



Valparaiso High School

8th Grade Parent Night

March 6, 2019

VHS Administrative Team

Dr. Veronica Tobon, Principal

Grades 9-11
Last Names A-L

Mr. Aron Borowiak, Assistant Principal

Grades 9-11
Last Names M-Z

Mr. John Miller, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Ashley Monroe, Associate Principal
Student Services and Grade 12

Grades 9-12
Mrs. Elizabeth Krutz, Assistant Principal
Mr. Barak Coolman, Dean of Attendance
Mrs. Michelle Bush, Dean of Students

V A L E

**Valparaiso
Alternative
Learning
Experience**

Dr. Mike Bendicsen, Alternative School Principal



Class of 2023 & Beyond

Current 8th Grade Students and Younger

Indiana Diploma Designations

Students are required to meet the course and credit requirements for an **Indiana Diploma** with any of the following designations:

- General
- Core 40
- Core 40 w/ Academic Honors
- Core 40 w/ Technical Honors

Class of 2023 & Beyond...

The Graduation Pathways method of completing high school will be the only system in place for the 2023 cohort and beyond to graduate from high school.

What are Graduation Pathways and how do they help my student?

- Pathways are the necessary steps required by the State of Indiana for students to graduate
- Pathways provide various ways students can earn a diploma
- Pathways allow students with a variety of post-secondary goals to have individualized plans for graduation



Students must satisfy all three of the following Graduation Pathway Requirements:

1. High School Diploma

2. Learn & Demonstrate
Employability Skills

3. Postsecondary-Ready
Competencies



Unpacking a Graduation Pathway

Box 1 - High School Diploma: Complete requirements for the Indiana Diploma

INDIANA CORE40

Effective beginning with students who enter high school in 2012-13 school year (class of 2016).

Course and Credit Requirements	
English/ Language Arts	8 credits Including a balance of literature, composition and speech.
Mathematics	6 credits (in grades 9-12) 2 credits: Algebra I 2 credits: Geometry 2 credits: Algebra II <small>Or complete Integrated Math I, II and III for 6 credits. Students must take a math course or quantitative reasoning course each year in high school.</small>
Science	6 credits 2 credits: Biology I 2 credits: Chemistry I or Physics I or Integrated Chemistry-Physics 2 credits: any Core 40 science course
Social Studies	6 credits 2 credits: U.S. History 1 credit: U.S. Government 1 credit: Economics 2 credits: World History/Civilization or Geography/History of the World
Directed Electives	5 credits World Languages Fine Arts Career and Technical Education
Physical Education	2 credits
Health and Wellness	1 credit
Electives*	6 credits <small>(College and Career Pathway courses recommended)</small>
40 Total State Credits Required	

Schools may have additional local graduation requirements that apply to all students (not required for students with an IEP).

* Specifies the number of electives required by the state. High school schedules provide time for many more electives during the high school years. All students are strongly encouraged to complete a College and Career Pathway (selecting electives in a deliberate manner) to take full advantage of career and college exploration and preparation opportunities.

**SAT scores updated September, 2017.

***WorkKeys assessment dates updated, 2018.

CORE40 with Academic Honors (minimum 47 credits)

For the Core 40 with Academic Honors designation, students must:

- Complete all requirements for Core 40.
- Earn 2 additional Core 40 math credits.
- Earn 6-8 Core 40 world language credits (6 credits in one language or 4 credits each in two languages).
- Earn 2 Core 40 fine arts credits.
- Earn a grade of a "C" or better in courses that will count toward the diploma.
- Have a grade point average of a "B" or better.
- Complete one of the following:
 - A. Earn 4 credits in 2 or more AP courses and take corresponding AP exams
 - B. Earn 6 verifiable transcripted college credits in dual credit courses from the approved dual credit list.
 - C. Earn two of the following:
 1. A minimum of 3 verifiable transcripted college credits from the approved dual credit list,
 2. 2 credits in AP courses and corresponding AP exams,
 3. 2 credits in IB standard level courses and corresponding IB exams.
 - D. Earn a composite score of 1250 or higher on the SAT and a minimum of 590 on math and 590 on the evidence based reading and writing section.**
 - E. Earn an ACT composite score of 26 or higher and complete written section
 - F. Earn 4 credits in IB courses and take corresponding IB exams.

CORE40 with Technical Honors (minimum 47 credits)

For the Core 40 with Technical Honors designation, students must:

- Complete all requirements for Core 40.
- Earn 6 credits in the college and career preparation courses in a state-approved College & Career Pathway and one of the following:
 1. Pathway designated industry-based certification or credential, or
 2. Pathway dual credits from the approved dual credit list resulting in 6 transcripted college credits
- Earn a grade of "C" or better in courses that will count toward the diploma.
- Have a grade point average of a "B" or better.
- Complete one of the following.
 - A. Any one of the options (A - F) of the Core 40 with Academic Honors
 - B. Earn the following minimum scores on WorkKeys: Workplace Documents, Level 6; Applied Math, Level 6; and Graphic Literacy, Level 5.**
 - C. Earn the following minimum score(s) on Accuplacer: Writing 80, Reading 90, Math 75.
 - D. Earn the following minimum score(s) on Compass: Algebra 66 Writing 70, Reading 80.

Box 2 - Learn & Demonstrate Employability Skills: Complete at least one of the following:

- **Project-Based Learning Experience (PBL)**
 - **Capstone project (some courses already include this), Portfolio with public presentation, Must include “design principles”, Meaningful problem to solve or a question to answer**
- **Service-Based Learning Experience (SBL)**
 - **Meaningful service to enrich and apply academic knowledge, teach civic and personal responsibility (and other employability skills), and strengthen communities (some IHSAA athletics and after school clubs qualify for this experience)**
- **Work Based Learning Experience (WBL)**
 - **Employment (on record with the high school), Governor’s Work Ethic Certificate, Work Based Learning, some CTE courses**

Box 3 - Postsecondary-Ready Competencies: Complete at least one of the following:

- Honors Diploma (Academic or Technical)
- SAT (College-Ready benchmarks); 480 ERW / 530 Math
- ACT (College-Ready benchmarks); 18 Eng / 22 Rdg / 22 Math / 23 Science
- ASVAB (minimum AFQT score); 31 (Army/National Guard)
- State- and Industry-recognized Credential or Certificate (e.g. Fire Fighter I, CNA, Welding)
- Career-Technical Education (CTE); 6 credits with “C” average or better
- AP/IB/DC Courses; 3 credits with a “C” average or better (must sit for tests where applicable)

Tracking It All

Counselors meeting
with students
individually to discuss
progress along a
pathway



Valparaiso High School Graduation Pathway Profile

Requirements Met:	N
Graduation Date:	Pending

Student Name: [Redacted]

Diploma Type

Indicate which diploma credit & curricular requirements, including additional local requirements, student met. Note that students with an IFP are not required to meet locally required credits beyond state requirements.

Box 1: High School Diploma (Status):	On Track
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Met GQE: **No** Waiver Eligible?
Class of 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 only.

Box 2: Learn & Demonstrate Employability Skills:	Complete
Project Based Learning:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Service Based Learning:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
Work Based Learning:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Summary:	Girls Swim Winter 2017-2018
Validation:	Athletic Dept Verification

Box 3: Postsecondary-Ready Competencies:	Complete
Academic or Technical Honors Diploma:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending
SAT ERW (480):	<input type="checkbox"/> 570
SAT Math (530):	<input type="checkbox"/> 470
ASVAB AFQT (31):	<input type="checkbox"/> 50
ACT: English (18):	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACT: Math (22):	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACT: Reading (22):	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACT: Science (23):	<input type="checkbox"/>
State and Industry Recognized Credential or Certification:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Federally Recognized Apprenticeship:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Career-Technical Educator Contrator Pathway:	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>



Earning College Credits at VHS

**Advanced Placement
International Baccalaureate
Dual Credit**

Advanced Placement (AP)

- AP courses give students access to rigorous college-level work.
- AP students build confidence and learn the essential time management and study skills needed for college and career success.
- Students have the opportunity to dig deeper into subjects that interest them, develop advanced research and communication skills, and learn to tap their creative, problem-solving, and analytical potential.

International Baccalaureate (IB)

- The IB Diploma is a two-year program beginning in the 11th grade, but suggested/prerequisite coursework begins during the 9th and 10th grade years.
- IB is designed for a variety of learners and is highly regarded by most colleges

International Baccalaureate (IB)

The IB Diploma requires students to test in each of the following 6 subject areas:

- GROUP 1: ENGLISH
- GROUP 2: WORLD LANGUAGES
- GROUP 3: INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES
- GROUP 4: EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCES
- GROUP 5: MATHEMATICS
- GROUP 6: THE ARTS

International Baccalaureate (IB)

The IB Diploma also requires students to complete the following:

- Complete the Theory of Knowledge course (TOK)
- Creativity, Activity, and Service Project (CAS)
- Extended Essay
- Earn 24 Points

Certificates for individual courses are also an option.

Dual Credit (DC)

- Dual credit allows for students to earn both high school and college credit at the same time.
- This allows students to start their college careers
- VHS offers dual credit classes for all students
- Significant dual credit opportunities are also available through the Porter County Career and Technical Center.

IMPORTANT: GRADES EARNED IN THESE CLASSES WILL FOLLOW STUDENTS TO COLLEGE



Freshman Transition Experience

Transitioning to High School

- Rising Freshman Visit: TBD
- Club Rush: Freshman Orientation *and* 2nd week of 2019-20 academic year
- Resource Class

Resource 9

FOCUS: ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- Daily study time
- Academic goal setting through student/teacher conferencing
- Elective credit toward any diploma
- Foundation course for Graduation Pathways
- Dual Credit is available for all students
- Targeted practice to improve PSAT/SAT scores

Resource 9

FOCUS: PERSONAL PLANNING AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL GROWTH

- College & Career planning through *Naviance*
- Personal reflection and social/emotional strategies

Daily Schedule

- School Day: 7:35 am - 2:25 pm
- 50-minute class periods
- 5-minute passing periods
- 7 classes

Sample 9th Grade Schedule

1. English 9*

2. Algebra I* or Geometry*

3. Biology I* or Chemistry*

4. P.E.*

5. Resource Class*

6. Elective or Social Studies

7. Elective

* Year long class

7:35-8:25a

8:30-9:20a

9:25-10:15a

10:20-11:10a**

11:45-12:35p

12:40-1:30p

1:35-2:25p

**Lunch to Follow

Student Services



School Counselors

Counselors

Mr. Dan McKibben

Ms. Gordana Sormaz

Mrs. Jessica Kus

Mrs. Melissa Valtierra

Mrs. Kari Owney

Student Last Names

A – Dal

Dam - Hr

Hs - Milk

Mill - Schr

Schs - Z

School Counseling Services

- Class Scheduling
- Academic Counseling
- College & Career Counseling
- Peer Mediation
- Social/Emotional Counseling

Commonly Asked Questions

- What is the policy regarding teacher concerns?
 - Step 1: Parents are to contact the teacher with their concerns
 - Step 2: If not resolved by teacher contact, contact the school counselor and schedule a meeting with the counselor and teacher
 - Step 3: If resolution is not achieved, then administration will assist.
- What is the deadline and how do we request schedule changes?
 - Requests must be made to the counselor no later than the end of the first week of each semester
 - Students will then be given the option of what classes are available during that class period
- How do we request teacher changes?
 - Per the student handbook policy, VHS does not accept requests for teacher changes

Social Work Team

Director of Culture and Student Services

Mrs. Cicely Powell

Social Workers

Mrs. Natalie Miller A-L

Mrs. Jenna Sickinger M-Z

Social Work Services

- Crisis Interventions
- Peer Mediation
- Social/Emotional Counseling
- Small Support Groups
- Mentoring Program
- Referrals to Therapy Services
- Substance Abuse Prevention Program
- Community Resource Liaisons

School Clinic

Mrs. Teddi Creekmore, Head Nurse

Health plans and forms for the following items can be found on the VCS website under the Health and Wellness Tab:

- Allergies
- Asthma
- Diabetes
- Medications
- Seizures

School Attendance

Mr. Barak Coolman, Dean of Attendance

- Calling off your student: Phone, Email, or Skyward
- Excused/Exempt Absences
- 10+ non-exempt absences = meeting with administrator
- Absences & Chronic Medical Conditions
- Protocol for leaving early/arriving late
- Update Skyward Parent Contacts

Food Services

- VCS Food Services housed at VHS
- Food Service forms and info available on website
- Breakfast is served from 7:00 to 7:30 am
- Three Lunch Periods:
 - A hour lunch 10:15 - 10:45 am
 - B hour lunch 11:10 - 11:40 am
 - C hour lunch 12:05 - 12:35 am

School Safety

School Resource Officer

Lt. Ed Blakley, Valpo PD

VHS Safety Committee Chair

Mr. Aron Borowiak, Assistant Principal

Extra-Curricular Activities

Athletics

- 10 Boys
- 10 Girls
- Cheer
- Dance/Vikettes
- Non-sanctioned (Bowling, Hockey, etc...)

Clubs

- Over 60 each year
- Academic
- Interest
- Social
- Philanthropic

Athletics

Mr. Herb Hofer, Athletic Director

Mr. Jake Plesac, Interim Assistant Athletic Director

Athletic Information Night is:

Thursday, April 25th

6:00 pm Main Gym

Athletic Passes available in the Athletic Office

Middle School Scheduling Info

- Scheduling Information distributed to 8th graders during week of March 4th
- Student scheduling sheets due to middle school counselor next week
- Contact middle school counselor with any questions

Summer School

Located at TJMS

-- 8:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. --

1st Session: June 6th to June 25th

2nd Session: July 8th to July 26th

Students who plan to take two electives during the school year (i.e. music & World Language) should consider taking summer school.

Summer Credit

VHS Department	Course Options
ART	Intro to 2D Art
BUSINESS	Introduction to Business
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES	Nutrition and Wellness I
HEALTH	Health and Wellness Ed (Hybrid Course)
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL	Freshman Transitions (by invitation only)
SOCIAL STUDIES	World History I World History II

Important Dates

- APRIL - 2019-2020 Course Selection Confirmation
- MAY - 2019-2020 Schedule Confirmation
- JUNE - Summer Session I (June 6th to June 25th)
- JULY - Summer Session II (July 8th to July 26th)
- AUGUST - Online Registration (Beginning of August)
Freshmen Orientation: Friday, August 9th
1st Day of School: Monday, August 12th

Online Registration 2019-20

- Registration must be completed through Skyward Family Access (parent account)
- Update emergency and contact information, including email addresses (Email is primary means of communication)
- Provide address changes, along with proofs of residency, to the Main Office for entry into Skyward
- View student schedule and locker/combo assignment

School Communication

- Email is the primary communication between staff and parents. Provide an email address to Skyward that you check daily or weekly.
- Grade-level Canvas courses house all information regarding clubs/activities, college visits, school announcements, etc. Make sure you are an “Observer” on your student’s Canvas courses.

More School Communication

- Content-based Canvas courses provide everything you need to know about your student's coursework. Make sure you become an "Observer" for all courses.
- Announcements and highlights are pushed out daily through VHS social media (Facebook and Twitter)
- VHS Website is under construction but will continue to be enhanced

Thank you!



Staff members will be in the cafeteria to answer questions.