VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL

SCHOLARSHIP. COMMUNITY. GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

News & Notes
Vermont Commons School
May 7, 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, May 11th

- 4pm - 5:30pm: **Ultimate vs BHS** at Veterans Memorial Park

Saturday, May 15th

- 11am - 12:30pm: **Ultimate vs Colchester HS** at Veterans Memorial Park

The 2021-22 Core Calendar is now live on our website!

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

News from Amber in Development

After a hiatus of a few years, the ***Commons Review*** is back and the Spring issue has landed in mailboxes. Take a peek to find out how Peter Goff ended up at VCS, learn what Zoe '22 is doing with agroecology, and read updates on our fascinating Flying Turtle alums (hint: technical climbing and airplane route design are only two of the myriad things keeping them busy).

Also, we're coming into the home stretch and are deeply appreciative of our families (57% of you!) who have made gifts to VCS this year. Your gifts to the VCS Annual Fund support, on average, 5% of our yearly operating budget and every dollar directly benefits our students and faculty. If you'd like to help us get to our **goal of 100% family participation by June 30**, you can make a gift online or mail a check to school with "Annual Fund" in the memo line. Thank you!

NEASC Survey Reminder

The NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) survey for our reaccreditation self-study will remain open for an extra week. Please complete it by Friday 5/14. It should only take you 15-20 minutes, and your thoughtful candid responses will help us to identify areas of strength and opportunities for growth as a school. Thank you for taking the time to share your insights with us.

NEASC Parent/Guardian Survey

Purchase Your 2020-21 Yearbook!

This year, in addition to pictures of our adventures throughout the year, the yearbook will also contain artwork by our wonderful artists and the best pieces from the three Evening of Readings. Don't miss out on getting a copy!

The price remains the same as last year, **$45,** and there are two ways to purchase it:

- Cash or check (made to VCS, give it to Adriana or Amy)
- You can also buy it online by clicking on the following link: VCS Yearbook 2021

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thanks!

Adriana and Amy

School Portrait Ordering Deadline EXTENDED

If you would like to purchase your students portrait you can click here. The password is **VCS21**.

If you have any questions about the portraits you can contact Ambient Photography directly: Alex Pintair, Ambient Photography, (802) 872-0905, www.ambientphotography.com.

If you already ordered portraits before spring break, they have been delivered to the school and have been given out to students who have been present in the building.

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

lbursell@vermontcommons.org.

Notes From the Head of School

While it may seem incredible that it's time for these details, the end of the year is swiftly approaching. While we're still sorting out these plans, we can share the general outline of what each grade will be doing each day over the last two weeks of school (!):

Monday, May 31st:

- Memorial Day: no classes or school activities

Tuesday, June 1st

- 12th Grade: Finalize Senior Projects and preparations for Senior

Project Presentations
- 8th - 11th Grade: final day of regular classes
- 6th - 7th grade: regular classes

Wednesday, June 2nd

- No Encounter Experiences this week (final Encounter Experiences for the year are on May 26th)
- 12th Grade: Senior Project Presentations: Seniors will come to campus to present their Senior Projects to the 8th-11th grade students (these presentations will be broadcast on Zoom so Seniors' families and friends and VCS 6th and 7th grade students join in remotely). Time TBD.
- 8th -11th Grade: On campus 8:30 - 3 p.m. for a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice film presentation, discussion with the filmmakers, and programming, lunch, and Senior Project Presentations.
- 6th - 7th Grade: no classes or on-campus activities today; 6th and 7th graders will be invited to join the Senior Project Presentations via Zoom (optional)

Thursday June 3rd

- 12th Grade: no classes, no activities, except for any Seniors whose projects require subsequent work (they will be notified by their advisor late in the afternoon of June 2nd if conditions for passing were determined by their review committee).
- 8th - 11th Grade: normal school day schedule, with exam review in all classes
- 6th - 7th Grade: normal school day schedule with regular classes

Friday, June 4th:

- 12th Grade: no classes, no activities, except for any Seniors whose projects require subsequent work
- 8th - 11th Grade: normal school day schedule, with exam review in all classes
- 6th - 7th Grade: normal school day schedule with regular classes
- Last day of classes (!), with regular Friday dismissal at 12:10 p.m.

Saturday, June 5th

- 12th Grade: Prom activities, *6 - 9 p.m.* (details, timing, and participants TBD and subject to change)

Monday, June 7th

- 12th Grade: Seniors-only activities during the day (details forthcoming from Tim); if possible, annual Senior overnight campout
- 8th - 11th Grade Exams: students in these grades should arrive on campus by 8:30 a.m. and will (unless they receive extended time accommodations for exams) finish the day's exams by 2:30 p.m.
- 6th - 7th Grade: Special activities. Details, timing, and location TBD (but coming soon!)

Tuesday, June 8th

- 12th Grade: Senior Hike, approx. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 8th - 11th Grade Exams Day 2: students in these grades should arrive on campus by 8:30 a.m. and will (unless they receive extended time accommodations for exams) finish the day's exams by 2:30 p.m.
- 6th - 7th Grade: Day 2 of special activities. Details, timing, and location TBD (but coming soon!)

Wednesday, June 9th

- 12th Grade: no formal activities or classes during the day
- 8th - 11th Grade: Exams Day 3: students in these grades should arrive on campus by 8:30 a.m. and will (except for extended time) finish the exams by 11 a.m.
- 6th-7th Grade: no formal activities or classes during the day
- 6 - 7:00 p.m.: Night of Glory athletic and activities awards ceremony: All students and families are invited to join this celebration of our student athletes and National Honor Society inductees. (virtual event held and broadcast on Zoom)

Thursday, June 10th

- All Grades on campus 8:30 - 3 p.m.:
  - Field Day 8:30-12
  - lunch: 12 - 1
  - Academic and Community Awards Ceremony: 1 - 3 p.m. (this in-person event will also be broadcast on Zoom so families can join virtually)

Friday, June 11th

- Final day of school in the 2020-21 School Year!!! All grades on campus 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon* for end-of-year activities, including:
  - the annual Multimedia Extravaganza presentation
  - Advisory Meetings

    - Core Group Meetings
    - Final "Morning Meeting"
    - Yearbooks
    - [*12th graders depart early to prepare for and travel to graduation]
    - Noon dismissal for summer for grades 6 - 11
- 12th Grade and all Faculty: meet at Schulz/Goosens Farm for graduation ceremony
- 1 p.m.: The 24th Commencement Ceremony of Vermont Commons School: Seniors, their families, and the Faculty attend this event in person; it will be streamed live by RETN for the entire community to join virtually.

Happy weekend, everyone, and here's to a **great** finish to the year!

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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