

VERO BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2023-2024



ADMINISTRATION

Mr. O'Keefe - Principal
Mr. Ahrens - Assistant Principal
Ms. Carroll - Assistant Principal (FLC)
Ms. Gonzalez – Assistant Principal
Ms. Griffin – Assistant Principal
Mr. Hart – Assistant Principal
Mr. Morgan – Vice Principal (FLC)
Ms. Teachout – Assistant Principal (FLC)
Ms. Flemming – Dean
Mr. Leslie – Dean
Mr. Mosblech – Success Coach (FLC)
Mr. Jankowski - Athletic Director

SCHOOL DAY

First bell rings at 7:05 AM
Late Bell rings at 7:15 AM
Dismissal at 1:52 PM

School Colors: Red and White
School Mascot: Indian

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements are given once in the morning by the Principal on main campus and by a Vice/ Assistant Principal at the FLC. They are also posted throughout the campus and are displayed on main campus in the cafeteria during lunch, and on our school's website. Announcements at any other time must be for emergencies or at the administration's discretion.

ATTENDANCE

There is probably no factor more important to successful school progress than regular school attendance. **Parents/guardians are expected to report absence to the attendance office within 48 hours of the absence. Parent or guardian shall report absences in writing with parent or guardian signature, by phone, or via email to the attendance secretary. Any attempt to excuse an absence after 48 hours will result in the absence being unexcused. Any phone call coming from a number that is not recorded in FOCUS will not be recognized. Any note that does not contain a phone number recorded in FOCUS will not be recognized.** If no call is received to report an absence by a parent/guardian, an automated call will be made home to alert the parent/guardian that the student did not attend school. The VBHS attendance telephone number is (772) 564-5555 on main campus and (772) 564-5676 at the FLC. It is operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

To request early dismissal for a student, a parent/guardian must call 772-564-5530 on Main Campus or 772-564-5800 at the FLC or send an email request at least an hour before the requested dismissal time or must send a signed not (containing a valid phone number). Students must sign out at the attendance office when dismissed early. Students will not be released within the final 30 minutes of the school day unless the principal/designee determines that it is an emergency.

A student must be in attendance a minimum of four (4) hours of instruction time to be considered present each day.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

- Illness of student
- Serious illness or death in student's immediate family
- Doctor/dental appointments. Parents are encouraged to schedule appointments after school hours.
- Health issues as they relate to pregnant students, mothers and/or their children. Appointments after school are encouraged.
- Legal matters
- Religious holidays of the family's specific faith or religious instruction which forbids secular activity at such time

Final determination of whether an absence is excused is the responsibility of the school principal.

NOTE: School-sponsored trips, extracurricular activities, assemblies, and internal suspensions are **NOT** considered absences.

STUDENTS AGED 18 OR OLDER: Students aged 18 and over are **NOT** able to sign themselves in and out of school unless they live independently **and** have made arrangements through Guidance.

COLLEGE VISITATIONS

We encourage parents and students to visit colleges during the summer rather than during the school year; however, a pre-arranged absence form must be submitted **at least five (5) school days in advance of the visit**. These absences will be excused and the student will be responsible to make up missed class work. These absences will be excused when verification of a college visit is received. Examples of verification are parking pass, college map, or letter from admission office.

PRE-ARRANGED ABSENCE FORMS

Family vacations with parents, college visits, trips, special honors/awards, etc. for which a student will miss three (3) or more days of school are considered unexcused, **unless** approved by the principal at least **five (5) school days in advance**.

STUDENTS WITH MODIFIED SCHEDULES

Students who have a modified schedule because of senior privilege, dual enrollment, or off-campus completion of a FLVS course are required to have a pass when arriving on or leaving campus outside of traditional arrival and departure times. Leaving campus without this pass may result in disciplinary action for non-compliance with school rules. This personalized, laminated pass can be obtained at the attendance desk in the front office and must be picked up either before school, after school, or during lunch by the end of the first week of school. The pass will be provided free of charge; a replacement pass will be available in the same location for \$1.00.

Students are not allowed to leave campus upon arrival in the morning before school. All students must remain on campus and will not be allowed to leave upon arrival unless signed out by a parent/guardian.

90% Attendance Policy Requirement

Vero Beach High School is committed to providing an environment conducive to learning. Students must be in attendance and in their classes in order for them to receive classroom instruction from their teacher. This will facilitate learning and increase student achievement.

Vero Beach High School has adopted a 90% Attendance Policy, which means students must attend 90% of their classes in order to participate in sports, extra-curricular activities, clubs and/or privileges.

The 90% Attendance Policy will be monitored by the total number of classes scheduled per student. All students must attend 90% of their classes. Monitoring will begin on the 30th day of each semester. Scheduled monitoring will take place approximately every ten days of the semester after the first thirty days; random monitoring may be done at any time. Compliance can be achieved/restored on any single day.

Students who fall below the 90% Attendance Policy will not be permitted to participate in any of the following sports, extra-curricular activities, or privileges. Other school related activities may be added to this list by the administration at VBHS.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR, PERFORMING ARTS, ATHLETICS & CLUBS

- Students **may** participate in practices, rehearsals, etc. in preparation for athletic contests, performances, clubs and extra-curricular events even though he/she is **below the 90% Attendance Policy Requirement**.
- Students **may not** play, participate, compete or perform in interscholastic athletic contests (games, matches, etc.) performances (concerts, plays, etc.) and extra-curricular events (Math Club, Drama, club competitions etc.) if he or she is **below the 90% Attendance Policy Requirement**.
- Playing, participating, or performing privileges are **earned or restored** when the student meets the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement**.

PARTICIPATION AS A SPECTATOR & SPECIAL TICKETED EVENTS

- Students **may** attend athletic events and performances as a spectator for the price of admission even though he/she is below the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement**.
- Students **may not** purchase tickets for any dances, homecoming events, Prom, Grad Bash, etc. if the student is **below the 90% Attendance Policy Requirement**. The privilege to purchase these tickets is **earned or restored** when the student meets the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement**.
- Students purchasing more than one ticket for dances, homecoming events, prom, etc. must provide the name of the guest to enable confirmation of compliance with the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement**. Tickets **will not** be sold for students who are below the requirement. Students who are out of compliance may not obtain a ticket purchased by another student.
- Students **may not** attend field trips if they are below the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement**. The privilege to attend field trips is **earned or restored** when the student meets the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement**.

PARKING PRIVILEGES

- Students who have met the requirements to purchase a parking sticker **must meet** the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement** to receive and maintain parking privileges. Parking privileges **will be suspended** for students who fall below the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement**. Their vehicle is not permitted on campus during school hours while privileges are suspended. Also, no vehicle may park in that student's parking space and they may not park in any other space on campus while under suspension. Parking privileges will be **earned or restored** when the student meets the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement**. School Security will monitor the Parking privileges of all student drivers.
- Students must meet the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement** for the second semester of the current school year to purchase a parking sticker for the following school year.

- Two parking permit suspensions may result in a loss of parking privileges for the remainder of school year. This will be decided on a case by case basis. **ALL** of the following are subject to adherence to the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement**:
- interscholastic sports
 - intramural sports
 - clubs
 - homecoming activities
 - Homecoming/ Prom Court
 - prom activities
 - dances
 - SGA/ Class Office candidacy and membership
 - senior activities
 - Grad Bash
 - Mock DUI participation
 - extra-curricular activities
 - field trips
 - concerts
 - plays
 - performances
 - National Honor Society
 - Scholars Ceremony
 - parking permits
 - Pep Rally participation.

Other school related activities may be added to this list at the sole discretion of the VBHS administration.

Badges

All students will be issued a student identification badge. Students must carry badges while on campus. Student badges will be required for: School Bus Transportation, Food Services, Student Events & Activities and Library Services. Replacement cost for lost/stolen identification badges is \$5 dollars.

DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSIONS FOR POOR ATTENDANCE

A Florida teen under the age of 18 cannot miss more than 15 days of school with unexcused absences within a 90 day period or their learner's permit or driver's license will be suspended indefinitely by the Florida DMV.

Florida schools automatically send a computer-generated list of students with unacceptable attendance to their school districts. Then each school district transmits the data to the Florida DMV. The student's privilege to drive is then suspended until age 18 or until a documented pattern of acceptable attendance is established. Students are informed of the suspension in the form a letter from the Department of Motor Vehicles in Tallahassee.

Source: Florida Statutes, Title XXIII, §322.091

HALL PASSES

Three passes will be provided per class each quarter. Teachers will document pass usage. For emergencies beyond three passes, an escort will be provided. Medical emergencies will be reported to the school nurse.

TARDY POLICY

The following Tardy Policy is in place for the 2023-24 school year. We want all parents and students to be aware of it. This is a concern that we do all we can to help assist students getting to class on time!

All late students who are not signed in by a parent/guardian at the attendance desk or do not have verification of a medical appointment will report to the cafeteria and then be escorted back to class. If a student arrives at the tardy room twenty or more minutes after the late bell, the student will be coded as **ABSENT** for the entire period. Parents/guardians **CANNOT** phone in a tardy excuse. Upon the next class change the tardy students will then transition to their next class. When a student receives their 4th tardy (total, not per class) they will be assigned a detention or a Saturday School. If a student receives their 5th tardy they will receive another Saturday School. If a student receives 6 or more tardies per

grading period, the student may be suspended for defiance/non-compliance for up to 2 days

Definition of Tardy per School Board: A late arrival is defined as arriving to school after the designated starting time. A tardy is defined as an arrival to class after the designated starting time or the tardy signal has sounded. When tardies become excessive (4) or more times per nine-week grading period, the parent/guardian will be notified by administration and appropriate consequence administered. If the problem continues, a progression of actions will be taken by the administration to address the problem.

At Vero Beach High School, tardies are now concurrent for all classes (not per class) and will run through each nine weeks grading period. Teachers will be instructed to close their doors when the tardy bell rings and no student will be permitted in after the bell rings. All late students will report to the cafeteria and sign in and receive the generated pass so they can gain entrance to that period. Students will not be permitted into a class after the late bell without a generated pass in an effort to maintain student accountability.

When a student receives their 4th tardy (total, not per class) they will be assigned an after-school detention. If a student receives their 5th tardy, they will receive another after school detention. If a student receives a 6, 7th tardy per grading period, they will get a two hour after school detention for continued mid-level infractions. If the tardies continue they may be referred to ASPIRE for Restorative Justice and/or counseling with the Success Coach to help assist in correcting the situation.

Also note: Excessive tardies will result in a student losing their parking privileges at the Main Campus!!!! Please refer to the late arrival section of the Student Code of Conduct.

REMINDER: ANY STUDENT WHO REPORTS TO SCHOOL OR CLASS LATE, THAT HAS AN EXCUSABLE REASON, SHOULD REPORT TO THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE FOR A GENERATED PASS TO CLASS. PLEASE REFER TO YOUR CODE OF CONDUCT FOR INFORMATION ON WHAT IS AND IS NOT EXCUSABLE FOR TARDIES.

Students with excessive tardies in any of their classes will be held accountable for the following consequences.

Parent Contact or Meeting

Possible loss of Driving Privileges

Meetings with Success Coach

Counseling/Interventions

Regular attendance is when a student attends more than 95% of the academic school year. Excessive absences impair a student's educational process.

- Teachers will record attendance daily in FOCUS. Following 3 unexcused absences, the teacher is required to contact the parent.
- When a student has reaches 5 unexcused absences, an attendance letter will be sent home and the parent will be called.
- When a student reaches 10 unexcused absences or 5 in a month, the parent will be invited to a problem-solving session with the school team and student will be placed on an attendance contract.
- If attendance contract is not followed, parent and student will meet with the school Attendance Appeal Committee-possibly resulting in a referral to Truancy Court to the District Review Team.
- 15 or more unexcused absences results in referral to Truancy Court (Florida Statute 1003.26)
- SECONDARY SCHOOLS: 10 unexcused absences in any one CORE course per semester will be referred to school Attendance Appeal Committee possibly resulting in withholding of credit or placement on probation.

BUS TRANSPORTED STUDENTS

Students should be on time at the designated stop. While on the bus, students should practice courtesy, good conduct, and safety. **All school rules apply** on the way to the bus stop, at the bus stop, and on the bus. Improper conduct may result in suspension from the bus and/or school. If there are any bus routing problems, contact the Transportation Dept. at 978-8801.

Students who periodically request to ride a different bus must bring in a **bus note** with the student's name, ID number, and bus that they are going to take with explanation as to why they are taking the bus. The note must be signed by the parent/guardian and indicate the phone number(s) where the parent/guardian can be reached to verify the change. **The note must be given to the secretary in the Assistant Principals' office on main campus or to the secretary at the front desk at the FLC in the morning for approval.**

Need to know where your child's bus stop location is? You can access that information now using the Find My School tab on the Indian River County School District main website. Go to www.indianriverschools.org, click the FIND MY SCHOOL tab, enter your street address. Once your zoned school appears, click it and the bus stop location appears along with AM/PM times. Bus stop locations will no longer be posted to the website. Students participating in open enrollment are not eligible for bus transportation. If no school/bus stop information appears, please call 978-8801 and choose option 2 for Routing.

CAFETERIA

The cafeteria is maintained as a vital part of the health program of the school. To encourage good nutrition, a well-balanced lunch program is offered at a reasonable price. You must state your full name and input your school I.D. number when purchasing breakfast and lunch. Food is not allowed past the covered patio dining area during breakfast or lunch, with the exception of seniors only during lunch, who may bring their lunch to eat in the "Seniors Only" dining area, located at the old patio, north of "the bridge". Students are not permitted to be in any other areas during the lunch periods without a pass or administrative permission. Food and drinks are not allowed at or near the planters, or any other areas in the courtyard or buildings. The cafeteria management and your fellow students will appreciate your cooperation in depositing all lunch litter in the designated receptacles and leaving the table and floor around your place in a clean condition for others. **FOOD AND DRINKS ARE PERMITTED ONLY IN THE CAFETERIA, COVERED PATIO, AND SENIORS ONLY DINING AREA.** Exception: Water that is in a clear container is permitted in classrooms.

CLINIC/ACCIDENTS

If a student is too ill to remain in school, he/she is to report to the clinic and his/her parents will be contacted. The office must receive permission from a parent or guardian before allowing the student to leave campus. In case of injury, the student should report to the clinic. If involved in an accident during the school day, a report must be completed by the supervising teacher and returned to the clinic for the principal's signature.

SCHOOL ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Students and parents are encouraged to buy school accident insurance from our school district. There are two policies, one covers the student on campus and the other covers the student 24 hours per day. They are both available for a nominal cost to the parents. Please pick up an application in the clinic.

MEDICATIONS

In accordance with **Florida Statute 1006.062**, medication which is prescribed by a physician or other licensed health care provider with prescriptive authority may be administered to the student during the school day, including any occasion when the student is away from school property on official school business if failure to take such medication jeopardizes the student's health. Prescription, non-prescription, and over-the-counter medication must be administered by school personnel and will require completion of the School District of Indian River County Medication Permission Slip available at local pharmacies and from the school Health Assistant. Possession of non-approved medication may be subject to law enforcement review.

LOCKERS

Lockers and locks are issued to students at the beginning of the school year. Your locker should be kept locked at all times. Students are cautioned against sharing their combination and locker with others. Each student is responsible for keeping his/her assigned locker clean inside and outside.

Locks must be returned at the end of the school year; if not returned, locks must be paid for by the students. Damages caused by misuse, tape, etc. will be charged to the student. Failure to clean out an assigned locker at the end of the school year will result in a \$5.00 cleaning fee charged to the student. Any locker malfunction should be reported to the Administrative office. Students are cautioned not to keep money or other valuables in their lockers. **The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.**

Individual lockers or storage areas are school property and may be searched without prior notice if the school staff has reasonable suspicion that a prohibited or illegally possessed substance or object is present. Prohibited or illegally possessed substances or objects include, but are not limited to, the following: drugs, alcohol, weapons, stolen items, objects or material declared as contraband by school regulations.

LOST AND FOUND

Articles found in the school should be turned in to the front office, where the owner may claim their property after proper identification. Any items not picked up will be disposed of at the end of each semester.

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

In accordance with school board rule, and upholding those policies VBHS believes that the school should help students learn to respect property and develop feelings of pride in community institutions. Thereby VBHS charges each student with responsibility for the proper care of school property and the school supplies and equipment entrusted to his/her use.

Students who cause damage to school property shall be subject to disciplinary measures, and their parents shall be financially liable for such damage to the extent of the law except that students eighteen (18) years of age or older shall also be liable for damage they cause.

In accordance with school board rule, and upholding those policies VBHS will impose fines for the loss, damage, or destruction of school equipment, computers and other electronic devices, school apparatus, musical instruments, media material, textbooks, and for damage to school buildings.

The Board may report to the appropriate juvenile authorities any student whose damage of school property has been serious or chronic in nature.

A reward may be offered by the school for the apprehension of any person who vandalizes school property.

Any materials hung on walls such as posters, pictures, announcements, fliers, etc. must be approved ahead of time by school administration before they are hung. Marking any surface on campus with permanent or temporary materials is strictly prohibited, and will be considered an act of vandalism unless prior approval is obtained by school administration for such activity.

DISORDER AND DEMONSTRATION

In accordance with school board rule, and upholding those policies, VBHS recognizes the right of each student to attend school for the purpose of receiving an education. The disruption of the educational program of the schools by disorder or any other purposeful activity will not be allowed.

For purposes of this policy, disorder shall be any deliberate activity by an individual or a group, whether peaceful or violent, which interferes with the normal operation of the school.

The Board, having the responsibility for providing an educational program for the students of this District, shall have the authority to preserve order for the proper functioning of that program.

Students shall not be disturbed in the exercise of their constitutionally guaranteed rights to assemble peaceably and to express ideas and opinions, privately or publicly, provided that such exercise does not infringe on the rights of others and does not interfere with the operation of the schools.

F.S. 1001.43, 1006.145

SCHOOL-SPONSORED PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCTIONS

The School sponsors student publications and productions as means by which students learn, under adult direction/supervision, the rights and responsibilities inherent when engaging in the public expression of ideas and information in our democratic society.

For purposes of this policy, "school-sponsored student media" shall include both student publications and productions. "Student publications" shall include any written materials, (including, but not limited to, banners, flyers, posters, pamphlets, notices, newspapers, playbills, yearbooks, literary journals, books, and t-shirts and other school-sponsored clothing), as well as material in electronic or on-line form (including, but not limited to, websites, web logs ("blogs"), video or audio clips, and newsletters or announcements transmitted by e-mail, wireless broadcast or other similar distribution/dissemination). "Student productions" shall include vocal and theatrical performances, impromptu dramatic presentations, or any electronic media (including, but not limited to, radio and television programs, podcasts, and other video or audio productions that are recorded for re-broadcast or broadcast in real time using any available broadcast technology). Further, the term "publication" shall include distribution and dissemination of a student publication; and the term "performance" shall include presentation and broadcast of a student production, speech, etc..

The following speech is unprotected and prohibited in all school-sponsored student publications and productions: speech that is defamatory, libelous, obscene or harmful to juveniles; speech that is reasonably likely to cause substantial disruption of or material interference with school activities or the educational process; speech that infringes upon the privacy or rights of others; speech that violates copyright law; speech that promotes activities, products or services that are unlawful (illegal) as to minors as defined by State or Federal law; and speech that otherwise violates school policy and/or State or Federal law. The Board authorizes the administration to engage in prior review and restraint of school-sponsored publications and productions to prevent the publication or performance of unprotected speech.

All school-sponsored student publications and productions are nonpublic forums. While students may address matters of interest or concern to their readers/viewers, as nonpublic forums, the style and content of the student publications and productions can be regulated for legitimate pedagogical, school-related reasons. School officials shall routinely and systematically review and, if necessary, restrict the style and/or content of all school-sponsored student publications and productions prior to publication/performance in a reasonable manner that is neutral as to the viewpoint of the speaker. Legitimate pedagogical concerns are not confined to academic issues, but include the teaching by example of the shared values of a civilized social order, which consists of not only independence of thought and frankness of expression but also discipline, courtesy/civility, and respect for authority. School officials may **further** prohibit speech that is ungrammatical, poorly written, inadequately researched, biased or prejudiced, vulgar or profane, or unsuitable for immature audiences.

Students shall not be disciplined and/or retaliated against for exercising and/or asserting their free speech rights as defined in this policy. In accordance with school board rule, and upholding those policies VBHS is not restricted in its ability to impose post-publication/performance discipline related to a student engaging in the impermissible publication/performance of unprotected speech.

Advertising is permitted in all school-sponsored student publications/productions.

Advertisements submitted for publication or inclusion in a production shall be reviewed by the Principal for a determination that they are appropriate for juveniles. Advertisements may be rejected for legitimate pedagogical school-related reasons unrelated to the viewpoint of the advertiser (e.g., the advertisement encourages action that would endanger the health and safety of students).

General Prohibitions

Regardless of their status as non-public or limited-purpose public *forums*, the Board prohibits publications, productions, and advertisements that:

- A. promote, favor, or oppose any candidate for election or the adoption of any bond issue, proposal, or question submitted at any election;
- B. fail to identify the student or organization responsible for the publication/performance.

PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Participation in interscholastic and interscholastic extra-curricular activities is a privilege and not a right. Therefore, the school board authorizes the Superintendent, principals, assistant principals, and other authorized personnel employed by the District to supervisor or coach a student activity program and to prohibit a student from participating in extra-curricular activities of the District if the student fails to meet eligibility standards or for offenses or violations of the Code of Student Conduct for a period not to exceed the remainder of the school year in which the offense or violation of the Code of Student Conduct took place.

In addition, student athletes are further subject to the Athletic Code of Conduct and may be prohibited from participating in all or part of any interscholastic sport for violations therein.

Students prohibited from participation in all or part of any extra-curricular activity are not entitled to further notice, hearing, or appeal rights.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

District/school sponsored or non-district-sponsored, once approved as a registered student organization/club, our clubs and organizations programs are designed to make available a variety of groups to meet the interest of the student body. The plans, activities, and functions of each club are decided upon and carried out by the members and their elected officers, with the help of an advisor. The success of each activity depends on the members' loyalty and work and the officers' capabilities. A club is only as good as its members make it. Help make your club or organization fruitful by participating actively. All clubs must have a faculty advisor who is willing to supervise club meetings and activities.

Furthermore, club sponsors must ensure that each club member is provided the VBHS Club Participation Parent Notification/Approval form. Each club sponsor must make phone contact with each potential club member parent before membership is granted to be sure that the parent fully understands the club's purpose, intent, and expectations.

For any fund-raisers by student clubs and organizations, parent groups, or booster clubs that involves the sale to students of food items and/or beverages that will be consumed on campus, the food and/or beverages items to be sold shall comply with the current USDA *Dietary Guidelines for Americans Nutrition Standards for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs*, and the USDA *Smart Snacks in Schools* and regulations, F.A.C. 5P-1.003, and applicable State law, unless the Principal grants an exception to this requirement pursuant to F.A.C. 5P-1.003. If approved, fund-raisers that involve the sale of food items or beverages to students on campus must be consistent with regulations established in Policy **8550**, Competitive Foods, whether those food items and beverages are compliant with, or an exception to, the current USDA *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* and the USDA *Smart Snacks in Schools* regulations.

If an exception is granted to the requirement that food items and beverages available for sale to students on campus between one (1) hour after the last lunch period and thirty (30) minutes after the end of the school day are compliant with the current USDA *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* and the USDA *Smart Snacks in Schools* regulations, the Principal shall also comply with all requirements set forth in F.A.C. 5P-1.003, including the maintenance of required records.

5730 - EQUAL ACCESS FOR NONDISTRICT-SPONSORED, STUDENT CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

In accordance with school board rule, and upholding those policies VBHS will not permit the use of school facilities by nondistrict-sponsored student clubs and activities or District-sponsored, noncurricular-related clubs and activities during instructional hours. During noninstructional time, however, no group of students, regardless of the size of the group, will be denied an opportunity to meet on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the activity.

An application for permission for non-district-sponsored student clubs and activities to meet on school premises shall be made to Risk Management, who shall grant permission provided that it is determined that:

- A. the activity has been initiated by students;
- B. attendance at the meeting is voluntary;

- C. no agent or employee of the District will promote, lead, or participate in the meeting on behalf of the School District;
- D. the meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of instructional activities in the school;
- E. non-school persons do not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend the activity.

A student-initiated group granted permission to meet on school premises shall be provided the same rights and access and shall be subject to the same administrative procedures that govern the meetings of student organizations sponsored by this Board, except as provided by this policy. Participation in a student-initiated meeting must be available to all students who wish to attend and cannot be denied on the basis of a student's race, color, creed, religion, gender, national origin, disability, or social or economic status.

The Board will not permit the organization of a fraternity, sorority, or secret society. The Superintendent may exclude nonstudents from directing, controlling, or attending any meetings of students.

A staff member may be assigned to attend a student-initiated meeting in a custodial capacity but shall not participate in the activity. No staff member shall be compelled to attend a student-initiated meeting if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to his/her beliefs.

The Principal may take such actions as may be necessary to maintain order and discipline on school premises and to protect the safety and well-being of students and staff members.

F.S. 1006.14

20 U.S.C. 4071 et seq., Equal Access Act of 1984

42 U.S.C. 12101, et seq., Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

42 U.S.C. 2000e, Civil Rights Act of 1964

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STUDENT FUND-RAISING

In accordance with school board rule and upholding those policies, VBHS acknowledges that the solicitation of funds from students by students must be limited since compulsory attendance laws make the student a captive donor and since such solicitation may disrupt the program of the schools.

For purposes of this policy "student fund-raising" shall include student solicitation and collection of money for any purpose including collection of money in exchange for tickets, papers, or any other goods or services.

The Board will permit student fund-raising in school, on school property, or at any school-sponsored event only when the profit therefrom is to be used for school purposes or for an activity connected with the schools. Contracts with vendors shall limit the percentage that private companies may earn from school-based fund-raising involving students to fifty percent (50%) of the total profit.

Further, student fund-raising by approved school organizations, those whose funds are managed by the Fiscal Officer, may be permitted in school if approved by the principal.

All fund-raisers must be approved by the principal.

Raffles and all games of chance are prohibited.

For any fund-raisers by student clubs and organizations, parent groups, or booster clubs that involves the sale to students of food items and/or beverages that will be consumed on campus, the food and/or beverages items to be sold shall comply with the current USDA *Dietary Guidelines for Americans Nutrition Standards for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs*, and the USDA *Smart Snacks in Schools* and regulations, F.A.C. 5P-1.003, and applicable State law, unless the Principal grants an exception to this requirement pursuant to F.A.C. 5P-1.003. If approved, fund-raisers that involve the sale of food items or beverages to students on campus must be consistent with regulations established in Policy **8550**, Competitive Foods, whether those food items and beverages are compliant with, or an exception to, the current USDA *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* and the USDA *Smart Snacks in Schools* regulations.

If an exception is granted to the requirement that food items and beverages available for sale to students on campus between one (1) hour after the last lunch period and thirty (30) minutes after the end of the school day are compliant with the current USDA *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* and the USDA *Smart Snacks in Schools* regulations, the Principal shall also comply with all requirements set forth in F.A.C. 5P-1.003, including the maintenance of required records.

Door-to-door solicitation by elementary and middle school students is prohibited. High school students who solicit door-to-door are required to work in groups of at least two (2).

School-wide and classroom incentives are permitted with the approval of the Principal. Incentives for individual students may be permitted if they have educational value.

Student fund-raising by approved school organizations off school grounds may be permitted under the administrative procedures of the Superintendent.

Fund-raising by students on behalf of school-related organizations whose funds are not managed by the Fiscal Officer may be permitted on school grounds in accordance with the Superintendent's administrative procedures. These fund-raisers shall comply with the provisions of Policy **9211**, Parent Organizations, Booster Clubs, and Other Fund-Raising Activities.

These administrative procedures should:

1. Specify the times and places in which funds may be collected;

2. Describe permitted methods of solicitation which do not place undue pressure on students; and
3. Limit the kind and amount of advertising for solicitation.

Advisors, whether staff members or volunteers, for approved school organizations shall not accept any form of compensation from vendors that might influence their selection on a vendor that will provide a fund-raising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser. Furthermore, advisors, whether staff members or volunteers, for approved school organizations shall not accept any compensation from a vendor after a decision has been made regarding a fundraising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser.

In addition, advisors, whether staff members or volunteers, for approved school organizations who make the selection of a vendor that will provide a fund-raising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser shall not enter into a contractual arrangement whereby an advisor receives compensation in any form from the vendor that provides a fund-raising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser.

Such compensation includes, but is not limited to, cash, checks, stocks, or any other form of securities, and gifts such as televisions, microwave ovens, computers, discount certificates, travel vouchers, tickets, passes, and other such things of value. In the event that an advisor of an approved school organization receives such compensation, albeit unsolicited, from a vendor, the individual shall notify the Fiscal Officer, in writing, that s/he received such compensation and shall thereafter properly transmit said compensation to the Fiscal Officer at his/her earliest opportunity.

The Superintendent shall distribute this policy and the procedures that implement it to each student organization granted permission to solicit funds.

F.S. 1001.41, 1001.42, 1001.43, 1010.01, 1010.20, 1011.07

F.A.C. 5P-1.003, Responsibilities for the School Food Service Program

F.A.C. 6A-1.001, District Financial Records

F.A.C. 6A-1.087, School Board Responsible for Internal Funds

F.A.C. 6A-1.091, Purchases from Internal Funds

7 C.F.R. 210.11

42 U.S.C. 1779

Chapter 8, Financial and Program Cost Accounting and Property for Florida Schools, 2014

Adopted 7/28/15

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5840 - STUDENT GROUPS

In accordance with school board rule and upholding those policies, VBHS requires that student groups be recognized as authorized school organizations only if they are approved by the school administration, sponsored by school-approved personnel, composed of members of the current student body, hold the majority of their meetings at school, and have established aims which are educational in nature.

Membership or participation in the organization or operation of any fraternity, sorority, or other secret group as described by law is prohibited throughout the School District. In particular, the Board shall not tolerate any type of gang or gang-related activity to occur on District property or while students are under the auspices of the Board.

F.S. 1006.14

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5880 - PUBLIC PERFORMANCES BY STUDENTS

In accordance with school board rule and upholding those policies, VBHS has recognized the value to students, the School District, and the community of students sharing their talents and skills with the community through participation and performances in public events.

General Procedures

At the beginning of each school year, staff members in charge of student groups who wish to perform out of the District at local events as an integral part of the instructional program shall submit the plan to the principal for approval. If the performance involves an overnight or extended trip, the request shall be submitted to the Superintendent by the principal in accord with AP 2340C.

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ATHLETICS

Varsity Sports for Boys: Baseball, Basketball, Bowling, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Swimming, Tennis, Track, and Wrestling

Varsity Sports for Girls: Basketball, Beach Volleyball, Bowling, Cross Country, Flag Football, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track, Volleyball, Weightlifting and Wrestling.

Student athletes are required to carry their athlete pass in order to gain free admission to athletic events except FHSAA State Series competition.

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

A student must be in school five hours to participate in a game or school activity that day or night. A student must be in school on Friday to participate in a game or school activity on Saturday. Exceptions: death in the family, appearance in court. Illness is not a satisfactory excuse. If one is too sick to go to school, one is too sick to participate in a sport or school activity. A student must maintain a cumulative 2.0 GPA to remain eligible in athletics. Fall sports will refer to the previous school year's record to determine eligibility. **A Parent/Player Packet agreement and a**

current FHSAA physical form must be on file in the athletic office before a student can practice or compete in any sport and all student athletes are responsible for their "Pay to Participate" fee before being rostered on an athletic team.

Non-traditional students will be required to complete an additional registration form required by the Florida High School Athletic Association. Non-traditional students are foreign exchange students, those who are educated at home, attend a charter school, attend a non-member private school, or are enrolled in Florida Virtual School. This form must be completed and submitted to the FHSAA prior to the student competing in any sport.

Additionally, a student must maintain 90% Attendance by VBHS School Policy as well as satisfactory conduct and, if a student has committed or is convicted of a felony or a delinquent act which would have been a felony if committed by an adult, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, the student's participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is contingent upon established published school board policy. Students are responsible for uniforms and equipment. Failure to either return or to pay for such items will result in a loss of participation in sports and the addition of the student's name to the Obligations List.

NOTE: Any student who wishes to participate in athletics at VBHS will be required to sign an anti-hazing agreement. The use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs is strictly prohibited and will result in removal from the team. Additional policies and procedures may apply to individual sports.

The school district has implemented "Pay to Participate" in an effort to fund high school athletics. Each student athlete will be required to pay a onetime fee of \$65.00 per school year. Parents and students are reminded that participation in high school sports is a privilege and not a right. All student athletes will comply with Florida Statutes, section 1006.15, also known as the "Craig Dickinson Act".

HAZING

The act of recklessly or intentionally endangering the mental or physical health or safety of a high school student for purposes is prohibited, including, but not limited to initiation or admission into affiliation with any organization operating under the sanction of the high school and in accordance with Section 1006.63, Florida Statutes.

The School Board of Indian River County and Vero Beach High School forbid hazing in any form, including initiation that is degrading. No student shall conspire to engage in hazing, participate in hazing, or commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, and personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any fellow student or other person. Persons violating this policy shall be subject to site based discipline penalties and forfeiture of entitlements.

HANDS OFF-POLICY

We have a responsibility to promote peace and harmony within our school community by providing a positive and safe learning environment for all. It is essential for all to realize the importance of respecting others. This policy is to promote an atmosphere and general conduct which discourages the opportunities for Bullying and Harassment and promotes student/staff safety and security.

GUIDELINES

- Physical acts such as pushing, shoving, punching, grabbing, slapping, poking, etc., will not be tolerated, even in "fun" or as a "practical joke".
- No student is to touch another's property without the owner's permission.

CONSEQUENCE : Please refer to the Matrix of Infractions and Consequences (For Formal Discipline) located in the Code of Student Conduct.

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

Social media tools like Facebook, Myspace, Instagram, Google, Snapchat, Flickr, etc. are potential learning and teaching tools that can help teachers and students make connections to ideas, skills, and concepts in a 21st-century learning environment.

Social media offers the opportunity to interact with the public and school in new and dynamic ways that facilitate transparency, interactivity, and collaboration. These tools engage populations differently than traditional media and enhance existing communication strategies. We encourage students who are engaged with social media to educate themselves along with their parents about effective, responsible, and safe use of these emerging tools. The best practices shared below do not constitute a VBHS policy. Instead, these best practices are intended to provide students with information that will assist them in their use of social media tools:

Guidelines for Student Use of Social Media

- First and foremost, students are encouraged to always exercise the utmost caution when participating in any form of social media or online communications, both within the VBHS community and beyond.
- Students who participate in online interactions should remember that their posts reflect on the entire VBHS community and, as such, are subject to the same behavioral standards set forth in the Student Code of Conduct.
- Students should not use social media sites to publish disparaging or harassing remarks about VBHS community members, other students, athletic or academic contest rivals, etc.
- Students who choose to post content to websites or other forms of online media should be sure that their submission does not reflect poorly upon the school and cause a disruption to the learning environment or to any function of the school.
- While the increased online exposure can be useful if handled properly, social media can also lead to unwanted consequences if a student does not fully understand their potential online audience. The attention colleges are devoting to the topic is an indication of the exploding popularity of online networking on campus and, more importantly, the time and energy administrators have spent dealing with the fallout when students post things that become more public than they intended.
- Students should keep in mind that photos showing illegal activity, such as underage drinking, can be used to implicate them in a

situation. Most colleges or law enforcement agencies don't have time to actively patrol online profiles to look for evidence of wrongdoing, but they are obliged to respond to complaints.

- Students should also consider future career aspirations and the accessibility of the information they are posting for future employers to view. Students should avoid having arguments on a social media website, as they risk presenting themselves as combative or confrontational to others. Additionally, students need to be careful about what photos and videos are posted online. A good rule of thumb is to avoid posting images that a student would not want you parents or teachers to see – let alone a future employer or college admissions office.

Despite a few negative consequences of bad social media practices, students should absolutely use and enjoy these tools – find old friends, form study groups, network and more.

RANDOM STUDENT DRUG TESTING FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR COMPETITIVE ACTIVITY PARTICIPANTS

In accordance with School Board Policy 2431.02, and in an effort to provide a healthy and safe environment for interscholastic extra-curricular competitive activity participants, VBHS will be conducting randomized drug testing throughout the 2015-2016 school year. The policy is designed to be proactive in ensuring the safety of all students participating in interscholastic extra-curricular activities, and to undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for students to refuse to use illegal drugs.

School Board Policy 2431.02 shall become effective July 1, 2015. Interscholastic extra-curricular activities include all Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) sanctioned, recognized or club activities as well as all non-FHSAA sanctioned, recognized and club activities, including practices and contests. Interscholastic extra-curricular competitive performing arts activities include all band, chorus, orchestra, and drama activities, including practices, performances, and contests. Interscholastic extra-curricular competitive academic activities include but are not limited to Math Team, Academic Games, Envirothon, Future Business Leaders of America, and Debate Team, including practices, performances, and contests.

All students who wish to participate in interscholastic extra-curricular competitive activities shall be subject to random drug testing in accordance with this policy. Prior to participating in interscholastic extra-curricular activities, the student and the student's parent/guardian shall sign and deliver the Consent to Random Student Drug Testing for Interscholastic Extra-Curricular Competitive Participants Form (Form 2431.02 F1) to the student's school. The consent shall be valid for 12 months from the date of signature. A student who does not have a current consent on file will not be allowed to participate, which includes attendance at any practice, tryout, game, contest, performance, or competition.

Random drug testing of interscholastic extra-curricular athlete students may be conducted at various times throughout the school year, and at least once per athletic season (fall, winter, and spring) at the direction of the principal. Random drug testing of interscholastic extra-curricular competitive performing arts and academic students may be conducted at various times throughout the school year, and at least once per school year at the direction of the principal. Random selection will be handled by the Random Student Drug Testing Coordinator, as designated by the Principal, at VBHS. For specifics on the selection and testing process see School Board Policy 2431.02 Selection and Testing of Process. This document provides information on providing test samples, the illegal substances that VBHS will screen for, and the appeal process. For the consequences stemming from a positive drug test see School Board Policy 2431.02 Consequences.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

To give students a practical working knowledge of democracy and to establish and maintain school spirit, high standards of character and leadership, the students of VBHS elect and support a Student Government Association.

- All campaign material must be approved by the SGA sponsoring faculty member
- Any candidate caught defacing or removing another candidate's materials (posters etc.) will forfeit candidacy
- No campaign material, social media, or action may slander any other candidate
- All posters must be placed in approved locations and only blue painters tape may be used to fasten materials on walls, etc. Materials may not be placed on windows for security/safety reasons

STUDENT PRIVILEGES

Students need to be aware that certain student activities are privileges and **NOT** rights. If a student has poor attendance (below 90%), excessive discipline referrals (which may include behavior, tardies, attendance, skipping, unexcused absence, long term suspensions, etc.) resulting in an accumulation of more than five days OSS, and/or is involved in events or pranks that are considered unacceptable and/or inappropriate by the administration, a student could lose any or all of the privileges listed below; no refunds will be given:

1. **Student Parking/Driving**
2. **Grad Bash**
3. **Junior-Senior Prom and Homecoming Dance**
4. **Participation in Graduation Ceremony**
5. **Senior Dining Area Privilege**
6. **Any other activity deemed by the administration to be a student privilege**

VERO BEACH HIGH SCHOOL DANCES

Vero Beach students who attend school sponsored dances (homecoming, prom, etc...) and would like to bring a guest who is not a VBHS student

MUST sign the guest up in the Assistant Principals' office by the specified cutoff date. Failure to do so will result in your guest not being approved. Your guest must provide a copy of a valid driver license or current school year identification card. Your guest MUST not be above the age of 21. No middle school students are allowed to attend any dances. All guests MUST be in good standing in both school and/or community. Guests must pass VBHS administration and school resource officer (SRO) approval. Students bringing a guest will take full responsibility for their guest's actions while attending the dance. Ineligible students may not obtain a dance ticket from another person.

SAFETY DRILLS AND EMERGENCY EVACUATIONS

Instructions identifying the route of evacuation are posted in each room. These instructions must be followed exactly. Students should leave the building in single file by the nearest exit. Students must report to the teacher once outside for attendance. When the school has been evacuated, students will return to class when the "ALL CLEAR" is announced over the intercom system. Creating false alarms could result in felony charges and/or may be grounds for expulsion.

TORNADO DRILLS/CODE BLUE

Tornado drills are practiced during the school year. Instructions identifying the best available refuge have been provided to all staff. Students should evacuate to the designated tornado refuge areas. Students should remain as close as possible to their period teacher so that attendance can be taken. Students will return to class when the "ALL CLEAR" is announced over the intercom system.

CODE RED/YELLOW

Instructions are given to teachers and staff regarding the procedures for each code. Code Yellow and Code Red drills are practiced during the school year. These procedures are used when the school needs to be secured against potential hazards. Instructions will be practiced announced over the intercom system when applicable.

SCHEDULE FOR PROGRESS REPORTS AND REPORT CARDS

9/18/2023	Progress Reports
10/23/2023	First Quarter Report Cards
11/17/2023	Progress Reports
1/16/2024	Second Quarter Report Cards
2/14/2024	Progress Reports
4/5/2024	Third Quarter Report Cards
5/3/2024	Progress Reports
6/4/2024	Report Cards Available for Pick-up (Report Cards will NOT be mailed.)

GRADING SCALE

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
59 or lower	F

The notation "I" indicates an incomplete grade due to make up work that must be completed before the grade can be finalized. If the required assignments are not completed within 2 weeks of the end of the quarter, the incomplete grade will revert to an F.

GPA

GPA (grade point average) is calculated on a semester basis and is cumulative. At the end of each semester, both the un-weighted (state) and weighted (local) GPA appear on the report card. Eligibility for athletics is based on the un-weighted (state) GPA. High school GPA begins when a student enrolls in a high school level course; e.g., algebra I, geometry and Spanish I taken in middle school.

WEIGHTED GPA & CLASS RANKING

Class ranking is based upon the Indian River School District weighted GPA. Honors are awarded an additional .5 point and Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment are awarded 1 extra point.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: To graduate from high school, a student must earn at least twenty four credits and successfully complete all required courses. A 2.0 cumulative grade point average is required for graduation. Parents should check the guidance and DOE websites for up to date information on additional graduation requirements.

To be in 10th Grade, you must have: 6 Credits

To be in 11th Grade, you must have: 12 Credits

To be in 12th Grade, you must have: 18 Credits

BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

Students may qualify for a state funded Bright Futures Scholarship in various ways. Requirements differ for each graduating class. See the website for details. To apply for a Bright Futures Scholarship, seniors must complete an application for state financial aid beginning in December of their senior year online at www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org

**ACT, SAT registration packets are available in the Guidance Office or students can register online.

GUIDANCE

The Guidance Office assists students in meeting the State of Florida requirements for graduation by enrolling students in the proper courses for graduation. Guidance Counselors also assist students in preparing goals for the future, developing long-range educational and work plans, and college admissions and scholarships, including financial aid.

Parents may make appointments with guidance counselors by calling the office at 772-564-5526. The guidance office is open to students before school, during lunch and after school. The Guidance Office is open during the summer; however, counselors are not available.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

VBHS begins its general scheduling process for the upcoming school year during the second semester of the current school year. Students and parents are involved in the scheduling process, which is completed with an acceptance signature on the jointly developed class selection schedule form. Once the schedule is approved and signed, it will be set and added to the school wide "master schedule." A student may request a schedule change up until June 15th each year. These changes will be granted based on availability at the time of the request. Please note that, although there may be seats available in the requested course, a change is not always possible based on seat availability in courses that need to be moved around. A student's best selection and opportunity for courses is at their scheduling appointment. There will be no schedule changes after June 15th each year. Any requests for schedule changes past June 15th will be brought before the VBHS Ed. Review Committee. This committee is generally made up of school counselors, education specialists, teachers, administrator(s), and the principal. The scheduling decision made by the Committee can be appealed by a parent. If an appeal is filed, the parent must meet with the Ed. Review Committee in person at a scheduled time to present any concerns. The committee will deliberate following this meeting and will render their final committee decision. Parents and students are encouraged to make careful decisions when selecting courses, as schedule changes are done on a very limited basis once school begins. Once the official school year starts, changes to course selections are made **only** for the following errors in student schedules.

Approved changes	Changes not approved
Duplicate course	Desire for a different teacher
Credit already received for the course	Desire for a different lunch period
Course Prerequisites not met	Desire to raise GPA
Incorrect course sequence	Do not like elective
Course needed for graduation	Failure to earn passing grade in a course

Each student will be assigned to one of our counselors. Please communicate directly with that counselor. Counselors may be contacted through the following phone numbers and e-mail addresses:

STUDENT'S LAST NAME	COUNSELOR	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
A-Coo	Ms. Holderman	772-564-5384	Rachel.holderman@indianriverschools.org
Cop-Fel/Director	Ms. Wood	772-564-5536	Jessica.wood@indianriverschools.org
Fem-Ken	Ms. Woodall	772-564-5481	Kathryn.woodall@indianriverschools.org
Kh-Ol	Ms. Calixte	772-564-5435	Sophie.calixte@indianriverschools.org
On-Sim	Ms. Loughry	772-564-5515	Jacqueline.loughry@indianriverschools.org
Sin-Z	Ms. Bailey	772-564-5516	Karen.bailey@indianriverschools.org
ESE Resource (A-Ka)	Ms. Lane	772 - 564 - 5481	Taylor.lane@indianriverschools.org
ESE Resource (Kb-Z)	TBA	TBA	
A - K (FLC)	Mr. Fletcher	772-564-5740	Todd.fletcher@indianriverschools.org

L – Z (FLC)	Ms. Ohs	772 – 564 -5741	Holly.ohs@indianriverschools.org
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HIGH SCHOOL CODE NUMBER

Each school is assigned a six-digit code number that is required for test registration (ACT and SAT), financial aid forms, and is often requested on college applications. **The number for Vero Beach High School is 101795.**

TESTING

EOC (End of Course) - computer-based, criterion-referenced assessments that measure the Florida Standards (FS) or the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) for specific courses, as outlined in their course descriptions.

ACT (American College Testing) - college admission

SAT I (Scholastic Aptitude Test) - college admission

SAT II (Subject tests used by some colleges for placement)

PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National)

TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education) - Given to determine eligibility for PBD Program

AP (Advanced Placement Test) - Examinations which recognize candidates' qualifications for advanced placement and college credit.

ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Test) - Aptitude battery that provides information to the military on potential recruits and to schools for educational and career counseling. Testing will take place on October 14, 2019 and April 12, 2020.

PERT – Post-Secondary Educational Readiness Test

TEST DATES FOR 2023-2024

(Students should check with Guidance for registration instructions)

ACT Test Dates (National)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
September 9, 2023	August 4	August 18
October 28, 2023	September 22	October 6
December 9, 2023	November 3	November 17
February 10, 2024	January 5	January 19
April 13, 2024	March 8	March 22
June 8, 2024	May 3	May 17
July 13, 2024	June 7	June 21

SAT Test Dates (National)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes
August 26, 2023	July 28, 2023	August 15, 2023
October 7, 2023	September 7, 2023	September 26, 2023
November 4, 2023	October 5, 2023	October 24, 2023
December 2, 2023	November 2, 2023	November 21, 2023

March 9, 2024

February 23, 2024

Coming soon

May 6, 2024

April 19, 2024

Coming soon

June 3, 2024

May 17, 2024

Coming soon

MEDIA CENTER

1. All students are encouraged to use the Media Center.
2. NO FOOD OR DRINKS ARE ALLOWED IN THE MEDIA CENTER, INCLUDING LABS.
3. The Media Center is open to students before school, during all lunches (to work on assignments only), and after school until 2:30 pm each day.
4. All students entering the Media Center **must have an official school pass signed by a teacher or administrator.**
5. All materials borrowed from the media center must be checked out at one of the desks.
6. Books may be borrowed for a two-week period unless otherwise marked.
8. Reference books may not be checked out.
9. Students must pay for lost or damaged books and materials and will be placed on the Obligation List until paid.
10. Students are reminded that the media center is a place for research, reading or study; therefore, a quiet atmosphere is necessary.

OBLIGATIONS

Students are responsible for all financial obligations owed to the school, i.e., lost or damaged textbooks, library fines, fees, etc. Failure to pay for such items will result in a loss of certain privileges, such as field trips, and participation in extracurricular activities and sports as determined by the administration. **Seniors may not participate in Graduation unless all obligations are cleared.**

Students who lose or misplace state owned textbooks must pay for them before replacements will be issued. Students are to get lost textbook forms from the individual teacher, and payment is made to Mrs. Lawson on main campus and Mrs. Jankowski at the FLC.

PARKING

Parking is a privilege and all students who drive will be required to follow all safety and security rules as well as the law. Students must maintain 90% attendance according to VBHS 90% Attendance policy in order to maintain their parking privilege.

The cost for a parking sticker is \$40.00 all students. Replacement sticker fees for lost/damaged stickers are \$10.00. There is only one replacement sticker available for purchase. One new parking sticker will be provided free if a different vehicle is substituted later in the year.

Revocation:

A student parking privilege may be revoked for the following reasons:

1. Failure to maintain a 2.0 GPA
2. Excessive referrals (2 or more)
3. Allowing another student to drive a stickered vehicle
4. Leaving campus without permission
5. Habitual tardiness
6. 3 or more tardies or absences for any class during a semester
7. Parking lot violations
8. Reckless driving or other traffic violations within the area of the school
9. Failure to comply with Parking Permit Rules.
10. Failure to maintain 90% attendance according to school policy.

PARKING RULES: Before being issued a parking permit, students and a parent/guardian must agree to specific regulations. The violation of any of the parking rules listed on the permit application may result in a revocation of parking privileges. If a permit is revoked, no refund will be given.

Parking anywhere other than your designated space may result in your car being towed at your own expense and loss of your parking privilege with no refund.

Your parking sticker must be properly affixed to the authorized vehicle. The sticker should be located on the exterior of the driver's side back window or bumper.

VBHS is not responsible for damage to your vehicle or damage to or theft of its contents.

If someone is parked in your designated space, you must report it immediately to either security or the front desk.

If you are temporarily driving a different vehicle, you must sign in the vehicle at the front desk.

If you withdraw from VBHS or are assigned to the Alternative Center for Education, you immediately forfeit your parking permit with no refund. You will have to reapply for an available parking space, on a space available basis, if you return.

The music volume must be kept at a level that cannot be heard outside the car when the windows are up.

You may drive in authorized areas only and cannot drive over curbs or grassy areas. Violating this rule may result in the revocation of your

parking permit with no refund.

Failure to resolve outstanding obligations will result in the revocation of your parking permit with no refund.

Miscellaneous:

Students must leave their cars and be on campus as soon as they are parked. Loitering in the parking lot is not permitted. Administrative permission must be obtained before entering the parking lot during the day.

NOTE: The principal or designee may search, including but not limited to, briefcases, book-bags, purses, packages, lockers, storage areas and vehicles upon reasonable suspicion of prohibited or illegally possessed substances or objects. You are solely responsible for ALL contents of your vehicle or the vehicle that you are driving when it is on school property. Lack of knowledge is not a reason or excuse for any unacceptable or illegal items to be in the vehicle.

NOTE: To increase campus security, the gates between the two gyms will be locked after the tardy bell rings and between classes. The gate will be opened 5 minutes before each bell that sounds at the end of a class period/beginning of class change period of time (5 minutes). Changes to procedures for increased school safety measures may occur at any time during the school year.

NOTE: Parking privileges will be suspended for students who fall below the 90% **Attendance Policy Requirement**.

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH

Applications for free or reduced lunches may be obtained in the Cafeteria or Main Office.

FUNDRAISING

All fund raising for VBHS must be authorized through the Principal or designee and the bookkeeping office **BEFORE** the fundraiser begins. When the fundraiser is complete, profit/loss forms must be returned to the bookkeeper. All funds raised must be for a specific cause.

WRITING CHECKS

Any check that is written to VBHS and returned for any reason (ex. stop payment, insufficient funds, closed account, etc...) will be forwarded to a collection agency and fees will be applied.

TEXTBOOKS

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ANYONE WHO HAS PAID A LOST BOOK FINE AND LATER FINDS THE BOOK

Fees paid for lost books will be refunded only when the request is made within 60 days from the date the fee was paid. Requests for refunds beyond the 60 day period cannot be honored and the applicable fees will not be refunded.

WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES (WCDs)-Laptops and Cellphones

In accordance with school board rule and upholding those policies VBHS is aware that WCDs are used by students and parents to communicate with each other. However, the use of WCDs on school grounds must be appropriately regulated to protect students, staff, and the learning environment.

Use/Misuse of Cell Phones/Electronic Devices: Cell phones and other wireless communication devices such as smart watches have become a major distraction in the classroom resulting in time off task and loss of instruction. As a result, the School District of Indian River County is implementing cell phone guidelines.

Grades 9 – 12: Cell phones must be placed on silent during school hours. Upon entering the classroom, cell phones must be out of sight. If a cell phone is visible or a student is seen using a cell phone during class, this will be considered a violation of the cell phone guidelines.

Grades 6 – 12: Cell phones may be used for unique activities to enhance instruction. This will require the teacher to receive prior written approval from the principal (e.g., Biotech, HOSA). Violations of these guidelines may result in confiscation of the wireless communication device or electronic device.

Minor Cell Phone Misuse

1st Offense - The student will be instructed to put the phone away. • An office discipline referral submitted. • The student will be assigned detention, ASPIRE/Temporary Supervised Out-of-Class Time Out (elementary) or other intervention as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct. • Parent contact is required.

2nd Offense - The student will be instructed to put the phone away. • An office discipline referral submitted. • A mandatory parent conference with administrator will take place. • A cell phone agreement will be signed. • The student will be assigned ASPIRE, A2OSS, or other intervention as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.

3rd Offense - An office discipline referral submitted. • Phone taken to the office and will only be returned to a parent. • A mandatory parent conference with administrator will take place. • The student will be assigned Out of School Suspension. • The student will also be assigned a Temporary Loss of Extracurricular Privileges.

Any violation beyond a 3rd offense will result in an automatic referral to the Suspension Expulsion Review Team (SERT) for consideration of an alternative school-based program.

*ESE services must be provided for ASPIRE and A2OSS. NOTE: ASPIRE is an Alternative to In School Suspension program and A2OSS is an Alternative to Out-of-School Suspension program. Both programs are only available at the secondary level.

Major Cell Phone or Other Wireless Communication Device Violations (This is not a complete list of possible violations)

The following violations are serious offenses and will not be tolerated in our schools:

Capturing and/or recording fights or similar events and/or posting recording and/or images.

Capturing, recording, or transmitting (sending or posting) images and/or video of any student or staff member without consent.

Cyberbullying (An investigation must be conducted).

- An office discipline referral will be submitted.
- A mandatory parent conference will take place with an administrator and law enforcement.
- The student will be assigned an automatic 10 days of out of school suspension and possible Suspension Expulsion Review Team (SERT) referral for consideration of an alternative school-based program or expulsion.

Note: The building principal will refer the matter to law enforcement if the violation involves illegal activity

LAPTOPS:

Students may not use WCDs on school property or at a school-sponsored activity to access and/or view Internet web sites that are otherwise blocked to students at school.

Students may use WCDs while riding to and from school on a school bus or other Board-provided vehicles or on a school bus or Board-provided vehicle during school-sponsored activities, at the discretion of the bus driver, classroom teacher/sponsor/advisor/coach. Distracting behavior that creates an unsafe environment will not be tolerated.

During after school activities, WCDs shall be stored out of sight when directed by the administrator or sponsor.

Except as authorized by a teacher, administrator, or IEP Team, students are prohibited from using WCDs during the school day, including while off-campus on a field trip, to capture, record, or transmit the words or sounds (i.e., audio) and/or images (i.e., pictures/video) of any student, staff member, or other person. Using a WCD and cellphone to capture, record, and/or transmit audio and/or pictures/video of an individual without proper consent is considered an invasion of privacy and is not permitted. Students who violate this provision and/or use a WCD to violate the privacy rights of another person shall have their WCD confiscated and held until the end of the school day, and may be directed to delete the audio and/or picture/video file while the parent/guardian is present. If the violation involves potentially illegal activity, the confiscated WCD may be turned over to law enforcement.

"Sexting" is prohibited at any time on school property or at school functions. As set forth in State law, sexting is the knowing transmission or distribution to another minor by a computer or similar device any photograph or video of any person that depicts nudity and is harmful to minors. Sexting also includes possessing a photo of any person that was transmitted or distributed by another minor that depicts nudity. Such conduct not only is potentially dangerous for the involved students, but can lead to unwanted exposure of the messages and images to others, and could result in criminal violations related to the transmission or possession of child pornography. Such conduct will be subject to discipline and possible confiscation of the WCD.

WCDs, including but not limited to those with cameras, may not be activated or utilized at any time in any school situation where a reasonable expectation of personal privacy exists. These locations and circumstances include, but are not limited to gymnasiums, locker rooms, shower facilities, rest/bathrooms, and any other areas where students or others may change clothes or be in any stage or degree of disrobing or changing clothes.

Students shall have no expectation of confidentiality with respect to their use of WCDs on school premises/property.

Students may not use a WCD in any way that might reasonably create in the mind of another person an impression of being threatened, humiliated, harassed, embarrassed, or intimidated. See Policy 5517.01 – Bullying and Harassment. Violation of these prohibitions shall result in disciplinary action. Furthermore, such actions will be reported to local law enforcement and child services as required by law.

Students are also prohibited from using a WCD to capture, record, and/or transmit test information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating, or academic dishonesty. Likewise, students are prohibited from using WCDs to receive such information.

Possession of a WCD by a student at school during school hours and/or during extra-curricular activities is a privilege that may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy, or otherwise abuses this privilege.

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the WCD. The building principal may also refer the matter to law enforcement or child services if the violation involves an illegal activity. Discipline will be imposed on an escalating scale ranging from a warning to an expulsion based on the number of previous violations and/or the nature of or circumstances surrounding a particular violation. If the WCD is confiscated, it will be released/returned to the student's parent/guardian after the student complies with any other disciplinary consequences that are imposed, unless the violation involves potentially illegal activity in which case the WCD may be turned over to law enforcement. A confiscated device will be marked in a removable manner with the student's name and held in a secure location in the building's central office until it is retrieved by the parent/guardian or turned over to law enforcement. School officials will not search or otherwise tamper with WCDs in District custody unless they reasonably suspect that the search is required to discover evidence of a violation of the law or other school rules. Any search will be conducted in accordance with Policy 5771 – Search and Seizure. If multiple offenses occur, a student may lose his/her privilege to bring a WCD to school for a designated length of time or on a permanent basis.

A person who discovers a student using a WCD in violation of this policy is required to report the violation to the building principal. Students are personally and solely responsible for the care and security of their WCDs. VBHS assumes no responsibility for theft, loss, or damage to, or misuse or unauthorized use of WCDs brought onto its property.

Parents/Guardians are advised that the best way to get in touch with their child during the school day is by calling the school office. Students may use school phones to contact parents/guardians during the school day.

VAPING

The possession, use, distribution or sale of tobacco or nicotine products are prohibited by any person under the age of 21.

*Tobacco incidents cannot be reported as Drug-related. As a SESIR violation, the incident will be recorded as Civil Citation or Other SESIR defined. This does not require a Civil Citation to be issued.

Examples

- A student under 21 possessing and/or smoking cigarettes, cigars, etc.
- A student under 21 possessing and/or using a nicotine dispensing device or electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS) such as electronic cigarettes, vape pens, hookah pens, etc.
- A student using smokeless tobacco or nicotine products.

Offense Corrective Interventions for Vaping Nicotine/Tobacco

1st Offense • Assign to ASPIRE for 2 - 5 days (secondary) • Parent Contact • Referral to Law Enforcement (School Resource Officer) • First Session: FL Tobacco Prevention Program(elementary)

2nd Offense • Assign to A2OSS for 3 days (secondary) • Assign to Temporary Supervised Out-of-Class Time Out for 1 day (elementary) • Parent and Student Conference • Referral to School Counselor (elementary) • Referral to DATA Counselor (secondary) • Referral to Law Enforcement (School Resource Officer)

3rd Offense • Assign to Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) for 3 - 5 days (secondary) • Assign to Temporary Supervised Out-of-Class Time Out for 2 days (elementary) • Parent and Student Conference • Second Session: FL Tobacco Prevention Program(elementary) • Referral to Law Enforcement (School Resource Officer) Any violation beyond a 3rd offense will result in an automatic referral to the Suspension Expulsion Review Team (SERT) for consideration of an alternative school-based program.

*See District Code of Conduct for more information.

VISITORS

Visitors are welcome on campus if they are on official school business. All visitors must secure a visitor's pass/badge from the main office. To better protect our students, all visitors will be screened for registered sex offenders. **No visitor will be admitted unless a valid, government issued photo ID is presented.** Students are not permitted to bring visitors to school without PRIOR administrative approval. Students are prohibited from visiting other campuses during school hours unless accompanied by school personnel. Social visitation is not allowed. **No take-out food, balloons, flowers, etc. will be accepted on behalf of students.**

CODE OF CONDUCT

All students are expected to follow the rules set in the Code of Conduct issued from the School Board to each student. All students will receive a copy of the District Code of Conduct. Students are expected to sign the Code of Conduct sheet and return it to the school.

INTIMATE BEHAVIOR-PDA

Students are expected to refrain from public displays of affection in the school. The practice of embracing and kissing is considered in poor taste and inappropriate behavior for the educational environment. Such behavior will result in disciplinary consequences.

LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS

Students are not permitted to leave school grounds at any time during the school day without a permit or pass from the attendance office, clinic, or an administrator. All students are required to sign in/out if they are leaving campus or returning to campus with a valid excuse. Failure to follow the proper procedure will be considered skipping/truancy and will result in disciplinary action. Any parent or adult who is on a student's contact list, who is picking up a student must present a valid photo I.D. to the attendance office or clinic to pick up the student.

NOTE: Any parent/guardian who attempts to excuse a student after the student has left campus without following this procedure will not be permitted to excuse the student and the absence will remain unexcused.

USEFUL WEBSITES

Vero Beach High School

www.vbhs.org

Florida Virtual High School

Florida Virtual School is an online school currently serving students throughout the State of Florida. Florida Virtual School provides instruction to students enrolled in public schools, enrolled in non-public schools and home educated students. For detailed information, go to www.flvs.net

Resume Writing

<http://www.doleta.gov/k-12/prepres.htm>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/files/resume.html>

<http://teenresumes.com>

<http://www.10minuteresume.com/>

College and Careers

To access Bridges.com: www.usa.cx.bridges.com

To access Echoices: www.florida.echoices.com

About Careers

<http://www.careerpath.com>

<http://www.mapping-your-future.org/>

<http://www.futurescan.com>

<http://www.careers.wsj.com>

<http://stats.bls.gov/ocohome.htm>

<http://www.salary.com>

<http://www.acinet.org/acinet/>

College Information

IRCC <http://www.irsc.org>

Petersons Review <http://www.review.com>

US News <http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu>

College Net <http://www.collegenet.com>

College Board <http://www.collegeboard.com>

College View <http://www.collegeview.com>

Facts <http://Facts.org>

State Universities in Florida

Florida A & M University <http://www.famu.edu>

Florida Atlantic University <http://www.fau.edu>

Florida Gulf Coast University <http://www.fgcu.edu>

Florida International University <http://www.fiu.edu>

Florida State University <http://www.fus.edu>

IRSC <http://www.irsc.edu>

University of Central Florida <http://www.fsu.edu>

University of Florida <http://www.ufl.edu>

University of North Florida <http://www.unf.edu>

University of South Florida <http://www.usfweb.usf.edu>

University of West Florida <http://www.uwf.edu>

Independent Colleges and Universities in Florida <http://fcn.state.fl.us/icuf/>

Financial Aid Information:

Student Financial Assistance Program <http://www.ed.gove/offices/OSFAP/Students/sfa.html>

The Smart Student Guide to Financial Aid <http://www.finaid.org/>

FAFSA <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>