




Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px;"> <p>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.</p> </div>					<p>1 NO CLASSES PROF. DEV.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ FB Cheerleading Wrap-up, VS-HS Commons, 6:00 pm ◇ 1st Round State FB Playoffs 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Cheerleading State Competition, Iowa State Fairgrounds (DM) ◇ V CC State Co-Ed @ Fort Dodge (Lakeside GC), 11:00 am ◇ Girls Regional Swim Meet @ Linn-Mar, 12:00 pm
National FFA Conference @ Indianapolis 10/29 -11/2						
<p>3 Sunday</p> 	<p>5 Day 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ FAFSA Workshop, VS-HS LMC, 2:30—6:30 pm (By Appointment Only) ◇ 9-12 Football Wrap-up, HS Commons, 6:00 pm <p style="text-align: center;">ELECTION DAY</p>	<p>6 Day 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Band Booster Meeting, Band Room, 6:30 pm 	<p>7 Day 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ 7 G BB @ Independence (West Elem.), 4:15 pm ◇ 8 G BB vs. Independence, 4:15 pm ◇ FFA Pork BBQ & Meeting, 6:30 pm 	<p>8 Day 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ MS WR vs. Center Point-Urbana, Clear Creek-Amana & Iowa Valley; VSMS, 4:15 pm ◇ Chamber Choir Retreat, 5:00 pm ◇ Girls State Swim Meet @ Marshalltown YMCA, 5:30 pm ◇ FB State Quarterfinals 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Girls State Swim Meet @ Marshalltown YMCA 	
<p>4 Day 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ 9-12 Cross Country Wrap-up, HS Commons, 6:30 pm 						
<p>11 Day 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ B SW Practice Begins ◇ G BB Practice Begins ◇ Bowling Practice Begins ◇ Veteran's Day Assembly, VS-MS, 9:30 am ◇ 7 G BB @ Marion (Vernon MS), 4:15 pm ◇ 8 G BB vs. Marion, 4:15 pm ◇ WaMaC Choral Concert @ Marion HS, 1:00 Rehearsal; 7:00 pm Concert <p style="text-align: center;">VETERAN'S DAY</p>	<p>12 Day 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Tilford Elem. Picture Retakes, 8:30 am ◇ MS WR vs. S. Tama & Williamsburg, 4:15 pm <p style="text-align: center;">WORLD KINDNESS DAY</p>	<p>13 Day 2</p>	<p>14 Day 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ 7 G BB vs. Mount Vernon MS, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 G BB @ Mount Vernon MS, 4:15 pm 	<p>15 Day 4</p> <p>2-HR EARLY DISMISSAL PROF. DEV.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ 7 G BB vs. Oelwein, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 G BB @ Oelwein, 4:15 pm ◇ MS WR vs. Benton & Indee @ Benton (Keystone), 4:15 pm 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ FFA, NHS, & GoVS Christmas Roping, 9:00 am ◇ VS Wrestling Club Tourney, VS-HS, 9:00 am ◇ FB State Semi-finals 	
STATE VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT 11/12—11/15						
<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ V Cheerleading Honor Squad Practice @ Ames, 8:00 am 	<p>19 Day 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ MS WR vs. CCA, Tipton @ Mount Vernon, 4:15 pm ◇ WaMaC Band Festival @ Clear Creek-Amana; 1:00 Rehearsal; 7:00 pm Concert 	<p>20 Day 1</p>	<p>21 Day 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ All-State Musical Festival @ Ames ◇ MS & HS Opus Honor Choir @ Ames ◇ V Cheerleading Honor Squad Practice @ UNI-Dome, 2:30 pm ◇ 7 G BB @ S. Tama, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 G BB vs. S. Tama, 4:15 pm 	<p>22 Day 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ All-State Musical Festival @ Ames ◇ V Cheerleading Honor Squad Practice @ UNI-Dome, 7:30 am ◇ 7 GBB vs. Benton, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 G BB @ Benton, (Atkins), 4:15 pm ◇ MS WR vs. West Delaware & Marion @ Vernon MS, 4:15 pm ◇ JV/V G BB Hall of Pride Scrimmage vs. Belle Plaine, 6:00/7:30 pm ◇ V FB State Championship 	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ All-State Musical Festival @ Ames 	
AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK 11/18—11/22						
<p>25 Day 4</p>	<p>26 Day 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ F-S/JV/V G BB vs. West Delaware, 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm 	<p>27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO CLASSES Thanksgiving Break</p>	<p>28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO CLASSES Thanksgiving Break</p> 	<p>29</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO CLASSES Thanksgiving Break</p>	<p>30</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."

To the Vinton-Shellsburg School Community,

I'm not quite ready to start getting up early to listen to the National Weather Association's "situation room" phone calls on bad weather mornings. They have already issued one of their reports that includes snowfall predictions for our area. I would rather enjoy fall days of sunshine and warmer temperatures! The colors on the trees have been especially beautiful this year and I'm not sure the Tilford campus has ever been more beautiful.

As I write this, we have our parent-teacher conferences scheduled for this week. Thank you to the parents who attended to learn more about their children's educational experiences. Our teachers have compiled a great deal of data and information about each student as they prepare for the conversations.

Our fall activities are mostly finished and the winter season's activities are already started. Our marching band received another division I rating at state which is a great accomplishment.

School board elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5. This is a change from having them in September and follows legislative action to align the school's election with city and other votes. We have seven board members who each serve four-year terms. Our district includes at-large positions (which means the candidates can live anywhere in the district) and positions that represent either the former Vinton school district (Director District #1) or the former Shellsburg school district (Director District #2).

We have three individuals who decided not to seek reelection – they include Brenda Bartz, Jason Hicok and Kyle Schminke. The district has greatly benefited from their dedication to students and willingness to serve the district.

We have four seats on the November ballot. One is an at-large position; Kathy Van Steenhuyse is an incumbent for this position and no one else filed papers for the seat. Two positions will serve Director District #1 (the former Vinton school district); we have three people running for the two seats – Tom Burke, Audra Piotti and Becky Williams. The final position will serve Director District #2 (the former Shellsburg school district); Jake Fish has filed papers for this position. Please vote! The polls will be open from 7 AM – 8 PM.

We filed several state reports in October. The most exciting news is that our Certified Enrollment shows that we have a few more students this year than last year! We still have more students who open enroll out to other districts than come into us; when we've contacted the families why they open enroll out the overwhelming response has to do with convenience.

As you review the November calendar, notice that we will not have school on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (November 27). When we survey our families and staff about the upcoming year's calendar, a large majority of respondents tell us they prefer this as a no-school day. Watch for the survey for the 2020-21 calendar in January or February.

Make plans now to attend our annual Veterans' Day program on November 11. It will be at the Middle School and starts at 9:30. I'm confident it is one of the best anywhere in the state.

Please contact me with any questions, comments or concerns.
Mary Jo Hainstock, Superintendent - maryjo.hainstock@vscsd.org

Special points of interest:

- Nov. 1—NO CLASSES, Prof. Dev.
- Nov. 5—Election Day
- Nov. 11—Veteran's Day Program, VS Middle School, 9:30 am
- Nov. ??—School Board Meeting, Central Office., TBD
- Nov. 18-22—American Education Week
- Nov. 27-29—NO CLASSES, THANKSGIVING BREAK

VINTON-SHELLSBURG CSD Needs you! We need substitute teacher associates and food service personnel for all buildings. Please consider being a substitute for our district. The choice is yours as to when and where you want to work. Stop by the Superintendent's office and grab an application!

V-S CSD also is in need of certified teacher substitutes. Whether you have a teaching license, a substitute license or a substitute authorization, we would love to have you work in our district. The choice is yours as to when and where you want to work. The application can be found on-line at www.vscsd.org. Please turn in your application, a copy of your license, and a copy of your Mandatory Reporter certificate to the Superintendent's office at 1502 C Ave., Vinton. Once you are board approved we will place you on our call list.

"It takes each of us to make a difference for all of us." Be a difference maker!

VOTE on November 5th!!!

Your vote makes a difference, be a difference maker!

Precinct hours

7:00 am—8:00 pm



Vinton Shellsburg Competition Cheer Team after a great showing at the Triton Challenge at ICCC in Fort Dodge!

Congratulations to all of our CC athletes on a fantastic season! Huge shout out to senior Cam Karr for placing 8th and qualifying for the state cross country meet in Fort Dodge!



District 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. 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.



Iowa's History Teacher of the Year

A teacher from the Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District has been named Iowa's History Teacher of the Year! Kelly Steffen is a 19-year teaching veteran at the Vinton-Shellsburg district, spending the last 18 years teaching American history at Vinton-Shellsburg High School. Steffen ensures student engagement by focusing on the relevance presented in historical context. "I have a special appreciation for teachers who go beyond rote memorization of dates and names," said Iowa Department of Education Director Ryan Wise, himself a former social studies teacher. "Kelly makes history come alive by making the subject relevant and engaging. She is a leader in this field."



"Finding relevance is one way I work to engage students," Steffen said. "Another is to utilize primary sources, so that students can draw their own conclusions."

Steffen's award is through the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, following a recommendation from an Iowa Department of Education committee.

The Gilder Lehrman Institute promotes and celebrates accomplishments in American history education and scholarship, and every year honors one exemplary, elementary, middle, or high school history teacher from all 50 states, Department of Defense schools, Washington, D.C., and U.S. territories. State winners receive a \$1,000 prize, an archive of classroom resources, and recognition at a ceremony in their state, and are considered for the National History Teacher of the Year award.

Why did you become a history teacher?

As an elementary school student, I had a love for all things history. I checked out and read any books connected to history, especially presidential history. The librarian was kind enough to order new books for me once I was done with a certain era. As I moved on to high school, I had a wonderful history teacher at Cedar Rapids' Jefferson, Jim Taylor, whose love for history and our ability to analyze and question it made me realize this was something I wanted to be a part of.

How would you define "social studies," and why is studying it so important?

The disciplines that make up "social studies" teach us how to understand ourselves, how to understand those around us, how to understand our past, and how utilizing this information can help us become educated, contributing members of society. We study social studies, so that we may be well-informed, contributing members of society.

How do you engage your students and make history come alive in your classroom? Why is engaging students important?

Finding relevance is one way I work to engage students. Another is to utilize primary sources, so that students can draw their own conclusions. I hope that my passion is what they feel when we approach topics in class. I have an administration that allows field trips locally and nationally. I promote opportunities that allow students to interact with the public, like hosting a Cold War Museum and inviting community members and administration to observe student work. Engaging students is necessary in order to help build a community of contributing members of society.

How do you emphasize state and local history in your classroom?

This is an area that I am looking to improve and the new social studies standards and resources have been helpful with making that more of a reality. I do invite local veterans to speak about their experiences with 20th century conflicts or other local experts regarding religion or historical events. I also have students visit our local history and Veterans Museum.

What would you like to tell teachers across Iowa?

WE ALL work really hard to ensure the best learning opportunities for our students. I feel honored to be surrounded by people who love what they do and inspire the next generation.

CONGRATULATIONS MRS. STEFFEN!!!

Vinton-Shellsburg Viking Regiment

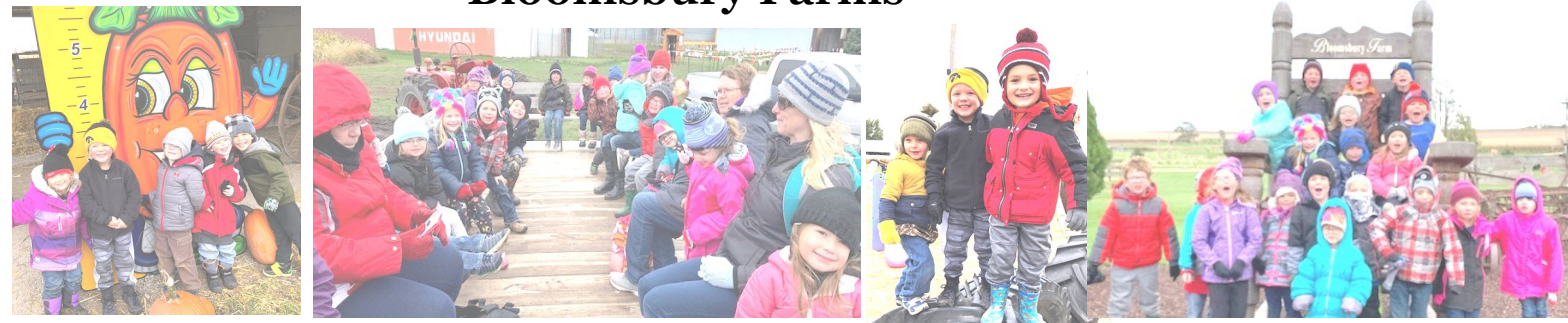
On August 1st, most students were enjoying the last few weeks of summer before school started again on August 23rd. A select few dedicated leaders in the band, however, were learning how they could help their peers have a successful marching band season. The rest of the Vinton-Shellsburg Viking Regiment, the district's high school marching band, joined them on August 5th, and thus, marching band camp had begun. While it may seem unpleasant in the moment, most students agree that band camp is necessary in order to achieve the level of success that they desire. This year, that was especially true. During band camp, the students were able to learn all of the music and half of the drill (movements on the field) that they would need to learn for the whole season in just two weeks! That foundation laid the groundwork for 5th place and three 3rd place finishes throughout the season, along with caption awards for best drum major and best color guard at Bands Across the Prairie, and culminated in the Viking Regiment's 14th consecutive Division I Superior rating at the IHSMA State Marching Festival in Cedar Rapids on October 12th. That performance at state resulted in the highest score (77.8) on file for the Viking Regiment, dating back to 2013 with sporadic scores dating back to 2010, and was 9.8 points higher than the required score of 68 to earn a Division I rating.

Looking to improve on the success from this year, the band is fundraising for new uniforms for the start of the 2020 marching band season! The new uniforms are designed to incorporate a 'V' and an 'S' in the design, with our school black and gold as the primary colors, while incorporating a slightly more contemporary design. Any donation towards these new uniforms would be greatly appreciated! We already have over half of the funds accounted for, and hope to have all funds accumulated by the beginning of February. Checks can be made out to the Vinton Community Foundation - VSFACC (Vinton-Shellsburg Fine Arts Century Club). Please note "VS Marching Uniforms" in the memo line. Donations can be mailed to Farmers Savings Bank at: 401 B Avenue, Vinton, IA 52349

OPUS HONOR CHOIR

Ms. Michala Martin, Choral Director at Vinton-Shellsburg High School, is pleased to announce that Maddie Beauchamp, Darby Glynn, and Ellery Johnson were recently selected for participation in the thirty-second annual Opus Honor Choir Festival. Over 2600 students were nominated by their directors for 720 positions in the four Opus Honor Choirs. Selections were made by means of a recorded audition. Guest conductors of the choirs include Roger Jensen, Retired, Treynor, 5th & 6th Grade Honor Choir; Joseph Tangen, Pella Middle School, 7th & 8th Grade Bass Clef Honor Choir; Collete McClellan, Mid Prairie High School, Wellman, 7th & 8th Grade Treble Clef Honor Choir; and Dr. John Flanery, Bishop Heelan Schools, Sioux City, 9th Grade Mixed Honor Choir. The 2019 Opus Honor Choirs will perform at 4:00pm on November 21st in C.Y. Stephens Auditorium in the Iowa State Center in Ames. The Opus Honor Choir Festival is made possible by the Iowa Choral Directors Association, Inc.

Bloomsbury Farms



After a strong start to the season, the swim team has more recently had a good lesson in being flexible and making due with what you've got. The home pool has been out of commission since September 18. After two weeks of doing dryland practices, arrangements were made to travel to Waterloo and Amana to get in some pool time a couple days a week. Our numbers shrank a bit as some girls couldn't commit to four hours each night for practices. The girls who did stay on managed to maintain their times reasonably well in the interim. Now, after a couple weeks of slightly more regular practices, times are starting to come down again - just in time to prepare for the State-qualifying District meet on Nov 2. Both the Medley Relay and 200 Freestyle Relay are currently ranked well and stand a good chance of qualifying for State. Time will tell!

Some season highlights have been seeing the highest participation in recent past with 22 girls swimming this season! VSU also won their only home meet - a dual against Williamsburg on Aug 26. The girls swam another gutsy meet in September to win the 5-team Williamsburg Invitational.



VSU will eat up any pool time we can get until the end of the season - which will hopefully culminate in a trip to Marshalltown for the IGHSAU State Swim Meet on Nov 9!

Thank you to Williamsburg for making us feel right at "home" - streamers, personal notes & a poster for the seniors on senior night...what a classy group of ladies!

In case you didn't know, Central Office remodeled over the summer. We are still located in the SW corner of the Middle School, but our door is now located around the corner on the south side and faces the ball diamond. (Look for new signage soon!) Have you been introduced to Central Office staff? Coryn Downes-Accounts Payable; Becky Lutgen-Human Resource Specialist & Counselor (Shared with Benton CSD); Brenda Barkdoll-Business Manager; Crystal Coder-Payroll/Benefits; Karrie Barding-Administrative Secretary; Mrs. Mary Jo Hainstock-Superintendent & Sherry Wilmot-Accounts Payable.



What we're doing in the district

Friday, October 11th was **Iowa Local Food Day**, and throughout the district students enjoyed a variety of Iowa-grown and produced foods. Student responses have been overwhelmingly positive, and on Local Food Day we almost ran out of our Kalona, Iowa sweet potatoes! While this day received a bit more publicity, including an article in Vinton Today, it is only a marker of the many hard efforts that have gone and are currently going in to integrating more local food into the school lunch menu!

By Katherine Stuelke

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

