

the **RED** and

**VCS**

Vicksburg Community Schools

*Traditions In Excellence*

March – April 2014

[www.vicksburg-community-schools.org](http://www.vicksburg-community-schools.org)

**WHITE**



***Scientifically Amazing!***

### Bond Issue Overview

The Vicksburg Community Schools Board of Education unanimously voted on Thursday, February 21 to ask district residents for a 1.5 mill increase in property taxes to improve and maintain school facilities in need of repair for the May 6 ballot.

While we always look for efficiencies in our district budget, we now are in need of additional revenue to make significant improvements for our buildings. Our main goal in putting a bond issue on the May 2014 ballot is to continue to improve upon the facilities we provide for students and faculty, ensuring they have access to safe and secure buildings and outstanding learning opportunities.

**District Will Ask Residents For 1.5 Mill Increase On May 6 Ballot**

The bond issue will ask district residents to approve a 1.5 mill increase valued at \$15.48 million. The bond issue would make potential improvements at all district school buildings as follows:

- Vicksburg High School – Roofing, windows, doors, electrical upgrades, locker room renovations, site lighting, PAC fire curtain replacement, gymnasium fire protection and HVAC upgrades
- Vicksburg Middle School – Driveway replacement, site lighting, doors and electrical upgrades
- Sunset Lake – Roof replacement, doors, parking lot upgrades, lighting and electrical upgrades
- Tobey – Roof replacement, doors, parking and site lighting and electrical and HVAC repairs
- Indian Lake – Roof replacement, doors, parking and site lighting, electrical and HVAC repairs



In addition, the district will use proceeds from the bond issue to spend approximately \$5 million to upgrade technology district-wide to improve access to 21st century learning tools, as well as upgrades for safety, security and technology that will improve the educational landscape for teachers and students.

For an average Vicksburg resident who owns a home with a market value of \$112,000, the bond issue will cost an additional \$84 in taxes per year, or approximately \$7 per month. The cost of \$7 a month equates to roughly the cost of a \$1.75 a week, or the cost of a 20 ounce bottle of pop from a vending machine.

We believe this bond issue is necessary to maintain the high quality educational facilities Vicksburg residents have come to expect for their school district. Keeping school buildings warm, roofs leak-free, and doors secure is important to maintain a good learning environment for our students

**\$15.5 million bond issue will address facility upgrades, security improvements, and roof replacement at buildings across the Vicksburg district**

and faculty.

Our school district's successes are due in large part to the high quality educators we employ to prepare our children to become responsible citizens of the 21st century. When we provide updated facilities for our students to learn in, we attract and retain the best educators from across the region to live and work in the in Vicksburg area.



**Look for us on Facebook!  
Vicksburg Community Schools**

#### On The Cover

Left to right: Mikayla Sands and Alyssa Kamerman  
Photo by: Beth O'Roark

## Calendar Changes

We are firmly committed in Vicksburg to providing our students with quality instruction, but that has been significantly interrupted by the intensity of our weather. Our pledge to provide children with top-notch schooling has been trumped by our responsibility to keep them safe during periods of badly drifted roadways and arctic wind chills.

State law “forgives” the first six days of school cancelled because of weather. Lost days beyond the six must be made up. State law does not, at this time, allow adding minutes to remaining days in the school year to make up for lost days of instruction. Accordingly, we will plan on extending the school year in June to make up the balance. As of this writing, that will be four days, but that total can change with the weather.

We believe that the State Board of Education was right when they recently encouraged the legislature not to allow “minutes for days,” stating,

“Full replacement days offer every student the full extent of quality instruction that they missed when the school was closed. This method allows teachers to complete their full lesson plans with integrity and provide students with the appropriate depth of instruction they need to meet their instructional goals for every class. This is the better strategy to ensure that students will be ready for career, college, and community.”

## Big News for Vicksburg Preschool

Vicksburg Community Schools will be expanding preschool for four year olds. Additionally, classrooms will be added to the 2014 Fall schedule for Vicksburg four year olds. This program will have more spaces available and will have some schedule options of full or half day for families. Please call the Community Education, 321-1022, department to get your child involved in this great preschool experience.



### Spring Sports Physicals

Dates for sports physicals for the 2014-2015 school year have been set. Cost again will be only \$15 per athlete. Money raised is used for athletic training supplies.

Middle School Girls- Tuesday, May 27th 8am

Middle School Boys- Thursday, May 29th 8am

High School Girls- Tuesday, June 3rd 3pm

High School Boys- Thursday, June 5th 3pm

## Ready for Kindergarten?

Recent Michigan legislation has amended the Revised School Code (MCL 280.1147), which changed the minimum age requirements for a child enrolling in kindergarten. The entry age for kindergarten will gradually be changed, over the next three years, to require children to be five years old by September 1st rather than the current cutoff date of December 1st as follows:

For the 2014-15 school year, children must be five years old by October 1st, 2014.

For the 2015-16 school year (and beyond), children must be five years old by September 1st.

### Parent Waiver Option

If your child is not eligible for enrollment per the guidelines listed above but will be five years old by December 1st, you can apply for a waiver to enroll your student in school as long as you do so by the dates listed below.

If your child resides in the school district, the waiver must be submitted to the school district no later than June 1st before the beginning of the school year.

If your child becomes a resident of the school district after June 1st, the waiver must be submitted to the school district no later than August 1st before the beginning of the school year.

No exceptions will be made beyond those dates.

Waivers may be requested from your school office.

### Please contact your building principal if you have any questions.

Indian Lake Elementary  
Principal Ruth Hook: 321-1400

Sunset Lake Elementary  
Principal Pat Moreno: 321-1500

Tobey Elementary  
Principal Mike Barwegen: 321-1600

Vicksburg Administration Building  
Stacy Lightfoot: 321-1017



## The Doctor is In!

Kindergarten health screening available at no cost on May 2nd at Vicksburg Administration Building 8:30am to 10am

## Battle of the Books

On Saturday February 15th, 41 students represented Indian Lake Elementary at The Battle of the Books competition at the Schoolcraft High School. These students have been working on reading their books since October. They've have studied 12 books in hopes of moving on in the competition. The teams were The Bulldog Guardians (Captain Jacob Baird, Elijah Lewis, Justin Reed, Kyle Feasel, Mykah Zehner, Kelli Klopfenstein) The Neon Book Lights (Captain Sarah Mitchell, Anessa Laske, Hunter Christopher, Parker Christopher, Jessica Laske, Delaney Thomas), Team Awesome (Captain Riley Farr, Garrett Cleaver, Tristin Decker, Allyson Naster, Bailey Derrick, Jacob Dinzik, Max Dinzik) The Ninja Dogs (Captain Elijah Bombich, Drake Steele, Issy Hardy, Emma Dexter, Tessa Kite, Cloe Johnson), Reader Defeaters (Captains Adele Wilson and Alyssa Ott, Anna Deal, Abby Braat, Monica Daily, Clare Wilson, Gabby Wright) and The Book Cyclones (Captain Jacob Fleming, Natasha Elliot, Jerrica Marietti, Chase Andres, Jessie Hart, Allison Russell). All the teams did a fantastic job in the Preliminary Rounds and The Ninja Dogs took 4th in their Semi-Final Round. Coaches are Amber Baird, Kathy Laske, Theresa Farr, Krista Wilson, Jennifer Feasel and Michael Schimp. A BIG thank you to all the parents who helped out and donated their time. Great job to all the Indian Lake students who participated in this competition. See you next year



*L to R: Miss Wilson, Issabelle Hardy, Tessa Kite, Emma Dexter, Jaci Spicer, Cloe Johnson (foreground), Drake Steele, Elijah Bombich, and Kyler Haring.*

## Pint Size Hero Blood Drive

Indian Lake staff and parents participated in our first ever blood drive here at Indian Lake, sponsored by American Red Cross. A huge THANK YOU to 35+ volunteers who donated blood on January 21.

## Father - Daughter Dance

The theme this year was "A Night for the Hollywood Stars". Girls and their dads or special dates enjoyed a night of dancing, games, raffles and special portraits taken by Rebecca Lynn's Photography. Thanks to Nicole Martinez and all the parents that make this special night happen!



*L to R: Allie Spencer, Mya Martinez, Rylie & Kameron Courtney, Ava DelaTorre*

## PTSO Bulldog Bolt – Ribbon Cutting for Path of Pride

Join Indian Lake Elementary students, staff, and PTSO at 9:30 a.m. on May 9th as we formally dedicate and celebrate our new Bulldog Bolt Track. We will be welcoming the amazing crew of workers from Balkema Excavating, Wyoming Asphalt, Finks Excavating, and Bubs 73 Foundation. We will be presenting our first bricks to these hardworking individuals along with honoring Mr. Rick Szabla, former principal of Indian Lake.

Student Council heads a Leukemia Lymphoma collection. Indian Lake students are participating in a spare change collection to raise funds for blood cancer research and patient services. For three weeks our students were encouraged to support this drive by bringing spare change to school. Total raised: \$2243.84. Thanks to all our Indian Lake families for so generously donating to this cause.

## Technologically Advanced

New technology is coming to an algebra class near you! Thanks to the VCS Board and two other grants, high school mathematics classrooms are being equipped with the latest in “hand-held” capabilities (it’s not called a calculator anymore). The results are stunning for both teachers and students. The Monsanto Fund and a Bardeen grant added to the funds spent by our school board allowing the math department to enjoy four complete classroom sets of Texas Instruments N-spire CX hand-helds along with the software that allows them to wirelessly communicate with the teacher’s desktop.



*Colin, Cady, Nick Towns, and classmates model vertical motion*

The future has arrived. Now files can be shared, from teacher to student and student to teacher. For example, a teacher places the time-lapse photo of vertical motion in the background of a graph page, wirelessly she sends it; students model the motion with a parabolic function and send it back to the teacher to demonstrate their mastery of quadratic model construction. It works as an exploration because students are able to interactively manipulate the graph and see the effect of different parameters. It works as an examination because a student instantaneously knows the accuracy of his or her answer. Through the collection of the files, it works as a formative assessment identifying students who might need some extra help.

Many new voyages await us. These devices are able to be attached to probes that measure everything from acceleration to voltage and anything in between. A recent experiment recorded the swing of a pendulum for Algebra 2 students to

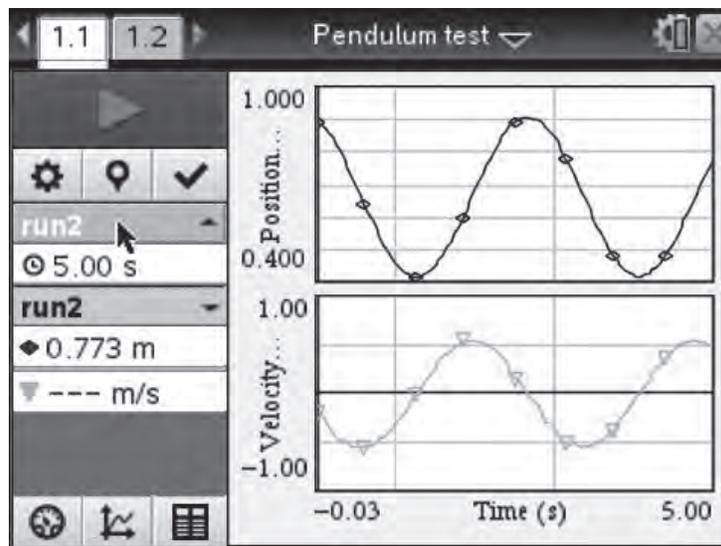
model using the trigonometric functions they have learned to graph. Algebra 1 students have been able to collect data that represented the linear growth of the number of similar objects and the total mass of the objects as well as collect data on the exponential decay relationship of time and temperature via Newton’s Law of Cooling. Research shows that the performance of the experiment followed by the immediate production of a graph has the most impact on student learning.

To infinity and beyond! Students have the capability in their hands to plot a set of data and experiment by dragging points to discover which statistical measures are resistant or are not resistant. They can complete a spreadsheet, graph the data points, overlay a line, and drag the line to best fit the data. The calculator is no longer one dimensional. Sliders are a simple way to explore the



*Hunter Van learns the effect of “A” on a sine function graph.*

effects of different parameters on a sine function graph. Students can explore individually, and then demonstrate their observation to the entire class; the students really can be the teacher!



*Periodic motion as recorded by the motion detector.*

These are the opportunities that are here for us; giving our students access to aligned and responsive education, that utilizes the latest technology. For all of this we must first thank the school board, Monsanto Corporation, and the Bardeen Grant committee. Additionally we need to thank the teachers who are putting it to good use everyday.

## VMS Ski Club

With the abundance of snow, cold conditions, and eager skiers and snowboarders, VMS Ski Club managed to hit the slopes at Bittersweet for another successful year. Long-time ski club member Anna Knowles was especially happy about the ski conditions and expressed “the snow and jumps this year were amazing.” Jacklyn Kelly really enjoys skiing as well, but also adds, “Ski club is a place to hang out with friends that you don’t normally see during the school day. The bus ride is also fun.”

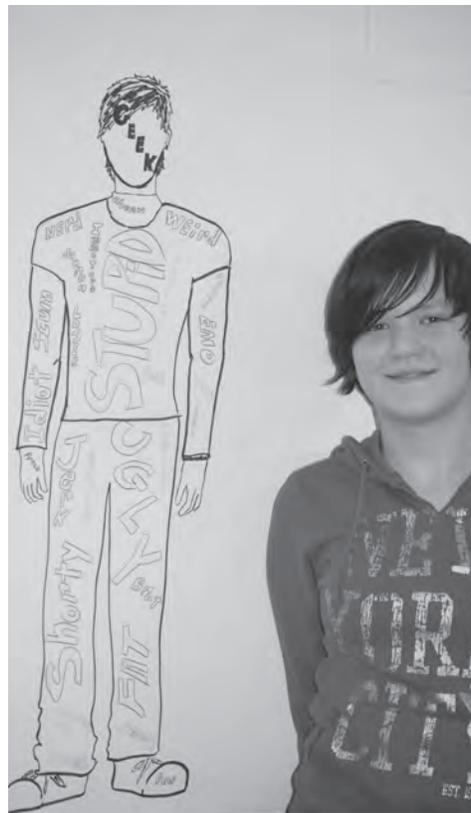
Advisors Sheri Freeland, along with Todd and Mandy Miller have organized transportation, lift tickets and supervision of the weekly trips to Bittersweet Ski Resort for many years. Our VMS outdoor sports enthusiasts appreciate all of their time and effort!



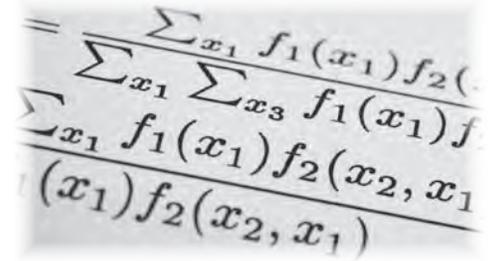
*Skiing and snowboarders alike had a great season out with Ski Club this season. Getting ready to load their gear, Brandon Smith and Connor Seifert are anxious to hit the slopes.*

## yL-Lub Anti-bully Art Adorns Hallways

Vicksburg Middle School prides itself on being an HCRR school—Honesty, Caring, Respect and Responsibility. yL-Lub Club (Bully spelled backwards) has been reinforcing this with their student created posters hung throughout the building. Many of the posters touch on bullying, while others express “doing what’s right” and feeling safe in our school environment. Mrs. Simmons, yL-Lub advisor for three years, hopes that more students become involved with this after school club.



*Victoria Simmons stands aside her anti-bullying poster she created in yL-Lub Club. The title of the poster is “Words Hurt.” Victoria was inspired by a similar poster she found posted on-line.*



## Success at Local MathCounts Competition

Two equilateral triangles are drawn in a square. In degrees, what is the measure of each obtuse angle in the rhombus formed by the intersection of the two triangles? Scratching your head yet? This math problem and many others like it are presented to students across the Kalamazoo County district at the annual MathCounts competition. Our very own VMS MathCounts Club students this February were amongst hundreds of middle school students vying for team and individual honors. For one member, Michael Halstead, a hard earned 11th place was bestowed upon him at the chapter (local) competition on Friday, February 7th. He received an individual score of 21. Michael scored a 15 out of 30 in the Sprint round competition. He then went on to the target round to complete the competition.

Michael will continue on to the state MathCounts competition which will be held in March, at Western Michigan University. Coach Emily Proctor is very proud of the team and Michael and states “I am very excited to be taking a student to the State competition as it will be a great experience not only for Michael, but me as well, since I have never had a student go to State before!” As for Michael, “I was shocked when I heard my name called as an advancing competitor to the state finals.” Way to go Michael and best of luck at the State level!

Even though the winter doldrums have set in, the students and staff of Tobey Elementary have really worked to keep things fresh and exciting. During these past months there has been events happening with the Caring Club, Battle of the Books, Student Council fundraisers, Spaghetti Dinner, and Reading from Coast to Coast.

Tobey was able to put together 4 **Battle of the Books** teams. There were 12 books that were predetermined by the Schoolcraft librarian. Once the book list was received, our teams spent several months reading and studying the books. To be better prepared for battle day the teams met together at least once a week to talk about the books they were reading and also held a mock battle. It was very exciting to see two of our teams move on to the semi-finals. Although none of the Tobey teams reached the Grand Battle, the students worked really hard and learned about a lot of great literature. The coaches and students that participated should all be very proud of their teams and themselves.

The **Student Council** has also been very active around school. The week before Valentine's Day they sold candy grams. Children were able to purchase a candy gram for a friend and have it delivered to them on Valentine's Day. This was a very special day for the students and much candy was enjoyed by all. Also on Valentine's Day student council sponsored Fancy Day. This was a day where the students and staff got all dressed up for school. It was very fun to see some of the fancy outfits that were worn on this day. The next venture for student council is to sponsor a penny drive where the money collected goes towards the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

**Caring Club** members have spent many recess days making friendship



*Olivia Byer, Lucy Glerum, and Taylor Kitron enjoying a relaxing day in the snow.*

bracelets. These bracelets are then handed out during recess time to children who are demonstrating the Tobey Way. The upper elementary Caring Club has also been making dog toys which will be giving to the SPCA. Making of the dog toys has become an annual event for the Caring Club. This helps benefit both the students and the community.

In February the **PTO** also held their yearly spaghetti dinner. This is a wonderful event where many of the Tobey families come together and enjoy a great Italian meal. As part of this event, people can also bid on baskets of goodies that have been donated by staff, students and the community. All of the proceeds go to benefit the students of Tobey Elementary. We are very fortunate to have such an involved PTO!

Finally to wind down February, Tobey students and staff participated in "**Read The Most from Coast to Coast**". The purpose of this event was to try and break the record for

the most Accelerated Reader Tests taken in one day. The goal was 5 MILLION! There were many great reading activities going on in the classrooms as well as PJ day; all to help us achieve this goal!

It is hard to believe that the school year is more than half over. It will be exciting to see what the students of Tobey Elementary accomplish the last part of the 2014 school year.



*Ms. Flynn and Noah Green showing off their fancy day clothes.*



*Kindergartners celebrate the one hundredth day of school by dressing up as 100-year olds.*

*Front row- L to R: Bayard Richardson. Hunter Selvidge. Mackenzie Schiedel. Rinzel Arroyo*

*Back Row- L to R: Lainey Wilson. Briana Foghino. Jameson Bowers. Trevyn Mayer.*

Although Spring has yet to arrive in Vicksburg, Sunset students and staff are shining with bright ideas to fill these last gloomy winter days. Wednesday, February 19th was the **100th day of school**. Beginergartners and kindergartners in Mrs. Boal's, Mrs. Trayers', Mrs King's and Mrs. Breitenbach's classes planned a special way to celebrate this milestone. They dressed up as 100 year-olds (sporting gray hair, facial hair, canes, sweaters, and orthopedic shoes.) made a bucket list of the things they wanted to do before they turned 100, and drew pictures of what they thought they might look like at 100. Additionally, they wrote about what they would buy with one hundred dollars, strung one hundred Fruit Loops on yarn to make necklaces and enjoyed a feast of 10 groups of 10 snack items. A great time was had by all!

Mrs. Lonsway, our school counselor, has created the **Leadership Group**, consisting of 20 fifth grade students. The purpose of the Leadership Group is to encourage a positive school climate. Leadership students sign up for one of four committees: tour group, assemblies, fundraising/decorating and announcements. So far this year, the group has presented a mini-skit to the entire school to bring awareness to Red Ribbon Week, designed posters to promote Red Ribbon Week and other fundraisers, conducted several school tours for incoming new students, run fundraisers to provide needed school supplies and wrote announcements to promote and publicize Leadership events. Currently, a Shamrock fundraiser is being planned for March. Mrs. Lonsway is proud of the Leadership group who willingly give up their recesses and free time to plan, create and carry out projects for the good of the school and its students. "It's exciting to see students take an active role in what is occurring in

our school. This experience helps our students to see that their input and ideas are highly valued and needed!"

The **Battle of the Books** competition has just wrapped up for this year and, once again, Sunset Lake teams had a great showing! This year five teams were involved in the event - a Quiz Bowl-like competition. These teams, the 8-Bit Heroes, Wonder Readers, Hawkeye Readers, Dream Readders and Brainiacs, began preparing in October. The groups of 5-6 fourth through sixth graders had to read twelve assigned books. On Saturday, February 15, the Battle began with thirty one teams from Schoolcraft, Parchment and Vicksburg pitted against each other. Four out of Sunset's five teams made it to the semi-finals with the fifth team missing the semi-final round by just one point! The 8-Bit Heroes team consisting of Owen Bishop, Kyle Ackerman, Dom Burt, Cyrus Bishop and Garrett Kirchner and coached by Holly Bishop made it to the Grand Battle held on February 20th where they took third place. Congratulations to all of Sunset's teams...way to go!

Finally, Sunset Lake students are literally climbing the walls! Thanks to the generosity of the Sunset Lake PTA, our school was able to purchase the **Traverse Climbing Wall Course**, which is climbed horizontally, not vertically. The fun and challenge is making it from one side to another instead of from bottom to top. The actual climbing wall is magnetic and along with the kit came sight words and letters that can be used to reinforce reading and writing. A big thanks goes out to Lucas Hillard, Mike Johnson, Dan Pryor and Rob Moughton who volunteered their time to construct the wall in the gym on February 1st. Also helping out were Danielle and Caleb Pryor, Shanon Hillard, Jessica Moughton and Angie Getsinger. All students have had the opportunity to use the climbing wall which requires no ropes or harnesses. The wall has been an inspiration to find new ways to be physically active. Mrs. Getsinger shares, "The first week we used the new climbing wall, I witnessed the increase in self-confidence in my students right away! At first they were a bit unsure and it was exciting to see them grow in confidence and ability as the week went on. This is such a valuable asset to our students and school and will be a great way to improve upper body strength in our kids for years to come. Thanks for all who took part in making this possible. You ROCK!"



*Sunset Lake students practice their upper-arm strength on the gym's new Climbing Wall*

## Summer Enrichment Scholarships

The Vicksburg Education Association will be offering summer scholarships for all students, elementary through high school, in the Vicksburg Community Schools. The scholarships are available for many activities such as sports camps, art classes, swimming lessons, tennis lessons, science class, computer classes, and many more.

Applications will be available in every school office or on the District's website at [www.vicksburgcommunityschools.org](http://www.vicksburgcommunityschools.org). All applications must be completed and returned to Chris Kosiba at the High School no later than May 2 at 3:30 p.m. Scholarships will be drawn by lottery system and recipients will be notified by June 10.

The VEA also raises funds for the Grace Molineaux Memorial Scholarship for a graduating senior who is pursuing a career in education. Seniors planning on going into the educational field should check with their counselors for more information on this scholarship.

## Library

### Teen and Tween Special Programs

#### Book Club at the Library

Join us to discuss any book you've read. There might be snacks, but you have to talk about a book to get them!

Thursday, March 20, April 17, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

#### Special Teen/Tween Event

Join other teens and tweens for fun games, contests and events on the last Thursday of each month.

To Be Announced

Thursday, March 27, April 24, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

### Teen Programs

#### Teen Scene

On Tuesdays at 3, the downstairs meeting room is reserved for teens to come hang out and relax. Stop by for games, snacks, computers, crafts and a good time.

Tuesday, March 4, 11, 18, 25, 3:00 – 4:00

Tuesday, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 3:00 – 4:00

### 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, movies, music and video games.
- Get free food and stuff.
- Help make decisions for the teen area.
- Earn community service hours for school.

Upcoming T.A.B. Meetings:

Thursday, March 27, 3:15-4:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 24, 3:15-4:00 p.m.

### Tweens After-School Hang Out

#### Board Games

Thursday, March 6, April 3, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Am I KETCHUP?? Come and find out what in the world THAT means!

#### Lego Mania!

Thursday, March 13, April 10, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Create your scene, and then tell your tale. Lego masters and novices welcome.

### Story Times

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.

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

April 14, 21, 28

#### Baby Time

Age: Infants-19 mo.

Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

March 5, 12, 19, 26

April 2, 16, 23, 30

#### Preschool/Family Story Time

Age: 3-5 yrs.

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

March 5, 12, 19, 26

April 2, 16, 23, 30



**HERE COMES THE RUN**

**27TH ANNUAL**

**VICKSBURG HEARTY HUSTLE**

**MAY 10, 2014**

Check for updates on our Facebook page: [facebook.com/heartyhustle](https://www.facebook.com/heartyhustle)  
Register online @ <https://www.signmeup.com/98413>

### ***Kids Klub Child Care Programs***

The Kids Klub Before and After School Child Care program will begin open enrollment for the 2014-15 school year on May 1, 2014. There will be a pre-registration period for current Kids Klub families beginning on April 14.

Child Care will be available at all three elementary schools and the cost for this program is only \$5.50 per session or \$55 per week, for full time care. Program times are from 6:30 to 9:00 a.m. and 3:35 to 6:00 p.m. each day. The program emphasizes a warm, safe, and comfortable atmosphere with lots of quality activities for participants. Space is limited. For more information, please call your school's coordinator: Sunset Lake 321-1514, Indian Lake 321-1422, Tobey 321-1605.

### ***Calling all Four-Year-Olds for Bulldog Beginnings Preschool***

Get your child on board for an exciting preschool experience! Vicksburg Community Schools offers a unique program specifically designed for children who will be four years old by October 1, 2014. Bulldog Beginnings Preschool is entirely FREE to families that qualify. The program focuses on socialization and school readiness skills. Applications are available at the Vicksburg Administration Building (321-1022), all three elementary buildings, and the Vicksburg Library. For more information, please contact the Community Education department at 321-1022.

# You Can Now Register Online!

Visit [www.vicksburgcommunityschools.org](http://www.vicksburgcommunityschools.org) and click on After School Programs, then the Class Offerings link to get started.



## SANCHIN RYU KARATE

### Karate for Adults and Teens! (ages 14 and older)

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.

Location: Indian Lake Elementary Gym

Dates: April 21 – June 16  
(no classes on 5-26, or when school is not in session)

Times: 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Fee: \$24 (8 weeks)

Day: Mondays

### 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 Families! (Parent & 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.

### VolleyPups – 4th through 8th graders

The Vicksburg Community Education Office and the Vicksburg Varsity Volleyball coaching Staff are offering VolleyPups volleyball for all 4th through 8th grade Vicksburg students.

Location: Vicksburg High School Gym

Dates: April 15, 17, 22, and 24

Times: 5:30 – 6:30p.m. (4th-6th grade)  
6:30 – 7:30p.m. (7th-8th grade)

Fee: \$25.00 (includes T-shirt)

Registration deadline (to ensure a T-shirt will be ordered) is Monday, March 24, by 4:00 p.m. at the Community Education Office, 301 South Kalamazoo Ave, Vicksburg, or call 321-1022 to register over the phone.

All participants must carry in appropriate gym shoes.

### 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 1: Tobey Elementary Gym

Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays  
April 15 – June 5 (no classes when school is not in session)

Time: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Fee: \$72.00 (8 weeks)

Location 2: The Courthouse

Dates: Monday and Wednesday  
April 14 – June 4 (no classes when school is not in session)

Time: 8:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Fee: \$72.00 (8 weeks)

### Young Rembrandts

A different kind of learning. A powerful kind of fun! Encourage your elementary student’s enthusiasm for art and help develop their drawing skills with a Young Rembrandts drawing class. 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. All this and more awaits your child in the Young Rembrandts classroom. Sign up today!

Location: Classes held at all three elementary buildings

Dates: Thursdays  
May 1st– June 5th (no classes when school is not in session)

Time: 3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Fee: \$60 for 6 week session

## Calendar of Events

<b>Mar.</b>				17	Cabaret Performance - Girl's Group	7:00 pm	HS
28	Tobey - Spring Pictures	9:00 am	TY	18	Cabaret Performance - Boy's Group	3:00 pm	HS
29	Tobey - Mother/Son Skating	1:00 pm		19	TY - PTO Mtg	4:00 pm	TY
31	FFA Banquet	2:45 pm	HS		Band Parent Informational Meeting	7:00 pm	HS
<b>Apr.</b>				20	VMS Band Concert	7:00 pm	HS
1	SL Walkathon Kick Off	3:00 pm		21	IL B4K Graduation	10:30 am	IL
	IL PTSO Meetings	6:30 pm	IL		IL B4K Graduation	2:15 pm	IL
3	No Students/Teacher Records Day				VHS Film Festival	7:00 pm	HS
4	No Students Or Staff			22	Last Day For B4K Students		IL
7-11	Spring Break				Senior Honors Awards	7:00 pm	HS
14	School Resumes			23	Civil War Day	8:00 am	HS
	HS Athletic Booster Meeting	7:00 pm	HS		TY-Talent Show	2:00 pm	TY
15	SL Title I Parent Workshops	9:30 am			IL Grandparents Day	2:15 pm	
	SL PTA Meeting	6:00 pm	SL	26	Memorial Day - No Students Or Staff		
	Tobey Kindergarten Kick Off	6:00 pm	TY	27	MS Girls Sports Physical	8:00 am	MS
17	Tobey - TTT Breakfast (Cafeteria)	8:15 am	TY		8th Grade Transition Day	8:00 am	HS
	SL Talent Show	9:10 am			HS Band Concert	7:00 pm	HS
	SL Student Council- Talent Show	10:15 am		28	Senior Breakfast	9:00 am	HS
	IL K Parent Meeting	6:00 pm	IL		Senior Commencement Practice	9:45 am	HS
	NHS Induction	7:00 pm	HS		Baccalaureate	7:00 pm	HS
18	Senior Girls Tea	9:30 am		29	MS Boys Sports Physical	8:00 am	MS
21	MS/HS Late Start Day	9:35 am			Tobey McDonalds Night	4:00 pm	
	Elementary Early Release Day	1:35 pm		30	SL First Grade Music Program	10:00 am	
	Board Meeting (At High School)	7:00 pm	HS		IL Kindergarten Graduation	1:30 pm	IL
22	Tobey Kindergarten Screening	8:00 am	TY	30	SL Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony	1:30 pm	
	SL Gilmore For Kids	9:00 am		30	6th Grade Activity Party	2:45 pm	MS
	SL Kdg Kick Off- Parent Mtg.	6:00 pm		30	7th & 8th Grade Dance	6:00 pm	MS
24	IL Kindergarten Screening	8:00 am	IL	<b>June</b>			
	Academic Awards	7:00 pm	HS	1	HS Graduation	2:00 pm	HS
25	SL PTA Walkathon	9:00 am		2	Sports Awards	7:00 pm	HS
	SL 2nd Grade Economics Sale	9:15 am		3	MS Yearbook Signing Party	2:45 pm	MS
28	SL Kdg Screening-Evening Times	4:00 pm	SL		HS Girls Sports Physical	3:00 pm	HS
29	Tobey Market Day - 4th Grade	8:00 am	TY		IL PTSO Meetings	6:30 pm	IL
	SL Kdg Screening-Daytimes	8:30 am	SL		MS Spring Choir Concert	7:00 pm	HS
29	PTO McDonald Tobey Night	4:00 pm		5	IL Field Day Grades 3-5	9:00 am	IL
	IL Talent Show Program	7:00 pm	IL		SL Dr. Suess Day	9:00 am	
30	Tobey - PTO Meeting	5:30 pm	TY		SL Track & Field Day	9:00 am	
<b>May</b>					HS Boys Sports Physical	3:00 pm	HS
3	HS Jr/Sr Prom - Rose Street Market				Band Awards Banquet	6:00 pm	HS
4	Band Walkathon	1:00 pm	HS		VMS Talent Show	7:00 pm	HS
5	VHS Athletic Booster Meeting	7:00 pm	HS	6	VMS Talent Show/Awards	8:00 am	HS
6	IL PTSO Meetings	6:30 pm	IL		IL Field Day K-2	12:30 pm	IL
7	HS Parent-Teacher Conferences	5:00 pm	HS	9	SL 5th Grade Graduation	9:00 am	
9	Tobey Walk-A-thon	8:50 am	TY		Board Meeting	7:00 pm	VAB
	IL PTSO's Walk-A-thon	9:00 am	IL	10	Tobey 5th Grade Picnic	10:00 am	TY
10	Hearty Hustle 5K Walk/Run	9:00 am	HS	11	IL Transition Day	9:30 am	IL
12	MS/HS Late Start Day	9:35 am			TY-5th Grade Graduation	9:30 am	HS
	Elementary Early Release Day	1:35 pm			IL 5th Grade Graduation	2:15 pm	
	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	VAB	12	IL Awards Assembly	9:30 am	IL
13	SL PTA Meeting	6:00 pm	SL		Last Half Day Of School		
16	IL Career Day	9:00 am	IL	<b>HS: High School</b>	<b>SL: Sunset Lake Elementary</b>		
	TY-Grandparents Day	2:15 pm	TY	<b>TY: Tobey Elementary</b>	<b>VAB: Vicksburg Administration Building</b>		
	Cabaret 8th Grade Choir Performance	7:00 pm	HS	<b>IL: Indian Lake Elementary</b>	<b>MS: Middle School</b>		

Vicksburg Community Schools  
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# THE SUMMER TIMES

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Vol. 14

Summer 2014

Vicksburg, MI

It is time to plunge head first into the "dawg" days of summer. Whether you are looking to improve your athletic skills, try something new and exciting, and/or just hang with friends, Vicksburg Community Education has something for you. No need to roam, we have you covered right here at home with activities that are sure to delight with prices that are just right. Take a couple of minutes and check out the lineup of camps. Sign up early to ensure your child has a ticket to some summer fun!

## *Kids Make a Racket in Vicksburg*

**SUMMER TENNIS (8- to 18-year olds)** Lace up your sneakers and get ready to hit the courts. Beginning, intermediate, and advanced skills will be taught by former Varsity Mens' Coach Scott Wills. Please bring a racket and a new can of tennis balls the first day of class.

### **SESSION I**

Dates: June 16-27, July 7-11  
Times: Beginners – 9 to 10 a.m.  
Intermediate – 10 to 11 a.m.  
Advanced – 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Fee: \$45 (T-shirt included)

### **SESSION II**

Same time schedule and fee as Session I  
Dates: July 14-31 and August 1

## *Hit the Court*

**BULLDOG BASKETBALL SHOOTING AND OFFENSIVE SKILLS CAMP** Vicksburg is takin' it to the hoop! Varsity coaches will focus on skills and drills, competition and sportsmanship. Don't be left on the bench! Fee includes T-shirt!

### **BOYS**

Location: Vicksburg High School Gym

Dates: July 7-11

**3rd - 4th Grade (Fall 2014)**

Times: 9-11 a.m.

Fee: \$48

**5th - 6th Grade (Fall 2014)**

Times: 12 - 3 p.m.

Fee: \$58

### **GIRLS**

Location: Vicksburg High School Gym

Dates: June 16-20

**3rd - 8th (Fall 2014)**

Times: 9 - 11 a.m.

Fee: \$48

## *Soccer Camp is Kicking Off June 16th*

### **KINGDOM SOCCER CAMPS**

**(2 to 13-year-olds)** All camps are staffed by Kingdom coaches and players and every camper will receive the always fashionable Kingdom camp T-shirt. All participants should bring a soccer ball, water bottle and sun block. Skill Builders will also need shin guards and soccer cleats.

**Micro Kickers** (ages 2 & 3) Help build confidence with stimulating activities and games focused around soccer. Adult participation required.

Location: Vicksburg Soccer Complex

Dates: June 16-19

Times: 10:45-11:30 a.m.

Fee: \$69

**Mini Kickers** (ages 4-6) Introduction to elementary soccer skills through stimulating fun and games. Class size is limited to 30. Parents are encouraged to stay and observe for first time campers.

Location: Vicksburg dSchool Soccer Complex

Dates: June 16-20

Times: 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Fee: \$89

**Skill Builders** (ages 7-13) Individual skills: shoot, dribble pass, head, trap, small and large sided team games. Contests: juggling, soccer tennis, and soccer golf.

Location: Vicksburg Soccer Complex

Dates: June 16-20

Times: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Fee: \$99

## *Spike Your Summer*

### **VOLLEYBALL CAMP (5th through 12th grades - Fall 2014)**

Join the Bulldogs as they bump, set and spike at the Volleyball Basic Training Camp. Skill building will be the focus of this weeklong camp. Sign up and dig deep!

Location: Vicksburg High School Gym

Dates: June 23-27

**5th - 8th Grade**

Times: 1-3 p.m.

Fee: \$43

**9th - 12th Grade**

Times: 3:30-6 p.m.

Fee: \$58

## *Huddle Up!*

### **BULLDOG FOOTBALL CAMP (1st through 6th grades – Fall 2014)**

Huddle up with the Bulldog Varsity football team and work with the coach and players on individual offensive and defensive skill building in the morning; games in the afternoon! Please bring a sack lunch and drink Monday through Wednesday. Lunch and a drink will be provided on Thursday!

Registration Deadline: July 15

Location: Vicksburg High School Stadium

Dates: July 28-31

Times: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Fee: \$100 (two T-shirts included)

## *Escape the Grip of Summer*

**DAWGHOUSE WRESTLING CAMP** Take downs, break downs, escapes, and pinning are just some of the fundamentals the Varsity Wrestling staff will be focusing on this summer. Skill building and sportsmanship will be first on the mat. The last day of camp will showcase grappler talent at a special tournament.

Location: Middle School Gym

Dates: June 16-20

Times: 1st – 4th graders 9 – 11 a.m.

5th – 8th graders 12 – 2 p.m.

Fee: \$50 (includes t-shirt)

## *Karate Chop the Summer Blahs*

### **SANCHIN RYU KARATE**

(Pronounced: saan-shin-roo)

Location: Sunset Lake Elementary

Dates: Mondays, June 23 – August 25

**Karate for Kids (4-14 years old)** This program is designed to address the concerns we have for our kids today such as: strangers, bullies, peer pressure, conflict resolution, etc. Children learn the art of Sanchin-Ryu which builds their personal safety skills and develops focus and discipline.

Students are taught alternatives to fighting in a positive, go at your own pace, environment. Parents are encouraged to attend.

Times: 6-7 p.m.

Fee: \$30 (10 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!

Times: 7-8 p.m.

Fee: \$30/individual or \$60\*/family

\* Pay for the first two members of the family (\$60) 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.

### **Karate for Adults and Teens (ages 14 and older)**

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: 7-8 p.m.

Fee: \$30 (10 weeks)

# Vicksburg High School Spring Sports Schedule

# VCS

## Men's Varsity Baseball

Mar.	25	Mattawan	H	4:30
	28	Portage Northern	H	4:00
	28	Portage Northern	H	6:00
	29	Bulldog Inv.	H	10:00
	31	Loy Norrix	A	4:30
Apr.	15	*Dowagiac	A	4:00
	15	*Dowagiac	A	6:00
	18	*Comstock	A	4:00
	18	*Comstock	A	6:00
	19	Sturgis Inv.	A	10:00
	22	*Edwardsburg	H	4:00
	22	*Edwardsburg	H	6:00
	23	Marshall	A	4:00
	23	Marshall	A	6:00
	25	*Paw Paw	H	4:00
	25	*Paw Paw	H	6:00
	26	Portage Northern Inv.	A	9:30
	29	*Plainwell Schools	H	4:00
	29	*Plainwell Schools	H	6:00
	30	Three Rivers	H	4:00
	30	Three Rivers	H	6:00
May	02	*Otsego	A	4:00
	02	*Otsego	A	6:00
	06	*Allegan	H	4:00
	06	*Allegan	H	6:00
	08	Portage Central	A	4:00
	08	Portage Central	A	6:00
	09	Novi	A	4:00
	09	Novi	A	6:00
	10	Walled Lake West. Inv.	A	TBA
	13	Wolverine Conference Tour.	A	4:30
	16	Wolverine Conference Tour.	A	4:30
	17	Wolverine Conference Tour.	A	4:30
	19	Marshall	H	4:00
	19	Marshall	H	6:00
	21	Parchment	H	4:00
	21	Parchment	H	6:00
	31	MAA District Tour.	A	TBA

## Men's Varsity Golf

Apr.	16	League Jamboree	A	4:00
	17	GK Tour.	H	9:00
	23	League Jamboree	A	4:00
	25	Marshall Inv.	A	9:00
	28	League Jboree	A	4:00
May	01	Gull Lake Inv.	A	9:00
	02	Sturgis Inv.	A	9:00
	05	Hackett Inv.	A	TBA
	09	League Jboree	A	4:00
	10	Pennfield Inv..	A	9:00
	12	League Cham. Day 1	H	9:00
	15	League Cham. Day 2	A	9:00
	17	Hilton Inv.	A	7:30
	21	MAA Districts	H	9:00

## Women's Varsity Soccer

Mar.	24	St. Joseph H.S.	H	6:45
	26	Loy Norrix	H	6:45
	28	Kalamazoo Christian	A	5:00
	31	Mattawan	A	6:45
Apr.	16	*Edwardsburg	H	6:45
	18	Lakeshore	A	6:45
	21	*Dowagiac	A	5:00
	23	*Comstock	A	6:00
	25	Marshall	H	6:45
	30	*Paw Paw	H	6:45
May	02	Kalamazoo Central	H	6:45
	05	*Plainwell Schools	H	6:45
	07	*Otsego	A	6:45
	09	Lakeview	A	6:45
	12	*Allegan	H	6:45
	15	Bridgman	A	6:00
	19	Wolverine Conference Tour.	A	TBA
	21	Wolverine Conference Tour.	A	TBA
	27	MAA Districts/TBD	H	5:00
	28	MAA Districts/TBD	H	5:00
	28	MAA Districts/TBD	H	7:00
	31	MAA Districts Champ.	H	11:00

## Women's Varsity Softball

Mar.	28	Portage Northern	H	4:00
	28	Portage Northern	H	6:00
	29	Bulldog Inv.	H	10:00
	31	Loy Norrix	A	4:00
	31	Loy Norrix	A	6:00
Apr.	15	*Dowagiac	A	4:00
	15	*Dowagiac	A	6:00
	18	*Comstock	A	4:00
	18	*Comstock	A	6:00
	19	Otsego Inv.	A	9:00
	22	*Edwardsburg	H	4:00
	22	*Edwardsburg	H	6:00
	25	*Paw Paw	H	4:00
	25	*Paw Paw	H	6:00
	26	Gull Lake Inv.	A	8:00
	29	*Plainwell Schools	H	4:00
	29	*Plainwell Schools	H	6:00
	30	Three Rivers	H	4:00
	30	Three Rivers	H	6:00
May	02	*Otsego	A	4:00
	02	*Otsego	A	6:00
	06	*Allegan	H	4:00
	06	*Allegan	H	6:00
	08	Portage Central	A	4:00
	08	Portage Central	A	6:00
	10	Caledonia Inv.	A	9:00
	17	Wolverine Conference Cham.	A	10:00
	19	Marshall	H	4:00
	19	Marshall	H	6:00
	21	Parchment	H	4:00
	21	Parchment	H	6:00
	24	Bronson Inv.	A	9:00
	31	MAA Dist. Tour.	A	TBA

## Women's Varsity Tennis

Mar.	29	Bulldog Inv.	H	9:00
Apr.	15	*Comstock	A	4:00
	16	Paw Paw	H	4:00
	17	*Paw Paw	H	4:00

18	Dowagiac	A	4:00	
19	GK Tour.	A	9:00	
21	GK Tour.	A	4:00	
22	*Plainwell Schools	H	4:00	
23	Otsego	A	4:00	
25	Marshall	H	4:30	
26	Bulldog Inv.	H	9:00	
28	*Allegan	H	4:00	
29	Brandywine	A	4:30	
May	05	Cross-Over Match	H	4:00
	07	Sturgis	H	4:00
	09	Conference Tour./Plainwell	A	8:30
	10	Conference Tour./Plainwell	A	8:30
	15	MAA Regional/TBD	A	TBA

## Men's & Women's Track

Apr.	01	*Allegan	A	4:15
	15	*Comstock	H	4:15
	19	Paw Paw Inv.	A	TBA
	22	*Paw Paw	A	4:15
	25	Bangor Relays	A	4:00
	29	*Plainwell Schools	A	4:15
May	02	Kalamazoo Central JT Long Inv.	A	4:00
	06	*Otsego	H	4:15
	09	Allegan Inv.	A	3:00
	16	MAA Regionals/TBA	A	TBA
	20	Wolverine Conference Cham.	A	11:00

## Men's Varsity Lacrosse

Mar.	15	Mattawan	H	1:00
	20	B.C. Harper Creek	H	7:00
	25	Portage Northern	H	7:00
	27	B.C. Lakeview	H	7:00
	29	Bulldog Inv.	H	10:00
Apr.	15	Mattawan	A	7:00
	17	B.C. Pennfield	H	7:00
	19	PC/PN/Vicksburg	H	10:30
	19	PC/PN/Vicksburg	H	1:30
	19	PC/PN/Vicksburg	H	4:30
	22	B.C. Lakeview	A	7:00
	24	Kalamazoo Central	H	7:00
	28	B.C. Harper Creek	A	7:00
May	01	Portage Northern	A	7:00
	06	Portage Central	H	7:00
	12	Conference Tour.	A	TBA
	14	Conference Tour.	A	TBA

## \*League Event

