



Vision: "Inspiring life-long learning in every Viking."

Mission: "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."

Values:

Confidence: Trusting in your own ability and being willing to take academic risks.

Curiosity: Eager to investigate and learn about the world around us.

Empathy: Being aware of and respecting another person's feelings, experiences, and differences.

Reflection: Using past experiences to guide future learning and decision making.

Integrity: Doing the right thing and standing strong in what you believe

Dear Parents,

We hope you have had a good week, and hope that you all have some family plans for fall break that keep you safe and dry! Our students worked hard this week, and played hard at some of our favorite grade level field trips. Thanks to all the parents who have volunteered their time for field trips and for their support in all our athletic events. I have included directly below a few important notices and reminders related to fundraisers, science Olympiad and our Friends of the Arts. I am very proud to let you know that we have been selected by PENC (Professional Educators of North Carolina) to host a literacy workshop at Voyager Academy open to the entire community to help support literacy and reading skills for students in K-6th grade. We hope you share this information with your friends and family.

Increasing Student Engagement with Reading in the Home and at School

Learn how to empower families to effectively improve their children's literacy skills with fun, research-supported, and easy-to-use activities. The activities can be used by teachers, as well as by parents in the home. They are designed for children from birth to 6th grade, to support the development of strong reading skills. Registration will open 1-2 months prior to the workshop date; please click the date below to register. [November 5, 2016](#) - Voyager Academy, Durham County

VAFOA: Voyager Academy Friends of the Arts wants you to know...

ARTS IMPROVE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE!

"Students with an education rich in the arts have higher GPAs and standardized test scores, and lower drop out rates - benefits reaped by students regardless of socio-economic status. Students with 4 years of

arts or music in high school average 100 points higher in the verbal and math portions of their SATs than students with just one-half year of arts or music." (Americans for the Arts)

VAFOA would love for you to become a friend of the arts! Please visit our website to become a member and support the arts at Voyager Academy! www.vafoa.org

You can wish your son/daughter good luck or congratulations by placing a good luck ad in the 2016-2017 Winter Sports program! Read through the packages (see attachment) and choose the one that is right for you! All ads must be paid for when the form is turned in. The forms can be dropped off in the high school front office **no later than Tuesday, October 18th.**

Announcement for Division B Science Olympians: Team rosters and event assignments were posted via the [Science Olympiad Google group](#) on Thursday, 10/6. If you did not receive the email (or you need to be added to the google group), contact Connie Vance (connie1vance@gmail.com) for your event assignments and additional information. The Junior Varsity team is still accepting new members. Click [here](#) to for the late registration form. Fifth and sixth graders who want experience with Division B are encouraged to join the JV team!

CARE Program Update:

Please be reminded that there will be no enrichments held next week due to fall break. Enrichments will resume on Monday, October 17, 2016. We hope you all have a wonderful Fall Break!

PTO Update:

Hello Viking Families!

BOOSTERTHON is around the corner. The schools will be participating in a Pep Rally on October 3rd to kick off this year's event. This year the older students will be participating as well, which is super exciting. All money collected this year will go towards our goal of funding the first phase of the expanded playground located next to the Hock House. The more money we collect then the bigger chance we have to start on phase 2 early! Help out PTO and Voyager Academy by getting the donations in even while you are on Fall Break! The run will take place October 27th. Keep an eye out for volunteer opportunities via a Sign-Up Genius as we get closer to the event.

Thank you to all those that participated in our first PTO, Pizza and Popsicle event. It was a huge success and was absolutely wonderful to see so many kids running around and taking pictures with our Viking. Emily Wilder and her Viking Community team of volunteers did an amazing job! Thanks again to Rosa Ashdown Photography for capturing all the fun!

Mark your calendar for the Viking Community Movie Night on October 21st at 6:30 pm. We will be playing Toy Story, selling concession items and have corn hole available for the older crowd too! No charge for admission but plan to bring chairs and blankets to sit outside and watch

the movie under the stars! We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Don't forget to get your Box Tops in! Elementary school is competing to see which class can get the most Box Tops collected. There is a Box Top app that parents can use to send in more box tops = more money! All parents have to do is scan their receipt that has Box Top Items on it. Go to: <http://www.boxtops4education.com/bonusapp> to get signed up today.

Congrats to the teachers/staff that won the drawings for the Staff PTO membership competition. They each received a \$25.00 credit toward apparel! There is still time to get your memberships in so that you can vote on future items as we move forward this school year.

Keep an eye out for the PTO Newsletter for updates on the recent voting results, all your fundraiser details and committee updates!

Athletics Update:

Important Announcement

FANCLOTH

If you see flyers/catalog for orders for Voyager Athletic Apparel through Fancloth, the checks can be made payable to Fancloth Corporate. This is a great way to show your support for our Voyager student-athletes while helping us raise funds. Please turn in all order to Deuce Harris directly. Thank you for your support. Should you be interested in the flyer and have not received one please email me at dharris@voyageracademy.net

VIC CARD

Voyager Academy Athletics now has a new way to raise money. With the Harris teeter VIC Card, type in the account number 3284 and the Voyager Academy Athletic program will receive a percentage of the purchases.

LAW OFFICE OF SHELLEY CAMPEN BROWN

The Law Office of Shelley Campen Brown is now offering Voyager students and staff a discount on traffic tickets. Through the month of the November, attorney fees are \$100.00 from an original \$200.00. In addition, Voyager families and staff will receive a discount if they do a Will and General Power of Attorney for only \$175.00.

HS Wrestling

Wrestling Conditioning and preseason has officially begun. Any athlete that hopes to be a part of the wrestling team this year who is not currently playing a fall sport will need to report to Coach Halls Room B133 Wednesday after school. If you are an athlete interested in wrestling you will need to bring a completed Voyager Academy Participation Packet with you to Wednesday's meeting. Physical forms need to be completed signed and dated by a doctor. All other forms need to be completed and signed by both athletes and parents. Tennis shoes and workout gear (jersey shorts/ T-shirt) are required for the meeting on Wednesday. Preseason Workouts will consist of wrestling, lifting and running. The Voyager Academy wrestling program hopes to continue to grow this year and build on last year's success.

HS BASKETBALL

The boys basketball program is looking to follow up last season's state championship with another strong run in the playoffs. Pre-season basketball workouts are in progress for the varsity and JV basketball

teams. These workouts include conditioning, basketball skill work, and opportunities to scrimmage.

Basketball tryouts will be held October 17-19. The tryout schedule will be announced in early October. Please contact the coaches if you have any questions about the schedule.

HS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Women's Varsity Basketball team is rebuilding and looking forward to a successful 2016-2017 season! Pre-season workouts have been a success and we are looking for competitive ladies who want to compete! If that sounds like you, Basketball tryouts will be held October 17th-18th. The final tryout schedule has not yet been release, but stay plugged in for more information. Please Contact Coach Sherard Johnson at: sherardjohnson@gmail.com with any questions.

The Women's Varsity Basketball team is pleased to announce that two of its phenomenal freshman, DeAsia Parker & Carlise Nelson, have been invited to and will attend the "Southeast All Freshman Invitational" hosted by Getmerecoited.com on the weekend of October 8th-9th. If you would like to support them, the exposure camp will be held at Knightdale High School and will commence All day! These young ladies have been working really hard and we are excited about their future. This is just the beginning! Go Lady Vikings!

MS Boys and Girls Basketball and Wrestling Participation Form Collection

Athletes received a packet that needs to be filled before the first tryout day. This will include a physical form, concussion statements, permission forms, etc.. If you played a fall sport, most of this will have already have been done.

These forms will be collected on October 21st, in the gym...at these times both girls and boys.

7th graders 11:30

6th graders 11:40

8th graders 11:50

PLEASE TURN THEM IN ON THE DATE OF OCTOBER 21ST- NOT BEFORE
DO NOT TURN THEM INTO ANYONE BUT COACH SHANKLE OR YOUR COACH

Middle School

Weekly Schedule

Cross Country

Monday: 10/10 **Make up meet** Voyager Academy at Aycock Recreation Center on Monday October 10th. Walk through will begin at 4:00. The ladies will run first followed by the gentlemen. They will have 7 water coolers there, please bring cups or water bottles though.

High School

Weekly Schedule

Volleyball

Monday: 10/10 Voyager Academy at Research Triangle V- 6:30pm

Monday 10/10 Voyager Academy at Granville Central JV - 4:30pm

Thursday: 10/13 Kestrel Heights at Voyager Academy V- 7:00pm
Friday: 10/07 Voyager Academy at Falls Lake Academy V- 5:00pm

Soccer

Monday: 10/10 Raleigh Charter at Voyager Academy V- 5:00pm
Wednesday: 10/12 Voyager Academy at Research Triangle V- 4:30pm
Thursday: 10/13 Voyager Academy at Granville Central V- 6:00pm

Tennis

Wednesday: 10/12/16 – NCAC Conference Tournament (Home)

All Schedules, venues, directions and release times for contest are available on the athletic website. Please see website for this information

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 Orthopaedics- 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 and offering specials to Voyager Families

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 2016 Golf Tournament

Rasberry Maintenance – Providing quality service for of your commercial or residential cleaning and landscaping needs

Elementary Update:

Dear VAES Families,

It is hard to believe that next week is Fall Break! Time really does fly when we are having fun and learning. On Wednesday, the second graders had a Book Character Parade to highlight the many books they have been reading. The students, staff, and parents had a terrific time! Enjoy the pictures!



I hope everyone has a fabulous and restful Fall Break!

Best,

Leslie

VAES Principal

High School Music Fundraiser:

On Tuesday, October 25 from 5:00 – 7:00 in the Elementary Gym, the Voyager High School Show Choir, Bull City Lights, the Women’s Ensemble, Here Comes Treble, and the HS Instrumental Music Class, will have a BBQ fundraiser to raise funds for their trip to Nashville when they compete in a National Show Choir competition.

They will sell BBQ by the pound for \$9.00 and BBQ plates for \$9.00. You will be able to pre-order and pay for the BBQ. You will also be able to dine-in or take-out.

Pre-ordering through the website will be active through Tues., Oct. 18. After that, you can try to buy a plate at the door. However, we strongly encourage pre-orders through the site. We will sell plates at the door ONLY if we haven't already sold out with the pre-orders!

All pre-ordered pounds of BBQ, pints of coleslaw, and pints of potato salad can be picked up in the Hock House Media Center kitchen, from 2:30-4:30 on Tuesday, October 25. We ask that you please park in the high school front lot and walk over to pick up your orders.

Starting at 5:00 all remaining pre-orders may be picked up at the elementary school gym. Dine-in service will begin at 5:00 in the elementary gym. Delicious homemade desserts will be on sale for our dine-in customers.

Again, you may pre-order your BBQ and either pick it up for take-out or dine-in in the elementary school gym. This is perfect for our K and 3rd grade families since they will have their Project Celebration that evening at 5:30 PM.

ORDER YOUR BBQ TODAY!!

<http://www.vafoa.org/bbq-fundraiser---october-25.html>

Free Literacy Workshop for Teachers and Parents:

PENC (Professional Educators of North Carolina) is hosting a FREE Literacy Workshop for Teachers & Parents at Voyager Middle School on Saturday, November 5. Here is the link to the workshop page and listed below is the description of the workshop. <http://www.pencweb.org/workshops>

Increasing Student Engagement with Reading in the Home and at School

Learn how to empower families to effectively improve their children's literacy skills with fun, research-supported, and easy-to-use activities. The activities can be used by teachers, as well as by parents in the home. They are designed for children from birth to 6th grade, to support the development of strong reading skills. Registration will open 1-2 months prior to the workshop date; please click the date below to register. [November 5, 2016](#) - Voyager Academy, Durham County

K – 12 Boosterthon Fundraiser:

Our PTO is getting ready for our big K – 12 fundraiser: Boosterthon! We are raising money to add more equipment to our playground for the Kindergarten – 8th grade students!

We will kick-off Boosterthon with a Pep Rally on Monday, October 17 in the HS Gym from 11:30 - 12:00 for the K – 3 students. The big Boosterthon finale will be the Fun Run on Thursday, October 27 at the MS Field. K -2 will run from 9:00 - 10:00 and 3rd - 5th will run from 10:15 - 11:15.

VAES Yearbook Ordering Information:

2016-17 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, 2017. After this date, there will be a price increase for additional book orders. Visit www.strawbridge.net, click on Pay or Order Online, enter our school code 110322 for Voyager Elementary, then click View Gallery. Choose Yearbook to proceed to your order. Please contact Leslie Jewell (leslieljewell@gmail.com) if you have any questions. Order today!!

IMPORTANT FALL DATES:

Monday, October 10 – Friday, October 14:

Voyager Academy Fall Break/No School for Staff & Students

Monday, October 17 from 11:30 – 12:00:

Boosterthon Pep Rally in the HS Gym

Tuesday, October 18:

PTA Staff Hospitality Luncheon (more info. to come)

Monday, October 17 – Friday, October 21:

VAES Spirit Week

Mon., 10/17: Hat Day

Tues., 10/18: Wacky Tacky Day

Wed., 10/19: Favorite Book Character Day

Thurs., 10/20: Favorite College Day

Fri., 10/21: PJ Day

Monday, October 24 - 27

**These are the NEW dates: 1st Trimester Case 21 Math Assessment for 1st - 3rd Grade (there isn't one for K)

Tuesday, October 25:

High School Show Choir BBQ Fundraiser in the Elementary Gym to raise money for their National Competition in Nashville, TN. <http://www.vafoa.org/bbq-fundraiser---october-25.html>

Tuesday, October 25 @ 5:30 PM & Wednesday, October 26 @ 5:30 PM:

*Kindergarten Project Celebration – All About Me & Community Helpers
and

*Third Grade Project Celebration – Plants and Soil & Empathy Project

Wednesday, October 26:

Kindergarten to Maple View Farms (More information to come from K teachers)

Thursday, October 27:

K - 2 Boosterthon Fun Run @ the MS Field from 9:00 – 10:00

3 – 5 Boosterthon Fun Run @ the MS Field from 10:15 – 11:15

Friday, October 28:

Required Teacher Workday & Parent-Teacher Conferences (more information to come from your child's teacher)/NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Middle School Update:

Dear VAMS Families,

As we complete the first quarter of the 2016-2017 school year, I want to thank each of you for the support you have provided your child (our student). There is a tremendous amount of learning that takes place each day and without you we could not do our job. As you know we have a Grading Policy this year. It is very straight forward as to how late assignments are

handled, etc. Report cards go home on Oct. 21 and some of the grades may be reflective of our Grading Policy as we are holding true to the policy. In doing so, we know that we have said the same info to everyone. Again, thanks for your support!

NEWSFLASH 1!!! Middle School Technology News

Want to see what we are working on technology? Visit the VAMS technology website to see what your child is up to or as a resource to connect with websites that we use at school. The VAMS tech can be accessed at: mmckenna5.wixsite.com/vamstech

Coding is cool! 4th and 5th grade students are working super hard to learn to code. Learning code means learning a programming language that runs computer programs, apps, devices and games. "Coding" is shorthand for computer programming. Voyager students are privileged to have this type of instruction. Coding is way of thinking that promotes analyzing, problem solving and creativity. Congrats to those students who've reached an "Hour of Code" already! As a reminder, students can go to the tech website mentioned above to use the coding websites at home.



NEWSFLASH 2!!! Student Council Interest Meeting

Mr. Smith and I met with 6th, 7th, and 8th graders interested in running for an elected Student Council office. The students received 2 pieces of paper with dates, offices available, guidelines for their speeches, etc. The campaign speeches and the completed paperwork is due to me on October 17. If a student wants to email the speech and paperwork prior to Oct. 17, that works for me. My email is gjohnson@voyageracademy.net.

NEWSFLASH 3!!! Attention Voyager Artists

Voyager Middle School is looking for a student to design the yearbook cover. All 4th – 8th graders are invited to submit a design to Mr. Rieman by Oct. 25th. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Rieman.

Stay safe as we weather the approaching storm and enjoy the Fall Break,

Gwen

Gwen Johnson gjohnson@voyageracademy.net

Voyager Middle School Principal

High School Update:

A Great Science Field Trip!

The AP Environmental Science class experienced real "field" trips at Jacob Cherry's family farm. Dr. Cherry hosted two afternoons of tours where he and Mrs. Cherry demonstrated and discussed on-the-ground conservation. Students toured timber a timber plot versus old growth and compared forest succession. They hiked through rotational grazing systems, and learned about integrated pest management, cattle herd requirements, water development, manure management, and other Best Management Practices. Students processed water samples, estimated board feet in living trees, and collected soil samples. At the ponds, students fed some impressively large catfish and saw Jacob and his mom reel in several white bass with just a couple of casts. For several students (and especially Ms. Sauer) a highlight was petting chickens, a very friendly cow, and a sweet border collie. Thanks to the generosity and expertise of the Cherry family, our students were able to apply what we've been studying and to develop an appreciation for agricultural land and its value for open space, food production, and wildlife habitat.

Drivers Education

The next Driver's Ed Class at VAHS has been scheduled!

The class will meet at the following times:

-November 14-18, 21-22, 28-30 and December 2, 5-8

-Monday Classes will be from 2:00-4:00

-Tuesday-Friday Classes will be from 4:00-6:00

Students must be age 14.5 or older, to take the class.

Sign ups will take place for two days in the high school front office. October 31 and November 1 from 8:00-8:30am each morning.

After November 1, the Driver's Ed instructor will hold a random lottery to fill the class. The 26 students selected from the lottery will be contacted from the instructor and are expected to bring \$45 cash or money order on the first day of class.

Questions? Please contact David Roberson 919-560-3702

FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)

FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) Meets every Friday, after school, from 3:50-4:50 pm in Room D124. No need to be a Christian, nor an Athlete :) All are welcome!

Voyager China Tour 2017

Come with us to China this coming summer for 9 days of fun, travel, and exploration! This will be Voyager's 2nd trip to China, and the last time was amazing! We'll again be touring through the cities of Beijing, Xi'An, and Shanghai seeing the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Terracotta Warriors, and more! **Interested persons should plan on coming to an interest meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 27th, from 5:00-5:45pm in Room E140 at the High School** to learn more about the trip, costs, dates, etc. Contact Mr. Baker at dbaker@voyageracademy.net with questions.