

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:

- Sept. 4—NO SCHOOL - LABOR DAY
- Sept. 8— 2-Hr. Early Dismissal Prof. Development
- Sept. 12—School Board Election
- Sept. 18—Board Meeting @ Central Office, 7:00 pm
- Sept. 19—VS Staff Fun Run @ VS-HS, 4:00 pm
- Sept. 22— 2-Hr. Early Dismissal Prof. Development
- Sept. 28— Homecoming Parade
- Sept. 29—Homecoming Dance, VSHS, 9:00—Midnight

School Board Elections

will be held on Tuesday, September 12. Polls open from 12-8 PM. Vote at the Benton Co. Courthouse. Three seats are up for election:
Sue Gates, At Large
Rob Levis, At Large
Mike Timmermans, District 1

Don't forget to get out and vote!

**SCHOOL FACILITIES
USE CHANGES**

The V-S School Board recently made adjustments to the board policy concerning facility use. Their intent is to continue to allow as many outside groups to use our buildings and grounds but recognize there are costs that go with the use. Consequently, there will be increased fees that outside groups will pay to help cover for custodial fees, utilities, and other costs. Groups are classified into five different categories – school-sponsored or affiliated in serving students directly; nonprofit; nonprofit city, government and political agencies; business or for-profit organizations or individuals within the school district; and out-of-district groups. Rates for the groups vary based on the group (no charge for school-sponsored/affiliated) and on the area of the school (classrooms, cafeterias, gyms, etc.). There will also be a charge for a supervisor to be present. We will be implementing a new process to schedule facilities that will include access to calendars that show what areas are or are not available. What our website for further updates!

To the Vinton-Shellsburg School Community,

It has been a great start to the new school year! August was a full month with registration, computer check-out nights, back-to-school nights, fall sports and activities starting, and the first days of school! Thank you to all of the parents, grandparents, daycare providers, neighbors and others who help get the 1600+ students to school and back each day.

At our first all-staff meeting, I emphasized some of the reasons we should all be proud to be a part of the Vinton-Shellsburg school district. From last spring's assessment data, there are a few highlights:

- *Over 84% of our 11th grade students were proficient in reading and over 90% were proficient in math.
- *Our students in 6th-8th grades have made significant gains in the number who are proficient from six years ago. Almost 93% of our 8th graders were proficient in math; 92% of our 7th graders, and almost 85% of our 6th graders were proficient math. In reading, we had almost 90% of 8th graders, 85% of 7th graders and almost 80% of our 6th graders.
- *At the elementary level, over 90% of our 3rd graders, 88% of our 4th graders and almost 88% of our 5th graders were proficient in reading. Math was almost as impressive with 3rd graders at 88%, 4th graders at 87% and 5th graders at 86%.

While those numbers are impressive, they are even more remarkable when compared to the other schools in the Grant Wood AEA (the schools in Benton, Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn and Washington counties).

- ⇒ Elementary students were 1st in the AEA in reading.
- ⇒ Elementary students were 2nd in the AEA in math.
- ⇒ Middle School students were 2nd in the AEA in math. (7th and 8th were 1st compared to their peers.)
- ⇒ Middle School students were 4th in the AEA in reading.
- ⇒ High School students were 4th in the AEA in reading and 5th in math.

Jim Struve, our activities director, recently compiled a summary of 2016-17 activities and it included:

- ◇ Several teams and individuals qualified for state competition including both individual and large group speech students, girls' cross country, girls' bowling, two wrestlers, several in girls' and boys' track, and girls' golf.
- ◇ Marching Band and Jazz Band received Division I ratings at state festival.
- ◇ Two students were offered Division I scholarships for athletics.

Other reasons to be proud of our district include the facilities our students use every day, the great staff who work with them every day, and the students themselves.

While these data points are from the 2016-17 year, I am confident that we have processes and systems in place that will support another great year of teaching and learning! Our elementary teachers spent a great deal of time this summer preparing to use our new reading series and our middle school math teachers attended training to support their use of a new textbook series.

We have several new staff members who have joined the district including eight teachers. They all bring different experiences, training and passion to their role here in the district. We believe we hired great people who will assist our students in their learning! They will all be difference makers in the lives of our students!

It is great to have everyone back in the buildings and we are positioned for a great school year. Remember – School Board Elections are Tuesday, September 12th with the polls open from 12-8 PM. PLEASE VOTE!

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about the school district, please contact me!
Mary Jo Hainstock, Superintendent
maryjo.hainstock@vscsd.org

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 CSD 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.

**Vinton Shellsburg Boys and Girls Golf Teams
Four Person Best Shot Golf Tournament**

Saturday, September 26, 2015 9:00 am
Vinton Country Club, 314 N 9th Avenue, Vinton

Cost: \$30.00 per golfer
(includes green fees, flight prizes, stake prizes, and lunch)



Register by September 15, 2016
(Registration form found @ VS High School and Vinton Country Club)

All proceeds will go to support the Vinton Shellsburg Boys and Girls golf teams!



SEPTEMBER 2017



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 between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm.</p> </div>				1 Day 2 ◇ F/S FB vs. Union, 5:00 pm ◇ V FB vs. Union, 7:30 pm	2 ◇ Speech Trash Pick-up, 8:00 am ◇ V VB Vikette Tourney, VS-HS, 9:00 am
4 NO SCHOOL Labor Day 	5 Day 3 ◇ 7 VB @ Benton (Norway), 4:15 pm ◇ 8 VB vs. Benton, 4:15pm ◇ 9/10/JV/V VB @ Marion, 5:00/6:00/7:30 ◇ B/G MS/JV/V CC @ Grinnell (Ahrens Park), 4:15/4:50/5:15 pm ◇ G SW @ C.R. Jefferson Invitational, 6:00 pm	6 Day 4 ◇ High School Picture Day	7 Day 5 ◇ 7 VB vs. Clear Creek-Amana, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 VB @ Clear Creek-Amana (Tiffin), 4:15 pm ◇ 7 FB vs. Clear Creek-Amana, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 FB @ Clear Creek-Amana, 4:15 pm ◇ 10/JV/V VB vs. W. Dubuque, 6:00/7:30pm	8 Day 6 2-Hr. Early Dismissal PROF. DEV. ◇ F/S FB @ Decorah, 5:00 pm ◇ V FB @ Decorah, 7:30 pm International Literacy Day	9 ◇ Vocal Workshop @ Linn-Mar ◇ FFA State Dairy Cattle @ North Fayette Valley 8:00 am ◇ B/G MS/JV/V CC @ Benton (Atkins), 8:30/9:00 am ◇ 9 VB @ CR Washington Invite, 9:00 am ◇ V VB @ Linn-Mar Tourney, 9:00 am ◇ G SW @ Waterloo Invite (Central Pool) 12:00 pm
11 Day 1 ◇ Shellsburg Picture Day ◇ G SW @ Williamsburg Invite, 5:30 pm ◇ 9/10 VB @ Oelwein, 6:00 pm  Patriot Day	12 Day 2 ◇ UNI College Fair, 9:00-11:00 am ◇ 7 VB @ Williamsburg (Mary Welsh Elem), 4:15 pm ◇ 8 VB vs. Williamsburg, 4:15 pm ◇ 7 FB @ Center Point-Urbana, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 FB vs. Center Point-Urbana, 4:15 pm ◇ 9/10/JV/V VB @ Williamsburg, 5:00/6:00/7:30 pm VOTE TODAY!!!!	13 Day 3 Positive Thinking Day	14 Day 4 ◇ FFA @ NICC, (Calmar) 8:30 am ◇ B/G MS/JV/V CC @ Cedar Falls (Birdsall Park), 4:15/4:30 pm ◇ G V SW vs. Grinnell & Marshalltown @ Grinnell Bear RAC, 7:00 pm ◇ V VB vs. Beckman, Cascade & Oelwein @ Oelwein, 5:00 pm	15 Day 5 ◇ F/S FB vs. Waverly-Shell Rock, 5:00 pm ◇ V FB vs. Waverly-Shell Rock, 7:30 pm POW/MIA Recognition Day	16 ◇ Speech Trash Pick-up, 8:00 am ◇ Golf Fundraiser @ VCC ◇ 9 VB @ Oelwein Tourney, 9:00 am ◇ 10 VB Vikette Tourney, 9:00 am
18 Day 6 ◇ 7 VB @ Marion MS, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 VB vs. Marion, 4:15pm ◇ 9 VB vs. Union @ Gladbrook-Reinbeck, 6:00 pm ◇ FFA Chapter Meeting, Kiwanis Park, 6:30 pm ◇ School Board Meeting @ Central Office, 7:00 pm	19 Day 1 ◇ Fun Run @ VS-HS, 4:00 pm ◇ B/G MS/JV/V CC @ VS-HS, 4:30/5:00 pm ◇ 7 FB vs. Independence, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 FB @ Independence, 4:15 pm ◇ G SW vs. Williamsburg (IBSSS), 4:30 pm ◇ 9/10/JV/V VB vs. Indee, 5:00/6:00/7:30 pm	20 Day 2 SEPTEMBER IS Self-Improvement Month!	21 Day 3 ◇ 7 VB vs. Benton, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 VB @ Benton (Norway), 4:15 pm ◇ HS Academic Awards, Aud., 7:00 pm International Day of Peace	22 Day 4 2-Hr. Early Dismissal PROF. DEV. ◇ F/S FB @ S. Tama, 5:00 pm ◇ V FB @ S. Tama, 7:30 pm First Day of Autumn Native American Day	23 ◇ Farm Safety Camp @ Benton County Fairgrounds, 8:00 am ◇ 10 VB @ CR Jefferson Invite., 8:30 am ◇ 9 VB Vikette Tourney, 9:00 am ◇ JV VB @ North Tama Tourney, 9:00 am ◇ Marion Marching Invite @ Thomas Park, TBA
25 Day 5 ◇ 7 VB vs. South Tama, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 VB @ South Tama MS, 4:15 pm ◇ B/G MS/JV/V CC @ Clear Creek-Amana (IC Kickers Soccer Park) 4:30/5:00 pm	26 Day 6 ◇ 7 VB vs. Independence, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 VB @ Independence (W. Elem.), 4:15 pm ◇ 7 FB @ South Tama MS, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 FB vs. South Tama, 4:15 pm ◇ 9/10/JV/V VB @ Center Point-Urbana, 5:00/6:00/7:30 pm ◇ G V SW @ Grinnell (Bear RAC), 7:00 pm	27 Day 1	28 Day 2 ◇ Homecoming Parade, 6:00 pm ◇ Homecoming Coronation & Powder Puff Football Game, Karr Athletic Complex, 7:00 pm National Good Neighbor Day	29 Day 3 ◇ F/S FB vs. Charles City, 5:00 pm ◇ V FB vs. Charles City, 7:30 pm (Homecoming) ◇ Hall of Fame Induction –Varsity Halftime ◇ Homecoming Dance, VSHS, 9:00-Midnight ◇ Hall of Fame Reception @ VCC, 9:00 pm	30 ◇ V VB @ Columbus Catholic Tourney, 9:00 am ◇ Marching Band <i>Bands Across the Prairie</i> , @ Prairie HS

September is Attendance Awareness Month!
 Help Your Child Succeed in School by building a habit of good attendance early!

Did you know?

***Starting** in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school; ***Missing** 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read; ***Students** can fall behind if they miss just one or two days of school every few weeks; ***Absences** can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up; ***Poor** attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by the end of third grade.

Vinton-Shellsburg Schools are working to improve chronic absences by working more closely with families. Let us know how we can help you get your child to school on a regular basis so they don't miss out on valuable instruction time. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Molly Noren, VS Student Service Coordinator at 436-4728 ext. 5867 or molly.noren@vscsd.org.