



*Voorhees Middle School*  
*Welcome Vikings Class of 2028!*

EVERYONE



*is welcome here*



# WELCOME TO SIXTH GRADE!!

*We're happy you're here!*



- It is perfectly normal to be anxious about your child coming to middle school!
- These are major transition years for your child. Students will go through many changes in the three years they are here.
- Our goal here at VMS is to transition students from elementary learners into independent, secondary learners who are ready to face our ever-changing global society.



# *Meet the VMS Administration Team*

**Mrs. Alecia Inge**

*Principal*



**Mrs. Vicki  
Biederman**

*Asst. Principal Grade 6*



**Mr. Michael  
Weppler**

*Asst. Principal Grade 7*



**Mr. Russ Winsett**

*Asst. Principal Grade 8*



# School Counseling

## Meet Your Counselor: Mrs. Jackelyn Conner



- ❖ Next year will be my 12th year at VMS!
- ❖ I will be your child's School Counselor for their 3 years of middle school.
- ❖ My office is located in the Counseling Center with Mr. Boianelli and Mrs. Wick!
- ❖ Throughout the year I will be teaching a variety of classroom lessons centered around our Social Emotional Learning Program, Character Strong.
- ❖ Individual and group counseling are provided, as needed.



# Notes From Our School Nurses

Mrs. Stefany Emerson

Last Names A - M

[emerson@voorhees.k12.nj.us](mailto:emerson@voorhees.k12.nj.us)

Mrs. Marissa DelPalazzo

Last Names N - Z

[delpalazzo@voorhees.k12.nj.us](mailto:delpalazzo@voorhees.k12.nj.us)

Click here:

[New Student Health  
History Form](#)

Paperwork for sports Physicals can be located on VMS' website by clicking on **Athletics** and then on **Sports Physicals**.

- If your child is interested in participating in any sports, (IE: interscholastic, intramurals, or running club) our complete sports packet is required
- Once a complete sports packet is on file, a health history update questionnaire is required every 90 days for the student to continue to participate in additional sports.

Other medical paperwork can be located on VMS' website by clicking on **Programs** and then on **Nurse's Office**, forms include:

- Medication permission forms \*students are not permitted to self carry medications with the exception of inhalers and epi-pens\*
- Asthma treatment plans
- Food allergy action plans
- Seizure plans

Click here:

[Physical Form](#)  
**Due July  
30, 2025**





# *Required 6th Grade Immunizations*

In compliance with the updated law effective 9/01/08 of Chapter 14 N.J.A.C. 8:57-4, New Jersey Department of Health & Senior Services, we will need medical proof with dates that your child has received the following immunizations:

- ▶ Tdap
- ▶ Meningococcal

Please submit documentation of these immunizations by **July 30, 2025**.

**\*\***These vaccines are required after your child's 11th birthday. If your child does not turn 11 until after the start of the school year, please email one of the nurses with the scheduled appointment date.





# New Student Orientation

- August 19, 2025 Last Names A-M 9:00am-12:00pm
- August 20, 2025 Last Names N-Z 9:00am-12:00pm

**You will receive more information in a letter and email in July.**



# *Our School Day*

- School begins at 8:13AM.
- Students go to their lockers and then to homeroom.
- Homeroom is from 8:13AM - 8:30AM.
- Rotating Schedule- classes are 47 minutes each
  - 5 academic classes
  - 1 Related Arts Class
  - 1 Gym/Health Class
- There are three different lunch times 11:03 AM, 12:43 PM and 11:53 AM.
- Our school day ends at 2:51. Early dismissal days end at 1:01pm.



# 6th Grade Teams

Team  
assignments  
are available  
in August.

## *Red Team*

Mrs. Johnson: Reading  
Ms. Lewis: Language Arts  
Ms. Swartz: Math  
Mr. Schwindt: Science  
Ms. Palzer: Social Studies

## *Blue Team*

Ms. LaBella: Reading  
Mr. Brotz: Language Arts  
Mrs. Dark: Math  
Mrs. Carlin: Science  
Mr. Magpiong: Social Studies

## *White Team*

Ms. Keith: Reading  
Ms. Podwats: Language Arts  
Ms. Begum- Math  
Ms. Nitzberg - Science  
Ms. Bagnell - Social Studies



## *Special Education*

Ms. Levine  
Mr. Flynn  
Ms. Smith

Mrs. Foley  
Ms. Conboy  
Ms. Carter

## *Viking Academy*

Mr. Levine - Math  
Ms. Zielinski - Literacy

# *Related Arts Teachers*

## **RELATED ARTS**

Ms. Hood:	Digital Art
Ms. Bailey:	Spanish
Ms. Jenkins:	S.T.E.M.
Ms. Askin:	Coding
Mr. Fincke:	Gaming and Design
Ms. Bove:	Music
Mr. Miracola:	Contemporary Art
Dr. Rossi:	Computer Digital
Mr. Totoro:	Instrumental Music
Mr. Centurione:	Financial Literacy

## **PHYS ED / HEALTH**

Ms. Carrafiello	Mr. Concepcion	Mr. Morales
Mr. Day	Ms. Morales	Ms. White

## **MEDIA CENTER—LIBRARY**

Ms. Fulton

## **VIKING ACADEMY: MATH and LITERACY**

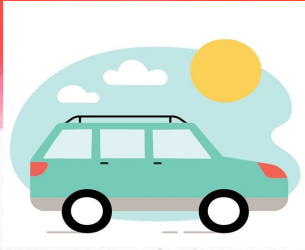
Mr. Levine	Ms. Zielinski
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## **SCHOOL NURSES**

Stefany Emerson

Marissa DelPalazzo





## *Car Line Drop off and Pick Up*

- All drop offs and pickups should take place near the 8th Grade entrance.
- Please do not pick up or drop off your child in the bus loop in front of the main entrance.
- Please do not park on Holly Oak drive and ask your child to walk out to you. This is for the safety of our students.
- **Please do not park in Virtua Parking Lot next to the 8th Grade Entrance. This is not our property and you can be towed or ticketed for this.**



# Camp Ockanickon



October 6, 2025 - Blue Team  
October 7, 2025 - Red Team  
October 8, 2025 - White Team

Camp Ockanickon is an opportunity for our 6th grade students to meet new friends, create a shared experience and to engage in team building activities. It is a fun day for everyone!





# WHERE TO GET INFORMATION

## Weekly Newsletter (via Email)



Sixth Grade Scoop: May 10, 2024



From the desk of  
Mrs. Biederman

A Message from Mrs. Biederman

The 6th Grade Scoop focuses on 6th grade specific information. (From Ms. Biederman)

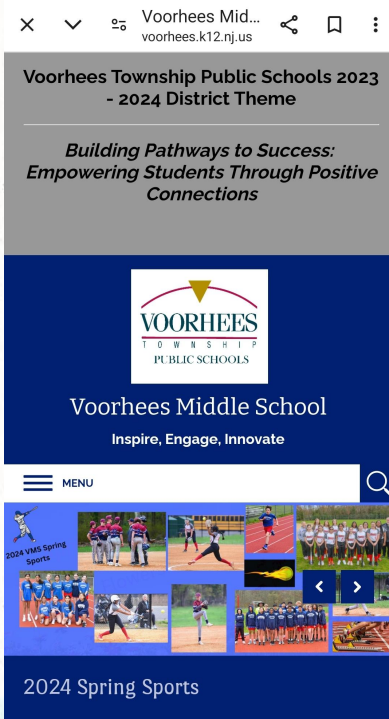
The VMS Weekly Email provides information that applies to every grade level. (From Mrs. Inge.)



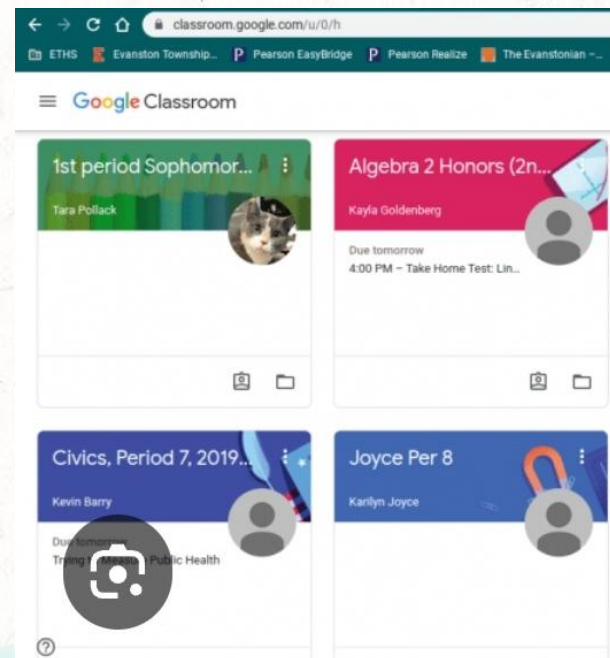
**VMS Weekly Email**

Week of June 2, 2025

## School Website



## Google Classroom







## *School Forms*

- Once the parent portal opens in August, please log in and complete the required forms for your child. Genesis is the same username and password from elementary school.
- **Be sure to complete the Technology Forms.**
- Two Additional forms will be emailed home - Emergency Contact and Camp Ockanickon Permission Forms.
  - Students will not be able to attend the trip to Camp Ockanickon if they do not have these forms completed.



# IPAD USAGE

- ▶ All students will be issued a school owned ipad.
- ▶ Ipad are meant to be **tools for learning**. They are for educational purposes only.
- ▶ Misuse of an ipad will result in a consequence in accordance with the school discipline policy.
- ▶ Students bring ipads home each night and will be responsible for bringing a charged ipad to school the next day.
- ▶ Please read the technology forms to become familiar with expectations in regard to ipad usage and potential breakage.

# THIS IS HOW WE SIMPLIFY RULES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR 6TH GRADE

RESPECT  
yourself

RESPECT  
others.

Respect the setting.



ALWAYS  
TRY  
YOUR  
BEST!



**Are you worried about making a mistake? Don't be. We all make mistakes. It is how you handle your mistakes that determine who you really are.**

Be sure to:

- Admit your mistake. Say, "I think I made a mistake. I learned that doesn't work. Next time I will..."
  - ◆ This is true for situations with people AND with your school work. Mistakes help us grow and learn and be better than we were before the mistake was made.
  - ◆ Think of mistakes as an opportunity to grow, not something to stress about.

At VMS, we respect that mistakes happen. We will support you to help you learn to think about how to grow from those mistakes.

# *School Activities/Athletics*

Adopt-a-Grandparent

Artists and Writers Club

Band

Baseball

Basketball (Girls/Boys)

Cheerleading

Chess Club

Chorus

Drama

EmpowerMENT Alliance

Environmental Science

ESports Club

Field Hockey

Homework Club

Interact Club

Intramurals

Math Club

Multicultural Club

Norseman Band

Odyssey of the Mind

Running Club

School Store

Science Olympiad

String Orchestra

D & D

Stage/Tech Crew

Student Council

Soccer

Softball

SPORT

Technology Ed Club

Trailblazers Club

Track

Viking Press

Wrestling

Yearbook

# *Keeping Kids Safe in a Digital World*

**Common Sense Media**

[www.common sense media.org](http://www.common sense media.org)

**Smart Social**

<https://safesmart social.com>

**Internet Matters**

[www.internet matters.org](http://www.internet matters.org)







# Contact Information

## 6th Grade Office

**Ms. Vicki Biederman**

**6th Grade Asst. Principal**

[Biederman@voorhees.k12.nj.us](mailto:Biederman@voorhees.k12.nj.us)

856-795-2025 x5160

**Ms. Marie Brigandi**

**6th Grade Secretary**

[Brigandi@voorhees.k12.nj.us](mailto:Brigandi@voorhees.k12.nj.us)

856-795-2025 x5160

## VMS School Counselors

- Mrs. Jackelyn Conner
  - 6th Grade
  - [conner@voorhees.k12.nj.us](mailto:conner@voorhees.k12.nj.us)
  - 856-795-2025 x5208
- Mrs. Stephanie Wick - 7th Grade
  - [wick@voorhees.k12.nj.us](mailto:wick@voorhees.k12.nj.us)
  - 856-795-2025 x5202
- Mr. Steve Boianelli - 8th Grade
  - [boianelli@voorhees.k12.nj.us](mailto:boianelli@voorhees.k12.nj.us)
  - 856-795-2025 x5209

