

# 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:

Hello everyone,

I already know our community is proud and supportive of our school system. I would like to share more reasons why to be proud of what the students and staff accomplish every day. Vinton-Shellsburg's two elementary schools were named to the top 50 elementary schools in Iowa by U.S. News and World Report. Shellsburg's five grades, Pre-Kindergarten through 4th grade, ranked 50th among Iowa's 614 elementary schools. Tilford, with grades Kindergarten through 4th grade, ranked #23. Vinton-Shellsburg Middle School was ranked #18 out of 376 middle schools in the state of Iowa. The U.S. News and World Report rankings focused on scores for reading and math and shared other important data points.

Recently, we have received our school performance profile data that compared our Pre-COVID data to our Post-COVID data. This data was compared to all the other area schools in the Grant Wood Area Education Agency and the state. The Vinton-Shellsburg School District improved our ratings in 2 of 4 attendance centers. Three of four attendance centers were rated as "commendable" by the state, with our middle school receiving a "High Performing" designation. This is the first year the district has had all four attendance centers with a rating of commendable or higher. Our strength areas were the amount of proficient students in math and English language arts. We outpaced the state average of proficient students by eight percentage points in English language arts and fourteen percentage points in math. Our largest growth areas come from our conditions of learning, survey information and our four year graduation rate. Given the challenges that the pandemic has presented over the past two years I think these results speak volumes of the resiliency of our students and staff. We should all be very proud of our results and use these results as a platform to build upon going forward.

Finally, at the middle school and the high school level we have so many extracurricular activities going on over the next two months. Please come in and be a part of the action, we would love to see you here supporting our students. If you can't make it, please remember that we have been broadcasting our high school basketball games online and that is a great way to watch and support our students as well. In fact, if you have a family member that lives out of town or has a difficult time being able to make it into games, please let them know about our YouTube channel "Go Vikes". Thank you all for your continued support of the Vinton-Shellsburg School District and as always, if you have questions please feel free to send me an email or call at any time. I hope you all have a great February!

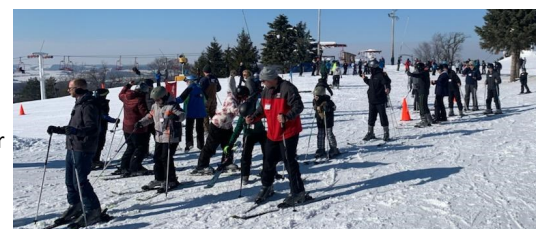
Sincerely,

Kyle Koeppen, Superintendent

## SHELLSBURG ELEMENTARY

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Ski Trip

On January 13, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class got to go to Sundown Ski Resort in Dubuque to learn how to downhill ski. All of the kids, and the brave parents that went along, got to go through eight lesson stations where they learned everything from how to stand on skis to weaving in and out of flags as they go down the hill. When students felt comfortable with their techniques, they were ready to try the bigger hills. The weather was perfect for us and a fun time was had by all. Many students said they loved learning a new sport and can't wait to go back and try it again.



### Preschool & Kindergarten

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 9 from 9:00-11:00 am and 12:00—2:00 pm. 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 Monday, March 21 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

### ***Special points of interest:***

- Feb. 4—2-Hr. Early Dismissal, Prof. Development
- Feb. 18—NO CLASSES, Prof. Development
- Feb. 19—Zaps ACT Workshop, VSHS 9:00 am
- Feb. 21—NO CLASSES (1st snow make-up)
- Feb. 26—Voyager Spring Show, VSMS, 7:00 pm




Results from Finals session at Girls State:

- ◇ Bree Swenson won by pin over Waukon to place 3rd
- ◇ Bailey Weeks loses by pin to Iowa City West to place 4th
- ◇ Team places 10th overall out of 146 schools

Girls wrestling is officially sanctioned for the 2022-2023 season! We are unsure what this will look like exactly for our school and throughout the state yet, but we do know that our girls, and all those competing, have worked hard and deserve this! Thank you to the IGHSAU for your efforts in making this happen!

# FEBRUARY 2022

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">                     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.                 </div>	<b>1 Day 5</b> ◇ FFA Legislative Symposium @ Ankeny, 8:00 am - 3:00 pm ◇ FS/JV/V G BB vs. Center Point-Urbana, 4:30/6:00/7:15 pm ◇ 9/10/V B BB @ Center Point-Urbana, 4:30/6:00/7:15 pm	<b>2 Day 6</b> ◇ FFA NE District Review/ Officer Interviews @ Beckman Catholic, 12:00 pm	<b>3 Day 1</b> ◇ 7 B BB vs. Mount Vernon, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB @ Mount Vernon, 4:15 pm	<b>4 Day 2</b> <b>2-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL Prof. Dev.</b> ◇ V BOWL vs. Benton @ Berry's Lanes, 3:30 pm ◇ 9/10/V B BB vs. Benton, 4:30/6:00/7:15 pm ◇ FFA Spaghetti Dinner, HS Commons, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm ◇ FS/V G BB @ Benton, 6:00/7:15 pm	<b>5</b> ◇ Speech State Large Group @ C.R. Kennedy ◇ V WR Sectionals @ West Delaware, 12:00 pm ◇ B V SW Districts @ Linn-Mar Aquatic Center, 12:00 pm
<b>7 Day 3</b> ◇ 7 B BB vs. Center Point-Urbana, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB @ Center Point-Urbana, 4:15pm ◇ B JV BB @ Benton, 6:30 pm	<b>8 Day 4</b> ◇ 7 B BB vs. Oelwein, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB @ Oelwein, 4:15 pm ◇ FS/JV/V G BB vs. W'burg, 4:30/6:00/7:15 pm ◇ 9/10/V B BB @ W'burg, 4:30/6:00/7:15 pm ◇ V WR Regionals, TBA	<b>9 Day 5</b>	<b>10 Day 6</b> ◇ Northern Festival of Bands @ UNI ◇ 7 B BB @ Solon, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB vs. Solon, 4:15 pm	<b>11 Day 1</b> ◇ Northern Festival of Bands @ UNI ◇ FFA Contest Preview Night, VSHS, 4:00 pm—8:00 pm ◇ 9/10/V B BB @ Maquoketa 4:30/6:00/7:15 pm	<b>12</b> ◇ Northern Festival of Bands @ UNI ◇ V WR Districts vs. Maquoketa @ Assumption, 11:00 am ◇ V BOWL WaMaC Tourney @ Manchester (Lightning Lanes), 1:00 pm ◇ G V BB Regionals, TBA, 7:00 pm
<b>14 Day 2</b> ◇ 7 B BB @ S. Tama, 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB vs. S. Tama, 4:15 pm  Valentine's Day	<b>15 Day 3</b> ◇ V BOWL Regionals, TBA ◇ 9/10/V B BB @ Marion, 4:30/6:00/7:15 pm	<b>16 Day 4</b> ◇ Midwest ACDA Honor Choir @ Chicago, IL	<b>17 Day 5</b> ◇ Midwest ACDA Honor Choir @ Chicago, IL ◇ Tallcorn Jazz Festival @ UNI ◇ 7 B BB @ Marion (Vernon MS), 4:15 pm ◇ 8 B BB vs. Marion, 4:15 pm	<b>18 NO CLASSES Prof. Dev.</b> ◇ Midwest ACDA Honor Choir @ Chicago, IL	<b>19</b> ◇ Zaps ACT Workshop, VSHS 9:00 am—3:00 pm ◇ Midwest ACDA Honor Choir @ Chicago, IL
<b>21 NO CLASSES (Snow Make-up Day)</b> ◇ V BOWL State Team Qualifying @ Cadillac Lanes, TBA ◇ WaMaC Individual Speech contest, VSHS, 4:30 pm ◇ V B BB Sectionals, TBA, 7:00 pm  President's Day	<b>22 Day 6</b> ◇ V BOWL State Individual @ Maple Lanes, TBA ◇ Honor Choir Singfest @ Central College ◇ Financial Aid Workshop, HS Aud., 6:00 pm  	<b>23 Day 1</b> ◇ Sub-district FFA Convention @ HCC, 8:00 am	<b>24 Day 2</b>	<b>25 Day 3</b> ◇ Coe College Jazz Summit	<b>26</b> ◇ Middle School Prairie Honor Band ◇ Voyager Spring Show, VSHS, 7:00 pm
<b>NATIONAL FFA WEEK 2/21—2/25</b>					
<b>28 Day 4</b>	<b>MARCH 1 Day 5</b> ◇ MS Bands, HS Audit., 7:00 pm	<b>2 Day 6</b>	<b>3 Day 1</b>	<b>4 Day 2</b> <b>2-HR. EARLY DISMISSAL Prof. Dev</b> ◇ Cabaret, VSHS, 7:00 pm	<b>5</b> ◇ NEIBA Jazz Festival @ Independence

Changes may occur after publication.

## TILFORD ELEMENTARY

Tilford is growing! This year we have nearly 70 more students in the building than we did at any point last year. With this growth, we've had to make some changes to our schedules and staffing.

We have a few new staff members on our team this year.

- Daniel Larson - 2nd Grade
- Daisy Johnson - 1st Grade
- Jessica Stock - Guidance Counselor (½ time, shared with Benton Comm.)
- Hannah Tobin - Title 1 Reading
- Shawna Hunziker - Gen. Ed Associate
- Heather Crabb - Gen. Ed Associate
- Emily Oldfather - Spec. Ed Associate

This year, both Tilford and Shellsburg, have implemented a new curriculum to teach our students social-emotional learning skills. The curriculum is called, "Caring School Communities" and focuses on building relationships and connections in a school setting. Our students have enjoyed more class meeting time and the ability to connect with other students in their Buddy Class.

Earlier this fall we paved a portion of the back parking lot behind the circle portion of the building. That project will be completed in the near future.

The Tilford library is a lot brighter! Over our winter break, we replaced our light fixtures and ceiling tiles. We have also planted a few new trees in front of the building, one of which is in honor of Teresa Wilson who used to teach in our building.

Even with some of this change we still continue to meet our students and help them achieve success. US News & World Report rated Tilford as the **#23 Elementary school in the state of Iowa**. Our Iowa School Performance Profile rating increased and we are now recognized as *Commendable*.

Both Tilford and Shellsburg elementary schools are looking for families to pre-register for our Tiny Vike's and Kindergarten round-up. *(More information on the front under Shellsburg Elementary)*

### 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](mailto: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.