

Superintendent Newsletter: December 2023
Together We Inspire eXcellence



Recognitions:

VHS National Honor Society:

Students stepped up when help was needed in the serving line and kitchen! Thank you Quincy Pickering, Lindsey Scheck, Benjamin Dome and Brody Nowak.



1. Student Success:

- Ensure all students explore career pathways of success after high school
- Increase positive relationships with students
- Develop opportunities for work-based learning
- Increase support for students by challenging them



CAREER PATHWAYS: Vinyl Class students engaged in an application project this month, creating board games with a theme. The project encompassed the graphics as well as marketing and packaging of the game board, instructions, pieces, and box. Kennedy Amrein (right) played on *Chutes and Ladders* with **Shoot & Holler**; Sienna Schimdt created **Holiday Land**, a spin on *Candy Land*.



VHS FCCLA Holiday Bash and Party:

Great leadership from our students by hosting the Holiday Bash for parents and VES students. The Christmas Party, Friday, December 15th, for all FCCLA members was inspiring. Students led the party and each invited a special guest to attend for a

potluck dinner and gift exchange.



Mrs. Connie Braun offered a message of hope and encouragement for her hopes of continuing the program with a focus on family and faith.





CITY OF VICTORIA POLICE CHIEF DINKEL hired Gauntlet Graphics to add some graphic appeal to his office. (pictured left)



Music Concerts this year were a great collaboration of elementary, junior high/ high school and Russell schools. Way to go Mr. Befort!!

KUDOS to our 6-12th grade band students and all K-6th grade students who shared their musical talents with us this season!



Holiday Season brought Door Decorating, Christmas PJs, Santa visits, and Awkward Family Photos! VHS students who won the Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt picked teachers and went out for lunch together!

USD 432 4-DAY WEEK INFORMATION

Admin, Teachers, Parents, Students, and Board members have information on a calendar change that includes a 4 day week for students. Below highlight the possibilities and concerns for each group. We have used our strategic plan as a guiding point.

BOARD/ADMIN

- Possibilities**
- More effective time and quality PD for staff
 - More efficient use of resources
 - Mentoring Time
 - Student Career Preparation
 - Recruitment/Retention of teachers and students
 - District Growth

- Concerns**
- Minimal Cost Savings
 - Academic Growth



FACULTY/STAFF



- Possibilities**
- Less Burnout
 - Increased Efficacy
 - Time to develop skills
 - Time to increase collaboration
 - Time to better implement curriculum
 - Time to better meet and reach students
 - Quality over Quantity

- Concerns**
- Only 4 days of teaching students instead of 5- Adjusting pacing to teach standards adequately
 - Some students have less time at their "safe space"
 - Adjusting to longer school day

PARENTS

- Possibilities**
- Less Stress on students
 - Better blend of traditional learning and hands on learning
 - More family time
 - Better schedule for practices
 - Community partnerships
 - Better teachers for their children

- Concerns**
- Child Care
 - Transport to activities on off days
 - Less time in classroom for those who need it



STUDENTS

- Possibilities**
- More time to get work done-
 - More time to work/make money
 - Get a day to relax/ catch up
 - Less stressed/Happier

- Concerns**
- Longer days for students to stay engaged



Staff Data (30 Responses)

Student Success	Responsive Culture	Staff Development	In Favor
Yes - 77%	Yes - 82%	Yes - 87%	Yes - 86%
No - 6%	No - 7%	No - 3%	No - 3%
Other - 17%	Other - 11%	Other - 10%	Other - 11%

2. Responsive Culture:

- Increase Parent/ community communication, support, and engagement
- Increase parent support and involvement
- Develop a culture of change- student success
- Promote positivity and share successes

USD 432 CONSIDERS A 4-DAY CALENDAR: There will be a community wide meeting to answer questions about a possible move to 4-Day Calendar for USD 432, Wednesday, January 17th at 5:30 pm in the VHS Library. JOIN US. Shareholders Dan Rogers, Sabina Hoffman, Kari Toons, Kyle Huser, Shelby Dorzweiler and Jeanna Wellbrock presented at last month's meeting about their trip to USD 477, Ingalls to see a four-day calendar in action!

3. Support and Develop Staff (Support and retain high quality staff.)

- Increase communication between administration, teacher and parents
- Increase teacher involvement in the school and community
- Develop "open minded to change"
- Develop a culture of respect and support among staff

