

# THE LINK

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2016-2017 Issue 1: Vestavia Hills High School

Back To School 2016

## Dr. Tyler Burgess, Principal

Hello all!

I hope this finds you well and enjoying some time away from the demands of a school year. As we closed out a big year at VHHS with graduating our Senior Class of 2016, we have been planning for the exciting year ahead for the Rebels. If you have visited the school lately, or driven down Lime Rock Road, you will notice the progress being made on our parking lot, which we anticipate to be completed by the end of July. Your patience is appreciated as this is much needed work to make our campus safer and hopefully smoother for traffic and parking.

Online registration will be open on July 29th to register for school, check schedules and pay any school and activity fees. Because registration is online, we are not asking families to come to campus to register, but are providing optional opportunities called Rebel Walk-throughs for students to walk their schedules, set up their lockers, juniors and seniors to get parking decals, etc. In an effort to be flexible with summer schedules we are offering multiple dates and times prior the the first day of school and encourage you to be here for the first or second chance times, but certainly everything can be done on day one if needed. This year,

when you register, your locker # and combination will be on your student's schedule. If your student decides to come to campus on one of our available times, they need to BRING A COPY OR PHOTO OF THEIR SCHEDULE WITH THEM to have their locker # and combo available. Dr. LeBlanc will be available on those days to help with any concerns or issues with lockers.

We are excited to get underway with the 2016-2017 school year at VHHS. But first, enjoy what is left of summer break, rest and re-energize, and August will be here soon enough. If you are a Twitter user, please follow us @VHHSrebels for news, info and updates throughout the school year. We have a blog ([www.vhhsrebels.blogspot.com](http://www.vhhsrebels.blogspot.com)) that is used to share and pass along information pertaining to VHHS as well. You may also choose to sign up for daily announcements by email.

Enjoy summer, and GO REBELS!  
Tyler Burgess



## REBEL WALK THROUGHS

### FIRST CHANCE SENIORS ONLY

Pick up parking decals on the Senior Patio

Tuesday, August 2nd - 9:00-11:00  
(Juniors' decals won't be available til 1:00)

### JUNIORS ONLY

Pick up parking decals on the Senior Patio

Tuesday, August 2nd - 1:00-3:00

### SOPHOMORES ONLY

Wednesday, August 3rd - 1:00-2:30

### FRESHMEN ONLY

Thursday, August 4th Rebel Connection

(more information on page 3)

### SECOND CHANCE

#### All Grades

Tuesday, August 9 - 2:00-4:00

Parking Decals on the Senior Patio

### THIRD CHANCE

#### First Day of School - 7:30-8:15

Report to the library to pick up parking decals, get locker information, or get a copy of your schedule

## From The President's Pen

Tracy Lemak, PTO President



Hello VHHS parents! I hope everyone has been enjoying this beautiful summer. I am honored to be serving as the PTO president, and I'm looking forward to an outstanding year at VHHS! I am grateful to be part of a community that places such high value on academic excellence and have enjoyed collaborating with other parents and educators to help offer the very best educational opportunities to VHHS students.

The PTO is a great way to get involved at the high school, and you can join during online registration. Whether it's showing appreciation to our faculty and staff through our hospitality committees or helping out with PTO events and fundraisers, there are many opportunities to get involved.

Several volunteers have already devoted many of their summer hours helping to prepare for the upcoming school year! Please join me in thanking the following:

- **Cindy Cherry and Christy Nelson** – Fundraiser
- **Ellen Sheumaker and Jenny Waters** – PTO website, newsletter, and email
- **Debbie Castleberry and Leigh Ann Bridges** – Parent Awareness meetings

- **Holly Mims, Aundrea Milldrum and Caroline Crenshaw** – Financials
- **Beth Saar** – Buildings and Grounds
- **Lea Dutton and Marietta Peterson** – New Teacher Luncheon
- **Leigh Simmons** – Back to School Breakfast

Our monthly meetings offer a chance to hear about all the current activities, amazing accomplishments, and exciting plans at our very busy high school. Each month we hear reports from PTO officers and committee chairs, a representative from the faculty and the SGA, and our principal, Dr. Burgess. Everyone is welcome. Please join us!

And new this year, the PTO is excited to be working with the school on a new event and fundraiser. Please be looking for more details as school begins. I hope everyone will be able to attend this event and celebrate the outstanding students at VHHS while enjoying a time to visit with other members of the Vestavia community! Hope to see you there!

Tracy Lemak, 2016-2017 VHHS PTO President

## REGISTRATION REMINDERS

- 100% online registration this year
- Begins July 29, 2016 at 9:00 am - Ends August 10th
- Must use SNAPCODE which is located on the letter from the Vestavia Hills City Schools which was included with your child's last report card
- On site Registration opportunity is available at the Board of Education on the following dates/times: July 29th and August 2nd from 7:30 to 4:30 both days - Board of Education: 1204 Montgomery Highway, 35216
- Please note that InfoSnap also provides a toll-free support line at (866) 752-6850.
- If you have any general questions about registration, you can call Vestavia Hills City Schools at 402-5100.
- PTO memberships will be available through the online registration process.
- Athletic Association memberships, season passes, and other items will be available for purchase through the online registration process.
- Once you get your schedule, you can check your teachers' webpages for school supply lists for each class

## PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

Become a 2016-2017 Vestavia Hills High School Partner in Education

Recognition by both the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce and VHHS PTO as a supporter continues year-round. Every donation - money, goods or services - directly benefits Vestavia Hills High School. Both businesses and individuals may participate! Excellence in education breeds exceptional communities. Learn more by contacting Rachel Fowler at fowler2831@bellsouth.net or 205-915-4859

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parents and students can subscribe to the VHHS daily announcements by visiting the school web page at [www.vestavia.k12.al.us/VestaviaHigh](http://www.vestavia.k12.al.us/VestaviaHigh). Click on "Parents" and then "Announcement (Subscription)" to subscribe.

## REBEL CONNECTION

### SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, August 4, 2016

#### Part 1: Tours

Ninth grade students interested in a tour of VHHS on Thursday, August 4th may sign up for a time slot using the signup genius link below. Each rising freshman will be paired with a Youth Leadership student to take them on a tour of their schedule. There are 40 spots available in 15 minute increments for an hour. Please sign up within the hour in which the first letter of your last name is assigned.

- 9:00 -10:00 am: Last names beginning with A-G
- 10:00 -11:00 am: Last names beginning with H-O
- 11:00 am - 12:00 pm: Last names beginning with P-Z

Below is the link to sign up for tours:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044baeaf29a4fe3-freshmen>

#### Part 2: Rebel Connection – Students

Rebel Connection is from 2:00 - 3:00 pm in the new gym. All ninth grade students are invited to attend. Members of Youth Leadership will be there to tell you a little more about the school and what you can expect at VHHS.

Students new to Vestavia will be contacted individually for New Student Orientation. Be sure to fill out a form with your counselor when registering! This includes new students in ALL grades.

If you have any questions regarding the tours or Rebel Connection, please email Emily Erwood at [erwoodeb@vestavia.k12.al.us](mailto:erwoodeb@vestavia.k12.al.us).

#### Part 3: Rebel Connection – Parents

There will be a ninth grade parent meeting in the auditorium from 2:00-3:00 while the students are meeting in the new gym. In this meeting, the administration will explain some of the mechanics of the high school.

All three events are optional but encouraged!

## PARENT AWARENESS MEETING SCHEDULE

**New Topics. Lots of discussion.**

**Come join us!**

All meetings are at 12:00 at the Board of Education building. Please enter the building through the side doors. High school and middle school parents are invited to bring a lunch and a friend to the meetings.

- **September 7, 2016** School Year Kickoff
- **October 12, 2016** Opening Lines of Communication with Faculty
- **November 9, 2016** What is Erin's Law? Legislation Update 2016
- **December 7, 2016** Learning Styles - What Works for Your Child
- **January 18, 2017** Course Selection Q&A
- **February 15, 2017** What I Wish My Parents Knew: A Youth Leadership Panel Discussion
- **March 15, 2017** Hidden Addictions (gaming, phones, and more)
- **April 12, 2017** Money Management for Teens
- **May 10, 2017** Raising the Responsible Driver

Please note that we are very fortunate to have some local professionals and laymen who graciously volunteer their time and expertise to our community through these meetings. Their opinions, values, and presentation content are their own.

## VESTAVIA HILLS CITY SCHOOLS APP DOWNLOAD (VHCS)

Visit the APP store and search "Vestavia Hills City Schools". Download the APP to stay in touch with all Vestavia Schools calendars and events.



## VHHS OPEN HOUSE AND PTO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Date: August 23, 2016

Times:

6:00 p.m. PTO General Membership  
Meeting - VHHS Auditorium

6:30 p.m. VHHS Open House

The PTO General Membership meeting will cover the following items:

- Introduction of the PTO's new homecoming week event fundraiser
- Vote on the 2016-2017 Budget
- A word from Dr. Tyler Burgess

VHHS Open House will start at 6:30, immediately after the PTO meeting. A schedule for the open house as well as maps of the school will be provided by the school closer to August 23rd. We look forward to seeing you there!

## FABULOUS FACULTY FRIDAYS

One of the ways we support our faculty and staff during the year is on "Fabulous Faculty Fridays". This year they will be on the following days:

- September 9th
- February 10th
- November 4th
- April 14th

How does it work? The PTO sets up a hospitality room full of appetizers, sandwiches, dips, salads, fruit, vegetables, breads, cheese balls, pizza, and much more (think tailgate foods) that the faculty and staff get to enjoy throughout the day.

In order to do this, we need your help. Please consider donating food (homemade or store bought) on these days. You can sign up to help through the PTO portion of the high school's online registration or ... you can contact the chairs, Mary Rembert ([maryrembert@aol.com](mailto:maryrembert@aol.com)) or Kelley McCallum ([kelleymc@charter.net](mailto:kelleymc@charter.net)). They will send you more details once they hear from you.

Thank you, parents, for supporting your high school faculty and staff this way. These Fridays are definitely a highlight for them!

## VHHS PTO MEETING DATES

August 23 PTO Board meeting –  
12:00pm BOE

August 23 PTO General Membership  
Meeting  
6:00pm VHHS Auditorium

October 4 PTO Board Meeting -  
12:00pm Board of Education  
(BOE)

Nov 1 PTO Board Meeting –  
12:00pm BOE

January 10 PTO Board Meeting –  
12:00pm BOE

February 7 PTO Board Meeting –  
12:00pm BOE

February 7 PTO General Membership  
Meeting BOE (immediately  
following PTO Board Meeting)

March 7 PTO Board Meeting –  
12:00pm BOE

April 4 PTO Board Meeting –  
12:00pm BOE

May 2 PTO Luncheon / Officer  
Installation  
11:30am Location TBA

## SAVE THE DATE



# EAT • ROLL • REBEL

**Thursday, September 22nd - VHHS Parking Lot**

New this year, the PTO is hosting a homecoming week event for students, parents, alumni and community members. Our Rebel family can visit food trucks that will be on campus while enjoying entertainment from VHHS students as we showcase some of the outstanding talent at our school.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Cindy Cherry at [gcgg51599@bellsouth.net](mailto:gcgg51599@bellsouth.net) or Christy Nelson at [christyncnelson@bellsouth.net](mailto:christyncnelson@bellsouth.net).

## CHECK IT OUT!

What is the easiest way to support VHHS PTO? WRITE A CHECK!

Once again, there is nothing to buy and nothing to sell! We will leave that to the other schools. All you have to do is write your CHECK out to VHHS PTO in order to touch the lives of every student at VHHS. Plus, this is the PTO's easiest fundraiser!!!

Thanks to YOU, in 2015-16 the PTO purchased the following for VHHS...

- Online Software subscriptions
- 4 Dell Optiplex 9020 desktop computers
- Vernier LabQuest hand held data collection devices
- Dell Latitude for the Robotics Team
- iPad mini Air

And so much more for the classrooms so ...let's do this again!!!

Be on the look out for more information at the beginning of the 2016-17 school year and help us meet our goal of \$25,000! Every penny we raise through this fundraiser will go back to the school.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact:

Cindy Cherry at [gcgg51599@bellsouth.net](mailto:gcgg51599@bellsouth.net) or Christy Nelson at [christyncnelson@bellsouth.net](mailto:christyncnelson@bellsouth.net).

## FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

The Vestavia Hills Athletic Association reminds you that there is still time to order individual sports season passes and football ticket packages or season tickets for you and your student. Orders can be placed online at MySchoolFees.com. Purchasing passes and packages supports all sports at VHHS and also lets you skip the ticket line on gameday!

We will be distributing packages and season passes on the following dates and times when students will be at the high school to walk their schedules, set up their lockers, etc. **IF PAID THROUGH MySchoolFees.com YOU MUST PROVIDE A HARD COPY OF YOUR RECEIPT AT PICKUP.**

Pick-Up Dates:

### First Chance

Seniors/Juniors -

Tuesday, Aug 2nd: 9am-3pm

Sophomores -

Wednesday, Aug 3rd: 1-2:30pm

Freshmen - Thursday, Aug 4th: 2-4

### Second Chance

Tuesday, Aug 9th: 2-4

Please remember that the first and second chance dates are for the students only, however, you can pick up your packages/passes from us in the lobby of the school or have your student pick

it up on your behalf. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Hernandez, [lisa.r.hernandez@me.com](mailto:lisa.r.hernandez@me.com) or Janet Olsen, [jolsen@lawpc.com](mailto:jolsen@lawpc.com)

## VHHS VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2016

Aug 19 - Briarwood (Jamboree)

Aug 26 - Homewood (H)

Sept 2 - Spain Park (A)

Sept 9 - Oak Mountain (A)

Sept 16 - Huffman (H)

Sept 23 - Helena (H)

Sept 30 - Thompson (A)

Oct 7 - Mountain Brook (H)

Oct 14 - Hoover (A)

Oct 21 - Tuscaloosa County (A)

Oct 28 - Shades Valley (H)



Vestavia Hills City Schools (VHCS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age, in its programs or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Deb Hargrave, Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator  
1204 Montgomery Highway, Vestavia Hills, Alabama 35216  
Telephone: 205-402-5100 Email address: [hargraveda@vestavia.k12.al.us](mailto:hargraveda@vestavia.k12.al.us)

For further information regarding notice of non-discrimination, please visit <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.