

VINTON-SHELLSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"The Mission of the Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District is to Be Positive Difference Makers."

To the Vinton-Shellsburg School Community,

Getting Ready for the New School Year!

Welcome back after what I hope was an excellent summer for you and your family! For me, spending time at community events was a highlight. With this being our families first "normal" summer in the community it was awesome to see how many people volunteered to support the events and make them possible. I think my boys received enough candy from Shellsburg's Big Day parade to last the entire year!

Over the summer, our buildings and grounds crew were hard at work. We had a number of projects going on around the district. Some of the large projects included the removal of an underground storage tank at the transportation building, abating and installing new flooring, LED lighting upgrades, and paving projects. I hope that you take note of the new improvements. I would like to give a shout out to all our local contractors and businesses that supported and helped complete our summer projects!

Speaking of improvements, I hope you have been able to visit our revamped website. It is at the same web address of vscsd.org. The goal was to make it easier to navigate and provide information to people who may not be as familiar with the school district. We are always looking for ways to improve our communication and the website is one of those ways. We are also looking for great stories to share about our students, staff, and community on our website and social media. If you have a good story, photo or video, please share it with us. You may message us through email or social media.

On August 12th, we will welcome nine new teachers to the District for new teacher orientation. They will spend the day learning about the district and community. Starting August 16th all of our staff will be back participating in professional learning and collegial activities. We will have six new support staff team members and have several existing staff who are moving into new positions either within or outside of their schools. Our new colleagues bring with them a wide variety of educational and life experiences, which will enhance our already strong professional culture.

I wish you the best for an enjoyable August and look forward to welcoming the children back to school the week of August 23rd. We are more than ready, eager, and excited to begin this excellent adventure!

Sincerely,

Kyle Koeppen
Superintendent
#Go Vikes

Special Points of Interest:

Registration — On-line registration now open and is preferred method. NO registration day. If you need assistance please call the building secretary. We encourage you to please register your student(s) by August 16th.

- Aug. 10 - 1:1 students computer rollout, 6th-9th gr.
VSHS Aud., 1:00 pm & 6:00 pm
- Aug. 11 - 1:1 student computer rollout, 10th-12th gr.
VSHS Hub, 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm
- Aug. 16 - School Board Meeting, Board Room, 5:15 pm
- Aug. 20 - Fall Sports Blowout @ Karr Athletic Complex,
5:00 pm FR-SO Scrimmage
- Aug. 23 - Grades 1-12 First Day of Classes - 2 Hr. Early Dismissal – Prof. Dev.
- Aug. 24 - Grades K-12 Begin - 2 Hr. Early Dismissal – Prof. Dev.
- Aug. 25 - First Day of Tiny Vike's

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES SCHEDULE

High School:	All grades	August 17th	— 5:00 - 6:30 pm
Middle School:	6th gr.	August 18th	— 6:00 - 7:00 pm
	7th gr.	August 19th	— 5:30 - 6:30 pm
	8th gr.	August 19th	— 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Shellsburg Elem.	1st thru 5th	August 19th	— 5:30 - 7:00 pm
Tilford Elem.	1st thru 4th	August 19th	— 5:00 - 6:30 pm

VARIED CLASS SCHEDULES FOR AUGUST 23RD

Vinton-Shellsburg **Grade 1-12 students** will start classes August 23rd, on a 2-hour early dismissal schedule. August 24th will also be a 2-hour early dismissal.

Kindergarten students' first day is August 24th. Parent/teacher conference will be held prior to August 24th. Information to schedule your conference will be available soon!

Tiny Vike's Preschool starts August 25th. Teachers will contact parents to set up home visits.

VINTON-SHELLSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2021-22 Registration
Please register and pay online by visiting our website. (www.vcsd.org)
Registration will be open online without a service fee July 19—August 22, 2021.
Payments online can be made via check or credit/debit card.

2021-22 Student Fees:

- ◆ **Textbook/Materials/Technology**
Grades K-5 — \$55
Grades 6-8 — \$65
Grades 9-12 — \$70
Grades 6-12 1:1 Computer Coop Fee without Insurance—\$25 (3 strike rule)
with Insurance—\$79 (no strike rule)
(OR 10 hrs. of verified community service)
- ◆ **School Meals**
Breakfast Grades K-12—FREE; 2nd meal \$1.75 Lunch Grades K-12—FREE; 2nd meal \$3.00
Student & Adult Extra Milk - 40-cents per carton NO WAIVER
Tilford Kindergarten & Shellsburg Kindergarten Milk/Juice Fee: \$50/year Required NO WAIVER
Tiny Vike's Preschool Milk/Juice Break: FREE
- ◆ **Activity Ticket:**
Gr. K-12—\$45.00 Admission to all Home Athletic & Fine Arts Events, excluding Cabaret.

New Students to District

HS Students may contact the guidance office (436-5704) beginning August 9th to schedule an appointment for registration with their counselor.

Appointments will be scheduled between Aug. 16th to 20th so that all new students can be enrolled in their courses by the first day of school (Aug. 23rd).

MS Students & Elementary Students should call or come to the building starting August 9th to begin the process of registering.

If your child needs to ride the bus please call Eric Kakac, Transportation Director at 319-472-3118.

NOTE: Textbook fees must be paid prior to activity passes being issued. If you were invoiced for computer damage or loss for the 2020-21 school year, payment is due at this time.

FREE & REDUCED FEES APPLICATIONS - If you have not received the certification letter for free or reduced meals and fees, the application is on-line or available in the buildings starting August 2. Please complete the form to apply and turn it into the building secretary between the hours of 8:00–11:00 am and 1–3 pm.

RevTrak will be the preferred use of payment for online registration. There will NOT be a convenience charge again this year for anyone that eRegisters AND pays online via RevTrak through August 22, 2021. If you so choose to pay by cash, you will need to go to your child's building or closest building starting August 9th to pay your student's fees. Online fees will be for full price only, no waived amounts will be offered. If you believe you qualify for free and reduced fees then you will need to complete the paperwork to see if your family qualifies. You won't be able to pay online, but you will still be required to complete the eRegistration process online. IT IS ENCOURAGED TO PLEASE eREGISTER YOUR CHILD(REN) BY AUGUST 16TH.

Options for registration include:

- ◆ You can eRegister and pay full price on-line with a echeck, credit /debit card;
- ◆ You can eRegistration online and payment by cash at the buildings starting August 9 hours of 8:00–11:00 am and 1–3 pm.

ANNUAL NOTICES

Medication Policy

It is the policy of the Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District that whenever a student has medication, prescription or otherwise, that is to be administered by school personnel, written authorization and instruction must be provided by a parent or legal guardian. **Medication release forms are also available in each nurse's office. No Medication will be given WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION. This includes ASPIRIN, ANT-ACIDS and COUGH DROPS.** Only the school nurse or trained personnel will administer the medication upon request of the parent. The medication must be in the **original container**, stating the child's name, name of the medication, the time medication is to be given and the dosage. Students who have demonstrated competence in administering their own medications may administer their medication when a written statement by the student's parent is on file requesting co-administration of the medication when competence has been demonstrated. By law, students with asthma or other airway constricting diseases may self-administer their medication upon approval of their parents and prescribing physician regardless of competency.

Families with School Age Children (5-21)

The Vinton-Shellsburg Community Schools makes available to homeless children or youth, all services and assistance of the district. This includes, but is not limited to: Free School Breakfast and Lunch, Health Services, Special Education, Gifted Education, English Second Language, School Fees, and Vocational Courses. For more information, contact **Sandy Hamilton**, HS guidance office, at (319) 436-5708

Weather Notifications

School delays or early release announcements due to unsafe weather conditions will be broadcast on KCRG, KWWL, KGAN & through School Messenger. Weather-related schedule changes are also placed on the Vinton-Shellsburg School District web page at www.vcsd.org and the Phone Information line, (319) 436-4728 enter 6, which you can call anytime. We also post on Facebook and Vinton Today.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

An immunization record is required for everyone attending public or non public schools.

Elementary/secondary requirements: Dtap-5 doses; Polio-4 doses; MMR-2 doses; Hepatitis B-series of 3; Varicella-2 doses or history of Chicken pox. **Kindergarten requirements:** Lead screen, Vision screen, and Dental screen. **Third grade:** Vision screen.

7th Grade: The Iowa Department of Public health is now requiring that all 7th graders receive a booster of tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) It is recommend that students in the higher grades receive a booster of Tdap. **9th Grade:** Dental screen

If your student has not received the required booster please do so before the school year starts. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact the school nurse at 319-436-4728 or Kristin.hallberg@vcsd.org. Our school district is required to have a current immunization record or an exemption for every student. The IDPD audits this every year.

School officials cannot allow your child to enter school unless the child has a completed certificate of immunization or an exemption on file. Please bring the completed immunization certificate or exemption when registering your child.

Please remember to register your child and update your information in the PowerSchool system before the first day of school, August 23rd. Please update Contact's information when there is a change in address and especially a change in phone number. You can also contact your building secretary and they can assist you with these changes. **Accurate information is important to assure timely communication.**

WELCOME NEW V-S STAFF

High School: Ann Conklin, Spanish/Alt. HS Teacher; Kristina Freeman, West Campus Teacher; April Hummel, West Campus Associate; and Katie Isabel, Family & Consumer Sciences Teacher, and Cody Lundry, Special Education Associate.

Middle School: Rita Kamback, Kitchen; Allyson Killean, 6th Gr. Language Arts Teacher; and Amanda Neuenschwander, Special Education Teacher.

Tilford Elementary: Heather Crabb, General Education Associate; Maria Davis, Special Education Associate; Daisy Johnson, 1st Grade Teacher; Vanessa Jones, Kitchen; and Daniel Larson, 2nd Grade Teacher.

Shellsburg Elementary: Miranda Hartkemeyer, Title I/Special Education Teacher.

District: Kim Camarata, District Librarian.

V-S PHONE DIRECTORY BUILDING EXTENSIONS

Dial 436-4728 plus

Central Office - Enter 1 Tilford Elem. - Enter 2 High School - Enter 3 Middle School - Enter 4 Shellsburg Elementary - Enter 5
Bus Garage - 472-3118 Maintenance Dept. - 319-436-5680

ANNUAL NOTICE OF OPEN ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

Following are highlights of the open enrollment procedures as mandated by the Iowa Legislature. This information does not cover the entire open enrollment legislation. **Non-kindergarten filing deadline is March 1st** and **kindergarten filing deadline is September 1st**. Parent/guardian must file Open Enrollment forms with **BOTH** the receiving district **AND** the resident district. The **RECEIVING** district approves or denies the application. The exception to this rule is if the **RESIDENT** district has a desegregation plan in place or a claim of pervasive harassment or serious health condition the resident district must act upon the application first.

2022-2023 Deadlines Timeline / Procedures

- **Before March 1, of the Preceding School Year:** Parent/Guardian sends application to **BOTH** the resident and receiving districts. If the student is entering kindergarten, the application may be made after March 1 until the deadline of September 1.

Parents should be aware that open enrollment may result in the loss of athletic eligibility at the varsity level of competition for the first 90 school days of open enrollment. A separate form must be completed for each pupil requesting open enrollment. In most instances, a parent requesting open enrollment is responsible for providing transportation for the open enrolled student. However, if your family income falls within the Federal poverty guidelines you are eligible for financial assistance for transportation purposes. Contact the Administrative Office at 319-436-5684 for a copy of the guidelines or visit the web site at <http://educateiowa.gov>, A-Z Index Tab, Search Open Enrollment.

- **September 1:** Deadline for Kindergarten.
- **“Good Cause” Exception to March 1 Deadline:** Applications may be approved after the March 1 deadline if the reason for late filing qualifies for “good cause.”



Shellsburg staff members celebrating 100 years of education at Shellsburg Elementary school during the Shellsburg Days Parade!



The Vinton-Shellsburg School District has a new mission statement: **To Be Positive Difference Makers**. See what making a difference looks like in our schools and follow this link to read more about the new mission statement: <https://www.vscsd.org/mission-statement/>

The new mission statement, “To be positive difference-makers,” reflects what has been an informal motto for school staff for several years.

“Our schools have new obligations today that go far beyond providing instruction to students. Today, our goal is for kids to leave our schools ready for further education, training, careers, and life. It isn't enough to prepare a fraction of our students for the future. Our role is to be a positive difference for every student every day. Some of those students are academically gifted, some struggle with developmental issues, some have difficult lives outside of school; but regardless of those unique personal situations, our commitment to them, their parents, and the community remains the same.”

KYLE KOEPPEN, Superintendent of Schools

AUGUST 2021

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
9	10 ▶ 1:1 Rollout for 6th—9th gr. students, VSHS Aud., 1:00 pm & 6:00 pm	11 ▶ 1:1 Rollout for 10th—12th gr. students, VSHS Hub, 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm	12 Preschool Workshop New Teachers	13	14
16 ▶ Board Meeting @ Central Office, 5:15 pm ▶ HSAP Fall Registration @ Tilford Aud., 7:00 pm	17 All Staff Welcome Back Schedule	18	19 Tilford Kindergarten conferences, 1:00-4:00	20 ▶ FR-SO Scrimmage @ Karr Athletic Complex, 5:00 pm ▶ Fall Sports Blowout @ Karr Athletic Complex, 6:00 pm	21
23 Day 1 Classes Begin Grades 1-12 2 Hr. Early Dismissal - Prof. Develop. Tilford Kindergarten conferences, 8:00-12:00 ▶ G V SWIM vs. Williamsburg (Vinton Municipal Pool), 5:00 pm	24 Day 2 Grades K-12 2 Hr. Early Dismissal - Prof. Develop. ▶ V CC @ Mount Vernon, 5:00 pm ▶ V VB @ Anamosa, 5:00 pm	25 Day 3 First Day of Tiny Vike's Preschool	26 Day 4 ▶ G V SW @ W'loo East (Central MS Pool), 6:00 pm	27 Day 5 ▶ F/S FB vs. Center Point-Urbana, 5:00 pm ▶ V FB vs. Center Point-Urbana, 7:30 pm	28 ▶ F/S VB @ Prairie Point Tourney, 8:30 am
30 Day 6	31 Day 1 ▶ V CC @ Williamsburg Invite, 4:30 pm	Senior Citizen Activity Passes are available for Vinton-Shellsburg CSD <u>residents</u> who are age 55 or older at the Superintendent's Office at 1502 C Ave., Vinton between the hours of 8:00 am - 3:30 pm.			

Activity Tickets

Students who purchase an activity ticket during registration will receive a colored ID card the first day of school as long as required fees and all other overdue fees are paid in full. Those students who do not purchase an activity ticket will receive the usual Gold ID card. Should you purchase an activity ticket later, you will need to turn in your Gold ID card and you will be issued the colored ID card as long as required fees and all other overdue fees are paid in full. There will be a \$5 replacement charge for ID's if you should lose them and need another one reprinted.

Want to be in an extra-curricular activity? Feeling like the extra cost to be involved is keeping you from participating? Due to generous donations from patrons in our school-community, we have funds available to assist any student in grades 7-12 who may have financial barriers to participating in extra-curricular activities. These activities include FFA, sports, music, speech, Voyagers, drama, Reality Check and any other activity that is sponsored by the school. Please contact Sandy Hamilton, extension 5708, or Erin Heims, extension 5606 for additional information.

If you need assistance with school supplies please contact Molly Noren at Molly.noren@vscsd.org or call 319-436-5867.

SCHOOL PERMIT INSTRUCTIONS

Students who are interested in applying for a school permit need to contact the high school office to arrange an appointment time with Mr. Islas to get the necessary signature.

V-SCSD EQUITY STATEMENT

The Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District provides equal educational and employment opportunities and will not illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District shall take affirmative action in recruitment, appointment, assignment and advancement of women and men, minorities and disabled. Inquiries regarding compliance with equal educational or employment opportunities and/or affirmative action shall be directed to Becky Lutgen, Equity Coordinator, Vinton-Shellsburg CSD, 1502 C Avenue, Vinton, Iowa 52349 or becky.lutgen@vscsd.org. Inquiries may also be directed in writing to the Director of the Region VII Office of the United States Equal Employment Opportunities Commission, or the Director of the Region VII Office of Civil Rights, United States Department of Education in Chicago, IL.