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VALLEY CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT



VIKING VOYAGE

DECEMBER
2023

Office of the Superintendent

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VCSdny.org

SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWSLETTER



VC PROUD • VIKING STRONG

As the winter break approaches, I want to take a moment to reflect upon the successes of the first portion of the school year. Visits to classrooms throughout the District provide a strong sense of VC pride. Our students have demonstrated hard work in the classrooms and extraordinary talent at concerts and athletic events. Our dedicated staff and amazing students continue to shine. We have worked on strengthening a sense of belonging and focused on developing consistency and coherence to support all of our students in excelling.

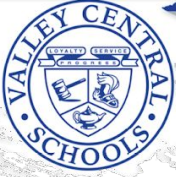
Please enjoy a well-deserved break. This holiday season, I encourage you to give your children the gift of your time to reconnect. Spend quality time with family and friends. Take time to relax, have fun and embrace the moments that make this time of year so special.

We are eager to accomplish great things in the new year. When we return, we will begin to create our District vision and new strategic plan. I look forward to your feedback and participation in our collaborative process to establish the strong future our students are entitled to.

As your Superintendent, I am incredibly honored to serve the Valley Central community. I truly appreciate your continued support and partnership to make a difference in the lives of our students. I wish you a very happy holiday filled with much joy and peace. May you have a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

VALLEY CENTRAL'S MISSION

The mission of the Valley Central School community is to develop responsible and productive members of society in a safe and innovative environment, where students are motivated to think critically, communicate effectively, and achieve excellence in active partnership with the community and a knowledgeable and dedicated staff.



EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

With winter weather quickly approaching, we want to ensure that you stay informed about any potential school delays or closures.

School closures and two-hour delays will be promptly communicated via phone message, email, the Valley Central School District website, and local news stations. Please check the following stations: News 12, Spectrum News Hudson Valley, WPDH, and WHUD.

Please make sure that your child’s school office has your updated contact information to guarantee you receive these important notifications.



SNOW DAYS

There are three snow days built into the 2023-2024 school calendar. Any additional snow days used by the District will have to be made up in the following order:

- ❁ If four days are used, May 23 will become a regular school day
- ❁ If five days are used, May 23 & 24 will become regular school days
- ❁ If six days are used, May 23, 24, and April 1 will become regular school days
- ❁ If seven days are used, May 23, 24, April 1, and March 25 will become regular school days





SUPERINTENDENT'S SPOTLIGHTS

Tammy Kirschner is the head custodian at Valley Central High School and an exceptional employee. She does her best each day to make our school look great! Tammy goes above and beyond often coming in early, staying late, and working weekends to ensure that all the events and athletic competitions at Valley Central run smoothly.

Sarah Rosenwasser is an outstanding social studies teacher at the High School. She does her best each day for her students and is passionate about her work.

Janean Patterson is a paraprofessional at Walden Elementary School. She is very easy going and flexible and always proceeds to her assignments with a smile on her face. No matter what kind of work she has to do that day, we can always count on Janean to lift the spirits of staff and students alike. Her kindness and love for our students and staff is appreciated by everyone who comes in her path. She truly is our ray of sunshine.

All of our **school communities** and **Central Office** have worked selflessly to support families in need. The impact they have made in the lives of so many during the holiday season has been truly touching. I am so very proud of how we serve our community.

Mr. Thomas Balducci is a long time member of our Valley Central School community and has worked as an Assistant Principal in the High School and the Middle School. Kudos to Mr. Balducci for his commitment to the students in our schools. He is often seen outside at recess playing basketball with the students or helping students maneuver through various challenges they may be experiencing. No matter what he does, he conducts himself with great professionalism and enthusiasm.

Students **Anthony Long Jr.** and his brother **Jayce Willis** have made a significant contribution to the Operation Dalmatian program by donating over 100 toys to families in need in the Walden community. Anthony and Jayce carried bags filled with toys up the numerous flights of stairs of Walden. Their efforts are a testament to the true meaning of the holiday season, which is to spread joy and kindness to those around us.

Ms. Grace Ann Santos is a new member of the Valley Central Middle School team and she assists with all the lunch periods in a supervisory position. Ms. Santos is a pleasure to work with. She is always smiling and greeting others with kindness. She is someone who is a role model to others by the amazing work ethic she demonstrates each and every day.

ATHLETICS SURVEY

We value student voice. We are providing a survey to gather student feedback after each athletic season. All surveys will be anonymous. Athletes will receive the survey via their school email. Please encourage your students to complete the short survey. We will use the survey to improve our program.



VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

944 State Route 17K • Montgomery, New York 12549-2240

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, December 22 - Monday, January 1:
Winter Recess ~ No School

Tuesday, January 2:
Students Return to School

All Night Grad Committee
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Thursday, January 4:
WES PTO Meeting
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Monday, January 8:
BOE Meeting
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Tuesday, January 9:
VCHS PTSA Meeting
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Wednesday, January 10:
VCMS PTA Meeting
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Friday, January 12:
VCMS Musical Performance
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Saturday, January 13:
VCMS Musical Performance
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Monday, January 15:
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day ~ No School

Wednesday, January 17:
EC Winter Concert
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Snow Date: 1/18

Thursday, January 18:
VCHS SADD Coffee House
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Friday, January 19:
WES Fitness Night
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Monday, January 22:
BOE Meeting
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Special Meeting ~ Presentations



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