Learning to Write Well

The CHS common writing curriculum
A blank CDW chart looks like this:

- **Thesis statement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Claim</th>
<th>Data</th>
<th>Warrant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CDW Chart Completion

- Completing this chart requires complete sentences.
Making Claims

- A claim should be a statement can be proven
  - Ex Claim: Columbia’s wrestlers are the most physically talented.
- This claim requires data to prove it.
Making Claims

- You will make at least 3 claims to support an argument
- EX: to prove that CHS has the best wrestling team in the state.
  - Claim #1- CHS wrestlers are the most physically gifted.
  - Claim #2- CHS wrestlers are coached well.
  - Claim #3- CHS wrestlers are successful in every tournament situation.
Now it is time to find your Data

What is Data?

- Facts, statistics or researched findings
- Quotes from authoritative sources
- Evidence from your text or notes
Use Data to Support Claims

- Data comes from the information you are basing your argument from
  - The text you studied or notes from class
  - Researched sources

- Your instructor will determine where your data comes from when the paper is assigned.

- EX: Your *Odyssey* essay will be written using the epic as your source material
Data Example

- **Ex Claim:** Columbia’s wrestlers are the most physically talented.
- **Ex Data:** Columbia had 7 wrestlers ranked in the top three of their weight classes going into the 2010 state tournament (Idaho Wrestling News).
Good Information…but your argument needs to explain what you think…

It is time to WARRANT your ideas
What does Warrant mean?

- To warrant something means to prove or explain the credibility or truth of something.

- When you warrant your data.....you are explaining why the data proves your claim.
An easy way to think about warranting your data... is to answer the question

SO WHAT?
Warrant example

- **Ex Claim:** Columbia’s wrestlers are the most physically talented.
- **Ex Data:** Columbia had 7 wrestlers ranked in the top three of their weight classes going into the 2010 state tournament (Idaho Wrestling News).
- **EX Warrant:** These ranked wrestlers prove that outside wrestling information bodies believe that Columbia wrestlers are the best at what they do. These boys will be the ones to beat at every tournament because they are the most talented.
After you have completed warranting your data... it is time to repeat the process.
### Claim

**Claim #1**

*Columbia’s wrestlers are the most physically talented.*

### Data

1. **Data:** Columbia had 7 wrestlers ranked in the top three of their weight classes going into the 2010 state tournament (Idaho Wrestling News).

2. **Data:** A wrestling fan from Blackfoot states that "Columbia’s level of talent makes it apparent that they have a dynasty in the making" (Gator).

### Warrant

1. These ranked wrestlers prove that outside wrestling information bodies believe that Columbia wrestlers are the best at what they do.

2. These boys will be the ones to beat at every tournament because they are the most talented.

3. The talent level at Columbia is apparent to opposing teams and rivals.

4. These teams know that it will be hard to break Columbia’s hold on state dominance due to our talent level.

5. Talent is no question important to a good a program but great coaching also plays an important role.
Once you are finished with the chart……

You can begin to write your paper
A body paragraph template would look like this:

- Topic
  Sentence/Claim______________________________________________________
  __________________________________________
- Data_______________________________________________________________
  __________________________________________
- Warrant_____________________________________________________________
  _________________________________________
- Warrant_____________________________________________________________
  _________________________________________
- Data_______________________________________________________________
  __________________________________________
- Warrant_____________________________________________________________
  _________________________________________
- Warrant_____________________________________________________________
  _________________________________________
- Closing Warrant/Transition
- _________________________________________
Columbia’s wrestlers are the most physically talented. Columbia had 7 wrestlers ranked in the top three of their weight classes going into the 2010 state tournament (Idaho Wrestling News). These ranked wrestlers prove that outside wrestling information bodies believe that Columbia wrestlers are the best at what they do. These boys will be the ones to beat at every tournament because they are the most talented. A wrestling fan from Blackfoot states that “Columbia’s level of talent makes it apparent that they have a dynasty in the making” (Gator). The talent level at Columbia is apparent to opposing teams and rivals. These teams know that it will be hard to break Columbia’s hold on state dominance due to our talent level. Talent is no question important to a good a program but great coaching also plays an important role.
Why is writing this way helpful?

1. It keeps your argument structured.
2. It keeps your argument focused.
3. It keeps your argument supported by data.
4. It allows for the writer’s ideas to be the central focus.
CHS Language Arts teachers want you to be successful in your written endeavors.

Learn CDW and you should be on your way to great work!