



Chippewa Valley 9th Grade Center
Weekly Announcements
Week of December 9, 2024



NEWLY ADDED ANNOUNCEMENTS for 12/9/2024 – 12/13/2024 (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 quite a few of these words. The goal is to increase proficiency in reading and writing, even if only by small gains. Like a penny, these gains in vocabulary add up. Last week's words and/or phrases were as follows:
 - **Converse** – Although the threshold for gaining entry into the dictionary is based partly on the widespread use of a word, *conversate*, as in, "I was conversating on the phone," is incorrect and should not be used in formal writing assignments. The correct word is *converse*, as in, "I was conversing on the phone."
 - **Hurt** – The past tense of *hurt* is *hurt*. *Hurted* is not a word. If you have ever uttered *hurted*, lightly give yourself a slap on the wrist.
 - **See** – The simple past tense of see is saw, as in "I saw you do it." "I seen you do it" is incorrect. Although there are nuances, the simple rule of thumb is to place the participle *have/has/had* between the subject and verb. Then, "I *have seen* you do it" is correct.
 - **Ask** – Although most students will not make this mistake in writing, we must be clear when we say *we asked him* versus *we axed him*. The latter is quite brutal. *Ask* and *ax (axe)* are not homonyms/homophones. Ask your English teacher how aunt and ant merged to be universally recognized as homophones/homonyms in the U.S. as you continue to make meaning of our language.
- **CVHS' Giving Tree** – For over a decade, Chippewa Valley High School has helped the less fortunate in our building via a giving tree and could really 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 13th at 2:06 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).
- **Rules for Home Basketball Games** – No backpacks are allowed in the gym. Only students from our school and the visiting school will be allowed to enter. All students must show a student ID. All students are expected to be in the bleachers, no loitering in the hallway.
- **Lockdown Drill** – Our second lockdown drill and subsequent discussions that took place Tuesday, 12/3/24, 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.
- **Student Clubs and Activities:** The opportunity to participate in the following teams, clubs, and activities was *recently announced* to students:

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- Junior Class Council is hosting a **talent show** Thursday, 1/30/24. Auditions will be held Thursday, 1/9/24, at 2:20 p.m. Please visit our CV9 students Schoology group page for the flyer, audition form, and additional information.
 - The **Ecology Club** will meet Thursday, 12/5/24, after school in room 224.
 - There will be a **Fellowship of Christian Athletes** meeting Wednesday, 12/3/24, at 6:30 a.m. in room 227.
 - **The Anime Club** meets every Thursday right after school in room 227 of the main building.
 - **Salt and Light Bible Study** meets every Tuesday in room 124 from 2:10-2:45 p.m.
 - **Homework Help:** Homework Help meets every Tuesday after school from 2:15 – 3:15 p.m. in the main building’s media center. Mr. Williams will provide math help to CV9 students each Tuesday from 2:15 – 3:15 p.m. in the main office, and we will move to a classroom as needed. Students who come after 2:15 p.m. (more than nine minutes after dismissal) will be too late for that day.
- **Upcoming Sporting Events** – Please click on [CVHS' Sports Schedules](#) to stay abreast of all sporting events.
 - **Positivity Quote** of the week: Beautiful things happen when you distance yourself from negativity.

Choose to have a fabulous week!

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

- **Advisory Period:** We are excited to introduce an advisory period to help meet our students’ needs. This period will occur every Wednesday. Please view the [informational presentation](#) and click on [advisory period](#) to learn more about advisory.
- **Attendance:** Please view the [attendance policy](#) so that you are fully aware of the process.
- **Backpacks:** 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 course. Traveling students are given 10 minutes to reach their designated class on time, which also includes time to stop at their lockers.
- **Bus Stop & Schedule:** Click on [Transportation - Departments - Chippewa Valley Schools Home Page](#) for information.
- **Cell phone policy:** Please click on [cell phone policy](#) for complete information.
- **ClassLink:** You (parents/guardians) still 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.
- **Contacting the main office:** 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.
- **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.
- **Early Dismissal:** Although we expect the students to act more mature than in 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.

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- **Free and Reduced School Meals:** For the 2024-25 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 do not 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 a.m. To avoid the morning rush, please consider dropping off your student prior to 6:45 a.m. 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.
- **Pathfinder:** Help your kids explore in-demand careers and the credentials they'll need on Pathfinder. The recently updated pathfinder uses current labor market information and wage data to help you learn about career paths in Michigan. Get started at <https://pathfinder.mitalent.org/resources>.
- **Physical Horseplay and Altercations:** 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 often don't know the other student'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.
Encourage students to contact a trusted adult in the event of struggles or conflicts. Do not encourage fighting. Please know that school fights result in 10-day suspensions, a \$100 civil fine (\$500 for second offense), and the possibility of additional consequences.

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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.
- **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.
- **Videos:** Please discourage your child from recording others, especially during a conflict. The expectation is to immediately report problematic behavior, but at the very least, your child should move away from and not run toward the problem to record. Should your student record and share videos that cause additional disruptions in school, your student will be held accountable.

<u>Daily Class Schedule (M, T, Th, F)</u>	
<u>Periods</u>	<u>Times</u>
<u>1st Hour</u>	<u>7:10 – 8:09</u>
<u>2nd Hour</u>	<u>8:15 – 9:14</u>
<u>3rd Hour</u>	<u>9:20 – 10:19</u>
<u>4th Hour</u>	<u>10:25 – 12:56</u>
<u>5th Hour</u>	<u>12:02 - 1:01</u>
<u>6th Hour</u>	<u>1:07 - 2:06</u>
<u>Wednesday's Advisory Schedule</u>	
<u>Periods</u>	<u>Times</u>
<u>1st Hour</u>	<u>7:10 – 7:54</u>
<u>2nd Hour</u>	<u>7:59 – 8:43</u>
<u>3rd Hour</u>	<u>8:48 – 9:32</u>
<u>4th Hour</u>	<u>9:37 – 10:21</u>
<u>Advisory & Lunch</u>	<u>10:26 - 12:28</u>
<u>5th Hour</u>	<u>12:33 – 1:17</u>
<u>6th Hour</u>	<u>1::22 – 2:06</u>

