



November 20, 2015

Dear Viking Families:

Thank you all for a great week at Voyager! Thank you again to our PTA for all the work with the Boosterthon and for opening the fall apparel sale. Congratulations to all our show choir students who shared their singing, dancing and instrumental skills on Thursday night! The Fall chorus show was standing room only and our students were amazing! Next week will be a short week as we move into Thanksgiving Break so enjoy the weekend and we will see you all on Monday.

Science Olympiad is gearing up. The first Saturday practices will begin on December 5th from 9-12. If you are interested in helping update the SO website, please contact either Erik Benson or Dino Mangano.

Booster Club

December 9th next Chick-Fil-A spirit night and Information on next booster club meeting to come soon. Come out and support Voyager Athletics!

Community News:

Historic Stagville's annual Christmas event, *Christmas in the Big House, Christmas in the Quarters* is around the corner. See attached photo for the December 5th event.

Athletics Update:

Next week the high school winter season will be in full swing with all teams beginning competition. The basketball programs are off to great starts with tremendous improvements made by both the men and women programs.

The swim team has been working hard and is looking forward to opening their season on Tuesday hosting Northern and NCSSM at Edison Johnson on Tuesday.

The wrestling program open their season falling in a close match to Northern and defeating Durham School of the Arts this past Wednesday.

Fundraising

The Cheerleading teams will be hosting a Chick-fil-a Spirit night on December 9th, tickets are now being sold by athletes. Tickets or money are due by December 2nd any tickets that are not returned must be paid for by the 9th.

Raffle Tickets for a chance to win 1 of 2 pair of tickets for the Feb. Duke at UNC basketball Game will be sold by athletes and the athletic department the week following Thanksgiving, more details about this to come.

Calendar



Tuesday – Mandatory Middle School Parent, Student Athlete and Coach meeting @ 5:15pm in Middle School Gym, you must attend one of these meetings per year.

Swimming hosting Middle Creek and DSA 4pm @ Edison Johnson

High School Basketball Hosting Durham Academy – JV @ 4:30 Women @ 6 and Varsity @ 7:30pm

Care Program Updates:

The Before/After Care program had another great week! The students continue to look forward to the daily activities planned for them in before and after school care. As a friendly reminder to parents, registration for both programs is open all school-year. Students may begin attending either program at any time. Information about the programs can be found on our Voyager School website.

Enrichments

REMINDER: THERE WILL BE NO ENRICHMENT CLASSES OFFERED NEXT WEEK, NOV 23-27 DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY! VISIT <http://voyageracademy.net/resources/beforeafter-care/> for INFORMATION ABOUT DROP-IN CARE!

The fall semester of Enrichments are going well! The semester is coming to a close and students and instructors are eagerly excited for the spring semester to begin! Registration for spring semester enrichment courses will be available December 1, 2015 on the Voyager website! Important dates to remember regarding the Care program and Enrichments are below. Please add these dates to your personal calendars. Courses offered are Basketball, Guitar, Drums, Voice, Piano, Ballet & Jazz Dance, Drama, Mandarin, Kids Fitness, Karate, Kickboxing, Soccer Shots and more!!! As always, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns! All enrichments are for students grades K-8 only.

- ✿ **"Enrichment Fair" Night** Tuesday, January 5, from 5:30pm-6:30pm in the Elementary School Gym-This is an opportunity to meet the enrichment instructors and gather more information about spring semester classes. New courses offered!!!
- ✿ **Spring Enrichment Courses begin** Monday, January 11, 2016 and end Friday, April 15, 2016 with **NO CLASSES** offered the week of Jan 18 (MLK day) or March 28 (spring break).
- ✿ **End-of-year Enrichment Showcase** Thursday, April 21, 2016- Students will showcase to parents what they have learned from their instructors! Fall students are encouraged to enroll in Spring semester courses. Fall and Spring semester students are expected to perform. More information regarding this event is forthcoming.



PTA Update:

The Voyager PTA is now selling sweatshirts, long-sleeve t-shirts and 1/4 zip pullovers. Ordering is open online now through next Wednesday, November 25. Once you order your items online, you will need to print and return your confirmation emails with payment to the school of your choice. All payments MUST be received by Monday, November 30 or your order will be canceled. We intend to have all items distributed before school closes for Winter Break. Check out the items online today! <https://sites.google.com/a/voyageracademy.net/voyager-pta-apparel2/>

Questions can be directed to pta@voyageracademy.net.

Elementary Update:

Be sure to come out and support our Voyager High School and Middle School students at the Fall Choral

We have had a wonderful week at Voyager Elementary. The first and second graders enjoyed their field experiences and working on their projects! Last night's Fall Chorus Show was fantastic!! Jenny Hobgood and Leslie Wicker did a fabulous job working with our high school and middle school chorus students!! Thank you, Ms. Hobgood and Ms. Wicker!! Please be sure that you are still collecting your Boosterthon pledges. As of right now we have collected 85% of what was pledged. If we collect 100%, Voyager will profit over \$30,000 and we will be able to hit many of our school goals. Please help us reach our goal of collecting 100%! All pledges must be turned in by Monday, November 16. Checks can be written to the Voyager PTA. Pledges can be turned into your student's teacher or in the front office. Also, sponsors are able to pay ONLINE if an email address was entered at the time of the pledge. I hope everyone enjoys this beautiful weekend!!!
Leslie

Important VAES Information:

- **VAES Yearbook Ordering Information**
2015-16 Elementary School Yearbooks are now on sale and can only be ordered online this year. You can order your copy online at www.strawbridge.net. Yearbooks are \$22.00 each and must be ordered by January 31, 2016. After this date, there will be a price increase for additional book orders. Visit www.strawbridge.net, click on Order/Pay, and complete the requested school information for Voyager Elementary and ensure that you choose Yearbook to proceed to your order. Please contact Leslie Jewell (lesliej@mindspring.com) if you have any questions. Order today!!
- **Progress Reports:** To be sent home on Monday, November 23
- **Wednesday, November 25 – Friday, November 27:** No School/Thanksgiving Holiday
- **Thursday, December 3:** PTA Hospitality Luncheon
- **Friday, December 11 @ 1:00 PM:** First Grade Project Celebration
- **Thursday, December 17 @ 11:00 AM:** Third Grade Project Celebration
- **Thursday, December 17 @ 1:00 PM:** Kindergarten Project Celebration
- **Friday, December 18 @ 12:00 PM:** Second Grade Project Celebration
- **December 21 – January 1:** Winter Break/No School for Staff and Students
- **Monday, January 4:** Required Teacher Workday/No School for Students



- **Umbrellas:** Please donate umbrellas for staff to use for AM and PM carline

Middle School Update:

Hello Voyager Middle School Families,

Visiting our classrooms is one of my favorite tasks as principal! It's great observing the students during the learning process. They are or are becoming great problem solvers, risk-takers, and critical thinkers. I see lots of effort from our students as they complete new tasks or assignments. Please talk about the learning process with your child to ensure he/she is putting forth the effort needed to reach their middle school goals!

If you attended the chorus performance, you were treated to a great show! Our middle school students worked several weeks to learn the music! I must say, they did a terrific job. It was great seeing how the middle school students and the high school students worked together to provide a show enjoyed by all. Great job, students and great job to Ms. Wicker, our music teacher!

I need some carline support! I've noticed that lots of cell phones are being used during our morning and afternoon carline process. Once our line begins, we ask that you not use your phone. It is a safety issue! I need your focus to be on the movement of the line and our students during this small amount of time! Thanks!

One final plea for lunch help ---If you are available to help distribute lunches, please let me know. We need an extra hand on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mrs. Sullivan is taking care of Mondays and Ms. Salazar has Fridays under control. If you can help on Tuesdays or Thursdays, you'll team with the Pizza Inn rep.

Upcoming Basketball Practices:

Monday, Nov. 23	Girls' Practice	3:30 - 5:30
	Boys' Practice	5:30 - 7:30
Tuesday, Nov. 24	Girls' Practice	3:30 - 5:00
	Boys' Practice	5:30 - 7:30
Wednesday, Nov. 25	Boys' Practice	3:00 - 5:00 (if player is in town-let Coach know)
Saturday, Nov. 28	Boys' Practice	9:00 - 11:00 (if player is in town- let Coach know)

Have a great weekend!

Gwen

Gwen Johnson gjohnson@voyageracademy.net

Interim Principal, Voyager Middle School

High School Update:

Our high school students put on a wonderful performance at the fall chorus show last night. I am proud of the way they worked so well with their peers to achieve harmony vocally and rhythmically. We are fortunate to have such a strong music program which would not be possible without great teachers, like



Jenny Hobgood and Max Puhala, as well as a wonderful parent support group through Voyager Friends of the Arts. My favorite number was the combined middle and high school performance of Bridge Over Troubled Water.

There are only 14 days of instruction remaining before midterms and the end of the 2nd quarter. Midterms are worth 8% of a student's final grade, and the 2nd quarter is worth 18%. Don't forget to check Powerschool, or login to Canvas with your student to review their assignments and grades. In the next two weeks we will share instructions for setting up parent Canvas accounts. It has taken longer than anticipated to get parent access operational. However, your Canvas parent account will allow you to view all assignments and grades for your students once set up. We will continue to increase our use of Canvas so that students gain the benefit of learning to use a college level learning management system.

Cory Draughon
Principal, VAHS
"Persist for Meaning"

--Don't forget that traveling immersions have deposits that must be paid by Dec 1! Log in to OrgsOnline to pay.

--Two of our VAHS students have received the Girl Scout Silver Award which challenges Girl Scouts to excel in leadership, community service, career planning and personal development. Congratulations Julia Rosemond and Abigail Estes.

--Voyager is proud to host students from the UK this coming spring in our 3rd annual Ambassador exchange program. This year we are looking for 10 families to volunteer to host a student from the dates of April 2nd to April 10th. Please have your student see Mr. Gatlin for an application and more details.

--The high school is out of Kleenex, please send donations to the office if you are able.

--Project Uplift is a unique opportunity that enables high-achieving rising seniors to experience college life on the Carolina campus. Students spend two days attending academic classes, meeting with faculty and staff, interacting with Carolina students, and participating in cultural and social activities. Students can select one of the following four dates to attend Project Uplift: May 19-21, May 26-28, June 2-4, and June 9-11. There is a non-refundable \$35 registration fee; beyond that, Project Uplift is an all-expense paid program, including meals, room, and program materials (excluding travel costs). Please contact Mr. Schmoyer if you are interested, dschmoyer@voyageracademy.net.