

the RED and

VCS

Vicksburg Community Schools

Traditions In Excellence

October - November 2013

www.vicksburg-community-schools.org

WHITE



Vicksburg Announces New Staff

When the dust settled at the end of the summer, we hired seven new teachers and one administrator along with several support staff. We are thrilled with the quality and commitment of our new hires, and pleased to be able to introduce them to you in this issue of the Red and White.

This summer I enjoyed hearing Vicksburg alumni reminisce about

some of their outstanding teachers at the Vicksburg High School 51st class reunion. Vicksburg Community Schools has a long and proud tradition of outstanding teachers, and I am certain our current students will one day also fondly remember their excellent teachers. Not only are we able to select from among the best candidates available, but our training

and induction program for new staff is widely recognized as a model. The result of outstanding staff working together in a warm and welcoming, very supportive community is an outstanding achievement and accomplishment for our students.

Please take a few moments to be introduced to our new staff, and join us in welcoming them to our community.

New to the District



Rebecca Durant has joined the Business Office

Rebecca Durant has joined the Business Office for the district. She is married to Jason, her husband of 13 years. Rebecca and Jason have two children – Laura, age 9 and David, age 7 – and a dog, Sundae. Rebecca went to Western Michigan University where she received a Bachelor’s degree in Accounting. She started her career as an auditor for Plante Moran. From there, Rebecca was the accounting manager for the Kalamazoo Air Zoo. She elected to stay at home with the birth of her first child. In her spare time, Rebecca enjoys softball, tennis, swimming, biking, and playing games with her family.

Rebecca indicated that everyone she has met so far at Vicksburg Community Schools has been very nice and extremely helpful. She looks forward to working with everyone.

New Faces in the Transportation Department



Left to right: Raeann Dimock, Jamie Terry and Nancy Brownell (returning after seven years)

Jamie Terry is a new driver this year. She and her husband have three daughters, ages 9, 6, and 2 ½ years old. Jamie has an Associate’s degree in child development. She and her family enjoy camping, the outdoors, and race cars. It has been a joy for Jamie to drive bus for Vicksburg schools.

Another new driver is Raeann Dimock. She had lived in Vicksburg until 2011 when she purchased a home in Schoolcraft. Her daughter is a Senior and VHS. Previously Raeann had been in the banking industry for almost 20 years. She did a three year driving stint with Vicksburg schools about 13 years ago. In her spare time Raeann enjoys sewing, scrapbooking, and spending time with family. She is excited to work with an amazing bunch of men and women in the transportation department.

Also joining the Transportation team is a familiar face, Nancy Brownell. She has been a part of the transportation department in previous years. Nancy had left to help her husband open Lakeside Mercantile. The kitchen specialty store is doing well and Nancy decided it was a good time to jump back into what she enjoys, driving bus. Nancy loves the children and is excited to be back.



Cover Photo By Kim Marston

On the Cover: Tyler Barnes closest and Cody Arndt farthest



Look for us on Facebook!
Vicksburg Community Schools

Vicksburg Performing Arts

Disney's My Son Pinocchio

Pinocchio must prove himself brave, truthful and unselfish, but what about the toymaker? Raising a perfect child might not be as easy as it looks. The Blue Fairy and her Fairies in Training lead Geppetto on a hilarious journey through this fractured fairytale in order to discover what it means to be "A real father." Oscar and GRAMMY Award - winner Stephen Schwartz adds a brand new score to the classic Disney hits. Friday and Saturday, November 1 & 2, 2013 - 7:30pm. Sunday, November 3, 2013 - 2:00pm. Tickets on sale October 21. Call 321-1193 to make reservations.



Little Women

This play tells Louisa May Alcott's classic awakening tale in a simple and yet effective manner. Beautiful, amusing, and meaningful, this telling of the March sisters' pivotal years on the verge of womanhood imparts cheer and hope for the goodness of mankind. Friday & Saturday - November 22 & 23, 2013 - 7:30pm. Sunday, November 24, 2014 - 2pm. Tickets on sale November 11, 2013. Call 321-1193 to make reservations.



Main Street Revue

The Vicksburg Community Association's 24th annual Main Street Revue goes on a "Sea Cruise". Join the dysfunctional crew and eccentric guests for merriment, mayhem and sea sickness! Friday and Saturday, October 11 & 12, 2013. Tickets on sale September 30. Call 321-1193 to make reservations.

Downtown Chicago Bus Trip

WHO: Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation is proud to sponsor a bus trip to Chicago!

WHEN: Saturday, November 23, 2013
 Leave Sunset Lake Elementary at 7:00 A.M.
 Return to Sunset Lake Elementary around 10:30 P.M.

WHERE: Drop off location is by Water Tower Place. Pick up at same location at 7:30 P.M. (Michigan time)

COST: \$45 per person (non-refundable)
 Make checks payable to:
The Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation

SNACKS AND BEVERAGES PROVIDED!

Email Kathy Forsythe, kforsythe@vicksburgschools.org or Amy Manchester, amanchester@vicksburgschools.org or call Amy (VCSF OFFICE @ 321-1006) to make your reservation.



Fall Sports have hit their stride!

VHS Welcomes New Staff



New Spanish and Math teacher: Mike Freeland

What does a Mustang and a Redhawk have in common with a Cherry Hut waitress? They are all new to the Vicksburg High School staff! Mike Freeland, Vickie Fultz and Ravenna Myers have joined the faculty in the district.

Mike Freeland is a Spanish and Mathematics teacher. You'll see him in the 100 hall; he has the only math classroom with more flags than equations. He grew up in Portage, graduated from Portage Central, a Mustang. At Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois Mike studied business, economics and Spanish earning a Bachelor's Degree. He has completed coursework at Western and is highly qualified to teach both mathematics and Spanish.

For Mike education is about helping students be successful. He wants them to set goals and challenge themselves to reach those goals. He has high expectations for students, and hopes they have high expectations for themselves.

Football is his first love; at this time he is an assistant coach. When he was not playing or watching football or any other sport he has been able to study abroad. Future plans include a visit to Argentina, as soon as his final exams are graded that is. ¡Hola Mike!

Vickie Fultz is

bringing her expertise to our seminar program. She has been a student at Ohio University; as a Redhawk she earned a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry; she attended Miami University in Ohio earning a Master's degree in Chemistry and Teaching. She has been a wife for 24 years and a mother of two children now in college. Most recently she has entered the work force in Portage as a substitute teacher and para-professional.

Perseverance is Vickie's mantra. As a teacher who stepped back from working to raise her children, she resolved to rejoin the classroom. Her struggles through that voyage can be a model for many other areas of life. Application and relevance are her passion. In Chemistry and science, students can understand why they are learning about a topic, and then they can apply their knowledge to new topics.

For relaxation Vickie enjoys reading, listening and playing music (she was in the OU marching band). She skis with her family and enjoys world travel. We will enjoy her abilities to help students during their seminar periods. You might even join her study group!

Ravenna Myers came to us by way of Traverse City and Western Michigan University. She grew up and graduated from high school in Traverse City, Michigan. Music education was her major at WMU. She interned at the high school last spring; then she was hired as the assistant band director. Her career here at VHS has ended a seven-year long job at The Cherry Hut in Beulah, Michigan where she waited tables.

To Ravenna, music is a guide

opening up the mind and exploring the artistic side of learning. There is no limit to the amount of benefits music is capable of giving. With music, success isn't fully based on or limited to prior knowledge, but it challenges students to do what they are capable of and continually expand on that knowledge.

It is clear that Ravenna has a deep love of music from her commitment to the fine arts program. But she also makes family time a priority, enjoying the great outdoors in northern Michigan while camping, kayaking and biking. Welcome, Ravenna, we hope that VHS is a 'bowl of cherries' and not 'the pits'!

Want To Play College Sports?

Do you have a student athlete that is interested in playing college sports? Learn more about College Recruiting and what really needs to happen from the real experts, a group of College Coaches.

Coach Scott Goddard will be speaking at Vicksburg high school on Wednesday, October, 19th at 7:00 in the PAC. Coach Scott is a former college coach player and recruiter. He is the Regional Recruiting Director for Athletic Quest, the only recruiting organization in the country built and operated exclusively by former and current college coaches. They have an A rating with the Better Business Bureau®.

Coach Goddard will bring a unique perspective and view to what really takes place in the recruiting process and help you to understand things from the College Coaches Perspective.

If you have interest in competing at the college level, please make sure you attend this seminar.

Call the athletic office @ 269.321.1100 for details.

VMS Welcomes New Assistant Principal and Science Teacher



New Middle School staff: Mrs. Katie Kay and Matt VanDussen

Mr. Matt VanDussen, new Assistant Principal, comes to VMS from Centerville, where he taught third and fourth grade for eleven years. Matt received his BS in Elementary Education with a MS English Endorsement from Western Michigan University. In 2010, he received his MA in Educational Leadership, also from WMU. Matt did his intern teaching at Tobey Elementary with Lynn McDaniel.

Matt has served on numerous committees including chair of elementary school improvement, math, discipline, and technology. Matt was the MS basketball coach for one year and the men's assistant basketball coach at KVCC from 1998-2002. Matt is married and has three young daughters. Besides spending time with his family, he also enjoys playing basketball, golf and watching the Detroit Lions!

One belief Mr. VanDussen is adamant about is that "every student has the ability to learn. As research

suggests, not all students learn at the same pace and may need more time and opportunities to reach their fullest potential." Another goal for him is "to create a collaborative partnership with staff, students, parents, and the community to help those around me reach their potential."

Mr. VanDussen expresses appreciation for the warm welcome he has received from everyone associated with Vicksburg Community Schools. "The reception I have been given has far exceeded my expectations, and it represents the high quality of people working in this district. The professionalism and hard work of the staff here at the middle school has greatly impressed me."

Mrs. Katie Kay has joined the VMS science department and will be teaching both 6th and 7th grade science. She received her BS degree from Western Michigan University and also her Masters in Educational Technology. She had taught for Kalamazoo Public Schools the past eight years.

So far she has been impressed with her fellow workers and comments that "they are a funny, passionate group of educators that goes above and beyond for their students and coworkers. I can tell that education is a priority for our community." She also mentions that the students have been kind and helpful too.

When it comes to science education, her top priority is to make her students feel confident and competent in the classroom. "We stretch our thinking a lot, which can be uncomfortable for students who are used to getting the 'right answer' immediately. My educational philosophy centers on guiding students through investigations that pique intrinsic motivation and curiosity."

Mrs. Kay moved to Vicksburg in 2011, along with her husband and two young children. She's a busy mom, but still finds time for camping, reading, gardening, travel and is hoping to take up archery, along with her husband as well.

VMS is also pleased to have some familiar faces from within the district,



Reassigned Personnel From L-R: Sharon Moyle, Diane Fleming, Angi Descheneau, Paulette Meyle

yet new to the building. Mr. Zach Wierenga will be spending his day in both VMS and VHS buildings. He will be supporting English and Social Studies classes, as well as teaching a Guided Study class. Mrs. Sharon Moyle will be our new Library Aide. Joining VMS as a parapro is Mrs. Diane Fleming. Custodial additions include Mrs. Paulette Meyle and Mrs. Angela Descheneau.

New Indian Lake Staff 2013-2014:



Pictured L-R: April Zapata, Sarah Prince, Kelly Christiansen, and Sheri Blough

We've had lots of changes here at Indian Lake: **Sheri Blough (math)** and **Sarahann Prince (reading)** have moved into the Instructional Consultant position vacated by Brad Geesaman when he left to take a Principal's job in Hartford School District. **Shannon Brink** returns this year as our Literacy Parapro, taking over for Paula Harper who retired last year. Audrey Fleet is teaching a first grade class this year. **Janice Sokolowski-Perkins'** duties changed this year to a Child Parapro in addition to her noon recess supervisor job at Indian Lake. New Staff:

Kelly Christiansen returns to Indian Lake as our fifth grade teacher, taking the place of Renae Cummings who is on a year leave traveling with her husband in South Korea. Kelly previously taught here at Indian Lake, then moved to Sunset for several years. Kelly and her husband, John, have two children; Anna 10, and Thomas 6. She received her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from WMU. She enjoys reading, traveling, being outdoors, sewing, and playing with her children. She tries hard to create a learning environment which helps each child reach their highest potential. She's looking forward to teaching fifth grade this year and we're excited to welcome Kelly back!

Heather Myers is our new lunchroom and recess supervisor. Heather is married

with two boys; Hunter in 8th grade, and Chase in 6th grade; both attend Vicksburg Middle School. She has a Bachelor's Degree in recreation from WMU and has worked for Full Blast, Airways Fun Center, and

Sprinkle Road Automotive. Heather loves to play indoor soccer, go camping, and watch her boys in their sporting activities. She thinks Indian Lake is a very warm and welcoming school, and the staff and students are wonderful!

April Zapata is our new fourth grade teacher. April has three sons; Shane, 18 started college this year, Gabe, 14 is a high school freshman, and Jacob, 10 is fourth grader. April graduated with a Bachelor of Science in business/marketing and elementary education from WMU, and recently completed her Masters of Literacy Studies. April spends her free time attending her sons sporting events. Each son participates in four sports, so this keeps her hopping! April's educational

focus is encouraging thinking and building new thinking skills based on prior knowledge. She believes all children are learners, and each has gifts and talents to share. April is most impressed with her teaching colleagues here in Vicksburg, and is excited to be a part of our teaching and learning community.

Nichole Wisinski will be our new Special Education teacher at Indian Lake. Nichole grew up in the Grand Rapids area, relocating to Portage after attending WMU. Nichole graduated in 2007 from WMU, then completed her Master's Degree at Oakland University. Nichole taught at Portage North Middle School for four years, and most recently worked at Woods Edge Learning Center in Portage. Nichole loves yoga and working in her yard, cheesy old horror films, cooking, along with entertaining family and friends. Nichole's top education priority is to educate the students socially, academically and functionally to build on their independent growth as future citizens of their community. Her philosophy is to learn along with her students; to provide a welcoming educational environment where students feel safe and encouraged to learn and grow. We look forward to getting to know Nichole, and welcome her to our Indian Lake family.



Pictured L-R: Janice Sokolowski-Perkins, Shannon Brink and Heather Myers.

New School Season Brings Fresh Faculty to Sunset Lake



From L to R – Natalie Mason, Lori Higgins and Carole Boal

The beginning of the school year means a new month, a new season, new routines, new schedules and new faces (or familiar faces in new places) at Sunset Lake Elementary. Meet our “new arrivals” below:

Natalie Mason is not new to Vicksburg having worked as a teacher and instructional consultant at Indian Lake. This year, however, she will be taking up residence in a first grade classroom at Sunset. Natalie’s favorite part of working with first graders is their eagerness to learn. She hopes to tap into this enthusiasm and build a lifelong love for academics in her students. Two sons and a husband keep Natalie busy at home where she also enjoys camping, watching TV comedies and attending her kid’s sporting events.

Lori Higgins has joined the Sunset Lake staff working as a literacy aide. Lori lives outside of Mendon with her husband and three kids. She loves sports (having coached for over 20 years) as well as photography and landscaping. Lori is a hard worker who also helps her husband with their farm and seed corn harvesting business.

Carole Boal is happy to be back in our building teaching BK after teaching

first grade in Shanghai, China last year. Carole is a well-rounded educator having also held positions as a literacy aide, a split classroom aide, a substitute teacher, a kindergarten teacher and a second grade teacher. She is thrilled to see lots of familiar students, families and colleagues in the hallways and looks forward to a great school year.

Tamara Young is no stranger to Sunset students. She previously worked in the cafeteria and the office as

well as substituting in the library and classrooms. This year, she takes on the role of full-time library paraprofessional. She was drawn to the position due to her love of reading and her ambition to help children develop the love for reading as well. Tamara has a husband, three children, three dogs, three fish and 19 chickens. She enjoys animals (obviously), scrapbooking, photography, and sports.

Shannon Hilliard always wanted to work in the school that her children were attending and this fall she has the opportunity to do so as a cafeteria supervisor. She says she truly enjoys being with students and helping them out. Shannon is married to a firefighter and has two daughters.

Her outside interests include reading, being outside and spending time with family and friends. Shannon says she is delighted to be working for a great school system.

Jill Treat has taught in Marshall and Kalamazoo as well as at Tobey and Indian Lake. She says she was drawn to the open fourth grade teaching position at Sunset because she loves being in the classroom and watching her students grow through the year. Her goal is to have all of her students be ready to take on learning challenges not only this year but throughout their future. Jill has a husband, five children, one grandchild and has hosted many exchange students throughout the years. In her spare time she enjoys baking, cooking, reading, working outdoors and spending time with her family.

These six new staff members have joined a great educational community at Sunset Lake School where students, staff and parents work together to ensure success for every student - whatever it takes!



From L to R – Tamara Young, Shannon Hilliard and Jill Treat

It is amazing to think that the new school year is already here! The Tobey staff is very excited for this new year and are ready to go. This year Tobey has added a couple of new staff members, a few teachers have new teaching assignments and Tobey also welcomes three intern teachers.

Although not new to Tobey, **Mrs. Ruimveld, Mrs. Tibbetts, Mrs. Holladay and Mrs. Glerum** have new positions at Tobey. Mrs. Ruimveld is now K-5 math consultant. Mrs. Tibbetts who was the lower elementary IC will now be the K-5 reading consultant. Mrs. Holladay will be teaching 3rd grade this year and Mrs. Glerum is moving from 1st grade to 5th grade.



Tobey Elementary new staff: Front row, left – right Jill Tibbetts, Ginny Ruimveld, Back row – Kathy Holladay, Mike Farra

Caroline Gundy is the new psychologist at Tobey. She comes to Tobey with a wealth of knowledge and teaching experience. She has even taught in Costa Rica and South Korea. She is married and has two grown daughters and one grandchild. Family is very important to Mrs. Gundy and she loves to spend her free time with them doing water sports and activities. Mrs. Gundy believes in facilitating a positive, productive school climate where students, teachers and staff can realize and move towards meeting their potentials.

Mike Farra has been hired as the night custodian. Mike comes to Tobey after working for a time at Vickburg Middle school and before that he worked 22 years in the Parchment school district as a custodian. Mr. Farra likes to spend time riding his Harley or sports car. He also enjoys collecting antiques and is a true animal lover. Mr. Farra also spends time volunteering around school. Positive behavior is very important to Mr. Farra. In Parchment there was even an award handed out in his honor to a student who displayed positive behavior. Tobey Elementary is very lucky to have him as a member of the staff.

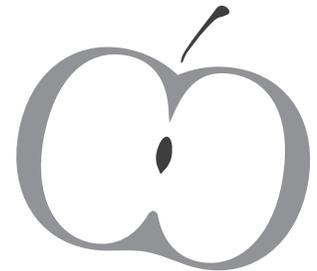
Tobey is also very fortunate to have three interns from Western Michigan University this year. This is such an awesome experience for these upcoming teachers and I know that they will learn a lot from their mentor teachers.

Douglas Diamond will be interning with Mrs. Wester. Mr. Diamond has had a wide variety of teaching experiences including an internship in a preschool class as well as working in a 3rd grade class. Mr. Diamond likes to spend his free time doing anything outdoors; especially hunting, fishing and camping. He is both excited and nervous about completing his internship and looking forward to seeing what the future has in store for him.

Brenda Archer will be working with Mrs. Lovins and her group of 1st graders. Miss Archer recently got engaged and will be getting married in 2015. She will graduate from WMU with her degree in early childhood. The quote that Miss Archer applies to her teaching philosophy is “Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.” - Aristotle. She believes that having high expectations for her students will help them strive to be better and feel more accomplished when they progress towards a goal.

Ashley Gordon is an intern in Mrs. Holladay’s 3rd grade class. She has been married for a few years to a local firefighter. Mrs. Gordon is a University of Michigan fan and loves camping, music and sports. She believes that one should never stop learning, because life never stops teaching! Mrs. Gordon has high expectations for her students and knows that they should have fun, but be held accountable for their learning.

Our Tobey family continues to grow with new students and staff! We are ALL looking forward to a great year of “The Tobey Way!”



Tobey Elementary Interns; from L to R: Brenda Archer, Douglas Diamond and Ashley Gordon

Vicksburg District Library
649-1648
www.vicksburglibrary.org

1.) Teen Advisory Board (T. A. B.)

Are you between 13 and 18? Are you interested in making the library a better place for teens? You should join T. A. B. — the Teen Advisory Board.

Why Join T.A.B.?

- Pick out teen library books and movies.
- Get free food and stuff.
- Help make decisions for the teen area.
- Earn community service hours for school

Upcoming T.A.B. Meetings:

Thursday, September 26, 3:15-4:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 24, 3:15-4:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 21, 3:15-4:00 p.m.

Teen and Tween Special Programs

2.) New! Pizza and Pages Book Club at the Library

Thursday, October 24, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

The selection for October is “The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg” by W. R. Philbrick. Please check out the book at the library or read any copy ahead of time and then join us on October 24 to eat pizza and discuss the book with other kids!

3.) Food Fear Factor at the Library

Thursday, October 31, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Help us celebrate Halloween by participating in a frightening food challenge! All you need to bring is an appetite and your courage to compete for prizes. And – don’t forget to dress up in your best costume to enter into our costume contest before you head out for trick-or-treating!

4.) Snuggles Project at the Library

Thursday, November 21, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

This month we are focusing on having an attitude of gratitude. Lend a helping hand and join us for a crafty service project. We will be making “snuggles” (blankets for homeless cats and dogs) and donating them to animals that live in a local animal shelter.

Teen Programs

5.) Anime Day!

Tuesday, October 8, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Watch anime on the big screen while making a Japanese-themed craft and eating Japanese snacks.

6.) Edible Earth Models

Tuesday, October 15, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Combining food, fun, and learning? Genius! Make a model of the Earth and its layers by using delicious edible materials.

7.) Board Games

Tuesday, October 22, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

The library recently acquired some new board games and we need to try these puppies out! Join us for some free game time.

8.) Writers’ Workshop

Tuesday, November 5, 3:00 – 4:00

Calling all aspiring teen writers! November is National Novel Writing Month. Bring in what you’re working on and join us for some writing tips and techniques, as well as a chance to have your work reviewed.

9.) Wii Play

Tuesday, November 12, 3:00 – 4:00

The library has recently acquired some new Wii games and we need to try those puppies out! Join us for some free game time.

Tweens After-School Hang Out

10.) Board Games

Thursday, October 3, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

The library recently acquired some new board games and we need to try these puppies out! Join us for some free game time.

11.) Craft Project

Thursday, October 10, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Bring your creativity and sense of adventure to the library and participate in

a craft project.

12.) Lego Mania!

Thursday, October 17, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

We’ll dig out those Legos and have fun learning and being creative while building new and ambitious projects.

13.) Board Games

Thursday, November 7, 4:00 – 5:00

The library recently acquired some new board games and we need to try these puppies out! Join us for some free game time.

14.) Lego Mania!

Thursday, November 14, 4:00 – 5:00

We’ll dig out those Legos and have fun learning and being creative while building new and ambitious projects.

Story Times

Story times start back up this fall! Parents and guardians can bond with their little ones while enjoying fun and age-appropriate songs, stories, rhymes, and activities together!

Toddler Time

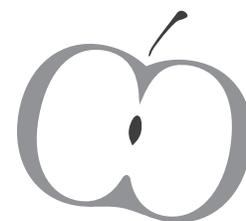
Age: 19 mo.-3 yrs.
Mondays, 10:15 a.m. – 11 a.m.
October 7, 28
November 4, 11, 18

Baby Time

Age: Infants-19 mo.
Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
October 2, 9, 30
November 6, 13, 20

Preschool/Family Story Time

Age: 3-5 yrs.
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
October 2, 9, 30
November 6, 13, 20



Sanchin Ryu Karate

Indian Lake Elementary Gym
Mondays—November 18 -January 27 (no classes when school is not in session)

Karate for Kids!(ages 4-14)

Students will be trained with proven age-appropriate techniques that are necessary for kids to protect themselves from attackers. This program is set in a fun, yet structured, environment which will give your child a positive outlook on learning a martial art. We focus on healthy attitudes versus perfection!

Time: 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Fee: \$24 (8 weeks)

Karate for Adults & Teens! (ages 14+)

Specifically designed to address personal-protection concerns, this program instructs a broad range of strikes, combinations, footwork and defense tactics. Receive specialized training on how to deal with, get out of, and counter a multitude of grabs and attack scenarios. Practicing many techniques and tactics will equip you with the confidence you need to defend yourself against any type of attacker.

Time: 8:00-9:00 p.m.
Fee: \$24 (8 weeks)

Karate for Families! (a Parent AND Child program for all ages)

Set in a fun, non-competitive and informative atmosphere, this program allows parents to learn alongside their children. Size and stature are not an issue!

Time: 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Fee: *\$48 (8 weeks)

* Pay for the first two members of the family (\$48) and other family members are free during this time period only. A family is defined as mother, father, and their children under the age of 18.

You Can Now Register Online!

Visit www.vicksburgcommunityschools.org and click on After School Programs, then the Class Offerings link to get started.

VCS
Vicksburg Community Schools
Traditions In Excellence



Boys Bulldog Basketball Basic Skills

The Vicksburg Community Education Office is offering a Boys Bulldog Basketball Basic Skills program for 2nd – 6th grade students of Vicksburg Schools. Boys will meet for six Saturday mornings to experience working on skill building and game playing.
Saturdays, November 2, 9, 23, December 7, 14 & 21

Mad Science – Wonders of Science

Does your child have the nerve to EXPLORE the world around us? In this Mad Science series, your child will embark on a new adventure each week! They will explore underwater and learn about our fascinating oceans. Children will also take a trip through the Mad Science kitchen and mix up some exciting potions. We won't stop there because your child will also be amazed by volcanoes and learn about the big world of tiny particles. All Mad Science classes are filled with hands-on learning, awe-inspiring experiments, and cool take-home projects so your child can be a junior Mad Scientist at home!

Location: Classes held at all three elementaries
Dates: Tuesdays at Sunset Lake – October 1 to November 15
Wednesdays at Indian Lake and Tobey – October 2 to November 16 (no classes when school is not in session)
Time: 3:45 – 4:45 p.m.
Fee: \$77 for a 6 week session

BUSY BODIES (Aerobics)

A safe and effective exercise program. Classes are designed to accommodate the needs of exercisers of all ages from beginners through advanced. Classes begin with a warm-up period and end with a stretching segment. The Busy Bodies “C”ombination class offers a 50/50 combination of aerobic exercise and body sculpting. It's a great balance of the three basic components of overall fitness: aerobic movement, muscle conditioning and stretching. A monthly newsletter on fitness and health tips is included in the registration fee.

Location: Tobey Elementary Gym
Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Dates: November 12 - January 23 (no classes when school is not in session)
Time: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Fee: \$81.00 (9 weeks)

Young Rembrandts – Drawing Classes for Kids

A different kind of learning – a powerful kind of fun! Young Rembrandts teaches drawing with a see-touch-do method that all kids can succeed with, learn from, and love! Watch your child reach a brand new level of confidence and potential with this engaging, award-winning program.

Location: Classes held at all three elementary buildings
Days: Thursdays
Dates: 9/26–11/14 (no classes when school is not in session)
Time: 3:45 – 4:45 p.m.
Fee: \$80 for 8 week session

Vicksburg Community Education - Dance and Tumbling Classes

Enrollment is now open for all families to participate in the second session of our dance and tumbling program that begins the week of October 28, 2013. A complete schedule of classes and registration forms are available in the school office, on line, or at the Community Education office. These classes fill quickly, so don't delay. Register now to secure your spot in class.

Our sessions are 8 weeks long ending with a recital in May. No new students can enroll in this year's program after the second session because classes will have started their routines and ordered costumes for the recital performances.

Please contact the Program Coordinator Michelle Malito at mmalito@vicksburgschools.org for any questions about classes, You will be notified if a desired class is full or canceled due to insufficient enrollment. Registration is available by one of the following methods (checks made payable to Vicksburg Schools).



Tiny dancers delight at recital

You can now register on line!! Please visit www.vicksburgcommunityschools.org and choose After School Programs and Services and then click on Class Offerings to pay with your credit or debit card. **Or call 321-1022 to register by phone.**

*** BY MAIL**

Vicksburg Community Education
301 S. Kalamazoo Ave.
Vicksburg MI 49097

*** IN PERSON**

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – M-Th
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Friday

*** DROP BOX**

Outside south VAB entrance at the top of the stairs (fire escape tube end of building) to the right of the door, box is checked daily.

Vicksburg Dance and Tumbling Offers:

- 3-4yrs - Ballet/Tap- 15 min tap, 15 min ballet; Tiny BTG (4-5yrs)- 15 min ballet, 15 min tap, 15 min gym
- 4-6yrs - Tiny BTG (4-5yrs)- 15 min ballet, 15 min tap, 15 min gym; Kinder Combo BTG (5-6yrs)- 15 min ballet, 15 min tap, 15 min gym
- Ballet/ Pointe - Technique, terminology, beauty, flow, and elegance taught with traditional barre work, center work, and combinations are all included. For ages 4+
- Gymnastics - Students will increase strength, flexibility, and agility through gymnastic skills. For ages 3+
- Hawaiian - Travel to the beautiful island of Hawaii. Learn from our trained professional the beauty of authentic Hawaiian dancing. For ages 6+
- Jazz - Jazz dance technique, terminology, and movement quality with an emphasis on proper execution of jazz isolations, rhythms, and style performed to contemporary music. For ages 4+
- Lyrical - Lyrical/ Contemporary dance combines styles and movements from several dance forms such as modern dance, jazz, and ballet. Movements will be expressive and free moving. For ages 9+
- Musical Theater - Students will sing and dance to famous songs from musicals. Students will practice acting skills, games, and learn dances based on the songs. For ages 8+
- Tap - Focuses on rhythms, intricate footwork, technique, and terminology. For ages 4+
- Hip Hop - This fun, energetic class will teach you how to get down! For ages 5+
- Technique for Dancers - Improve overall strength and flexibility in this 30 minute class. Students will learn how improve leaps, turns, and all technique needed for all dance classes. (This class will not have a recital piece.)



Wendy Rice, Indian Lake second grade teacher, enjoys the activities at the Community Tailgate

It Was A Great Night To Be A Bulldog!

On Friday, September 6, the community came together to celebrate the 5th Annual Community Tailgate gathering before the football game between Vicksburg and Edwardsburg. Lots of fun, food and fellowship were had by over 1,000 attendees.

The tailgate celebration was made possible due to the funding support of: Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation, Bronson Vicksburg Outpatient Center, Angel's Crossing Golf Course, Chapman Memorial Church, Vicksburg Historical Society, Fred's Pharmacy, Vicksburg Lion's Club, Briolife Photography, Modern Woodmen Financial, Miche Bags, Vicksburg Rotary Club, South County Community Services, and Miller Catering.



Dawn Simpson, Middle School teacher, helps paint the town with Bulldog Spirit!

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

- 1 IL PTSO Meeting-6:30 pm
- 2 SL Book Fair-Evening Hours 5:30-7 pm
- 2 High School Conferences 5- 8 pm
- 4 Fall Homecoming
- 7 HS/MS Late Start
Elementary Early Release
- 8 SL PTA Meeting-6 pm
- 12 Tobey Fall Festival 5:30-8 pm
- 14 Board of Education Meeting (SL) 7 pm
- 21 TY PTO Meeting 4 pm
- 21 TY Strings Program
Parent Meeting
- 22 Marching Band Concert 7 pm
- 24 Fall Choir Concert HS/MS (PAC)-7 pm
- 25 7th & 8th Grade Dance 2:45 pm
- 31 IL Halloween Monster Mash
- 31 End of First Marking Period

NOVEMBER

- 1 NO STUDENTS
Teacher Record/PD
- 1, 2 4th-8th Grade Musical-7:30 pm
- 2 3rd Annual Band- a- Thon (Gym) 9 am-9 pm
- 3 4th-8th Grade Musical-2 pm
- 5 Middle School Honors Band (PAC)-7 pm
- 5 IL PTSO Meeting 6:30 pm
- 5, 7 Sunset Lake Conferences 4:30-7:30 pm
- 5, 6 Middle School Conferences MS-4- 7 pm

- 7, 14 Indian Lake Conferences 5:30-8:30 pm
- 11 HS/MS Late Start
Elementary Early Release
- 11 Board of Education Meeting (TY) 7pm
- 12 SL PTA Meeting 6 pm
- 14, 15 B4K Conferences (IL)
- 14 TY PTO Meeting-4 pm
- 20 Tobey Conferences 5:30 -8:30 pm
- 23 Project Graduation Craft Show SL-9 am-3 pm
- 22, 23 Fall Play-High School-7:30 pm
- 24 Fall Play-High School-7:30 pm
- 26 HS Fall Athletic Awards-7 pm
- 28, 29 NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER

- 5 High School Conferences 5-8 pm
- 6 TY Movie Night 6 pm
- 9 Board of Education Meeting (VAB) 7 pm
- 10 SL PTA Meeting 6 pm
- 12 Middle School Holiday Band Concert 7 pm
- 13 7th & 8th Grade Dance
- 14 HS Semi- Formal Dance
- 17 Middle School Holiday Choir Concert 7 pm
- 19 High School Collage Concert (PAC) 7 pm
- 23-31 NO SCHOOL-HOLIDAY BREAK

Vicksburg Community Schools
301 S. Kalamazoo Ave. • P.O. Box 158
Vicksburg, MI 49097

ECRWSS
Postal Customer

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
CAR-RT SORT
Permit No. 81
Vicksburg, MI