



Voyager Academy Weekly Newsletter February 5, 2016

Dear Voyager Families,

On Tuesday, February 23, the Voyager High School Show Choir, Bull City Lights, will have a BBQ fundraiser to raise funds for their trip to Orlando when they compete in the National Show Choir competition. They will sell BBQ by the pound for \$9.00 and BBQ plates for \$9.00. Also, you will have the option to pre-order, pay for the BBQ, and there will also be a dine-in option in the elementary school gym. This is perfect, because there is a high school basketball game at home on that night. You can eat dinner and then head to the high school for a fun and exciting basketball game! This will be a great way to support our high school show choir and our high school basketball teams!! More information regarding the BBQ fundraiser and pre-ordering will be shared with you soon.

During the week of February 22nd through February 26th, the PTA will recognize the never-ending, often hectic efforts of our teachers, administrators, and support staff with **Staff Appreciation Week**. Each day, the PTA will hold different events to show the staff their appreciation. Please look at the order of events below and consider how you may contribute. Keep in mind, this event is inclusive of all three schools.

MONDAY, February 22nd—Catered Lunch from the Saladelia Cafe

Parents: The PTA is collecting money to pay for the staff lunch on this day. ANY amount is acceptable. Any extra money will be used throughout the week to provide for the other events. Send in money labeled "Staff Appreciation" starting now. Money is needed by Friday, February 19th.

TUESDAY, February 23rd—Supply Day

Parents: Check your teacher's website for requested supplies and send them to school with your child.

WEDNESDAY, February 24th—Gourmet Snacks

THURSDAY, February 25th—Meal provided by PTA Hospitality Committees at each school (ES, MS, and HS)

Parents: Grade Parents will notify you if breakfast/lunch coverage is required. However, any day you can cover lunch for the teachers is always welcome.



FRIDAY, February 26th—Gift Card Giveaway Day!

Parents: Send in gift cards in ANY amount from ANY vendor, i.e. grocery stores, retail stores, restaurants, iTunes, ANYWHERE! The deadline for this contribution is Tuesday, February 23rd. Send in gift cards labeled "Staff Appreciation" starting NOW. Please make sure the amount of the card is clearly noted on each card.

Voyager is fortunate to have talented teachers, administrators, and support staff. Likewise, we are fortunate to have thankful and appreciative families. We look forward to showing our great staff that their hard work does not go unnoticed! Remember, donations of money and gift cards can begin being turned in now! If you have any questions, you may contact Beverly Battle at: Presofpta@aol.com Thanks, Beverly

The Voyager Athletic Department is raffling off two pairs of tickets up for the UNC vs. Duke Basketball game on February 17th at 9pm at the Dean Dome. They are lower level seats. The drawing will be held between Girls and Guys Basketball game against Roxboro Community School on either February 12 or 13 (more information regarding the game to come). You do not need to be present to win. The raffle ticket prices are: \$10 = 1 ticket, \$50 = 8 tickets, and \$100 = 20 tickets. For more information, please email Deuce Harris at dharris@voyageracademy.net.

Best,
Leslie

Elementary Update:

Dear VAES Families,

Our Jump Rope for Heart project is off to a good start and students seem to be very excited about our upcoming event. We will start our student activity event this Monday. During their Physical Education classes, students will be participating in a variety of heart-healthy activities. Parents are welcome to come join in the activities.

An update on our fundraising: You have already helped raise over \$4,000-- more than half of our goal of \$7,000!! Besides the Thank You Gifts from the American Heart Association, Mrs. Derrick and Mrs. Flowe-Dawson are adding a Teacher of the Day incentive. The student on each grade level who raises the most money will get to be the Physical Education teacher during one of their class times! We have done this in the past and the students love getting to be the teacher.



If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Derrick or Mrs. Flowe-Dawson at bderrick@voyageracademy.net or mflowedawson@voyageracademy.net.

Also, I want to congratulate Amaris Iwara in Mary Beth Tripp's Third Grade Class. Amaris came in 4th Place in the 3rd Grade - Eighth Grade Spelling Bee!! Way to go, Amaris!!!

I hope everyone has a great weekend!!
Leslie

VAES Yearbook Ordering Information

You can still order you VAES 2015-16 Yearbook! VAES Yearbooks are now \$27.00 each and must be ordered by March 31, 2016. We cannot guarantee that additional books can be ordered or purchased after this final ordering deadline. Don't miss out - Order today! Yearbooks can only be ordered online this year. 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.

Thank you!

- **mClass Mid-Year Reading Assessment Window:** Jan. 19 - Feb. 12
- Jump Rope for Heart: February 3 - 17
- **Elementary Tours:**
 - K Tour: Feb. 12 @ 10:30
 - K - 3rd Tour: Feb. 26 @ 10:30
- Progress Reports go home today, Friday, February 5
- Monday, February 15: NO SCHOOL for students/REQUIRED Teacher Workday
- Monday, February 29: Buddy Class activity with HS and MS students @8:45 AM
- **3rd Quarter Project Celebration Dates:**
 - First Grade:** Thursday, March 3 @ 1:00 PM
 - Kindergarten:** Friday, March 4 @ 11:00 AM
 - 2nd Grade:** Friday, March 4 @ 12:00 PM
 - Third Grade:** Friday, March 4 @ 1:00 PM



Middle School Update:

Hi Middle School Families,

It's been another great week at Voyager Middle School! Our School Store opened and our students are doing a great job with the sales. I understand the fourth graders bought lots of supplies and snacks!

Our Spelling Bee was TERRIFIC! Amith Jagannath emerged as the last one standing. We wish Amith lots of luck as he moves to the next round of competition. All of our students were winners as we completed 66 rounds before the Bee ended. Great job to all of you!

Several of you have asked about 8th graders touring our high school. This year the high school tour for our 8th graders will take place on Friday, February 19. Mrs. Norman will go to the high school with our students during the Core Connections block.

We are nearing the end of our basketball season. Our girls have finished the season. I am very proud of Ms. Jackson and team. This was the first time some of our girls had played competitively! It was obvious to all of us that as the season progressed, the team got better and better!

The boys are still in tournament play! This afternoon (Friday) the boys are playing in the semi-finals. If they are successful, they play in the championship game on Monday! Go Vikings!

Hip, hip, hooray, Spirit Week is here! Check the calendar for the events!

Monday, Feb. 8 Pajama Day (Wear pajamas that are appropriate for school!)

Tuesday, Feb. 9 Favorite Holiday Dress Up (Dress like your favorite holiday.)

Wednesday, Feb. 10 Wacky Tacky Day

Thursday, Feb. 11 Favorite Character Day (Dress as your favorite fictional movie or book character.)

Friday, Feb. 12 Dress in Red or Blue (If you are cheering for the students during the basketball game, wear blue. If you are cheering for the teachers during the basketball game, wear red.)

Friday, Feb. 12 Staff - Student Basketball Game, 1:30, gym

Male staff will play the boys' team and female staff will play the girls' team.

Friday, Feb. 12 Tours, middle school 9:30

Enjoy the weekend,

Gwen

Interim Principal gjohnson@voyageracademy.net



High School Update:

ACT testing is just around the corner, and it is time to start preparing for this college entrance exam. The ACT is a test designed to assess student's cumulative knowledge in reading, writing, math and science. Colleges and Universities use the ACT as one of their standards for admission. The State of NC has defined 17 as the minimum score for proficiency and 21 as college ready. There are certain test taking strategies and practice activities students can engage in to prepare for this assessment. I recommend students practice using the free resources available through the ACT or purchase a book or attend a class. Eleventh grade students are required to take the ACT on March 1st. We are offering a prep class on campus, **Moore's Test Prep's ACT Master Class, which is coming up February 13th. You can register now at www.moorestestprep.com. While you're at it, register for the series of SAT classes starting in March.**

Please access this link for free ACT Prep (copy and paste into your browser)

ACT Test Information:

https://docs.google.com/a/voyageracademy.net/document/d/1iuwFJ32q7c_KVtHFZw5Srk_KKZdwOWEAMnsYAN6jjfu4/edit?usp=sharing

Cory Draughon
Principal, VAHS
"Persist for Meaning"

--In anticipation of selling out all tickets to the Roxboro Community Game we wanted to make those of you with season passes or coaches pass aware that these passes will only be used for our standing room. Once we have 80 people that enter with these sort of passes, no other passes will be accepted. Thank you for understanding the difficult situation we are facing, and please know we are trying to do what is best for our senior athletes and parents and all other fans.

Deuce

--8th grade students will be taking a tour of **Voyager High School** during Core Connections on Friday, February 19th. All 8th grade parents are invited to join us. Please meet us in the **high school lobby** during your child's class. The class times are listed below. Ask your student when he or she has Core Connections to determine a tour time.

CC 1st: 9:45 - 10:25

CC 2nd: 10:40 - 11:20



CC 3rd: 11:35 - 12:15

CC 4th: 1:15 - 1:55

CC 5th: 2:10 - 2:45

--**ASVAB Test Information: (Copy and Paste link into browser)**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y5MPJhDWbEPG8bI6Sp6XfkbvxOMWfWwf2C3zn2b-EhU/edit?usp=sharing>

--**Play More with DPR!**

Job Fair

Saturday, February 6

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Holton Career and Resource Center

401 N. Driver Street, Durham

Learn about part-time job and volunteer opportunities available with the City of Durham including:

Lifeguards

Summer Camp Counselors

Cashiers

Senior Laborers

and More

Note: Attendance does not guarantee a job.

This event will be held in partnership with the Durham Youth Work Internship Program.

For more information call 919-560-4355.

--The gap year program is having its regional fair at the Providence Day School in Charlotte on Monday February 8th. Anyone interested should sign up (for free) at gapyearfair.org.

Gains Conference:

I am reaching out again to remind you that the registration window for the GAINS Conference is now open. We are excited to announce our two keynote speakers, Dr. Carol Folt and Dr. Valerie Ashby. Dr. Ashby is the current Dean of the Trinity College of Arts and Sciences at Duke University, and former Chemistry Professor at University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, where her research focused on synthetic polymer chemistry with a special emphasis on designing and synthesizing materials for biomedical applications.



Dr. Folt is the current Chancellor at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, and former interim president of Dartmouth College. Among her amazing achievements is her role in pioneering a first-of-its-kind public-private partnership with GSK, creating a research center on campus dedicated to discovering a cure for HIV/AIDS.

In addition to our keynote speakers, we have an outstanding conference program lined up for the girls, including:

- Career Mixer featuring current UNC / Duke Scientists / Graduate Students / Undergraduate Students
- Technical talks given by outstanding female scientists, introducing the girls to ground-breaking STEM research
- STEM Expo / presentations
- Selfie with a Scientist photo-booth . . . just for fun

We hope that you will consider joining us in April (3-5th) and we can't wait to share this experience with you. If you have any questions about registration, please feel free to reach out. As a reminder, registration is teacher-based, and there is financial assistance available for student participants.

Athletics Update:

Congratulations to the girl's middle school basketball team for a great season. The season ended on a well-played hard fought game on Wednesday night.

Boy's middle school basketball advanced and will play semifinal game against Kestrel Heights on Friday afternoon at 4:30pm in middle school gym.

This week marks the post season for our swim teams. The regionals are held this Friday at the Triangle Aquatic Center beginning at 4pm, best of luck to all our swimmers.



The wrestling team won the school's first ever-wrestling conference championship, winning both the regular season and the tournament. The team finished with 8 conference champions, the coach of the year, and Travis Bramigk was named wrestler of the year.



Important Announcement

This week our high school home basketball games are as follows, please note changes to game dates

Wednesday February 10th - host East Wake Academy (Annual Pink Out Game)

Thursday February 11th - host Roxboro Community School - Senior Night (All tickets will be pre sold beginning Monday, those that enter using coaches or season passes can not be guaranteed seating and please know we may be sold out. All tickets are 5 dollars.) Tickets are limited and will be sold first come first serve.

Save the Date

May 18th - Physical Night at Triangle Orthopaedics. 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.

Basketball and Cheer Senior Nights

As our winter seasons come to an end, on Thursday February 11th, we will be recognizing our senior cheer and basketball student-athletes. Below is the recognition schedule.

Girls Basketball Senior Night: Before girl's game approximately 6pm

Cheerleaders: At halftime of Girls' Basketball Game approximately 6:25pm

Boys Basketball: Before boy's game approximately 7:30pm



Duke at UNC Basketball Tickets Raffle

Thanks to a generous donation the athletic department has been given two pair of tickets to the Duke v. North Carolina game in Chapel Hill on February 17th. Raffle tickets are now on sale, 1 ticket for \$10, 8 tickets for \$50 or 20 tickets for \$100 dollars. If you are willing to help sale these raffle tickets or are interested in purchasing raffle tickets please contact Deuce Harris at 919.433.3301 x 229 or dharris@voyageracademy.net. The athletic department will be holding a raffle, February 11th, at the Roxboro Community home game. There is a misprint on drawing day on raffle tickets please note that raffle drawing will be at half time of the boys' basketball game with Roxboro Community.

Lacrosse

Registration for the 2016 Spring HS Lacrosse Team will be on Tuesday, February 9th at 6:00pm in the Voyager Academy High School.

Players and their parent/guardian must be present to participate. If you cannot attend the registration, but want to play this season, contact Kevin Lilley (kplilley@ncsu.edu) as soon as possible.

Regular Season practices begin February 15.

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 on the 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.

After School/Enrichment Update:

Summer Camp

Information regarding our summer camps is now posted on the summer camp webpage on our website. Here is the link:www.voyageracademy.net/resources/summer-camps

Please note that registration for summer camps is in 2 parts. The first step is to complete the respective form found on the summer camp webpage. The second step is to log on to www.orgsonline.com to submit payment for the camp(s) of your choice. Should you have any questions, please email lboney@voyageracademy.net.