



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

Congratulations Class of 2024!

The Class of 2024 gathered for the final time at Sarge Alberts Studium to receive their diplomas on **May 31st**. Prior to Commencement, however, there were a number of activities in which our seniors took part in that made their final days in high school even more special.



One of the newer traditions at CVHS that started two school years ago is the Graduation Walk. On **May 23rd**, seniors walked through the hallways of Center Grange and Todd Lane Elementary schools. They were greeted by excited students who cheered them on, and teachers who were happy to see how much they have grown over the years.



Their last week of high school began with a Baccalaureate ceremony in which the main address was given by Reverend Douglas Rabe, former superintendent of the Harvest Conference and Reverend at the Montecrest Free Methodist Church in Monaca, PA, on **May 28th**. His message about "Beyond Talent," encouraged students to achieve wonderful things while maintaining a loving relationship with family, friends, and anyone who encourages you on your life journey.

A Senior Banquet, sponsored by **Ms. Kramer** and **Ms. McCracken**, was held on **May 29th** at Shakespeare's in Ellwood City. The evening began with a buffet dinner and included an airbrush tattoo artist. It culminated with hours of dancing and prizes that were raffled off at the end of the night.

Commencement would mark the end of a week-long celebration of our graduating class. Inspiring speeches were given to the Class of 2024 by Class President **Cooper Mitchell**, Salutatorian **Nadia Ehle**, and Valedictorian **Jordan Hunter**. **Dr. Nicholas Perry** concluded the ceremony by awarding diplomas to 163 graduating seniors, who are now ready, willing and able to begin their life's next journey. Best of luck to the Class of 2024!



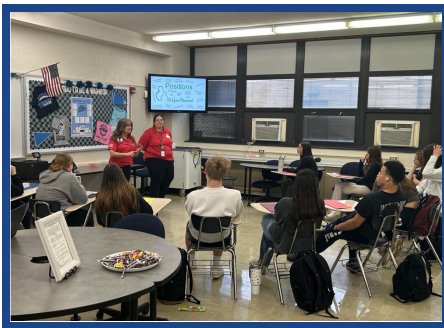
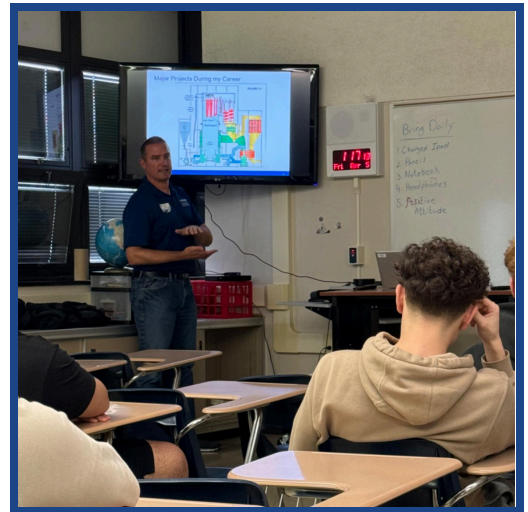
IN OUR HIGH SCHOOL:

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 **April 5th**, Central Valley High School hosted a Career Day that hoped to help achieve that objective. Guidance Counselors **Ms. Watts** and **Ms. Istik** along with Guidance Secretary **Ms. DeWeese** organized a Career Day this year in which over 40 different career fields were represented ranging from civil engineering to carpentry to meteorology and even pet resort owner. Many of the speakers were former alumni of CVSD or 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.



A Caring Teacher Goes Above and Beyond

On April 9th, **Mrs. Weltner** took some of her students on a field trip to learn about life after high school. The students going on the field trip, who call themselves the South B Busy Bees, went on a community based instruction outing. The first stop on the field trip was Lowe's to buy a refrigerator and learn about comparison shopping, budgeting and measuring.

After Lowe's, they went to Eat n Park to eat brunch and learn social and money skills. Their last stop on the trip was Cinemark Theaters where they watched *Kung Fu Panda 4* and learned about employment research and culminating activity after researching careers in entertainment. Overall, this was a fantastic learning experience and shows how Mrs. Weltner went above and beyond for her students.



High School Students Become Authors



On Thursday, April 18, **Mrs. Hufnagle's Child Development** students headed to Center Grange for an afternoon of reading. They read their own children's books to the kindergarten students to help develop and improve language skills. Child Development students learned about cognitive development and the importance of literacy to a child's development. Students then wrote and illustrated their own children's books. Prior to visiting Center Grange, the students learned how to read to young children.

Recent studies show that literacy enhances all areas of a child's development. Children's literature supports cognitive development and improves language skills by introducing them to different words and phrases for different situations. It helps prepare children for academic success by having a

better understanding of literature. It also creates a bond between the child and storyteller, as well as helps enhance a child's concentration and discipline. Most importantly it encourages imagination and creativity among the younger generation. The high school students and elementary school students all enjoyed a day full of fun reading.

CV Students Bring Home National Awards

The Central Valley Academic Games were held on **April 19th-22nd**. Several students traveled to Atlanta, Georgia along with **Ms. Goss** to compete in Nationals. Our students represented the district well with many of them winning awards in their events. The AGLOA National competition was held in Atlanta April 19 - 22. **Liam Cairns, Dehlia Goss, and Chloe Reinstadtler** competed at the Junior level. Chloe competed in Propaganda, Theme, "The History of Rock and Roll," and Current Events. Dehlia also competed in Theme, "The History of Rock and Roll," and Current Events. Liam competed in Equations and Linguistics. Each student put forth their best efforts, and Chloe came home with a medal in Team Theme. The 2025 competition will be held in Washington, DC where the Theme will be "The History of our Nation's Capital."



Earth Day Field Trip

The Shell Polymers Monaca plant hosted 26 students from Mr. Whipkey's AP Environmental Science class and **Ms. Delon's** FBLA club on a tour of the inner workings of the Cracker Plant on Monday, **April 22**, Earth Day. Students were given a technical tour of the processes that take place at the plant as Ethane is brought in, changed through heating and cooling to Ethene, then to Ethylene and then finally to Polyethylene, a raw material that other plastics manufacturer's use to make plastic bottles and containers.

The students were taken to the \$1.1 million Shell Center for Process Technology on the campus of CCBC. The new program, which partners with local industry leaders, prepares students for careers in regional technology-driven fields such as the

petrochemical and manufacturing industries.

The new building will facilitate hands-on learning with technology, simulating real-world equipment commonly used by the local industrial community. This approach strengthens the pipeline of CCBC graduating students to the Western Pennsylvania industrial corporations for future employment.

The students had a great time at the Shell Polymers Monaca Plant. It was a great learning experience for all!



Take Your Child to Work Day

Take Your Child to Work Day is celebrated annually across the United States in order to give children a glimpse into the working world of adults. On **April 27th**, **Ms. Hugnagle's** Child Development Class was very eager to meet with the younger children who visited CVHS and provide them with a day that they would not soon forget. The class made slime, painted rocks, and played wiffle ball on the football field. These activities were planned to keep the children busy and luckily the weather cooperated.



Senior Projects

All seniors have been tasked with completing a senior project. The Senior Project involved students recording 40 hours of community service and completing a job shadow. On Friday **April 20th**, all seniors were expected and required to present their senior project. There were 14 different classrooms running 10 minute presentations simultaneously. Classrooms consisted of three to four teachers who were grading based on appearance, performance, time of the presentation, and knowledge of the project. Teachers asked questions about each individual's project and what they had planned for their future. Congratulations to all the seniors who completed the project and got to graduate!



Awards Assembly

On **May 2nd**, CVHS held its annual Awards Assembly at the high school auditorium. Over \$300,000 was awarded to over 25 seniors in the Class of 2024. This year the Walter R. Sylvester Scholarship (4 years/ \$10,000) was awarded to senior **Sean Kennelly**, while seniors, **Nolan Cairns**, **Jordan Hunter**, **Katrina Panek**, and **Sydney Slater** were the recipients of the Mateer Memorial Scholarships (4 years/ \$5,000). The Awards Assembly also recognized the Beaver County Envirothon teams from Central Valley as well as the Beaver County Academic Games participants from the high school. The morning ended with announcing the winners of the Senior Superlatives for the yearbook.



Viva Las Vegas

The Central Valley High School Prom was held on **Friday, May 3rd** at Shadow Lakes in Aliquippa. The theme of the evening was “Viva Las Vegas” and over 220 students were on hand for the event, arranged by Student Activity Sponsors **Mrs. Kramer and Mrs. McCracken**. A special thanks to the juniors on the prom committee who chose the theme, the food, and decorated the auditorium to bring the theme to life. Members included, **Maddix Anderson, Sophia Bell, Lexie Bickerstaff, Sophia Colonias, Mia Dinello, Bryn Dolata, Mia Eberhardt, Selah Glumac, Julia Haney, Cassie Kramer, Riley Norton, Anna Paraniuk, Rylee Reynolds, Hannah Shaffer, Abigail Stewart, Angelina Vallecorsa, and Gabby White**. The night started off with some mocktails provided by Shadow Lakes. Entertainment for the night included DJ John Book and Air Brush Tattoos and Balloon Artistry by **Marlene and Kelly Dudo** along with a Photo Booth provided by **Christopher Perry Photography**. Leading up to Prom, the Grand March was held at the high school Auditorium as the Prom Court was announced. Members of the 2024 prom court were, **Daelyn Derher, Rachel Hardek, Kaitlyn Mcilroy, Elena Mineard, Chloe Moidel, Gaille O’Neill, Isabela Skrlac, Mia Spinelli, Aly Sudar, Paige Warzynski, Alaina Zeigler** and senior **Mya Hazelwood** was chosen as Prom Queen by her classmates. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this a night to remember!



Pops and Pies Concert

On **May 7**, the Central Valley High School Band shared their gifts with the community. After growing and perfecting their abilities for months, these talented student musicians hosted their annual Pops and Pies concert in the high school auditorium. **Mrs. Lewis** has dedicated her time and skills to this event each year, and although the free pie at the end for all attendees is a nice bonus, she is the main reason this concert is the most popular. The songs she handpicked and taught her students were a hit with the audience since they were so well-known and already beloved. Some of these were, “Star Wars: The Force Awakens,” “Skyfall,” and “The Blues Brothers.” Once our Band finished their concert, the Jazz Band, composed of a select few students, continued the night with an assortment of even more popular songs such as, “Won’t You Be My Neighbor,” “Don’t Stop Til’ You Get Enough,” and “Rock Island Express.” Overall, the concert was a huge success, and no one can deny the dessert in the cafeteria afterwards made



Senior Kennywood Trip 2024

On **May 10th**, the senior class took a field trip to Kennywood! Out of the senior class, only 46 seniors attended. They left the high school around 8:45 A.M. in the morning and left Kennywood around 4:15 P.M. in the afternoon. Since it was such a small group, they only needed to use one bus for the trip. **Mrs. McCracken and Mrs. Kramer** were the teachers that chaperoned the fun field day. It was not the best day to take a filled trip to

Kennywood because it was super cold and rainy, but the seniors still managed to have a great time! The students had the choice to do whatever they wanted, ride rides, play games, take pictures, and eat whatever food they wanted. This was a great way for the seniors to bond with each other and have fun before their big graduation!



Academic Excellence Banquet

Each year the Academic Excellence Banquet is held to honor and recognize seniors graduating from Central Valley High School with Highest Honors. These students graduated with an average of 93% or above over their four years in high school and were distinguished by the gold sash given to them for Commencement. This year around fifty seniors earned this

honor and were invited along with their families to attend the banquet on **May 15th** which began in the high school auditorium. Students shared their future plans and goals with the audience and were presented with small gifts from **Mrs. Whipkey's** Student Council during the ceremony. The evening concluded with a reception held in the high school cafeteria. Good luck to all the seniors. We hope you keep up the hard work in college.



4th Annual Chorus Fest Showcases Singing Talents

For the fourth year in a row, the Central Valley High School Chorus along with the Show Choir and Middle School Chorus hosted its Chorus Fest on **May 21st**. Performing on the steps of the high school's main entrance, students sang songs "Never Gonna Give You Up," "Over the Rainbow," "Don't Stop Me Now," "I'm Still Standing," and "What Was I Made For." Food trucks were on hand from Papa Dukes and Bruster's to When in Rome and Steve & Benny's Chicken Shack and even The Marigold Bakery ran by former Central Valley student **Emma Thompson**. **Ms. Damp** and **Ms. Patterson** were so happy at such a wonderful turnout and a fun filled night of singing.



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM:

Central Valley High School Students Offered Free Tax Preparation

Central Valley students participated in the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). High school business teacher, **Roxanne Delon**, worked with some of her Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) members and students in her business classes to offer this service to the students and the community to help them learn about tax preparation through the VITA program. 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 their appointment, an assigned preparer completed their tax return. Knowledge of the IRS tax concepts (filing status, # dependents, earned income tax credit, rent rebate, child tax credit, retirement income, interest and dividends, expense write-offs, etc) helped complete their tax return giving them the largest tax return. Afterwards, their return was verified by another IRS-certified student tax preparer. After your return has been processed, it was double-checked, returned to you, and finally submitted to the IRS.



Throughout the filing season, **Joanna Chen, Maddie Cowie, Owen Friend, Christian Thompson, and Emma Weaver** generously gave their time, energy, and expertise supporting our community in preparing income taxes. All of the students who participated in VITA have completed the training and are certified in the IRS's basic and advanced certification test. Community members scheduled an appointment online to come in to have their taxes prepared after school hours and on Saturdays.

Envirothon 2024

On **April 10, 2024**, The SAVE Club, run by science teacher **Brian Emler**, competed in the Beaver County Envirothon at the Brady's Run Park Lodge. The Envirothon is a competition that tests students' knowledge of Pennsylvania wildlife, aquatics, forestry, soils, and a special current events topic concerning the environment. The special topic for the 2024 Envirothon was renewable energy for a sustainable future. The teams from Central Valley



School placed second, fourth, fifth, and seventh out of 15 teams at the Beaver County Envirothon. The second-place team's name was King Crabs. The members of the King Crabs were **Madelyn Cowie, Joanna Chen, Grace Monza, Ella Moran, and Elyse Roberts**. The fourth-place team was known as Team Chem G. The members of Team Chem G were **Marino Cercone, Hannah Stolec, Gabrielle Vermeesch, Emma Weaver, and Caylee Yu**. The fifth-place team was known as the Wild Kratts. The members of the Wild Kratts were **Jessica Davis, Meredith Dennis, Norah Dennis, Raegan Phillips, and LaReyne Wukawitz**. The seventh-place team was Brook Trout. The members of Brook Trout were **Hunter Hazelwood, Masion Rodgers, Dominic Suhayda, Aiden Wyberg, and Nikola Ziza**.

Central Valley Warrior 5K

Each year **Ms. Chirico** and some great volunteers host a Central Valley Warrior 5K. The goal of the 5K is to raise money to fund the Walter and Lois Sylvester Wellness Center at CVHS. On **Saturday, April 27th**, the Central Valley 5 K had 92 participants! With the help of everyone involved, the grand total raised this year was \$5,463.60. They had many amazing people helping them out throughout the day. Rita Aloisi, Julie DiMatteo, and **Mary Jo Wood**, former CV nurse, did an amazing job with getting participants and sponsors, as well as getting some great pictures! Chris Miceli did great keeping everyone safe and helping the runners through the course. **Amy Young**, former Todd Lane gym teacher, helped the kids get through some obstacle courses, and she made their day! Chrissy Walmsley and **Ava Ervin** helped at pre packet pickup for the basket donation. A special thanks to **Barb Magnotta**, another CV nurse, for her amazing gift card donation! **Melissa Hunter** and Dianne Sarver were great help at check in and awards, and **Joanna Ridjaneck** really helped take all the award or prize winners pictures. The last thank you they had is for **Maddix Anderson, Hannah Stolec, and Ben Walmsley**, for helping with multiple things throughout the day, and making the day run smoothly. Overall, the day was a huge success, and everyone is excited to see what next year brings!



In other news, summer hours at the wellness center start **June 3rd**. It will be open Monday-Thursday from 8:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. Any community member interested in joining or having any questions can contact **Ms. Chirico** at the high school.

Second Annual Rain Rally Held at CVHS

On **May 10th**, Central Valley High School hosted a Cool Schools Rain Rally to benefit Special Olympics Pennsylvania and raise awareness for our Unified Champion Schools program that is committed to students with intellectual disabilities. Sophomore **Avery Cairns** organized the event for her senior project, and she was able to raise \$650.00 by recruiting students around the school to collect individual donations to sponsor the event. Local fire departments were recruited to provide the "rain showers," and the event served as a send-off for our Unified Champion Track team as they departed for one of their track meets. This year, over 50 students participated in the rain rally, and the event ended up raising over \$1,000.00. We look forward to seeing this rally grow in the years to come.



IN OUR DISTRICT:

High School Scheduling for 2024-25

In preparation for the 2024-25 school year, the high school scheduling process took place from **April 16-18th**. After meeting with all three classes on either **April 9 or 10th** in the Auditorium to discuss the different courses we have to offer here, individual scheduling meetings were held in the high school library with each student and their guidance counselor. Students left the library feeling ready and prepared for the next school year full of fun, excitement, and joy. For scheduling questions and concerns for the upcoming school year, please contact the Guidance Office.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

- **June 7th** - Payments due for Summer Credit Recovery Program
- **June 10th** - First Day of Summer Credit Recovery Program
- **July 19** - Last Day of Summer Credit Recovery Program

- **August 21** - Freshman/ New Student Orientation
- **August 26** - First Day of School for the 2024-2025 School Year

