

# Champlain Valley Union High School

## 2016-2017 SCHOOL PROFILE

369 CVU Road, Hinesburg, VT 05461

Phone: 802.482.7137 ♦ Fax: 802.482.7123 ♦ ACT/CEEB Code Number: 460175 ♦ [www.cvuhs.org](http://www.cvuhs.org)

The CSSU mission is to develop citizens who:

LEARN actively and collaboratively,

THINK creatively and critically,

LIVE responsibly and respectfully,

CONTRIBUTE positively to their community, and

PURSUE EXCELLENCE in their individual interests.

### About CVU

CVU is a comprehensive public high school, serving students in grades 9 through 12.

**Present Enrollment:** 1222

**Teaching Faculty:** 103

**Calendar:** Four quarters, each nine weeks in length. Courses are either two quarters (one semester) long and worth .5 credit, or four quarters (one year) long and worth 1 credit.

**Schedule:** Four 90-minute block periods daily, alternating days.

### Accreditation & Membership:

#### Vermont Department of Education

As a member of the **College Board** and **New England Association for College Admissions Counselors (NEACAC)**, CVU complies with the NEACAC Principles of Good Practice.

### CVU Community & Student Population

The Chittenden South Supervisory Union serves the towns of Charlotte, Hinesburg, Shelburne, Williston, and St. George in Vermont. CVU is the public secondary school serving students from these five towns. CVU students come from a wide array of backgrounds, including rural agricultural and suburban professional. Located in the heart of the Champlain Valley, these towns are adjacent to Burlington, Vermont's largest city. The combined population of Burlington and the surrounding communities is 152,000.

### CVU Curriculum

CVU provides its students with an extensive and comprehensive curriculum, offering more than 150 courses. The school is committed to heterogeneous grouping, allowing students to choose an academic path best suited to their learning goals. **There are no curricular tracks.** Each student selects a program reflecting his/her individual interests, abilities, and needs. Students are encouraged to enroll in the most demanding program possible.

Students in the ninth grade are enrolled in a Core Program, earning a total of five credits, in English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and Health/Physical Education. All tenth grade students are enrolled in English 10, Making of the Modern World (Social Studies) and Integrated Biology and enroll in a program that includes courses earning at least six credits. Students in grades eleven and twelve enroll in courses totaling a minimum of five credits.

### Graduation Requirements

To graduate, a CVU student must earn a minimum of 20 credits and complete a Graduation Challenge Project. A year-long class at CVU is valued at 1 credit, and a half-year course is valued at .5 credit. Consistent with the CVU mission and philosophy, students are encouraged to set goals for greater achievement, rather than for minimum requirements; most students earn more than 20 credits.

The 20-credit minimum must include:

**English/Language Arts:** 4 credits

**Social Studies:** 3 credits, including one year of U.S. History

**Mathematics:** 3 credits

**Science:** 3 credits, including one semester each of Environmental, Life, and Physical Science

**Practical Arts:** .5 credit

**Fine Arts:** .5 credit

**Physical Education:** 1.5 credits, including one semester of Personal Fitness

**Health:** .5 credit

**Graduation Challenge:** .5 credit (includes a narrative paper, 20 hours of work/study and a formal presentation); graded on Pass/Fail basis

**Electives:** 3.5 credits

CVU offers courses at varying levels of difficulty. All courses are listed online. Please check for specific details at [www.cvuhs.org](http://www.cvuhs.org), Academic tab, Course Offerings.

### Special Programs

**Advanced Placement (AP) courses**, available to all juniors and seniors, are Studio Art, Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Economics, English, Human Geography, Music Theory, Physics, Statistics and U.S. Government and Politics. While we attempt to honor junior requests for Advanced Placement courses, access can be limited.

**Technical Study:** Students may elect to enroll in a program at either Burlington Technical Center or Center for Technology at Essex.

**Vermont High School Completion:** This program promotes community and competency based learning in coordination with Vermont Adult Learning.

**GOAL/Independent Study:** This option offers students the opportunity to pursue an individualized program of study in a particular area of interest.

**Virtual High School:** CVU is part of Virtual High School, a non-profit, global network which offers online courses to over 500 high schools.

**Nexus:** The Nexus Path is a flexible learning environment designed for students who want to personalize their learning. Nexus is designed to connect people to people, school to community, interests to study, past to future, skill to content, and you to your educational journey. To be in Nexus is to take an active role in owning your learning.

**1. Community Learning Experience:** Central to the beliefs that guide the Nexus Path is the importance of the acquisition and application of learning in the world beyond school. With support, all students will organize and manage an extensive internship or apprenticeship in the community in the student's area of interest. These projects require at least 10-15 hours a week and are the basis of relevant, rigorous learning.

**2. Graduation:** Traditional graduation requirements at CVU require students to attain 20 credits in distinct disciplines (i.e., four credits of English, three credits of Social Studies, three credits of math). Students in Nexus graduate based on a defense of the depth of proficiency in transferrable skills (CVU's Graduation Standards) and self-designed and state-mandated Humanities and STEM content areas.

**3. Nexus Team:** The Nexus Team is co-led by students, teachers, and a counselor. The team will become a small community built around honesty, support, and exploration. The team will set parameters for weekly seminars where students will focus on reflection, skill development, planning, and organizing.

**4. STEM/Humanities Independent Studies:** In addition to honing transferable skills across all learning experiences, students will be required to pursue content through self-designed learning experiences. These experiences may be classroom or community oriented. All learning experiences will be captured in the portfolio and exhibition cycle.

**5. Exhibition/Portfolio:** Each student will create a portfolio and conduct exhibitions to highlight meaningful learning, growth, strengths, and challenges in the context of CVU's Graduation Standards. While each quarter will be marked by at least one community exhibition, ultimately the student will present the portfolio in a graduation defense.

### GRADING

In order to better communicate student learning, and in accordance with Vermont legislature requiring all schools to "...transition to a proficiency-based learning system for determining progress and graduation..." (Vermont Agency of Education), CVU High School assigns grades based on a student's demonstrated proficiency on adopted local, state and national standards.

Students at CVU earn their grades under a rigid set of rules that assures the honesty and integrity of grades earned. **GPA is not weighted.** Grades received in a college course are entered as a P. Grades for all courses transferred from another high school use that high school's grading system, although a GPA calculation always uses the CVU grade table shown here.

Letter	Percent	Grade Point
A+	98-100	4.33
A	93-97	4.00
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	88-89	3.33
B	83-87	3.00
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	78-79	2.33
C	73-77	2.00
C-	70-72	1.67
D+	68-69	1.33
D	63-67	1.00
D-	60-62	0.67
F	Below 60	
P	Pass	
AU	Audit	
W	Withdraw	
I	Incomplete	

### Colleges the Class of 2016 Are Attending

Adelphi University, Babson College, Becker College, Bentley University, Boston University, Brigham Young University-Hawaii, Bryant University, Carleton University, Castleton University, Cedarville University, Champlain College, Claremont McKenna College, Clarkson University, Colby-Sawyer College, Colorado State University, Columbia College Chicago, Community College of Vermont, Concordia University-Montreal, Connecticut College, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Endicott College, Fitchburg State University, Florida Institute of Technology, Florida State University, Grove City College, Hamilton College-NY, Haverford College, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Hofstra University, Iowa State University, Ithaca College, John Jay College of Criminal Justice of the CUNY, Johnson & Wales University-Denver, Johnson State College, Lafayette College, Lewis & Clark College, Loyola University Maryland, Lyndon State College, Macalester College, Manhattan School of Music, Marist College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, McGill University, Metropolitan State University of Denver, Middlebury College, Minnesota State College-Southeast Technical, Mississippi State University, Montana State University-Bozeman, Muhlenberg College, North Carolina State University, Northeastern University, Northwestern University, Ohio Wesleyan University, Pace University-New York City, Pennsylvania State University-World Campus, Plymouth State University, Princeton University, Queen's University, Quinnipiac University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Ringling College of Art and Design, Rochester Institute of Technology, Roger Williams University, Saint Anselm College, Savannah College of Art and Design, Skidmore College, St. Lawrence University, State University of New York-Plattsburgh, Stevens Institute of Technology, SUNY College at Geneseo, SUNY College at Potsdam, Syracuse University, The College of Wooster, The George Washington University, The Ohio State University, The University of Alabama, The University of Texas-Dallas, The University of the Arts, The University of Warwick, Tufts University, Union College, United States Naval Academy, University of British Columbia, University of California-Berkeley, University of California-Santa Cruz, University of Colorado at Boulder, University of Delaware, University of Denver, University of Hartford, University of Maine, University of Maine at Farmington, University of Maryland-College Park, University of Michigan, University of New England, University of New Hampshire at Durham, University of Notre Dame, University of Pittsburgh, University of Rhode Island, University of South Carolina, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, University of Vermont, Vermont Technical College, Virginia Tech, Wake Forest University, Wheaton College MA, Williams College, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

CVU does not compute class rank. Honors distinctions at graduation are based on The Latin Honors System: Summa Cum Laude – 4.1 and above, Magna Cum Laude – 3.8 and above, and Cum Laude – 3.5 and above.

GPA Distribution, Class of 2016	
GPA	Approx. % of Class
4.1 and above	3
3.8 – 4.09	15
3.5 – 3.79	20
3.0 – 3.49	26
2.0 – 2.99	31
Below 2.0	5

SAT Scores for 2015 - 2016			
	Reading	Math	Writing
CVU	558	553	536
Vermont	520	520	501
U.S.	494	508	482

ACT Scores for 2015 - 2016					
	Science	Reading	Math	English	Comp
CVU	24.9	26.4	24.4	25.1	25.3
VERMONT	23.2	24.1	22.9	22.9	23.4
U.S.	20.8	21.3	20.6	20.1	20.8

Advanced Placement Scores for 2015 - 2016				
Total # of Students taking AP Tests	Total # of Tests	% Earning Scores of 3	% Earning Scores of 4	% Earning Scores of 5
175	246	24	31	26

College Placement Data Comparison			
Year	# Graduates	% 4-Year	% 2-Year
2016	310	67	.32
2015	328	78	2
2014	276	70	2.9
2013	351	69	1
2012	343	68	1
2011	331	69	4

Principal: Adam Bunting

Patti Tomashot, Student Services Director  
Cyndi Knaepen, Registrar  
Garrath Higgins, Administrative Assistant

School Counselors:

Russel Aceto  
Jennifer Bickel-Hayes  
Julie Dimmock

Marie Eddy  
Sara O'Hare-Hughes  
Naomi Williams