

SUMMER 2026

THE BLAZER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CUMBERLAND VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Class of 2026

Front row, left to right: Haerin (Rosie) Jeong, Aaliyah Villalobos, Lacy Kramer, Hayden Conner, Kayla Helman, Makenna Morris, Eden Sites

Back row: Maura Minnier, AJ Sloan, Andrew Diehl, Archer Munson, Brody Heck, Titus Hott, Quinten Cooper, Reagan Witmer

Race for Education

On Friday, May 1st, the CVCS soccer field was filled with students, staff, family, friends, and volunteers for Race for Education, an annual fundraiser and fun day at the end of the school year that the entire campus looks forward to.

RFE is one of the largest fundraisers of the year, and in the weeks leading up to the event, students, parents, and teachers send emails and texts to gather sponsor donations. Thousands of requests were sent this year, and over \$36,000 was raised! These funds directly impact CVCS families, returning to them in the form of tuition discounts such as sibling discounts, alumni discounts, military discounts, and more.

RFE is an important piece that allows CVCS to provide financial support to students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to attend our school.

On Race day, every CVCS student lined up on the soccer field and ran laps before enjoying a picnic lunch and an early dismissal. Senior Titus Hott broke the record for most laps around the entire soccer field, ending the morning with 46 laps. The top fundraiser of the entire school was Lincoln Heck, who raised an incredible \$2,182, and Mrs. Gross's 1st grade class earned a class pizza party by bringing in a whopping \$3,923!

Thank you to everyone who gave, ran, cheered, or volunteered. You played a big part in making RFE 2026 a success!



National Honor Society

Thirteen CVCS students were inducted into the National Honor Society during a special chapel on May 12.

Inducted were senior Quinten Cooper, junior Rachel Schussler, and sophomores Olivia Coccagna, Luke Fuller, Lydia Garcia, Logan Helman, Bennett Jackson, Kara Shunk, Britt Sloan, Ella Sollenberger, Madigan Weyant, Lillian Woodson and Mayrose Woodson.



In order to be eligible for Honor Society induction, students must maintain an average of 94% in all classes combined and demonstrate outstanding character.

Carl McKee, who is serving as interim principal, addressed the inductees, their families and the CVCS middle-school and high-school students.

Mr. McKee stressed four areas in which students should strive for excellence.

"Scholarship; never stop learning and never stop growing," he said. "Leadership; a good leader leads by example. Service; show up for people. And character; a measure of a [person's] real character is what he would do if no one ever found out."

Alumni Notables

- On April 24, research by **Dhriti Rathod** (Class of 2023) was showcased at New York Tech's 23rd annual Symposium of University Research and Creative Expression (SOURCE). SOURCE celebrates and highlights the outcomes of students' scholarly work in collaboration with their peers and faculty mentors. At this year's event, held on New York Tech's New York City campus, research projects were shared in the form of oral presentations and poster exhibitions. Dhriti's project was titled "Estimating Scale Of Matter Density Fluctuations In Solar And Supernova Models Using Neutrino Flavor Evolution."
- **Elias Hott** (Class of 2025) was named to the Dean's List at Kutztown University for the Spring 2026 semester. Elias is a sophomore majoring in Biology. To be eligible, a student must carry a 3.60 GPA.
- The following graduates were named to the Shippensburg University Dean's List for the Spring 2026 semester: **Regan Bard** (Class of 2022, Exercise Science); **Kole Faokunla** (Class of 2018, Information Systems and Analytics); **Emmalyn Hott** (Class of 2023, Early Childhood Education); **Layne Morris** (Class of 2024, Arts and Sciences); **Hannah Vandersleen** (Class of 2024, Elementary Education); and **Lili Wenger** (Class of 2024, Political Science). To be selected to the Dean's List, a student must carry a 3.5 GPA for the semester.

Have an accomplishment you want to announce? Dean's List, College Graduation, Marriage, New Job, Job Promotion, Something Notable? We want to know. If you have an accomplishment you'd like to announce, send it to tmiller@cvcsblazers.com, and we will include it in our Alumni Corner.

High School Commencement



CVCS awarded diplomas to 15 graduates at the school's 49th High School Graduation on May 29 in The Open Door Church auditorium.

Some highlights:

- State Representative Chad Reichard was the guest speaker. He told the graduates, "Even when you achieve your goals, there is always room to grow. Success is not a finish line, but a mindset."
- Reagan Witmer received the Dino J. Pedrone Award, which carries a \$2,000 scholarship and is awarded to the senior who displays outstanding Christian character. Reagan plans to attend Shippensburg University.
- Archer Munson received the Carl G. McKee Scholarship, which also carries a \$2,000 scholarship and is awarded to the senior who excels in Christian service and academics. Archer is going to apprentice with the IBEW Electrical Union.
- Reagan Witmer, the class president, welcomed people to graduation, saying, "Behind every graduate sitting here is a family that has sacrificed, supported, encouraged, and prayed for us through every stage of life. You were there for the early mornings, late nights, stressful assignments, practices, events, and every moment in between."
- In her valedictory address, Reagan said, "If there's one thing I want to leave with my classmates tonight, it's this: Don't settle for a comfortable life when you were created for a meaningful one."





- Haerin "Rosie" Jeong was the salutatorian, and she told her classmates: "As we choose love over judgement, even loving those who hurt us, as the Bible teaches us, we begin to change. And when we change ourselves, we change the world."
- Representative Reichard: "When you consistently do your best, people notice."
- CVCS seniors have earned more than \$294,000 in scholarships.
- Ten seniors have earned college credits, led by Quinten Cooper with 21, Kayla Helman, Maura Minnier and Eden Sites with 18 each, and Reagan Witmer with 15.
- For their class gift, the senior class is donating the balance of its class account toward purchasing bleachers in the remodeled gym.
- Three seniors graduated early, working ahead to complete not only their junior-year classes but also their senior requirements: Lacy Kramer, Maura Minnier and Eden Sites.
- The list of graduates and their plans: Hayden Conner (work), Quinten Cooper (Hood College, Nursing), Andrew Diehl (work, then trade school), Brody Heck (work), Kayla Helman (Hagerstown C.C., Nursing), Titus Hott (work), Haerin Jeong (U. of Rhode Island, Pharmacy), Lacy Kramer (HACC, Psychology), Maura Minnier (Shippensburg U., Biology), Makenna Morris (Hagerstown C.C., Radiography), Archer Munson (IBEW Electrical Union), Eden Sites (HACC, Physical Therapy), A.J. Sloan (Shippensburg U., Math), Aaliyah Villalobos (Shippensburg U., Psychology), and Reagan Witmer (Shippensburg U, undecided).



Congrats, graduates!



Congressional Art Competition

If you have a chance to tour the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., during the next year, you'll see a painting created by a CVCS student on display.

Ninth-grader Leah Ritchey was selected as the winner of the Congressional Art Competition from Pennsylvania District 13, Representative John Joyce's district.

Each year in the Congressional Art Competition, young artists compete for the chance to have a painting on display in the Capitol for a year. Leah's acrylic painting, *Blazing Liberty*, was selected as the winner among entries from schools in Franklin, Blair, Cambria and Huntingdon counties.

"I was both surprised and excited to win," Leah said.

Rep. Joyce wrote in his newsletter: "Leah's 16x20 acrylic painting, *Blazing Liberty*, beautifully captures Lady Liberty holding her torch as '250' rises above her — a powerful tribute to America's enduring spirit as our nation approaches its 250th anniversary."

In addition to having their artwork displayed in a prominent setting, winners are recognized both in their district and at an annual awards ceremony in Washington.

"She spent a week working very diligently on the project," said Art teacher Lisa Fisler.

Sports Update

The Blazers are Mason Dixon Christian Conference champions for the second time this year. The girls soccer team wrapped up a superb season by defeating Heritage Academy 3-0 in the MDCC championship game. The girls basketball team won the MDCC title earlier this year.

After losing the first game of the season 4-0 to Mt. Airy, the Blazers rebounded in a huge way, running off 16 straight wins en route to the championship.

"Last year we had a good run and made it to the championship game, but we were not able get the win," Blazers coach Tim Hott said. "The girls came into the season looking to make up for last year. I had a good feeling early on that we could make another good run."

The Blazers went 12-0 in the league and outscored their opponents 80-15 in their 17 games.

"Our defense was equally as strong as our offense this year, and teams really struggled getting through our back line," Hott said. "We faced challenges all year with key players getting injuries and having to miss games, but everyone stepped up their game."

Sophomore Addison Teal was selected as the MDCC Player of the Year. Seniors Reagan Witmer and Makenna Morris made the all-conference first team. Mackenzie Conner and Cecilia Hott made second-team all-conference.

Teal led the team in scoring with 40 goals and 17 assists. Witmer had 12 goals and 11 assists, Morris added 10 goals and nine assists, Cecilia Hott had seven goals and 10 assists, and Conner tallied five goals and six assists. First-year freshman goalkeeper Molly Decker posted 88 saves.

"I am happy for the team and the great season they had," Tim Hott said. "They put the work in day after day and played for each other. I could not be prouder of this team."

In baseball, the Blazers finished with a 2-10 record, but the team had some nice moments during the season with a lot of first-time players.





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