

#### **OCTOBER 2019**











# **Our Mission**

We inspire, engage and empower all students to achieve their full potential.



We aspire to be a model of innovation and educational excellence that prepares our students for the challenges of life in the 21st century.

# **Our Core Beliefs**

-Students are our first priority. - Partnerships among students, staff, parents and the community are integral to student success. -We value respect for self and others. - All students and staff deserve a safe, positive and supportive environment. -We hold high expectations for our students, parents and ourselves. -We embrace change and strive to be life-long learners. -We believe all students can learn and will never give up on any student.

**GVWarriorPride** 









# **Rally in the Valley 2019**

Thank you to all who made our 2019 Rally in the Valley such a fun event filled with Warrior Pride! See more photos: www.cvcsd.stier.org





# Thursday, November 14 | 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Chenango Bridge Elementary (At the St. Francis Building - 1051 Chenango St.)



A GREAT FAMILY EVENT TO PROMOTE THE HUMANITIES (LITERACY, SOCIAL STUDIES, ART, MUSIC)

# **District News** Message from the Superintendent

Dear CV Community,

The 2019-2020 school year kicked off with a fantastic start. With the year now well underway, we continue to work to make sure our students have the tools they need for success in school and beyond.

We created our 2019-2020 District Goals to help ensure success for all of our Warriors. Please see our Board President Mrs. Kelly Warwick's message below to review these important goals.

As another means to support success, capital project renovations continue to advance at our Port Dickinson Elementary building (770 Chenango Street). As a reminder, pre-K through grade 2 students and staff are scheduled to officially return to the 770 Chenango Street building immediately following our Winter Recess. Prior to their return, we also plan to hold an open house in December for Port Dickinson Elementary students and families to get better acquainted with the newly-renovated building. We will send home further communications

to keep our families informed on exact dates and any additional relocation information. You can see more information regarding capital project progress on page 5 of this *Newscaster*. We truly appreciate your cooperation and understanding throughout this construction process. We can't wait for our students, staff and school community to benefit from the updates of all of our renovated facilities.

Finally, I would like to thank our school community for continuing to support our district's success and Warrior Pride. Through your participation in events such as Rally in the Valley and open houses, you continue to strengthen our school-home connections. These connections are an imperative piece in the development and achievements of our students.

I hope you are able to enjoy the sense of change, reflection and gratitude that can often emerge during the months of fall.

Enjoy the season!

Sincerely,

Dans & Aue

Dr. David P. Gill Superintendent of Schools

#### **Board of Education President's Message**

The holiday season is fast approaching and there is much to be thankful for. We have a staff that truly cares about kids, students who take full advantage of all of the opportunities offered to them, and a community that is supportive and prioritizes the academic, social and emotional well-being of our youth.

Last year, the CV Board of Education recognized the need to look at our District Goals and make some changes so that they more fully align with the mission of our district. A strategic plan was created, presented and embraced by the Board. It included the following five steps: clarifying our mission and vision, gaining input from a variety of stakeholders using a S.W.O.T (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) assessment, analyzing the results and identifying areas/categories to focus on, developing District Goals based on the collected data and conversations, and finally developing S.M.A.R.T (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-Bound) objectives by looking at leverage points and strategies that would be necessary to accomplish these goals.

Kelly Warwick, President Board of Education

We are proud of our new 2019-2020 District Goals:

- Develop and foster positive relationships with community partners.
- Focus on the whole child approach to education by empowering students to reach their full potential in academics, athletics, arts and extracurricular activities.
- Prioritize the support of social and emotional wellness of students and staff.
- Cultivate a culture of Warrior Pride and positivity.

Along with Dr. Gill, the Board of Education is excited about the direction in which our district is heading. We, as always, have a great deal of work to do, but it's work well worth the effort if it enables and inspires our students to be the best they can be.

Thank you for the ongoing support of our district. When we work together, the kids win.



#### **Important School Safety Reminders**

As the safety and security of our students and staff continues to be a top priority at Chenango Valley Central School District, we ask you to please review and make sure you are familiar with the following district safety procedures/information:

- You must present photo identification to enter any of our school buildings. Visitors must also wear photo identification badges provided by the school. This applies to any event during school hours.
- As a safety protocol, visitors must enter the school building through the main security entrance during school hours. Students and staff are not to allow visitors in through any other outside entrances.
- The district uses an automated system to quickly send messages in the event of a school or district emergency. For typical school opening delays and closings, messages will be sent in the form of an email and/or text to your cell phone. To receive messages, you will need to have an up-to-date account set up through our district website. We encourage you to check and make sure that you're signed up. If your contact information has changed, please update it in the system as needed to ensure you receive notifications. *To access this system on our district website:*

#### 1. Go to www.cvcsd.stier.org

2. Select "Public Login" at the top right-hand corner of the page (for desktop computers) or a grey box that says "Register to Receive School Closings/Alert Messages"

3. Log in or create a new account by choosing "Register New User"

Select the notification preferences that apply to your child(ren). To receive notifications for districtwide emergencies, which include weather-related school closings and delays, select "Emergency Alerts/Closing and Delay." If your child rides a school bus, we advise you to make sure you are signed up for any "Transportation" notifications as well.
After signing up, please "opt in" to make sure you receive important CVCSD text message alerts. You can find more information on how to do this through our district website.

- Automated voice messages are sent to students' primary contacts in the event of school closings/delays/early dismissals and for matters regarding attendance.
- Please be sure that your child knows what to do if they are sent home early due to an emergency or weather-related early dismissal.
- In the event of a crisis situation, please refrain from calling your child as the noise/distraction could put students in danger. Students must give their full attention to instructions from trained staff. Parents/guardians should not rush to their child, as phone lines, staff and roads are vital for emergency response. In the event of a crisis, parents/guardians should carefully monitor district information sources, which will include the reunification process (under the guidance of emergency responders). As a reminder, students will only be released to their parent/guardian or a pre-designated emergency contact. Please be sure this information remains up-to-date.
- Please know that each district decision is made with the safety of students and staff as our first priority. There are specific safety practices and procedures in place that have been carefully created by safety teams consisting of staff and emergency personnel. We will work to communicate available, accurate information as soon as possible. When applicable, we will provide consistent updates to keep parents/guardians best informed throughout the process.
- We thank you for your cooperation and support in helping to keep our students safe. Please reach out to your building principal with any questions.

#### In the event of an emergency situation, Chenango Valley Schools will initiate the appropriate safety response(s):

Shelter-in-Place	Hold-in-Place	Evacuate	Lockout	Lockdown
Used to shelter	Used to limit	Used to evacuate	Used to secure school	Used to secure school
students and staff	movement of	students and staff	building and grounds	building and grounds
inside the building.	students and staff	from the building.	during incidents	during incidents that
	while dealing with		that pose an	pose an immediate
	short-term		imminent concern	threat of violence in or
	emergencies.		outside of the school.	around the school.

# **Capital Project Update**

Construction on our capital improvements project is progressing. Now that school is back in session, the major focus is the outdoor classroom and our Port Dickinson Elementary (770 Chenango Street) building renovations.

The outdoor classroom, located near the pond on the CV Middle School/High School campus, will be available for all students and staff to use for a variety of educational opportunities. The concrete foundation and exterior block walls are complete, and the roof structure will be going on soon. The building is anticipated to be complete by the end of the year.

Port Dickinson Elementary building construction continues to move forward at a quick pace, since the students are out of the building. New windows are being installed, which better replicate the windows of the original 1919 building. On the interior, new finishes are being installed throughout – walls are being painted, a new ceiling grid is being installed and the ceramic wall tiling is progressing. Plumbing and electrical work associated with the renovations is also progressing well. Construction is scheduled to be complete by the end of November, so the district can begin the process to reoccupy the building. As a reminder, the plan is to have students and staff return to the 770 Chenango Street Port Dickinson Elementary building in January 2020, immediately following our Winter Recess.



#### **Bus Safety Drills Review Important Procedures**

Chenango Valley Central School District students all participated in bus safety drills at the beginning of the school year.

During their drills, students learned about topics including safe crossing signals, rules for riding the bus, how to properly use seat belts, what to do if a bus driver becomes disabled, and how to find and operate emergency equipment and exits. Students also practiced using different emergency escapes including the rear exit.

Bus safety drills are conducted at Chenango Valley throughout the school year, in accordance with New York State Education law.



**Deposit bottles/cans may be donated any time for The BaCh and CV French Club!** "Bottles for BaCh" and CV French Club bottle/can collections are accepted year-round. Bottle/can donations may be dropped off in the big red collection box located in the high school staff parking lot for "Bottles for BaCh" and near the outdoor garbage/recycling area of the Port Dickinson Elementary (770 Chenango Street) building for the CV French Club.



We appreciate your support of these organizations!

# **CV Elementary PTA - Parent Teacher Association**

The PTA in our schools engages parents, families and community members in a partnership to enrich and enhance the educational experience for all children. Parent, staff and community volunteers spend countless hours organizing fundraisers, special events and other activities to support CV schools and students.

The Chenango Valley Elementary PTA is open to parents, guardians, step-parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, district employees and community members. For membership information, visit our district website: <u>www.cvcsd.stier.org</u>

> Title IX Coordinators Michelle Feyerabend MFeyerabend@cvcsd.stier.org | 762-6811 Sarah Latimer SLatimer@cvcsd.stier.org | 762-6820

#### Join in PTA Meetings!

For the 2019-20 school year, meetings will typically be held on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. (with the exception of 11/12/19 and 4/14/20) \*\*September 2019 - December 2019: Held at 741 River Road cafeteria \*\*January 2020 - June 2020: Held at 770 Chenango Street library

#### Medicaid Compliance Officer Tara Williams Whittaker TWhittaker@cvcsd.stier.org | 762-6830

Business address for each: 221 Chenango Bridge Rd., Binghamton, NY 13901

# Warrior Fund: Yearly Report

September 2018-2019

Special "Thank You!" to our community for their generous donations to assist our Chenango Valley families! -Jackie Arnold, Chenango Valley High School Social Worker (762-6924)

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School supplies for 91 students & 69 backpacks	12 yearbooks for seniors	Hygiene products for 62 students
Two (2) students' sports camp fees	Two (2) tux rentals	Four (4) five-hour driving courses
Four (4) senior T-shirts	Two (2) NYSSMA fees for students	Partial help with a gas bill for oil to heat a home
Assisted 306 families with Aldi gift cards to cover lunch and food issues at home and school	Two (2) college application fees & supplies for college	Donations to cover outstanding lunch bills for three (3) students
Assisted three (3) students with expenses related to dance programs	16 caps and gowns for graduation	Three (3) college books
Eight (8) students assisted with their BOCES materials for classes & steel toe boots	Clothing purchases for 11 students for winter wear (MS/HS)	13 packs of bus passes to help students with transportation issues to work or medical/therapy appointments
11 scientific calculators	15 students assisted with class field trips	Three (3) permits
Assisted Sixth Grade Field Days with supplies	Ten (10) students assisted with Eighth Grade Trip	Assisted with two (2) students' tuition fees
Assisted two (2) students who joined sports and outside gymnastics	Paid for membership to become a Sight for Students provider (free glasses)	145 students and families used the CV Warrior Clothing Room (free donated clothing)
49 clothing purchases for a student in need of school and PE clothes and sneakers	Eight (8) Junior Dinner Dance tickets	Two (2) prom dresses for seniors
11 winter coats, 15 winter boots, ten (10) snow pants, hats, gloves (PD & CB)	Assisted 17 students with prescriptions that were needed	Snacks for more than 100 students for after-school sports/classes and during the school day
Eye glasses for three (3) students	16 prom tickets for seniors	Provided assistance for a funeral for a student's sibling
62 families and 300 children assisted with CV Holiday Programs	26 gas cards for families transporting students to appointments, jobs and cancer/medical treatments	Assisted three (3) students with cell phone minutes for emergencies/safety plans

# CHOW: CV Food Pantry September 2018 – August 2019

Families Served: 361Children: 604Adults: 207Total Individuals Served: 823 Chenango Valley Residents

Seniors: 12

6



Support the CV Post Prom Party Wednesday, November 6 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Chenango Valley High School

Cost: \$8 for adults and \$5 for children (10 and under) in advance (Tickets at the Door: \$10 for adults and \$7 for children)

# Take out available.

Purchase your tickets now through any S.A.D.D. member. You can also contact Lisa Chavez at LChavez@cvcsd.stier.org or Ann-Marie Griffin at AGriffin@cvcsd.stier.org for more information.



Congratulations to CV High School teacher Mr. Michael Breed who has been named a New York State Master Teacher by the Governor's Office! In partnership with the State University of New York, the New York State Master Teacher Program rewards the highest-performing STEM teachers and encourages them to share their expertise with peers through mentorship.



Congratulations to CV High School teacher Mr. David Tidick who was welcomed into the Cortland Baseball Legends Club! Mr. Tidick and six additional former SUNY Cortland players were recognized during an induction ceremony on September 21.

# Guidance

The CV Middle School Guidance Office has been busy this month with a focus on college and career readiness. We believe that it is never too early to help students think about furthering their education and future career options. Each grade level had activities specifically designed for their level of development. In the sixth grade, Mrs. Lally helped students identify their personality color and students participated in activities that linked their color to potential careers. They also researched some post high school educational opportunities by looking through college brochures and pamphlets. The seventh grade students completed a week-long unit with Mrs. Lally that included completing a self-evaluation and career exploration guide, researching a career of interest on Career Cruising and creating a banner of information about a college that offers a major that could lead to that career. Mrs. Samson took the eighth grade students on virtual campus visits and had students research colleges attended by CV staff. During FACS 8, students will also explore college and careers further using Career Cruising. They will complete a research project, practice filling out job applications and participate in a mock interview.

Our goal was to involve the entire middle school in this month-long project that also featured teacher college trivia and a day for everyone to wear clothing from their favorite university. We hope that these activities have sparked conversations at home about future career options and the importance of higher education. Parents can encourage their children's career choices. They also have unique insight into the interests, values and abilities that inform those choices. Please feel free to explore the Career Cruising program at any time. You can log in from school, home or any place that has internet access.

<b>Career Cruising</b> To find out more about Career Cruising, we encourage you to log in using the school's access information:				
	Log in at:	www.careercruising.com		
	Enter school username:	Chenango		

Click on "Start Career Cruising" to begin.

Valley

Enter school password:

-Deb Lally (Grade 6-7 school counselor) and Shelby Samson (Grade 8-9 school counselor)

### Help Inspire Positivity at Chenango Valley Middle School!

Chenango Valley Middle School needs your help. We are looking for people from all different careers who are willing to donate 40 minutes of their time to come in and talk with our students. Each week, we would like to feature a career that utilizes the positive character trait we are learning that week. The character traits and the calendar for when that trait is being taught are listed to the right. We are looking for people who are willing to come in to meet with a group of students on the Wednesday or Thursday of the corresponding week. The time for this session would be from 12:15-12:55 p.m.

Please contact Deb Lally, middle school counselor, at (607) 762-6920 or <u>dlally@cvcsd.stier.org</u> if you are willing to come in to speak with our students about your career path and how it relates to that week's character trait.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Nov 3-9	Bravery	You act with mental, moral, or physical strength even when you know things are difficult or scary.
Nov 17-23	Gratitude	You are aware of and thankful for good things that happen.
Dec 1-7	Kindness	You are generous to others and you are never too busy to help out. You enjoy doing good deeds for other people.
Dec 8-14	Humility	You do not seek the spotlight. You let your actions speak for themselves.
Dec 15-21	Self-Control	You have the ability to control your emotions and behaviors. You think before you act.
Jan 5-11	Optimism	You expect the best from the future and work to achieve it.
Jan 12-18	Prudence	You plan for the future and achieve your goals by making careful everyday choices.
Jan 19-25	Perseverance	You complete what you start despite obstacles. You never give up.
Feb 2-8	Forgiveness	You forgive those who have done wrong. You accept that people make mistakes.
Feb 9-15	Love	You value close relationships with others and being close to people.
Feb 23-29	Enthusiasm	You approach life with excitement and energy. You energize people around you.
March 8-14	Social Intelligence	You are aware of other people's thoughts and feelings. You understand why they do things.
March 15- 21	Love of Learning	You master new skills and topics on your own or in school.
March 22-28	Fairness	You believe that all people have value. You approach situations with an unbiased mindset and treat everyone with respect.
March 29- April 4	Humor	You like to laugh and bring smiles to other people.
April 19-25	Appreciation of Beauty and Excellence	You notice and value the world's beauty and people's skills. You don't take things for granted.
April 26- May 2	Purpose	You have beliefs about the meaning of life and your life's purpose. You seek to be part of something greater than yourself.
May 3-9	Leadership	You value each member of your group and inspire people to do their best.

# **Attention Student Athletes**

As you know, the NCAA has established eligibility rules related to participating in Division I and II college athletics. Should you be considering athletics in college, it is absolutely imperative that you notify your school counselor now. Students are required to take 16 core subject courses. The NCAA does not use elective courses to complete the 16.

To participate at the Division I or II level, you also must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse by going to <u>www.eligibilitycenter.org</u>. Once you have registered, it will prompt you to let the guidance office know so we can submit a transcript. Finally, you must submit your SAT or ACT scores to the NCAA Eligibility Center directly from the testing agency in order to certify the student-athlete's initial eligibility. All test scores are required to be sent.

\*\*\*\*Eligibility rules have changed for students graduating in 2018 or after. See your counselor for details.\*\*\*\*

-Judy Hayes, High School Counselor

# Guidance

# Help Available for Chenango Valley Families in Need

Did you know that Chenango Valley has these resources available?

CV Cares

- CHOW Food Pantry
- CV Clothing Bank
- Holiday Assistance (Thanksgiving food baskets, gifts for school-age children at holiday time) \**Please register by 11/8/19*\*
- Individualized Services: Please contact the guidance office to see if we can help.

If you or someone you know in the Chenango Valley Central School District needs assistance, please contact the guidance office at 762-6918 or email CV Middle School social worker Beth Hubenthal at **bhubenth@cvcsd.stier.org** 

# **Upcoming SAT and ACT Test Dates**

SAT Test: <u>www.sat.org/register</u>

ACT Test: www.actstudent.org/start

Please contact your school counselor with any questions regarding upcoming test dates/registration deadlines.

#### **CV Middle School Students Build Upon Teamwork Skills**

In an effort to get Chenango Valley Middle School students better acquainted with the guidance department and reflect on the importance of teamwork, Chenango Valley social worker Mrs. Beth Hubenthal, and school counselors Mrs. Shelby Samson and Mrs. Deb Lally spent time with each middle school physical education class during the start of the school year.

Students enjoyed fun team-building activities that required communication and cooperation to succeed.



In addition, students reviewed the "Bullying Prevention Rules": Rule 1: We will not bully others. Rule 2: We will try to help students who are bullied. Rule 3: We will try to include students who are left out. Rule 4: If we know that somebody is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school and an adult at home.

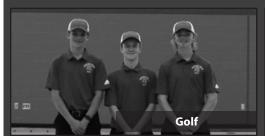
If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress or would like to schedule a parent conference with a team of teachers, please feel free to contact Mrs. Lally (grades 6-7) or Mrs. Samson (grades 8-9) in the guidance office at 762-6918.

# **Athletics**

# Congratulations to our Fall 2019 Senior Athletes!



(I-r): Brianna Corbin, Kylie Baleno, Danielle Jewson



(I-r): Austin Williams, Ryan Wardell, Thomas Christoffersen



(I-r): Maxwell Reppard, Rebecca Mercik, Brett Salzman, Diana Inzhirova, James Hart, Grace Elliott, Dominick Lomonaco, Michael Schultz



(I-r): Jonathan Pecha, Zachary Crooks



(I-r): Kendall Rinker, McKenna Beers, Logan Fetterman, Emma Trumino, Aubrey Craig, Elizabeth Rice, Mackenzie Moore



(front l-r): Abigail Mercik, Julia Morgan, Natalie Gillette, Madison Aswad (back l-r): Amelia DiRienzo, Owen Staub, Angelina Rivera



(-r): Dhwani Patel, Kelsey Burden, Cailee Salisbury, Sara Marinaro, Celest Pagliarella, Jenna Castellucci, Shelby Condie, Maia Chapman



(I-r): Morgan Whittington, Claire Harvey, Katerina Retzlaff



(I-r): Anthony Forbidussi, Andre Cooper, Kyle Westgate, Riley Botting, Zachary Wood, Samuel Bozuhoski, Patrick McCabe, Shane Ladd, Nolan Wilson, Levi Gulbin, Dominic Napoli

Stay tuned for more fall 2019 CV athletics accomplishments in our December 2019 Newscaster and on our district website!

# 52nd Annual McDaniel-Baxter Cross Country Invitational

Hundreds of athletes from school districts around the area competed in the 52nd annual McDaniel-Baxter Cross Country Invitational at Chenango Valley High School on September 21. The event kicked off with the XC Warrior Challenge community 4K race.



**REMINDER:** Check out our "Wellness" webpage: <u>www.cvcsd.stier.org/WellnessInformation1.aspx</u> to keep up-to-date with the latest wellness events, resources and opportunities in our district. If you have any wellness questions, you can also reach out to our wellness coordinators by contacting your school building's main office.

# **Arts & Music**



The Music Man Jr. cast looks forward to bringing you this exciting show!



# Chenango Valley Winter Concerts

All concerts are held in the CV Middle School/High School Auditorium

Chenango Bridge

Elementary December 5, 2019 7:00 p.m.

Chenango Valley

Middle School

December 10, 2019 7:00 p.m.

Chenango Valley

High School

December 17, 2019 7:00 p.m.

# **Port Dickinson Elementary**

Happy autumn! The beautiful colors of the season are here! It is so hard to believe how quickly the school year is going. The faculty and staff at Port Dickinson Elementary are working very hard to help each one of your children find success.

In the month of November 2019, there will be a variety of events and activities taking place:

- •Tuesday, November 5: No School Superintendent's Conference Day
- •Monday, November 11: No School Veterans Day

•Wednesday, November 13: Make-Up Day for School Pictures

•Thursday, November 14: Humanities Night at Chenango Bridge Elementary (in the St. Francis building) •Friday, November 15: Half-Day of School for Parent/Teacher Conferences (Dismissal for students at 12:20 p.m.) •Wednesday, November 20: Board of Education Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

•Friday, November 22: Half-Day of School for Parent/Teacher Conferences (Dismissal for students at 12:20 p.m.) •Wednesday, November 27 – Friday, November 29: No School – Thanksgiving Break

As each new school year begins, we are focused on how to help our youngest CV Warriors find success. We are always teaching our students how to read and write. We also help them to learn about math concepts and about the community, state, and world we live in through science and social studies. This school year, we are very excited to be using the Units of Study in Reading and brand new science materials called STEMscopes. Additionally, our entire school district has begun the "Positivity Project," also referred to across CV as "P2." Our faculty, staff and students are focused on making sure that "other people matter" every day. We are all learning and using a new "character trait" each week.

Safety and security are very important to us, as we want all of our faculty, staff and students to be in a safe environment to learn and grow each day. Please know that safety (fire) drills, evacuation drills, and lockdown drills are practiced to help us all be prepared in case of an emergency.

Port Dickinson is a wonderful place to learn and grow! Our goals are very simple. We want our students to give it their best effort to learn every day; to make appropriate choices to stay safe; and to think about other people. Attendance in school is very important at Port Dickinson Elementary every day. Students need to be in school each day (except for sicknesses) to gain knowledge, find success and remember that other people matter.

Our school and district news, events and resources are available on our website (www.cvcsd.stier.org). Please feel free to follow Port Dickinson Elementary School on Twitter: @MrsHammondCV. Our school district's mission is to inspire, engage and empower our faculty/ staff, students and school community. Given this standard of excellence, our wish is that all of us work together, communicate, support learning, participate, and develop friendships and partnerships to help every Warrior to succeed... in and out of the classroom.

Fall is nature's masterpiece – full of vibrant colors, crisp, cool, fresh air, and delicious apple pie and pumpkin desserts. Spend time reading with your children every day and working with counting and numbers... the rewards are endless. Make the most of every day by spending quality time with your family and friends!

# Port Dickinson Elementary Students Engage in the 'Positivity Project'

As part of the districtwide "Positivity Project" program (P2) focused on building strong relationships, Port Dickinson Elementary students and staff have been taking part in P2 morning programs on a weekly basis. Through fun examples, students are able to better understand the implementation of each week's focus area. For example, to kick off P2 at PDE, students received a visit from Kelso and the CV Warrior mascot with a gift. The catch was that nobody could know what was inside the gift box until the following morning program... setting up a great example for the September 15-21 focus on "Curiosity"! In another assembly focused on "Open-Mindedness," physical education teacher Mr. Kevin Novotny learned to be open to trying out other donuts besides just Boston cream. With the help of fellow PDE educators, Mr. Novotny learned that by being open to different possibilities, he could discover a variety of new things that he really enjoyed. We look forward to continuing these exciting morning programs that promote positive Warrior spirit!





Mary Beth Hammond, principal, Port Dickinson Elementary

# **Port Dickinson Elementary**

## Port Dickinson Elementary Students Learn About Fire Safety

Port Dickinson Elementary students learned a valuable lesson on fire safety during an assembly on October 7. Assistant Fire Chief Tennant and Captain Bolender from the Chenango Bridge Fire Company shared important demonstrations on fire safety tips and prevention. Demonstrations included how smoke detectors work, what to do if there is a fire and what a firefighter looks like in their full uniform.



Some of our Port Dickinson students were even able to help demonstrate the "stop, drop and roll" fire safety technique.



This informative assembly happened to take place during Fire Safety Month. It was also during Chenango Valley's "Positivity Project" week focused on "Being present and giving others my attention" – an important thing to do with any special guests, especially those with such valuable safety information to share!

# **Reading Promise is Back at Port Dickinson Elementary!**

"Promise Partner's Reading Place" is a chance for Port Dickinson Elementary students to get lost in a good book. Students have the opportunity to go to the library during their playground time once per six-day cycle. At the library, students can choose a cozy spot, relax and enjoy a variety of stories from paperbacks to audio books. Our library team encourages all who love reading to stop by!



BUILDING SCHOOL-HOME CONNECTIONS AT THE FALL 2019 PORT DICKINSON ELEMENTARY OPEN HOUSE!



#### December 2019:

Port Dickinson Elementary students and families will be invited to tour the newly-renovated 770 Chenango Street Port Dickinson Elementary building!

#### January 2020 :

Port Dickinson Elementary students and staff scheduled to return to the renovated 770 Chenango Street Port Dickinson Elementary building!

More information to come!

# **Chenango Bridge Elementary**

September has flown by as we are now in October. Our students and staff are adjusting nicely to their new home at St. Francis. The renovation project continues to progress at the Port Dickinson building. They plan to start renovations on the Chenango Bridge building soon after PDE students/staff return to the Port Dickinson building.

We have started the "Positivity Project" (P2) program. You will see the trait of the week on our marguee at school. The "Positivity Project" is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping America's youth build stronger relationships by recognizing character strengths in themselves and others. There are a total of 24 character strengths that we will be reviewing throughout the school year.

Mrs. Mika's Chenango Bridge STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) classes are starting the year off with fun and engaging engineering and design process-making activities. Such activities include learning the design process, thinking creatively through challenges and building/making. They will include literature in activities as well. The third graders started the year with a design challenge using popsicle sticks after hearing the story "Sticks" by Diane Alber. Each student helped a lonely popsicle stick become a part of a new and interesting design, with more sticks just like them. Fourth grade is learning about the science of flight using paper airplanes. This activity infuses lots of math as well, and a sprinkling of teamwork! Fifth grade students listened to the Chinese folktale "Ma Liang and the Magic Paintbrush" and are designing their own paintbrushes using unique materials. They will even use their paintbrushes to make art!

The Parent Teacher Association at Chenango Valley is up and running. We have combined our PTA with Port Dickinson Elementary to work together for the children of the district. Our meetings are typically held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Please see our district website, our district calendar or page 6 of this Newscaster for more information on locations. The PTA is a very valuable asset to Chenango Valley, through their volunteerism and support of the programs and academics of our district.

Again, we're off to a great school year. We want to wish you a colorful fall.

# Third Grade Students Draw 'Monster Mash' Creations

Chenango Bridge Elementary third grade students recently created "Monster Mash" drawings in Mrs. Krawczyk's art class. Their completed drawings will be given to art students at Chenango Valley High School. The high school students will take these drawings and create their own exciting gift to present to the Chenango Bridge artists later in the school year.



# **Chenango Bridge Students Enjoy Swim Unit**

Chenango Bridge Elementary students did an awesome job as they continued to develop their swimming skills in physical education class. Students learned about topics such as basic pool and water safety and fundamental swim strokes in the CV High School pool.





Jim Pritchard, principal Chenango Bridge Elem.

# **Chenango Bridge Elementary**

#### **STEAM Lessons Inspire Creative Thinking**

Below are just a couple of examples of the latest STEAM activities that Chenango Bridge Elementary students have been participating in.



During the Paper Airplane Challenge, students researched how to create paper airplanes using a video tutorial. After testing the flights of these airplanes, students created paper airplanes with their own modifications to see the difference in how far their planes could fly.



After reading the story of "Ma Liang and the Magic Paintbrush" about a boy whose magic paintbrush allowed his paintings to come to life when drawn from the heart, Chenango Bridge students created their own magic paintbrushes. Students used their completed brushes to paint and illustrate a good deed they would want to come to life.

# **CBE Students Explore 'Positivity Project' Character Strengths**

As part of the districtwide "Positivity Project" (P2) program, Chenango Bridge Elementary students and staff took surveys to see their most prominent character strengths.

Among other P2 activities in the school, students enjoyed writing about their character strengths as a fun way to get to know more about both themselves and their peers.



BUILDING SCHOOL-HOME CONNECTIONS AT THE FALL 2019 CHENANGO BRIDGE ELEMENTARY OPEN HOUSE!





# September 2020:

Chenango Bridge Elementary students and staff scheduled to return to 741 River Road Chenango Bridge Elementary building. Chenango Bridge will remain at the St. Francis building (1051 Chenango Street) throughout the rest of the 2019-2020 school year.

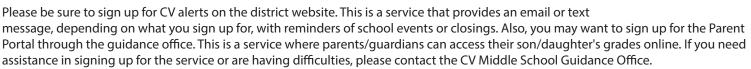
More information to come!

# **Middle School**

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year at CV Middle School! I hope you had a wonderful and restful summer break.

CV Middle School is off to an amazing start. I have been so impressed with all of the students this year; navigating the lockers and schedules, making new friends and meeting new teachers.

This year, the CV District is implementing the "Positivity Project" (P2) program. The P2 mission is to empower students to help build strong relationships by seeing the good in themselves and other people. Throughout the school year, we will be discussing 24 character strength traits. The P2 movement is in all the grade levels, and is about educating students on how to be positive and caring people. We will help cultivate a positive change and a mindset of #OtherPeopleMatter in the middle school, as well as the entire district.



The faculty/staff at CV Middle School are thrilled to work with your son/daughter in helping them grow socially, emotionally and academically this year. We believe in the power of success. It starts with one positive experience that will grow into many more throughout the school year.

I am very excited for the upcoming school year and all of the events and activities planned for our students. Please remember that it is important for your child to be on time, prepared and ready to learn every school day. Your support throughout the year is crucial to your child's success.

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions or concerns.

Follow the MS on Twitter: @CVMSWarriors. Look for us on Pinterest (CVMSWARRIORS) for MS educational topics and ideas.

# **Upcoming Events**

- Monday, November 4 Picture Make-Up Day
- Tuesday, November 5 No School Conference Day
- Wednesday, November 6 Winter Sports Parent/Guardian Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – CV High School
- Friday, November 8 End of the First Quarter
- Monday, November 11 No School Veterans Day
- Thursday, November 14 Report Cards Sent Home
- Monday, November 18 Winter Modified Sports Begin
- Friday, November 22 MS Musical Music Man Jr. 7:00 p.m. – CV Middle School/High School Auditorium
- Saturday, November 23 MS Musical Music Man Jr. 7:00 p.m. – CV Middle School/High School Auditorium
- Saturday, November 23 CV Craft Show 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. CV Middle School/High School Gymnasiums
- Wednesday, November 27 Friday, November 29 No School – Thanksgiving Break



**What are Writer's Notebooks?** (Article Provided By: Teri White) Writer's Notebooks are used for our Lucy Calkin's Writing Program for students to jot down their ideas on a daily basis to build writing stamina. Students are given a variety of prompts to choose from daily and have five to seven minutes to write down their ideas. They are then given the opportunity to share with their classmates. These journals serve as a place for students to gather information, write drafts, and revise and edit their writing. It also is a place for them to journal their thoughts about topics they enjoy writing about.

Thank you to our awesome Chenango Valley Middle School families for building school-home connections at our September 25 Open House!

# **#CVWarriorPride**



Eric E. Attleson, principal CV Middle School

# **Middle School**



How much do our words and actions impact the lives of others?



#### 'Positivity Project' Activity Plants a Seed of 'Curiosity'

As part of a "Positivity Project" (P2) initiative, the sixth grade team at Chenango Valley Middle School wants to see how the treatment of plants can relate to the importance of how we treat others. During Warrior Study Hall on September 20, students were introduced to an experimental P2 activity. The activity involves the consequences of speaking kindly or unkindly to plants. Curious to see if this idea works, sixth grade teachers asked students to not treat a "PU" plant in front of Mrs. Peterson's classroom with kindness, but rather to calmly speak more negatively to it (i.e. "You look wilted."). Near Mrs. Vesci's classroom is a "P2" plant, which students are encouraged to speak kindly to, read to, sing to, etc. In front of Mrs. White's classroom is a "Control Z" plant. Students are asked to not speak to this plant at all. This project will continue throughout the school year and integrate various aspects of curriculum, along with each P2 character strength. It will also measure if the plant treated with kindness grew better than the ones that were not. The goal is to show students the impact of the words and attitude that they share with others.

#### Middle School Students Engage in 'Teamwork' Activity

As part of weekly "Positivity Project" (P2) activities, CVMS students explored the character strength of "Teamwork" with a fun task on September 27. Seventh and eighth grade students split into teams in their classrooms. One partner faced the front of the room looking at a displayed image, while the other partner faced the back of the room. With limited time, the partner facing the picture described it to their teammate and gave directions on how to draw its shape without revealing what the image actually was. Afterwards, the teams enjoyed comparing their drawings with their classmates. Partners switched back and forth between drawing and describing the images throughout the activity. This showed students the importance of teamwork in the success of completing tasks and goals.



# **CV Middle School Warrior Club Welcomes New Students**

On September 25, students from the Chenango Valley Middle School Warrior Club welcomed those who are new to our district with a special treat. During the event, our new middle school Warriors were able to meet Warrior Club members, along with other new grade 6-8 students. They also learned more about the school and different clubs and activities available.



# **High School**

Hello Chenango Valley High School Families!

We've had a wonderful start to the school year! The first day of school for high school students started with rotations through different informational sessions as a grade level. I hosted a review of the district's Code of Conduct, our guidance department hosted an informational session catered to each grade level and their needs, the class advisors held a class meeting that included fundraising information and the nomination of class officers, and a club fair was held in the gym, so students could sign up for one of our many clubs and activities. We also had our Open House on September 24. Even though we had to reschedule because of the emergency school closing, many families came out to meet our wonderful high school faculty.

September was also busy with our Rally in the Valley celebration, our homecoming weekend (which ended with a successful dance), and the Senior Class had their annual breakfast. October's filled with activities as well - with our French exchange students visiting, the Alumni Recognition Dinner, and the Career Fair that was originally scheduled for September.

As always, I would like to stress the importance of daily attendance. Coming to school each day is the biggest predictor of success in school. If you are having trouble getting your child to come to school, please feel free to reach out to me or our guidance office for assistance.

Thank you so much for a successful and smooth start to the school year! Please reach out with any questions or concerns you may have!

#### The 'Positivity Project' Kicks Off at Chenango Valley High School

The districtwide "Positivity Project" (P2) program is in full swing at Chenango Valley High School. With the help of P2 student leaders, the school has been taking part in weekly activities exploring each week's focus on character strengths. "I think it's important because it's working on empowerment for everyone and it's going to help build relationships with everybody from each grade," said P2 student leader Elizabeth Morgan. "I hope it will really help us to understand people from their point of view and where they come from."



On October 4, Chenango Valley High School students had the chance to tour the Raymond Corporation production facility in Greene. Raymond engineer, and Chenango Valley graduate, Joe Weiss was among those who helped students explore future

career opportunities through activities such as forklift simulators. Mrs. Chavez's fashion design class recently learned how to use the Cricut machine. They looked at popular logos and determined why they are memorable and recognizable. The students then worked in Cricut Design Space to create a logo that represents them, and used the Cricut machine to cut it out with paper. They will also be designing T-shirts and mugs during the course.



Thank you to our Chenango Valley High School families for continuing to build strong school-home connections at our September 24 Open House!

Photo Prov



Jennifer Ostrander principal, CV High School

# **High School**

### Students Explore Employment Opportunities at 'Construction and Technology Career Day'

Chenango Valley High School students had the chance to learn firsthand about exciting career prospects in the fields of construction and technology. Among approximately 600 students from around the region who participated in this year's "Con-Tech Construction and Technology Career Day" at the Broome County Highway Department on October 2, Chenango Valley students put on their hard hats and prepared for an insightful day. Whether learning directly from skilled professionals and trade displays, watching heavy equipment demonstrations or directly operating equipment under supervision; the event helped to inspire students to continue pursuing their current interests and exposed them to a variety of additional opportunities to further explore. Thank you to those who helped to make this event possible!



#### Interact Club Builds Community Connections Through 'Ramp It Up' Project

Members of the Chenango Valley High School Interact Club recently helped to build a ramp to assist a local resident. In early September, members of the Interact Club and Hillcrest Rotary Club teamed up with Broome County Council of Churches' Faith in Action program for a "Ramp It Up" project at a Binghamton home. During the project, the "Ramp It Up" crew created a ramp that will help to provide easier access to the resident's home. Through teamwork and compassion, the group also built community connections. This was the Interact Club's first project of the school year. With more than 150 students expressing interest in being part of the club this year, the group plans to keep providing ample services to the community.



#### **Chenango Valley Students Learn about Driving Safety**

CV High School students received important lessons about safe driving practices on October 10. During the "Teen Traffic Safety Day" event at the Floyd L. Maines Veterans Memorial Arena, students listened to a presenter share driving safety information and then participated in hands-on traffic safety activities that showed the impact being impaired or distracted could have on one's ability to drive properly. Students also took part in a "Battle of the Belts" contest, competing with other schools to buckle their seat belts fastest. With an average of 37.5 seconds, CV was deemed the 2019 "Battle of the Belts" champions! Thank you to all who helped to make this educational event possible!





Chenango Valley Central School District 221 Chenango Bridge Rd. Binghamton, NY 13901

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# Believe It! Achieve It! At Chenango Valley, Where Warriors Excel!



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