

Vero Beach High School

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

ADMINISTRATION

Principal Shawn O'Keefe

Vice Principal Rahshard Morgan

Assistant Principals
Greg Ahrens
Juliette Carroll
Vanessa Gonzalez
Joy Griffin
Denny Hart
Meghan Teachout

www.vbhs.org

"Home of the Fighting Indians"

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Published Five Times Per Year
Apr, Jul, Sep, Dec, Feb 2023-24
School District of
Indian River County
1990 25th Street
Vero Beach, FL 32960
Issue #3

A Message From The Chief

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of the first quarter, I want to compliment your children on their smooth transition into a new and exciting school year. At the start of the school year, we created some necessary focus on the "Code of Student Conduct" rules that are intended to keep our school safe and our climate positive. These rules are more important than ever, and we continue to add



Shawn O'Keefe

school security/safety measures and features to keep our school as safe as possible.

I trust that your children's quarter grades will be an accurate assessment of the

I trust that your children's quarter grades will be an accurate assessment of their academic progress thus far given the time and energy they have applied to their studies. Thank you to all who could join us for our Open House and note that Parent Conference Night will be on October 22. Communication between parents and teachers is an important element in the formula for academic success. Please be frequent visitors to our campus and attend as many events as possible during your child's four years here. As senior parents will tell you, these four years go by very quickly.

I also encourage you to stay connected with what is happenings here at school using our school's website, our Focus online information system, these newsletters, connect calls, and our social media which are all great sources of updated information to use and stay tuned to your student's world. Stay in touch with teachers through e-mail and set up conferences with any teachers you wish to meet in person, anytime. Also, stay informed about all that is happening at VBHS by accessing our daily announcements from our website. I broadcast announcements live during second period daily, and then they are posted on the website for all to see.

These next few months are very important. Students are deep in their studies with heavy course loads, and this along with their busy lives can create "stress". Please try to help your student(s) to reduce undue stress by working with them to improve their life management skills in staying organized, compartmentalizing their responsibilities, and becoming task completers. Their hard work now will create opportunities for them later. Our 1st Quarter of the school year ends on 10/11 and the semester ends on 12/20.

Thank you for your continued support of our educational mission at Vero Beach High School and for sharing your children with us.

For the VBHS Family,

Show O'Kufu Principal



September is Attendance Awareness Month

September is Attendance Awareness month. Our superintendent Dr. Moore has challenged all schools across the district to achieve a 95% attendance rate.

It is important for your student to be present and on time each and every school day. Students with regular attendance are more likely to be successful in all academic areas. Research shows that missing 10 percent of the school year – just 18 days – negatively affects a student's academic performance.

Attendance matters here at Vero Beach High School. Parents, to obtain an excused absence for your student, report the absence in writing or by phone within 48 hours. The attendance line at the main campus is 772-564-5555. The attendance line at the Freshman Learning Campus is 772-564-5676. A list of approved excused absence types can be found in the SDIRC Code of Student Conduct.

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 1:22pm.

TARDY POLICY

The following Tardy Policy is in place for the 2024-25 school year. We want all parents and students to be aware of it. This is a concern that we do all we can to help assist students getting to class on time!

All late students who are not signed in by a parent/guardian at the attendance desk or do not have verification of a medical appointment will report to the cafeteria and then be escorted back to class. If a student arrives at the tardy room twenty or more minutes after the late bell, the student will be coded as ABSENT for the entire period. Parents/guardians CANNOT phone in a tardy excuse. Upon the next class change the tardy students will then transition to their next class.

When a student receives their 4th tardy (total, not per class) they will be assigned a detention or a Saturday School. If a student receives their 5th tardy they will receive another Saturday School. If a student receives 6 or more tardies per grading period, the student may be suspended for defiance/non-compliance for up to 2 days

<u>Definition of Tardy per School Board:</u> A late arrival is defined as arriving to school after the designated starting time. A tardy is defined as an arrival to class after the designated starting time or the tardy signal has sounded. When tardies become excessive (4) or more times per nine week grading period, the parent/guardian will be notified by administration and appropriate consequence administered. If the problem continues, a progression of actions will be taken by the administration to address the problem.

At Vero Beach High School, tardies are now concurrent for all classes (not per class) and will run through each nine weeks grading period. Teachers will be instructed to close their doors when the tardy bell rings and no student will be permitted in after the bell rings. All late students will report to the cafeteria and sign in and receive the generated pass so they can gain entrance to that period. Students will not be permitted into a class after the late bell without a generated pass in an effort to maintain student accountability.

Dual Enrollment

The Indian River State College Dual Enrollment program allows eligible public, charter, private and home education students to simultaneously earn high school credit (toward their high school diploma) and credit toward an Associate Degree or career training certificate for an eligible course.

Through IRSC Dual Enrollment, eligible students get a jump on college, saving both time and money. Dual Enrollment students are exempt from application fees, tuition and laboratory fees, and public, charter and home school students receive required textbooks at no charge.

Learn about opportunities available at IRSC.

Details of the Information Session:

- Date: Every Thursday
- Time: 6:00 PM 7:00 PM
- Location: Virtual, via Blackboard Collaborate (RSVP link: https://connect.irsc.edu/event/611548)

This virtual session is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about the dual enrollment program, dual enrollment types, the advantages of dual enrollment, navigating the admissions process, and the subsequent steps toward course registration.





P.O. Box 1820 • Vero Beach, FL 32961 • For more info call 772-569-9869 or visit our website www.sfindianriver.org



HOSA Blood Drive

HOSA students hosted their first One Blood blood drive of the school year. HOSA students provide support to the One Blood staff by registering students who donate. They also monitor busses and student after they have donated and escort students back to class when they are finished. Students and staff who donate are given a gift and provided food and snacks throughout the process along with a pizza lunch.

Did you know there are approximately 3 million people in the US who receive blood each year? There are approximately 26,000 units of blood transfused each day. This is why your donation is so important.

Our next blood drive will be Thursday, Oct 31, 2024, where you can get your "Spooktacular" One Blood T-shirt. Thank you to teachers, students and staff for support the HOSA Blood Drive.



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Yearbook

Scheduling senior pictures through dsp-photo.com. The deadline to take a picture is Saturday, November 9th.

Senior Ads can be purchased for the yearbook until Friday, November 1ST. See Ms. Potter in room 1-205 or the front office for more information.

Underclass picture retakes are scheduled for Wednesday, October 23rdfor the Main Campus and Thursday, October 24th for the FLC.

Yearbook pre-orders are available for \$50 until Sunday Oct. 27th at yearbookforever.com

New Media Center

The newly renovated media center is now open! Students have already been enjoying the space and are allowed to eat lunch in the media center as long as the food is wrapped (no lunch trays with open food). During lunches, students can also visit Indian Outfitters in their new space inside the media center. Students can eat and shop for their favorite VBHS gear.

This month we hosted college visits from FIT, USF, FSU, Miami, and UF. Students were able to ask questions and learn about the different opportunities at each university. The IRC Library also visited. They distributed information on the different events that they offer. The library also issued county library cards for students who needed or wanted one.

Books are returning to the media center! The Computer Genius Bar furniture and bookshelves were delivered over the September 14th weekend. We have started the process of moving the books to the new shelves and putting them into genres. We want our space to look and feel like a real bookstore. The Genius Bar is now set up to assist students with their laptops. Charging stations and minor repairs are also available daily.

Lastly, Vero Bean has been working diligently to prepare their newly renovated space. It will look and feel just like a real coffee shop with high top tables, booths, workspace areas, and of course, freshly brewed coffee. Stay tuned for their grand opening announcement!



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Information for Seniors Regarding the College Application Process

VBHS counselors will be visiting senior English classes on 9/17 and 9/19 to discuss graduation requirements and the college application process.

- Most colleges require you to apply using the Common App:
 Create an account on https://www.commonapp.org/ Set up
 the accounts with your personal email. Invite your counselor
 VBHS uses a single email address for all college application
 sites. Please use the following email address instead of the
 individual counselor emails: dist.vbhs.collegeapp@sdirc.
 onmicrosoft.com
- Create an account with SSAR to enter your academic informationhttps://ssar.selfreportedtranscript.com/Login.aspx
- Refer to your FOCUS academic history to ensure that you are entering the correct information Be sure to monitor your email regularly as colleges will be sending you information and application opportunities. Colleges may have you create an account as well to monitor your progress.
- Transcripts If you are using Common App, counselors will
 upload your transcript. All other transcripts must be requested
 using this link: https://forms.office.com/r/3tjbzU6K4x Must be
 paid for on the OSP payment site https://osp.osmsinc.com/
 IndianRiverSchools/. You must pick up the paper copy of your
 transcript and mail it to the admissions office for each college
 that is not on CommonApp.
- Letters of Recommendation Counselors can complete a letter of recommendation for you. You will need to provide a resume that includes in-school and out-of-school activities, awards and honors, athletics, volunteer hours, work experience.

Important Upcoming SAT/ACT Testing Dates

ACT Test Dates (National)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
October 26, 2024	September 20	October 7
December 14, 2024	November 8	November 22
February 8, 2025	January 3	January 20
April 5, 2025	February 28	March 16
June 14, 2025	May 9	May 26
July 12, 2025	June 6	June 20

SAT Test Dates (National)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes
October 5, 2024	September 20, 2024	September 24, 2024
November 2, 2024	October 18, 2024	October 22, 2024
December 7, 2024	November 22, 2024	November 26, 2024
March 8, 2025	February 21, 2025	February 25, 2025
May 3, 2025	April 18, 2025	March 21, 2025
June 7, 2025	May 22, 2025	June 20, 2025



Career Tech at VBHS

If you are interested in any of the 9 Career Tech program offerings at VBHS, please call Alison Moody for information (772) 564-5429







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- ✓ Elite Invisalign Provider
- ✓ Clear, Gold & Silver Braces
- ✓ Se Habla Español

Treatments

- Braces By Vakani
- ✓ Invisalign Braces
- ✓ WildSmiles Braces
- ✓ Same-Day Braces✓ Six Month Smiles
- ✓ Teeth Whitening



Performing Arts Department Happenings

The VBHS Performing Arts Department is back in action for another great year of performances. Season tickets go on sale October 1st at the Performing Arts Center Box Office or online at https://www.verobeachperformingarts.com/performances.

The Fighting Indians Band had two successful weeks of band camp in late July and early August. If you haven't seen the Fighting Indians Marching Band this season, come on out to the next Home football game and enjoy "That 80's Show" featuring music by Bon Jovi, Journey, and Bryan Adams. The VBHS Band is looking forward to hosting the 43rd Annual Crown Jewel Marching Festival Saturday, October 12th. Come out and see some outstanding Bands from around the state of Florida. The Band is hosting the 2nd Annual VBHS Band Alumni Night at the October 25th Home Football game. Last year we hosted over 90 alumni from as far back as 1980! We will also be recognizing our outstanding Seniors at the football game.

The VBHS Philharmonic Orchestra was selected as the 1st place ensemble to perform for the at the Florida American String Teacher Association Conference in Orlando, Florida. The orchestra will perform their program on October 11th for all Florida String Educators and will serve as a rehearsal lab orchestra led by two seasoned clinicians.

The VBHS Choir is preparing for their first performance of the year entitled "Passages." This concert will be on October 15th in the PAC. Additionally, the Choir will be auditioning to once again perform at the Disney Candlelight Processional in December.

The VBHS Drama department is preparing for the fall play which is entitled "Arsenic and Old Lace." They will be giving four performances November 1st through 3rd.



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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 Section1012.42 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
Baines, Aquaria	Not Certified	Biology 6-12
Burkeland, Elena	Guidance/Counseling Pre-K-12, Biology 6-12, Health K-12	Social Science 6-12
Cisco, Anastasia	Computer Science K-12	Social Science 6-12
Dawson, James Edward	Guest Educator	ESE, Elementary Ed
Ellis, Maxy	Drama 6-12, English 5-9, Reading	English 6-12, ESOL
Hanawalt, Gregory	ESE K-12, Math 5-9	Math 6-12
Lawson, Tequesha	Guest Educator	English 6-12
Magelssen, Heather	Physical Ed K-12	English 6-12, ESOL
Pearson, Kayla	Social Science 6-12	Science 6-12
Rahal, Bryan	Varying Exceptionalities 6-12	Social Science 6-12, Math 6-12, Biology 6-12
Schepers, Jenna	Social Science 6-12	Science 6-12
Treadway, Melanie	ESE K-12, English 6-12	ESOL
Welsh, James	ESE K-12	English 6-12, Physical Ed K-12, Business Ed 6-12,
		Math 6-12, Science 6-12, Reading Endorsement
White, Jennifer	ESE K-12	English 6-12

Aviso Para Los Padres Sobre Maestros "Fuera Del Area"

Incluido en este aviso se encuentra una lista de maestros o maestros substitutos a largo plazo en la escuela Vero Beach High School and Freshman Learning Center quienes han sido reportados como "fuera de àrea" como se require en Sección 1012.42 de Estatuto de Florida. Esto significa que los maestros estàn calificados para eñsenar y tienen su certificado sin embargo les hace falta completer algunos requerimientos que solo aplican a su asignado trabajo de ensenanza. Estos individuos gue estan enseñado "fuera de su àrea" requieren completer 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
Baines, Aquaria	Not Certified	Biology 6-12
Burkeland, Elena	Guidance/Counseling Pre-K-12, Biology 6-12, Health K-12	Social Science 6-12
Cisco, Anastasia	Computer Science K-12	Social Science 6-12
Dawson, James Edward	Guest Educator	ESE, Elementary Ed
Ellis, Maxy	Drama 6-12, English 5-9, Reading	English 6-12, ESOL
Hanawalt, Gregory	ESE K-12, Math 5-9	Math 6-12
Lawson, Tequesha	Guest Educator	English 6-12
Magelssen, Heather	Physical Ed K-12	English 6-12, ESOL
Pearson, Kayla	Social Science 6-12	Science 6-12
Rahal, Bryan	Varying Exceptionalities 6-12	Social Science 6-12, Math 6-12, Biology 6-12
Schepers, Jenna	Social Science 6-12	Science 6-12
Treadway, Melanie	ESE K-12, English 6-12	ESOL
Welsh, James	ESE K-12	English 6-12, Physical Ed K-12, Business Ed 6-12,
		Math 6-12, Science 6-12, Reading Endorsement
White, Jennifer	ESE K-12	English 6-12









2024-2025 School Calendar

10/10/2024 End of Quarter 1

10/22/2024High School Conferences

11/1/2024No School for Students/Staff Professional Learning Day

11/11/2024Veteran's Day; No School

11/25-29/2024 Thanksgiving Week; No School

12/19/2024Modified Instructional Day

12/20/2024Modified Instructional Day/End of Quarter 2

12/23/2024-1/7/2025 Winter Break

1/8/2025Students return from Winter Break

1/20/2025 Dr. M.L.King, Jr Day; No School

2/11/2025High School Conferences

2/17/2025All Presidents Day; No School

3/17-21/2025 Spring Break

3/25/2025End of Quarter 3

5/17/2025Graduation

5/26/2025Memorial Day, No School 5/28/2025Modified Instructional Day

5/29/2025Modified Instructional Day

5/30/2025Modified Instructional Day/Last Day of School

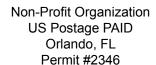














School District of Indian River County **Vero Beach High School** 1707 16th Street Vero Beach, FL 32960

Return Service Requested





Boys Soccer-Team Academic Award

United Soccer Coaches announced on Thursday the High School Team Academic Award winners, recognized for their exemplary performance in the classroom during the 2023-24 academic year.

A total of 291 soccer teams (116 boys, 175 girls) posted a team grade point average of 3.25 or higher, thereby earning the United Soccer Coaches Team Academic Award for the 2023-24 academic year.

THE VBHS boys' soccer team posted a 3.9 GPA for 23-24 school year. This has been the 12th season in a row that the VBHS boys' soccer team earned this distinction.



Boys Basketball

Attention!! There are boys' basketball (9-12th) workouts on Mondays, Tuesdays, & Thursdays from 2:30-4:30. The location is at the main campus, small gym/weight room. Communicate with Coach Myles and Coach Russ if you have any questions.

