



Stallion News

Carbon Valley Academy's Online Newsletter

June 2009

From Principal Murphy's Desk

Summer arrives before you know it. I always greet the summer with a mix of excitement (hurray I get all 7 of my kids home for 3 months) and fear (I get ALL 7 of my kids home for 3 months). I start planning what summer will look like right after Christmas! I want my kids to have fun, but I also know that they need to remain involved in learning or they will lose a lot of ground. I also know that after the first two weeks of summer vacation, I am liable to be ready to kill them if they don't have something to occupy their time. If you think these lazy, hazy months should be all play and no work, take a gander at the following statistics provided by Ron Fairchild, Executive Director of the Johns Hopkins University Center for Summer Learning.



- **All students** experience learning losses when they do not engage in educational activities during the summer.
- On average, students lose approximately 2.6 months of grade level equivalency in mathematical computation skills during the summer months.
- Low-income children and youth experience greater summer learning losses than their higher income peers.
- Students may not have the same structured meal schedule and sometimes access to nutritious meals during the summer.
- Studies show that out-of-school time is a dangerous time for unsupervised children and youth.

Important Facts:

- Only approximately 10 percent of students nationwide participate in summer school or attend schools with non-traditional calendars.
- A majority of students (56 percent) want to be involved in a summer program that "helps kids keep up with schoolwork or prepare for the next grade."
- Research shows that teachers typically spend between 4–6 weeks re-teaching material that students have forgotten over the summer.
- At least 11 percent of children between the ages of 6 and 12 care for themselves over the summer months (unsupervised).

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