

Volume 24
Issue 4

March 2021



For the Parents, Students and Community of Venice High School

Principal's Message

Congratulations to Venice High School's Girls' Soccer Team for winning a State Championship on Friday, March 5. One year ago, our girls' team lost in the State Finals. This year was a different story. Our girls played tough from the start and forced a scoreless game into overtime. The outcome of the game came down to penalty kicks. Our girls rose to the occasion and emerged victorious, winning the State Championship. It was a wonderful game with an amazing outcome.

The end of the 2020 - 2021 school year is rapidly approaching. The spring season is always very busy at Venice High School. Our staff is hard at work delivering high-quality instruction so that every student receives a powerful learning experience. We are now focusing our attention on preparing students for the upcoming Florida Standards Reading Assessment, End of Course (EOC) Exams for Algebra, Geometry, Biology, and American History, and a variety of Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams. Student performance on these high-stakes assessments is tremendously important to measure their year's growth and achievement, especially during this unique school year.

Education is a shared responsibility. Parental involvement is a key factor for a strong finish and a true partnership. Your attention and involvement in this effort will reinforce the importance we place on your child's education. Please continue to take the following steps to support your child during this final stretch:

1. Reinforce positive and successful school habits. Attention in class, homework, test preparation and attendance are key factors.
2. Access and review your student's progress, attendance, and test schedules on (Parent Portal). If you have concerns, please make contact with our teachers.
3. Help your student to create a plan to work on current academic challenges and prepare for final exams.
4. Be aware of school-based tutoring and academic support available at the school. We encourage your student to participate.
5. Re-establish your student's home-study routine to help your student to stay focused.

Please check the Venice High School website (www.sarasotacountyschools.net/schools/venice) for new and updated information. As always, please let me know if I can assist you or your student in any way.

On a final note, I recently accepted a school leadership position in Connecticut, which takes effect on July 1. Meanwhile, I will continue to serve our amazing school for the remainder of this school year. I have been so fortunate, proud, and humbled to have presided over what I consider to be a truly outstanding faculty and highly supportive school community for the past five years. As for the remainder of this school year, I will continue to give you my very best in service to our staff, students, and families.

Sincerely,

Eric Jackson

Principal, Venice High School

Guidance News

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year is almost complete. We have been meeting with the students and helping them select their courses for the next school year. Please remember that if you are lacking credits needed for graduation, you can sign up to take courses over the summer on www.flvs.net. Please see your counselor if you have not registered, yet. This year the counselors presented the registration information in the classroom. The registration powerpoint is posted on the school website.

Please remember to become familiar with the Bright Futures Requirements. The Bright Futures GPA is different from the Venice High GPA. Also, if you are pursuing the Gold Seal Scholarship you must have 3 consecutive classes within a certain CTE Pathway. For an explanation of this please see Mrs. Kindell in Rotary Futures or your guidance counselor. Search the Bright Futures Scholarship website to stay on top of the latest requirements for this state scholarship (www.MyFloridaEducation.com/brfuture).

****Some courses do not meet Bright Futures requirements. Make sure that courses you select will qualify for Bright Futures. Please note that Liberal Arts Math does not meet the requirements for Bright Futures. Algebra 1A and Algebra 1B counts as one math credit for universities and Bright Futures.**

****To our athletes**** NCAA has certain requirements for courses, gpa and test scores. NCAA will not accept APEX classes and certain academic classes. Please see your coach and/or counselor to make sure you have selected your academic classes correctly.

Volunteer in the community!! Get involved with a local event over the summer. This is a great way to enhance your resume, experience something new and to meet new people.

You can purchase a brick for your student that will last a lifetime and forever be a part of history. The INDIAN WALK is the path that leads into the stadium. The seniors will walk across the path as they enter into the stadium for graduation.

- Brick size is 4"x8"- \$100 (15 characters per line, 3 lines)

If you are interested in purchasing a brick at the entrance to the football stadium, please go to veniceindianfootball.org for the form or send an email to vhsindianwalk@gmail.com for more information.

Health Room Corner

Flu Season/COVID & Good Handwashing

Jody Whetzel RN & Betty Jo Faulkner Health Room Aide

Flu season is upon us and can spread quickly. The flu is a respiratory illness caused by a virus which comes around every year usually during the fall and winter. Symptoms of the flu include fever, chills, sore throat, coughing, headache, body aches, and in some cases diarrhea and vomiting which could also be symptoms of COVID. COVID symptoms also include loss of smell/taste, fatigue, & shortness of breath. If your child has any of these symptoms, please keep him or her home from school and contact your health care provider. Your child should follow the health care provider instructions on returning to school. If a health care provider is not involved, student should be symptom free for 24 hours without the use of medication before returning to school. Students can help prevent the spread of the flu & COVID by washing their hands often and well for at least 20 seconds, covering coughs and sneezes, staying away from people who have the flu, not sharing food and drinks, getting the flu vaccine, & staying home when sick. Also remember good hand washing is the key to prevent the spread of infections and viruses including COVID. The best practice is to wash hands with warm soapy water frequently and before eating, after using restroom, and after coughing or sneezing into hands. Remember to also keep hands away from face (eyes, nose, mouth), and cough/sneeze into your elbow to prevent the spread of germs. It is not too late for everyone to get the flu vaccine to help prevent the spread of the flu. Also, if your child gets tested for COVID please notify the health room & have them stay at home until the results are back. Don't forget to wear your mask, social distance, & wash your hands regularly to help prevent the spread of COVID. If you have any questions regarding COVID, please call the school to talk with the RN or Health Room Aide.

Venice HS Resources

**Student and Family Handbook
Code of Student Conduct**
www.sarasotacountyschools.net/
Page/2548

Equity Handbooks for Employees/ Applicants & Students

**Located on the district website
under Human Resources/Equity**
www.sarasotacountyschools.net/
Page/2613



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Remote & Free Meal Info

Thanks to a program extension from the USDA, Sarasota County Schools will now feed **all children 18 years and younger for free** through the end of the 2020-21 school year, including children not currently enrolled in Sarasota County Schools.

Free Meal Program Summary:

- All children 18 years or younger will be provided free breakfast and lunch starting September 21, 2020
- Meal menus and procedures will look the same for both in-person and remote learners
- For in-person learners, à la cart items will be charged to the student account
- Remote learners and nonstudents will need to order meals on MySchoolBucks before 5 pm every Thursday
- If you do not have a MySchoolBucks account, please create one
- Students do not need to be in the vehicle; however a valid student ID is required (state-issued ID, birth certificate, student ID or a copy of student report card)
- Meals will be picked up VHS on Tuesdays between 9:00 and 9:30 on the side entrance of building 2.
- Meal pick up locations can be selected when ordering on MySchoolBucks

Contact the SCS Food & Nutrition team if you have any questions or special requests at (941) 486-2199. For additional family food resources, please visit *All Faiths Food Bank* at [https://www.allfaithsfoodbank.org/..](https://www.allfaithsfoodbank.org/)

Information Verification

We are asking all VHS families to please confirm your child's address and contact phone numbers we have documented in our Student Information System. This can be done by logging into the Family Access Portal. Click the Settings icon on the top right corner and select Contacts. Your home address will appear at the top under student details. If the information is not correct please provide a utility bill, or lease / purchase agreement with your name and new address. This can be dropped off, emailed, or faxed. We must have one of these three items in order to make the necessary changes. If there is a new phone number(s), these can be hand written. Please include who the number belongs to and the type, i.e. cell, home, work, etc.

Please direct emails to Debra.Colombo@sarasotacountyschools.net or fax (941) 486-2034. **Thank you for your assistance in this matter.**



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Operating Hours:

Closed Mondays and most school holidays
Open Tuesday – Friday, 7:00 am – 3:30 pm
For VHS Students, By Appointment Only
RotaryFutures.YouCanBook.Me

MARCH 2021 – FROM KIM KINDELL

SENIORS MISSED OUT ON \$2 MILLION IN FEDERAL AID! www.FAFSA.GOV

Last year, over \$2 million was unclaimed by eligible students in Sarasota County who did not complete the FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The information gathered on the FAFSA provides the federal and state government, as well as most postsecondary institutions, with the financial information needed to determine the amount of financial aid that a student is eligible to receive, i.e. Pell Grants, Federal Direct Student Loans, etc. It is very important to complete the FAFSA as soon as possible.

FAFSA IS EASIER! The FAFSA uses “prior prior year” income tax returns, so you will use your 2019 return (which was submitted last year)! You may also be able to link the FAFSA to the IRS and transfer your information with the easy IRS Data Retrieval Tool.

It's not too late to file! File online NOW at www.FAFSA.GOV Step by step instructions are on the VHS Website > Resources > Venice High Downloads > FAFSA Steps.

BEWARE – Only use the FAFSA.GOV website! Do NOT use FAFSA.com, FAFSA.net, etc.! These are NOT the federal government's websites!!! They will collect your personal information and then charge you a \$70 - \$ 80 fee for the “free” application.

For help with the FAFSA, VHS seniors should make an appointment in the Rotary Futures College Resource Center located across from the front office in the VHS Administration Building. Make appointments at RotaryFutures.YouCanBook.me
SCF NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS!

Seniors – Do NOT delay in applying to State College of Florida (SCF). Applications are currently being accepted. Students must pay a \$20 enrollment deposit, which will be credited to their first semester. Also, SCF scholarships are dependent on your admission and completion of the FAFSA. Apply today at www.SCF.edu.

SENIORS - CLASS OF 2021

FLORIDA AID and BRIGHT FUTURES INFORMATION

ANY SENIOR who wants to be considered for State of Florida scholarships or grants (including Bright Futures) MUST complete an on-line application prior to graduation called the “Florida Financial Aid Application” (not the FAFSA.) The application is ONLY FOR SENIORS.

To complete the application, visit the Rotary Futures for assistance or go to the Bright Futures website: www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/.

Under “First Time Applicants,” click on “Create Student Account.” This is only the first step! Once the account is created, the next screen will have a link at the top of the page for the student to COMPLETE the Florida Financial Aid Application. NOTE—students will receive TWO emails during this application process. One email arrives immediately after the student makes their Student Account and includes the student's user ID and initial password. The second email arrives after the application is submitted (within 1 – 3 days.) Save these email as they contain instructions on checking your status. The entire process will only take 5-10 minutes to complete.

Check the Bright Futures website for the most current information regarding the scholarship program. www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/.

FLORIDA BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship program is subject to change annually by the state legislature. Check the Bright Futures website for the most up-to-date information on qualifications, award amounts, etc. www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/.

The Rotary Futures College Resource Center can help you check your Bright Futures status. Make an appointment to visit at the website: RotaryFutures.YouCanBook.me Also, feel free to email and we can send you your current Bright Futures report.

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Requirements (see website for up to date info.):

Minimum Core Academic GPA:

- Florida Academic Scholar (FAS) = 3.5+
- Florida Medallion Scholar (FMS) = 3.0+
- Gold Seal Vocational (GSV) = 3.0+
 - ◊ AND 3.5 GPA in a CTE Pathway

Minimum Test Scores:

- FAS requires a minimum superscore 1330 SAT RW+Math only OR a 29 ACT composite score;
- FMS requires a minimum superscore 1210 SAT RW+Math only OR a 25 ACT composite score;
- For GSV
 - ◊ SAT = 24 Reading, 25 Writing/Language, 24 Math
 - ◊ ACT = 17 English, 19 Reading, 19 Math OR
 - ◊ PERT = 106 Reading, 103 Writing, 114 Math

Community Service Hours:

- FAS = 100 hours; FMS = 75 hours; GSV 30 hours

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We need spots filled...

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Eva Hanley • Eva.Hanley@sarasotacountyschools.net

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SENIOR AWARDS CELEBRATION

Tentative Date - Thursday, May 27, 2021

At this time, we do not know if Senior Awards Night will be happening in-person, but please save the date – Thursday, May 27th, 7 pm. We will keep everyone posted about the final decision.

We still need to collect scholarship information! To be included in Senior Awards Night, you must email your scholarship information to Mrs. Kindell by May 1st, Kim.Kindell@sarasotacountyschools.net

In the email include the following: 1) Senior's name, 2) Scholarship name, 3) Scholarship amount, 4) Whether the scholarship is renewable (for example \$1000 per year for four years, so \$4000 total.)

Please report ALL scholarships including College scholarships and private, local, state and national scholarships. Due to time constraints, only college scholarships you will be accepting will be included in Senior Awards Night. (Also, Bright Futures scholarships will not be recognized at Senior Awards Night because final determination is not made until July.)

Check out last year's Senior Awards Ceremony video on our YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/RotaryFutures/.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Any student wishing to complete their volunteer hours for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship MUST complete the ONLINE Sarasota County School District registration process and have the plan approved. Complete instructions for registering and for turning in approved community service hours are available on the VHS website > Resources > Venice High Downloads > Community Service Hours Info. Sheet

Remember, community service is an excellent way for students to build their resume and obtain valuable experience for college essays and scholarship competitions.

Important Steps and Requirements:

- Do NOT start the registration application until the student knows where they are going to volunteer. The registration application does NOT save and you will be “locked” out if you do not complete the application when you start.
- Each organization/activity must be approved before the student volunteers. Once approved the student will be able to print a unique log sheet for the organization/activity. New organizations/activities may be added for approval at any time!
- Don't wait for an approval email (because sometimes email networks have problem receiving the approval/denial emails). You may log in anytime to see if you have been approved. If you can print out a log sheet, you know you've been approved!
- STUDENTS MUST volunteer in the Sarasota County area.
- NO MORE THAN 8 HOURS may be earned each day (due to child labor laws).
- NON-PROFIT and CHURCH RULES: All volunteering must take place with a non-profit organization--exceptions include hospitals and assisted living facilities (enrichment activities only). Church Community Service must be outreach to the entire community--no religious instruction or activities that are part of being a member of the church will count, i.e. no activities during church services.
- Instructions for turning in hours is on the VHS website > Resources > Downloads > Community Service Hours Info. (page 3 and 4.)
- Questions? Contact the VHS High School Community Service Manager, which is the Rotary Futures College Resource Center. Students—make an appointment at RotaryFutures.YouCanBook.me or Email Mrs. Joyner at: Caitlin.Joyner@sarasotacountyschools.net or call 941-480-3178.

TEEN LEADERSHIP VENICE

For Rising Sophomores and Juniors

Build Your Resume – Apply Now!

Teen Leadership Venice is a program of the Venice Area Chamber of Commerce providing area high school students a chance to enhance their knowledge of their community. Through onsite tours and meetings with community leaders they will develop skills that will empower and motivate them.

During this exciting program, students attend an Opening Retreat, 7 Program Days (one per month) and a Closing Retreat/Graduation. The days are practical in nature with hands-on activities. Program Days deal with specific facets of the community such as government, law enforcement, human services, arts and culture, commerce and industry, and local history. Each day combines a behind-the-scenes experience with a great deal of interaction with the appropriate community leaders.

Students from Venice High School who will be Sophomores or Juniors during the 2021-2022 school year are eligible to apply. For additional information contact Barbara Hines, Leadership Venice Director, at the Venice Area Chamber of Commerce. bhines@venicechamber.com or 941.800.1482.

SENIORS—IMPROVE TEST SCORES FOR BRIGHT FUTURES!

JUNIORS—TAKE YOUR SAT and ACT NOW!

Seniors—You may test through June 2021 to qualify for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship program. Remember to always send your test scores to a state university so Bright Futures will have access to your score. You have 4 free score reports to send when you register for the test.

Juniors—Do not wait to take your first test until your senior year. Take your SAT and ACT before the end of your junior year. We suggest you take both the SAT and ACT to determine if you score better on one test than the other. Colleges will accept either test, and they will use the best score—no matter which test. Colleges will not even begin to review your

continued on the next page

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...continued from previous page



application for admission until they have received your test scores and other required materials.

SAT AND ACT TEST DATES

REGISTER ONLINE

SAT: www.collegeboard.org

\$52.00 + \$16 optional essay

ACT: www.actstudent.org

\$55.00 + \$15.00 optional writing

Optional Essay/Writing tests are NOT required by Florida colleges and universities, but they may be required by out-of-state colleges/universities. Check specific colleges for requirements. The following are the remaining test dates and registration deadlines (without late fees) for the SAT and ACT:

ACT April 17 Deadline – March 12th (*late fee March 13-26*)

SAT May 8 Deadline – April 3rd (*late fee April 4-27*)

SAT June 5 Deadline – May 6th

ACT June 12 Deadline – May 7th

ACT July 17 Deadline – June 18th

Test scores will be posted to your online account about 2-3 weeks after the test dates. **Waivers for test fees** are available for students who receive free or reduced lunch. To obtain waivers, contact the Rotary Futures College Resource Center.

ICC News

VHS's Interclub Council (ICC) welcomed two new organizations on campus in March!

The **Venice Community Music Project** will be meeting on Friday afternoons with sponsor Mr. Chris Riley. **The Coexistence Club** will meet on Thursday afternoons with sponsor Ms. Francisca Ciancarelli. Students interested in joining one or both organizations should contact the respective sponsor.

Information about all VHS's student organizations can be found on the school website in the Parents/Students section under "Venice High Extra- and Co-Curricular" activities.

Family Access Portal: Updating an Email Address or Password

Instructions are the same for both Students and Parents

Log into your Portal account. You may get there from the Sarasota County Schools website. <https://www.sarasotacountyschools.net>

Click on **Parents & Students**, and then click on **Family Access Portal: Assignments-Attendance-Grades-Schedule**



Once in your portal, click **Settings** on the top right of the page

Select **Password** from the list of options

This opens a new screen that shows your User Name, Email address, First Name and Last Name as well as two blank fields to change your password. *You cannot see your current password.

To change your Email Address:

- delete the email address showing in the **Email** box and type in the new email address
- click the **Save** button

To change your Password:

- type in the new password in the **Password** box
- type the new password again in the **Confirm Password** box
- click the **Save** button

You will receive a **Save Successful** message after clicking Save



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2020-2021 VHS School Dress Code

This information is designed to address common questions and misconceptions about the dress code at Venice High School.

Administrators, teachers, and students worked together to establish a dress code that strikes a balance of what is considered reasonable and appropriate for a school setting.

We appreciate your support of the dress expectations that have been established and hope that this handout is helpful.

Student Dress Code

Please adhere to the following expectations during school hours and school-sponsored events:

- No short shorts (all shorts must be a MINIMUM of mid-thigh in length)
- ripped or shredded pants, above mid-thigh, may not reveal skin
- no saggy / baggy pants
- leggings and yoga pants are permitted if skin and undergarments are not visible
- no pajamas or slippers
- no clothing of an ethnic or racially offensive nature
- no tube / bando or see-through tops
- no spaghetti straps or exposed bra strap
- no low-cut shirts with exposed cleavage
- shirts with straps must be at least the width of a dollar bill
- clothing that does not encourage the use of drugs, tobacco, alcohol, violence, or weapons, or support discrimination on the basis of color, disability, national origin, marital status, race, religion, gender or sexual orientation

PANTS, LEGGINGS, and EXPOSED UNDERGARMENTS

- Jeans with holes, shreds, and rips at mid-thigh or lower will be permitted.
- Shreds or rips above mid-thigh may NOT reveal skin.
- Pants must stay up without using a belt for assistance.
- Leggings and yoga pants are permitted if skin and undergarments are not revealing.

SHIRTS and TOPS

- Strapless tops, backless tops, midriffs, and low-cut necklines are prohibited.
- Strapless and sleeveless tops may be worn with a cardigan or sweater that fully covers all areas appropriately.
- Shoulder straps must have a minimum width of a dollar bill.
- Undergarments must NOT display alcohol, drug, or sexual references.

HOODS

- Hoods are NOT to be worn in the building.

SKIRTS, DRESSES, and SHORTS

- Skirts, dresses, and shorts must be mid-thigh or lower, including athletic shorts.

APPROPRIATE



INAPPROPRIATE



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Art Department

This unusual year has not set back the enormous artist talent of our students! Please see the Gasparilla Festival art winner, Chau Mai (grade 12).

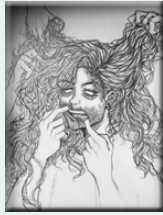


*Grandmother, 2021,
Drawing*

The following students have entered the scholarship competition from the Florida Art Education Association (FAEA). Representing excellence in art education for the state of Florida are:



*Alexandra
LaBonte
(grade 12)*



*Malie Campbell
(grade 12)*



*Lucas Stines
(grade 11)*



*Chau Mai
(grade 12)*



*Gavin Hadro
(grade 12)*



*Anastaciya
Pellicano (grade 12)*



*Margaux Moussier
(grade 12)*



*Gianna
Rafaniello
(grade 12)*



*Alexandra
LaBonte
(grade 12)*



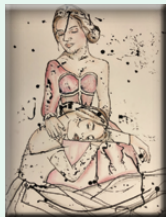
*Alex Coyne
(grade 11)*



*Cayden Griggs
(grade 11)*



*Olivia Whittaker
(grade 9)*



*Emma Green
(grade 11)*

As more and more students are interested in marketing and fashion design/illustration, Dr. Dacey is looking for donations of a **sewing machine and a mannequin or dress form**. If you have one of these items collecting dust in an attic or garage, please consider donating to the Art Dept.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Venice Foundation, students in art have been able to explore the neurographic art method to address social/emotional learning while studying the art of Kandinsky.

Interact

Venice High School Interact would like to thank the following businesses for supporting 2021 follies talent night!

Event Sponsors are:

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- Contemporary Hearing
- Retallick Financial Group Inc
- David & Tony Zarghami @ Zarghami Group

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- Fireside Homes
- Gemini Apparel
- Gold Rush BBQ
- Halo Photography
- Integrity Homes
- Interior Solutions/Shirley Fugate
- Little Caesars
- Mad Dog Hot Dogs
- Shear Heaven
- Suncoast Eye Health
- Tamps Paint Saints LLC
- Young, Hanks & Hanks, CPA, PA

Bronze Sponsors are:

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- China Jade
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- Edie Lomason Realtor
- Father Fish Aquarium
- First Watch
- Herman's Meats
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- Myakka River Oyster Bar
- Patrick Henderson Design Company
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- Davis Thrift Store
- Epiphany Healthcare
- Gregg Hassler, Jr., DMD
- Joyner Family Insurance
- Laura Bennawy Realtor
- Premier Sotheby's International Realty
- Publix on the Island
- Pure Plumbing
- 7-Eleven
- Venice Pest Control

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- Merit Scholarship opportunities
- Career placement assistance for graduates
- Florida Prepaid College Plan 25% scholarship match
- Bright Futures Scholarship match

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Important Testing Dates

- March 1 – 31 Benchmark Testing for Algebra 1, Geometry, English 1, English 2, and Biology
- March 22 – 31 Benchmark Testing for US History
- March 30 ACT School Day for selected Juniors and Seniors
- April 5 – 16 ELA Writing for Grades 9 and 10
- April 13 SAT School Day for selected Seniors
- May 3 – 28 ELA Reading for Grades 9 and 10 and End-of-Course Exams for Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, and US History



My Beautiful Stutter

A Powerful & Inspirational story of 5 kids who enter an experimental, interactive arts-based program called ~ *Camp SAY*.

After a lifetime of bullying and stigmatization, some have found themselves close to suicide, others enter *Camp SAY* withdrawn and fearful, exhausted and defeated by their stutter. Over the course of a year, we witness firsthand the incredible transformation that happens when these young people of wildly diverse backgrounds experience for the first time the revolutionary idea at the ♥ of *SAY: IT'S OKAY TO STUTTER!*



My Beautiful Stutter
Friday, April 23, 2021

@ Venice Performing Arts Center

Light refreshments - 5:30 p.m.

Movie - 6:00 p.m.

Q&A w/VHS Senior Kaela Coye (cameo role in MBS!) - 7:30 p.m.

For more information: Diane.davis@sarasotacountyschools.net or KaelaCoye0@gmail.com.

Follow us! On Facebook / Instagram: @MyBeautifulStutter.

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Out of Field Assignments

(March 2021)

The Florida State Department of Education requires that school districts notify parents/guardians when their children are being instructed by a teacher who is “out-of-field.” “Out-of-field” is a term used for teachers who are assigned teaching duties in a class dealing with a subject matter that is outside the field in which the teacher is certified.

The following teachers are teaching out-of-field in certain subject for 2020-2021 school year:

- Brooke Cartwright – ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)
- Cooper Hammond – ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)
- Jeffrey Johnston – ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)
- Carrie McDonald – ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)
- Courtney Opsatnick – ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)
- Cynthia Ray – ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)

It is important to note that the district requires “out-of-field” teachers to actively pursue certification requirements.

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Pay It Forward

Do you have any of those Christmas gifts/gift cards laying around that you will never use and can't return? If so, we would be glad to take them off your hands. Each year VHS likes to be able to provide gifts in the form of gift cards or items to some of our less fortunate students. This year we were able to surprise several of our students with a Christmas gift. Our goal is to make it even bigger and better next year. So, we are starting early and asking for your help in hopes to reach our goal for next year.

All donations can be dropped off at the VHS Attendance office in the front office. If you have any questions, feel free to call Christine Pomerleau 941-488-6726. Thank you for your continued support!

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Senior: Save the Date

Dear VHS Families and Class of 2021,

We are now heading into the final stretch as we approach graduation day. Although this year has been different, there is much to celebrate and look forward to this spring. Due to COVID-19, Universal Studios has cancelled the "Grad Bash" event. However, we do have good news. With appropriate safety measures in place, we will be able to host a "Senior Formal" and Graduation ceremony. Please refer to the following information as it pertains to upcoming Senior Class events:

Saturday, April 24th – Senior Formal at the Hyatt (Sarasota) 6 pm-10 pm

- Dancing will not be permitted
- The event is for VHS Seniors only
- The venue will be operating at limited capacity, safe distancing at seated tables
- Mandatory masks will be worn throughout the event
- Seated games, prizes, music will be available
- Dinner will be served at tables
- Tickets will be sold during all 3 lunches March 22nd-26th in the café for \$85
- Remote students can email mia.slaton@sarasotacountyschools.net to purchase
- If ticket sales exceed 300 tickets, formal will be broken into two shifts 5 pm-7 pm and 8 pm-10 pm. Each senior will be able to request a preference.

Saturday, May 1st – Ticket Request Information

- Extra tickets may be requested via Microsoft Forms. The link will be sent out via REMIND/EMAIL. No guarantees.

Monday, May 24th – Mandatory Senior Meeting in the VPAC

- 5 pm, Seniors with the last name A-L
- 6:30 pm, Seniors with the last name M-Z
- Turn in the completed Senior checklist that will be available on May 17th
- Receive pre-purchased cap and gowns, earned cords, and up to 5 graduation tickets will be distributed to each eligible senior
- Complete the attached form with your current information. **Senior Info Forms** - <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=E9pctx3TRUedpjoyHRS0fGFydz0wJdLpWu7rp1StDRURjBTVk80VlcyR1JYUVNNUVkkxSVBYUFRMOS4u>

May 27th – Rotary Futures Senior Awards Night

- 7 pm in the VPAC – more info to come

Friday, June 4th – Graduation Rehearsal

- Seniors arrive in the gym by 8:45 am
- Attendance at rehearsal is mandatory to participate in the ceremony
- Each graduating student will receive a wrist band for graduation



DEFENDING POTENTIAL WITH BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE SUN COAST

BIGS WITH BADGES



"After so many year's in youth relations, I've seen firsthand how kids can benefit from spending one-on-one time with a caring adult, especially when a parent may be missing from their lives," Tim says. "Some of these kids just need the chance to relax and de-stress from the pressures of their personal situations."

Chief Tim Guerrette,
Collier County Sheriff's Office
Chase's Big Brother / Collier Community Board Member

97%
of youth have avoided juvenile delinquency

31%
of youth have an incarcerated parent

83%
of youth live in a single parent household

HOW BIGS WITH BADGES WORKS

Servicemen and women who express interest in becoming a mentor will be trained, screened, and interviewed before being matched with a Little. Matches are made based on shared preferences and interest. Once a match is made, BBSSC will provide support throughout the match with a professional staff member who will help the Big and Little grow together.

PLAY FOOTBALL. WORK ON HOMEWORK. GIVE LIFE LESSONS.

Becoming a mentor is easy:

- ✔ **Community-Based Mentoring:** Spend time with your Little doing everyday activities or participating in Big Brothers Big Sisters sponsored events.
- ✔ **School-Based Mentoring:** Invest one hour per week during the school year engaging in various one-to-one activities with you Little at his or her school. Sessions will be held virtually 2021.
- ✔ **Virtual Mentoring:** During this time of social distancing, we are offering online/virtual mentoring for youth ages 6-21 who may need help with academics or just a friend to talk to. All activities are done through video conferencing, and the schedule is flexible based on everyone's availability.

Big Brothers Big Sisters provides guidance, coaching and support.

OUR MISSION

Create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth

INTERESTED?

Call Gina at 941.488.4009 or gtaylor@bbbsun.org

Friday, June 4th – Graduation VHS Football Stadium

- Gates open at 6:30 pm and the ceremony begins at 8 pm
- Graduates will report to the new gym at 6:30 pm for staging
- Masks are mandatory while on Sarasota County Schools campus
- The stadium will be at 25% capacity to adhere to safety distancing guidelines
- Graduates will maintain safe distancing while seated
- Tickets will be required by attendees for entrance into the stadium
- Families may receive up to 5 tickets for the ceremony.
- The reallocation of additional tickets per family will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- The ceremony will be live-streamed. More info to come



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To Addressee or Current Resident



VHS Bell Schedule 2020 - 2021											
1st Lunch Schedule				2nd Lunch Schedule				3rd Lunch Schedule			
Period	Start	End	Minutes	Period	Start	End	Minutes	Period	Start	End	Minutes
1	7:30 AM	8:21 AM	0:51	1	7:30 AM	8:21 AM	0:51	1	7:30 AM	8:21 AM	0:51
2	8:25 AM	9:14 AM	0:49	2	8:25 AM	9:14 AM	0:49	2	8:25 AM	9:14 AM	0:49
3	9:18 AM	10:07 AM	0:49	3	9:18 AM	10:07 AM	0:49	3	9:18 AM	10:07 AM	0:49
4th lunch	10:07 AM	10:37 AM	0:30	4	10:11 AM	11:00 AM	0:49	4	10:11 AM	11:00 AM	0:49
5	10:41 AM	11:30 AM	0:49	5th lunch	11:00 AM	11:30 AM	0:30	5	11:04 AM	11:53 AM	0:49
6	11:34 AM	12:23 PM	0:49	6	11:34 AM	12:23 PM	0:49	6th lunch	11:53 AM	12:23 PM	0:30
7	12:27 PM	1:16 PM	0:49	7	12:27 PM	1:16 PM	0:49	7	12:27 PM	1:16 PM	0:49
8	01:20 PM	2:15 PM**	0:55	8	01:20 PM	2:15 PM**	0:55	8	01:20 PM	2:15 PM**	0:55

4 min passing times between classes **Staggered dismissal: Buses at 2:09, parent pick up at 2:09, then student drivers at 2:15.
There will be a voice announcement for end of day staggered dismissal.

VHS Friday's Bell Schedule 2020 - 2021											
1st Lunch Schedule				2nd Lunch Schedule				3rd Lunch Schedule			
Period	Start	End	Minutes	Period	Start	End	Minutes	Period	Start	End	Minutes
1	7:30 AM	8:30 AM	0:60	1	7:30 AM	8:30 AM	0:60	1	7:30 AM	8:30 AM	0:60
2	8:34 AM	9:21 AM	0:47	2	8:34 AM	9:21 AM	0:47	2	8:34 AM	9:21 AM	0:47
3	9:25 AM	10:12 AM	0:47	3	9:25 AM	10:12 AM	0:47	3	9:25 AM	10:12 AM	0:47
4th lunch	10:12 AM	10:42 AM	0:30	4	10:16 AM	11:03 AM	0:47	4	10:16 AM	11:03 AM	0:47
5	10:46 AM	11:33 AM	0:47	5th lunch	11:03 AM	11:33 AM	0:30	5	11:07 AM	11:54 AM	0:47
6	11:37 AM	12:24 PM	0:47	6	11:37 AM	12:24 PM	0:47	6th lunch	11:54 AM	12:24 PM	0:30
7	12:28 PM	1:15 PM	0:47	7	12:28 PM	1:15 PM	0:47	7	12:28 PM	1:15 PM	0:47
8	1:19 PM	2:15 PM**	0:56	8	1:19 PM	2:15 PM**	0:56	8	1:19 PM	2:15 PM**	0:56

4 min passing times between classes **Staggered dismissal: Buses at 2:09, parent pick up at 2:09, then student drivers at 2:15.
There will be a voice announcement for end of day staggered dismissal.