



Carmel Valley Middle School

A Proud Member of the San Dieguito Union High School District

September 11th, 2020

Message from the Principal

Happy Friday CVMS Families,

As mentioned in last week's letter, while we endure distance learning, we at CVMS remain fully committed to continuing building community and fostering student connectedness. To kick things off, the CVMS ASB is working on an awesome Welcome Week which you can preview [here!](#) Once finalized, the [Welcome Week Calendar](#) will include links to fun student activities and will remain accessible in our newsletters, [website](#), and CVMS Learning Commons Classroom. Hosted by media center technician Ian Richards, the [CVMS Learning Commons Classroom](#) is another great way to stay involved and connected to your classmates. Here you'll find book recommendations, daily trivia, discussion topics and much more. Click [here](#) to join or contact ian.richards@sduhsd.net for a class code.

Remaining connected in the classroom (and to your teachers) is extremely important for overall wellness, and students are encouraged to use each other's district emails as a method to collaborate and communicate. Click [here](#) to learn how to better utilize district email within your Google Classroom. On a similar note, the revised [Middle School Distance Learning Schedule](#) should help students and families use this support time more effectively. As you'll see the student support time at the end of each day now specifies what day(s) departments or teachers will be available to students.

Student clubs will also run this year and are a great opportunity to share common interests or make new friends. Additional information and instructions on how to start a club will be included in next week's newsletter .

Finally, your feedback on our progress to date is highly valued and encouraged. Please use the [CVMS Distance Learning Parent Engagement Survey](#) to let us know

Upcoming Events

9/16	Virtual Back To School Night
9/18	Chat with Chuck (Interim Principal)
9/21-25	Welcome Week
9/28	NO SCHOOL

General News & Information

Live Chat with Interim Principal Adams

Interim Principal Chuck Adams will host this school year's first Chat with Chuck on September 18th at 9:00am in order to directly engage with parents and community members. Please click [here](#) to [join](#) and the meeting link will also be posted on the [CVMS website](#) the morning of the event. Future chats will include additional times outside of normal school hours in an effort to accommodate more families.

Band and Orchestra Instrument Distribution

Monday, September 14th from 1:00 - 4:00 PM. The CVMS music program has a limited number of instruments. Please check your email for the instrument loan agreement forms.

CVMS Yearbook

Thank you for the first day of school submissions to the yearbook. We are now looking for photos of summer travels (or stay-at-home-summer fun). Please email your photo with a brief description and your child's name/grade to angela.halpin@sduhsd.net. We will accept these photos through September 18th.

CVMS Fall Sports

The Boys & Girls Club is offering a "training only" season for girls volleyball, cross country, flag football, and golf. If you are interested please register before September 21st on the [Boys & Girls Club website](#).

what is and isn't working. If you have any trouble accessing the survey, please feel free to email me your feedback directly. The CVMS leadership team will be reviewing this feedback in preparation for the September 16th asynchronous virtual Back to School Night presentations and a synchronous (live) Chat with Chuck on September 18th via Google Meets. Please see the General News and Information section for details.

Finally, as a native New Yorker I'd be remiss to not acknowledge today's date. This quote struck me as relevant to current times and reminds me of the selfless acts I've witnessed by our teachers, students and community as we support each other through this challenging time.

"9/11. A day to remember that extraordinary heroes are often disguised as ordinary people and that spirit and soul are unbreakable." - Stacey Alcorn

Have a great weekend Bobcats,

Chuck Adams
CVMS Interim Principal

Message from the Assistant Principal

We are just about to wrap up our first round of STAR testing with a 99% completion rate. Thank you to our students and families for your diligence. The data collected will help drive our instruction in the months to come.

Instrument materials distribution for Band and Orchestra students will take place on Monday, September 14th from 1:00 - 4:00 PM. The CVMS music program has a limited number of instruments. Please check your email for the instrument loan agreement forms from Mr. Drechsel. As you arrive on campus, please ensure that your student's name (last, first) is prominently displayed on the front window. Proceed up Mykonos Lane and turn right into the side parking lot and proceed around the back side of campus to the music building. A staff member wearing PPE will approach the vehicle and place all materials in the trunk or backseat. Please help everyone stay safe by observing all social distancing rules, remaining in your car at all times, and wearing a mask if you open the car window.

Adam Bishop
CVMS Interim Assistant Principal

Tech Help for English Language Learners

Common Sense Media has created [Media Supports for Parents](#) which includes several short tutorials covering a variety of topics.

CVMS Spirit Wear Now On Sale!

Please visit the [ASB Webstore](#) where you'll find lots of awesome Bobcat gear and items. Email Mrs. Pike directly at patricia.pike@sduhsd.net to coordinate pickup.

PTSA News

Calling all families who are sad their house will NOT be turned into a Haunted House this year for Halloween. *Fear not*, your PTSA may have a solution for you! That's all I can say for now but if you want to learn more send me an email at rweale@gmail.com!

We are still missing one member for the PTSA Board to help with communications. If you are interested please email the PTSA President at rweale@gmail.com.

We need your help! As we have not had many of the usual school kick off events we only have 10% of our usual membership and funds to help support the school and our children. [Come join the PTSA!](#)

Double the impact of your donation (or more!) through your employer and an employee corporate matching program. Please check with your employer for details.

We are in this together!

Counseling Update

Did your student complete an assignment but not receive credit? This might be due to the simple fact that while they completed the assignment, they didn't press the "submit" button and/or attach the required documents. Analogous to completing the assignment but then forgetting it in your binder instead of turning it in!

As the school work begins to increase a bit, it is important for students to be organized. Please ensure your students are utilizing their CVMS agenda (or a preferred organization method) to plan for dues date and maintain a balanced workload.

AERIES is an easy tool to keep track of your student's progress. Both parents and students should check it often, typically a few times a week, to see student grades, test/quiz scores etc. If there are concerns, students should reach out to their teacher via email (with a copy to parent/guardian) or during support time, for clarification. This helps them develop critical self-advocacy skills as well as increasing their investment in their classes.

Your CVMS School Counselors,

Karen Infantino
Carsen Murt

Repeated News

[CVMS Weekly News 9-4-2020](#)

[CVMS Weekly News 8-28-20](#)

[CVMS Distance Learning and Tips for Success](#)

Need Headphones for Google Meets?

We've all noticed the benefits of using headphones while distance learning. The amazing CVMS PTSA would like to purchase headphones for students. If you are in need, please complete this [short survey](#).

School Meals

[Distance Learning School Meals Info \(Spanish\)](#)

[School Meal Pick Up Locations and Times](#)

Free and Reduced Lunch

The application deadline has been extended to October 7th, 2020. Families can apply [online](#) or download the application in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

Attendance Reminder

Just like during regular on campus instruction, if your student will be absent from a class or the entire day please email cvattendance@sduhsd.net in advance.

Touchscreen Chromebooks for all Students

On Tuesday, August 18th, our Board of Trustees took action to purchase 13,000 Chromebooks in an effort to create equity and access for all students. Additionally, this will provide a common platform for both teachers and students to navigate distance learning.

Current Chromebook Troubleshooting

If you are experiencing [connectivity problems](#) with your District issued Chromebook (i.e. losing connection while in a Google Meet) shut it down completely then power it back on. This should automatically install the required updates to get you back up and running. You should fully shut down the Chromebook each evening to ensure updates are automatically installed. If this does not resolve the issue please email ian.richards@sduhsd.net.

RESOURCES

Social Emotional Supports

[Care Solace Local Counseling Referrals](#)
[Coping Strategies](#)
[Each Mind Matters - Mental Health Supports](#)
[Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services](#)

Technology & Instructional Resources

[Media Supports for Parents](#)
[Aeries Communications Troubleshooting](#)
[SDUHSD Tech Hub Page](#)
[The Essentials To Getting Started](#)
[SDUHSD Middle School Distance Learning Schedule](#)
[CVMS 1st Quarter Instructional Calendar](#)

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