



February 26, 2016

Dear Viking Families:

Good Afternoon! First, let me say thank you to everyone who helped us keep our students and staff safe as we dismissed early in anticipation of the heavy storms. We hope you all managed to stay dry! Thanks also for completing the survey related to operating hours for next year. We will have a final presentation delivered to the Governing Board next month and will share our new plans with you then.

The next survey we will send out to you in a couple of weeks is the Spring survey to follow up on the Fall surveys you participated in. We are working hard on our School Improvement Plan and appreciate your feedback and insight. I look forward to seeing all the students and parents of 8<sup>th</sup> graders at HS registration night next week so we can share our plans for their matriculation and graduation.

Thanks to the families who have been with us this week in support of our sports and arts. We wish our teams good luck as they move through playoffs and our Bull City Lights performers as they prepare for their regional and national competitions!

Regards,  
Jennifer Lucas, M. ED  
Managing Director  
[jlucas@voyageracademy.net](mailto:jlucas@voyageracademy.net)

**Important Information:**

**READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK IN THE HMC LIBRARY**

This week marks the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual celebration of reading that honors the March 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, known as Dr. Seuss. In the HMC we will have fun displays and story times. We would like to encourage you to take extra time this week and read with your child.

“You're never too old, too wacky, too wild,  
To pick up a book and read with a child.  
You're never too busy, too cool, or too hot,  
To pick up a book and share what you've got.”

©Anita Merina

**HMC LIBRARY SAVE THE DATES:  
VA'S SUMMER READING PRE-ORDERS FOR RISING K-12<sup>th</sup> GRADE STUDENTS**

March 7<sup>th</sup>-March 18<sup>th</sup>

Orders will be online this year.



25% off List Price for VA families and VA's HMC Library gets a kick-back of 20% on all sales.  
More information to come!

**HMC LIBRARY'S SPRING BOOK FAIR**

Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>

3:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Location: Barnes & Noble Southpoint

Guest Authors, Student Work on Display, Performances, Specialty VA Drinks, Raffles, and More!

*Athletics Update:*

\_Thank you for all your support and patience as we move from Winter Sports to Spring Sports and try to juggle gym space and deal with inclement weather.

**SUNDAY: High school gym at 3pm– Mandatory Spring Sports Meeting**

If you have not attended a preseason sports meeting or completed the virtual meeting and form at end of presentation online at link below, you will need to attend the meeting on Sunday. This is for all spring sports team members, parents and coaches both middle and high school sports. This must be done before the first official contest each season. If you have already been at meeting for a fall or winter sport you do not have to do so again.

[http://www.voyagerathletics.com/library/files/demo8356\\_bigteams\\_3099/files/Voyager%20Athletic%20Parent%20Meeting%20-%20Spring%202016.pdf](http://www.voyagerathletics.com/library/files/demo8356_bigteams_3099/files/Voyager%20Athletic%20Parent%20Meeting%20-%20Spring%202016.pdf)

**Weekly Schedule**

**Middle School**

Monday 2-29: MS Practice for Baseball, Softball, Tennis and Soccer at the normal times and places.



Tuesday 3-1: Golf Tryout at Umstead Pines 3:30pm

Baseball, Softball, Tennis and Soccer practice will be held at normal time and places

Wednesday 3-2: Baseball, Softball, Tennis practice will be held at normal time and places

No Soccer or Golf Practice/Training on Wednesdays

Thursday 3-3: Golf Tryout at Umstead Pines 3:30pm

Baseball v. Falls Lake Butner Athletic Park – 4:30pm (dismiss at 2:50pm)

Softball v. Falls Lake at Falls Lake Academy – 4:30pm (dismiss at 2:50pm)

Soccer v. Falls Lake at Granville Athletic Park – 4:30-m (dismiss at 2:50pm)

Tennis no practices on Thursdays

Friday 3-4: No Golf Practice– Remaining sports will practice as usual.

### **High School**

Saturday 2-27 Basketball at Weldon High School - 5pm (round 3 of playoff)

Monday 2-29 Soccer hosting Harriet Charter at Granville Athletic Park at 4pm

Softball at Southern High School – 4:00pm

Baseball, Tennis and Golf practice as usual

Tuesday 3-1 Tennis v. Trinity HS at Rock Quarry Park - 4pm

Softball hosting DSA at Granville Athletic Park – 4pm

Golf practice Umstead Pines

Basketball (possible round 4 of playoffs)

Baseball practice as normal

Wednesday 3-2 Baseball, Softball, Tennis and Soccer practice as normal



Thursday 3-3 Basketball (possible 5<sup>th</sup> round of playoff)

Tennis at Northern – 4pm

Baseball at Cardinal Gibbons at 4pm

Friday 3-4 Softball at Riverside

Soccer at Hillside – 5pm (Bull City Sports)

### **Important Announcement**

**May 18<sup>th</sup>** – 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 years physical taken care of that night, again please support those that support our student-athletes.

Also a coupon is attached at the end of this message.

### **Lacrosse**

Anyone not returning to play lacrosse needs to turn in gear to Kevin Lilley ([kplilley@ncsu.edu](mailto:kplilley@ncsu.edu)) as soon as possible. Please contact Kevin if you are interest in joining the team.

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 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.

## **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 STEM, Movie Maker, 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. We encourage you to complete the registration form on our website today to lock-in to the \$200/week rate! This rate will increase to \$250 after March 1. Please email Latia Boney with any questions.

## **Enrichments**

Karate students learning to kick.



### **Elementary Update:**

Dear VAES Families,

We are so thankful for our fabulous PTA and our wonderful parents!! Thank you for all of the treats, supplies, food, and gifts during our Staff Appreciation Week!!! We have all felt so loved and appreciated!!

### **Jump Rope for Heart**

Our Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser is complete. We have raised \$7048!! Our goal was \$7000 and we have proudly exceeded it!!! This means that next Thursday, Mrs. Paynter will have to wear some type of Duke Apparel. As most of you know, she is a Tarheel fan!!



We are so grateful for all the monies that have been raised to help the American Heart Association through our Jump Rope for Heart program this year. Not only does every dollar count toward research and education but it also helps support a healthy, active Physical Education program. Again, thank you for your support of our Jump Rope for Heart program.

Mrs. Derrick and Mrs. Flowe-Dawson, VAES Physical Education

- **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](http://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](mailto:lesliej@mindspring.com)) if you have any questions. Thank you!

- Monday, February 29: Buddy Class activity with HS and MS students @8:45 AM
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Project Celebration Dates:**
  - First Grade:** Thursday, March 3 @ 1:00 PM
  - Kindergarten:** Friday, March 4 @ 11:00 AM
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** Friday, March 4 @ 12:00 PM
  - Third Grade:** Friday, March 4 @ 1:00 PM
- Pennies for Patients: K - 12 Fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society from March 7 - 24 (More information to come next week)
- Friday, March 11: End of the Third Quarter
- Friday, March 11 @ 1:30: HS Show Choir, Bull City Lights, Assembly
- Monday, March 14: Required Teacher Workday/No School for Students

I hope everyone enjoys the beautiful weekend!

Best,  
Leslie  
VAES Principal

**Middle School Update:**

Hi Middle School Families,

On behalf of the middle school staff, I want to thank you for a wonderful Teacher Appreciation Week. The pizza/salad lunch was terrific. The needed supplies sent to school were appreciated. The treats were yummy and breakfast was delicious. The week ended with gift certificates! Thank you for making our staff feel so special!

The weather brought uneasy feelings Wednesday as we weren't sure what we were going to encounter. I applaud the staff for maintaining a feeling of calmness as we waited to see what would happen. Parents, thanks for understanding the change to afternoon car line as we wanted to make sure our middle school students were safe and decided not to walk to the elementary school. We recognize it took longer to load



all the cars but all the students were safe and that is our number 1 priority!

On a different note, I need your help! It has been brought to my attention that parents are texting students during the school day. This is really disappointing and concerning as we ask students to keep their cell phones off and in their pack back. Students are not to use their phones during the day so we really need you to help by not texting your child throughout the day. We need them to focus on their learning and not their phones.

Our Science Olympiad teams are getting ready for competition. This morning Mr. Benson spoke with guests who were here to tour our building. He shared we have spaces for a couple of students to join the team. Here is info if you are interested in having your child participate.

From Mr. Benson-----First off - just a reminder of the next team practice time coming up this Saturday 2/26 from 9am-noon at the middle school. Hope to see you all there. Please be in touch with your partners about when you'll be there, and what time as well, so everyone can coordinate. If you aren't sure about joining, you are welcome to come to school in the morning as see what Science Olympiad is! Please feel free to email Mr. Benson at [bensone57145@gmail.com](mailto:bensone57145@gmail.com).

Look forward to seeing students tomorrow at 8:40, and everyone on Saturday.

Erik Benson

### **Calendar of Events**

Monday, February 29 Grades 4-8 enjoy times with their buddy class  
Tuesday, March 2 Registration Information session at Voyager High School for rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents, 5:30-6:30  
Tuesday, March 2 Celebration for our Winter Sports, 7:00, MS gym  
Friday, March 4 Moon in Motion in-school field trip, 4<sup>th</sup> grade

All 3 schools will participate in Pennies for Patients this year. Our collection drive is scheduled for March 7-24. More info will come your way very soon!

Enjoy the weekend,

Gwen

Interim Principal

[gjohnson@voyageracademy.net](mailto:gjohnson@voyageracademy.net)

### **High School Update:**

Registration for high school students is right around the corner. Mr. Schmoyer and the staff have been working hard to review and update the course catalog for the 2016-2017 school year. Next year students will be able to take 8 courses. This will better allow students to participate in the College and Career Promise, enroll in more electives and participate in the AP Capstone Program. It is vital that parents attend the March 2nd registration meeting in the HS gym at 5:30pm to get more information. Voyager





Academy High School was selected this year to begin offering the AP Capstone Program next year. We are one of only 9 current schools in NC that offer the AP Capstone Diploma. This challenging Diploma program is a very rigorous program which greatly increases students' competitive advantage in college applications.

This is the entire schedule for the registration process:

STUDENT PROCESS:

8th Grade:

- March 2nd
  - All Parent/Student Meeting
  - Materials handed out and brief description of new schedule change given
- March 3rd
  - Bonawitz to Norman's room to help the students fill out form and collect to get signatures.
- March 10th
  - Return back to students to fill out electives.
- March 15th
  - Students will register online via google form after they have gathered all their signatures
- March 24th
  - ALL 8th grade paper registration forms are due AND google form must be filled out WITH parent signatures

9th Grade-11th Grade:

- March 2nd
  - All Parent/Student Meeting
  - Materials handed out and brief description of new schedule change given
- March 7th
  - 9th-11th grade students will get more information during Advisory regarding scheduling and their potential placement in classes
- March 15th, 16th, 17th
  - Flex period will be utilized both days to have students fill out paper registration forms and get teacher signatures
- March 24th
  - ALL 9th-11th grade paper registration forms are due AND google form must be filled out WITH parent signatures

Have a great weekend.

Cory Draughon  
Principal, VAHS

“Persist for Meaning”



--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\\_KVtHFZw5SrkKKZdwOWEA/MnsYAN6jjfu4/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/a/voyageracademy.net/document/d/1iuwFJ32q7c_KVtHFZw5SrkKKZdwOWEA/MnsYAN6jjfu4/edit?usp=sharing)

--The ACT College Admissions Assessment will be given free of charge to all North Carolina 11th graders on March 1, 2016; the makeup date is March 15, 2016. The ACT is part of North Carolina's school accountability program.

The ACT results may be used at the high school level to identify students who need assistance with certain subject areas or academic skills, to evaluate effectiveness of instruction, and to make adjustments to curriculum to improve instruction. In addition, colleges use ACT scores for admissions decisions, course placement, academic advising, and loans and scholarships. Students participating in the statewide ACT administration can select for free up to four colleges (or other reporting agencies) to receive their ACT scores.

If you have questions or concerns about the ACT administration, please contact me at [lhowell@voyageracademy.net](mailto:lhowell@voyageracademy.net) or visit <http://www.act.org/stateservices/northcarolina/>, a dedicated website for North Carolina that is specifically related to our administration of the ACT.

--VAHS will host the classroom portion of Driver's Ed April 4-April 15, 2016.

Classes will meet at the high school in classroom C115 from 2:45-5:45 each weekday.

Sign up for this class will start at 12:01am on March 5, 2016

Directions for sign up (must sign up and pay online):

- Go to the DPS webpage.. [www.dpsnc.net](http://www.dpsnc.net)
- 
- Click on "parent resources"
- 
- Look for "driver education" on right side of screen
- 
- Next screen - click on "register for driver education on-line here"
- 

Students must be 14 1/2 in order to take the class.



Students must sign up and pay on the DPSNC.Net website.  
Please contact David Roberson [david.roberson@dpsnc.net](mailto:david.roberson@dpsnc.net) with questions.