



The Hawk's Eye

Vanguard Classical School 801 Yosemite Denver, CO 80230 (303) 691-2384

September 7- September 11, 2009

Absence Hotline
(303) 226-5528

◆ A weekly communiqué for parent(s)/guardian(s) of VCS Students ◆

The Week Ahead

Monday, Sept. 7 th	No School – Labor Day
Tuesday, Sept. 8 th	
Wednesday, Sept. 9 th	Full Vanguard Teacher's Meeting at 3:45pm
Thursday, Sept. 10 th	
Friday, Sept. 11 th	FREE admission to Colorado History Museum all month long!

Other Important Dates

Thursday, Sept. 10 th	FSC Partnership Skate Night at Skate City Aurora - 6:00-8:00pm, \$4/person
Thursday, Oct. 15 th	End of the 1 st Quarter
Friday, Oct. 16 th	No School – Professional Development Day
Monday, Oct. 5 th to Friday, Oct. 30 th	MAP assessments for 3 rd -8 th grades
Monday, Oct. 19 th	No School – Mandatory Teacher Conferences with Parent(s)/Guardian(s)
Tuesday, Oct. 20 th	No school Kindergarten only – Mandatory Teacher Conferences with Parent(s)/Guardian(s)
Friday, Nov. 13 th	School –Wide Greek & Roman Festival with Parent School Community Partnership
Wednesday, Nov. 25 th to Friday, Nov. 27 th	No School – Thanksgiving Break

SPECIAL NOTICE!!

Drop-off/Pick-up Change

A number of our students are part of carpools and the school affirms parents/guardians collaborating on transportation. When we drafted the drop-off/pick-up plan with the help of various consultants, we underestimated how many students this included. In order to accommodate this number and expedite loading, the first loading zone (right hand lane) will be for:

- Kindergarten through 2nd grade students, their older siblings and carpool participants
- This means that any older siblings of a K-2nd students must walk to the first loading zone upon leaving the building

The second loading zone (left hand lane) will be for:

- 3rd through 8th grade students only
- 3rd grade students have been switched to the SECOND LOADING ZONE (left hand lane, the southern zone)**

News You Can Use

President Obama's Address

It has been in the media that the President of the United States is going to make a public address to all elementary students on Tuesday, September 8, 2009. Vanguard Classical School does not have cable TV access in the classrooms or possess adequate bandwidth in our building to support streaming this event via our computers. Consequently, we will not be showing the President's address to the students. We would however, encourage you to watch it with your child online at a later time & discuss it with them.

Dress Code

Research has shown that schools that implement a dress code typically exhibit higher student achievement, less socio-economic peer pressure and a more secure and safe learning environment. Consequently, VCS Personnel will strictly enforce the dress code policy starting September 8, 2009. Students will be held or removed from class to the Front Office Waiting Area and a phone call will be placed to the contact numbers on file notifying the parent/guardian of the specific dress code violation. The student will not be permitted to return to class until their uniform complies with policy. As a reminder, students must wear burgundy/maroon, white, or navy blue polo or button down shirts, khaki or navy blue pants, and skirts or "skorts." Socks and belts must also be school colors, black or brown. If you have any questions regarding dress code, please call the Front Office at 303-691-2384.

Free and Reduced Lunch Applications

Free and Reduced Lunch Applications are available at the Front Desk in both English & Spanish for those who need them. If you have received approval from the Aurora School District please bring it by the Front Office so that we may make a copy for your file.

The Family School Community Partnership (FSCP)

Welcome back to all Vanguard families! What a great two weeks it has been! Thank you to the teachers and staff at Vanguard for getting off to a great start. Thank you to all the families for supporting their children in "being ready" for school and for already getting involved! The FSCP looks forward to a banner year! School functions have already begun with CiCi's Pizza Night last week and a skate party at Skate City Aurora at 6:00pm, September 10th. The kids love the opportunities to see friends outside of school and Vanguard benefits through a portion of proceeds. Also, the FSCP is seeking positive, motivated volunteers to assist with various activities throughout the year. We encourage every family member to contribute at least 2 hours to Vanguard this year - "2 hours to make a difference!" We are already recruiting for *class parents*. The Partnership's goal is to have a class parent for every class by the end of September. See more information on class parent duties on our BlogSpot: vcs-fscp.blogspot.com. The FSCP is also seeking someone to *coordinate 2 bake sales* during evening school programs, a *secretary* and a Spanish/English *interpreter* for FSCP meetings. If interested in any of these roles, please email Lori at the FSCP Gmail account or call her at 303-338-5031. If you are not already on our email info list and would like to get information on ways to support the school, please share your contact information with us by emailing vanguardfscp@gmail.com. If you do not have computer access, look for updates at the Front Desk and on the Parent Information wall.

Vanguard Teaching Team Meetings

Please note that every Wednesday from 3:45-5:00pm members of the Vanguard Teaching Team are in mandatory Full and Grade Level Team Meetings. It is for this reason that they are unable to schedule appointments or meetings for that time slot. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Student Planners

Remember that the student planners will be THE key communication tool between the classroom teachers and your child, so please check them every night. Teachers will verify accuracy and clarity daily for students in 1st through 4th and weekly for those students in 5th-6th. Students in 7th and 8th grades are expected to take ownership of this aspect of their education. If you have any concerns regarding your child's use of the student planner, please contact one of the 7th/8th grade teaching team members.

PBS Behavior Matrix

The Positive Behavior Support Matrix that we shared at the required Back to School Nights is available for download on the Vanguard website (www.vcsk8.org). If you do not have internet access, copies are available to you through the Front Office. We strongly encourage you to read through the behaviors we expect from our students so that you can reinforce them at home.

Student Handbook

In order to save costs, the Student Handbook is available for download on the Vanguard website (www.vcsk8.org). If you do not have internet access, we have limited printed copies available at the Front Office.

Acknowledgment Forms

All students must have a signed Acknowledgment Form on file with the Front Office prior to the end of the first quarter. Student report cards will not be released until a signed form is received. You can download a copy of the form from the Vanguard website (www.vcsk8.org) or obtain a printed copy from the Front Office.

Tardiness Reminder

In order to minimize disruption to other students during critical instructional time, students that arrive past 8:00am will be held at the Front Office until the end of the first class. These students will be expected to make up any work that was covered during that class. Please be diligent and on time. School starts at 7:50am.

Late Pick Up Reminder

School dismisses each day at 3:15pm. For any students remaining that are not involved in afterschool activities, the Front Office will attempt to reach the parent(s)/guardian(s) on file. If they are unsuccessful, the students will be placed in supervised care with one of our teachers and the student account billed \$15 per quarter of an hour or portion thereof per student.

Right of Way

Please remember that those utilizing the drop off/pick up lane have the right of way when exiting the parking lot. Staff members are instructed to minimize disruption to flow of exiting traffic and therefore "hold" vehicles until there is an acceptable opportunity to "release" them. This past week, we are exiting vehicles from the drop off/pick up line in under 15 minutes. So not only this the more secure and safe option for loading/unloading children due to the amount of staff presence, it is also more expedient.

Core Virtue: Respect & Responsibility

Lunch Menu

Monday, Sept. 7 st	No School – Labor Day
Tuesday, Sept. 8 st	Chicken Noodles, Biscuit, Fruit and Veggies, Milk
Wednesday, Sept. 9 nd	Chicken Sandwich, Fruits and Veggies, Milk
Thursday, Sept. 10 rd	Beef N' Spanish Rice, Tortilla, Fruits and Veggies, Milk
Friday, Sept. 11 th	Ham & Cheese Sub, Fruits and Veggies, Milk