

Corvallis High School

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE; PREPARATION FOR THE FUTURE

Greetings Parents,

For this newsletter we thought we'd take a closer look at several topics/issues, giving you an update.

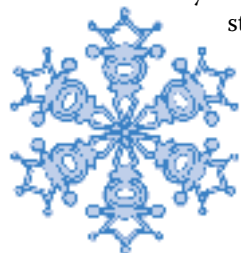
Drinking/ drugs—If you've been living in a cave the last 20 years, we'd like to inform you that students today are bombarded with messages from media, from community and their peers that say "you'll be really cool if you drink (beer, wine, hard liquor) and if you smoke grass." And once they experience the escape and high, they are easily subject to the pressure of "getting a bigger hit" from meth or other powder drugs. We have our rules and expectations in place—drugs and alcohol at school will get the users suspended for 10 days and sellers will get expelled. Athletes will be suspended from play (from 3 weeks for the 1st offense to permanently for a 3rd offense). Parents need to have **confidence** that drawing clear expectations and holding your children accountable will help those students make better decisions and, ultimately, be safe. Thanks for your work with us on this ongoing problem

Dancing—(close your eyes if you don't want to be offended) "Tweaking" or "backing up the bus" are a couple of names for dance styles that we have said are not acceptable at school dances. We just finished a very well-attended winter formal (except for some who stayed away in respectful protest for our line-drawing) and we're working proactively to make the dances great fun and respectful for all. That means that students who are "inappropriately intertwined" are asked to "cool" their action or leave. We're asking students to choose music that doesn't tend to evoke such demonstrative dances. We also know that every generation wants to break new ground in showing their independence from their parents—dress, dancing, music, etc.

Class size—With the passage of the operation levy in November, the district is looking at specific targets for reducing class size in high schools—math, science, language arts and social studies. Please realize that those reductions will not take place until next year when the levy takes effect. We are looking at our spring semester classes to address large classes, within this year's budget. Please stay tuned.

Sports—new classification/ wins and losses—We are very proud of our sports program because of the life skills they reinforce in students and the value they add to their high school experience. Wins and losses are not the measurement of success in those areas. However, with this year's new classification system, we have been competing against schools that are our size, rather than the giant schools (1700-2000 students) that Salem and metropolitan Portland have. Congratulations to the students and coaches who achieved unprecedented "win/loss success" this year and thanks to parents and community for their support.

Responsibility— "life skills" at the 9th grade—"Safety, Respect, Responsibility"—those are key values we use to guide our expectations for students and staff. At this time of year, the focus for all of us—you as parents, included—is helping our students realize they are "responsible" for doing the work, attending class, studying hard and earning their grades. As parents, you play a vital role in reinforcing "**responsibility**" with your students. You need to give your students: 1) encouragement, 2) structured time, 3) clear expectations, and 4) appreciation.



Thank you to all of you for "teaching" me these five years—I have been truly blessed with caring friends, lots of straight-talk input, a wonderful, hardworking staff, and "kids" with great "gifts", great potential to learn and to help our world in the years ahead. Have a peaceful, joyful, winter break.

Best wishes,

—Jay Conroy, Principal

December 2006



January 2007

Dates to Remember

- Dec 6 Spaghetti Feed @ 6 pm
- Dec 13 Site Council Meeting
- Dec 13 Financial Night @ 7 pm
- Dec 14 Winter Concert @ 7:30 pm
- Dec 14 Parent Connection noon
- Dec 18 Winter Music Assembly
- Dec 20 Tea party for ex-Seniors
- Dec 25 - Jan 5 **NO SCHOOL**
- Jan 10 Site Council Meeting
- Jan 12 MLK Assembly
- Jan 15 **NO SCHOOL**
- Jan 18 Parent Connection noon
- Jan 30-31 **FINALS**

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2007 Senior All Night Party!

The SANP is broken into four core groups, each with an Executive Chair. They are: *Activities/Decorations* - Ellen Derocher (CV), *Operations* - Julie Gardner (CV), *Funding* - Linda Amedo (CHS), *Publications* - Jackie Hastings (CHS). I'm hopeful that throughout the year the four executive chairs can meet up to coordinate our areas, then meet individually with our own groups, then the individual chairs can meet with the people they are working with. If we can keep this communication system working, we can avoid having everyone attend meetings that cover topics not relevant to what they are doing. We are currently booked in the CV library the first Monday of every month at 7 pm (except January it's the second Monday). We'll adjust who should attend as we go along, but please keep that date open as we move forward.

Thanks to EVERYONE for volunteering. This is going to be a lot of work, a lot of fun, and a great event for our kids!

Seniors

You should have ordered your caps and gowns by now. If you did not receive a packet in the mail or your advisor, see Mrs. Gullede as soon as possible. Also, if you did not check your name for spelling mistakes, please check with Mrs. Gullede.

All night party tickets are still on sale. Get yours in the Counseling Center. Next big event for Seniors is the potluck in the spring.

Corvallis Youth Symphony Concert

Sunday, December 10, 2006 at 3:00 pm, the Corvallis Youth Symphony will be joined by CYS alumnus and Oregon Symphony cellist, Adam Esbensen for their winter concert at LaSells Stewart Center.

The concert will include Vivaldi's *Cello Concerto*, featuring Adam Esbensen; works by Misner, Glazounow, Kabelevsky; and Dvorak's *Cello Concerto Op. 104*, again, featuring Adam Esbensen on cello.

Tickets are \$10 and are available at Gracewinds, or \$12 at the door. Student tickets or \$2 or free with an adult.

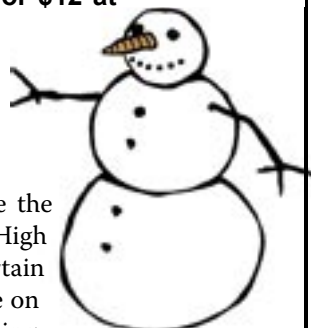
Winter Concert
Thursday, Dec 14
7:30 in the auditorium

Exchange Students

Every other year, the CHS and CV student bodies have the opportunity to host exchange students from Nichidai High School in Tokyo, Japan. This year it's our turn to house/entertain the (25) students coming (23 girls and 2 boys.) They arrive on the afternoon of Wednesday, March 21st and leave the morning of Monday, March 26th. Traditionally, we recruit (13) host families who are willing to invite into their homes two of the Japanese students to stay with them during the week long visit. We suggest that the host families have:

- (1) a student currently enrolled @ CHS (this makes it more comfortable/practical for them to shadow that CHS student to classes on Wednesday through Friday)
- (2) space for them to sleep comfortably (extra beds and/or bedroom)
- (3) willingness to feed/entertain them for the five day visit (which includes a Saturday and Sunday.)

More in-depth details will be provided (as they firm up and become available.) However, please contact Sherry Faller in the main office (757-5872) if you have questions and/or are interested in being a host family. Thanks!



School attendance areas/transfers—New online application process

Student transfer requests for the 2007-08 school year may be submitted for all schools for grades 1-12 beginning on the first day of school in November and must be received by 5:00 on Friday, January 19, 2007.

Transfer requests should be made through the new online application process and may be accessed through the Corvallis School District website at <http://www.csd509j.net>. If you do not have access at home, free internet access is available at the district office, 1555 SW 35th Street, or at the Corvallis Public Library. For more information or assistance, please call Bernadette Feyerherm at 757-5811.

Transfer requests for the 2007-08 kindergarten program (also made online) may be submitted beginning on the first day of school in February and must be received by the second Friday in March. Requests for kindergarten transfers will be approved unless the school's enrollment capacity has been met.

All applications will be assigned a random number for consideration rather than a "first come first served" basis. If transfer requests outnumber the space available in a school as the school's enrollment capacity has been met, a lottery will be held using the random number assigned to the request. Applications received after the deadline will be added to a waiting list in the order they are received.

2006-07 Yearbook Fees

August through December 15 \$45
 January 8- March 23. \$50
 After spring break until distribution \$55
 At the yearbook signing party \$60

Yearbooks are limited, buy early and guarantee that you will get one. Please save yourself and the yearbook staff money and order early!

BEYOND CHS - Life after High School

Financial Night

Financial Aid Night will be held at CHS on December 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. The Associate Director of Financial Aid at Western Oregon will go over options for parents as well as applying for financial aid through FAFSA. This event is open to all students and parents but is particularly helpful to seniors and their parents.

Tea for Returning College Freshmen & CHS Students

Beyond CHS will hold a tea for seniors and first year college students on December 20 at 1:30 p.m. in Beyond CHS. This is a good opportunity to have seniors talk with students who are at college about their choices and get first hand info from our college freshmen. Please let your seniors know and any college freshmen that you have contact with, we'd love to see them. If you would like to donate cookies, please let Nancy in Beyond CHS know or e-mail her at Nancy.Shaffer@corvallis.k12.or.us.

College Applications

Applications and Essays—College applications should now be sent or nearly ready to go. If your students need help with their applications or essays, please have them bring their downloaded paper copy to Beyond CHS for help. Beyond CHS has many gifted volunteers and we enjoy helping your students through this complicated process. We encourage you to ask your student to come in for help with applications, resumes, their essays, etc.

Financial Aid—If your student is applying for private colleges, make sure that you have completed the CSS Profile if it is required. This is a financial form different from the FAFSA that can be completed now and sent to the colleges. Go to collegeboard.com to see if this form is required for the schools that your child is applying. This can and should be done now, FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) cannot be done until after January 1, 2007.

Transcripts—There seems to still be confusion around applying for college and transcripts. Virtually all schools require a transcript which is the official record of classes taken and grades received along with the standardized test scores. If your student is applying on line to colleges, they still need to order a transcript from Beyond CHS and send it to the college. The first two are free, additional transcripts are \$2 each payable at the time they are ordered. It takes approximately four days to get a transcript so students and parents need to plan ahead. Many of our students believe that they should apply to college on the day of the deadline and they don't have time to get a transcript. Colleges welcome students applying well before the deadline. This is not early action or early decision it is just getting everything to a college in a timely manner. Last minute rushes result in applications and essays not being well done and can result in not getting as much money in scholarships had they used more care and sent it in earlier.

OSU applications— not only is the scholarship application important but the insight resume is extremely important for scholarships. All of the questions need to be answered thoughtfully, they are scored and are part of the scholarship application.

Letters of recommendation—Teachers and counselors need three weeks to do a letter of recommendation, again, please plan ahead.

Juniors

Juniors should start registering for the SAT and ACT. Most juniors will take them in April, May and June. These spaces fill up quickly so for the SAT go to collegeboard.com and for the ACT go to ACT.org. Questions, come to Beyond CHS. We recommend that students take all of their exams this year so that they can concentrate on their applications in the fall.

Beyond CHS

Beyond CHS is open and ready for students with many great volunteers. We are working our way through seniors but everyone is always welcome including parents. Below is the current list of college visits. Students should check with us as we are adding more schools weekly. If a student is interested in these visits, there is a sign-up book upon entering Beyond CHS.

Beyond CHS Printer Needed

If you work for HP, please consider making a contribution to Beyond CHS through the employee purchase program. For a donation of \$125, HP will match with \$375. With this donation, Beyond CHS would have a networked printer that would provide all of the printing needs of the four old printers that are breaking down daily.

We would like to have an HP LaserJet 1320N or at least a 1022N. The N is important because it can be networked. The approximate cost is about \$499.99.

Final Exams

The end of term finals schedule will be the same as last year.

Monday, Jan 29 – ALL

no finals, 45 min class periods

Tuesday, Jan 30 – EVEN

teachers may schedule finals for even periods in the 95 min block

Wednesday, Jan 31 - ODD

Teachers may schedule finals for odd periods in the 95 min block

Thursday/Friday, Feb 1/2

No School, Teacher prep- Prof Development

CHS SPARTAN SPORTS



Plan Ahead for Spring Sports

If you are planning to participate in a sport this Spring and have not participated in a Fall or Winter sport, please plan to get a physical scheduled with your physician. The needed paperwork is outside the athletic office. This would apply to those students who do not have a physical on file from last year. If you have any questions, please ask now. Don't wait until the last minute: we will start clearing Spring athletes on Monday, February 5, 2007!

Congratulations to All the Fall Athletes

All six sports participated in OSAA post season events. Following are the all-league recipients for Fall season:

Girls Soccer

Player of the Year: Tori Johnson
1st Team: Katey Borman; McKenzie Redberg; Maya Heck; Tori Johnson
2nd Team: Kristen Louthan; Madeline Thompson
Honorable Mention: Anna Erway; Lani Penner

Boys Soccer

1st Team: Nic Amedo; Colter Millehrer; Wade Penner
2nd Team: Mitch Duncombe; Ben Madrigal



Volleyball

1st Team: Dannielle Pimental
3rd Team: Sam Pimental
Honorable Mention: Tamiko Perry; Taylor Westly

Football

1st Team: Frank Porter (Defense); Peter Lee (Defense); Wade Penner (kicker/punter); Tyson Owens (Offense); Jordan Fred (Offense); Matt Kelly (Offense)
2nd Team: Cody Torbett (Offense); Teddy Badege (Offense); Drew Hubel (Offense); Shane Durando (Offense); Curtis Dodson (Defense); Tyson Owens (Defense); Cameron Hein (Defense)
3rd Team: Coty Krebs (Defense); David Porter (Defense); Matt Phillips (Defense); Chris Rath (Offense);
Honorable Mention: Brad Smith; Daryl Watkins; Evan Hilberg; Matt Phillips

Cross Country

1st Team: Malory Peterson; Zeke Van Patten; Logan Storie
2nd Team: Jen Johnson; Sarah Batten; Riley Shear; Brad Nelson
3rd Team: Jaclyn Rushing; Amy Birdseye; Max Gorchels



Boys and Girls Clubhouse Programs

(Open to all MEMBERS, grades K – 12)

The Clubhouse After-School Program

2:45 pm to 7:00 pm Monday – Friday. Fee: \$25 • The Club's membership year runs from Sept. 1 through Aug. 31

The Clubhouse Non-School Days

9:00 am to 6:00 pm. • Fee: \$25 per day • \$10 early bird discount • Current membership is required • Registration forms for Sept. 29, Oct. 13, 25 -27 and Nov. 10 will be available early September.

Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 9 am – 5:30 pm • Phone: 541-757-1909



Parent Connection Visioning Process January 18

The Thursday, January 18, Parent Connection meeting (7 p.m. to 9 p.m.) will be devoted to the School District's Visioning Process, a facilitated discussion during which CHS parent participants will be asked to share their views on educational goals within our school and school district. This is a district-wide effort, but this meeting is just for CHS parents. Participants will be asked three guiding questions:

- What knowledge and skills do we believe our students need to possess?
- What learning experiences and opportunities should we provide for our students?
- What kind of culture are we committed to fostering in our district?

If you would like to participate in the January 18 Visioning Process meeting, please contact Marge Alig at mvalig@comcast.net ASAP.

Parent Connection Dates

Meetings will be held in Beyond CHS, room 120
 * note change in times

December 14.....noon
 January 18 **7:00 pm**
 February 15 **noon**
 March 15.....noon
 April 19 noon
 May 17.....noon

The Leadership and VELA Students

are sponsoring Community spaghetti feed dinner on Wednesday, Dec 6 from 6:00-8:00 PM in the cafeteria



Dinner is free - NO CHARGE!

School Closures

For the quickest early morning information about late starts and school closures, you can sign up on FlashAlert.net. We use an electronic service called FlashNews to alert radio and TV station about late starts and closures. FlashAlert.net is a companion website where parents and staff may register email and/or cell phone text message address(es) and receive 509J emergency messages at the same time they are sent to the media. To register for FlashAlert.net, simply visit www.flashalert.net and click on *"Subscribe to receive news from participating organizations."*

Immunizations

Oregon State Law requires that all students in the system have certain immunizations in order to attend school. Letters have already gone out to the homes of students who are not in compliance with the law. Students will be excluded from school in February if they do not have the required vaccines. Please call Cindy Gullede in the health room at 757-5910 if you have questions. Another round of letters will go out next week.

Guidelines for student visitors

- Visitation is not allowed if the guest student lives within 60 miles of Corvallis (Valley League principal's agreement).
- The guest must be of high school age and a "student in good standing" at their school.
- A "Visitor's Request Form" must be completed by the host student at least 24 hours prior to the visit (available in the main office).
- Any violation of school guidelines during the visit may result in both students being sent home.

Attendance

CHS needs your help in reporting absences. If your child has been or will be absent, please call the CHS Attendance Office at 757-5888 as soon as possible. If you do not call, the computer will record your child's absence as unexcused. After 48 hours, absences cannot be excused. Notes are not accepted in place of a phone call.

Absences may be excused at the request of a student's parent/guardian because of illness, disability, illness in the immediate family requiring the student's presence, a family emergency, religious reasons or anything the school deems appropriate (up to 5 pre-arranged absences per semester). Students who are eighteen years old may request their own absences be excused.

Encourage your child to attend all classes; but if a class is missed, clear excused absences in a timely fashion by calling to give the exact date of absence, clock or period of absence and please spell the student's last name clearly.

Do you still get a phone call from the "Automated" call system? - even AFTER you have called the Attendance line to excuse your student? Please be aware that when you have called to excuse your student from being absent for a certain period class, your student still may have missed another class the same day, in which the Automated phone system will dial out for the class that is left unexcused.

Attendance Information

Please make arrangements with your student(s) prior to school hours about doctor and orthodontic appointments, as well as any other medical or non-medical appointments. Unless there is an emergency - all notes will be posted on student lockers as we try to avoid "reminder" notes to students. It disrupts class time.

An "Attendance Record" is posted outside of the Attendance Office. This record shows the student's attendance for the previous day and current day. If you receive an "Automated" telephone call stating that your student has missed one or more classes, please have your student check the attendance record to see which teacher marked them absent. If this was an error the student and teacher can resolve it. I look forward to another great year! Thank you for your cooperation.

Wish List

For the OFFICE staff:

- Additional funds to help with printing/copying charges
- Printer cartridges (HP black and colored ink jet cartridges for 15, 25, 26, 41, 45)
- Additional funds to help pay for: parking permits, school supplies, Yearbooks, etc.
- A rolling cart for the office
- A whiteboard on a stand
- 8 ½ by 11 white photocopy paper

For the LRC staff:

- \$ Money for copying costs \$ •
- Computer printer paper
- Simple calculators
- Tissues
- Sets of white board markers for four teachers
- 3 boxes legal size envelopes
- Colored file folders
- From the educational store next to Rice's: 4 – Big Time Learning Clocks

For Basic Shop, Beg. and Adv. Woods, Auto and Metals, Vehicle Design and Material Science Tech. classes (contact - Andy collins@corvallis.k12.or.us):

- Start up money to help develop Industrial Plastics activities
- Furniture grade lumber: Pine, oak, walnut, maple etc.
- Metric Tap and Die Set with case - \$50.00
- New Table Saw Guard - \$400.00
- Stain Glass Scraps
- Stain Glass Tools
- Glass Grinder - \$85
- 25 Dust Masks, Disposable - .50 each
- Centrifugal Caster for metal casting - \$580.00

Fall Success News

Welcome to our fall 2006 Success Report. We have so much to show and tell about what our students are learning, thanks to a great staff and a supportive community. Here are several highlights from the past year.

—Dawn Tarzian, Superintendent

High Schools

- ❖ Out of 141 students across the country who were named Presidential Scholars by the U.S. Department of Education, nine were Corvallis School District seniors.
- ❖ 2006 high school graduates received more than \$7 million in scholarship offers.
- ❖ This fall over 800 high school students were enrolled in advanced placement classes, up about 30% from last year.
- ❖ One of our high school robotics teams placed second in regional finals for the Pacific Northwest and for the Sacramento/Davis area.
- ❖ About 70% of our high school students participate in athletics and activities while maintaining an average grade point average of 3.4.
- ❖ Our high school students raised over \$62,000 to donate to charities in 2005-06.

Middle Schools

- ❖ Corvallis eighth graders scored on the average 11.4 percent higher than their peers in the state in reading, math, and science on Oregon state assessment.
- ❖ One hundred fifty-five middle school students received President's Volunteer Service Awards for 16,765 hours of community service related to their school curriculum.
- ❖ One of our middle school math teams won first place in the state Mathcounts competition.
- ❖ Three Corvallis middle school students earned perfect 800 scores on the math portion of the SAT, and were designated national winners in the John Hopkins Talent Search.

- ❖ Eighty per cent of our high school teachers have advanced college degrees.

Student Participation

Graduation Rate

Corvallis	88.3%
Oregon	81.6%

Dropout Rate

Corvallis	2.9%
Oregon	4.2%

Student Achievement

Average ACT composite scores

Corvallis	25.4%
Oregon	22.4%
Nation	21.1%

Average SAT composite scores

Corvallis	1721
Oregon	1555
Nation	1518

SAT participation rates

Corvallis	70%
Oregon	55%
Nation	48%

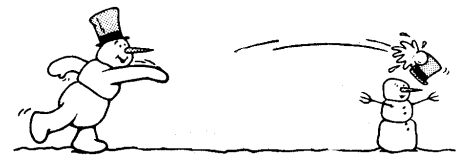
Elementary and K-8

- ❖ Corvallis fourth graders scored 15.6 percent higher than their peers across the state on the Oregon state writing assessments.
- ❖ In 2005-2006, all elementary schools met the No Child Left Behind annual yearly progress benchmark, including our two high poverty schools with large populations of English Language Learners
- ❖ Wildlife Team posters from two of our elementary schools won grand prize and reserve grand prize in state competition for educational posters for 4-H Wildlife Stewards.
- ❖ Two Corvallis elementary/K-8 students won first prizes at the state fair spelling bee in the grades K-5 and 6-8 categories.



Classified Substitutes

The Corvallis School District is actively seeking classified substitutes (classified = positions not requiring a teaching license). Help support schools and earn money by substituting as an educational assistant, clerical assistant, and/or custodian. Hours are while kids are in school and you can select the days that you are available to work. Inquire at the school office or call 757-5840.



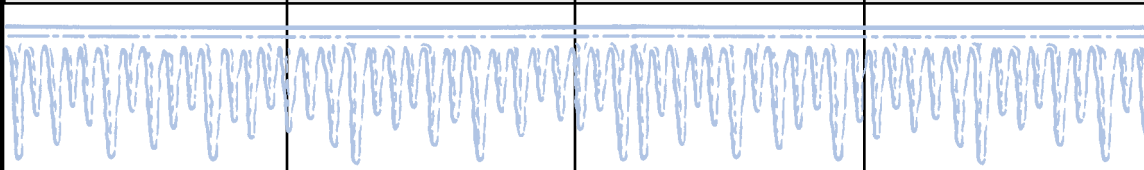
Districtwide

- ❖ The Business Services office received national recognition for excellence in financial reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association.
- ❖ Ninety-three percent of classes in the district are taught by teachers who are "highly qualified" under federal standards.
- ❖ Expansion Management Magazine rated Corvallis as one of the top public school districts in the country.

2006-07 Enrollment: 6,757 Students
Minority Population: 24%
Talented and Gifted: 25%
Free & Reduced Lunch: 34%
English Language Learners: 6.7%

Corvallis High School

December 2006

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 ALL After-Game Dance @ 9 PM
4 ODD	5 EVEN	6 ODD Staff Meeting @ 3:20 Spagetti Feed 6 pm	7 EVEN	8 ALL
11 ODD	12 EVEN	13 ODD Site Council Meeting @ 3:20 pm Financial Aid Night @ 7 pm	14 EVEN Winter Concert @ 7:30 pm Parent Connection meeting @ noon	15 ALL
18 ODD Winter Music Assembly	19 EVEN	20 ODD 'TEA' party for returning Seniors BeyondCHS - 1:30	21 EVEN	22 ALL
25 ODD	26 EVEN	27 ODD	28 EVEN	29
NO SCHOOL				

Corvallis High School

January 2007

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	2	3	4	5
NO SCHOOL				
8 ODD	9 EVEN	10 ODD Site Council meeting @ 3:30 pm	11 EVEN	12 ALL Martin Luther King Assembly
15 NO SCHOOL	16 EVEN	17 ODD Staff Meeting @ 3:20	18 EVEN Parent Connection 7 pm	19 ODD
22 ODD	23 EVEN	24 ODD	25 EVEN	26 ALL
29 ALL	30 EVEN FINALS End of 1st semester	31 ODD FINALS End of 1st semester	