

VINTON-SHELLSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

—WHERE CHARACTER COUNTS!

"The Mission of the Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District is to improve the quality of lives and assist individuals in becoming contributing members of society through the accumulation and application of knowledge."

Special points of interest:

- Feb. 12—NO CLASSES, Prof. Development
- Feb. 15—CLASSES IN SESSION
- Feb. 15—Regular School Board Meeting @ Tilford Elem., 7:00 pm
- Feb. 27—Voyager Spring Show, VSMS, 7:00 pm

CORRECTED DATES



**Tiny Vike's
4 Year Old Preschool
Tuition Free
Enroll Your Child For
fall of 2021-2022!**

Go to VSCSD.org and click on
Tilford or Shellsburg page
OR
Call: 319-436-4728
Ext. 5800 or 5802 (Tilford)
Ext. 5900 (Shellsburg)

Our preschool program will offer:

- *Morning or afternoon preschool free of a tuition charge (only a milk/juice fee)
- *Highly qualified preschool teachers with a college degree specializing in early childhood education
- *Teacher associates with a paraprofessional endorsement or two year degree
- *Classrooms that align with the Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards
- *The state approved Creative Curriculum and assessments

Children must be 4 on or before
September 15, 2021 to attend preschool

Shellsburg Kindergarten Roundup

Thursday, March 25, 2021 9:00 am-11:00 am
OR 12:30 pm-2:30 pm

Tiny Vike's Orientation Friday, March 12th
from 9:30 am - 11:00 am.

Tilford Kindergarten Roundup

Thursday, March 25, 2021 9:00 am-11:00 am
OR 12:30 pm-2:30 pm

An informational letter will be sent home to parents who are pre-registered.

Tiny Vike's Orientation Friday, March 12th
from 9:30 am - 11:00 am.



Congratulations
Mr. Haisman
on being named
Ed Thomas
Coach of the
Week!

To the Vinton-Shellsburg School Community:

The late Gordon MacKenzie, who was a card creator for Hallmark Cards, would tell a story of when he was at a school or in a group setting he would always look around the spaces noticing the artwork on the walls. After pronouncing himself as an artist, he would wonder aloud who had created the masterpieces on the walls. He would ask "How many artists are in the room"? Mackenzie would then ask for those artists to please raise their hands.

The responses always followed in the same pattern. In kindergarten and younger grades, almost every kid in the room would thrust their hand into the air. As the people in the room aged fewer and fewer would raise their hands. People would look around to see if anybody in the room would admit to being an "artist". As we become older we are always labeling ourselves to what we are and what we are not. In our schools we are working to expand our experiences and opportunities for children to develop skills. Not just skills in one particular area, but in many areas. Allowing them to have a broad sense of the world around them and the possibilities before them. Educating the whole child.

No matter what path our students pursue, we need their experiences at our schools to enhance their ability to solve problems, understand others, and appreciate the world around them. These are essential skills in the 21st century.

Public schools provide a well rounded education for kids. Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District is continuing to find ways to provide experiences and opportunities for students to expand their thinking, getting them outside of their comfort zone and showing them the possibilities and options which are offered to them.

This past week a bill was introduced in the Iowa legislature to divert public funding (tax dollars) from public schools and make it available to private institutions. Private institutions do not provide the same whole child education and equity of opportunity that public schools offer. Private schools may choose or discriminate on who they allow to attend. They are also not held to the same standards or accountability measures as public schools.

As we start to prepare our budget for next school year, some of our funding is in jeopardy to be allocated to private schools. I feel this is wrong and not in the best interests of our children and tax dollars. If you feel similarly, please reach out to your local representative and let them know public dollars should not be spent on private institutions.

Representative Dawn Driscoll & Representative Thomas Gerhold
Iowa State Capitol
1007 East Grand Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50319

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me by phone, email or social media.

Take care,

Kyle Koeppen
Superintendent

TILFORD NEWS

At Tilford, we are getting prepared for our Winter FAST Benchmark assessment. All of the teachers are really excited to see the progress that our students have made since the Fall.

During the month of January, we are doing a ticket competition with our students to earn 5000 Blue tickets. If we reach our goal each grade level will be rewarded with a movie afternoon in our auditorium. We are also bringing back the Viking Spirit Award. This award is given to students who go above and beyond in meeting our PBIS expectations. They are nominated weekly by a teacher in the building, receive a certificate and get to hear their names over our intercom speaker!

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.

FEBRUARY 2021

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 Day 6 ◇ 7 B BB @ W. Delaware, (Manchester) 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB vs. W. Delaware, 4:15 pm	2 Day 1 ◇ FS/JV/V G BB @ Center Point-Urbana, 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm ◇ 9/10/V B BB vs. Center Point-Urbana, 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm	3 Day 2 ◇ FFA @ Decorah, 5:00 pm	4 Day 3 ◇ 7 B BB vs. Mount Vernon, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB @ Mount Vernon, 4:15 pm	5 Day 4 ◇ V BOWL vs. Benton @ Berry's Lanes, 3:30 pm ◇ 9/10/V B BB @ Benton, 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm ◇ FS/JV/V G BB vs. Benton, 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm	6 ◇ V WR Sectionals @ Independence, 12:00 pm
8 Day 5 ◇ 7 B BB vs. Center Point-Urbana, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB @ Center Point-Urbana, 4:15pm ◇ FS/JV/V G BB @ Clear Creek-Amana, 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm ◇ FFA Chapter Meeting, VSHS, 7:00 pm	9 Day 6 ◇ 7 B BB vs. Oelwein, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB @ Oelwein, 4:15 pm ◇ FS/JV/V G BB @ W'burg, 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm ◇ 9/10/V B BB vs. W'burg, 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm (Senior Night)	10 Day 1 Senior Citizen Activity Passes are available for Vinton-Shellsburg CSD residents who are age 55 or older; stop by the Superintendent's Office at 1502 C Ave., Vinton.	11 Day 2 ◇ 7 B BB @ Solon, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB vs. Solon, 4:15 pm	12 NO CLASSES Prof. Dev. ◇ V BOWL WaMaC Tourney @ Berry's Lanes, 1:00 pm ◇ 9/10/V B BB vs. Maquoketa 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm	13 ◇ Zaps ACT Workshop, VSHS 9:00 am—3:00 pm ◇ V WR Districts @ Williamsburg, 12:00 pm ◇ B V SW State @ Linn-Mar Aquatic Center, 12:00 pm ◇ G V BB Regionals, TBA
15 Day 3 CLASSES IN SESSION (Derecho Make-up Day) ◇ V B BOWL State Qualifying @ Pella, 12:00 pm ◇ 7 B BB @ S. Tama, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB vs. S. Tama, 4:15pm ◇ 9/10/V B BB vs. Clear Creek-Amana, 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm ◇ School Board Meeting @ Tilford Elem., 7:00 pm President's Day	16 Day 4 ◇ V G BOWL State Qualifying @ Des Moines, (Bowlerama Lanes), 11:00 am ◇ 9/10/V B BB vs. Marion, 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm	17 Day 5 ◇ V G BB Regionals, TBA	18 Day 6 ◇ 7 B BB @ Marion (Vernon MS), 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB vs. Marion, 4:15 pm	19 Day 1 ◇ FFA Contest Preview Night, VSHS, 3:30 pm	20 ◇ V G BB Regional Finals, TBA
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">STATE WRESTLING TOURNAMENT 2/18—2/20</div>					
22 Day 2 ◇ V B BB 1st Round Districts, TBA, 7:00 pm	23 Day 3 	24 Day 4 ◇ Sub-district FFA Competitions @ HCC, 8:00 am	25 Day 5	26 Day 6	27 ◇ Voyager Spring Show, VSMS, 7:00 pm
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">NATIONAL FFA WEEK 2/22—2/26</div>					
MARCH 1 Day 1	2 Day 2 ◇ ACT Testing @ VSHS, 8:00 am—12:00 pm	3 Day 3	4 Day 4	5 Day 5 2-HR. EARLY DISMISSAL Prof. Dev	6

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

Course Registration for the 2021-22 School Year

The High School Guidance Department will be meeting with each class to begin 2021-22 student course selection. During their class meeting, the Guidance Department staff will be covering required courses, pre-requisite information, elective courses, and inform students of any potential new courses. Parents/guardians will need to sign off on their child's 2021-22 course requests prior to the Guidance Department entering them in PowerSchool. The deadline for course requests to be completed and turned has been set for Monday, February 15th.

Class of 2024 Orientation

The Guidance Department along with the building administration is currently working on a plan to hold the 8th Grade Orientation Night through a recorded video. Once completed the video will be sent out to 8th grade parents for viewing. We plan to send more information pertaining to the organization and set-up of the night once plans are finalized.

ACT

Juniors will be taking the ACT on Tuesday, March 2 as part of our annual building wide assessment data collection. Junior students have all been registered and Mr. Kingsbury will be meeting with the Junior class several times in February to discuss the testing schedule, classroom assignments, prohibited items, and along with other pertinent ACT information. Mr. Kingsbury will send information to parents through School Messenger to keep them informed as well.

SHELLSBURG ELEMENTARY

On January 14, our 5th grade students got to go on our yearly field trip to Sundown Mountain Ski Resort in Dubuque to learn how to ski. This was our 6th year of introducing downhill skiing to our students. We were especially grateful this year for the opportunity, as this was the first field trip allowed since Covid-19 entered our lives.

This field trip is the first experience many of our students and adult chaperones ever have of skiing. When we get there, ski instructors take our group through a series of 8 lessons, where they learn everything from how to put on skis to learning to turn and stop while going downhill. Our kids are quick learners, and many times pick it up well before the adults do.

What I love about this field trip is that it brings everyone together for a common goal: to learn how to ski. First, it is a recreational activity that they can do for a lifetime, but many would not have a chance to ever try without this. As mostly beginners, they are all starting out at the same skill level, so they work together to learn how, and celebrate together as they progress. At times, I've seen kids that struggle in school excel as skiers, and vice versa. I see kids that are generally nervous take a leap of faith and try their newly acquired skills on a "big" hill. But mostly I see scared looks turn to smiles as students and adults learn together. While this trip is about learning to ski, there are many other lessons about grit, determination, and teamwork that are learned.

I also want to make a call out to any families that have preschool age students. We are trying to plan our programming for next year, both for 3-year old and 4-year old preschool. A lot of our planning depends on the number of students we have. If you have a 3 or 4 year old child, please consider calling the school or visiting our website to sign them up. Preschool is a very beneficial program to the development of a child, and we find that students that participate are more prepared for Kindergarten. Our Preschool Round-up for the 4-year old program is March 12 from 9:30-11:00. At that point we will be creating class lists and determining what our programming will look like based on numbers. Please call me at 319-436-5903 if you have questions.

We are also getting our list of Kindergarten students together. If you have a child that will be 5 years old by September 15, they are eligible to start Kindergarten. If you have not already signed your child up, you can do so by signing up on our Shellsburg Elementary website, or by calling or stopping in and talking to our secretary, Lori Werning. The date of our Kindergarten Round-up is Thursday, March 25 from 9:00-11:00 am or 12:30-2:30-pm.

As always, I'm very appreciative of the support Shellsburg Elementary gets from our parents and the community.

Ryan Davis, Principal

