VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL

SCHOLARSHIP. COMMUNITY. GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

News & Notes
Vermont Commons School
April 16, 2021
Have a Fantastic Spring Break!

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 19th - April 23rd

- **Spring Break** (VCS CLOSED)

April 26th

- **Senior Projects begin**

May 2nd

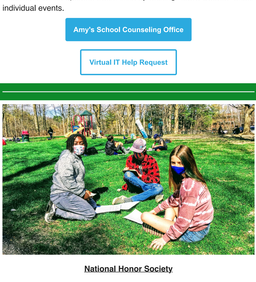
- 2pm - 4pm: **Spring Open House**

YEARBOOK SALES LINK COMING SOON
Keep an eye out for a separate email with ordering info!

You can view all of our upcoming events on the **Calendars** page of our website, and find updated Zoom links by clicking "**More Details**" under individual events.

Amy's School Counseling Office

Virtual IT Help Request

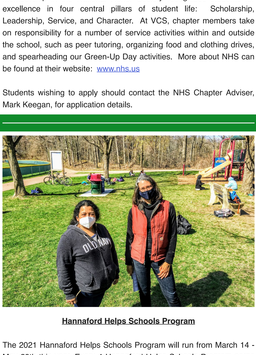


National Honor Society

Applications for the Vermont Commons chapter of the National Honor Society are currently available to interested 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students who did not apply in the fall of 2020. The submission deadline for the Spring application cycle is **Sunday, May 2nd**.

Membership in the National Honor Society recognizes students for excellence in four central pillars of student life: Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character. At VCS, chapter members take on responsibility for a number of service activities within and outside the school, such as peer tutoring, organizing food and clothing drives, and spearheading our Green-Up Day activities. More about NHS can be found at their website: www.nhs.us

Students wishing to apply should contact the NHS Chapter Adviser, Mark Keegan, for application details.



Hannaford Helps Schools Program

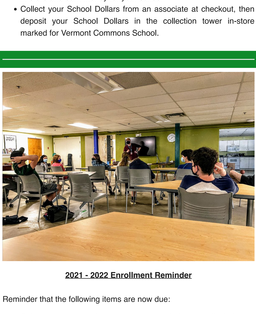
The 2021 Hannaford Helps Schools Program will run from March 14 - May 29th this year. Every 4 Hannaford Helps Schools Program earns 3 School Dollars, which can be deposited to help VCS.

Shopping Online with Hannaford To-Go

- Look for the red apple icon to shop more than 1,500 products online and earn money for your school!
- Turn in any School Dollars you collect to the collection tower in-store by **Saturday, May 29th**.

Shopping In-Store

- Look for "**helps schools**" shelf tags on more than 1,500 products in-store and earn money for your school!
- Collect your School Dollars from an associate at checkout, then deposit your School Dollars in the collection tower in-store marked for Vermont Commons School.



2021 - 2022 Enrollment Reminder

Reminder that the following items are now due:

- Online paperwork for 2021-2022 (includes: medical forms, emergency contacts, photo/video permissions, etc)
- First tuition payment for 2021-2022
- Financial Aid applications & all required forms

To complete your enrollment forms, log into your RenWeb account on Family Portal, and select the Enrollment link on the left-hand tab.

NOTE: RenWeb is only able to allow 1 parent access to the full enrollment documents at a time. If you do not see your child's documents, please check all custodial parents' accounts.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Bursell at lbursell@vermontcommons.org.

Notes From the Head of School

Milestones. Old markers on the wayside to let you know how far you've come and yet have to go.
Milestones, counting, predicting, all of these have to do with motion.

I was reminded today, as I listened to Jennifer's annual farewell song during which she both lauds each Senior and tells the group she wishes they would stay with us, of how we are always a place of transition. Ever are students coming and going, growing up, changing and finding their paths, exploring the world such that they both begin to see their future selves in it and then, eventually, make their way there.

Today is a milestone, many actually, all at the same waypoint, all at once.

We, as a community have made it to Spring Break (!). A well deserved rest after a long, steady effort. But that also means that today is the last day of not being all together in our building on school days. When the break's over, we return fully as a school for the first time in over a year. Milestone. Congrats, everyone! We have made it.

Well, okay, not all together in the building, because this afternoon was also our annual Senior Send-off ceremony, of which Jennifer's song was the finale. Today, our Seniors took their last exam, turned in all of their final work, and wrapped up their classroom school days at Vermont Commons by being praised and toasted one at a time by their faculty advisors. As early as next Monday, members of the Class of 2021 head off on their Senior Projects for the rest of their school year, after which all that's left to be done is graduate on June 11th. Milestone. Congrats, Seniors! You are incredible, you have done well, and you are ready to start on your way.

As we sat in the Commons today, watching the Send-off ceremony, Jasmine leaned over and remarked--as she looked around the back of the room--that this was the first time that all the faculty had been together in one room since March 13, 2020, when we gathered after just having sent the Class of 2020 on their way and the entire school

into a quarantine the length of which we never could have predicted. It was, indeed, a remarkable moment. Whole. Healing. Right at the moment of departure of these Seniors with whom we've spent so much time and poured so much of ourselves. Yet, that is the nature of our community--movement, transition, wishing that everyone would stay together forever, but actually, more deeply wishing that each student at Vermont Commons will grow, grow up, find themselves in a community of support and kindness and compassion, and then make their way in good time into a world that needs their contributions, the healing and growth and vision that they can bring to it. If it seems ironic that the first time the faculty gather is our moment to start saying farewell to the Seniors, that coming and going is actually what we are here to do.

Milestone. A marker along our journey signaling to us how far we've come, how far we have to go, and that we are creatures of motion, of movement, of change, those who look forward, eager for what's next.

May you all have a great spring break, may the Seniors have incredible Projects, and may we all embrace this beautiful journey together, counting off the milestones together.

Dr. Dexter P. Mahaffey
Head of School

USEFUL SCHOOL LINKS

Give to Vermont Commons

Guide for Students & Families

2020-2021 Community Calendar

RenWeb - Parent Login

VCS Website

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mailchimp