

Sundays for Success #18

Sunday, February 4, 2018

Good Evening Blue Devil Families,

HORNS UP

Horns Up this week go to the staff and students who put together the PSA for Varina. Mr. Viar and Ms. Craft worked with students to create a package that promotes the positive aspects of Varina. If you haven't had a chance to see it, please visit any of our social media pages. Please share with your friends and family, and help us counteract the negative publicity we received this week.

SCHEDULING AND CURRICULUM FAIR

Next week begins our Course Selection period for the 2018-19 school year! Starting February 5th, parents/guardians will be able to log into PowerSchool and view Teacher Recommendations and choose elective courses for next year. Check out the School Counseling website (www.vhsschoolcounseling.weebly.com) under the "Course Selection" tab to view the information shared with your students over the past few weeks regarding course selection and academic/career planning.

Join us on February 8th for our annual Curriculum Fair! The fair will be held in the library from 5:00-8:00pm. You will be able to talk to different elective teachers to learn more about the courses we offer at Varina. Also, we will hold a College Admissions and AP Panel in the auditorium beginning at 6:30pm. We will have representatives from Longwood, ODU, VSU, VCU, and John Tyler Community College to answer all your questions about college. We have AP teachers and current Varina students taking AP courses for the AP Panel directly after. Please join us for this informative, fun evening!

Our electives focus this week is on JROTC and SAT prep. Please review the information included in the email portion of this message for details on these courses.

The Military Science (JROTC) program prepares students for leadership roles while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities and privileges as Americans. The mission of JROTC is to motivate young people to be better citizens. The program promotes graduation from high school, and provides instructional opportunities which benefit the student, community and nation.

The College and Career Readiness class serves a dual purpose: to increase a student's SAT score and to investigate a variety of college opportunities, including completing a college application and essay. The course is divided into three different sections: college readiness, evidence-based reading and writing, and math. By utilizing an initial pre-test, instructors are able to formulate a unique instructional plan for each student to be successful. By the end of the course, students will be ready for the January or the June SAT (depending whether they take the class in the fall or the spring). Students will be utilizing Khan Academy. In the fall, this class is geared for SENIORS; the spring, JUNIORS. You must have a laptop and a charger to take this semester-long course.

SIGN-UP FOR CONFERENCES

You can now sign up for Parent-Teacher Conferences on February 8th online at www.tinyurl.com/VarinaPTC. The link and directions are included in the e-mail portion of this

message. If you do not have Internet access or you experience technical difficulties scheduling a time online, please call the school at 226-8700.

DRIVER EDUCATION EARLY BIRD

If your student is signed up for Driver's Education before school, the second semester begins February 5.

ABC THIS WEEK

As a result of last week's events, we have suspended ABC for the time being. This week, we will use Advisory time and ABC time to allow for travel time between lunches. This allows us to completely clear the cafeteria between each lunch. Students are expected to be in class during their assigned time, and only in the lunch room during their ONE assigned lunch. When in the cafeteria, students are expected to be seated when they are not in line to purchase lunch or using the restroom. The remainder of the time from ABC on Tuesday – Friday will be placed at the end of the day. Students will be provided a 30-minute study hall. There will not be travel during this time. ABC time is a privilege that we built in to the day to help students. Far too many students have been abusing the time. We will revisit this schedule change on Wednesday.

BEHAVIOR AT SCHOOL

Please talk with your student regarding his/her behavior at school. The HCPS Code of Student Conduct does not view mutual combat fighting as "self-defense." Additionally, students whose social media behavior (on or off campus) causes a disruption to the instructional day are subject to disciplinary consequences. Please monitor the behavior of your student on social media. We need your help to combat the ongoing discord we are experiencing because students are struggling with their social media behavior.

Ann Marie Seely

Principal

[Electives Fair and AP Panel](#)

[Course Request Selection](#)