



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.

## January 8, 2026

### Upcoming Events:

- **January 9:** NO SCHOOL - Teacher In-Service Day - End of Qtr 1
- **January 14:** IOWA Testing 10th Grade - Asynchronous Learning Day 9th, 11th & 12th grades  
Oarsmen Club Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- **January 16:** Goodies with God 7:30 a.m.
- **January 19:** NO SCHOOL - MLK Day
- **January 20-23:** Founders Week
- **January 23:** Founds Week All School Mass 9:30 a.m.
- **January 26-30:** Catholic Schools Week
- **January 28:** College Credit Plus (CCP) Information Night 6:00 p.m.
- **January 30:** Scholarship Day Ceremony 9:00 a.m.
- **February 5:** Parent-Teacher Conferences 2:30-4:30 p.m. & 5:30-8:00 p.m.
- **February 6:** NO SCHOOL
- **February 11:** Oarsmen Club Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- **February 13:** Goodies with God 7:30 a.m. & JUNIOR Class Retreat Day
- **February 16:** NO SCHOOL - Presidents Day
- **February 25:** IOWA Testing 9th Grade - Asynchronous Learning Day 10th, 11th & 12th grades
- **February 27:** Goodies with God 7:30 a.m.  
Oarsmen Club "Night-Out" Collision Bend Brewery, Euclid 5:30 p.m.
- **February 28:** Class of 2030 Registration Day

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

To view the VASJ calendar: Please visit [www.vasj.com](http://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\*\*

**\*\* JANUARY 14:  
10TH GRADE IOWA TESTING!  
9TH, 10TH & 11TH GRADES  
ASYNCHRONOUS LEARNING DAY\*\***

## **FROM THE PRINCIPAL:**

Dear Viking Families,

We are happy to have our students back after Christmas break. We hope our families had an enjoyable break and a joyous Christmas. Tomorrow students will **NOT** be in school. The administration and faculty will hold a professional development session for the day. We are continuing our conversation on school culture and assessments.

We are also looking to engage the community in the interest of an after-school or before-school, ACT prep program. There would be a nominal cost associated with it, but it would be a worthwhile program for our juniors in the future. Look out for a survey link from our counselors. As for this year, though the science section is not required for the ACT, if your child is considering a STEM field, they should take that section of the test as well. **Remember: College Scholarships are often tied to ACT test scores.** It was the case that the ACT and SAT tests were not needed for university and college applications during the pandemic, but it has become clear to many institutions that this metric is needed to discern whom to invite to their programs. If you have a strong interest in preparing your child for this year's ACT test, preparation books are available at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) and other booksellers.

I wish you all a wonderful three-day weekend!

Mr. Sedmak

[gsedmak@vasj.com](mailto:gsedmak@vasj.com)

## **FROM THE DEAN OF ACADEMICS:**

Good day,

Semester 1 has come to a close, and we will be finalizing grades and report cards. Expect report cards to be emailed to you by the end of next week. I will also be sending out the ineligibility list for students based on the Quarter 2 grades.

Should a student be deemed ineligible, they may **NOT** participate in any extracurricular activity, sports competitions or any activity that would have them miss class time, including early dismissal for sporting events. As a reminder, any student who has less than a 1.8 GPA for Quarter 2 and/or is not passing five (5) 1-credit classes will be deemed ineligible for the entirety of Quarter 3.

Additionally, summer school requirements will be sent out for students who failed a required course for graduation for the first semester. Credit must be recovered over the summer in order for a student to be eligible to return to VASJ in August. Should a student fail more courses than can be recovered over the summer, the student will need to withdraw. Those letters will be issued no later than Friday, January 16, 2026.

**IOWA testing for all sophomores is on Wednesday, January 14. ALL sophomores are required to take and pass the sophomore level IOWA in order to meet the State of Ohio graduation requirements.** Juniors and seniors who have not met the requirement will also be present to test on Wednesday. This is an early dismissal day--students will be dismissed when testing is completed. Transportation arrangements must be made for the students who do not ride school vans. No student may remain in the building past 1:00 p.m. Sophomore testing letters were sent yesterday. Letters for juniors and seniors who need to re-test will be issued today and/or tomorrow morning. Students may dress down for testing, but may **NOT** wear hoodies or have any electronic devices.

As always, please check PowerSchool often for grade updates. Questions regarding scores should be directed to the teacher. All emails are available via PowerSchool and are also listed at [www.vasj.com](http://www.vasj.com).

Finally, we are extremely happy to welcome back Ms. Rebecca Armbruster as our newest member to the Science department. Ms. Armbruster taught at VASJ previously before moving out of the Cleveland area. She has returned from out of state, and she is taking over the Biology and Physical Science courses previously taught by Mr. Hermann. We wish her a warm Viking welcome back!

Have a blessed weekend,

Mrs. Marxen

[pmarxen@vasj.com](mailto:pmarxen@vasj.com)

## **HAPPENINGS IN THE VILLAGE**

**ATTENDANCE REPORTING: Please use the attendance phone line, 216-481-8414 x207 when reporting a student absent, tardy or for early dismissal only. DO NOT LEAVE MESSAGES ON FACULTY/STAFF VOICEMAILS!** When leaving your message, please provide your name, student's name and reason for their absence, tardiness or early dismissal along with all relevant details including drop off or pick up time and pick up person when applicable. The student will need to provide written documentation of their absence upon their

return to school. Documentation can also be emailed to: [attendance@vasj.com](mailto:attendance@vasj.com). If you have any questions regarding your child's attendance, please contact Ms. Parries, our Attendance Coordinator at [hparries@vasj.com](mailto:hparries@vasj.com) or 216-481-8414 x140.

**FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE: CREDIT PLUS INFORMATION MEETING:** On Wednesday, January 28, 2026, we will be hosting our annual College Credit Plus Night for the 2026-2027 school year. It will be held in the Founders Chapel from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. College Credit Plus (CCP) is Ohio's dual credit program where students can earn high school and college credit simultaneously by taking courses at participating Ohio colleges and universities tuition free.

The CCP informational evening is for parents and students in grades 9-11 who are interested in or plan to participate in the College Credit Plus program for the 2026-2027 school year. In the meantime, get a head start and review these important reminders that can also be found on the [Ohio Department of Education](http://Ohio Department of Education) website:

1. Interested students should have at least a 2.75-3.0 GPA
2. Apply to the college(s) of your choice under College Credit Plus now. A college admission letter is needed!
3. Create an OH/ID account to apply for Ohio State CCP funding anytime between February 1- April 1.
4. Receive your funding award letter and register for college classes

**VASJ's 2026 CONTINUE THE DREAM GALA NEWS:** VASJ is gearing up for the 2026 Continue the Dream Gala event on Saturday, April 25, 2026 and we are looking to involve our parents in many ways! This is the school's major fundraiser and how we continue to add value to your child's high school education. Through this annual event, VASJ is able to continue to make improvements, upgrades and enhancements that are needed in the areas of academics, spirituality, athletics and extra-curriculars. Our momentum is going in the right direction, and we want our entire Viking community to be a part of our exciting future – students, parents, grandparents, faculty & staff, alumni and friends.

During this holiday season and time of giving, we ask you to consider supporting VASJ as you are shopping for your loved ones. Our WISH LIST is meant to give you some general ideas of items that would make our Gala Event a huge success, but you can be as creative as you'd like!

Any and all donations are greatly appreciated, but here are some Ideas from our Amazon Wish List:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1MXRSFPHYDZE4?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1MXRSFPHYDZE4?ref_=wl_share)

We will be entering anyone that donates to the VASJ Continue the Dream Gala into a raffle for some fun prizes! Thank you again for your continued support of Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School. Go Vikings!!

**OARSMEN BOOSTER CLUB: Who are we and what do we do?** For over 40 years the Oarsmen

Club has been the booster club for **ALL** VASJ athletic teams. Our mission is to provide equipment, facilities, and funding to enable all VASJ teams to compete at an elite level. We deliver this support through the tireless efforts of our parents, friends and alumni of VA, St. Joe's & VASJ. Through the time, talent and treasures of these volunteers, our student-athletes are in the best possible position for success both on and off the field! We need your support and active participation to carry on this 40+ year tradition!

How can you help you ask? By helping at our annual clambake, assisting in selling March Madness Squares, volunteering to work at the concessions stand, and by attending our monthly meetings and bringing fresh new ideas on how we can

**VASJ OARSMEN BOOSTER CLUB SUPER BOWL SQUARES**

**PARTICIPATION DETAILS**

- COST: \$100 PER SQUARE
- TOTAL PAYOUT: \$6,000

**PAYOUT STRUCTURE**

- 1ST QUARTER: \$500
- HALFTIME: \$1,000
- 3RD QUARTER: \$500
- FINAL SCORE: \$2,000
- REVERSE SCORES (4): \$100 EACH
- BUDDY SQUARES (UP TO 32): \$50 EACH

ALL PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT AN EXCITING ENHANCEMENT TO THE VASJ GYM FOYER, FEATURING FRAMED, ICONIC PHOTOGRAPHS THAT CELEBRATE THE PROUD ATHLETIC LEGACY OF VILLA ANGELA, ST. JOSEPH, AND VILLA ANGELA-ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL. HELP US BRING NEW LIFE TO THE PURPLE PALACE AND HONOR THE ATHLETES AND MOMENTS THAT DEFINE OUR HISTORY.

**PURCHASE AT: [OARSMENSQUARES.GIVEMART.COM](http://OARSMENSQUARES.GIVEMART.COM)**

OR CASH/CHECK TO JIM TOBIN OARSMEN BOOSTER CLUB TREASURER 440-655-0601

better support our athletes. **Our next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the VA Room.** Hope to see you there!

**SUPER BOWL SQUARES FUNDRAISER:** Get your Super Bowl Squares and support VASJ! All proceeds will support an exciting enhancement to the VASJ Gym foyer, featuring framed, iconic photographs that celebrate the proud athletic legacy of Villa Angela Academy, St. Joseph High School and VASJ. Help us bring new life to the Purple Palace and honor the athletes and moments that define our history!

Cost is \$100 per square and total payout is \$6,000. Breakdown of the payout structure is as follows:

★ 1st Quarter	\$500
★ Halftime	\$1,000
★ 3rd Quarter	\$500
★ Final Score	\$2,000
★ Reverse Scores (4)	\$100 each
★ Buddy Squares (up to 32):	\$50 each

Thank you for supporting VASJ Athletics and helping preserve our storied traditions!

**Oarsmen Club Night-Out Social:** You are cordially invited to a “Night-Out” with the Oarsmen Booster Club! Join us on Friday, February 27 at 5:30 p.m. at Collision Bend Brewery in Euclid. Come have a great time and learn how you can help support our student athletes by becoming a part of our Oarsmen Booster Club. Please RSVP to Juli Gembus at 216-509-3459 or Lisa Stahlberg at 216-906-1901. See the attached flyer for more details!!

**CAMPUS MINISTRY: The Behold Retreat** is a mother-daughter retreat (any mother-daughter-like relationship) designed specifically for adult and teen women in the spirit of Mary’s fiat. The retreat will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine on Saturday, March 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The theme for 2026 is “Behold Friendship” with keynote speaker, Maggie Craig, author of *Friendship Reset*. Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Damian Ference. Registration is now open. Only 150 tickets will be sold. More information can be found at <https://tobcle.org/event/behold-2026/>

**GET YOUR 2024–2025 VASJ YEARBOOK NOW!** GREAT NEWS!!! The 2024–2025 Villa Angela–St. Joseph High School Yearbooks are now available for purchase! This keepsake is packed with memories, photos, and moments that your student will treasure for years to come. The cost is \$75.00, payable by cash, or credit card to VASJ. You can purchase your copy by stopping by the front office during school hours.

**Please note: Supplies are limited, so act fast! Once they're gone, they're gone.** Thank you for supporting VASJ and our yearbook program!

**FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE:** Payment plans for the 2025-2026 school year have started. If you have not set that up, please do so ASAP as your child’s tuition is now delinquent. **Students whose accounts are delinquent may be asked not to return for the 2nd semester until arrangements have been made to bring account current.** Please contact Mrs. Oriani in the Business Office at [koriani@vasj.com](mailto:koriani@vasj.com) to make arrangements.

**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](mailto:powerschool@vasj.com).

**AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING:** After School is offered every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday after school in rooms 303, 310 & 315 from 3:15 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. Students can receive help with their studies. Please make sure your student comes prepared and signs in.

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



# You're Invited!

## a "Night Out"

with the Oarsmen Boosters Club

**Food • Drinks • Fun • Information**

**When:** Please join us on Friday February 27, 2026  
Starting at 5:30pm

**Where:** Collision Bend Brewery  
1261 Babbitt Rd, Euclid, OH 44132

**RSVP to: Juli Gembus 216-509-3459**  
**or Lisa Stahlberg 216-906-1901 by February 6, 2026**

**Come and have a great time & learn how you can support our student athletes!**

For over 40 years, the VASJ Oarsmen Club has been the booster organization for all Villa Angela-St. Joseph athletic teams. Our mission is to provide equipment, facilities and funding to enable all VASJ teams to compete at an elite level. From our annual Clambake to concession stand sales to Super Bowl and March Madness squares, we continue to support our teams and supplement the VASJ Athletic Department budget.

We deliver this support through the tireless effort of parents, friends and alumni of Villa Angela, Saint Joseph, and Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School. Through the time, talent and treasures of these volunteers, our student-athletes are in the best possible position for success both on and off the playing field.

There is a new energy at VASJ and a new energy within our Oarsmen Booster Club. We need your support and active participation to carry on this 40+ year tradition!

## How You Can Help All Year Long!

- Sign up to help at the annual Clambake and/or purchase tickets and attend
- Assist with selling March Madness Squares
- Volunteer to work concessions for your athletic team
- Attend monthly meetings and bring fresh ideas

