

their academic and athletic success; becoming adept at advocating for themselves and seeking support from their teachers and coaches. We learned that colleges and universities take a special interest in these highly motivated, self-disciplined student-athletes. CVA students are known to transition seamlessly into the challenges of college academics, sports, and student life. The college acceptances for CVA student-athletes are impressive and are a testament to CVA's all around excellence.

The passion that lives within the walls of CVA was the most impressive aspect of our visit and a difficult one to describe. We could feel the passion that comes with high standards and big goals. We could sense the energy of this very unique setting where students, coaches, and teachers are focused on a common goal. We left that day with a whole new understanding of this amazing place.

From that day forward our lives were never the same. Our twin boys attended CVA the following winter term. The following year a French position opened up and I am enjoying my second year of teaching in the greatest school imaginable. What's more, our youngest son is now in

his freshman year here. We're "living the dream" you might say. Our children are more challenged than ever before and are thriving in this demanding yet nurturing environment. They are growing into fine young men and I credit CVA for pushing them to find the work ethic, focus, and dedication that I'm not sure they even realized they possessed.

Our youngest is loving the challenge and continues to acquire strategies for balancing academics and sports, travel and work on the road. In the fall months, I said "you're finally at the school you've been dreaming of for years. What surprises you most about CVA now that you're here?" He responded without hesitation, "It's the support and caring of the teachers and coaches. It's so different from anything I have ever experienced at other schools. Everyone seems to



Matt Beauregard

really care."

And what are my impressions with my unique experience as both teacher and parent here at CVA? Without a doubt, I can say that students here work to their fullest potential in all areas. They embrace this goal oriented, focused program and still find room for friendship and laughter. They can pack a bag in ten minutes and not forget a thing.

They can travel for several days and return with all their socks and five courses of academics completed and ready to hand in. They can do this on a regular basis and not even realize that it is a big deal.

An ordinary day at CVA is truly an extraordinary day by any other standards. I am continually amazed at what kids accomplish in a day here. They reach for the stars, push themselves academically and athletically and get up and do it again the following day. They graduate high school ready to tackle college studies, sports, and are equipped with extraordinary tools for success at whatever they choose to pursue in life. It is an awe-inspiring place.

The reputation of the coaching staff speaks for itself, having developed numerous world class and nationally ranked winter athletes including World and Olympic champions. The teaching staff shares the same passion and excellence as the coaches. With the addition of the 1:1 laptop program, CVA is providing technological enrichment in the classroom and improved communication and continuity for students who are traveling.

Both teachers and coaches at CVA bring passion and personal investment to what they do. They believe in the mission of CVA. They believe in the student-athletes and they are dedicated to providing the best experience possible. Carrabassett Valley Academy offers top college preparatory academics and a world class winter sports program as well as life long friendships and priceless memories. It is a place where students discover their true potential. CVA trains the minds and bodies of its student-athletes for success not only in winter sports but in life. I am honored to be part of this extraordinary place.

Ragan Beauregard lives in Wyman Township with her husband Jeff and their sons: Patrick, Christian and Matthew.

The intent and purpose of Carrabassett Valley Academy is to foster individual student development by providing the optimum balance of excellence in athletic training, with a focus on competitive skiing/snowboarding, college preparatory academics, and responsible living. This program offers the opportunity for each student to develop fully his or her intellectual and physical potential.

Liz Simpson

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