

VBCPS Parent Advisory – March 2019

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.

March 1 – Progress Reports issued

Progress reports are issued to all students who are performing below expected levels or who are in danger of failing a course. Parents also may monitor student grades, assignments and attendance at any time in [Parent Portal](#).

March 1– Youth Art Month Exhibit opens

Celebrating national Youth Art Month, student artwork from all VBCPS schools, grades 1-12, will be on display at the Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art, located at 2200 Parks Avenue. The exhibit, featured in the Fleming Gallery, is free and open to the public and will be available through March 27.

March 2 – VBCPS Partnership Expo

The 2019 VBCPS Partnership Expo will be held Saturday, March 2, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Landstown High School. The expo will feature representatives from more than 100 school division partnerships that provide educational opportunities to meet the unique needs of students and schools. Attendees can visit exhibits and speak with representatives from organizations and schools about community involvement, volunteer opportunities, summer employment and internships. [See the flyer for additional information](#).

March 6, 11, 19, 28 – Pre-Kindergarten Eligibility Application Sessions

Families interested in applying for the school division's pre-kindergarten program should make plans to attend one of the eligibility application sessions scheduled through June, including four sessions in March. The full-day program is offered at no cost to at-risk students who will be 4-years-old on or before Sept. 30 of the upcoming school year and who meet eligibility criteria. [More information](#).

March 8 – Deadline to take part in survey for the school division's next strategic plan

VBCPS invites families to take a survey to help identify priorities for the division's upcoming strategic plan, which will be in place from 2020-2025. You will be asked to rate from "critical" to "not important at all" the skills and abilities that the division should focus on for student success after graduation. The survey link is [here](#) and the last day to participate is March 8. More information is available at [vbschools.com](#).

March 11 – Secondary writing SOLs begin

Standards of Learning (SOL) writing tests will take place this month for secondary schools. For high school students enrolled in grade 11 English or who have passed the course but still need the SOL test for verified credit, the writing test will be administered from March 11-15. For middle school students in eighth-grade English classes, the SOL test will be March 18-22. For more information about testing, visit [vbschools.com](#).

March 11 – Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

The Special Education Advisory Committee will meet Monday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. at Ocean Lakes High School. Appointed by the local School Board, this committee advises the school division regarding educational

needs of special education students. The March meeting will feature speaker Sabrina Gross, from the Virginia Department of Education.

March 11 – Community Advisory Committee for Gifted Education meeting

The Community Advisory Committee for Gifted Education (CAC) will each host its next meeting Monday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m. at Brandon Middle School. The CAC advises the School Board regarding the educational needs of gifted students.

March 22-23 – Virginia Beach All-City Music Festival

March is celebrated as Music in Our Schools Month and the school division is hosting the Virginia Beach All-City Music Festival to showcase the talents of elementary and middle school music students. More than 1,300 students will perform onstage at the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts in five separate concerts that are free to the public. [More information.](#)

March 26 – Leadership lecture series

Green Run High School's Gentleman Making A Change (G.M.A.C.) club and The Golden Fold of Virginia Beach are hosting a lecture series about leadership, tailored for middle and high school students and their parents. The Tuesday, March 26, discussion is called "Building Your Inner Hero," with featured speakers Darryl Blackstock, Starr Armstrong and Rocky Holcomb. It starts at 7 p.m. at Green Run High School and is free and open to the public.

March 28 – VBCPS holds spring Beach Bags Food Drive

VBCPS and the Virginia Beach Education Foundation will host a Beach Bags food drive Thursday, March 28. The Beach Bags program provides shelf-stable meals and healthy snacks to VBCPS students who might otherwise go hungry during weekends and school vacations. Volunteers will collect donations for the Beach Bags program from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Pembroke Mall, Southern Bank and participating VBCPS schools. For more information about the program, visit vbschools.com.

March 29 – Staff Day

No school for students.

March 30 – Final Beach Girls Rock! Workshop being held at Salem High

The last [Beach Girls Rock! Empowerment Series](#) of the school year will be at Salem High School Saturday, March 30, from 8 a.m. to noon. The event is open to female students in grades five to eight and their parents. Interested students can register now through March 20 in their school counseling offices.

Ongoing reminders

Track your bus with new app

Know when your bus is approaching your stop – before and after school – with the new Here Comes The Bus® app. Parents can receive notifications – on one or multiple devices – letting them know when their bus is close to the stop. This Here Comes The Bus® app can be downloaded for free via the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) or accessed through the VBSchools mobile app. For more information and instructions on how to use the app, [visit vbschools.com](http://vbschools.com).

2019 VBEF Commemorative Print now available to purchase

The Virginia Beach Education Foundation (VBEF) is now taking orders for the 2019 Commemorative Print. Sales support the VBEF's Adopt A+ Grants program to help fund innovative and creative learning programs for VBCPS students. Full-color commemorative print posters and notecards can be purchased on vbef.org.

Congratulations!

VBCPS issues its 100,00th industry certification. [Read.](#)

DAR names 2019 history award honorees. [Read.](#)

VBPCS employee honored for saving a life. [Read.](#)

Students get second chance at college admissions. [Read.](#)

VBCPS celebrates newest National Board Certified Teachers. [Read.](#)

Schools receive state award for supporting military families. [Read.](#)

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