



March 2021

Volume 16 Issue 7

VARSITY LAKES  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Principal's Message

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The School Board of Lee County, Florida,  
prohibits discrimination on the basis of  
age, color, disability, gender, national  
origin, marital status, religion, or sexual  
orientation.

**March 15- 19/2021: NO SCHOOL  
DUE TO SPRING BREAK**

**APRIL 2/2021: NO SCHOOL DUE TO  
GOOD FRIDAY**

**APRIL 5/2021: NO SCHOOL IN  
OBSERVANCE OF EASTER**

**APRIL 16/2021: EARLY DISMISSAL**

**APRIL 16/2021: END OF 3<sup>RD</sup>  
QUARTER**

Dear Varsity Lakes Families,

We are just over half way through Quarter Three. Our focus is remains on teaching and learning. We have several new programs in place to help student master standards and assist in grade recovery including after school tutoring. We hope students take advantage of the opportunities we have to help them reach their highest potential.

Before Spring Break, we honored all of our Honor Roll students for Semester One. Students were given a certificate along with an ice pop and jeans pass. Our home connect students will have their certificates and treat available to them for pick-up in the front office.

We are planning a Quarter Three Positive Behavior Support (PBS) award for all students who have zero discipline referrals. We will be facilitating Principal Bingo for both our face-to-face and home connect students where students will be able to win small prizes. If you would like to donate any gift certificates that can be used as prizes, please contact our bookkeeper, Ms. Shelby Vick.

Sincerely,

Carol Woelke

Principal



# STUDENT ATHLETICS

We at VLMS recognize the value and importance in school sports and are doing everything we can to maintain a sense of normalcy for our students, while staying safe at the same time. Your child's safety is of the utmost importance to us. In an effort to comply with all safety regulations and guidelines, all middle school athletics will be done in house. This means that we will be practicing skills and scrimmaging between VLMS teams only. Practices and games will be closed viewing. This means that parents and students will not be permitted to watch. Please understand, this is what is required of us if we want to continue with student athletics. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the athletics department

Coach Ledesma

Coach Warr

Below is a list of the sports teams that we will host this year:

Golf	TBA
Track	3/22 thru 4/30
Volleyball	4/19 thru 5/28





## STUDENT CELL PHONE USE

We are seeing an influx of student cell phone useage on campus during the academic day. In the event that your child has their phone out and visable during the day, please be aware that it will be taken and held for the duration of the day. If this becomes a habitual offense, it will be taken until such time that you can come to campus and collect it. Students will receive a written infraction each time they are seen with their phone during the day. We understand that students have phones for a variety of reasons, however, while they are on our campus they are not to be out or used. While phones serve as a very valuable tool it is not a tool that is necessary during the school day. Should you have an emergancy and need to reach your child immediately, contact the school and we will be happy to assist you with this.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Cell phones, headphones, ear pods, and other electronic devices are to be turned off and stored at all times while on the campus of VLMS. Cell phones, headphones, ear pods, and other electronic devices may not be used while on campus without permission from a teacher. Display, possession, or use of personal electronic devices without permission will result in the following consequences:

**1st Offense** = Device is confiscated. The student will receive a BOLT card citation in Castle and the parent will be contacted. The student may pick up the device at the end of the school day.

**2nd Offense** = Device is confiscated.

The student will receive a BOLT card citation in Castle and the parent will be contacted. The parent must pick up the device in the front office at the school.

Continued Offenses will result in progressive discipline consequences including but limited to after school detention, internal suspension and/or Saturday school.

Please be aware that VLMS assumes no liability for the loss or damage of any electronic device that is brought to school.

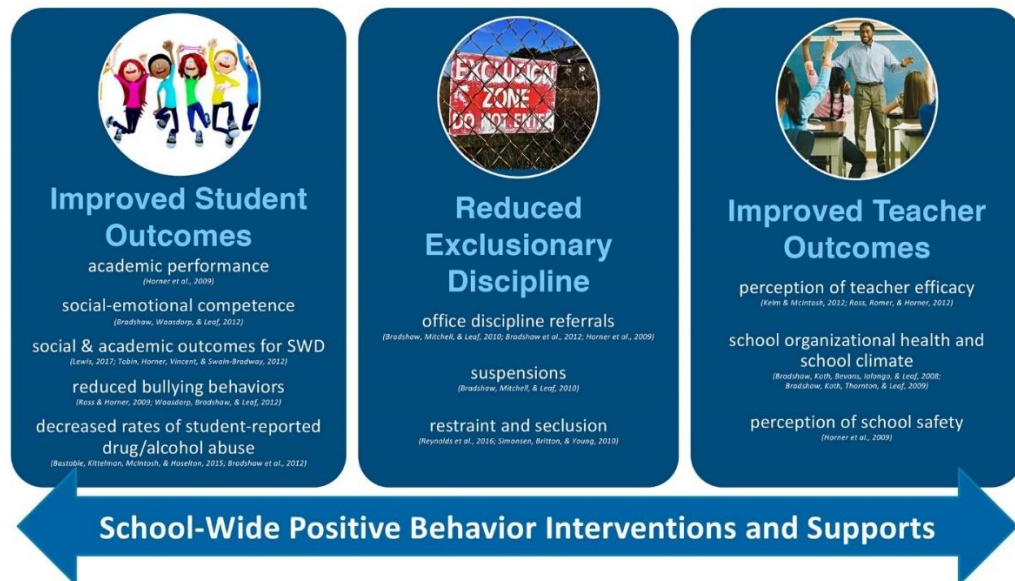




# POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

Varsity Lakes Middle is proud to be a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) School. Mr. Andrew Lee, JD explains “PBIS is a proactive approach that schools use to improve school safety and promote positive behavior. The focus of PBIS is prevention, not punishment. PBIS recognizes that students can only meet behavioral expectations if they know what the expectations are. Everyone learns what’s considered to be appropriate behavior and uses a common language to talk about it. Throughout the school day — in class, at lunch, and on the bus — students understand what’s expected of them. According to several studies over the years, PBIS leads to better student behavior. In many schools that use PBIS, students receive fewer detentions and suspensions, and earn better grades. There’s also some evidence that PBIS may lead to less bullying.”

Here at VLMS we are working to integrate even more PBIS strategies into our learning environment. For the remainder of the year, PBIS incentives will be announced to students. All students will be invited to take part in these activities as long as they have met the required criteria: no referrals or major discipline issues starting 2/16/2021. We believe that students should be rewarded for their positive choices and because of that, our PBIS team is working hard to plan activities that are sure to be enjoyed by everyone.



## VLMS TUTORING

Varsity Lakes Middle will be offering tutoring after school beginning on March 1, 2021. Tutoring will be free of charge and will be offered Monday- Wednesday from 4:15-5:15. This will allow students to benefit from additional instruction as they work to master standards and recover credits from 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.



## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

In the event that you would like to speak directly to your child's teacher (s), please contact Ms. Deloris Thompson to coordinate the conference. She will serve at the liaison between families and teachers to coordinate an agreed upon day and time. Ms. Thompson can be reached calling the school (239) 694-3464 or by email [DelorisTH@leeschools.net](mailto:DelorisTH@leeschools.net)

### Google Classroom

6<sup>th</sup> Grade



Google Classroom

gvqehqu

7<sup>th</sup> Grade



Google Classroom

wfz42lh

8<sup>th</sup> Grade



Google Classroom

dp7goha

If you have not already done so, please take a moment and join the Google Classroom associated to the grade level your child is currently enrolled in. This will be a useful tool for parents to gain updated information on school events, policies and procedures as well as parent resources that are applicable to the grade.

### STUDENT SUCCESS SHOUT OUTS

Varsity Lakes Middle would like to congratulate all students who have worked hard to earn Honor Roll for both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. These students will be rewarded for their scholastic efforts.

These students will be receiving a certificate to commemorate their achievements as well as be given a mystery reward during the school day.

We would also like to congratulate our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have been accepted into advanced placement programs or creative arts programs at some of our local high schools.

Keep working hard Varsity Scholars!

VLMS Administrators and teachers are very proud of you.

A complete list of all students can be found [here](#).





## FACE TO FACE REMINDERS

As we follow the directions given by the Governor and the District Directives opening our campus up to our students who would like to return face to face, we would like to extend a few reminders to our student body and their families:

- Hallways are 1 way and should be strictly followed
- No loitering in the hallways- report to class, no looping
- No running or horse playing in the halls
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself
- Watch what comes out of your mouth
- When in the café, please stay seated at your class' assigned table and sit on the designated seat (x's or o's)
- Water bottles must have a lid and be filled with water only (no Tervis style cups will be permitted by students)
- Water is available for purchase for \$1.00 in the atrium
- Uniform policy is to be adhered to daily

## HOME CONNECT REMINDERS

Home Connect Expectation Reminders Lee Home Connect is an instructional model where students follow their schedule virtually from home. It is a structured learning environment and students are expected to be in their virtual class the entire period. Lee Home Connect mirrors the in-person classroom experience therefore students are expected to:

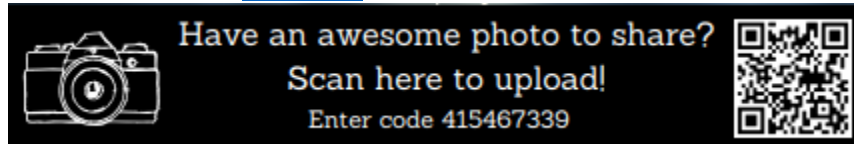
- Arrive to school on-time by 9:45am
- Arrive to each class period on time according to the bell schedule
- Have their video turned on at all times
- Submit all assignments on-time through their Google Classroom
- Follow school and district Code of Conduct expectations
- Adhere to school dress code
- Turn off and put cell phones away
- Communicate with teacher when assistance is needed
- Use the Zoom chat feature for academic purposes only



## YEARBOOK INFORMATION

Please see below for information regarding this year's 2021 yearbook information:

- The yearbook is officially on sale! Students can click on this link from any device to make their yearbook purchase this year. There is no need for paper order forms. Yearbooks are \$25, and the price will not increase!
  - Link to purchase: [VLMS Yearbook Order Form](#)
- Questions? Please email [Ms. Reyes](#)



## TITLE 1 AND PARENT INVOLVEMENT

**Title I information:** Click here for [Title 1 Information](#).

The School District of Lee County receives an annual allocation of Title I funds to provide additional interventions for students, professional development for teachers, and family engagement activities designed to help students succeed academically. Varsity Lakes middle would like to invite families to participate in parent conferences, School Advisory Council (SAC), parent-teacher organizations (PTA/PTO), parent workshops, school events, volunteering, and other school activities.

**Parent Involvement:** Click here for [Parent Involvement information](#).

Parent Involvement was designed to promote parents' active input in their children's schools and education.

**SAC Meetings:** Click here for [SAC Meeting information](#).

Varsity Lakes' School Advisory Council (SAC) is made up of school employees, parents, and community members. We meet monthly throughout the school year to discuss current school data and other school related topics.

**SPAR:** You can access Varsity Lake Middle Schools' public accountability report from the following link. For information about Florida's Consolidated State Plan, see Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and for detailed information about School and District Grade calculations see the School Grades Overview and Guide to Calculating School Grades, District Grades, and the Federal Percent of Points Index. Click here for [Annual School Public Reports](#)