

GROWING THE FUTURE



THE RED AND WHITE

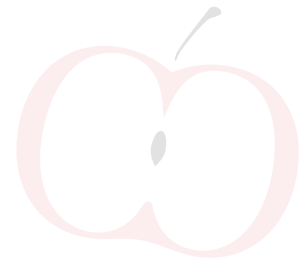
MARCH/APRIL 2017

VICKSBURGCOMMUNITYSCHOOLS.ORG





FROM SUPERINTENDENT CHARLES GLAES



Welcome to the technology issue of the Red and White. The issue highlights uses of technology throughout every corner of the district and gives a glimpse into how some of this technology impacts the lives, work, and learning of our staff and students. A few pages cannot contain all that VCS and technology have to offer, but it can give you an idea of where we stand.

While technology can make the transmission of information much easier and more cost effective, it should enhance but never replace high quality instruction and the human connection.

Depending on your age, “educational technology” can bring up particular memories or mental pictures. To folks my age, it was handouts on purple “ditto” sheets and filmstrips (I had the privilege of turning the filmstrip projector for the teacher). It might be overhead projectors or phones in the classrooms or the first computers in school, or when the Internet was first used...you get the idea. Technology has evolved in a very short amount of time. For example, as a result of the 2014 bond issue, Vicksburg now supplies enough chromebooks and other devices that we have one for each student in the district and there are many other tools available.

Our attitude at VCS is that technology is a tool to strengthen a student’s learning experience; it is not the solution to the

challenges we face. Real education comes when teachers and staff form real relationships with students. While technology can make the transmission of information much easier and more cost effective, it should enhance but never replace high quality instruction and the human connection.

Technology that is used thoughtfully, judiciously, and in ways that are relevant has lots of benefits. Not only does

it help to use funds more efficiently, it helps keep student learning and experiences meaningful and personal as our young people prepare to enter the workforce, college, and military of the 21st Century. The old saying is that, “the only thing that doesn’t change is change”, reminds us that we must keep looking for the best ways to provide students with challenging content and wider opportunities for learning while we check their understanding to individualize instruction. Technology helps us achieve our vision; that all students graduate ready to succeed in college and a career.

Enjoy the issue; and see how we use these tools to enhance learning.

ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT

The Annual Education Reports for Vicksburg Community Schools is now available on our website at www.vicksburgschools.org



Computers are a daily part of student life.



For daily news and updates, follow us on facebook at Vicksburg Community Schools!

COVER COLLAGE PHOTOS BY SHANNON STEARS: Levi Lux and Peyton Hoopingartner (top left) use the interactive white board. Megan Dark and Tyler Richardson (top middle) use the 3D printer. Andrew Moberley (top right) is taking a quiz on Kahoot! Evan Martens and Brian Monroe (top middle) are using an ipad to design their robot in robotics class. Emma Steele and Kadynce Youngs (middle) are take Accelerated Reader tests. Ava Sikkenga and Brooklynn Ringler (middle right) are using chromebooks. Mrs. Christiansen (bottom right) is using her projector to broadcast on the white board. Mr. Biernacki (bottom middle) works with Bo Dalman and Reed Tassell in robotics class. Thomas Christiansen, Sophia Oswald, Blake Rosol and Ella Rohrstaff (bottom left) work together in Mrs. Barton’s class on chromebooks. Avery Town and Sydney Hambright (bottom left) partner up on chromebooks. Lexi Bennett, Ty Bennett and Sidney Jones (top left) use the green screen to make it seem as they are flying.

USING TECHNOLOGY AS A DAILY TOOL

“Technology is just a tool. In terms of getting the kids working together and motivating them, the teacher is most important.” (Bill Gates) Teachers and technology are both reaching new highs across VHS. Within these classrooms are students accomplishing extraordinary tasks with the use of the tools of the digital world and the guidance of top-notch teachers. From the first exposure to a topic to reinforcement, experimentation and testing, students are thoroughly engaged in digital learning. Here are just two of many examples:

Ms. Shanna Page, a Social Studies teacher, has created a digital learning environment for her Advanced Placement Economics students. Shanna has utilized the services of PBworks to seamlessly deliver resources, presentations and lecture notes to all her students. As student access to information has increased, the amount of homework not turned in has decreased.

On the other side of the building is another classroom that is equally as plugged-in. Ms. Kim Armitage utilizes Google Classroom, as a sort of “virtual” classroom that runs along with her “physical” one. She uses the free software to present her AP Biology as well as Anatomy and Physiology lectures, give assignments, and provide feedback through the software as well as assigning grades. She also assigns reports that students complete through Google Classroom. This provides

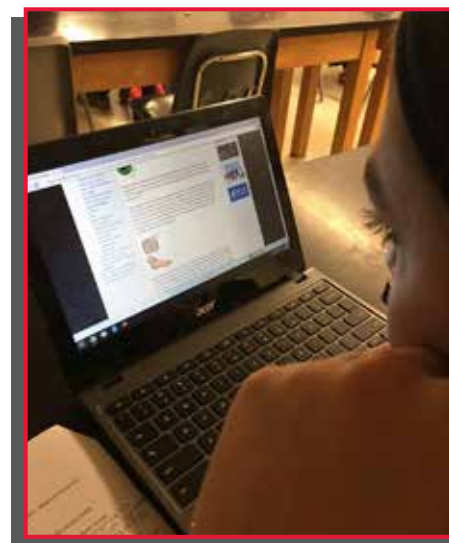
more time for her to work personally with students and address issues in the classroom as they arise. All that’s missing is the chalk dust!

There are several other technology pieces that have transformed the way classrooms work. Kim’s students get reminders about upcoming deadlines for assignments and assessments through a service called Remind 101.



VHS students completing lab experiments and reports online.

Students sign-up through their own device and teachers can then communicate with them without the need to exchange phone numbers or other personal information. Shanna’s students are challenged to give their oral reports in a very different creative way. Through a service called Project Powtoon, students can make use of the world’s leading, most user-friendly and most intuitive animation software to create engaging, animated videos with a professional look and feel. Oral reports may never be the same.



Students using Safari Montage.

SPOTLIGHT: SOFTWARE ACROSS THE DISTRICT

As part of a district-wide technology implementation strategy, all teachers throughout the district experienced tech-focused training over the past two years. Google Classroom was one topic of presentation during that professional development, and Safari Montage, a digital learning platform was another. Through both of these platforms lessons, daily assignments and assessments can be transferred to students, collected from them and graded.

In the interest of learning content and reviewing material, two more applications, flippity and Edpuzzle, are being used.

Flippity is a program that makes an online “Jeopardy” style game, but it also makes digital flashcards. Through this application, there is Bingo, Hangman and spelling test practice. It is everything you might need to review for a test or exam.

Edpuzzle makes the use of online video have even more impact. Edpuzzle is a website that houses a vast library of videos that cover topics from aardvarks to zebras and anything in between. The added benefit of this program is the use of questions placed strategically throughout the video; students can not disengage and just let the video play on the screen because there will be prompts periodically placed within the video, and an answer must be given for the video to resume. The teacher can even see how each student is progressing through the show and see how many questions were answered correctly.

ENGLISH CLASSES HAVE A TECHNOLOGY COMPONENT

Computers and technology are probably not the first things to come to mind when you think of reading and writing. You think of sitting down with a good old fashion book along with pencil and paper. However, technology offers new ways to expand on these basics.

Vicksburg Middle School is continuously searching for ways to provide next-generation learning experiences that promote higher achievement and better prepares students for college and a career. Interactive learning has become key to keeping students' attention and providing a relevant learning experience.

This year the VMS English Department has implemented myPerspectives, a brand new researched-based English Language Arts curriculum that has a vital technology component. All 6th-8th grade ELA teachers are utilizing myPerspectives in their classroom. The curriculum provides text, activities and performance tasks utilizing technology.

Please take time to check out www.pearsonschool.com/myPerspectives to gain an even better understanding of what students experience every day in the classroom at VMS.

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT: NEARPOD NEW TO VMS

Did you know that Vicksburg Middle School has a 1:1 ratio of students to chromebooks? One of the many ways chromebooks are being utilized at VMS is through technology such as Nearpod.

Nearpod is an educational application that allows teachers to create and share interactive lessons with their students. The software provides tools for both students and teachers. Teachers can download multimedia lessons from the Nearpod content store or create their own. Lesson content can include previously created slides, embedded videos, audio, images, text, PDFs, Twitter streams, and virtual field trips.

The name Nearpod represents the need for "close" interactions. The belief is that collaborating with your peers, sharing multimedia content, researching in groups and exchanging ideas in the class are excellent ways to learn. Moreover, active participation of the teacher is key to facilitating that process. Nearpod means all of that.

Mr. McGuire, Mr. McCaw, Mrs. Simmons and Miss Tutt's 7th & 8th grade Social Studies classrooms are utilizing this interactive presentation tool on a daily basis.



Ben Earl visiting the Great Wall of China

The concept of Nearpod is simple: first, lessons are introduced to students by teachers who create or download interactive multimedia presentations. A teacher can create presentations that can contain Quizzes, Polls, Videos, images, Drawing-Boards, or Web Content. Teachers are also able to share lessons with student devices and guide the interaction and pace of the lesson.

Students are then able to interact by asking questions and submitting responses anonymously all from their chromebook. Students have varied reading and writing skills so Nearpod allows them to go at their own pace. Finally, students are able to review and take quizzes & tests right on-line. This helps teachers determine the level of understanding of each student and adjust instruction accordingly.

Nearpod allows a teacher to take a presentation and make it interactive while engaging each student. This brings the classroom to life with interactive mobile presentations that teachers create and customize themselves.



Michelle Simmons 8th grade Social Studies class reviewing for today's quiz. Left Front to Back Gabe Carr, Nathan Davis, Dylan Johnson. Front right: Trevor Allen.

FIELD TRIP ZOOM

Over the last two months Indian Lake fifth grade students have gone to the Ford Museum, Denmark, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Germany and Spain. They have traveled to these destinations and gathered information without ever leaving their classroom. How you might ask, have they been able to achieve this? The answer is a new program called 'Field Trip Zoom'.

Field Trip Zoom is a live program that allows students to interact with highly educated experts around the world. The software is broadcast through the projector and onto the whiteboard in the classroom. There are multiple topics to pick from that go along with and enhance the curriculum. Students are able to chat live with an expert to ask and answer questions. This highly unique program allows the students to stay engaged as they experience subjects at a different level, which they would not reach unless traveling to that destination in person. The class gets to view artifacts, historical events, buildings and landmarks up close while receiving knowledge about each in detail from a trained professional. The program saves classroom time and overall expense in field trips while taking the students to places where they could never experience as a group. Who knows where they will be traveling next week?



Mrs. Christiansen's 5th grade class listens to experts report on the Ford Museum.

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT: THE ROLE OF BUILDING TECHS

Indian Lake Elementary, like all of the elementary schools, has been fortunate enough to offer each student a chromebook in the classrooms for schoolwork. Computer maintenance tasks fall to the building computer tech. Once stationed at the computer lab, the building tech now spends much of their time

going into classrooms to provide assistance during lessons. They also travel to other buildings in the district to help building techs who have increasing need. Building techs throughout the district work to stay on top of ever-changing technologies while working to keep kids, computers, and the network safe.



Sydney Hambricht (4th grade) and Avery Town (1st grade) partner up on Chromebooks.

One of the major events of the school year is state mandated testing, also known as M-STEP. Building techs play an extensive role in setting up for testing, printing tickets and creating schedules for test days. Now that the majority of testing takes place on computers, building techs make sure everything is working and running smoothly throughout this process. They also monitor students as they are taking the M-STEP. Other tasks include maintaining programs such as Accelerated Reader and Infinite Campus. Accelerated Reader is a program which the students use to track progress and encourage reading. Infinite Campus is a program the teachers use every day for attendance, grades and other utilities to keep track of their student's progress. A building tech's day is always different and constantly changing to meet the needs of staff and students.

TECHNOLOGY: A POWERFUL MEANS OF ASSISTING LEARNING

Mrs. Breitenbach's class, 1st grade

In first grade, we use BookFlix and Epic. They are full of fiction and nonfiction books we can read or have read to us online. We get to choose the best books for us. We get smarter using them. Also, reading is relaxing. It helps us learn juicy words and new facts. Here are our adjectives to describe BookFlix and Epic: incredible, amazing, fantastic, cool, fun and awesome-sauce!

Travis Hostetler and Carson Summerfield (Ms. Chang, 2nd grade)

We have been using the FlipGrid program in our classroom. FlipGrid works by recording video on your Chromebook. You can respond to other people's videos. You can give compliments, too. There even is a "like" button. We wrote persuasive commercials in the library and in our class and recorded them with FlipGrid. Then we made connections, asked questions, and added information with a video to respond to each other's commercials. It was fun.

Ethan Jastifer, Hunter Noel, Samantha Freed, and Carter Pio (Ms. Walters, 4th grade)

Here at Sunset Lake Elementary we use technology every day to take tests, learn our math facts and more. To learn our math facts, many of us use websites like Zearn and xtramath.org. On these, we do virtual math lessons on fractions, multiplication and division. We also use technology daily with our ReadyGen lessons. We play games to learn vocabulary. We also listen to texts to answer questions on Google Classroom. Another fun website we use is Kahoot, a kid-friendly quizzing website. Kids like to make Kahoots to review what they have learned and to test each other on various topics. As a fourth grade team, members of the Communication Crew also type our monthly newsletter to tell parents about what is going on in our classrooms and upcoming events.



Fourth graders Hailey Zagar, Riley Adler, Fletcher Hasse, Jaidyn Johnson, Hannah Devries and Ayla Moughton are hard at work on their Chromebooks in Mrs. Walters' class.



Fifth graders Deryck Smith, Jax Wilson, Caleb Penning, Evan Reist and Cory Hogue work on a green screen project with Mrs. Phelps and Mrs. Negri.

Deryck Smith (Ms. Phelps, 5th grade)

My school, Sunset Lake, earned the green screen equipment through a Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation Bardeen grant. With green screening, you can make videos and the background can be anything you choose. Fifth grades used this for our Native American research projects. We made great presentations with an image of our Native American homes as a backdrop.

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT: TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERS

The TIL (Technology Instructional Leaders) program began as a joint venture between Western Michigan University and Vicksburg Community Schools that started during the 2014-15 school year. WMU partnered with the district with the goal of creating a team of educators who would serve as models in effectively incorporating technology into instruction to enhance student learning. Although WMU is no longer involved, the TIL program has continued and grown stronger through the past few years. Spearheaded by media specialists Margo Staunton and Terri Negri, this year's TILs include Laura Chang and Dawn Phelps (Sunset); Kristen Glerum and Amy Green (Tobey); Kelly Christiansen and Wendy Rice (Indian Lake); Dawn Simpson, Michelle Simmons, and Zach Wierenga (VMS); and Kim Armitage, Shanna Page, Ben Rosier and Angela Walton (VHS.) These educators attend conferences, participate in meetings, experiment with tools and software, and read technology blogs and journals. Using their gained expertise, they work with building administrators to determine the best ways to share information on technology instruction and resources. These might include staff meeting presentations, mini workshops, professional development courses, or lists of classroom implementation tips and relevant websites. TILs also work collaboratively with individual teachers to determine the technology methods and resources that best fit with their classroom needs. The TIL program has been instrumental in the formation of a district-wide technology committee, the creation of a formal technology-based professional development curriculum and the adoption of a digital citizenship curriculum. TILs contribute their expertise to district-wide decision making regarding technology devices, policies and projects. The VCS mission is to ensure that our students are college and career ready and technology is an essential component. The TILs' role is crucial to this mission.

A TASTE OF TOBEY TECHNOLOGY

Tobey teachers are integrating technology in a multitude of ways to organize digital publishing, engage students in discussions, and to keep kids tech-savvy and safe.

Teachers use Google Classroom to share digital assignments and store completed published pieces. Teachers can quickly pose a question or create an assignment to instantly share to students. Third grade teachers Mrs. McGill and Mrs. McDaniel frequently pose comprehension questions about their ReadyGen lessons to which students can quickly access and respond to. In fourth grade, Ms. Herbener and Mrs. Holladay can post longer writing assignments and track when each student submits a completed essay. Students can safely access their work at home to show their parents. Many teachers also post helpful links to websites and videos on Google Classroom.

One-to-one technology has boosted classroom use of electronic communication to help students respond to one another's projects and opinions. Mrs. Glerum's fifth grade students are using an application called Flipgrid to record themselves answering questions posed by teachers or other students. Students who may be apprehensive about sharing in front of an entire class can enjoy the comfort of "talking to the camera." Teachers like that the simple format can be quickly adapted to fit any subject or topic, such as sharing a highly-recommended chapter book.

Tobey's Student Council officers and representatives are using Green Screen technology to share their hard work with the entire school. Students get a kick out of seeing the creative ways the student council shares fundraisers and dress-ups days.

As students have access to more and more technology, Tobey staff collaborate to teach students how to surf the web and share content safely. Mrs. Houghton and Mrs. Negri have helped present lessons from the Common Sense Media platform to every grade level. Recently Tobey third graders learned how to use safe search engines such as kidrex.org.



Librarian Terri Negri assists third graders while using safe internet searches.

SPOTLIGHT: ENGLISH MADE "ELEMENTARY" WITH READYGEN PROGRAM

Vicksburg elementary schools are piloting a new English Language Arts program called "ReadyGen." This K-5 curriculum uses many online features, new assessments, and more copies of texts in classroom libraries than ever before.

ReadyGen includes helpful digital components for both students and staff on the website pearsonrealize.com. Teachers can assign games that echo the focus of word study lessons to meet each student's individual needs. Students and parents can access program resources at home, including scores on the end-of-unit assessments students take at the end of every marking period.

ReadyGen assessments mirror the format found on the M-Step. The end-of-unit tests help build the stamina and computer skills students will need on the state assessment. Students navigate a split screen with reading passages on one side and questions on the other. The digital format offers important practice of mouse skills such as "click and drag". The skills and approach that students are learning in elementary fit in well with the teaching and curriculum they will have in middle school and high school.

An important component of ReadyGen is putting copies of each text in the hands of every child. All novels, poems, and short stories read in class are available in a full class set for every single lesson. Students also have access to digital copies of books at home when they log on to pearsonrealize.com.



Mrs. Holladay's fourth graders locate IXL and other helpful resources through Google Classroom.

VPHS CELEBRATES WINTER GRADUATIONS

Technology is the lifeblood of Vicksburg Pathways High School. Because the mission of the school is to serve young people who need alternative methods of education to succeed, computers and online curriculum provide the flexibility they need. The school serves over 80 students from all over Kalamazoo County and beyond. In February,

VPHS was proud to celebrate the graduation of two students, Isabell (Izzy) Shaw and Tilley Sharkey. Both have been with the school for a few years and have earned the credit needed to graduate. They bring the total of graduates from this school to 54 in just four and a half years. Both of them have big plans for their lives beyond high school and they both commented that the combination of online learning with help from the caring teachers and staff at VPHS helped them achieve their goals and will help them succeed in this technology-driven world in which we live.



Vicksburg Pathways High School



VPHS Graduate Izzy Shaw



VPHS Graduate Tilley Sharkey

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON TECHNOLOGY

FROM DON PUCKETT, DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY, VCS

Q. How fast has technology changed at VCS?

A. In my first year as technology director we more than quadrupled the number of computers available to students and staff. Thanks to funds from the bond issue, we were able to upgrade our network to prepare for the large number of devices we purchased last summer.

Q. How does technology save money?

A. We use state bid sites for device purchasing, saving 30 percent off the already low prices for every device. We also help conserve energy with software that monitors all computers for idle time and powers them down when they are unused. In addition, any projects we pursue are done through a competitive bid process to get the most cost effective solution.

Q. How does technology go beyond the classroom?

A. Security is a major component. We have installed over 200 additional security cameras this past year, along with new keyless door entry systems in all buildings. This will allow us to keep buildings locked and have visitors 'buzz' in the buildings by calling from a door station. Heating and cooling also use technology to monitor and control settings at several of the buildings. In addition, phones in every classroom are now part of the district's computer network.

Q. What are some other things about technology that you are proud of?

A. Our staff. We have one technology paraprofessional in each building that is there to assure technology is always ready when needed. If something is broken or there is a simple question we have the agility needed to provide quick responses and resolutions.

Q. What does the future hold?

A. It's hard to predict the future of technology, but I think it's safe to say it is only increasing every day. We strive to stay versed in new trends and cautiously approach them to be sure it fits into our mold.

RENEWAL OF THE REGIONAL ENHANCEMENT MILLAGE

This is a renewal and will not increase your tax rate.

- On May 2, the voters of Kalamazoo County will vote on the renewal of 1.5 mills for county school districts.
- The renewal is for a period of 3 years.
- The millage first passed in 2005 and was last renewed in 2014.
- If passed, the county millage will not change.
- Millage proceeds are distributed on the basis of the number of students in each school district.
- Vicksburg receives about \$900,000 from the millage, or about \$340 per student.
- For every \$1.00 paid through the millage by Vicksburg taxpayers, about \$1.12 comes back to the district.
- The cost to the taxpayer is \$90 annually, or 25 cents per day, based on an average Vicksburg home value of \$120,000.
- Without the funds from this renewal, the district would need to reduce its expenditures by \$900,000. Such reductions would result in the elimination or downsizing of a significant number of staff and programs. Such reductions would, in turn, diminish the level of services and programs provided to Vicksburg students.

Please Vote May 2, 2017

READY FOR KINDERGARTEN?

Children that are 5 by December 1, 2017 (or 5 by December 1, 2017 with a completed waiver) are eligible for enrollment in kindergarten. To get ready to have your child enrolled, call Stacy Lightfoot at 321-1017 to send you an enrollment packet and then get ready to come to a Kindergarten Kickoff meeting.

Please contact your building principal if you have any questions.

Indian Lake Elementary: Principal Ruth Hook, 321-1400
Sunset Lake Elementary: Principal Amie McCaw, 321-1500
Tobey Elementary: Principal Mike Barwegen, 321-1600
Vicksburg Administration Building: Stacy Lightfoot, 321-1017

KINDERGARTEN KICKOFF MEETING DATES FOR 2016

Tobey Elementary - Tuesday April 11 at 6:00 PM
Indian Lake Elementary- Thursday, April 13 at 6:00 PM
Sunset Lake Elementary- Tuesday, April 18 at 6:00 PM

Vicksburg

Bulldog Beginnings Preschool

Now accepting Applications

For Next School Year

PLEASE CALL 321-1020

VICKSBURG HIGH SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

MEN'S VARSITY BASEBALL

MAR 25 Bulldog Inv.	H	10:00 AM
25 Bulldog Inv.	H	12:00 AM
25 Bulldog Inv.	H	2:00 PM
27 Marshall HS.	H	4:00 PM
APR 11 Caledonia HS	A	4:00 PM
13 Three Rivers HS	A	4:00 PM
15 Sturgis Inv.	A	10:00 AM
17 Schoolcraft HS	A	4:00 PM
19 Kalamazoo Central HS	H	4:00 PM
21 Sturgis HS	H	4:00 PM
22 Portage Northern Inv.	A	9:00 AM
24 Niles HS	A	7:00 PM
25 Allegan Public Schools	A	4:00 PM
28 Paw Paw HS	H	4:00 PM
MAY 2 Portage Central HS	H	4:00 PM
5 South Haven HS	A	4:00 PM
9 Edwardsburg HS	H	4:00 PM
11 Gull Lake Schools	H	4:00 PM
12 Otsego HS	H	4:00 PM
13 Lakeshore Inv.	A	10:00 AM
16 Dowagiac HS	A	4:00 PM
19 Plainwell Schools	A	4:00 PM

MEN'S VARSITY GOLF

APR 11 League Jamb. Vicksburg	H	4:00 PM
12 League Jamb. Paw Paw	A	4:00 PM
13 Coldwater Inv.	A	9:00 AM
17 League Jamb. Edwardsburg	A	4:00 PM
19 League Jamb. Otsego	A	12:00 PM
19 League Jamb. Plainwell	A	3:00 PM
20 GK Tourn. Stonehedge	H	9:00 AM
24 League Jamb. Allegan	A	4:00 PM
26 League Jamb. South Haven	A	4:00 PM
27 League Jamb. Bedford Val.	A	9:00 AM
MAY 4 League Jamb. Three Rivers	A	4:00 PM
8 Hackett Inv. Kzoo Country Club	A	9:00 AM
11 League Jamb. Sturgis	A	4:00 PM
12 League Jamb. Dowagiac	A	4:00 PM
17 League Jamb. Edwardsburg	A	9:00 AM

WOMEN'S VARSITY SOCCER

MAR 18 Portage Northern Huskie Inv	H	9:00 AM
24 St. Joseph HS	A	6:45 PM
25 Portage Northern Huskie Inv	H	9:00 AM
27 Mattawan HS	A	6:45 PM
APR 11 Lakeshore HS	H	6:45 PM
15 Marshall Inv.	A	9:00 PM
17 Thornapple-Kellogg HS	A	6:45 PM
19 Dowagiac HS	A	5:00 PM
26 Edwardsburg HS	H	6:45 PM
28 Lakeview HS	H	6:45 PM
MAY 1 Allegan Public Schools	H	6:45 PM
3 Plainwell HS	A	6:45 PM

5 Hackett Catholic Central HS	A	6:00 PM
8 Sturgis HS	A	6:45 PM
10 Otsego HS	H	6:45 PM
15 Paw Paw HS	A	6:45 PM
17 South Haven HS	H	6:45 PM
22 Three Rivers HS	A	6:45 PM
24 Loy Norrix HS	A	6:45 PM
30 MHSAA District	A	TBA

WOMEN'S VARSITY SOFTBALL

MAR 25 Bulldog Inv.	H	10:00 AM
APR 11 Caledonia HS	A	4:00 PM
13 Three Rivers HS	A	4:00 PM
15 Portage Central HS Inv.	A	10:30 AM
18 Schoolcraft HS	A	4:00 PM
21 Sturgis HS	H	4:00 PM
24 Coloma	A	4:00 PM
25 Allegan Public Schools	A	4:00 PM
28 Paw Paw HS	H	4:00 PM
29 Gull Lake Inv.	A	8:00 AM
MAY 2 Portage Central HS	H	4:00 PM
5 South Haven HS	A	4:00 PM
9 Edwardsburg HS	H	4:00 PM
12 Otsego	H	4:00 PM
13 Mattawan Inv.	A	9:00 PM
16 Dowagiac HS	A	4:00 PM
19 Plainwell Schools	A	4:00 PM

WOMEN'S VARSITY TENNIS

MAR 24 West Ottawa Inv.	A	11:00 AM
25 Bulldog Inv.	H	10:00 AM
APR 13 St. Joseph HS	A	4:00 PM
14 Caledonia HS	A	4:30 AM
17 Edwardsburg HS	A	4:00 AM
19 Three Rivers HS	H	4:00 PM
21 Marshall HS	A	4:00 PM
22 Bulldog Inv.	H	9:00 AM
24 Sturgis HS	H	4:00 PM
29 Mason Inv.	A	8:30 AM
MAY 1 Dowagiac HS	A	4:00 PM
3 Otsego HS	A	4:00 PM
13 Conf. Tournament	A	TBA
18 Regionals	A	TBA

MEN'S VARSITY TRACK

MAR 28 Otsego HS	A	4:00 PM
APR 15 Paw Paw Inv.	A	9:00 AM
19 Allegan Public Schools	A	4:00 PM
21 Paw Paw HS	H	4:00 PM
26 South Haven HS	A	4:00 PM
28 Allegan Inv.	A	3:00 PM
MAY 2 Dowagiac	A	4:00 PM
5 Parchment Relays	A	4:00 PM
12 Conference Meet	H	2:00 PM
19 MHSSA Regionals	A	4:00 PM

WOMEN'S VARSITY TRACK

MAR 28 Otsego HS	A	4:00 PM
APR 15 Paw Paw Inv.	A	9:00 AM
19 Allegan Public Schools	A	4:00 PM
21 Paw Paw HS	H	4:00 PM
26 South Haven HS	A	4:00 PM
28 Allegan Inv.	A	3:00 PM
MAY 2 Dowagiac	A	4:00 PM
5 Parchment Relays	A	4:00 PM
12 Conference Meet	H	2:00 PM
19 MHSSA Regionals	A	4:00 PM

MEN'S VARSITY LACROSSE

MAR 18 Brighton Scrimmage	A	10:00 AM
23 Hartland HS	H	7:30 PM
25 Pennfield HS	A	7:00 PM
27 Lowell HS	H	7:00 PM
APR 11 Kalamazoo Central HS	A	7:00 PM
13 Portage Northern HS	H	7:00 PM
15 Dewitt HS	A	11:45 AM
20 Harper Creek HS	H	7:00 PM
21 Bay City Western HS	A	7:00 PM
22 Saginaw Heritage Inv.	A	TBA
25 Portage Central HS	A	7:00 PM
27 Mattawan HS	H	7:00 PM
29 Waverly HS	A	3:00 PM
MAY 2 Lakeview HS-Battle Creek	H	7:00 PM
4 Caledonia HS	H	7:00 PM
8 SMLC Tournament	A	7:00 PM
10 SMLC Tournament	A	7:00 PM
13 Hudsonville HS	A	12:30 PM
16 Father Gabriel Richard HS	H	7:00 PM
18 MHSAA Regional	H	TBA

WOMEN'S VARSITY LACROSSE

MAR 22 Kalamazoo Central HS	H	7:00 PM
27 Grandville HS	A	6:00 PM
28 Lowell HS	H	7:00 PM
APR 12 Spring Lake HS	A	6:00 PM
14 Grand Ledge HS	H	7:00 PM
18 Portage Central	H	7:00 PM
19 Harper Creek HS	H	7:00 PM
22 Kalamazoo United Inv.	A	8:00 AM
22 Kalamazoo United Inv.	A	10:00 AM
25 Northview HS	H	7:00 PM
29 Kalamazoo Central HS	H	TBA
MAY 5 Harper Creek HS	A	7:00 PM
9 Portage Central	A	7:00 PM
11 Grandville HS	H	7:00 PM
15 Kalamazoo Central HS	A	6:00 PM
17 Grand Ledge HS	A	6:00 PM
19 Zeeland East HS	H	7:00 PM

33 YEARS SINCE THE FOUNDING OF VCSF
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110 Curiosity Grants for Students
Financial Support for Programs and
Specialized Equipment at all Grade Levels



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vicksburgcommunityschools.org/foundation
Our Kids, Our Future... Donate Today!

Join Us at the Hearty Hustle and the Duck Derby - Both Are VCSF Fundraisers!

SPRING SPORTS PHYSICALS

Dates for sports physicals for the 2017-2018 school year have been set. Cost again will only be \$15 per athlete. Money raised is used for athletic training supplies. Our thanks to Family Doctors of Vicksburg for donating their services.

MIDDLE SCHOOL- Girls: May 23 from 8-10 AM
Boys: May 25 8-10AM

HIGH SCHOOL- Girls: June 8 2:45-5 PM
Boys: June 6 2:45-5 PM

SUMMER ENRICHMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Vicksburg Education Association will once again be offering summer scholarships for all students, elementary through high school, in the the Vicksburg Community Schools. The scholarships are available for many activities such as sports camps, art classes, swimming lessons, tennis lessons, science classes, computer classes, and many more.

Applications will be available in every school office or on the district's website at www.vicksburgcommuntiysschools.org. All applications must be completed and returned to Chris Kosiba at the high school no later than May 1 at 3:30 PM. Scholarships will be drawn by lottery system and recipients will be notified by June 15.

The VEA also raises funds for the Grace Molineaux Memorial Scholarship for a graduating senior who is pursuing a career in education. Seniors planning on going into the education field should check with their counselors for more information on this scholarship.

SPRING AND SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Be sure to visit www.vicksburgcommunityschools.org, click on the "Parents and Students" tab, then "Community Education". Scroll down to the "Class Offerings" link. Complete the registration process by including your name, address, phone, email address and then choose your classes. Please call 321-1022 to register over the phone, or if you have questions.

KIDS' KLUB CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

The Kids' Klub before and after school child care program will begin open enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year on May 1, 2017. There will be a pre-registration period for current Kids' Klub families beginning on April 10 2017.

Child care will be available at all three elementary schools and the cost for this program is only \$5.50 per session or \$55 per week for full-time care. Kids' Klub times are from 6:30am-9:00AM and 3:35pm- 6:00pm each school day. We emphasize a warm, safe and comfortable atmosphere with lots of quality activities for participants. Space is limited. For more information, please call your local school's coordinator: Sunset Lake 321-1514, Indian Lake 321-1422, Tobey 321-1605.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

3/30	SPRING BREAK FOR STUDENTS			5/6	Community Ed Dance Recital	10:00 AM	PAC
4/9	SPRING BREAK END FOR STUDENTS			5/8	Board of Education Meeting	7:00 PM	VAB
4/11	SL PTSO Mtg.	6:00 PM	SL	5/11	IL PTSO Family Dinner Night	5:00 PM	
4/11	IL PTSO Meetings	6:00 PM	IL	5/11	HS Parent-Teacher Conferences	5:00 PM	HS
4/11	SL PTSO Mtg.	6:00 PM	SL	5/12	IL Walk-a-Thon, Bulldog Bolt	9:00 AM	IL
4/12	VCSF Meeting	6:00 PM	VAB	5/12	Notre Dame Concert Band	7:00 PM	PAC
4/17	Board of Education Meeting	7:00 PM	PAC	5/13	Hearty Hustle	9:00 AM	VHS TRACK
4/17	LATE START DAY FOR ALL STUDENTS			5/19	Cabaret	7:00 PM	PAC
4/18	SL Kdg Kick-Off Parent Mtg.	6:00 PM	SL	5/20	Cabaret	7:00 PM	PAC
4/18	NHS Induction	7:00 PM	PAC	5/21	Cabaret	3:00 PM	PAC
4/19	Celebration of the Arts	2:30 PM	HS	5/23	VMS Band concert	9:00 PM	PAC
4/19	Dance & Tumbling - Picture Night	8:30 PM	VAB	5/24	VHS Video Show	7:00 PM	PAC
4/27	VHS Academic Awards	7:00 PM	PAC	5/25	Senior Honors Awards	7:00 PM	PAC
5/1	Vicksburg Strings Recital	7:00 PM	PAC	5/2	MEMORIAL DAY		
5/2	SL PTSO Meeting	6:00 PM	SL	5/30	VHS Band Concert	7:00 PM	PAC
5/3	VCSF Meeting	6:00 PM	VAB	6/4	HS Graduation	2:00 PM	
5/4	IL PTSO Meeting	6:00 PM	IL	6/5	LATE START DAY ALL STUDENTS		
5/5	SL PTSO Walkathon	9:00 AM	SL	6/14	HALF DAY ALL STUDENTS		

HS- High School • MS - Middle School • SL - Sunset Lake • IL - Indian Lake •
TY - Tobey • PAC - Performing Arts Center

Come join us for the 30th Annual Hearty Hustle 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, May 13th, 2017



The Hearty Hustle has consistently been a part of helping create harmony with exercise, fun, and fellowship.

All ages are encouraged to join and help us celebrate this milestone. With this community event, children will delight in being a part of the BABY BOLT, a race for ages 4 and under. Runners and walkers alike will derive joy and peace from the scenic route through the beautiful and historic Village of Vicksburg. One of a kind quality t-shirts are included in registration costs to commemorate this race and your personal achievement. As always, there will be lots of food, beverages, awards, and a variety of prizes.

See you Saturday, May 13th to celebrate the 30th Vicksburg Hearty Hustle.

To register: www.runsignup.com/vicksburgheartyhustle

Check for updates on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/heartyhustle

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