



Stallion News

Carbon Valley Academy's Online Newsletter

January 2008

Special Activities on Last Day of School before Winter Break

Carbon Valley Academy students were treated to special activities on the last day of school before Winter Break, December 20th. The elementary school students watched the popular *Polar Express* movie in the gym.

Middle School students participated in an all day Ski Trip to Eldora Mountain Resort. Students were able to choose between skiing and snowboarding and were also able to sign up for lessons. The weather was ideal for a day on the slopes. The first CVA ski day was a big success and enjoyed by all! As Principal Trautwein points out in his letter this month, this may be the start of a new tradition at CVA.



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From Principal Auer’s Desk

CVA Family,

Thank you for supporting all of the holiday festivities this year. So many people put in numerous hours to assure a memorable holiday season.

Looking forward, we have a jam packed spring semester ahead. Administratively, we will be preparing for the logistics of CSAP testing, finalizing our charter renewal process with the St. Vrain Board of Education, negotiating our annual contract, finishing our 2008/09 budget and staffing plan, setting up summer school plans, recruiting staff, and participating in the annual Board retreat.

So far this year, I have logged over 55 classroom observation hours and plan to continue spending as much time in classrooms as possible. Getting into classrooms and working along side teachers and students confirms to me that our curricular and instructional program is really starting to gel. I am proud of their hard work!

Once we come back on January 7th, we have 12 weeks of school until Spring Break (March 31 — April 4) and from there 7 weeks until the last day of school (May 23). The efficiency of each instructional day is vital. Did you know that if a student misses 5 minutes of school each day they loose 14.6 hours per school year? That equates to over two full days of school. Calculate that out over a K–5 career and that is two plus weeks of school. Obviously students are not grinding out academic tasks every minute between 8 am and 3 pm and so much more rounds out a great school experience. That being said, we have a lot of work to do this spring – let’s make it as productive as possible.

Happy New Year,
Chad Auer

Kid Joke of the Month:

What did the grape say when it got run over by Mr. Auer’s truck?
Nothing, it just let out a little wine.

Did you know . . .



. . . There are no limits to the number of charter schools that can be opened in the State of Colorado and the number of charter schools continues to grow. In the Fall of 1996, there were 32 charter schools in Colorado with a student membership of 28,785. By the Fall of 2006, there were 142 charter schools in Colorado with a student membership of 52,332. That’s an 82% increase in student membership in just 10 years!

From Secondary Principal Trautwein's Desk

Dear Students and Parents:

I hope the New Year finds you well. As we start 2008 we are looking forward to many changes at CVA, namely we are hoping to see the development of the new Secondary Academy. On January 9th, the St. Vrain Valley School Board will hold an open meeting to discuss the proposed Secondary Academy. At this time the public is invited to talk about their opinions and give support for the new school. I hope that you will join us to show that the Secondary Academy will be a place for our CVA students to continue their excellent education as they prepare for college and their lives after high school.

The middle school has a few new changes now. We have new, bigger, lockers. Thanks to all the volunteers that helped put them together, they look great! As the second semester starts we will be changing to our new schedule. Students will be in their core classes every day for an hour. Students will also continue to have Physical Education, Health, and Art. We will be adding Spanish and Flex, a class that will be used to work on academic skills such as studying, organization, test taking and many of the skills required to be a successful student.

At the end of the first semester we took our Middle School Ski Trip, and I am pleased to say that it was enjoyed by everyone. Thank you to the parents, teachers and volunteers that made this trip a success. Many have expressed that this is a trip worth repeating, and so we will look into another appropriate time to take such a trip. We might have just started a new CVA tradition!

The beginning of this year has been wonderful for me. Never have I felt so welcomed into a learning community. Thank you to all my students, their families and the staff here at CVA for making me feel so welcome. My "door" is always open and if you wish to stop by and talk about school, your child or what the future holds, please feel free to do so.

Thank you so much and Happy New Year,

Paul W Trautwein

Principal, Carbon Valley Secondary Academy

Important Dates

January 1st – Happy New Year!

January 7th – 1st day back to school after Winter Break; Start of 3rd Quarter

January 9th – St. Vrain Valley School Board open meeting to discuss proposed Carbon Valley Secondary Academy. Please attend the meeting to show your support for the new Secondary Academy (see letter at left).

January 11th – Report cards go home in Friday Folders

January 21st – Martin Luther King Day – No School!



This time of year there is always the possibility that a heavy snow storm will necessitate the closing of school. Please check the website and local TV and radio stations for school closure information.