are responsible for the choices they make.
- **Medication:** If your child takes any medication including over-the-counter medicine, please click on the link for guidance regarding [School Medication Procedures](#).
- **Okay2Say:** Please keep the link for **Ok2Say** in an easily accessible place <https://www.michigan.gov/ok2say>. Ok2Say is a part of Michigan School Safety programs. If you are ever aware of a threat to our school or to a student in our school, report it. 24/7/365.
- **Parent Portal:** Please frequently check Parent Portal, and email teachers for grades and other information. If you would like access to your child’s Schoology account, be sure to email ONE of your child’s teachers for a parent access code.
- **Parking Lot Procedures:** When **dropping off** your student in the morning, please recognize that there is only one way in and out of the CV9 court. When you arrive, please keep your child inside the vehicle, follow the flow of traffic around the circle, and do not release your child until he/she is curbside. To maximize movement, please pull as close to door 2 as possible (just beyond the main entry) and allow your child to quickly exit the vehicle as soon as he or she is curbside; there is no need to wait until he or she is right in front of the main entry. **At no point should your child cross the street, so children should not be released in the parking lot.** Please do not use the middle lane until you pass door 2 (one door past the main entry). Doors open at 6:25 am. To avoid the morning rush, please consider dropping off your student prior to 6:45. Always practice patience.
When **picking up** your student, park alongside the curb as traffic dictates. Pull forward to door 2. Whenever possible, please continue to move forward. **Your child will be able to cross the street at the main crossway in front of the main entry only.** He or she must wait until Mr. Williams gives the signal to cross. After picking up your child, and you are still not able to progress, please kindly signal, and Mr. Williams will help you access the middle lane.
- **Physical Horseplay** – Please help reinforce that students must keep their hands to themselves. Many would like to say they are playing with friends, but when asked, they don’t know the other person’s name. Other students say they are just having fun, but these playful actions set the stage for accidents or an escalation due to one student feeling embarrassed in front of a group.

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- **Restroom Expectations:** Please remind your son or daughter of the following **restroom expectations**:
 - Do not enter the restrooms in groups of three or more. Those who need mirrors, please use the mirror outside of the office, or reverse the camera view on cell phones to inspect appearances.
 - Phones must be put away while in restrooms, even when waiting for an available stall.
 - Only one person is allowed in a stall at a time, no exceptions.
- **SchoolMessenger:** In order to receive text messages, you must opt in using the text that was recently sent to your cell phone number on file. Otherwise, the messages will not come to you.
- **Schoology:** Please take a moment to have your child join the group *2022-23 CV9 Students* in **Schoology** using the included access code (please copy and paste). Students will receive messages to keep them informed and help them stay as academically and socially connected as possible. To join, please follow the included steps.
 - Click on Groups.
 - Click on My Groups.
 - Click on Join Group.
 - Copy and paste the included access code: TMQT-TJ6V-TCGWZ
 - Click Join.
- **Student Clubs and Activities:** CVHS has several clubs and groups in which students can be involved. For more information, please have your child visit [Student Clubs and Activities](#) (our most recent list) and email the appropriate teacher.
- **Signing Out Students for Early Dismissal** – Although we expect the students to act more mature than their middle school years, they are not adults just yet. Please help us maintain proper care of your child by calling the office to sign out your student instead of calling/texting your student to just leave the building. Undocumented absences will be marked as unexcused.
- **Transportation Options** – If you live in-district, but you drive your student to and from school, please consider allowing your child to ride the bus. For those of you who are uncomfortable with your child walking in the dark, your child can wait at his or her bus stop inside your vehicle until the bus arrives. This way, you won't have to worry about traffic jams or making a left turn out of CV9's parking lot. You can also wait for your child to arrive at his or her bus stop in the afternoon from the comfort of a nearby subdivision.
If you still prefer to drop off and pick up, please strongly consider making a right turn. You will find that turning right is less stressful, and the two extra minutes it takes you to get home will be the same two minutes you would have used waiting for others as you attempt a left turn out of CV9's parking lot.
Those of you who arrive early for afternoon pick-up, please fight the urge to park beyond door #2. Doing so may create a shortcut or be easier for you, but it blocks a lot of drivers from entering the lane to make a right turn, which inhibits everyone's ability to exit. Be patient, and remember, there is only one way in, and one way out.
- **Yearbooks** are on sale! Please go to yearbookforever.com and get yours today for the competitive price of \$85. Don't wait until it's too late; get them now, while supplies last.



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