



The mission of Voyager Academy is to provide students in kindergarten through grade twelve an academically challenging and supportive learning environment. Staff utilizes experiential and traditional learning strategies so that students become responsible, engaged, and innovative members of society. The school's expectation is that all students, working with dedicated faculty and family, will excel academically and socially.

April 16th, 2016

Dear Viking Families:

If you missed the good news earlier this week, I wanted to once again share how proud we are at Voyager Academy for being recommended for accreditation! This is a huge milestone for Voyager as the distinction demonstrates our commitment to academic growth and achievement, support for our students and dedication to a continuous improvement model. The AdvanceEd conference will take place in the summer when our accreditation status will be confirmed. Although this intensive review is voluntary for charter schools, the accreditation is a very special distinction for our school and it is especially valuable for our HS students as they graduate and apply for competitive and advanced programs. Thank you all for your support!

Make sure you mark your calendar: VAHS cheer tryouts will be held June 2-4 from 9-11 in the high school gym. Try-out packet information can be picked up from Mrs. Allen or Mrs. Hendricks. Visit <http://voyageracademycheerleading.webs.com> for more information. Please contact Mrs. Allen (lallen@voyageracademy.net) if you have any questions.

Ease on Down, Ease on Down the Road...

The Wiz is coming to Voyager Academy! Come see our Spring Musical cast of Dorothy, Addaperle, Tinman, Scarecrow, Lion and many more in The Land of Oz on April 28th, 29th, and 30th! Tickets are just \$10 and can be purchased at www.vafoa.org

Click on the attachment for more information!



Thank you all for your support of the Voyager Book Fair! So far we have raised close to \$10,000.00 for our school and saw our students increase their reading books by with over 253 Books Picked Up! It is so great to see our kids' reading for the love of reading! **Remember if you couldn't make it you can still support through online purchases or at any Barnes & Noble location just use our Book Fair ID Number 11673639 through this Saturday, April 17th at check-out.**

OPERATING HOURS FOR NEXT YEAR:

Elementary School 7:45-2:45

Middle School 8:15-3:15

High School 8:45-3:45

With these changes, we will be working on a new design for drop off/pick up for siblings and will post that route when we are ready. The HS teachers will offer morning tutoring for students in need so that all students can be dismissed in the afternoon immediately following the bell. We are already working with other Athletic Directors to plan our athletic schedule appropriately. We will continue to have early release on Mondays for our staff development, so aftercare, enrichments and Athletic Tutoring will remain options for all students.

GOVERNING BOARD VANCANIES:

We will have 2 vacancies on our Board next year as our staggered terms expire. If you are interested, please make sure you apply directly to me through the application I will be sending out when we return. All interested applicants will be reviewed, and top candidates will have in depth interviews by a sub-committee of the Board. Experience in Finance or Budget Management is a plus, but not required. Parents are encouraged to apply, but we will interview community members as well, so feel free to reach out to other friends/family who may be a good fit for our school. Applications are due by April 29th.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAM VACANCIES:

The school improvement team will have vacancies in June as parents of graduating students will be rolling off the team. If you are interested in serving on the school improvement team, please email your interest and bio/resume to jlucas@voyageracademy.net. I will forward to the team who will conduct



interest meetings and interviews. Please include the grades your child(ren) are in, and why you wish to serve. Please also note if they have a special interest (education plan, athletics, arts, etc)

Regards,
Jennifer Lucas, M. ED
Managing Director
jlucas@voyageracademy.net

Academic Update:

Benchmarking assessments should have been completed this week. You will receive reports from teachers related to your students' progress in their courses. The benchmarks are used to help teachers see the strengths and weaknesses in the students' current performance and to identify areas that need additional teaching prior to EOG. EOC and NCFE's. We are excited to see the growth our students have made thus far and anticipate growth in our overall reports this year!

Athletics Update:

RICK HENDRICKS CHEVROLET
VOYAGER ACADEMY GOLF CLASSIC
MAY 7, 2016
HILLANDALE GOLF COURSE
DURHAM, NC
SHOTGUN START 8:00 AM

Voyager Academy Athletics is pleased to announce our annual golf classic at Hillandale Golf Course!! Breakfast and Lunch will be provided and is included in the cost of play!!



Please come out and join Voyager Athletics in a fun day of family and golf! This is the biggest fundraiser our athletic department hosts and the money raised supports all Voyager Academy student athletes. We need your help in continuing the success of all of our athletic teams!!

If you would like to volunteer, play in the tournament, or make a donation please contact us at the information below. **WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

Deuce Harris dharris@voyageracademy.net 919-491-5114

Wendy Henderson wendyhenderson520@yahoo.com 919-308-4209

You may also sign-up to volunteer at the link below.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090945a4af2fa57-annual>

Important Announcement

May 18th – Physical Night at Triangle Orthopedics. All Voyager student-athletes can get sports physicals for 10 dollars. More information will follow, however, Triangle will be using the proceeds from this night as a fundraiser for our school. Please make plans to have next year's physical taken care of that night, again please support those that support our student-athletes.

A flyer will be emailed to all, please help make this an amazing event.

Supporters

Voyager Families we ask that you continue to support those that support our athletic programs. The companies below have made huge contributions to allow our student-athletes the opportunity to participate in educational driven athletics;

North Durham Orthodontics- Who reminds us that a smile is always in style

Triangle Orthopedics- who work hard to keep our athletes on the court and fields

The Law Offices of Shelley Campen Brown - there to assist you with any of your legal needs

Roxboro Road Chick-Fil-A who helps us feed the fire and can provide catering for any of your gatherings



Upchurch Drugs and Gift Shoppe – there to help with all your medication, or optical needs while providing a place to find a perfect gift to just show someone you care.

Rick Hendricks Chevrolet – Partnering with our Athletic Programs as our title sponsor for our Golf Tournament

Week of April 18th-22nd

18th Monday

HS Golf – Match at Wendell Country Club
HS Soccer – Game vs. East Wake at GAP 4:30pm
HS Softball – Game vs. Carrboro at GAP 4:30pm

19th Tuesday

MS Tennis – Match at Trinity 4pm
MS Golf – Match vs. Falls Lake at South Granville Country Club 3:30pm – release at 2:15pm
MS Soccer – Game vs. Vance at GAP 4:30pm
MS Softball – Game vs. Vance at GAP 4:30pm
MS Baseball - Game vs. Vance at GAP 4:30pm
HS Baseball – Game vs. Roxboro Community at Southern HS 7pm

20th Wednesday

MS Tennis – Match vs. River Mill at Bill Cooke Park 4pm (B team match)
HS Tennis – Match vs. Franklin Academy at Rock Quarry 4pm *senior night
HS Soccer – Game vs. Raleigh Charter at GAP 4:30pm
HS Softball – Game vs. Roxboro Community at GAP 4:30pm

21st Thursday

HS Tennis – Match at Franklin Academy 4pm (make up match)
MS Tennis – Match vs. Durham Academy at Rock Quarry 4pm
MS Soccer – Game vs. Woods at Woods Charter 4:30pm
MS Baseball – Game vs. Woods at GAP 4:30pm

22nd Friday

MS Tennis – Match vs. Duke School at Rock Quarry 4pm
HS Softball – Game vs. East Wake at Pilot Lion Park 4:30pm
HS Baseball – Game vs. East Wake at Pilot Lion Park 4pm
MS Softball – Falls Lake at GAP 4:30 release at 2:50
MS Soccer – Falls Lake at GAP 4:30pm release at 2:50

All Middle School games played at Granville Athletic Park are at 4:30pm and release time for these games is 2:50pm.



Care Program Updates:

Summer Camps

Registration for summer camps is now underway! Visit our website to shop around for the perfect camp for your student! Most of the camps offered this summer ARE open to students who do not attend Voyager. The only camps NOT offered to outside students are the "Kindergarten camp" and "Ms Spiro's 1st/2nd grade camp." So, spread the word about summer camps at Voyager! <http://voyageracademy.net/resources/summer-camps/>

- Please note the new camps that are listed!
- Additionally, please be reminded that registration is in 2 parts: 1. completing the registration form on our website; and 2. submitting payment via orgs online. In order to receive the "early bird" specials offered with the Art and Ballet summer camps, steps 1 and 2 of the registration process must be completed simultaneously.
- As for the main "Voyager summer camp," the first payment is not due until Wednesday, June 1, 2016, however, in order for us to plan properly, we need to have step 1 of the registration process completed ASAP.
- DEADLINE IS EXTENDED for the \$150/week rate!!!This camp is offered to outside students.** This applies even to families who registered after February 1. Register your student by completing the form on our website TODAY! Please email Latia Boney with any questions.

Elementary Update:

Dear VAES Families,

We have some very exciting activities planned for next week! Science Night and the Spring Fling will take place on Tuesday, April 19. You will not want to miss out on this wonderful evening of science experiments, good food, and a lot of fun!!! I hope to see you on Tuesday!!

Best,

Leslie

VAES Principal

- **Science Night on Tuesday, April 19 from 5:30 - 7:30**



Voyager's 2nd annual Science Night is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19 at the elementary school. Bring the family out to do fun hands-on activities, meet a scientist, and much more!

Are you are Voyager high school student or parent interested in helping out with the second annual Voyager Family Science Night on April 19? Then sign up here!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B094DA4AE2AAB9-science1>

Volunteers will help greet families, run supplies, and help lead activities. No experience with science required! We'll have two shifts this year, so that everyone gets a chance to explore Science Night and the Spring Fling. Sign up for one or both. Your participation will count for community service hours, so please make sure to check the box if you would like a letter for your records!

If you are not volunteering, but plan to attend with your child, please RSVP here so that we can anticipate how many plan to attend this year.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094da4ae2aab9-science2>

Are you a scientist? We are seeking volunteers to show off their work or simply talk about why their science or engineering-related career. Interested? Contact Marissa Hartzler (marissa.hartzler@gmail.com) with any questions or to brainstorm potential activities!

- **PTA Spring Fling on Tuesday, April 19 from 4:30 – 8:30**

The PTA is gearing up for the 1st Annual Spring Fling to be held the evening of Science Night on Tuesday, April 19th from 4:30-8:00 pm. (Science Night is from 5:30-7:30) Come enjoy a night of hands on science projects at the school wide Science Night AND enjoy multiple festivities hosted by PTA, EXPO and Friends of the Arts! They will also host a vendor fair and a Corn Hole Tournament. The tournament is open to all families, friends, staff, etc. so find a team mate and sign up to be the 1st Annual Vikings Corn Hole Champs!

The PTA is hosting an Italian Themed Teacher/Staff luncheon on Monday, April 25, 2016. Please review the link and help if possible. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0a48a8a6229-vaes3>

Thanks in advance,

The VAES Hospitality Committee

- “The Wiz” is coming to Voyager Academy from April 28th - 30th. Be sure to click on the attachment to read more about “The Wiz” , Voyager Academy’s Spring Musical, and how to purchase your tickets for just \$10!



- **Field Day on Friday, May 6:**
Kindergarten and 1st grade: 9:30-11:30 & 2nd and 3rd grade: 12:30-2:30
Please sign up to volunteer to help with Field Day! This event is a lot of fun for students, teachers, and parents. However, we need many parent volunteers to make this day a success!!
Follow this link to volunteer: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0949a4ae28a5f49-field>
- Elementary Spring Pictures: Thursday, April 21
- 4th Quarter Progress Reports Sent Home: Friday, April 22
- Special Olympics Spring Games @ Durham Academy: Friday, April 22
- mClass Reading End of Year Testing: April 25 – May 20
- Buddy Class Day: Monday, April 25 @ 8:45 AM
- Elementary Class Pictures: Wednesday, April 27
- Spring Musical/The Wiz: April 28 – 30 @ 7:00 Pm in the HS Gym
- Kindergarten and Third Grade Project Celebration: Monday, May 2 @ 5:30 PM
- First and Second Grade Project Celebration: Thursday, May 5 @ 5:30 PM
- Elementary Field Day: Friday, May 6
- Voyager Golf Tournament: Saturday, May 7
- Third Grade End of Grade Reading and Math Tests: Wednesday, May 11 & Thursday, May 12

Middle School Update:

Hi Middle School Families,

As you know we had a team of educators from AdvancEd visit Voyager this week. The educators spent much time in each school as they walked the halls, observed teachers, interviewed various stakeholders, and reviewed several notebooks full of documentation. The team has recommended that Voyager receive accreditation. We look forward to receiving the final word from AdvancEd.

What an exciting night we will have Tuesday, April 19! There will be many science experiments that students may experience. The science experiments will be in the elementary school from 5:30-7:30. We will have much artwork on display in the middle school between 5:30-7:30. Come walk the hall nearest the gym to see all the work. If you want to see a sampling of The Wiz along with other drama performances, come to the middle school gym between 5:30 -8:00. We will also have several vendors located along the front walk. There is no need to worry about dinner. We will have 4 four trucks located in the middle school parking lot. This is going to be a terrific evening! We hope you will join us!

Our 8th Grade Semi-Formal is rapidly approaching! Tickets for the April 23 semi-formal are now on sale. 8th graders may purchase tickets during lunch at the table set up near the 8th grade classes. Tickets are



\$15.00 each. The time of the semi-formal is 7:30-9:30 pm and it will be in the elementary gym.

Spring Pictures are scheduled for Friday, April 22. Information is going home today with each of our students. Please ask for the Strawbridge information.

We have administered several benchmarks during the month of April. Our reports indicate an upward trend from our mid-year benchmark to this comprehensive benchmark. Our students continue to focus on the learning process as I teachers create great lessons.

Calendar of Events

April 19	Science Night, Arts Night, Food Truck, and Vendors Fair
April 20	8 th grade math benchmark
April 20	6 th grade math benchmark
April 20	Hospitality Lunch
April 20	In-house field trip for 5 th graders
April 21	6 th grade science benchmark
April 22	Progress Reports/Mid-quarter reports
April 22	Spring Pictures
April 22	Special Olympics, 9-2, Durham Academy
April 23	8 th grade Semi-Formal, 7:30-9:30, elementary gym, tickets on sale

Please make sure you add all the dates to your calendars!

Gwen

Principal gjohnson@voyageracademy.net

High School Update:

Service has always been a core value at Voyager Academy High School and last year the school added a wonderful distinction to recognize students who serve above and beyond the normal expectation. This award is the Service Laureate Award and is available to all students who meet the requirements. We are hoping to strengthen the connection between the Service Laureate Award and our Service Club. However, we are in need of parent volunteers to help run the club. If you are interested in a leadership role within our Service Club please email me directly.

When students are pursuing the Service Laureate Award it is their responsibility to get the appropriate paperwork signed to document their hours (paperwork is available in the front office). The paperwork should be turned into the office so that we can record each students' hours. Students may earn hours throughout the school year and summer. However, students must serve all four years of high school even if they meet the total hour requirement earlier than senior year. The Service Laureate Award is a



distinguishing factor when applying to college, students who earn the award will receive recognition at Senior Awards night and a medal to wear during graduation. Please stay tuned for an announcement of a final year end meeting with the Service Club which will include detailed information about the Service Laureate Award.

Cory Draughon
Principal, VAHS
“Persist for Meaning”

--Mark your calendars for ***Senior Award Night**** Monday May 16, 6pm-7pm (invitations will be sent to all Seniors receiving an award)

--Service Hours Due May 11th for Seniors who are pursuing the award.

--Thank you to all of the students, faculty, and staff that helped with our Blood Drive. This was truly a student-initiated and implemented event. Seniors Lexi Ovenden and Amelia Bryant met with the Red Cross, found out what to do, then recruited students to participate, donate, set up, clean up, help out, and bake goodies for the donors. Several students made the blood drive a family affair, with family members donating blood as well. A few key students spent almost 9 hours setting up and running the event. I love that our seniors specifically recruited Juniors to train and step up next year. Our Voyager teachers gave a good showing, too. Many thanks to our teachers who were flexible with the setup and cleanup requirements. Several teachers also donated blood. Voyager met our Red Cross Goal of 31 pints of blood collected, the majority of which was collected from first-time donors from Voyager. Thank you for this great service learning opportunity. Meg Sauer

--College and Career Promise Program

Students at VAHS are eligible to take FREE courses at local community colleges via the NC College and Career Promise Program (CCPP). This is open to all 11th and 12th grade students.

Please take a minute to fill out the short form below so we can begin to gather a list of names of students who are interested in taking courses via the CCPP. An email will follow shortly to talk about the admission process, deadlines, course selection, and test scores. If you are eligible to participate in the program, we will host orientation here at VAHS. Use the following link to find out more information: www.durhamtech.edu/ccp/ If you have already filled out the form below you do not need to do it again. We are just sending out one final email to collect any additional names.



This is an amazing opportunity to get a jump start on your college education- for free!! I hope this programs grows in our school and our students continue to be successful both at the high school and college level!

<http://goo.gl/forms/cw5ccvOty3>

Dan Schmoyer, M.Ed, LSC
Voyager Academy High School Counselor

--Volunteers needed to assist in the Angels Among Us Kids Zone. Duties might include face painting, monitoring inflatables, helping children with activities or generally helping out where needed.

Saturday,

April 23,2016

9am-1pm Duke University campus

Website:

www.angelsamongus.org

Volunteer help needed:

9:00-12:30

9:00-10:45

10:45-12:30

If interested, please contact:

Paula Green

Lg2104@frontier.com

919-801-5145

--Please sign up for the VAHS Hospitality Lunch on April 25 at

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c45abae23a75-build>

--VAHS will host the classroom portion of Driver's Ed for 2 weeks on July 18-21 and July 25-28 from 8:00-12:00each day.

**Sign ups will take place in person at the High School on May 17th in Room E140.

Students who are 17 years old or older, sign ups will start at 7:00am on May 17th in Room E140.

Students who are 14 1/2 -16 years old, sign ups will start at 7:10am on May 17th in Room E140.



The class can hold 25 students. Spaces will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. Parents will not need to be present on May 17th for their child to sign up for Driver's Ed. Students will be able to sign themselves up for the class.

The cost of the class is \$45. Students will be required to bring a check for \$45 made out to Durham Public Schools on the first day of class.

Please contact David Roberson with questions. david.roberson@dpsnc.net

--VAHS Parents and Rising Seniors,

Please mark your calendars for the Rising Senior Student and Parent Night on April 20th, 2016 at 6pm in the high school gym.

We will go over important information for our Class of 2017. Topics covered: graduation credit check, college application process, Career and College Promise, timeline of events for rising seniors related to college admission/search.

I look forward to see you all there!

Dan Schmoyer