

# Sheveron Communicator VVS

VERNON-VERONA SHERRILL CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
www.vvsschools.org

FALL 2019-2020

VVS - IT'S A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN, TO WORK, AND TO LIVE!

## Superintendent's Message

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year!

As warm days give way to cool nights, we look forward to fall and the start of a new school year. I hope you have had an opportunity to enjoy the long summer days.

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the VVS community. With the leadership of the Board of Education, every member of the VVS school community is committed to working alongside parents, caregivers, and the community to support the development of our young people.

Every August, I reflect on our mission, vision, beliefs, and goals. This helps me focus on the important work we do on behalf of the VVS community. The mission of the VVS School District is to "...nurture and support students for success in life, preparing them to embrace challenges, learning opportunities, diversity, and civic responsibility." This mission is rooted in the beliefs we share. We believe:

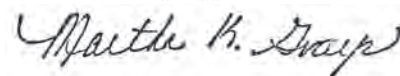
- all students should be challenged with academic rigor, provided individualized support through home-school collaboration, and empowered to explore opportunities that prepare them for success in college, career, and life.
- student-school-community connections provide opportunities for students to experience diversity, develop tolerance, foster a sense of belonging, and create the foundation for civic responsibility.
- students are best prepared for success in college, career, and life when their educational experiences cultivate teamwork, perseverance, adaptability, resourcefulness, and a positive attitude.
- optimal learning occurs in a safe and supportive environment that values and nurtures character, integrity, responsibility, and respect for self and others.

VVS aspires to be valued as a district of distinction by our community. At VVS, we are committed to the healthy development of the whole child. This includes intellectual, physical, and social emotional development. We appreciate the value the community places on the whole child, and your support of rigorous and relevant academics, arts, agriculture, athletics, service, leadership, extra-curricular programs, and, perhaps most importantly, kindness, care, and compassion.

As partners in the mission to educate the whole child, all members of the VVS school community - students, parents, faculty, staff, and community members - can make a positive difference in the lives of children. We look forward to your support throughout the coming year through participation in PTOs, PTSOs, booster clubs, and advisory clubs and attendance at VVS events. You can keep up with VVS by following us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/VVSDistrict](http://www.facebook.com/VVSDistrict) and on our district website at [www.vvsschools.org](http://www.vvsschools.org).

Thank you for all you do to make VVS a great place to learn, to work, and to live. Together we make VVS a district of distinction!

With deep appreciation,



Martha K. Group  
Superintendent of Schools

### What's Inside...

- **Back to School Info**
- **District News**
- **Peachjar Electronic Flyers!**

# Back-to-School Information

**First Day of School:** The first day of school for K-12 students was Thursday, September 5, 2019. Pre-K students started on Friday, September 6, 2019.

<b>School Hours:</b>	W.A. Wettel – Vernon	8:25 – 3:15
	J.D. George – Verona	8:35 – 3:25
	E.A. McAllister – Sherrill	8:25 – 3:15
	VVS Middle School	7:40 – 2:21
	VVS High School	7:40 – 2:21

**Enrollment:** Parents of resident students may enroll students at the individual school buildings between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Parents are encouraged to call the school to schedule a time to complete the registration.

**Immunizations:** Vaccination Requirements Applicable to ALL Students Public Health Law §2164, as amended by Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2019, applies to students attending all schools as defined in Public Health Law §2164 to include any public, private or parochial child caring center, day nursery, day care agency, nursery school, kindergarten, elementary, intermediate or secondary schools.

***Public Health Law §2164, as amended by Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2019, prohibits a school from permitting any child to be admitted to such school, or to attend such school, in excess of 14 days without sufficient evidence that the child has received all age-appropriate required vaccinations. The 14 days may be extended where the student is transferring from out of state or from another country and can show a good faith effort to get the necessary evidence or where the parent, guardian or any other person in parental relationship can demonstrate that a child has received the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series and that they have age-appropriate scheduled appointments for follow-up doses to complete the immunization series in accordance with the CDS's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 through 18.***

Students must be fully immunized in order to attend school. For information on immunization clinics, call the Oneida County Health Department at 315-798-5747 or the Madison County Health Department at 315-366-2361.

**Transportation:** Families are provided transportation information in the mail prior to the beginning of school. All area residents are asked to be alert to students waiting for the bus, walking, or bicycling to school. Please be reminded that it is illegal to pass a stopped school bus from any direction when its red lights are flashing.

<b>School Lunch Prices:</b>	Elementary K-6 .....	\$1.90
	Secondary 8-12 .....	\$2.15
	Reduced Price Breakfast/Lunches.....	\$ .00
	Breakfast .....	\$1.00
	Milk (white & flavored) .....	\$.50

**Emergency School Closing or Delays:** The following radio and television stations will carry emergency school closings or delay information:

**Radio**

WSYR – Syracuse  
WIBX – Utica

WFRG – Utica  
WOUR – Syracuse

**Television**

WKTV – TV Channel 2 Utica  
WSTM – TV Channel 3 Syracuse  
WTVH – TV Channel 5 Syracuse

WIXT – TV Channel 9 Syracuse  
Spectrum News – TV Channel 10 Syracuse

**Student Attendance:**

The Vernon Verona Sherrill School District is committed to student learning. Student attendance is one of the most important factors in predicting student success. When students miss school, arrive late, or leave early, they are missing essential instruction and learning and may develop patterns that ultimately limit their future success.

As an essential member of your child’s team, please work with us in ensuring that your child creates and maintains positive attendance patterns throughout the school year. Ways to help make school attendance a priority may include setting a regular bed time and morning routine, establishing reliable transportation if your child is not riding the school bus or if your child misses the bus, avoiding medical appointments and trips when school is in session, and, most importantly, communicating with the school regarding your child’s needs.

*Thank you for your continued support!*

# Back-to-School Information

## **W.A. Wettel Elementary School – 315-829-7300**

Mr. Vincent Pompo, Principal  
Mrs. Tracy Killian, Secretary  
Mrs. Julie Snediker, Clerk

## **VVS Middle School – 315-829-7444**

Mrs. Carrie Hodkinson, Principal  
Mrs. Heather Bauer, Secretary  
Mrs. Lucianna Kapps, Guidance Counselor  
Mrs. Christine Breckenridge, Secretary

## **J.D. George Elementary School – 315-829-7360/7361**

Mr. Gary Bissaillon, Principal  
Mrs. Jacqueline Cole, Secretary  
Ms. Katherine DeJesus, Clerk

## **VVS High School – 315-829-7446**

Mrs. Erin Sanchez, Principal  
Mrs. Jill Collins, Secretary  
Mrs. Brandie Collins, Assistant Principal  
Mrs. Robyn Coufal, Secretary  
Mrs. Karen Holton, Guidance Counselor  
Mrs. Adrienne Murphy, Guidance Counselor  
Mr. Kristofer Sullivan, Guidance Counselor  
Mrs. Leah Kiser, Guidance Office Secretary

## **E.A. McAllister Elementary School – 315-829-7330**

Mrs. Elisabeth Relyea, Principal  
Mrs. Amanda Cameron, Secretary  
Mrs. Jill Evans, Clerk

**Projected Enrollment – 1,886**

**Employees – 345 (Administrators, Teachers, Civil Service)**

# VVS Celebrates the Sixty Ninth Commencement Ceremony

On June 29, 2019, VVS celebrated its commencement ceremony at the Sheveron Stadium. One hundred and forty one graduates were presented with diplomas, many of which exceeded New York State graduation requirements.

Congratulations to our graduates and their families!



# District News - VVS Communications

This year, our district will continue to use SchoolMessenger, Parent Portal, and Peachjar in an effort to keep families informed and involved. Each of these programs serves a specific purpose, and put together, they provide families with a broader view of their child's educational experience.

## *SchoolMessenger (utilizes phone numbers and email addresses)*

- Sends phone calls, emails and text messages regarding:
  - Emergency notifications
  - School closing and delay announcements
  - Half-day and Superintendent's Conference Day reminders
  - Building-specific reminders
- Parents/guardians are automatically enrolled
- Users can opt out of reminders and announcements by emailing [swhalen@vsschools.org](mailto:swhalen@vsschools.org)

## *Parent Portal (utilizes email addresses)*

- Parents/guardians can log-on to view student grades
- Parents/guardians have to sign a permission form to enroll
- Users can un-enroll by contacting their building secretary

## *Peachjar (utilizes email addresses)*

- Emails electronic flyers and posts flyers on the building websites regarding:
  - Building and district activities
  - Student and family opportunities
  - Important dates and reminders
- Parents/guardians are automatically enrolled
- Users can un-enroll and change preferences by registering at [peachjar.com](http://peachjar.com)

As emergency contact information forms are distributed at the start of the school year, please take a moment to make sure that your phone numbers are updated and that you have a valid email address on file. If all of your information remains the same, you will continue to get notifications as usual.

It is important to note that any contact information provided remains confidential and is not shared with outside third-party vendors. If you have any questions about these programs, please contact the Communications Office at (315) 829-7410.

## VVS High School Valedictorian and Salutatorian



*Shelby Freeman*

### **Valedictorian - Shelby Freeman**

Shelby is headed to the University of New Haven to study Music and Sound Recording in the fall. At her university, she will be participating in marching band as well as club field hockey. She would like to thank all of those who pushed and aided her in accomplishing her goals and dreams, in particular her parents, Clay and Christina Freeman.

### **Salutatorian - Adam Fellows**

Adam will be attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in the fall to major in Information Technology and Web Science. He plans on obtaining a master's degree in Information Technology after five years. He aspires to work as a CIO for a big company or start one of his own.



*Adam Fellows*

# Senior Class Post Graduation Plans

Brady Andrews	SUNY Binghamton	Jacob Gullerat	OCC
Emily Atwood	Pace University	Blaine Hale	Seek Employment
Zachary Audette	SUNY Morrisville	Richard Harvell	Seek Employment
Kolby Babcock	MVCC	Bryce Hollenbeck	Cayuga Comm. College
Karlene Banks	SUNY Delhi	Brynn Hollenbeck	SUNY Morrisville
Cayden Barber	MVCC	Jacob Horodnick	Utica College
Zachory Bates	Seek Employment	Alex Hrdlicka	MVCC
Claire Bosley	SUNY Oswego	Leopold (Alex) Hyman	Monroe CCC
Kimberly Bouyea	Seek Employment	Zachary James	SUNY Cobleskill
Stephanie Brenon	SUNY Potsdam	Benjamin Joanis	SUNY Morrisville
Sara Brown	Ithaca College	Micheala Johnson	SUNY Polytechnic Ins.
Gabriella Brydon	Paul Smith's College	Steven Jollie	Herkimer CCC
Andrew Busek	SUNY Buffalo	Kaylyn Jones	MVCC
Kelly Cable	Utica College	Matthew Kaido	MVCC
Emily Cadrette	MVCC	Katelyn Kantor	Elmira College
Gabreal Catello	MVCC	Matthew Keenan	MVCC
Brandi Lee Chapman	Undecided/most likely college	Alexander Kipp	OCC
Matthew Ciotti	SUNY Morrisville	Alexa Kiser	Ithaca College
Alexis Cole	Florida State University	Sedona Kiser	Seek Employment
Trai Collins	SUNY Morrisville	Nyssa Kohl	Hartwick College
Blake Comings	MVCC-Certificate program	Anna Kolvik-Campbell	Savannah College of Art & Design
Jaden Confer	Monroe CCC	Katelyn Lanz	MVCC
Bethany Conway	MVCC	Sarah Lenhart	MVCC
Kenneth Cooper	Workforce	Andrew Lewin	LeMoyne College
Ryan Costello	Ithaca College	David Lewin	LeMoyne College
Bryce Cousin	King's College	Chase Lonis	Undecided
Cory Couture	Manhattan College	Makenzie Mahl	Cayuga Comm. College
Elijah Creedon	SUNY Cobleskill	Ryan Mariani	Seek Employment
Jevit Cumber	MVCC	Samuel Marks	SUNY Oswego
Alexandra Danella	University of North Carolina at	Caleb McConnell	SUNY Buffalo State
Charlotte Noah	Dann SUNY Polytechnic Institute	Breonna McGrath	Finger Lakes CC
Cade Decker	Post-secondary schooling undecided	Hannah Meyers	MVCC
Travis Decker	Utica College	Dustin Miller	MVCC
Adnan Dedic	MVCC	Gabriel Miller	SUNY Morrisville
Erin DiBerardino	Utica College	Cody Minckler	OCC
Amber Doane	Herkimer CCC	Jessica Moffett	AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts
Allison Donnelly	SUNY Cortland	Alana Murphy	MVCC
Kate Drake	SUNY Polytechnic Institute.	Tida Niles	Syracuse University
Adam Durfee	Gannon University	Alex Oliver	Utica College
Kendall Dust	Undecided (taking a year off)	Selene Olsen	OCC
Timothy Duvall	Onondaga Comm. College	Randall Pelton	MVCC
Natalie Estrella	Hartwick College	Cole Penoyer	OCC
Adam Fellows	RPI	Lakyn Perkins	Seek Employment
Taylor Finch	OCC	Mason Pfluke	SUNY Oswego
Colin Forbes	Military-Navy	Cameron Quick	OCC
Breonna Forzono	Post-secondary schooling undecided	Terrell Rainwater	Tompkins CCC
Lindsey Foster	Utica College	James Ratajczak	MVCC
Shelby Freeman	University of New Haven	Bailey Relf	MVCC
Christian Garcia	Herkimer CCC	Morgan Roache	Undecided
Elizabeth Gowans	MVCC	Christopher Roman	SUNY Cobleskill
Hannah Gowans	MVCC	Andrew Rossi	Military-Marines
Tyler Gowans	MVCC	Tyler Rotach	OCC
Carley Green	MVCC	Sean Ryan	Employment
Kyle Greene	OCC	Kaelyn Sandburg	Northern Kentucky University
Michael Guertin	Utica College		

...Continued on page 6

## Senior Class Post Graduation Plans *continued...*

Chassitty Schoff	Culinary Institute of America	Camryn Tiffin	SUNY Oswego
Heron Schofield	MVCC	Tyler Twiss	Seek Employment
Andrew Seelman	Seek Employment	Blake VanDreason	SUNY Oswego
Rachel Selby	Military-Army	Robert VanDresar	Utica College
Ryan Shantal	MVCC	Kayla Warren	SUNY Potsdam
Dakota Silva	MVCC	Justin Wells	Seek Employment
Cole Smith	MVCC	Dylan Whitaker	MVCC
Justin Smith	Military-Army	Jenna White	Herkimer CCC
Jacob Starke	OCC	Madison Wilson	MVCC
Luke Stoltz	SUNY ESF	Gage Woodcock	Seek Employment
Jacob Stover	Holmes Comm. College	Sierra Wratten	MVCC
Anna Tarry	Tompkins CCC	Andrew Wuest	MVCC
Xavier Taylor	Seek Employment	Colby Zabele	Seek Employment
Hanna Thurston	MVCC		

## VVS High School Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2019

It gives us great pleasure to announce that the Vernon Verona Sherrill Athletic Hall of Fame (AHOF) Committee has selected the following individuals for induction into the VVS Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2019.

### ***Athletes***

Terrence "T.O." Oliver '93  
Tom Cummings '99  
Allen "Butch" Boice '04  
Dylan Kavanaugh '11  
Alexis Kavanaugh '13

### ***Coaches***

Jim Podraza  
Bob Graham

In reviewing these nominees' credentials, outstanding achievements, and contributions to the Vernon Verona Sherrill Athletics Program, the committee unanimously supported their nominations and selection into the Hall of Fame. Their induction exemplifies our commitment to be valued as a district of distinction by our community – this is a true community celebration!

The VVS Athletic Hall of Fame was created to honor:

- Individuals who have excelled as athletes while students at VVS
- Individuals who have excelled as coaches while at VVS
- Individuals/Groups who have been ardent supporters of the VVS athletics program
- Teams that have performed extraordinarily well, bringing pride to the school and community

We respect the rich history and traditions of the VVS Red Devils' athletics program. By inducting these individuals/teams into the Athletic Hall of Fame, we are thanking them for the contributions that they have made to our program. Our inductees will be honored with a ceremony at the VVS High School Sheveron Community Center on Saturday, October 5th, 2019 at 6:00 pm, and during half-time at the VVS-New Hartford Football game on Friday, October 4th. The VVS AHOF is an interactive exhibit in the Sheveron Community Center and is available online at [www.vvsschools.org/athletics](http://www.vvsschools.org/athletics) - (Athletic HOF Tab). Please contact Randy Thomas, Athletic Director, at (315) 829-7457 if there are any questions regarding this event.

***Thank you - Go Devils!***

***The Vernon Verona Sherrill Athletic Hall of Fame Selection Committee***

# VVS High School

I hope everyone is well rested and ready for a great school year. I am so excited to see our students, families, and faculty and to hear all about their amazing summer adventures.

This summer, the high school staff worked hard to get ready for the upcoming school year. Teachers and staff have attended professional development and worked on prioritizing curriculum, and staff members have the building ready for students. We also have some new faculty and staff: Kelly Breckenridge (math teacher), Jennifer Burnett (teacher aide), Tim Dust (head custodian), and Kory Eaton (custodian).

We are very eager to meet our new freshman class and see how they grow this year. The Freshman Seminar curriculum has been revised, and we are happy to announce that Ms. Kelly Ross will be teaching all of the Freshman Seminar classes. She is going to be a huge asset to our freshman students as they transition from the middle school.

We are also excited to announce that we will host our School and Business Alliance Coordinator, Mr. John Bullis, in the Career Center again this year. He will work with all of our students to help them find meaningful internships and job shadowing experiences. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to develop relevant experience and increase their college and career readiness.

Our goals for the 2019-2020 school year are to improve student literacy skills through data collection and instructional strategies, change how we look at discipline through restorative practices, and review and enhance our math and science pathways. We welcome everyone back!

Erin Sanchez, Principal



# Welcome to the Middle School!

It is hard to believe that school is back in session! I hope all of you have enjoyed your summer. My name is Carrie Hodkinson, and I am the middle school principal. On behalf of our middle school faculty and staff, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2019-20 school year. We are excited to work with all of our students as they embark on their next learning adventure. Each year, we look forward to watching our students continue to mature and grow into respectful, compassionate, well-rounded, and hardworking young adults.

This summer, our middle school began our building improvement project, which will continue throughout the 2019-20 school year. Our guidance and CSE offices have been relocated to another part of our building to accommodate the new STEAM wing, which will include many 21st Century classrooms that will continue to allow our students to problem-solve, work collaboratively, and be actively engaged in creating their own learning. Also, our middle school's main office and nurse's office are currently under construction to improve students' safety and security. In addition, our 7th-12th grade media center is in the process of being updated to continue to meet our students' diverse learning needs and interests.

Our teachers were busy this summer working collaboratively to align their curriculum, instructional lessons, and assessments to the New York State Next Generation Learning Standards. They have attended workshops on classroom instruction, literacy, technology, mindfulness, character education, and building safety in order to continue to enhance their skills to meet students' academic, social, and emotional needs. Teachers are continuing to develop project-based and interdisciplinary learning units to improve students' problem-solving and soft skills and prepare them for life after VVS Middle School.

Some of the middle school initiatives for the 2019-20 school year are:

- Continue to strengthen students' literacy skills in every content area
- Continue to increase students' achievement levels by at least 10% on all local and state assessments
- Implement more STEAM, interdisciplinary, and project-based lessons to continue to strengthen students' understanding and retention of information that they learn in their classes
- Continue to partner with both parents and the community to meet each student's diverse and unique cognitive and social needs
- Continue to integrate the use of student technology into daily lessons
- Continue to develop and implement enrichment and extra-curricular activities to keep students involved in their learning community



Students, I encourage you to welcome the challenge of the new school year and wish you success on your journey. I look forward to working and developing positive relationships with each one of you. Parents and guardians, I appreciate you sharing your children with us and look forward to partnering with you as we support them throughout the year!





# Welcome to W.A. Wettel!

Welcome back! I hope you all had a great summer vacation with friends and loved ones. As I reflect on the 2018/2019 school year, I want to thank all staff, faculty, students, and our families for their amazing work. Due to the great work and efforts of many folks, we accomplished the following:

- We continued to provide unique experiences for our students, including but not limited to: a Friendship Feast during the month of November; a whole school fieldtrip to see the movie, *The Grinch*; our fifth annual MLK Jr. Oratorical Competition; a beach-themed Fun Day; fieldtrips to Barnes and Noble; our very own Holiday Shoppe, and among other awesome experiences, several PTSO-sponsored pizza parties for students who exhibited various leadership skills.
- We implemented one of the region's first Ready for Kindergarten (R4K) programs, which connects families with children between birth to three years of age and prepares them for a successful transition to our school.
- We hosted teachers and principals from other districts who learned about and hoped to implement aspects of the instructional framework we utilize in 3rd grade and 4th grade.
- We featured various students who inspired us in many ways through the You Inspire Me Project, which was shared on our Facebook Page. These videos are a testament to the great kids we serve!
- We engaged in a one district-one book experience, featuring the book, *The World According to Humphrey*.
- We offered more than 20 after-school enrichment programs and experiences to our students. I am especially proud of our students and teachers whose dedication and commitment were inspiring.
- We experienced success with our Lego Robotics team, the Vernon Dream Machine, which earned a trip to regionals through its amazing work, efforts, and ingenuity.
- We accomplished the goal of spreading great news and cheer about our students' experiences at Wettel through our Facebook Page.
- We showcased our students' artistry and creativity through our annual drama production. This year's feature was *Readin', Ritin', and Rockin'*, which displayed the talents of over 20 student-thespians.
- We hosted our fourth annual Family S.T.E.A.M. Night, which included a PTSO-sponsored dinner, an overview of S.T.E.A.M. learning, and about 40 families working as a team to design and build a sphero-propelled model car.

As we begin the 2019/2020 school year, we once again look forward to your continued assistance in serving our kids and the VVS community. Best wishes for a rewarding school year!

Vince Pompo, Principal



# Welcome to J.D. George!

Welcome back to the new school year! No matter how old I get, I still begin each and every school year with the same excitement and nervousness that comes with the start of a brand new year. I'm sure many of our students have these same feelings of excitement and nervousness as well about what the new year will bring. Our goal for late August and the first week of September was to help alleviate some of those nervous feelings by inviting parents and students to stop by the school. We had several events designed to give students the opportunity to visit with classmates and meet with their teacher prior to the first day of school.

Our big event on the eve of the start of school was our annual Open House night. This event was targeted for 1st - 6th grade students and families, but all members of the J.D. George community were invited. Teachers at these grade levels, along with support area teachers, were at school to say hello and welcome students back. This Open House event was held on Tuesday, September 3, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. We enjoyed seeing everyone there as we prepared for that first day of school on Thursday, September 5.

This year we will continue working on many of our goals from last year including:

- Making academic gains in all areas at each grade level
- Increasing our attendance rate for all students
- Collaborating with all JDG school community members to provide a variety of healthy, positive learning experiences throughout the year
- Maintaining a physically and emotionally safe learning environment

We look forward to the 2019-2020 school year at J.D. George in the VVS School District!

Gary Bissailon, Principal



# Welcome to E.A. McAllister!

Welcome Back!

I hope that your summer was relaxing, fun, and filled with wonderful learning experiences! We were busy all summer preparing the school for the start of the new year and have enjoyed our first few weeks with students.

I am very excited to start this year as the principal of E.A. McAllister Elementary School and to join the school community. Our building and the Vernon Verona Sherrill Central School District have earned a tradition of excellence through the combined efforts of students, faculty/staff, parents, and the community. We will do everything we can to uphold and help strengthen this tradition, but we need your help - our families play an active role in ensuring that each year is better yet! I look forward to meeting and working with all of you throughout this year of "firsts" for me.

This year, we look forward to continuing many of the traditions of E.A. McAllister, especially the traditions of providing a quality education to all of our students, creating a safe and supportive learning environment, and making learning fun! We have also set our goals of maintaining high standards for our faculty, staff, and students, keeping our students safe, and focusing on educating the whole child (academically, socially, and emotionally).

Please do not hesitate to reach out should you have any questions or concerns.

Elisabeth Relyea, Principal



# Summer LEAP Program

The 2019 VVS Summer LEAP program at JD George Elementary was busy, exciting, and a huge success! Our students were excited to come through the doors and be back with our amazing staff for five weeks of fun, creative, educational activities. All of our students enjoyed their breakfast and lunch selections by our cafeteria staff and paid close attention to our rules and routine reminders during our Monday Morning Meetings.

Our K-2 students were quite busy, participating in a wide variety of activities such as “Humpty Dumpty Science” with Ms. Stone. The students predicted what would happen when the Humpty egg was dropped in various materials, designed and built their own egg, and discussed what would keep Humpty safe from various heights. Ms. Farrell and Mrs. Boylan had students work collaboratively using the iPads to code and construct robots made of LEGO bricks. They worked through various STEM based challenges and linked their activities to real-life phenomenon.

In Mrs. Deyo’s class, the students read “There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Shell” and completed several activities along with it: sequence cards, a mini book “How to Build a Sand Castle,” watercolor bookmark surfboards, and sand castle paper bag projects.

Our 3-6 students were just as busy! They really enjoyed getting back into their garden from last summer with Mr. Bonville. They discussed improvements, watched a YouTube video, and cleaned up the old garden as they discussed various decomposers. The students also had to calculate the amount of top soil that needed to be purchased to fill their new raised bed. In the media center with Mrs. Sperber, the students explored funny architecture and designed their own, using websites such as “Roadside Attractions,” “Funny Buildings,” and “Mimetic Buildings.”

In music with Ms. Paige, the students composed “rhythm etudes” using note manipulatives. They made a “chain composition” by taking turns writing one measure for each song, and then performed their chain compositions with instruments! In Spanish class with Senora Viggiano, the students loved their lessons titled “¡Bienvenidos a México!” The students created colorful sombreros and learned the Mexican Hat Dance, or the “Jarabe Tapatío!” They also used their kitchen skills to make guacamole from scratch, following instructions completely in Spanish.

Thank you to all of the faculty and staff who worked tirelessly to provide our students with such an amazing opportunity for summer enrichment. We look forward to seeing our campers again next year!



Every child is an inventor at VVS Camp Invention! The program this year was called “Supercharged,” and over 360 VVS elementary and middle school students learned that invention is much more than a eureka moment. Invention is a process, and moments of failure are necessary on the path to success. Campers met four exciting challenges that required collaboration, hands-on application of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math, as well as developing skills in creative problem solving and entrepreneurship.

Newfound confidence was gained as our superhero inventors ages 8 to 13 shared some of their prototypes on stage to an auditorium overflowing with family and friends.

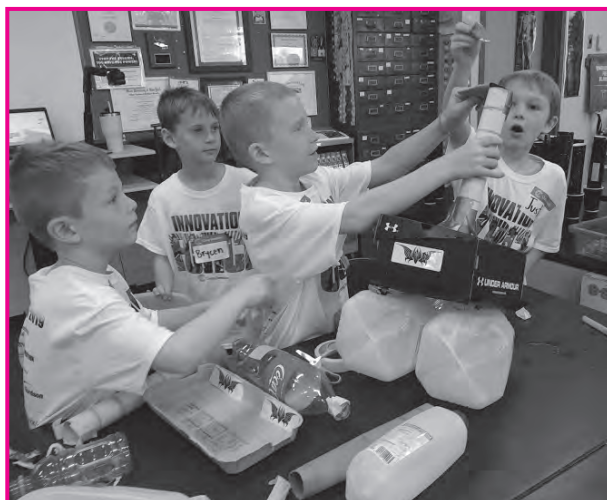
### ***Here are some highlights:***

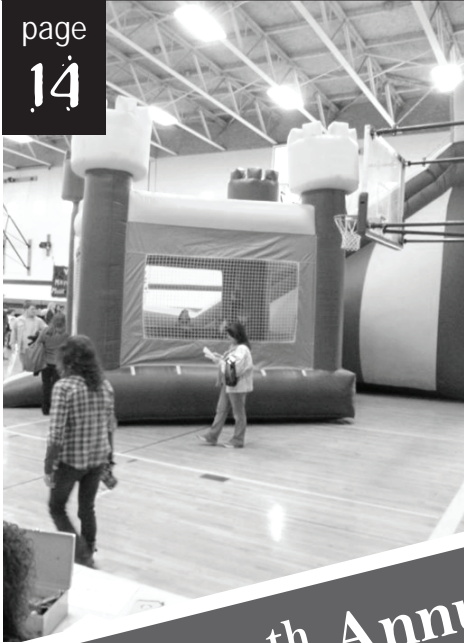
**Innovation Force®** - Campers teamed up with the Innovation Force, a group of National Inventors Hall of Fame (NIHF) Inductees who have been transformed into superheroes, to battle the evil Plagiarizer, a supervillain who is out to steal the world’s ideas. Campers created a device to retrieve the stolen ideas, and they learned about the importance of collaboration and patents.

**Deep Sea Mystery™** - Campers embarked on a research adventure at sea, but soon found themselves stranded on an island. Using lessons and advice from NIHF Inductees, campers worked in teams to invent island-survival tools and underwater equipment and navigate their way back home.

**Farm Tech™** - Campers managed their own farm and learned the basics of running a business. With the assistance of Bot-ANN-E, a programmable robot, campers learned fundamental coding techniques to maximize their time and profits and performed mock DNA experiments to check the health of their cattle.

**DIY Orbot™** - Campers explored frequency, circuit boards, motors, and gears as they used real tools to reverse engineer a remote-controlled DIY Orbot. Throughout the week, campers adapted their DIY Orbot to perform increasingly challenging tasks from sports to art.





Enjoy!  
Live Music  
Community Day 5K  
FFA BBQ & Great Food  
Health & Safety  
Organizations



# 11<sup>th</sup> Annual VVS Community Day

Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Shop Local!  
Craft Fair Vendors  
Red Zone School Store  
Local Businesses  
Lu La Roe Boutique  
Student Fundraisers



Play!  
Kids' Zone  
Bounce Houses  
Drama Club Kids Camp  
Face Painting  
Guitars & Ukuleles

All proceeds benefit local organizations, families, and student programs



Donate!  
Red Cross Blood Drive  
Raffle Tables  
Food Drive  
Personal Care Item Drive

Visit our Website  
[vvschools.org/page/2816](http://vvschools.org/page/2816) 

Like us on Facebook  
[facebook.com/VVSCommunityDay](https://facebook.com/VVSCommunityDay) 

Use our Hashtag  
#VVS2019CD  
to post photos 

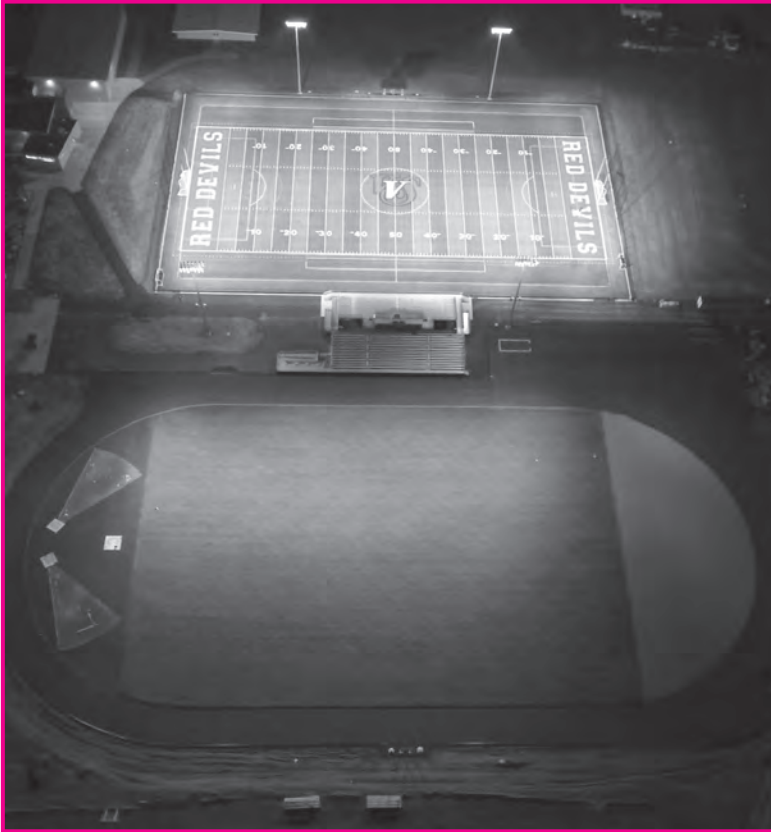
Download our App  
Events XD  
VVS Community Day 

## Your Generosity is Appreciated!

As an expression of our appreciation and sincere gratitude for the community's generous support of our programs and facilities, VVS Superintendent Martha Group and the Board of Education have approved the elimination of admission fees for all VVS athletic contests. This includes the home contests of all sports, throughout all seasons. The only fees that will be collected are for any State or Sectional contests, as we are required by those organizations to collect specific admission fees.

The elimination of entrance fees was recommended by Randy Thomas, VVS Athletic Director, upon the requests of coaches, players, parents, and community members. "We are excited to offer free admission at all home contests," said Thomas, "It is not only our way of showing gratitude to our community, but also a way to thank those who come out to support our student athletes and athletic programs."

We are excited to welcome all community members to attend our home contests and share in the excitement of a new season of VVS athletics!



## About Those Lights!

The VVS School District and Board of Education is excited to announce that the Sheveron Stadium light poles, which had been brought down for safety reasons this past spring, have been reinstalled.

After a structural issue in the upper portion of the bases and anchor bolts was found last spring, all poles were brought down for testing. With the safety of our students, faculty, staff, and community always being our primary concern, the district worked with numerous organizations to fully assess and resolve the issue.

The district, in cooperation with its architect and construction management firm, contracted with third-party testing firms, as well as a third-party structural engineer, to provide an expert objective assessment and develop a plan to address the failure and reinstall the poles.

Ultimately, the team found and implemented a solution that provided even greater structural integrity. As an added precaution, additional special inspections by third party inspectors and engineers took place throughout the reconstruction process, concrete pours, and fastening of the poles to their foundations. The district appreciates the patience and understanding shown by our community during this process.

All hands were on deck for the final testing of the light, sound, and scoreboard systems, just in time for our first home fall sports contests. The district is excited to continue to provide the same safe and enjoyable player and spectator experience that was enjoyed by all with the opening of Sheveron Stadium last fall.



Want to know more about VVS? Visit our web site: [www.vvsschools.org](http://www.vvsschools.org)

## **FYI:**

From time to time, we get a telephone call or a note from someone who has not been receiving the newsletter or has missed a particular issue. We want to include all of our families and friends on our mailing list. If you know of someone who has not received this newsletter or has never been included in our mailing, please call:

**Lynda DuChene**  
**315-829-7412**

We will do our best to include you in the future.

## **Vernon Verona Sherrill Central School**

City School District of the City of Sherrill  
5275 State Route 31, PO Box 128  
Verona, New York 13478-0128

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Melissa Palmer, President  
Thomas Moats, Vice-President

Steve Adamkowski  
Christopher Brewer  
David Grover  
Ann Pangburn  
Nancy Pitman  
Catherine Suttmeier  
Paul Thompson



### **DISTRICT VISION**

The Vernon Verona Sherrill School District aspires to be valued as a district of distinction by our community.

### **DISTRICT MISSION**

The Mission of the Vernon Verona Sherrill School District is to serve the community by preparing individuals to value challenges, learning opportunities, diversity and civic responsibility.

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 6  
Verona, NY 13478

CARRIER ROUTE PRE-SORT

page

16



peachjar

# **Peachjar Electronic Flyers for Community Members**

We now offer free electronic informational flyers to all VVS community members! When you sign up for VVS Peachjar, you will receive flyers about sporting events, district activities and events, employment opportunities, local events, and so much more. To enroll, simply email [swhalen@vvsschools.org](mailto:swhalen@vvsschools.org) with your name and preferred email address, and you will receive an email welcoming you to Peachjar. You can also register for a free account (optional), where you can select how often to receive emails, change your notification settings, or unsubscribe at any time. We look forward to connecting with you!