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Volume 16 Issue 8

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Principal's Message

Dear Varsity Lakes Families,

It is hard to believe that May is upon us and we are well on our way into quarter four. The next seven weeks will go by quickly. Students and teachers have been working hard to maintain an academic focus and prepare for the FSA. Information on the FSA and our upcoming testing dates are included in this issue.

We are currently planning to recognize our 8th grade scholars as they get closer to promotion for high school. More information on the 8th Grade Awards Ceremony will be shared with our 8th grade families in the upcoming weeks.

Our last School Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 17th at 6:00 pm. We encourage parents to attend to learn more about our schoolwide initiatives and contribute to our planning and preparation for next school year. A Zoom link for the meeting will be shared on our school website and through email.

Lastly, for parents who pick-up students at dismissal. We continue to work with the district in regards to improving student safety. You will be able to turn left at the gate in front of Lehigh Senior and drive to the light at Gunnery and 12th St. to exit school beginning May 24.

Sincerely,

Carol Woelke

Principal

The School Board of Lee County, Florida

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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.

May 12-13: FSA Reading

May 17: School Advisory Committee (SAC)

May 19-20: FSA Math/Geometry/ Algebra EOC

May 26: 8th Grade Science EOC

May 27: 7th Grade Civics EOC

May 31: Memorial Day- NO School

June 15-17: Student Half Day



FSA UPDATE

Florida Standardized Assessments (FSA) will be taking place this year, per Florida Statutes. It is important to note, Florida Department of Education prohibits any remote administering of these tests. Please note, if your child is a Home Connect Student, The School District of Lee County will be providing transportation.

All students are expected to arrive on campus on time, in dress code and with their district assigned Chromebook, fully charged. Students should be on campus no later than 9:30. Please refrain from picking up your child for any reason prior to 12:30pm. Class schedules will be modified on test days and will be available in your students Google Classroom. Lunch and breakfast will be provided, free of charge to all students who are on campus. The teachers and staff are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all students; all testing environments will be following strict CDC and LCSD COVID protocols and guidelines.

Throughout the school year, your student has been instructed on the skills and content assessed on the FSA. Students have been exposed to the testing format through scripted practice tests to become familiar with computer-based testing platform, item types, and response formats seen on the assessments. We believe that the data provided from these tests is important as it provides an insight into the educational progression your student is making. Please keep in mind, this data is only a snap shot of what your student has learned this year.

If you have any questions or concerns pertaining to the test, please don't hesitate to contact a member of our leadership team. Thank you for your continued support of your students as we approach testing season and conclude this school year.

For more information please visit our testing webpage linked [here](#).

FSA Dates:

| Test | Grade | Face-to-Face Students | Home Connect Students |
|------------------|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Reading | 6-8 | 5/12-13 | 5/17-18 |
| Math | 6-8 | 5/19-20 | 5/24-25 |
| Algebra/Geometry | 7-8 | 5/19-20 | 5/19-20 |
| Science | 8 | 5/26 | 5/26 |
| Civics | 7 | 5/27 | 5/27 |





VARSITY YEARBOOK

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](#)



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Summer Enrichment Program

The Boys & Girls Club of Lee County will be offering summer camp. The summer program will begin June 21 and last until July 30. The hours of operation will be from 7:30am-6pm. Members must be at least 6 years old at time of registration. Lunch and a snack will be provided daily. The cost of the program is \$50 per week. Scholarships and sibling discounts are available. Contact the Boys and Girls Club for further information at 239-334-1886



Mandatory 7th Grade Immunizations

All incoming 7th grade students are required to have their Tdap immunization.

Please contact your child's medical provider or the Health Department of Lee County to obtain the immunization if your child has not received this immunization. Please be sure to turn in your students' #680 Proof of Immunization" form as soon as possible. It is required by Florida Statute this form be on file with the school clinic prior to the 1st day of school of their 7th grade year. Should this not be on file, a schedule can not be created nor will they be permitted to start school. The Lee County Health Department can be reached at (239)461-6100 should you have any questions about this immunization or need assistance with scheduling.



2021/22 Course Selection

By now, all 8th grade students and their families should have been contacted by the high school they will be attending. Last week students were given the opportunity to join Google Classrooms set up by the area high schools to provide important information pertaining to course selection, athletic tryouts, club announcements and Freshman orientations. If your child has not been provided that information, please contact your child's English Language Arts Teacher.

Our guidance department and administration team here at VLMS has begun working on course options for all students for the upcoming school year. We will be working with students in the near future to begin the process of selecting electives for the 2021/22 school year. We want to offer students electives that are enjoyable and enhance their learning and are looking forward to seeing things unfold next year with the program options that will be available.

8th Grade Awards and Promotion Ceremony

As we prepare to say farewell to our 8th graders and wish them well as they leave the comforts of Varsity Lakes Middle School, we want to celebrate all that they have accomplished during their time with us. Our Leadership Team in partnership with the 8th grade teachers are planning an awards ceremony. This ceremony will take place during the school day on **June 16, 2021**. Both Face to Face and Home Connect students will be invited to participate.

Due to COVID restrictions still in place and a desire to keep all of our students and families safe, parents will not be permitted to attend the event. We understand that this milestone in your child's education is one that you don't want to miss. We are working with district personnel to ensure you are able to watch the ceremony if you wish.

Additional information will be coming soon. Please contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.





SUMMER SCHOOL

Varsity Lakes Middle School will be offering several summer school opportunities. Here is a list of what will be available:

1. **Expanded Virtual Learning Program** - The Expanded Virtual Learning Summer Program will begin June 24th and end July 23rd. This summer program will use the iReady learning platform. Teachers will be available to assist students five days per week, Monday through Friday. Click on the [survey](#) to either opt in or out of the expanded learning program. Students that opt in will keep/bring home their Chromebooks until August 10th, which is the first day of our next school year.
2. **Credit Recovery** – Credit Recovery will begin June 24th and end July 22nd. Students who failed a core class this year are eligible to participate in our Credit Recovery summer program. Priority will be given to our 8th grade students. Students can earn credit for two courses. Students who are eligible to participate will receive notification in the coming weeks.
3. **Algebra Readiness** – Algebra readiness is for rising 7th grade students who will be taking Algebra. This program will begin on June 24 and end on July 22nd.

If you have any questions regarding our summer programs, please contact Mr. Brandon Hendrick at brandonjh@leeschools.net.

TITLE ONE INFORMATION

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.

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.