

Vandalia Community Unit District #203
1109 N 8th Street
Vandalia, IL 62471
Jennifer Garrison- Superintendent

Superintendent's Report
9/18/18
5:00 PM

District Website

www.vcs.fayette.k12.il.us

Calendar

- September 21- Homecoming Parade- Early dismissal at 2:15 p.m. Game at 6:30 p.m. with dance immediately following.
- September 22- Vandalia Alumni and Friends All School Reunion at the Moose beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Superintendent's Report

- The MAP/NWEA training kicked-off. Teachers are learning more about the reports available in MAP with the goal of making the data user friendly to drive instruction in the classroom focusing on growth.
- The first Vandalia ONE Workforce Development meeting was a huge success with an amazing turnout and individuals following up with one on one with suggestions.

Technology Report

- We have been seeing a high number of Chromebook repairs at the start of the school year. These repairs are ranging from broken screens to keyboard issues.
- We have been dealing with other minor issues that teachers have had with the start of the school year.

Finance Committee

The committee (Campbell, Hall, and Garrison) reviews fund balances and bills. **The Finance Committee will meet on September 18th at 4:30 p.m. to review bills and the financial reports.** The committee meets to review bills, fund balances, state budget shortfall and general financial information.

Policy Committee

The committee (Goldsmith, Lawson, Wasmuth, Garrison, Protz, and Kern) reviews policy updates from the IASB. The committee meets to review all policy updates (provided by the Illinois Association of School Boards) and makes recommendations to the BOE for adoption.

Building and Grounds Committee

The committee (Palmer, Smith, Lawson, Garrison, Casey, Protz, Kern, Bogart, Dave Rickman, Steve Stombaugh, Dugan, and Andy Hipsher) will meet in September.

Transportation Committee

The committee (Lawson, Campbell, Garrison, Casey, Critcheloe, W. Smith, Mesnard, and Krueger) will meet in October.

Student Safety Committee

The Committee (Palmer, Goldsmith, Hall, Wasmuth, Jeff Ray, Josh Morrison, Chris Smith, Amy Schaal, Kendra Craig, Zac Stombaugh, Bogart, Critcheloe, Garrison, Casey, Protz, Kern, and Mesnard,) **met September 12th at 5:00 p.m. We discussed updating the fire and intruder drills focused on situational awareness. If we should continue to allow backpacks in the classrooms was discussed although the first step is to investigate the cost of locks for all VCHS lockers and replacing the small lockers at VJHS.**

Athletic Committee

The Committee (Hall, Smith, Wasmuth, Garrison, Kern, Protz, Casey, Clay, and 4 parents TBD) **met on August 29th at 3:30 p.m. The wrestling parents requested the 2nd place state championship picture be**

displayed in the gym. In 2008, a committee met and it was approved that only State Championship pictures would be displayed. This policy was reviewed and it was decided that any team making the State Championship Game will have their picture displayed in the gym.

School Wellness Committee

The Committee (Wasmuth, Hall, Garrison, Reams, Kelly Curll, Lewis, Krueger, and Mesnard) will meet as needed.

Concussion Committee

The Committee (Palmer, Smith, Garrison, Casey, Kern, Protz, Clay, and Whitten) meets each year to review board policy, return to play policy and general protocol for concussion responsibilities. **The committee met on September 5th to discuss the return to learn policy. The policy will be implemented immediately with Mr. Whitten and Mrs. Lewis, District Nurse, working together to monitor the student's progress.**

Student Discipline Committee

The Committee (Palmer, Goldsmith, Wasmuth, Garrison, Protz, Krueger, Kern, Holliday, Mesnard, Emerick, Eckhart, Stewart, Tarkington, Schaal, Lewis, Reeter, and Wollerman) meets each year to review discipline procedure and compliance with the Illinois School code.

Building Reports

High School Board Report

Randy Protz- Principal

Greta Krueger – Asst. Principal

1. High school handed out 30 weekend food bags to students through the Nourishing Greatness Program on the first week.
2. We handed out student cards this year to all students. When they come to a home game this year all they have to do is show their card to the ticket taker and they will be admitted for free. So far the kids really seem to be excited to have these and our student attendance seems to be higher so far.
3. New for this year we are going to take students on college visits. We have planned visits to SIUE on October 17, Illinois State University November 27 and U of I December 5. This is open to Junior and Seniors, we did a first come first serve sign up and had overwhelming response. All trips have more students than we can even take. The schools have the maximum amounts for tours so this is the number we are taking: SIUE -38 students, ISU- 45 students, U of I - 45 students.
4. Mrs. Hanke is working with ISAC and they are going to be here to host a FAFSA meeting for senior parents and students. September 27th-FAFSA Informational Night: This gives parents information about how to fill out the FAFSA. October 5th-FAFSA Completion Workshop: Parents can come in that night and fill out the FAFSA and ask questions about financial aid. October 11th-Filling Out College Applications-Students can meet with the ISAC representative and fill out college applications or ask questions about applications. The representative will be in Student Services office all day. October 16th-Filling out College Application Presentations in Senior English classes: Students will learn about information needed to fill out college applications.
5. **October 10** - The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a standardized test administered by the College Board and cosponsored by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) in the United States. Approximately 3.5 million students take the PSAT/NMSQT each year. This is an optional test and we will be testing 19 juniors who opted to take this test at the First United Methodist Church Family Center.
6. **November 30** - KC Career Fair. We will be taking up to 50 juniors to KC's Career Fair. **The Career Fair will consist of four major events:** *Exhibitors in the gymnasium will represent business and industry, agencies, military, law enforcement, and many others. *Keynote

presentation, Lindsey Jensen, Illinois Teacher of the Year. *The Career and Technical Education programs at KC will be offering tours and presentations in their respective program areas.

*Presentation by Kaskaskia College staff.

7. The high school choir has been invited to perform in a joint concert with KC ensembles on October 15 the concert is at 7pm and free to the public!
8. Nicholas Wollerman competed in the State Public Speaking CDE and finished in 2nd Place with his speech on the critical shortage of agriculture teachers.
9. Julie Wollerman has been named Illinois State FFA Honorary Degree Recipient.
10. The FFA Horse Judging Team finished 5th place out of 18 teams
11. The FFA assisted Effingham Equity with Innovation Acres, which was a program to demonstrate the new technologies in agriculture and was held at the Effingham County Fairgrounds
12. Vandalia FFA will host the Section 19 FFA Leadership Training School on October 1, 2018 for students in twelve surrounding schools. The training will focus on team building, leadership, and communication skills with the theme being Elevate!
13. Homecoming is Friday September 21st. Football game will start at 6:30pm and dance will be immediately following the game.

Junior High Board Report
Brian Kern – Principal
Brian Holliday – Asst. Principal

- **Enrollment Numbers**- as of 9/12/18: Fourth grade – 112, Fifth grade 113 (down 1), sixth grade 97 (down 6), seventh grade 100 (down 6), and eighth grade 109 (up 2), total enrollment is 531 (down 7).
- **Vandalia ONE** – Nourishing Greatness began on 9/7 – 60 students receives food items for the week end; BOOM (Building Opportunities and Opening Minds) after school program started 9/4. The partnership with Fayette County YMCA has been amazing. We are appreciative of their cooperation and willingness to be part of the program.
- **Progress Reports** were handed out to all students on Wednesday, September 12.
- **Girls Basketball** has started practicing for this year. We will host the Old Capital Classic seventh and eighth grade girl's basketball tournament. The tournament will take place on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings (9/18, 20, 21). The seventh grade games are played at VES while the eighth grade games are played at the junior high gym.
- **MAP Testing** – finished 9/7. This assessment will be used to progress monitor students learning and prepare for PARCC testing.
- **Activities for the Month-**
 - Girls Basketball has games at home on 10/2, 10/11, 10/12, 10/15, 10/18 and 10/22
 - See You at the Pole will be 9/26 at 7:45am on the playground

Elementary Board Report
Stacy Mesnard – Principal
Larry Emerick – Asst. Principal/VCUSD #203 Special Education Director

- VES PTO is having the annual candy bar sale now. Most of our students are selling. All students who have sold one or more boxes of candy bars were entered into a drawing this week to give away a giant 5 pound chocolate bar to 5 lucky students!
- All of our students have been given the Fall MAPS test. It generally takes about three weeks to finish this task each year. We use these scores to plan instruction, form small remedial academic groups, and create a watch list of students who need extra support.
- We had our first PTO meeting of the year and it was very well attended by staff and several parents. We are going to build a float to put in the Homecoming Parade this year. The purchase of a playground canopy or sun shade was discussed for the future.

OKAW Area Vocational Center Board Report
Nick Casey – Director

- CTE Grant has been resubmitted with changes required by ISBE.
- UNOH, UTI, and the Military have been to OKAW providing students with Post Secondary options.
- Building Trades- Floor Joists, sub-floor, walls are complete. Trusses will start next week.
- All programs are running. Safety tests have been passed and students are in the shops.
- Pre-tests have been given.

“Home of the Vandals”

The Mission of the Vandalia Community School District: “To prepare the students of our community for their future so they may become responsible members of society.”