

# Smoke Signals

APRIL  
2022

ISSUE 1  
VOLUME 17

## Vero Beach High School

1707 16th Street  
Vero Beach, FL 32960  
Main: 564-5600  
Attendance: 564-5555

### ADMINISTRATION

*Principal*  
Shawn O'Keefe

*Vice Principal*  
Denny Hart

*Assistant Principals*  
Greg Ahrens

David Erickson

Vanessa Gonzalez

Joy Griffin

Rahshard Morgan

[www.vbhs.org](http://www.vbhs.org)

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Fighting  
Indians"*

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Published Five Times Per Year  
Apr, Jul, Sep, Dec, Feb, 22-23  
School District of  
Indian River County  
1990 25th Street  
Vero Beach, FL 32960  
Issue #1

## A Message From The Chief

Dear Parents and Friends,

Greetings VBHS! I hope everyone enjoyed Spring break and all are well rested for the home stretch as we approach the final months of the school year. We just finished "Say Something" week with a focus upon school safety and students identifying their "trusted adult" on campus who they feel comfortable going to when they feel there may be a concern they think should be reported. We practiced safety drills also as part of our ongoing pursuit in maintaining the safest learning environment possible at Vero.

We are preparing numerous events to commemorate the hard work our students have put forth this school year, including graduation for our "Class of 2022" Seniors. Mid-Spring also means "testing season", and our students will be hard at work with numerous assessments including the FSA for English LA, Algebra, Geometry, US History, and Biology EOC's (End of Course Exams), all throughout April and May. You can find our full testing calendar on our school website. Our spring sports teams are producing great competitive results, including a few of possible runs for state titles, and our performing arts programs have been busy with Solo/Ensemble, MPA's, and state level competitions and spring concerts including a community favorite in our Red, White, and Blue Concert series.

The months of April and May will mark both an end and a beginning for our Graduating Class of 2022. They will gather in celebration for Prom on Saturday April 9th at the IG Center. VBHS 2022 Graduation Commencement Exercises will be on the evening of Friday, May 20th at 7PM in the Citrus Bowl with gates opening at 5:30PM. Seniors are to report at 5:30 P.M. to the FLC gymnasium that evening. Seniors only; last day of school is Friday May 13 with the week of May 16th reserved for Senior "catch-up" and graduation practices. They must return to attend their graduation practices on Tuesday, May 17, Wednesday May 18th, and Thursday May 19th from 8-9:30AM. The last day of school for all other students is Friday May 27th.

We salute the Class of 2022, their parents, teachers, performing arts directors, school counselors, coaches, and everyone else on the combined efforts that have brought these fine young people to this point in their academic careers. We wish our graduates well and hope they will take with them fond memories of their days at Vero Beach High School. Scholarship night for seniors is April 13th at 7PM in the Performing Arts Center. Our National Merit Scholarship finalists were also declared. Congratulations to finalists Drew Baudo, Dylan Goldfarb, and Owen Stanton. They will be receiving final notifications in May. Our "Pride of the Tribe Scholar Ceremony" was held on March 31st and congratulations to all of our VBHS Scholars grades 9-12 celebrated, especially the seniors and the special teacher they each chose to honor. Congratulations to Emma Jankowski who joins the Witt Wall of Fame as the 2022 recipient of The John B. Witt Principals Award.

As always, it will be an extremely busy end to the school year 2020-21 as we celebrate and reflect on all the accomplishments our students have made in their academic careers thus far. Also, "Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week" for our district is the week of May 2nd. I thank our teachers and staff for their continuous efforts and providing outstanding educational opportunities here at VBHS. THANK YOU! To our "graduating" parents, we especially thank you for your support over the past four years, and we certainly hope you will always feel at home here in the years to come.

For the VBHS Family,

*Shawn D. O'Keefe*  
Shawn O'Keefe



*Shawn O'Keefe*



## Incoming 9th Graders

Please visit our website, [vbhs.indianriverschools.org](http://vbhs.indianriverschools.org), for more information and a presentation in the scroll about scheduling, Advance Placement (AP), course offerings, electives, athletics, performing arts and extracurricular activities.

## 90% Attendance, Tardy Policies, and Procedures

VBHS has a 90% Attendance Policy, which means students must attend 90% of their classes in order to participate in sports, extracurricular activities, clubs and/or privileges (parking, dances, Grad Bash, Prom, etc.). Students may participate in practices, rehearsals, etc. but may not participate, compete, or perform in athletic games, performances, and extracurricular events until they are in compliance with the 90% Attendance Policy.

Please note that for a tardy to be excused, a parent/guardian must physically sign the student in at the attendance desk or the student needs to provide a medical or court note for the time missed. NO phone calls to excuse a tardy. If a student has been called out of class by attendance to be able to leave campus, the student must sign out at the attendance desk and receive a pass to leave campus for the absence to be excused. To have a student called to leave campus, you must be on the contact list in Focus. There is also no early release for students after 1:25pm.

## Dual Enrollment

**Dual Enrollment students, please make sure you include all the following information:**

- Full name, phone number, VBHS id #, IRSC id #, and the course name and code with the professor's name.
- Email this info to: [Laura.Attwood@indianriverschools.org](mailto:Laura.Attwood@indianriverschools.org)

Please remember, all books are purchased for Dual enrolled students. We order the materials for the students.

Students interested in taking Dual Enrollment courses next year, should start the process of applying to IRSC. Directions and information can be found at [https://www.indianriverschools.org/departments/academic\\_success/dual\\_enrollment](https://www.indianriverschools.org/departments/academic_success/dual_enrollment).



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**9th GRADE**

**FSA Writing:** April 5  
**FSA Reading:** May 3-May 4  
**Algebra 1 EOC:** May 9-May 10  
**Geometry EOC:** May 9-May 10  
**Biology EOC:** May 17

**10TH GRADE**

**FSA Writing:** April 5  
**FSA Reading:** May 3-May 4  
**Algebra 1 EOC:** May 9-May 10  
**Geometry EOC:** May 9-May 10  
**Biology EOC:** May 17

**VBHS and FLC**

**2022  
4th Quarter  
Testing  
Schedule**

**11th Grade**

**Algebra 1 EOC:** May 9-May 10  
**Geometry EOC:** May 9-May 10  
**US History EOC:** May 16  
**Biology EOC:** May 17

**12th Grade**

**SAT School Day:** April 26 (select students)  
**Florida Civics Literacy Exam:** April 28

**AP TESTS**

AM Session	PM Session
May 2 Japanese Lang & US Government	May 2 Chemistry & Spanish Lit
May 3 Environmental Science	May 3 Psychology
May 4 English Lit and Comp	May 4 Comp Govt & Comp Sci A
May 5 Human Geo & Macro	May 5 Seminar & Stat
May 6 European History & US History	May 6 Art History & Microeconomics
May 9 Calculus AB & Calculus BC	May 9 Comp Sci Prin & Italian Lang
May 10 English Lang and Comp	May 10 Phys C mech. @2:00 Phys C elec.
May 11 Chinese Lang & Spanish Lang	May 11 Biology
May 12 French Lang & World History	May 12 Physics 1
May 13 German Lang & Music Theory	May 13 Latin & Physics 2



## Upcoming Senior Events

**May 13th** – Senior Celebration

**May 16th-20th** – Senior “Catch-Up & Practice Week” Catch up on campus if needed, and Graduation Practices for all.

**May 17th, 18th, and 19th** – Graduation practice from 8-9:30am

**May 20th** – Graduation @ 7PM In the Citrus Bowl

## Obligations

Seniors please start checking your obligations with the Media Center and with Ms. Lawson so that you may be cleared for Prom and to receive your diploma.

## A2 Tutoring

VBHS is offering tutoring on both campuses in the Media Center after school on Tuesdays and Thursday until 4pm. Snacks and transportation are provided.

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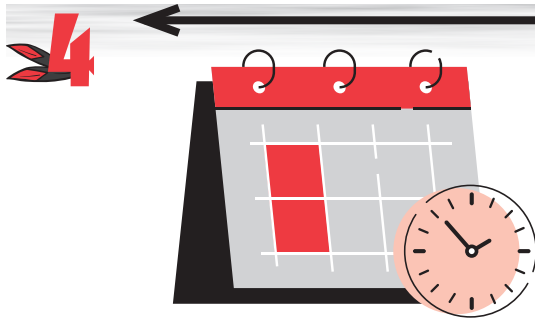
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## 2021-2022 School Calendar

5/20/22 Graduation at 7pm

5/27/22 Last Day of School for Students

### Report Cards and Progress Reports

All report card and progress reports will be available on FOCUS

4/29/22-4th Quarter progress reports

6/1/22-4th Quarter Report Cards

## Main Campus Laptop Return- in the Media Center/ Library

- Senior/Grade 12 laptop return dates: May 2nd- May 6th, 2022.
- No appointment or schedule necessary /walk-in
- Grades 10 and 11- May 16-May 27, 2022.
- Students will be scheduled to return their device during their English class.
- Students who do not return laptops will be charged \$350 for the laptop and \$25 for the charger

## FLC Campus Laptop Return- in the Media Center/Library

- 9th grade laptop return dates: May 23rd- May 27th, 2022.
- Students will be scheduled to return their device during their English class.
- Students who do not return laptops will be charged \$350 for the laptop and \$25 for the charger

## Notifications of Parents Regarding Out-Of-Field Teachers

Included in this memo is a list of teachers or long-term substitute teachers at Vero Beach High School and Freshman Learning Center who have been reported as teaching out-of-field as required by Section 1012.42 of Florida Statute. Those teaching out-of-field are qualified to teach; however, all or part of their teaching assignment is not covered by their current certification. Individuals teaching out-of-field are required to complete additional coursework or testing until the coverage/endorsement is added to their certificate. Should you have any questions about these requirements, please call the school or Adalia Medina-Graham, Certification Analyst (772)564-3116.

Teacher	Current Certification	Out-of-Field Assignment
Bell, Suzanna	ESE K-12, READING	ENGLISH 6-12, PHYSICAL EDUCATION K-12, HEALTH K-12
Byrd, Stephen	ESE K-12	ENGLISH 6-12, MATH 6-12, SCIENCE 6-12, SOCIAL SCIENCE 6-12, PHYSICAL EDUCATION K-12, HEALTH K-12
Cisco, Anastasia	COMPUTER SCIN K-12	MATH 6-12
Daugherty, Michael	MATH (5-9), EDUCATIONAL MEDIA, ELEMENTARY ED	MATH 6-12
Derico, Nicholas	SOCIAL SCIENCE 6-12	ESE K-12
Ihnen, Brian	ESE K-12, PHYSICAL EDUCATION K-12	ENGLISH 6-12, MATH 6-12, SCIENCE 6-12, SOCIAL SCIENCE 6-12
Rahal, Bryan	VARYING EXCEPTION K-12, VISUAL DISABILITIES PK-3	SOCIAL SCIENCE 6-12
Welsh, James	ESE K-12	PHYSICAL EDUCATION, ELEMENTARY ED
White, Jennifer	ESE K-12, SOCIAL SCIENCE 6-12	ENGLISH 6-12, ESOL
Anastasio, Lacie	ENGLISH 6-12	ESOL
Conner, Jamie	ENGLISH 5-9, ELEMENTARY ED	ESOL
Ellis, Maxy	DRAMA 6-12, ENGLISH 5-9, READING	ESOL
Sommers, Valery	ENGLISH 6-12	ESOL
Wiley, Kristin	ENGLISH 6-12	ESOL
Williams, Natira	ENGLISH 6-12	ESOL

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### DID YOU KNOW

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- Unweighted GPA of 3.0 or Better
- SAT Scores of 1110 to 1330 or Better
- ACT Scores 22 to 29 or Better

\*Standards for Class of 2022 may change for Class of 2023

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND SIGN UP FOR THE UPCOMING TESTING DATES

**SAT TESTING DATES for 2022-2023**

Aug 27, Oct 1, Nov 5, Dec 3\*

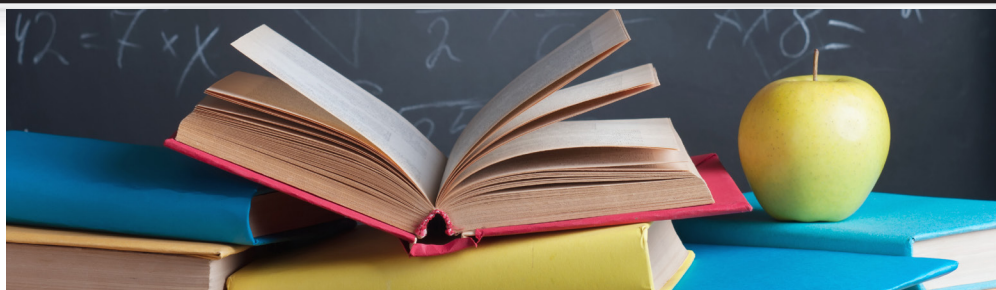
**ACT TESTING DATES for 2022-2023**

Sep 10, Oct 22, Dec 10\*

\*last testing date accepted for SF application

Scholarship Applications Available Online Beginning November 1, 2022 @ [www.sfindianriver.org](http://www.sfindianriver.org) • Absolute Deadline February 1, 2023

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## Aviso Para Los Padres Sobre Maestros “Fuera Del Area”

Incluido en este aviso se encuentra una lista de maestros o maestros substitutes a largo plazo en la escuela Vero Beach High School and Freshman Learning Center quienes han sido reportados como “fuera de área” como se require en Sección 1012.42 de Estatuto de Florida. Esto significa que los maestros están calificados para enseñar y tienen su certificado sin embargo les hace falta completar algunos requerimientos que solo aplican a su asignado trabajo de enseñanza. Estos individuos que estan enseñando “fuera de su área” requieren completar un curso adicional o tomar un examen para cumplir con los requerimientos. Si Ud. Tien preguntas sobre los requerimientos favor de hablar con la escuela o Adalia Medina-Graham, Analista de Certificacion (772)564-3116

Masestro (a)	Certificaciòn	Fuera de Àrea en
Bell, Suzanna	ESE K-12, READING	ENGLISH 6-12, PHYSICAL EDUCATION K-12, HEALTH K-12
Byrd, Stephen	ESE K-12	ENGLISH 6-12, MATH 6-12, SCIENCE 6-12, SOCIAL SCIENCE 6-12, PHYSICAL EDUCATION K-12, HEATH K-12
Cisco, Anastasia	COMPUTER SCIN K-12	MATH 6-12
Daugherty, Michael	MATH (5-9), EDUCATIONAL MEDIA, ELEMENTARY ED	MATH 6-12
Derico, Nicholas	SOCIAL SCIENCE 6-12	ESE K-12
Ihnen, Brian	ESE K-12, PHYSICAL EDUCATION K-12	ENGLISH 6-12, MATH 6-12, SCIENCE 6-12, SOCIAL SCIENCE 6-12
Rahal, Bryan	VARYING EXCEPTION K-12, VISUAL DISABILITIES PK-3	SOCIAL SCIENCE 6-12
Welsh, James	ESE K-12	PHYSICAL EDUCATION, ELEMENTARY ED
White, Jennifer	ESE K-12, SOCIAL SCIENCE 6-12	ENGLISH 6-12, ESOL
Anastasio, Lacie	ENGLISH 6-12	ESOL
Conner, Jamie	ENGLISH 5-9, ELEMENTARY ED	ESOL
Ellis, Maxy	DRAMA 6-12, ENGLISH 5-9, READING	ESOL
Sommers, Valery	ENGLISH 6-12	ESOL
Wiley, Kristin	ENGLISH 6-12	ESOL
Williams, Natira	ENGLISH 6-12	ESOL

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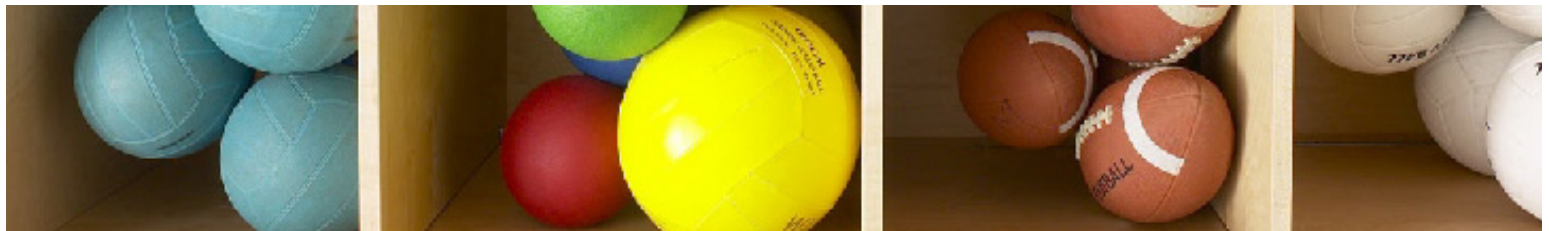
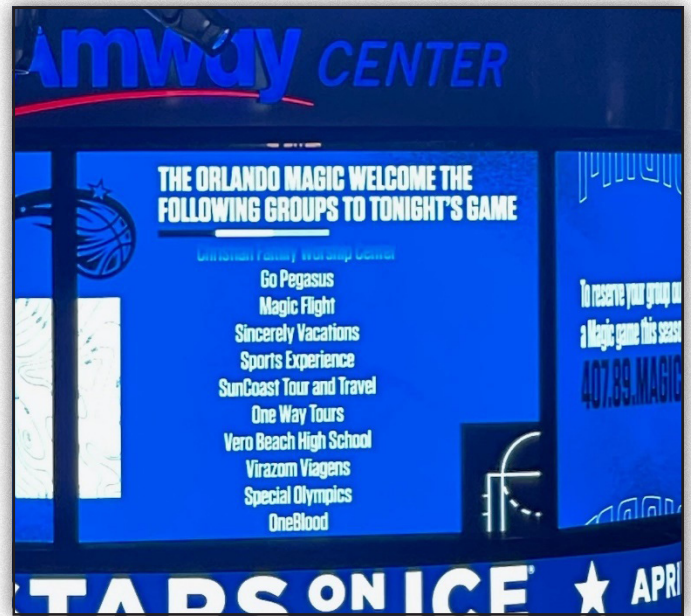
**772-234-1813 • 800-347-4203**

[vincent.celano@morganstanley.com](mailto:vincent.celano@morganstanley.com)

[advisor.morganstanley.com/vincent.celano](http://advisor.morganstanley.com/vincent.celano)

## Unified Sports

VBHS Unified Sports team visited the Orlando Magic during Spring Break. The group enjoyed a win as the Magic beat the OKC Thunder.



## Athletics

With our school year winding down, don't forget we still have MANY action packed athletic events coming up in the month of April. Our JV and Varsity Baseball teams continue to knock it out of the park so don't miss their upcoming home games. Varsity Softball has several home games on the horizon. Tennis starts their district competition as well as our Varsity Girls Lacrosse. Girls Varsity Flag football continues their winning season through April. VBHS Spring Football practice begins April 13th with a Spring Home Game in the Citrus Bowl on May 13th against Palm Beach Central at 7:00 pm.

If you check out our School Calendar online, you will see a jam-packed athletic schedule ahead. Come on out and support our Vero Beach High School athletes. We are now live on Social Media- follow us on **Instagram** at **vbhsathletics** and on **Twitter** @VBHSAthletics. If you have any great pictures to add to our Athletic Social Media, feel free to email them to [angela.combs@indianriverschools.org](mailto:angela.combs@indianriverschools.org).

If you are interested in volunteering at our home athletic events, please contact [angela.combs@indianriverschools.org](mailto:angela.combs@indianriverschools.org) or 772-564-5544. It's a great way to help out our student athletes and be a part of our VBHS Fighting Indian Community. GO VERO!



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## Girls Weightlifting

The Vero Beach Girls Weightlifting won the first ever State Championship as a team at the FHSAA Girls Weightlifting State Championships in Port St. Joe, Florida on February 10th. Sarah Eiswerth won an individual State Championship in both the Traditional meet and the Snatch meet. Pictured Bottom Row L-R Sydney Thompson, Sarah Eiswerth, Avery Teske, Grace Wilson, and Leah Perez. Middle Row L-R Malisha Durane, Karma French, Mollie McCain, and Karen Martinez. Top Row L-R Assistant Coach Brian Secrest, Carol Martinez, Helaina Thompson, Paige Smith, and Head Coach Pete DeLuke. Not Pictured Enyjai Tyson and Aiyana Harrington.



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## Performing Arts Department Happenings

The Performing Arts Department has had an eventful 3rd 9 weeks. Band, Choir, and Orchestra all participated in their respective Music Performance Assessments in February and March. The VBHS Drama Department attended their state competition in Tampa in March. During spring break, the VBHS Band hosted the Florida Bandmasters Association State Solo and Ensemble Music Performance Assessment. The VBHS Band will be hosting the State Concert Band Music Performance Assessment April 27th through 30th. A total of 63 high school bands from the central part of Florida will be performing in our Performing Arts Center.

Our department will be presenting the final performances of the year during April and May. The VBHS Symphony Orchestra concert is April 19th at 7:00 p.m. The spring band concert is April 21st at 7:00 p.m. and the spring choir concert is May 3rd. Our season closes out with our Color Guard spring performance on May 3rd and the Chamber Music/Jazz Band concert on May 5th. If you would like to purchase season tickets, please contact our box office at 772-564-5537. Season tickets may be purchased for \$65. Individual show tickets are \$12 and \$10.

Inside This  
Issue

School Policies

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Senior News

Athletics...

...and more

