



"The Central Valley School District will be the leading educational model fostering individual success for all students."

Dancing the Night Away

The 2025 semiformal dance was held on **February 1st** at Center Stage in Center Township for Central Valley students and their guests. This event was sponsored and could not have been done without **Ms. Whipkey**. Roughly 300 students attended this year's dance. It began with dinner, and the night was followed by a great night of dancing and fun with friends. Students from Central Valley, in grades 9-12, attended this magical night along with a few



graduates under the age of 21 and guests from other school districts. Girls spent all day getting their hair and makeup



done while guys spent the day prepping for the fun night ahead of them. It was an amazing night with a ton of great food. The semi had delicious snacks at the snack table as well. The snack that the students liked the most was the chocolate-covered popcorn chunk! A huge thank you to everyone who took part in making our 2025 semi a night to be remembered!

Make Some Noise for the PMEA District 5 Band Event

From **January 27th to the 29th**, the Central Valley High School band students, under the direction of **Ms. Lewis**, went to the PMEA District 5 Band at Mercer High School. The five talented students were **Cassidy Burghardt** playing the bass clarinet, **Norah Dennis** playing the bass clarinet, **Benjamin Schurr** playing the trumpet, **Dylan Shiel** playing the euphonium, and **Maya Tripathy** playing the clarinet. These juniors and seniors all had a wonderful time and enjoyed this experience. Special congratulations goes out to Ben, Cassidy, and Dylan, who advanced to Region I Band at Ambridge High School. Great job to all the band members on doing a wonderful job and showing their Warrior spirit.



Chorus Students Sing Through PMEA

From **February 5th-7th, 2024**, three talented CV students participated in the PMEA District Chorus Festival. **Juliana Kitsko, Ethan Kovall, and Dylan Shiel** were the skilled students, under the direction of **Ms. Damp**, who attended. The students had auditions on Wednesday evening, and **Ethan Kovall** placed 7th chair and will be advancing on to the next round at PMEA Region Chorus. The three students rehearsed music with students from 37 other high schools in Beaver, Butler, and Mercer Counties. PMEA was under the direction of Dr. Mark A. Boyle, the choir director at Seton Hill University. Their concert was on Friday, **February 7th** at Rochester High School and included “Sorida” by Rosephayne Powell, “It’s a Long Way” by B.E. Boykin, “Immortal Love” by Elizabeth Alexander, “It’s You I Like arranged” by Stephen Caldwell, and “Hark I Hear the Harps Eternal” arranged by Alice Parker. Congrats to our CV chorus students!



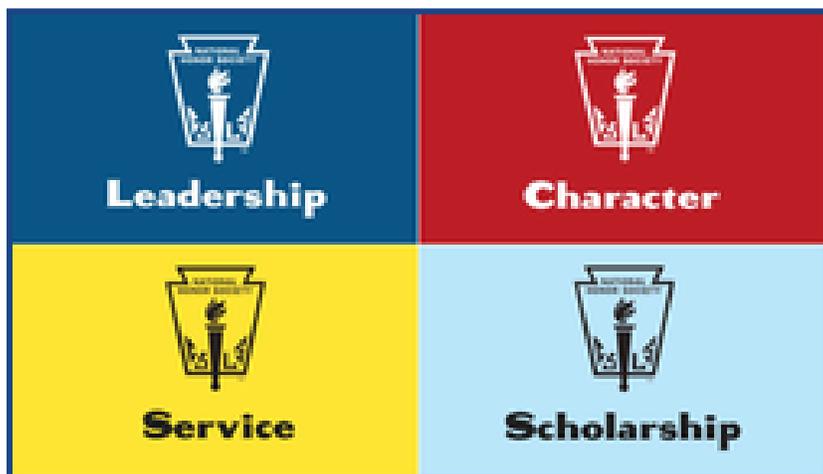
NHS Inducts Its Newest Members

On **February 11th**, **Ms Dzumba-Rubb** and **Ms. Jones** inducted 55 new members into the Central Valley Chapter of the National Honor Society. The ceremony was led by Senior National Honor Society officers: **Hannah Stolec** (President), **Marino Cercone** (Vice President), **Gabrielle White** (Secretary), **Julia Haney** (Treasurer), **Michael Bendekovic, Alexandra Bickerstaff, Bryn Dolata, Isabella Miller** (Chapter Chairmans), **Selah Glumac** and **Abigale Stewart** (Chairman).

To apply for induction into the National Honor Society, seniors and juniors must have a GPA of 85% or higher at the end of their sophomore or junior year. Students are then chosen by various character, leadership, and service criteria. Most students struggle the most with getting the service hours that are expected of them. This year, the sponsors



moved up the minimum hours to apply from sixty to eighty. Once accepted into the National Honor Society, students are then required to adhere to these standards and also participate in a number of activities as members during their remaining time at Central Valley High School. Getting into the National Honor Society is a very big accomplishment for these students. Congratulations to all new 2025 NHS Inductees!



CV Bocce Makes Playoff Run

“Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in this attempt.” This pledge is recited by teams of athletes before every Special Olympics event, and Central Valley’s Bocce team is one that certainly lives up to it. Central Valley’s Bocce team had another fantastic season, finishing with a record of 5-3 between the two teams. The CV students are divided into two groups, which then compete as separate teams. Team One included **Guadalupe Anderson-McLean, Avery Cairns, Marino Cercone, Dora Chace-Escobedo, Gabe Monza, Natalie Samchuck, Ava Tamburro, and Steve Woods**, and they finished with a record of 3-1. Team 2 included

Maria Anderson-McLean, Brooklyn Bauer, Jack Cassida, Cole Hayden, Jason Hayes, Mikayla Mineard, Angel Rivera, and Karina Tripathy, and they finished with a record of 2-2.



With these phenomenal records, both teams qualified for a playoff spot at Hopewell High School. With a total of eight teams competing at the playoffs, team two finished in fourth place, and team one came in first place, which qualified them for a spot at regional championships at Geneva College, on **February 14, 2025**. When it came time for the championships, CV fought hard and ended up earning 7th place in the region. Both teams had a great season, and proved once again that Central Valley’s Bocce team is playing to win!

Central Valley VITA Program

This spring, Central Valley students have helped community members by participating in the IRS’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA). Teacher and advisor **Ms. Delon** works with some of her **Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)** members and other students to offer the service for the local community. The program is designed to help the community as well as help teach students how to do their taxes in the future. During a 30-minute appointment, two IRS-certified student tax preparers worked with a taxpayer to complete an intake form and begin their return. Following the appointment, an assigned preparer completed their tax return. Knowledge of the IRS tax concepts (filing status, number of dependents, earned income tax credit, rent rebate, child tax credit, retirement income, interest and dividends, expense write-offs, etc) helped them complete their tax return, giving them the largest tax return.



Throughout the filing season, **Joanna Chen, Madalyn Cowie, Olivia Green, Chloe Haney, Anthony Mano, Christian Thompson, Jordyn Thompson, and Emma Weaver** generously gave their time, energy, and expertise supporting our community in preparing income taxes. All the students who participated in VITA have completed the training and are certified in the IRS’s basic and advanced certification tests. Community members scheduled an appointment online to come in to have their taxes prepared after school hours and on Saturdays.



Biology Classes Take on a Classic...Mr Potato Head

On **February 21st, 2024**, **Ms. Whipkey's Biology** class analyzed a copy of a gene for various traits of the potato head by determining which protein would be produced by the gene they were given. Once they determined the corresponding protein, they had to build their potato head, so they could see how the gene and protein produced the physical appearance. Traits included: hair (blonde or black), eye structure (lashes or no lashes), nose color (pink or red), nose orientation (horizontal or vertical), ears (ears or no ears), mouth (teeth, lips, red tongue or pink tongue). This activity helped the students understand how genes work. **Juju Ambrose** and **Madison Denkovich** were two students who had a wonderful experience with the activity in class.



The Great German Group



In Germany, ice cream is a classic summertime favorite to eat. The Germans have all the same ice cream flavors as we do in the United States, but they also have many diverse flavors. There is even a flavor named “Spaghetti” that is a fan favorite. In **January**, our Central Valley **German** class and **Frau Kain** got a firsthand experience of trying out this ice cream. The students made and tasted the ice cream and had a great time together.

In **February**, students were busy preparing for the region's German Day Competition that included several other high schools from Western Pennsylvania. They practiced memorizing poems, reviewing trivia for the

Culture Bowl, and creating German-inspired art and architecture models. The competition took place at Washington & Jefferson College on Tuesday, **February 25th**. In the end, CVHS won in three different categories. **Brooke Ladakos** won first place in the poetry contest by reciting “Die Lorelei,” a famous poem about a siren on the Rhine River. The students competed against schools throughout western Pennsylvania and West Virginia.



On **March 14th**, the advanced German students investigated the German forebears of Beaver County. Students toured Old Economy Village, where they interpreted a 19th-century German Bible and toured the site, including the wine cellar and the home of Johanna Georg Rapp. Then, they learned that the "Monaca Turner-Verein" was founded by German immigrants who brought their fitness ideals to Western Pennsylvania in the 19th century. Finally, the students searched through the German Lutheran cemetery in Monaca, where they found numerous German monuments and discovered the New Philadelphia Society Church in downtown Monaca as well. They discovered German words in the stained glass of the church. The students would have never guessed there was this much German history right in our backyard.

The CV Battle Of The Books



On **Tuesday, February 25th**, **Sidney Baxa**, **Camden Bittner**, **Kitt Donis**, and **Irelyn Turkovich** represented Central Valley at this year's High School Battle of the Books. Their team, consisting of three juniors and one freshman, was named "Nerd But Better" and placed 2nd in the competition. The competition was held at Quaker Valley Middle School. Beginning in October and through February, the students in **Ms. Greco's Book Club** collectively read several novels on which they were asked three eight-question rounds of challenging and specific queries. The book list was based on student appeal, diverse subject matter and characters, literary merit, and representation of a wide variety of genres.

Junior, **Kitt Donis** wrapped up the 2025 year of Battle of the Books with the following statement, "Battle of the Books is one of

my favorite parts about being in book club. Being in a huge auditorium, with a bunch of other teams from other schools—all with one goal in mind—is definitely an awesome experience. Also, having the team come together and being proud of whatever we accomplished, no matter how good/bad we think we did, is a source of pride for me." Once again, congratulations to these four amazing students who can all compete again next year!

Central Valley Students Compete in KDKA Quiz Show

Central Valley High School was proud to have Juniors **Dom Suhayda** (Captain) and **Kaitlyn Strother**, along with Senior **Quinn Connolly**, representing them in the 2025 KD Quiz Show. The team was led by their advisor, **Mr. Bell**, and competed against Greater Latrobe High School and Upper St. Clair High School. This exciting academic challenge was hosted by Ray Petelin and showcased top students from Western Pennsylvania. The show aired on KDKA on **Saturday, March 15th**, at 11:00 A.M., with a re-airing on **March 22nd** at 11:30 A.M. Central Valley's team was prepared diligently and was ready to take on their competition. Their performance tested their knowledge, teamwork, and quick thinking. This was a



great opportunity for the students to represent their school and demonstrate their academic skills. When asked about this experience, Dom said, "I thoroughly enjoyed participating in the KD Quiz Bowl competition. Being a part of the behind-the-scenes experience, as well testing my knowledge in a fun format, was a unique experience. Host Ray Petelin was a joy to work with, and his enthusiasm was welcoming. Although we did not walk home with a victory, our team put together a valiant effort until the end, and I am confident in our ability to win next year." Once again, we are so proud of, **Dom**, **Kaitlyn**, and **Quinn**.

CVHS Musical Cast Performs Nice Work If You Can Get It

Each year, the students participating in our high school's musical bring our community a dazzling performance that delivers both joy and great astonishment to all who attend. From **February 27 to March 1**, the students who gave their blood, sweat, and tears for months under the direction of **Ms. Damp** were finally onstage for everyone to see. This year's musical was the "hilarious screwball comedy" *Nice Work if You Can Get It*. Composed and written by George Gershwin, this musical follows rich socialite Jimmy Winter, played by Senior **Ethan Burkhammer**, and bootlegger Billie Bendix, played by Junior **LaReyne Wukawitz**, as they wrap themselves up in dozens of comical hijinks and find love. Over sixty students from both the middle school and high school came together to create this great show that many have deemed to be the best they have ever seen. This could not have been possible without the countless hours and unwavering dedication put forth by these students.



Leads from the musical were invited to speak about the musical on WBVP and had an amazing time promoting the show they worked so hard on. The promotional segment aired on **February 21st**, and it was led by students **Joseph Barnes, Cooper Baughman, Ethan Burkhammer, Italia Cercone, Bryn Dolata, Sienna Paxton, Chloe Reinstadtler, Ivan Rivera, Dylan Shiel, and LaReyne Wukawitz**. The segment was a raging success, as the show was one of the most popular in Central Valley history.



Child Development Provides Handmade Comfort For Infants in Need

For **Ms. Hufnagle's Child Development Class**, students had the opportunity to participate in a service project for the Greater Pittsburgh Area, Linus Chapter. As part of their Infant Development Unit, students learned about developmental, social, emotional, intellectual, and physical milestones for infants as well as ways to foster growth for a child in their first year of life. Students also explored the link between physical comforts like blankets to child development in the areas of emotional, physical, and cognitive growth. This is where the Child Development class connected with Project Linus, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing handmade blankets to children in need. On **March 3rd and 4th**, students spent their class time crafting handmade blankets to donate. Each blanket woven with the individuality and love of each student was donated to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through Project Linus. Because of the dedication of **Ms. Hufnagle's** students, countless children in need will be provided with emotional comfort and security, the skill of self-soothing when times are rough, enhanced sleep quality, and emotional connection - all of which are inarguably vital during the first year of life!



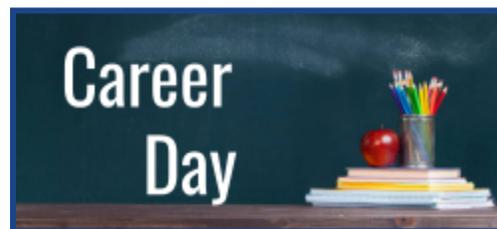
CV Concert and Jazz Band Spring Show



On **March 4th**, the Central Valley High School band had its spring concert alongside the jazz band. The band is directed by Mrs. Lewis. The students worked hard for many weeks perfecting their music. There were 12 total songs between the two bands. The jazz band was the first to perform and played "Birdland," "A Night In Tunisia," "Hey Pachuco," "A String of Pearls," "Children of Sanchez," and "Area 51." The concert band closed the show by performing "Cajun Folk Songs," "Ye Banks and Braes O' Bonnie Doon," "Dance of the Spirits," "Marche Des Parachutistes Belges," "Odysseus and the Sirens," and "The Washington Post." The band had an amazing performance for their spring concert. Great job and congratulations to all band students!

Central Valley High School Holds Career Day

Many believe that an important component of our educational system is to better prepare students for the workforce and life after high school. On **March 7th**, Central Valley High School hosted a Career Day that hoped to help achieve that objective. Guidance Counselors **Ms. Istik** and **Ms. Watts**, along with Guidance Secretary **Ms. DeWeese**, organized a Career Day this year in which over 40 different career fields were represented, ranging from nuclear engineering to secret service to nursing and a veterinarian. Many of the speakers were former alumni of Center, Moncaca, and Central Valley, as well as many local business owners.





In the morning, the entire high school staff created lessons and assignments in their classes that were aligned to the Chapter 339 Career and Technical Education Standards. Then in the afternoon, students were given the opportunity to sign up for four different sessions in which they were most interested in learning more about. During these sessions, presenters talked not only about qualifications and skills needed but also about how their jobs changed throughout the years and what they may look like in the future. Students were also given time to ask questions to each of the presenters. A huge "thank you" goes out to all those who helped organize and provide such a wonderful experience to all our student body.

Central Valley Marching Band Takes on Walt Disney World

The Central Valley Marching Band organized a memorable trip to Orlando, Florida, during the third nine weeks! **Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Poleti, Mr. Walker, Mr. Whipkey,** and the CVHS students packed up and headed south on **Tuesday, March 11!** They stayed at the resort for six days. The CVHS students enjoyed each day with continuous excitement.

From starting off at Universal Studios, to parading around the

iconic Cinderella Castle, to just exploring the parks, their trip had an extensive variety of

activities for everyone to enjoy. **Mrs. Lewis** said one of her favorite moments was watching her Marching Band students perform at Magic Kingdom and her Jazz Band students at Universal Studios.



Kaylee Hill, Tessa Holzer, Brea Howard, and Zoe Russell, all students who attended the trip, were asked what their favorite moments were. They said they enjoyed riding the different thrill rides at all of the parks. They also loved dining and snacking at all of the different restaurants like 50's Prime Time Cafe, Margaritaville, Minion Cafe, and The Today Cafe. All the restaurants had a plethora of options to choose from. This truly was a magical, once-in-a-lifetime experience for the Central Valley High School Marching Band!

Students Observe Open-Heart Surgery at AGH

On **March 13th**, students in **Ms. Whipkey's** Human Anatomy class visited Allegheny General Hospital to observe an in-person surgery. During the surgery, they were able to watch the surgeon perform all of the delicate stages of the process. They also were able to witness the work of the physician assistant, who is the right-hand person to the surgeon. Ultimately, students got a closer look at all of the different people and jobs that are necessary for such an operation to take place. They were able to see a surgeon and fellow (doctor training for cardio-thoracic specialty), a physician assistant, a plethora of nurses, a perfusionist (runs the heart-lung machine), a surgical tech, an anesthesiologist, and a nurse anesthetist. Overall, it was a great opportunity! The students in attendance were amazed and were given a unique experience to see and observe so many different careers in action!



Juniors Look at Careers at Financial Reality Fair

On Tuesday, **March 18** the junior class attended an assembly put together by Ms. Delon on Financial Literacy. **Ms. Delon** gave all the students a paper with a vast amount of careers to choose from. Once students chose a career that interests them, they could then see how much that career made. Students had to try and spend money on living expenses such as mortgage, car insurance, and food. The goal was for students to spend their money wisely based on their salary and not go into debt. Financial volunteers were there to help the students calculate their total spending and other things like that. This year, there were booths with all types of daily and monthly responsibilities that will be a part of financial stability in adulthood. Some responsibilities students could look at were insurance, food, clothing, tv/internet, pets, and donations. Financial Literacy Day was an eye opener and lesson for the students on their financial plans in the future.



CVHS Student Places at Academic Games

Congratulations are in order for Sophomore, **Tarasa Householder**. On **March 19**, Tarasa participated in the Forensics Competition at Riverside High School. She competed in and placed in three events. Tarasa earned 2nd place titles in Extemporaneous and Speech by Another and a 1st place title in Duo Impromptu. Congratulations once again to Tarasa on a great job at the Forensics competition.



IN OUR DISTRICT:

This Year's Freezing Plunge

On Saturday, **January 25th**, the Central Valley Wicked Warriors won the Top Cool Schools Challenge at the Beaver County Polar Plunge. This year, Central Valley had 31 members of the team that was made up of students, paraprofessionals, teachers, administrators, and community members. The event was held at Bridgewater Landings Marina. The Wicked Warrior Sponsorships included: Central Valley Middle School Student Council, **Jaymee Herrerias**, **Jessica Houston**, **Emily King**, **Sherri Miceli**, **Erin Palmer**, and **Dominic Suhayda**. T shirt logos for Central Valley's team were designed by middle school art teacher, **Stephanie Kelly**. With the support of our Central Valley Community, our district raised over \$19,000.00 for programs such as Unified Bocce, Unified Track and Field, and Unified Youth Clubs. This contributed to this year's Beaver County Plunge total of over \$168,000.00. Since the Wicked Warriors team has started, they have raised a very impressive \$144,435.00 over 13 years for Special Olympic programs! This year's team was once again led by captain, **Courtney Mottes**. Several staff members from all CV schools participated in this event along with community members. High school student, **Dominic Suhayda** (11th grade), took the plunge for the second time this year along with Central Valley Middle School students, **Danika Bielby** (6th grade) and **Aidan Conkle** (7th grade) while high school student, **Riley Slater** (11th grade), and elementary student, **Natalia Leone** (4th grade) took their first plunge

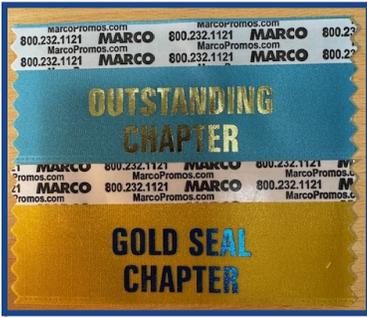


BCCTC Tour

On **February 21st**, some of our Central Valley High School students went on a field trip to the Beaver County Career & Technology Center. The students picked two programs that they were interested in to tour. The students chose from the following programs: Machine Tool Technology, Welding, Business Information Systems, Commercial Art & Design, Graphic Art & Printing, Carpentry, HVAC-R, Electrical Occupations, Masonry/Landscaping, Automotive Technology, Collision Repair Technology, and Logistics & Material Management. The students are able to attend these BCCTC courses during their 11th-grade year (10th for Cosmetology), and these students can earn three elective credits towards graduation at CVHS each year. **Mrs. Istik** and **Mrs. Watts** also held an application workshop for those students interested in attending BCCTC. If you have any questions about attending the BCCTC in the future, please contact your counselor.



Recognition for CV's FBLA Students



This year, Central Valley **FBLA** students, under the direction of **Ms. Delon**, participated in the Pennsylvania FBLA William H. Selden Outstanding Chapter Criteria Program. Based on the points earned by the students, our chapter will be nominated to the National FBLA to receive the Hollis and Kitty Guy Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit at this summer's National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California. On Monday, **April 7th**, 8:30 P.M., at the Opening General Session at the Giant Center, 10 chapters from among the groups nominated to receive this award will receive Pennsylvania FBLA's Highest Chapter Award, the William H. Selden Outstanding Chapter. Good luck to our students on their continued success.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **March 24th** - First Day of the Fourth Nine-Weeks
- **March 24-25th**- Individual Scheduling Meetings for 2024-25 (Grades 9-11)
- **March 25th** - Mid-Year Chorus and Show Choir Concert
- **March 31st** - Third Nine Weeks Report Distribution (Online in PowerSchool)
- **April 9th**- Central Valley School Board Meeting (Work Session)
- **April 16th**- Central Valley School Board Meeting (Voting Session)
- **April 25th**- Senior Project Presentations (HS Act 80 Day)
- **May 1st** - CVHS Awards Assembly
- **May 2nd** - Prom
- **May 6th**- Band / Jazz Band Pops and Pies Concert
- **May 12th**- Academic Excellence Banquet
- **May 12-15th** - Spring Keystone Exams
- **May 14th**- Central Valley School Board Meeting (Work Session)
- **May 22nd** - Central Valley School Board Meeting (Voting Session)
- **May 20th** - Chorus Fest
- **May 19-23rd** - Senior Final Exams
- **May 26th**- Memorial Day (No School)
- **May 27th**- Baccalaureate
- **May 28th**- Senior Class Banquet
- **May 27-29th** - Underclassmen Finals
- **May 30th** - Last Day of School / Commencement
- **June 3rd**- School Picnic

