Hello all! It's already February. It seems this semester is going to fly by more quickly than the last!

**February is the time when we look to fill board and committee positions for next year.** Our website, [http://www.cmhspto.com](http://www.cmhspto.com), has a description of all the positions available. Please take a moment to go online and look for something that interests you to help us next year. Sign up with a friend and share the joy! On the Volunteer page look for Job Descriptions and Committees.

**Our February meeting is “Bring a Friend.”** So join us February 4th, noon at the District Office. If you know of incoming 8th grade parents that would like to help please bring them, or bring someone new whose been thinking of ways to get involved. PTO is a wonderful way to help make a difference at our school. There will be refreshments. Please contact Sally Hybl at hyblsal@msn.com if you are interested by February 13th.

Our next two big events are the Annual District Art Show, and After Prom. The District Art Show is March 11 at CMHS. This is a very large event as it is students' artwork from all district schools. The PTO provides refreshment for about 1,100 people so we are in need of cookies, brownies and other goodies. If you can provide some of these items please contact Lynn Glatt at dlclglatt@yahoo.com.

**After Prom this year is on April 25.** We are always looking for people to help us with a variety of planning and set up, as well as volunteers for the event. This is my favorite event to help with! Not only do you get to see the students having a great time, you also meet new parents and have fun as well. Please contact Michelle Talarico, michellet@pbcatering.com

The next Principal's Coffee is February 25th, 9:30 at the District Office, please join us. If you have a student at CMHS, you are a member of the PTO! Lynn Glatt PTO President

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**Time to Get Involved!**

This newsletter is published to our website monthly throughout the school year by the Cheyenne Mountain High School PTO. Permission is granted for printing of this publication for personal use. Articles, questions or comments? Contact Melissa Hortik.
From the Principal’s Desk

We have been busily preparing to administer the state-mandated Partnership for Assessments of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) tests in March and April and we are confident that the testing will go well. At this time, we plan to tests on March 2nd, 3rd, and 4th and on April 29th, 30th and May 1st. The testing will include all students in grades nine through eleven; however, not all students will test on all days. Please see the high school website for a comprehensive testing schedule. As we prepare to administer the state-mandated tests, the Colorado General Assembly is set to discuss the current State testing requirements.

In the summer of 2014, the General Assembly established the Colorado Assessments Task Force. The Task Force was charged with determining the impact of statewide and local assessments on Colorado schools and districts. The Task Force engaged a private company to conduct a study regarding many issues that schools and districts contend with in the current testing environment. The study was conducted through online surveys sent to district superintendents for distribution to school administrators and teachers. In all, there were eighty-seven district level responses, two hundred twelve school level responses, and one thousand eight hundred teacher level responses. The results of the survey indicated, “a majority of respondents from all three levels indicated significant impacts and relatively few benefits for most assessments.” The only assessment that was deemed relevant by respondents was the ACT.

Taking the results of the survey and other factors into consideration, the Task Force has proposed changes to the present testing requirements. Suggested changes that impact Colorado secondary schools include no state-mandated testing in eleventh or twelfth grades, except the ACT for eleventh graders, allow twelfth graders the opportunity to retake the ACT, and, in the short term, fulfill the English Language/Arts and math requirements in tenth grade using current assessments. In the long term, the Task Force suggests that the tenth grade test also include science and that the testing requirements for all three subjects (ELA, math, and science) be fulfilled with an augmented ACT or some similar college-based entrance exam. There is also discussion around continuing to test social studies.

Of course, all of the suggestions have to go through the legislative process and eventually be approved by the General Assembly. The process could take some time and it is hard to tell if any of the suggestions will be adopted. However, it is good to know that the General Assembly recognizes the burden placed on schools and students under current state-mandated testing is not insignificant and that there is significant doubt that the tests provide usable data. It is also encouraging that they are at least open to the idea of change.

If you are interested in reading the complete report submitted to the Task Force, it can be found at www.cde.state.co.us/cdedecom/finalassessmentstudyreportwithappendices.

I will keep you posted as the legislative process progresses.

Sincerely,

Don Fortenberry

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Senior's 12-week second semester grades are used to calculate Honor Graduate status. Please remind your student to stay up to date on all schoolwork throughout this spring semester.

Please contact Mrs. Burke with any questions regarding the Honor Grad process.

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Graduation for the Class of 2015 will be Sunday, May 24, 2015, at 1:30 PM, at the World Arena, Colorado Springs. No tickets are required as it is open seating for all who would like to attend.
SMOKE SIGNALS, FEB 2015

Bell Schedule

Regular Schedule

0 Hour 6:40 - 7:30
1st 7:35 - 8:25
2nd 8:30 - 9:20
3rd 9:25 - 10:25
4th 10:30 - 11:20
5th 11:25 - 12:15
1st LUNCH
5th 12:20 - 1:10
2nd LUNCH
6th 1:15 - 2:05
7th 2:10 - 3:00
Dismissal

Delayed Start Schedule

Under special circumstances such as inclement weather, the Superintendent may determine it necessary to start school on a two-hour delay. This decision is generally made by 5:30 a.m. Local radio and TV stations will make an authorized announcement that Cheyenne Mountain Schools are on a two-hour delay.

0 Hour 9:00 - 9:35
1st 9:40 - 10:15
2nd 10:20 - 10:55
3rd 11:00 - 11:40
4th 11:45 - 12:20
5th 12:25 - 1:00
1st LUNCH
5th 1:05 - 1:40
2nd LUNCH
6th 1:45 - 2:20
7th 2:25 - 3:00
Dismissal

Important Dates

2/2 REGISTRATION ASSEMBLIES BY GRADE LEVEL WITH COUNSELORS
2/3 CHORALE AUDITIONS FOR 2015-2016 in the choir room
2/4 DEPARTMENT CHAIR MEETING in the conference room
2/4 PTO MEETING at the administration office
2/4 AFTER FROM COMMITTEE MEETING at the Administration Office
2/5 NCAA ATHLETIC SIGNING in the cafeteria
2/5 REGISTRATION ORIENTATION & AP INFO NIGHT FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS in the auditorium & cafeteria
2/5 ALL-SCHOOL CHOIR FESTIVAL in Denver
2/6 ALL-SCHOOL CHOIR FESTIVAL in Denver
2/7 ONE ACT FESTIVAL at Woodland Park High School
2/7 ALL-SCHOOL CHOIR FESTIVAL in Denver
2/7 HIGH SCHOOL INVITATIONAL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD at CMHS
2/9 CURRENT 9TH GRADE REGISTRATION FOR 2015-2016 CLASSES/ICAP’S in the gym
2/9 DAAC MEETING at the administration Office
2/10 ALL STATE ORCHESTRA AT CSU FT. COLLINS in the cafeteria
2/10 BOOSTERS MEETING in the cafeteria
2/11 CURRENT 9TH GRADE REGISTRATION FOR 2015-2016 CLASSES/ICAP’S in the gym
2/11 CURRENT 9TH GRADE REGISTRATION FOR 2015-2016 CLASSES/ICAP’S in the gym
2/11 POETRY OUT LOUD COMPETITION in the cafeteria
2/11 JH/HS BAND “FUTURES” CONCERT in the Auditorium (rescheduled from 1/22/15)
2/12 CMHS VIBRATO FESTIVAL in the gym
2/12 ALL STATE ORCHESTRA AT CSU FT. COLLINS in the gallery
2/12 SENDING VALENTINES in the gym
2/13 END OF 6 WEEKS in the gym
2/16 ALL STATE ORCHESTRA AT CSU FT. COLLINS in the gallery
2/17 SINGING VALENTINES to classes
2/17 CURRENT 9TH & 11TH GRADE REGISTRATION FOR 2015-16 CLASSES/ICAP’S in the gallery
2/17 ALL STATE ORCHESTRA AT CSU FT. COLLINS in the cafeteria
2/17 CURRENT 11TH GRADE REGISTRATION FOR 2015-2016 CLASSES/ICAP’S in the gallery
2/17 GRADES DUE BY 1 PM in the cafeteria
2/17 CURRENT 9TH & 11TH GRADE REGISTRATION FOR 2015-16 CLASSES/ICAP’S in the cafeteria
2/17 SADIE HAWKINS in the gallery
2/17 CURRENT 9TH GRADE REGISTRATION FOR 2015-2016 CLASSES/ICAP’S in the cafeteria
2/18 CMHS CAPPYRILLA FESTIVAL in the cafeteria
2/19 SPECIAL SCHEDULE – PARCC TRAINING (see bell schedule on website)
2/19 PRINCIPAL’S COFFEE at the administration office
2/19 SPECIAL SCHEDULE - PARCC TRAINING (see bell schedule on website)
2/19 SAAC MEETING in the conference room
2/19 SPECIAL SCHEDULE - PARCC TRAINING (see bell schedule on website)
2/19 ADVANCED ACTING PRESENTS AN ORIGINAL PLAY IN COLLABORATION WITH BUNTPORT THEATRE in the Black Box Theatre
2/19 SAAC MEETING in the conference room
2/19 SPECIAL SCHEDULE - PARCC TRAINING (see bell schedule on website)
2/23 CMHS OFFICIAL 1ST DAY SPRING SPORTS BEGINS in the gym
2/23 CRIMSON/SLATE CONCERT FOR GOLDCAMP ELEMENTARY 6TH GRADERS in the choir room
2/23 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING at the administration office
2/23 CU HONOR BAND in the gym
2/23 CU HONOR BAND in the gallery

PLEASE NOTE: The above list of events is a guide and is subject to change. Please refer to the district and CMHS webpages for complete and updated monthly calendars.

Household Changes

This is just a friendly reminder that any status changes over the holiday break which may include address, home phone number, work number, employment, cell phone number, etc. needs to be communicated to our Central Enrollment Office in order to keep your student information up to date. Send an e-mail message only to enroll@cmsd12.org Do not call!
I received some information on a new method of using marijuana. Law enforcement has received information about marijuana pixy stix. The labeling on the pixy stix will sometimes be spelled stixx. They are available at various dispensaries throughout Colorado and cost between $6 and $22. I have included a couple of pictures of pixy stixx. I encourage parents to have open discussions with students about their expectations with regards to marijuana and alcohol use. As always, please contact me with any questions. I also wanted to share some positive news. Freshman Trevor Riley was recognized by Drive Smart for his winning poster in the Drive Smart poster contest. His poster was chosen out of all the other high schools in the city to be the best in encouraging students to not text and drive. I will be working to get the poster on the district website.

Remember that Safe2Tell is an anonymous reporting system for students and parents to share information about illegal behaviors and health and wellness concerns. Safe2Tell can be accessed by phone at 1-877-SAFE or online at www.safe2tell.org.

Officer Bill Walsh
School Resource Officer
Cheyenne Mountain High School
719-475-6110 ext. 258
walsh@cmsd12.org

I also wanted to share some positive news. Freshman Trevor Riley was recognized by Drive Smart for his winning poster in the Drive Smart poster contest. His poster was chosen out of all the other high schools in the city to be the best in encouraging students to not text and drive. I will be working to get the poster on the district website.

Officer Bill Walsh
School Resource Officer
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Performance-Based Assessments (PARCC)

**Monday, March 2, 2015**
7:20 - 12:05 9th Grade Only (English) (10th, 11th, and 12th grade students do not attend during this time)
12:25 - 3:40 11th Grade Only (*Math) (9th, 10th, and 12th grade students do not attend during this time)
* Bring calculators

**Tuesday, March 3, 2015**
7:20 - 10:45 9th Grade Only (*Math) (10th, 11th, and 12th grade students do not attend during this time)
* Bring calculators
11:05 – 3:40 10th Grade Only (English) (9th, 11th, and 12th grade students do not attend during this time)

**Wednesday, March 4, 2015**
7:20 - 10:45 10th Grade Only 9 (*Math) (9th, 11th, and 12th grade students do not attend during this time)
* Bring calculators
11:05 - 3:40 11th Grade Only (English) (*9th and 10th grade make-up tests, 12th grade students do not attend)
* Bring calculators

HELP US IMPROVE OUR SCHOOL!

**Check your e-mail on February 9th** for our parent survey link from CMSD 12. Complete one survey for each child attending a CMSD school (K-12) by February 25.

The anonymous survey includes questions on the strengths of our schools, areas to improve curriculum, school climate, safety, communication, involvement & student wellness. This year’s survey is shorter and will take 5 minutes to complete on the easy to use SurveyMonkey website and results will be reported in May by SAAC. Survey results and comments from parents are used to help administrators make decisions to improve our school. **43% of CMHS parents responded last year – we want to hear from you!**

Thank you in advance for completing your 2015 survey,
CMHS School Accountability and Accreditation Committee
The CMHS Drama Dept. will present **A NIGHT OF ONE ACTS** on Thurs. Feb. 12 at 7pm in the Black Box Theatre. This annual event involves all the drama and technical theatre students as they perform, direct and design for all 7 one-acts! Join us to see two possums having an existential crisis in the hilarious **MERCURY AND THE MAGIC** (student director - Gabby Papa), watch how a fight in a high school effects a multitude of characters in the monologue-drive play **THE LONG VIEW**. You might enjoy the crazy characters in **BAD AUDITIONS FOR BAD ACTORS** (student director - Arielle Miagkov) or the confusion of **CUT**. See 2 people make a true connection that changes the course of their senior year in **AFTER THE BALL DROP** (student director - Tori Brown) and a brief moment in a relationship in **LETTING BILLY** (student director(s) Sadie Skolnekovich/Griffin Cooksey). Cost for all 7 plays is only $5. Don’t miss this!!

The CMHS Advanced Acting Class will present an **Original Piece of Theatre** in collaboration with Denver’s Buntport Theatre on Thurs. Feb. 19 at 7pm in the Black Box Theatre. The Advanced Acting Class will be the writers/designers/actors for this experience created over one long weekend and a few short class periods. Join us for the show and stay for conversation and refreshments after. Cost is only $3.

**Art News**

The Advanced Drawing & Painting class will host an opening reception for their exhibit on Thursday February 12th from 5:30 - 7:00 PM in the gallery located on the southwest corner of campus next to the auditorium.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

The 29th Annual District 12 Art Exhibit will be on Wednesday, March 11th, in the Lloyd Shaw Auditorium beginning with an awards presentation at 6:30 P.M. The exhibit and reception will follow in the cafeteria and the Arts building.

If you can help provide treats or small water bottles, please contact Lynn Glatt.
College Information

The spring SAT and ACT testing cycle is especially designed for juniors. Juniors are encouraged to research if the scholarship programs and colleges they are applying to require a writing score. The SAT always includes a writing score in the test administration. Juniors may choose to take the basic ACT or the ACT Plus Writing when registering for the ACT. Juniors are strongly encouraged to research their colleges’ testing deadlines and requirements and begin testing in the spring of their junior year and complete all necessary testing by early fall of their senior year. There are several links on the College Services webpage and in students' Family Connection account to help them with their research of college testing requirements and deadlines.

Students may register online for either the ACT or SAT tests. To register online for the ACT, go to www.actstudent.org. For the SAT, http://sat.collegeboard.org. Students must use a credit card to register for either online.

### 2014-2015 ACT and SAT Test Dates & Deadlines

**SAT**

<table>
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<th>Test Date</th>
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<td>April 6, 2015</td>
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<td>June 6, 2015</td>
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**ACT**

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<tr>
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<td>March 13, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 13, 2015</td>
<td>May 8, 2015</td>
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### Report Acceptances & Scholarships

Please report to Mrs. Poling in College Services where your student has been accepted to college. Please report all scholarships as well. Most colleges and universities do not notify CMHS of the scholarships our seniors are awarded. A list of all reported scholarships will be available in the counseling office in May 2015. Please be sure your senior’s scholarships are recognized and honored in this list. Only scholarships are listed.

### Family Connection

Family Connection (FC) helps families and students connect to colleges and scholarships. At Family Connection, www.connection.naviance.com/cmhs students and families can connect to college visits, college fairs, college matches, college majors and careers, as well as many useful links to scholarships. To sign-in students must enter their email addresses and passwords they created when they registered. If your student has trouble signing in, please see or call (630-5031) Mrs. Poling or Mrs. Fenell in the College Services Center.

### Juniors’ College Workshop

On Monday, March 2nd, at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria, all juniors and their parents are invited to attend the Junior Night College Workshop. Barry Smith, Counseling Department Chair and Counselor of the Class of 2016, and Ruth Ann Fenell, College Counselor, will review the college application process and timeline for tasks for spring of junior year and the coming senior year. An overview of the process, testing timeline and test prep, college lists and searches, scholarships and financial aid and ICAPs and Family Connection will be covered.

### Save the Date!

All juniors will take the Colorado ACT on April 28, 2015. Juniors do not need to register or pay for the Colorado ACT. Counselors will register juniors in their US History classes in April.
February finds CMHS Athletics, looking forward to continuing our mission … doing our best to ensure the student-athletes we serve have the opportunity to succeed within their chosen sport(s), while exhibiting the good character of CMHS young men and women. It is our blessing to see that happening!! Just a few days ago, the student-athletes who will be the CMHS CLASS OF 2020 were here and were able to meet our entire coaching staff - the mission continues…

Winter (in its’ recent intensity has only caused the rescheduling of a few contests) Sports are well past the ½ way mark! Great wins, hard losses, and a tie-breaker or two have brought excitement and crowd-pleasing experiences to our home and away events. The ENERGY our fans generate at both home and away contests is AWESOME!!!

JV Wrestling hosted their tournament on Jan 17th. Nineteen schools were represented in both of our gyms, and many thanks to the volunteers that gave of their time and talents to ensure another successful Saturday of wrestling! Girls Swim/Dive also hosted a two-day invite with many of Colorado’s stronger teams competing and pulled off an exciting win right before break … once more the parents that volunteered made it two days of great fun for all in attendance.

CHSAA State Championships and the end of Winter Sports begin with Girls Swim/Dive on 2/13-14 – and the Lady Indians look to be in contention!! Qualified wrestlers will head to the Pepsi Center on 2/19-21, and Final for Girls and Boys Basketball will take place on 3/14 at CU Events Center. Hockey state final will be played at the Budweiser Event Center on 3/7. Pre-state competition/play-offs for Hockey, BBB, GBB, and WREST is in as TBA and will be updated to include dates, locations, and times on our website as we qualify.

Our second NCAA Signing happens Wed. 2/4, @ 3:15 in the Cafeteria. Five athletes have committed to sign NLI’s thus far; we expect a few more to be included. They’ll all be identified in next month’s Smoke Signals and added to the ‘growing’ list on the CMHS Athletics webpage on February 4th.

Spring sports registration begins on Monday, 2/2. For those athletes that didn’t play a Fall or Winter sport, form is on website or may be picked up in the Athletic Office. On-time registration closes on 2/18. Current physical, 1st and 2nd page student and parent signatures, and the sport fee are required to accompany the completed form.

For athletes already having a 14-15 CMHS Participation Form on file – a stop by the athletic office IS REQUIRED ON OR BEFORE 2/18, with participation fee (LESS THE 10% MULTIPLE SPORT DISCOUNT). That discount applies to each sport played - check with Rita if you have questions. Physical must remain current. FYI: ALL participation fee checks are not cashed until tryouts are over, rosters have been determined and ‘fall-out’ occurs. Should your student-athlete decide not to continue, original form of payment will be returned.

CHSAA Official First Day Spring Sports is MONDAY, FEB 23rd.

Additional Important Dates:
* 2/9 Booster Club Meeting - 6:30 PM Cafeteria
* 2/17 3-Week Athletic Eligibility Grade Check – 1PM
* 2/24 Late Registration Begins/Orange Card Required to Participate
* 3/4 Positive Coaching Alliance Parent/Student-Athlete Workshop (More info to come)

Please continue to check the website for additional information on the PCA Workshop, pre-season camps, individual sport meetings for parents, Spring schedules, etc.

Happy Valentines Day!
Kris, Michelle, & Rita
**Activity** | **Type** | **Day** | **Date** | **Time** | **Versus** | **Location**
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Basketball: Boys Varsity | Game | Sat | 02/14/2015 | 7:00pm | Valor Christian | CMHS
Basketball: Boys Varsity | Game | Wed | 02/18/2015 | 7:00pm | Falcon | CMHS
Basketball: Boys Varsity | Game | Fri | 02/20/2015 | 7:00pm | Air Academy | CMHS
Basketball: Girls Varsity | Game | Tue | 02/10/2015 | 7:00pm | Lewis-Palmer | CMHS
Basketball: Girls Varsity | Game | Fri | 02/13/2015 | 7:00pm | Sand Creek | CMHS
Basketball: Girls Varsity | Game | Sat | 02/14/2015 | 5:30pm | Valor Christian | CMHS
Ice Hockey: Varsity | Game | Mon | 02/16/2015 | 7:15pm | Pine Creek | Sertich Ice Arena
Swimming: Girls Varsity | League Championship | Fri | 02/06/2015 | TBD | All PPAC | CMHS
Swimming: Girls Varsity | League Championship | Sat | 02/07/2015 | TBD | All PPAC | CMHS
Wrestling: Varsity | Dual | Tue | 02/03/2015 | 6:30pm | Palmer | CMHS

### Men’s Upcoming Lacrosse Season

The Cheyenne Mountain men’s lacrosse team has been busy since their season ended last spring. Many played on summer select teams which enabled our boys to play alongside players from some of our regular season rivals and learn new skills from college level coaches. There was a fall ball team, an indoor winter box lacrosse team, and as Coach Paige encourages, many lacrosse players played other sports: football, soccer, hockey, and tennis to name a few. We have a record number of students trying out for lacrosse this year (60 +) which has enabled the club to add a third team to the existing Varsity and JV rosters. With a winter lacrosse camp that started January 6th and ends on February 21st, the boys are currently in the weight room 2 days a week and on the field working on cardio and stick skills the other days. **Tryouts are February 23rd-24th** where teams will be determined. Mark your calendar for the first game which is at home on Friday, March 6th vs Lewis Palmer at 7 pm. Come support your senior co-captains Mitch Paige (All Conference, Academic All State 2014) and David Degeare. Other key seniors to watch are Mitch Reddish (All State, All conference Defender LSM 2014) as well as Nate Robledo in goal. Newcomers/Impact players to look for on Varsity: Kai Case (jr), Jack Bell (soph) and August Johnson (fr) as middles as well as Jack Clancy (soph) on attack. Varsity players will travel to Washington, DC this year for their spring break competitions. It’s not quite the sandy beaches of San Diego as in years past but visiting our Nations Capital should allow for some fun between games.

### Women’s Upcoming Lacrosse Season

The Lady Indians are gearing up for a fantastic lacrosse season! Returning Varsity Coach Marc Luckett, new Assistant Varsity Coach Lisa Watson, and JV Coach Eric Hemingway are excited by the caliber of returning talent and looking forward to welcoming the new freshmen. Since last season, we have been very busy. Several players competed nationally with their club teams and a few were even recruited to play in college. This fall, we held twice weekly conditioning sessions and senior captains Dylan Craddock, Emi Hasegawa and Alana George held weekly outdoor practices. We are currently participating in a Denver indoor league. We will put the finishing touches on our preseason preparation with a **Winter Camp at the high school, February 16th-20th.**

Cost is only $55 and all eligible players are encouraged to attend. **Team Try-Outs will be February 25th & 26th and the Team Kick-Off Banquet is February 27th.** Mark your calendars for our **first home game on March 9th!** For more information contact Matt Craddock.
PTO News

Join the PTO Board

We are currently putting our PTO board and committees together for next year and are looking for more fun people to get involved. If you or one of your friends is interested, this is a perfect opportunity. Come to a meeting or volunteer for a committee with a friend, it makes for a great time! Jump right in and find out how you can help make a difference at our school and with our students. Please contact Sally Hybl at hyblsal@msn.com if you are interested by February 13th.

After-Prom Sponsors Needed

Immediately after the April 25th Prom, Cheyenne Mountain High School will offer a fabulous, fun-filled After Prom party. The PTO plans this annual event to give our students a safe option to celebrate on Prom night and into the morning. This tradition helps deter our students from the dangers of unsupervised parties and drunk driving. For a nominal entrance fee, our After-Prom party offers free food, tons of fun activities, and amazing prizes. However we can’t host such a special event without the support of sponsors. YOU can help — we are still in great need of sponsors! For a donation of $250 or more, your business can be in the brochure that goes out to CMHS families in early February, and on signage at the event. You would be supporting a safe, fun-filled event that keeps our kids off of the streets on prom night. Please contact Estelle Oliver for all of the details: neolivers@yahoo.com or 719-445-0917.

GOODIES NEEDED

The school needs cookies, brownies and small water bottles donated for the reception after the District’s 29th Annual Art Exhibit on the evening of March 11 at the high school.

This annual event showcases the artwork and talent from all our district schools. If you can donate, please contact Lynn Glatt, dlclglatt@yahoo.com

PRINCIPAL’S COFFEE

Join us for our next Principal’s Coffee at the Administration Offices on February 25th, 9:30am. These informal gatherings allow parents to meet with Mr. Fortenberry and select staff to ask questions and discuss issues. The Administration Offices are located at 1775 LaClede St. There will be no March coffee and the final coffee of the year is on April 22nd.

Please come to the next PTO meeting on Feb 4th, at noon at the Admin Offices. Invite a friend or an incoming 8th grade parent that would like to get involved. We love new faces and want YOU!

One of the best events to volunteer at is the After Prom party! Please checkout the PTO website for more info or contact our AP Volunteer Coordinator, Jennifer Weidtn. 
Dear Cheyenne Mountain School District Parents:

As we begin to plan for the onset of winter, it is once again time for all of us to start thinking about plans for the inevitable school delays and closures that will be necessitated by inclement weather.

I fully understand that delayed starts and school closures result in disruptions to family routines and often create problems for parents' work schedules and child care arrangements. So, my goal is to maintain a normal school schedule whenever possible throughout the winter months. However, when in my opinion, road conditions present a significant safety threat to the hundreds of students, parents, and staff members who must drive to our schools every day, I won't hesitate to delay or cancel school accordingly.

Typically, I will delay the start of school by two (2) hours if it appears that warming temperatures, a couple of hours of sunlight, and a little extra time for city crews to plow our streets and District staff to clear our parking lots and sidewalks might result in significantly better conditions. If it appears that conditions will not improve as the morning progresses, I will most often cancel school for the entire day.

As we all know, weather and road conditions can vary greatly even among our neighborhoods across District 12, and the decision to delay or cancel school is not an exact science. So, there very well may be times that you disagree with my decision to maintain a normal schedule, which is fine. In these instances, please know that I will always defer to a parent's choice, and if you choose not to send your child to school (or to send them late) on these poor weather days, the school district will fully support your decision and your child will suffer no academic or attendance penalty as a result.

When school is delayed or canceled, I will make every attempt to post notification by 5:30 a.m. We subscribe to FlashAlert, an Internet-based service that distributes this information for us. FlashAlert will contact local radio and television stations, but the quickest and most reliable way for you to obtain school closure information is to go to the “Delays and Closures” page on the District 12 website (www.cmsd12.org). Additionally, you can now receive automatic notifications of emergency messages directly from FlashAlert by downloading the free FlashAlert app for Android, iPhone and iPad or you can follow us on Twitter @cmsd12.

If you have any questions regarding our school closure protocol, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Walter C. Cooper, Ed.D.
Superintendent

1775 LaChle Street • Colorado Springs, CO 80905 • voice 719.475.6100 • fax 719.475.6106
Learn-to-Swim
Cheyenne Mountain Aquatic Center
SPECIAL
FEBRUARY SESSION

A total of 4 classes meeting on:
Tuesday-Friday; No class
Monday, February 16th
due to President's Day.

TIMES
3:30-4:00p.m.
4:00-4:30 p.m.
4:30-5:00 p.m.

LEVELS
Pro 1-3
Levels 1-6

COST
$45

REGISTER NOW!
Must register in-person

QUESTIONS?
Call Karen at 227-7665
karenvaldez@cmsd12.org

Cheyenne Mountain Aquatic Center
1200 Cresta Road | Colorado Springs, CO 80906 | 719.227.7665 (POOL) | www.cmsd12.org/pool
Register now for ACT and SAT test prep

Seats still available *** Classes begin in January

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses/Dates</th>
<th>January 20 – February 26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dual Prep</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional ACT Prep</td>
<td>March 17 – April 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(No classes over Spring Break)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time/Location</th>
<th>Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6:30pm-8:30pm</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Cheyenne Mountain High School, Room 201</td>
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</tbody>
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Course Fees (book, folder, and materials included):

- Dual Prep (6 weeks, both ACT and SAT) $580
  - Half session (3 weeks, ACT or SAT) $290

- Traditional ACT Prep (4 weeks, ACT only) $375

Our classes prepare sophomores, juniors, and seniors for:

- National ACT exams on February 7 and April 18
- National SAT exam on March 14

Reserve your seat today with a $100 non-refundable deposit

For questions please contact Cheryl Garmon at (719) 205-2149 / cgarmon@smartprepcolorado.com
Registration and payment online or via check to 409 Yucca Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80905
Please make checks payable to Smart Prep Colorado

smartprepcolorado.com

If you would like to advertise in the monthly Smoke Signals, contact Michelle Talarico.