



Parent Information Packet

Parental Involvement Facilitator
Tammy Poole
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479-471-3160 ext. 1069

The Van Buren Freshman Academy values parental involvement and considers it critical towards helping students maximize their educational experiences. Parental support is needed to ensure:

1. Students remain academically focused
2. Students complete necessary assignments
3. The home provides a productive home study environment
4. Students learn to balance busy schedules
5. Students value education and how education affects their future

It is critical that parents have accurate and up-to-date information about their child's daily progress in class. For this reason, the Freshman Academy utilizes eSchool... With parent viewing capabilities through Home Access Center (HAC). It is the teacher's role to keep grades updated weekly in order for parents to have accurate information about their children's progress. <https://bit.ly/HACVB>

In addition, progress reports will be given out at the 4 ½ week midpoint of each 9 week grading period. Parents will also receive a report card at each 9-week grading period. Teachers will have all grades posted on TAC by a given due date in order for report cards to be accurate.

The Freshman Academy has created STAR advisory groups to better monitor student progress and maintain a relationship with each student. STAR leaders will make positive contact with parents during the first four weeks of school and periodically throughout the school year to build a positive relationship with parents.

In the event that a student is struggling in a class, the teacher is expected to contact parents via email, telephone, or in person. Reasons for this contact could include:

1. Homework is not turned in regularly
2. Test grades are not satisfactory
3. Student behavior interferes with the learning process

Students are expected to take an active role in their learning by completing assignments on time, being respectful of teachers and other students and participating in class discussions and activities. Students are also expected to follow all school and classroom rules in order to maintain a safe and orderly learning environment.

Should a parent need to contact a teacher or administrator they can do so through email or telephone. A list of teacher email addresses is included in this packet. In addition, a parent may call the school office at 479-471-3160 and request to speak with a teacher. In the event that the teacher is not available at that time, a voice mail option will be presented. Teachers are responsible for returning calls and replying to emails in a timely manner.

How can you become involved as a parent? The list below is a tentative list of volunteer opportunities for parents as well as dates that parents can use to be an active participant in their child's education. Contact the school office or the Parent involvement facilitator for more information on signing up for these activities.

- August 5th, 2021 5:00 Open House/Orientation, Title 1 Presentation to the public, Schedule pick-up and meet the teachers

- July 30, 2021 Parent Involvement meeting 8:15 a.m. in the Freshman Academy Library
- August 5, 2021 Parent Involvement meeting 5:30
- October 12, 2021 Parent Involvement meeting 5:30
- October 12th and 14th, 2021 3:30-6:30 Parent/Teacher conferences
- December 6-10, 2021 Fall Mock Job Interviews
- March 15th and 17th, 2022 Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-6:30
- March Parent and Community Engagement survey
- May 16-20, 2022 Spring Mock Job Interviews
- May 23, 2022 Parent Involvement meeting 8:15 a.m. in the Freshman Academy Library
- Early May, Academy Awards Banquet
- Late April or early May, Freshman Formal
- Renaissance Rallies each quarter

You may contact Amber Bryant to volunteer for Mock job interviews.

To stay up to date on all our school activities and news parent should visit our school website often:

<http://www.vbsd.us/vbhsfa/>

News is also sent out every Friday through our Freshman Academy parent newsletter. Parents will automatically receive the newsletter at the email address provided to the school. Please make sure that your email address is up to date in our system.

Freshman Academy Contact information:

Freshman Academy Teachers

Principal

Michael Hensley michael.hensley@vbsd.us

Assistant Principal

Brad Reeves brad.reeves@vbsd.us

Counselor

Kortney Ricketts kortney.ricketts@vbsd.us

School Nurse

Amanda Reese amanda.reese@vbsd.us

Amanda Smith amanda.smith@vbsd.us

Amy Brady abrad@vbsd.us

Amber Bryant abryant@vbsd.us

Alicia Jordan Alicia.Jordan@vbsd.us

Ariana Caballero Ariana.Caballero@vbsd.us

Austin McKown austin.mckown@vbsd.us

Becky Goerig bgoerig@vbsd.us

Billy Bond billy.bond@vbsd.us

Brent Evans brent.evans@vbsd.us

Brian Schlinker brian.schlinker@vbsd.us

Courtney Moore courtney.moore@vbsd.us

Debra Rieske Debra.Rieske@vbsd.us

Heather Dillard Heather.Dillard@vbsd.us

Jamie Whitman jamie.whitman@vbsd.us

Jason Couch jason.couch@vbsd.us

Joshua Broadway Joshua.Broadway@vbsd.us

Kenya Woolsey kenya.woolsey@vbsd.us

Laura Burnett

Laura Links

Linda Hagen

Lori Howard

Rachel Newton

Lauren Tipton

Rachel Lehman

Scott Brady

Scotty Milton

Sherrie Cormack

Shane Mullens

Shawna Teague

Terri Jo Little

Tammy Poole

Tyler Pearson

Jennifer Broniste

India Wing

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