#### Central Valley High School

# WARRIOR WAY- A Quarterly Newsletter



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



# CVHS TEAMS WITH UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH TO CREATE "NURDLE PATROL"

So what's a "nurdle"? Nurdles are small pellets that are produced by cracker plants and are the first step in the process of making anything plastic (see picture below). Shell's ethane cracker plant is scheduled to come online soon,

producing up to 1.6 million metric tons of plastic pellets a year. The plant will produce this plastic by processing ethane, a component of the natural gas found in the Marcellus and Utica shale formations nearby.

**Mr. Whipkey's** AP Environmental Science (APES) class has created a partnership with Dr. David Sanchez and the University of Pittsburgh- *Collaboratory for Water Research, Education and Research* team to study the effects of the new plant's production on our community's water resources. On **October 7th**, the Nurdle Patrol met with graduate students to establish a baseline of the water quality in the Ohio River and surrounding bodies of water. Throughout the semester, they will collect water samples and conduct basic laboratory analysis on nurdles that are found along the banks . A field trip to the university's lab will culminate this year's research efforts and introduce the class to Pitt's sustainability capstone program.

With similar plans to build even more cracker plants in our region, this experience will serve as an excellent opportunity to mobilize our students as "citizen-scientists" and perform real field-based science research that is close to home.









#### **IN OUR HIGH SCHOOL:**

## German Schultutes to Start School Year

On **September 7th**, Central Valley High School's German 1 students learned about the German school system. Specifically, they learned that students in Germany commonly receive a "Schultüte", or cone-shaped cornucopia filled with treats at the beginning of the school year to kick off their education. **Ms. Kain's** classroom completed the unit by assembling their own "Schultüten" with German treats and school supplies. We are looking forward to a great year in the German classroom!



#### **Classroom Diagnostic Testing**

Starting **September 12th**, students in **Algebra**, **Biology and Literature** courses began CDTs to gain a baseline for teachers to measure individual strengths and challenges of all students in their classroom. To help better prepare students for the Keystone Exams, our staff will collaboratively analyze data to make any necessary adjustments to the curriculum and target individual needs. CDTs will be taken at various points int these courses throughout the school year.

# 2022 CVHS Homecoming Coronation

The 2022 Homecoming Court was selected by the Senior Class and on **September 29th** our Homecoming Coronation was held in the HS Auditorium. Student Services Sponsors, **Ms. Kramer** and **Ms. McCracken coordinated** the event that saw Senior **Makenzie Sarver** and **Skylar Bundy** crowned CVHS Homecoming Queen and King. Following the coronation, the court was also honored at halftime of the football game on **September 30th**.





#### **Robot Season Starts Here**

On **September 30th** at Commonwealth Charter Academy in Homestead, PA Bots IQ held their 17th annual teacher professional development and kick off meeting. From the Central Valley Bots IQ team, **Andrew Wolf, Carlos Anderson-McClean, Jessica Davis** and **Kevin Cardenas** attended the training that included various robotics lessons from local educators and engineers.

The annual training kicks off the school year by providing technical and programming assistance to BotsIQ teachers and core student team members.



Teams also received a grant from the NTMF for participating in BotsIQ, which will allow teams to purchase tools, equipment or materials to create their 15-lb combat robot. CVHS's **Mr. Fiedler** taught multiple sessions on designing the electrical system at this year's meeting. This meeting has helped our team get ready to "bust some bolts" for this year's competition that will be held later in the spring.

Congratulations to **Mr. Fiedler** for receiving an award from the Technology & Engineering Education Association of Pennsylvania for the Outstanding Regional Director Award in 2021.

#### Warrior Wake Up!

On **September 30th**, National Coffee Day, **Ms. Delon's** Entrepreneurship class offered free samples of Frappe/frozen drinks.

The entrepreneurship class is not a typical classroom. It's a hands-on class where students do first and



debrief after each activity. In addition to fun activities like paper airplanes, dirt & worms, Pit, and classroom auctions, we have a student-run coffee shop, The Warrior Wake-Up. The coffee shop offers different types of frozen/blended drinks: frappe - (coffee and

non-coffee based), frozen hot chocolate, slushies, and protein drinks. The Wake-Up Warrior has over 25 specialty drinks. Students & staff receive a weekly order form via email from Ms. Delon. Orders and payments must be placed no later than 8:30 am on Friday. Ms. Delon has a red lockbox outside her classroom for cash payments. The coffee shop can be found in Ms. Delon's room, NA-202.



#### October is School Safety Month

**Each week in October** various emergency response drills have been conducted in each of the district's buildings. Prior to each drill, our staff has had discussions with their classes about our protocols and the shared responsibility of school safety. New to this year's Emergency Response Plan is our Reunification Plan in event of a school evacuation. Letters explaining the Reunification Plan were sent home to parents in the district at the beginning of the month.



## **PSAT Testing for Juniors**

On **October 12th**, all juniors were given the PSATs, at no cost to students. The purpose of administering the PSATs was to not only provide practice for the actual SATs but also give students insight on how they might better prepare for the college entrance exam. Please visit the Guidance Office webpage on the High School website to find more information about SAT Testing and preparation.



#### Fire Safety Demonstration

On **October 20th**, Center Township Volunteer Fire Department visited **Ms**. **Hufnagle's** CV Family and Consumer Science classes to teach our students about fire prevention, fire safety, how to properly extinguish a fire, and when to call for help. Their visit included a live burn in which each student was given an opportunity to experience how to use a fire extinguisher. FCS courses aim to teach skills for life and this lesson each year provides students with the knowledge to prevent and keep themselves safe from kitchen, home, dorm,



and apartment fires. We are very appreciative to the Center VFD for donating their time and resources to our students and providing them with a valuable learning experience.

#### PHEAA Financial Aid Night

Central Valley High School Guidance Counselors

Shannon Istik and Rachael Watts hosted PHEAA's

Wendy Dunlap for a Financial Aid Night on November

1st in the CVHS auditorium. The workshop reviewed
the ins and outs of applying for financial aid, grants,
and scholarships. All parents and families of students
in 11th-12th grade were invited to attend. Please
contact our Guidance Office if there are any questions
or assistance that you might need throughout the year.

#### Ooky Spooky Cabaret & Play

On **October 25th**, the Central Valley community was entertained by the musical and theatrical talents of **Ms. Damp's** Intro to Musical Performance class in the inaugural Ooky Spooky Cabaret & Play. This evening featured "The Ten Ways to Avoid a Zombie Apocalypse" along with several other Halloween-themed acts, such as the "Monster Mash" and "Music of the Night". To end the night, our high school chorus performed "Time Warp" to the delight of all that attended. **Ms. Lombardi's** 2D and 3D art classes added to the ambience by displaying their artwork throughout the Auditorium and making various props, set and costume pieces in this truly collaborative effort.















#### **BEYOND THE CLASSROOM:**

## Club Hope Making a Difference

Members of CV's Club Hope, along with club sponsor **Ms. Brown**, volunteered at the Hope Run Derby fundraiser held by the Club Hope Foundation on **September 11th**. Nearly \$20,000 was raised to help provide services, encouragement, and HOPE to patients and families facing a cancer diagnosis. In addition to their volunteering efforts, club members also made cards at their weekly meetings that send encouraging words to people undergoing chemotherapy treatments.



In **October** for Breast Cancer Awareness, Club Hope raised money by setting up a PINK table and selling pink-related items. Additionally, they held a Rock-Paper-Scissor challenge in which the winner of each challenge received a set of pink beads. The student with the most beads at the end of the week won a monetary prize. Overall for the month of October, the club was able to raise over \$800 with all proceeds benefiting the Club Hope Foundation.





#### **BC Youth Ambassadors**

On **September 28th**, the CCBC Dome hosted the Beaver County Youth Ambassador Program. **Ms. Hunter** chaperoned a group of students who served as representatives of Central Valley High School The program is centered around the youth in beaver county to build relationships with other youth in their districts and across the county. The youth ambassadors were able to participate in events and activities that are centered around spreading awareness of mental health and wellness to the community via the school districts they represent. The diverse group of students are selected to promote leadership and self-advocacy among youth.



#### **Clay Target Team Aims High**

Last year Mr. Whipkey and Mr. Sowinksi started CV's inaugural Clay Target Team and this year the club sport has continued to grow. This fall the team met from mid-September through the end of October to fine-tune their skills at its home site, the Aliquippa Bucktails. Recruitment for the Spring 2023 season

officially begins in January with a parent meeting in the first part of the month. The spring season will last from March until the first week of June. One requirement is that the student/shooter has a PA Game Commission Hunter Safety Certification.



#### Special Olympics Student Summit

Over thirty schools from all over Pennsylvania gathered at Slippery Rock University on **October 5th** to discuss what the Special Olympics do for students in our schools. The theme of the event centered around the idea that we each have "super powers" that can be used to help others in our school. In addition to the United Bocce and Track and Field teams at CVHS, there will be other events this year that students can



participate in and support including the annual "Polar Plunge". In May, this group is in the process of planning a "Rain Rally" as another event that will help in reaching the Special Olympics goal statement of "creating a better world by fostering the acceptance and inclusion of all people."

Ms. Lupinacci and Ms. Weltner chaperoned our students to this summit and expressed how well they represented what we want for our school- Students who are using their compassion and talents to dictate the future that they want for themselves and all students at Central Valley High School.

#### Middle School Mentors

The CV Middle School Mentor Program started back up this school year on **October 12th**. Twice a month, **Ms. Lupinacci** and **Mr. Bell** take a group of high school student volunteers to the middle school to meet the academic, social and emotional needs of our district's younger Warriors. In this program, high school students lead through both their service and actions.



#### Mock Trial Boot Camp

On **October 20th**, freshmen from the Central Valley mock trial team traveled to Riverside High School for a

mock trial "boot camp" with club sponsor **Mr. Pinchot**. Eight freshmen, along with 3 students from the middle school, participated in the camp where each student went through various stations where they learned and practiced different skills and aspects of the competition. After making their way through their workshop stations, students from all over Beaver County teamed up to run a trial to end the camp, showcasing their newly learned skills in a fun and safe simulation of a real competition.

Freshman **Julianna Kitsko** won a certificate for Best Defense Attorney in a simulated trial. The Beaver County Bar Association's Mock Trial competitions will begin in January and take place at the Beaver County Courthouse.

#### **CVHS Class Officers**

Class Officers for the **2022-23 school year** were elected in by their peers and here are the results:

#### Senior Class:

Brady Hudson- President Kaden Colville Elena Marvin Jackson Tonya

#### Junior Class:

Sydney McDermott- President Jordan Hunter Joseph Skibinki Sara Sudak

#### Sophomore Class:

Julia Haney- President Mike Bendekovic Lexi Bickerstaff Sophia Colonias

#### Freshman Class:

Gabby Galaitis Claire Anderson Gianna Gasperine Riley Slater

#### IN OUR DISTRICT:

#### CVSD Comprehensive Plan

Central Valley School District approved its
Comprehensive Plan for 2022-25. This state-required
plan was created by a team of parents, teachers and
school administrators across the district. Over the
course of a few months, several data points were
analyzed to identify the strengths and challenges of
our district. Several action plans were established to
move our district forward over the next few years. The
complete 2022-25 Comprehensive Plan can be found
on the district website

# NEW PowerSchool Parent Contact Update Feature

A new Power School feature will now allow parents to update their contact and emergency contact information electronically. Letters have been sent out to parents instructing them on how to update their information independently.

#### **UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- November 2nd- First Day of the Second Nine-Weeks Grading Period
- November 8th- First Nine Weeks Report Distribution (Online in PowerSchool)
- November 9th- Central Valley School Board Meeting (Work Session)
- **November 11th** Veterans Day (No School)
- November 23rd- Beginning of Thanksgiving Break (Early Dismissal)
- November 24-28th- Thanksgiving Break (No School)
- December 6th-8th- Winter Keystone Testing
- December 21st- Beginning of Winter Break (Early Dismissal)
- December 22-January 2nd- Winter Break (No School)
- January 16th- District-Wide Act 80 Day (No School)
- January 18-20th- Final Exams
- January 20th- Last Day of Second Nine-Weeks Grading Period