



Villa Angela-St. Joseph
HIGH SCHOOL

Faith. Family. Future.

Parent Newsletter

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School Mission Statement

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School is a Catholic, comprehensive college-preparatory school rooted in the Ursuline and Marianist traditions and committed to the spiritual, academic and personal growth of each student.



August 29, 2025

Upcoming Events:

- **September 1: NO SCHOOL - Labor Day**
- **September 3: Meet the Teacher Night 6:00-8:00 p.m.**
- **September 17: President's Reception 5:00 p.m.**
- **September 19: NO SCHOOL - Teacher In-Service Day**
- **September 23: Walsh University College Visit 9:30-10:30 a.m.**
- **September 24: John Carroll University Visit 9:30-10:30 a.m.**
- **September 28: Homecoming Dance 6:30-10:30 p.m.**
- **September 29: NO SCHOOL**
- **October 2: Parent-Teacher Conferences 2:30-4:40 p.m. & 5:30-8:00 p.m.**
- **October 3: NO SCHOOL**

Check the VASJ website for up-to-date athletic events.

To view the VASJ calendar: Please visit www.vasj.com and click on News & Events → Calendar.

****Spirit Store is open 11:30 - 3:30pm When school is in session****

****Attendance Office 216-481-8414 x207****

****ALL STUDENTS SHOULD ARRIVE TO SCHOOL
BEFORE THE FIRST BELL AT 7:45 a.m.****

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Welcome Back Vikings!

We had a strong first week back. Understanding there are new policies in place, we remind students to use their school-issued lock on their school-issued locker. If their locker has a problem (broken in any way), please tell your student to speak with Dean Latimore, Mr. Sedmak, or Mrs. Taraska. We will work to either get the locker fixed or find a new locker for the student. The student must use the locker that is recorded on their schedule.

Reminder about morning drop off: **the FRONT doors of the school do NOT open until 7:45 a.m. The doors by the ATRIUM open at 7:00 a.m.** Students dropped off prior to the first bell at 7:45 a.m. can gather in the cafeteria before they are to proceed to their lockers and class at 7:45 a.m. Please remember that your student should arrive before the first bell at 7:45 a.m. If for some reason your student is tardy they must report to room 108 for a tardy pass **BEFORE** they go to their first period class.

In reference to dress code, students should not wear slippers, slides or tennis shoes. Shoes must be brown or black. We had good cooperation overall relative to our personal device policy, but we know that retracements may occur. Please remind your students to keep their personal electronic devices powered down and locked in their lockers. This is in

accordance with the state mandate and our new policy which can be found in FinalForms, our website and the Parent/Student Handbook as well as in this newsletter.

We thank our students for the strong first week back and we look forward to their continued successes. Tomorrow the football team plays against Cardinal Mooney High School in Youngstown. Go Vikes!

Regards,
Gregory Sedmak, Principal
gsedmak@vasj.com

FROM THE DEAN OF ACADEMICS:

Happy Friday Viking Village!

It has been a busy but awesome start to the school year. It is always good to have students back in the building. The teachers are posting grades and sending out communications to parents. Please take the time to read what they are sharing. We love to partner with parents/guardians to help our students have a successful academic year. Please do not hesitate to reach out to teachers if you have questions or concerns. The teacher is always the first person with whom you should speak regarding your student's classes. Their email information is on our website, but it is also accessible through your PowerSchool account.

For new parents in the Village this year, you should have received an email with instructions on setting up your PowerSchool account. This will allow you to track your student's grades and attendance. Please look in your email for that communication. Any parent who is having trouble accessing PowerSchool, please email powerschool@vasj.com for assistance. Please allow two (2) school days for a response, especially at the start of the year.

I highly encourage all of the parents/guardians to attend Meet the Teacher Night on Wednesday. This is just a quick meeting where we will have a general assembly in the gym at 6:00pm, followed by short periods for you to walk your student's schedule and meet the teachers. This is not for conferences. This is just an opportunity to put names to faces, share classroom expectations, and get a glimpse into your student's school day. If you need to have a conversation with the teacher, please email her/him and set up a time to chat.

As always, please keep up with your student's progress on PowerSchool. We are happy to have you as part of our family. Have a relaxing long weekend.

Blessings,
Mrs. Marxen
pmarxen@vasj.com

HAPPENINGS IN THE VILLAGE:

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT: Please plan on joining us on Wednesday, September 3 at 6:00 p.m. for our "Meet the Teacher" night. Parents are to meet in the gymnasium where you will be given a copy of your students schedule. After a brief welcome by Administration you will be dismissed to your students first period class and then bells will ring when it is time to move to the next class on the schedule. There will be VASJ Ambassadors available throughout the building to help you find your way. **Please remember this is a Parent ONLY event.** We look forward to seeing you in school.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION: All students enrolled in physical education are required to purchase a gym uniform by September 5. After that date any student without a uniform will receive a 0% each day until the uniform is present. The cost of the uniform is \$25.00 and can be purchased in our Spirit Store which is open 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. when school is in session.

GOODIES WITH GOD: Goodies with God is an opportunity for students to have a few minutes of prayer and reflection prior to the start of the school day. This will be Fridays, see flyer for dates, in the Chapel at 7:30 a.m. Following prayer, a light snack will be served. Students are encouraged to attend.

FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE: Payment plans for the 2025-2026 school year should have started. If you have not set that up please do so ASAP. You can access FACTS payment system by clicking on this link: <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3X1G4>

PARKING PERMITS: Parking permits are required for students this school year. **The cost of the parking permit is \$50.00 and can be paid with cash, check or credit card.** Students are to see Mrs. Taraska in the Principal's Office for a permit request form for a parent to complete. Once they return the completed form with payment, they will receive their permit and parking spot. Please note that beginning in Mid-September any car that does not have a permit will be towed at the owner's expense. **There are 30 spots still available.**

FROM THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT: Welcome Back Vikings! Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we navigate through the start of the school year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to either Mrs. Marx or Ms. Simmons.

This year, the counseling department is implementing a new Counseling webpage as a resource to access all things counseling (appointments, college and career etc.). Please take some time to look over the website to see what is available to your student by clicking [here](#).

FROM THE CAFETERIA: Remember to add money to your student(s) lunch accounts. Go to <https://vasj.com/cafeteria> and click on "Add money to lunch account" to log in to your PaySchools Central account.. Please know that if your child pays for lunch with cash there will NOT be any change given. The remainder will be added to your child's account.

In order for your child's lunch to be considered a complete meal and not an a-la-carte item, they must have 3 of the components offered (i.e. pizza, milk & fruit). If they only choose pizza, it will be considered an a-la-carte item and you will be charged as such.

FREE & REDUCED LUNCHES: The application for free and reduced lunches can be picked up in the front office or it can also be found at <https://vasj.com/cafeteria>. Please click on the link "Free/reduced school meals application" to download and fill out the application. Return the application to school ATTN: Angela Russ. **Even if you received Free/Reduced lunches in the past, you must complete a new application for this school year.** If you have any questions, please contact Tara Reid at 216-481-8414 x159 or email at treid@avisystems.com.

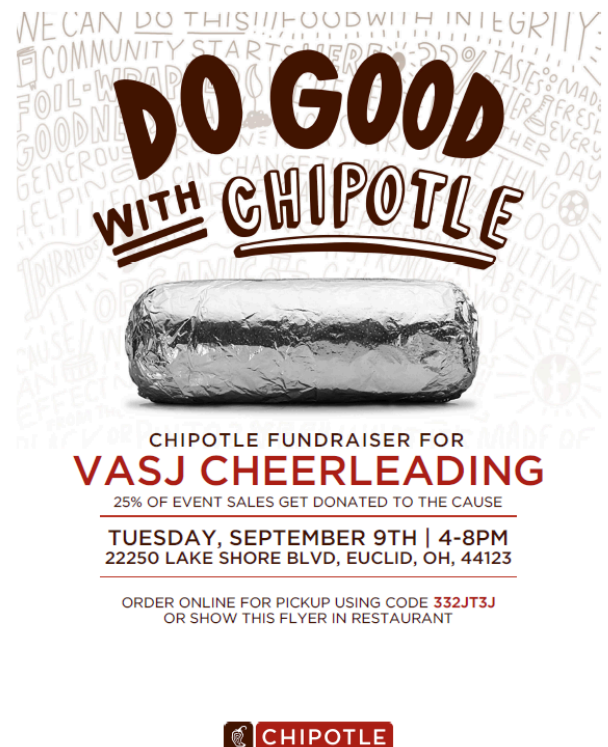
FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT: Our Fall Athletic teams have all begun. If you get a chance, come out and support our teams. Tickets are required for all home events and can be purchased at www.vasj.com/athletic-tickets. Go Vikings!!

FROM THE CLINIC: 12th Graders: A SECOND dose of MCV4 (Meningococcal A) vaccine is required for all 12th grade students in the state of Ohio. Please make sure your student is up-to-date on vaccinations. The school nurse will be sending notices out via email over the next few weeks for students who are out of compliance with state requirements.

Immunizations: Immunizations will be audited over the next few weeks. The school nurse will be sending notices out via email for students who are out of compliance with state requirements.

Medication Orders for 2025-2026: New orders are required yearly for medications. Please make sure your doctor completes a new medication order over the summer if your student needs medication in school next year.



ATTENDANCE POLICY: School attendance is an important ingredient in the students' academic success. Excessive absences can have severe consequences, including the potential implication of an attendance contract or the




For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

indefinite forfeiture of your state sponsored scholarship. To support academic success for all students, VASJ will partner with students and their families to identify and reduce barriers to regular school attendance.

2025-2026 Browns Squares Pool



CLEVELAND
BROWNS



DAWG
POUND

As we approach the start of the NFL season, VASJ Swim Team is sponsoring a 2025-26 BROWNS SQUARES POOL. Your donation helps make it possible for items such as:

- Purchase each swimmer a team racing suit
- Purchase a personalized winter parka for new team members
- Purchase game day meet fees
- Purchase meet day snacks
- Purchase post season qualifier gear

- There are 100 squares, \$20 per square
- EVERY Browns regular season game with only 1 buy in.
- Squares will be randomly assigned on the board for the season, but each week new number will be randomly picked and the board will be emailed out to all participants.
- The winning "scores" are indicated by the last digit of each team's score.
- There will be two (2) chances to win every game:
 - Halftime score wins \$20
 - Final score wins \$40
- It is likely that one person can win multiple times throughout the season!
- Half of what is sold will be paid out!
- Please help support our VASJ Swimming Program!

Reserve your squares now!


Please email the following information to Head Coach Bryan Scheider at swimming@vasj.com to secure your squares.
cash (preferred), or check or Venmo (@Bryan-Scheider)
Info and money can be turned into the main office addressed to Swim Team.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Swimmer selling square(s): _____

of Squares: _____



The school day begins at 7:45 a.m. Monday, Tuesday Wednesday & Fridays and at 8:45 a.m on Thursdays and ends at 3:00 p.m.

If a student is ill or will not be in school for whatever reason, a parent/guardian is to call the school's attendance office prior to 7:30 a.m. in the morning at 216-481-8414, ext. 207. **Any student who is absent for any reason MUST return to school with a written and signed note from their parent or guardian, detailing the circumstances of their absence. If the student will be absent for longer than three (3) days, a Doctor's note will be required.**

A student may **NOT** participate in or attend an extracurricular activity (school, social, athletic event performance or practice) after school hours on a day when he/she has been absent. If the absence occurs on a Friday, weekend activity will be affected. Attendance of at least 3.5 hours is necessary for such participation. A student who leaves school due to illness, regardless of the time, is **NOT** permitted to attend or participate in any extracurricular or athletic activity.

CHROMEBOOK & POLICY: This year each student was provided a chromebook for the school year. They are expected to bring them to school & charged everyday. There are very limited chromebooks available for those that do not have theirs in school.,No macbooks, iPads, tablets or personal computers are allowed as alternative computers. All students must use school provided chromebooks. A copy of our complete Chromebook policy can be found on our website at: www.vasj.com under the student tab. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Sedmak at gsedmak@vasj.com.

REVISED CELL PHONE POLICY:

Just a reminder that students are NOT permitted to have their cell phones on their person during the school day between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. This

includes, but not limited to: smart phones, smart watches, headphones, earbuds, electronics games or toys, iPads, laptops, and lasers.

Students should lock their phones in their lockers. The school has supplied locks for each student and students may **ONLY** use a school issued lock unless other arrangements have been made with the administration.

If a student uses an unauthorized electronic device, the following consequences will apply:

- **First offense:** Confiscated by faculty or staff members, turned over to the Dean of Students, and returned at the end of the school day to the student. **The student will serve ISS.**
- **Second offense:** Confiscated by faculty or staff members, turned over to the Dean of Students, and returned at the end of the school day to a parent or guardian. **The student will serve OSS.**
- **Third offense:** The administration will hold a meeting with parents. **Students will receive an OSS and a behavioral contract will be implemented.**

Note: VASJ is not responsible for any item while being held in confiscation. Other misconduct not listed above that in the judgement of an administrator warrants correction, may result in administrative disciplinary actions.

FROM THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP & PROGRAMS:

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School accepts the following scholarships through the Ohio Department of Education:

- ❖ Cleveland Scholarship
- ❖ EdChoice and EdChoice Expansion Scholarships
- ❖ Jon Peterson Scholarship
- ❖ Autism Scholarship

Each family MUST renew their scholarship every year! Please visit our [State Scholarship](#) section on our website for the necessary forms to begin your renewal process. The sooner you complete this the better!

If you need assistance or have any questions, please contact Villa Angela-St. Joseph and Scholarships, Mrs. Sharon Taraska 216-481-8414 x210 or by email staraska@vasj.com. Click [HERE](#) for more Information and forms.

WORK PERMITS: If you are in need of a work permit, please contact the front office at nmiller@vasj.com.

POWERSCHOOL INFORMATION: Information for gaining access to your students PowerSchool account will be going out next week. We are working on getting everyone set-up in the system. If you already have a PowerSchool account and need assistance please email powerschool@vasj.com.