








Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<p>Senior Citizen Activity Passes are available for Vinton-Shellsburg CSD residents who are age 55 or older; call or stop by the Superintendent's Office at 1502 C Ave., Vinton. Passes good for most all fine arts and sports events.</p>			<p>1 NO CLASSES 9-12 Prof. Dev. K-8 AM PD & P/T Conf. 12-8PM</p>	<p>2 NO CLASSES READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY/ DR. SUESS B'DAY</p>	<p>3 ◇ NEIBA Jazz Festival @ Independence</p>
<p>GIRL'S STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT</p>					
<p>5 Day 6 ◇ MS Track & Field Camp, MS Gym, 3:30 – 5:30 pm ◇ G V TR Dickinson Relays Indoor Meet @ UNI-Dome, 2:00 pm ◇ B BB Wrap-up, VSHS, 6:30 pm</p>	<p>6 Day 1 ◇ MS Track & Field Camp, MS Gym, 3:30 – 5:30 pm ◇ 6-8 Band Concert, VSHS Aud., 7:00 pm</p>	<p>7 Day 2 ◇ MS Track & Field Camp, MS Gym, 3:30 – 5:30 pm ◇ Band Booster Mtg. @ HS Band Room, 6:30 pm</p>	<p>8 Day 3 ◇ MS Track & Field Camp, MS Gym, 3:30 – 5:30 pm ◇ WR Wrap-up, VSHS, 6:30 pm</p>	<p>9 Day 4 2 HR. EARLY DISMISSAL Prof. Dev.  7:00 pm</p>	<p>10 ◇ State Individual Speech @ C.R. Kennedy, 8:00 am ◇ FFA NE District Convention @ Waukon, 8:00 am</p>
<p>BOYS' STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT — 3/6—3/10</p>					
<p>11 Sunday Daylight Savings Begins </p>	<p>13 Day 6 ◇ G/B V TR Indoor @ Wartburg College, 2:30 pm</p>	<p>14 Day 1 ◇ Middle School Spring Picture Day ◇ Booster Club Mtg. @ VSHS Commons, 6:00 pm</p>	<p>15 Day 2 ◇ Tilford & Shellsburg Kindergarten Orientation, No KDG Classes ◇ Tractor Drive-in Day ◇ 6-8 Grade Choir & Show Choir Concert @ VSHS Aud., 7:00 pm </p>	<p>16 Day 3 CLASSES IN SESSION (Snow Make-up Day)</p>	<p>17 ◇ B/G V TR WaMaC Indoor @ Grinnell College, 10:00 am ◇ WaMaC G/B BB Senior Shootout, Benton, 5:30 pm </p>
<p>12 Day 5 ◇ B SOC Practice Begins ◇ B/G Golf Practice Begins ◇ School Board Meeting @ VSHS LMC, 6:00 pm ◇ FFA Meeting @ VSHS, 6:30 pm</p>					
<p>19 Day 4 ◇ G SOC Practice Begins </p>	<p>20 Day 5 </p>	<p>21 Day 6 ◇ Career Fair, VSHS Gym, 8:00 am-12:00 pm</p>	<p>22 Day 1</p>	<p>23 Day 2 2 HR. EARLY DISMISSAL Prof. Dev. ◇ Tiny Vike's Preschool Round-up, 9:30—11:00 am ◇ Middle School Play, "School Daze" @ Tilford, 7:00 pm</p>	<p>24 ◇ IHSMA Solo/ Ensemble Contest @ Anamosa ◇ Luther College Band Concert @ VS-HS Aud., 7:30 pm ◇ Middle School Play, "School Daze" @ Tilford, 7:00 pm</p>
<p>26 Day 3 9-12 Parent/Teacher Conf. 4:00 pm—8:00 pm ◇ All-State Individual Speech @ UNI ◇ Juniors/Parents College Planning (Class of 2020), VSHS Aud., 6:00 pm ◇ SR Financial Aid Night (Class of 2019), VSHS Aud., 7:00 pm</p>	<p>27 Day 4 ◇ B JV/V TR Viking Early Bird, Karr Athletic Complex, 4:30 pm</p>	<p>28 Day 5 9-12 Parent/Teacher Conf. 4:00 pm—8:00 pm ◇ Tilford Spring Pictures </p>	<p>29 Day 6 ◇ American Red Cross Blood Drive, VSHS Aux. Gym, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm ◇ G JV/V TR @ Union Invite, 4:30 pm</p>	<p>30 NO CLASSES Holiday Break</p>	<p>31</p>

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:

- March 1 - NO CLASSES, Prof. Dev.: All Day 9-12; K-8 P/T Conf. - 12-8pm
- March 2 - NO CLASSES
- March 6 - Middle School Bands Concert, VSHS Aud., 7:00 pm
- March 9 - 2 Hr. Early Dismissal, Prof. Development
- March 9 - Cabaret, VSHS, 7:00 pm
- March 11 - Daylight Saving Begins
- March 12 - School Board Meeting @ High School, 6:00 pm
- March 15 - Kindergarten Orientation; NO KDG Classes
- March 15 - Middle School Choir & Show Choir Concert @ VSHS, 7:00 pm
- March 16 - CLASSES IN SESSION, Snow Make up
- March 23 - Tiny Vike's Orientation 9:30-11:00 am
- March 23 - 2 Hr. Early Dismissal, Prof. Development
- March 23 & 24 - Middle School Play, Tilford Elem., 7:00 pm
- March 27 - B V TR Viking Early Bird, 4:30 pm @ Karr Complex

To the Vinton-Shellsburg School Community,

Even though February has only 28 days, it has as many days of learning as any other month because there are no holidays or other breaks. Although we had a few interruptions because of the weather, overall, it was a great month for teaching and learning! March makes us think about warmer days, mud, and plans for the 2018-19 school year.

Safety: All of us were saddened to learn of the shooting in Florida. It was a horrible situation and too many lives were lost or changed forever. It is unfortunate that the situation has become politicized. Here's what our students, families and staff should know about our district's procedures and plans:

- ◇ We have invested in better security for all of our buildings' offices so people have to be buzzed in during school hours.
- ◇ We lock all exterior doors throughout the day requiring those entering to come through the main office.
- ◇ We have provided ALICE training to our staff.
- ◇ We have emergency plans in place and the building administrator reviews with faculty at various times throughout the year.

Are there additional things that we could do? We are exploring different types of classroom locks and additional training. If anyone has specific questions or suggestions, please contact me or a building principal!

Plans are well underway for the 2018-19 school year including work on the budget, staffing plans and the calendar as well as summer building projects.

Budget: The school board will have their budget workshop on Monday, March 12 at Central Office. There will be tough decisions because our revenues next year are scheduled to be less than this year although we anticipate increases in utility costs, employee salaries and benefits, and other on-going expenses. The board will also be exploring paying off some of our bonds early which will save taxpayers interest payments (they already reduced the tax burden by \$1,000,000 by refinancing a few years ago).

Staffing: At the February board meeting, the board accepted early retirement applications for Deb Vaughn, high school English teacher; Lois Mulvaney, high school English, journalism and French teacher; Sara Patterson, fourth grade teacher at Tilford; and Becky Williams, the head cook at the Middle School. The Administrative Team is considering overall staffing plans for next year.

Calendar: The Calendar Committee will have a recommendation for the 2018-19 calendar at the March board meeting. It will include starting school for students on Thursday, August 23. It will also be based on semesters instead of trimesters with the first semester ending in January of 2019.

Summer Projects: We use 1-cent local option dollars along with voter approved physical plant and equipment funds to pay for busses, new roofs, flooring, technology and other "physical" parts of the school district. Our Expanded Administrative Team (directors, principals) provide a list of recommendations to the school board for their review and approval. We anticipate finishing the last part of the Tilford parking lot this summer!

If any student, parent or community member has a question about the school district, I would encourage him or her to give me a call, send me an e-mail or stop in. My phone number is 319.436.5685 and my e-mail address is maryjo.hainstock@vscsd.org. I welcome the opportunity to talk about what is going well (or not so well) in our district.

Mary Jo Hainstock
Superintendent of Schools



ENROLL NOW FOR 2018-19

Kindergarten Round-Up —
Tilford Elementary: March 15, 2018
Shellsburg Elementary: March 15, 2018
Must be 5 years old by 9/15/2018

Tiny Vike's Preschool Round-Up —
Both Elementaries: March 23, 2018
9:30-11:00 a.m.
Must be 4 years old by 9/15/2018

To Enroll Your Child

Go to VSCSD.org and click on Tilford or Shellsburg page OR call: [319-436-4736](tel:319-436-4736) Ext. 5800 or 5802 (Tilford) Ext. 5900 (Shellsburg)

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 Kim Meyer, Equity Coordinator, Vinton-Shellsburg CSD, 1502 C Avenue, Vinton, Iowa 52349. 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.

I hope this finds all of you staying dry and warm, with thoughts of spring and warm weather becoming closer to a reality. I know it is always a happy day for us here when we can put away the snow pants and boots and only put on a spring jacket. I hope you will read on, because there are several important updates I would like to let you know about.

First, I 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 23 from 9:30-11:00. The deadline for signing up is Friday, April 13. 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 calling Shellsburg Elementary or stopping in and talking to our secretary, Lori Werning. The date of our Kindergarten Round-up is Thursday, March 15 from 8:00-11:00 am.

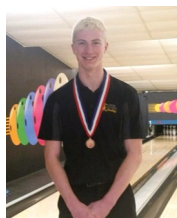
I also want to share with you about an exciting field trip our 5th graders took. For the third year, we were able to take our 5th grade students snow skiing at Sundown Mountain in Dubuque. We do this as part of our PE curriculum in an attempt to teach the students a new skill that could become a lifelong hobby. This year we had 133 students and adults participate, with the majority being first time skiers. We had a beautiful sunny day, and our students and adults went through lessons eager to learn. By the end of the day, there were many spills, but many, many more smiles. I have already heard of students that have gone home and asked when they can ski again. It was a very successful day. I have included some pictures of the day to share the smiles.

Finally, I would like to put out a call for help. We are short on substitutes for teachers, associates, and janitorial. We are always looking for good people who enjoy the school setting and are willing to be called upon when we are short of help. If you are interested or know of someone who is, please stop in to our office or to Central Office and inquire further. Thank you for considering.

As always, I'm very appreciative of the support Shellsburg Elementary gets from our parents and the community. It is a special school full of amazing students and staff. Please feel free to contact me any time if you have questions about what we do or how we can better serve our community.



Voyagers held their spring show on Sat., Feb. 17th. Voyager members include: Baylee Bruce, Brandi Gerber, Hannah Kalous, Rachel Tandy, Alba Caballero, Allissa Hendryx, Gracie Horst, Makena Solberg, Leah Bohnsack, Kailey Lazenby, Chelsee Sharp, Marjorie Davis, Maddie Farmer, Alli Kemp, Jenna Pattee, and Taylor Shipley. Baylee Bruce, Grace Horst and Allissa Hendryx received a Division I rating for their jazz solos at the Iowa State Solo Competition. Baylee Bruce also received All Iowa Honor Dance Team Member and 2018 Senior Scholarship Recipient. As a team, the dance team received a Division I rating and 4th place for their Contemporary routine, a Division I rating and 3rd place for their Hip Hop routine, and a Division I rating and 4th place for their Pom routines at the state competition. Voyagers also received the GPA Excellence Award (3.5 or higher) at state! Congratulations Voyagers! The Voyagers alumni also made an appearance showing that they still have the moves!



Cyrus Elwick advanced to State and the VS bowling team earned honorary medals at the WaMaC Conference meet.

Bowlers Cole Sharp, Taylor Berry and Madi Rippel each earned a medal at the conference meet, and Coach Pattee was named the girls WAMAC Coach of the Year.

Cyrus Elwick took 8th place at State Bowling.



Congratulations to Mike Betterton, Luke Radeke, Carter Weeks, and Scott Betterton for advancing to State Wrestling! We are proud of your accomplishments!



HIGH SCHOOL & WEST CAMPUS NEWS

On February 14, 2018, West Campus graduated four students. These students completed their graduation requirements and are about to begin the next chapter in their lives. These four students add to the previous four graduates we've already had this year bringing our total to eight so far. We are anticipating near that amount for the May graduation date. We are always excited about our graduates at West Campus as they have chosen to commit themselves to their education and their future. We are proud to have such a unique place like West Campus and look forward to the next set of graduates.

High School attendance continues to be on the rise. The classes of 2020 and 2021 continue to lead the year with the highest monthly percentages of attendance each month. Currently the class of 2021 sit atop for the month of January for attendance with a 93.1%, while the class of 2020 sits close behind with a 92.6%. These two classes account for the highest number of students with perfect attendance each month. As we all know that attendance is an important facet of high academic achievement, these two classes are setting the standard for what we expect of all of our students and their attendance.

FFA Yearly Review

By: Franki Evans, Co-Reporter

So far this school year, we have had great participation from all members, during fruit sales, holiday party, Greenhand events, meetings and other activities. Overall, we've had many members be active this year and we hope to keep that momentum going and encourage all members to participate in the many opportunities that are given with leadership events coming up. There are many items, events, and activities coming up for our chapter and they are sub-districts, districts, and state leadership events, and we are also waiting to hear back from the National Chapter Award to see how our chapter will be ranked in our state, and hopefully our application will move on to the national level for ranking there.

VINTON-SHELLSBURG HIGH SCHOOL 2018-19 COURSES

Parents/Guardians,

V-S High School has begun student course requests for the 2018-19 school year. The guidance department has been collecting all of the student course request information and will begin entering that specific data in PowerSchool. The software system in PowerSchool will help determine placement of classes within the master schedule trying to avoid as many conflicts as possible. The guidance department will also manipulate the placement of some courses as well to avoid conflicts that PowerSchool did not recognize. Our goal is to have all student schedules completed and finalized by the end of the school year.

Beginning next school year, the high school will be transitioning from trimesters to semesters. A few of the reasons for the switch are due to fewer students in the building, closer alignment with post-secondary institutions, potential to share our courses with other districts, and less conflicts with state activities. In the semester schedule, students will be taking eight courses over the course of the semester with each period lasting 45 minutes in length. Overall, students and teachers will be receiving more instructional time in the semester schedule compared to trimesters. Also with the transition, graduation requirements will be changed. The class of 2019 will need 28.5 credits, class of 2020 will need 28 credits, class of 2021 will need 27.5, and the class of 2022 and beyond will need 27 credits.

If you have questions regarding scheduling of courses, please feel free to contact myself or the high school guidance department. Thanks

Matt Kingsbury
V-S High School Principal
319-436-4728 (School)
"Fostering Growth and Success"

VSHS CHOIR

We had a number of students attend honor choirs around the state this winter. Students were chosen for their interest, ability, and enthusiastic involvement in the choral department.

Dorian Vocal Festival at Luther College (Jan. 14-15): Alicia Morin, Trey Rouse, Casey Funk

Meistersinger Honor Choir at Wartburg College (Jan. 21-22): Alicia Morin, Trey Rouse

Central Singfest at Central College (Feb. 8): Meredith Glynn, Trey Rouse, Dalton Hill

University of Iowa Honors Festival (Feb. 17-18): Cassie Hazen, Davia Herger, Denise Perez, Jonah Smith

The Jazz Band got a Division II rating at the State Jazz Festival, which is considered Excellent by the Iowa High School Music Association.

The Jazz Band can be heard locally, along with all other VSHS music ensembles at Cabaret on Friday, March 9th. Tickets are on sale now through Nick Waymire, the director of bands at Vinton-Shellsburg High School, and may also be purchased at the door. All seating is reserved for the Cabaret concert, so if you want a good choice of seat we strongly encourage you to lock-in your selection by ordering in advance.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

End of 2nd Trimester

The end of the trimester awards was scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2018. Students who participated in basketball, wrestling, honor choir, student of the trimester, and attendance for 2nd trimester, and honor roll will be recognized March 7th.

Scheduling

8th grade students are signing up for high school classes and they met at the high school for freshman orientation Tuesday, February 20, 2018. We will begin scheduling classes for 7th and 8th grade in March. Incoming 6th graders at Shellsburg will begin sign up end of March beginning of April.

Spring Events

As the year is winding to a close we have several extra-curricular events scheduled for the spring. Students will begin track camp at the beginning of March and practices will begin shortly after. Band and Choir students are preparing for their final performances for the year. Middle School Play will perform March 23rd and 24th in the Tilford Auditorium.

End of the Year Events Schedule

March 6th – Band Concert- 7:00 pm High School Auditorium
March 15th- Choir/Show Choir- 7:00 pm High School Auditorium
March 23rd and 24th Middle School Play Tilford Auditorium
March 30th and April 2nd No School
May 16th Presidential Awards- 7:00 pm
May 24th End of Year Field Trips
May 25th Last Day of School