



Carmel Valley Middle School

A Proud Member of the San Dieguito Union High School District

August 28th, 2020

Message from the Principal

Happy Friday CVMS Families!

Well we've made it through our first week of distance learning, and we did it together. I cannot overstate how incredibly proud I am of our engaged students, prepared staff, and supportive community. Despite the challenges of planning for a distance learning opening, this week not only met, but often exceeded my expectations. The SDUHSD continues to monitor the latest guidance to ensure we are delivering a meaningful instructional model while keeping student safety the priority. Our school leadership team will further define the supports within the Student Support Time in our [Distance Learning Bell Schedule](#) to ensure there are clear expectations on how this time can be used with flexibility, efficiency and to foster student connectedness. .

A round of applause for the tremendous work from our interim Assistant Principal, Adam Bishop. Adam was preparing to teach 11th & 12th grade English at the San Dieguito High School Academy before he received the nod for his first opportunity in school administration. He has been instrumental in organizing our distribution efforts, upcoming assessments, ISPE, and fostering student connectedness. CVMS is extremely fortunate to have Adam on our team.

Finally, thank you to all the parents who sent our staff positive feedback and words of encouragement this week. This has been the most trying time in many of our careers, your support means the world to us, and we are honored to serve this community. I hope you find the contents of this week's newsletter informative and if you have not done so already please read the [District Welcome Back Letter](#).

Sincerely,

Chuck Adams
CVMS Interim Principal

Upcoming Events

8/28	Textbook Distribution 10am-2pm
8/31 & 9/1	STAR Math Assessment
9/3 & 9/4	STAR Reading Assessment
TBD	Back to school night

General News & Information

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.

The new Chromebooks are called "2-in-1 laptops" since they function as a laptop in a traditional sense, but the screen may also fold around to use as a tablet instead. A stylus (pen) is also used with the laptop to aid in its touchscreen capabilities. The stylus can be used for activities such as taking notes, writing, drawing, annotating PDF's, and writing math equations. Details to come regarding projected arrival dates and distribution.

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.

CVMS Yearbook

Dear Bobcat Families,

The CVMS Yearbook Staff needs your help this year with photos for the yearbook, and we'd love your submissions and participation!

The first story we'd like to tell is that of the first day of school. This year's start looked a bit different than ones from the past, and we'd like to make sure we record this part of history. Please submit two photos: one from this school year's first day, and one from an elementary first day. With these photos, please include your child's first and last name, and the grade/location for each first-day photo. Please email your submissions to angela.halpin@sduhsd.net.

Thank you so much for your support - Go Bobcats!!!
Angela Halpin - Yearbook Adviser

Counseling Update

Welcome back from all of us in the counseling office. We hope that our Bobcats had a wonderful first week, and we wish you much success throughout the school year.

As a reminder your student's counselor is as follows:

- Last Name A-G: Carsen Murt
- Last Name H-Z: Karen Infantino

Please email us if you need to change your student's Math or English placement. Changes will be made on a space available basis prior to September 29th. If you would like to request a family meeting via Google Meets or phone, please contact us. As always please don't hesitate to reach out with anything else you might need.

We know that this can be a very stressful time for our families, and so it is important to take care of ourselves and each other. In addition to the [CVMS Counseling Page](#) which contains many helpful resources, the district also created a [Virtual Calm Room](#). It contains things like sounds and music, visual relaxation, mindfulness, games support resources, and much more.

Your CVMS School Counselors,

Karen and Carsen
karen.infantino@sduhsd.net
carsen.murt@sduhsd.net

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.

CVMS Spirit Wear Now On Sale!

Please visit the [ASB Webstore](#) where you'll find lots of awesome Bobcats gear and email patricia.pike@sduhsd.net to coordinate pickup.

Distance Learning Announcement

During this first quarter your student will be participating in distance learning. Teachers will be working with your student through both synchronous and asynchronous learning. Although this is not an exhaustive list, at times students should expect to participate in virtual classroom activities such as:

- Use of camera for attendance
- Participation in breakout rooms
- Recorded sessions to be made available asynchronously for absent students.
- Upload video to demonstrate mastery

PTSA News

Now more than ever the school needs the Parent, Teacher and Student Associate PTSA to help during these challenging times! We are planning many programs and helping to fund the latest technology to support the school. To join the PTSA and possibly make a donation please visit [our website](#).

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 still need volunteers...

REFLECTIONS: This year's [Reflections](#) art competition theme is "I Matter Because..." and we need volunteers to help run it.

PTSA Board: We are also missing 2 volunteers for the PTSA Board. One for Communications and the other to help coordinate Volunteers. If you are interested in any of these 3 roles please email the PTSA President at rweale@gmail.com.

Repeated News

Beginning of Year Assessments

As you may know, CVMS uses STAR assessments to help teachers understand what students know and are ready to learn. Because we are currently unable to test students at school, students should expect to take the first STAR assessments in Reading and Math during the second week of school: The baseline STAR Math assessment will be administered in all Math classes on either Monday, August 31 or Tuesday, September 1. The STAR Reading assessment will be administered in all English classes on Thursday, September 3 and Friday, September 4. The first assessment will establish a baseline of each student's learning status as they enter 7th and 8th grades. Teachers will provide students with additional instructions prior to the assessments next week.

[CVMS Community Update August 20th, 2020](#)
[CVMS Distance Learning and Tips for Success](#)

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

[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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