

VBCPS Parent Advisory --- December 2018

Dear Parents,

Please find below an overview of school division news, upcoming events and calendar reminders as well as other resources and notes that may be of interest to VBCPS families.

Today – Registration open for *Beach Girls Rock! Workshop* and African American Male Summit

The next [Beach Girls Rock! Empowerment Series](#) will be at Tallwood High School, Saturday, Jan. 12, from 8 a.m. to noon. The event is open to female students in grades five to eight and their parents. In addition, the 12th Annual African American Male Summit will be Jan. 26 at Green Run High School, coinciding with the 40th anniversary of the school. This event is open to all VBCPS males in grades 6-12. Students interested in attending these events can register in their school counseling office.

December to February—VBCPS Winter Art Show

The annual Winter Art Show is on display at Pembroke Mall through Feb. 4. The work of students from 59 district schools is featured. Students were invited by their art teachers to participate.

Dec. 13—ATC Open House

The **Advanced Technology Center (ATC)** will host a middle and high school open house with planning ahead sessions for students and their families, **Thursday, Dec. 13 from 5:30-8 p.m. Special Event for Girls in STEM** will take place from **4:30-6 p.m.** Attendees at the 4:30 event will meet and interact with industry leaders who will talk about the opportunities for women in these fields, and all attendees will learn about the certifications students can earn, and explore college credit options at the Advanced Technology Center. For more information, please contact the ATC at 757-648-5800 or atc@vbschools.com.

Dec. 21 – Adjusted dismissal

Friday, Dec. 21 all school and administrative offices will have an adjusted dismissal. Visit vbschools.com for the list of hours.

Through Dec. 21 – Beach Bags donations accepted

From now until Dec. 21, the School Administration Building (located at 2512 George Mason Dr., Virginia Beach, 23456), will be host to a holiday Beach Bags food drive. Families can drop off shelf-stable items from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to donate for students in need this holiday season. For more information about the Beach Bags program, visit www.vbschools.com/beachbags.

Dec. 24, 2018 - Jan. 1, 2019 - Winter Break

All schools and administrative offices will be closed.

Jan. 3 – Virtual Town Hall for next strategic framework closes

VBCPS administration is giving the community the opportunity to weigh in and help guide the future of the school division. Staff is beginning the process of developing a new strategic plan, which will be in place from 2020-2025, and the first step is gathering input from the public via a Virtual Town Hall. Launched in September, the Virtual Town Hall will close at 5 p.m. Jan. 3. [Read](#).

Ongoing reminders

School start times to change in September of 2020

The School Board unanimously voted to move forward with a change in school start times for schools beginning in September of 2020. This action comes after more than a year and a half of research, community input and Board discussion. To learn more, visit ybschools.com.

VBCPS launched new Retiree Opportunity Program

VBCPS has a new Retiree Opportunity Program (ROP), an initiative that encourages and supports retired staff members to find part-time employment and volunteer opportunities within the division. [Read more.](#)

Track your volunteer hours

Whether it be serving as tutors, guest speakers or providing assistance in classrooms, cafeterias, libraries or main offices, volunteer hours all add up. The value of this service is estimated at \$9.7 million. VBCPS can use this calculation to quantify the value of service and apply for federal grants that ultimately benefit schools and students. Record volunteer hours [here](#).

New Environmental Studies Program coming to VBCPS

A new Environmental Studies Program for Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS) high school juniors and seniors will begin in 2020, following approval by the School Board. [Read.](#)

Congratulations!

- VBCPS teacher named 2018 Computer Science Educator of the Year. [Read.](#)
- The Virginia Beach Education Foundation (VBEF) awarded \$150,000 in grant funding this school year to support innovative projects and learning programs across the division. [Read.](#)
- Tamara Seraph's piece, titled "Angels above the Sea," was selected to be the featured work of art for the VBEF 2019 Commemorative Print. [Read.](#)
- Students achieve perfect scores on ACT and SAT. [Read.](#)

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