

POINTER UPDATE

December 1, 2023



WE ARE **ONE**. WE ARE **FAMILY**. WE ARE **POINTERS**.

Important News:

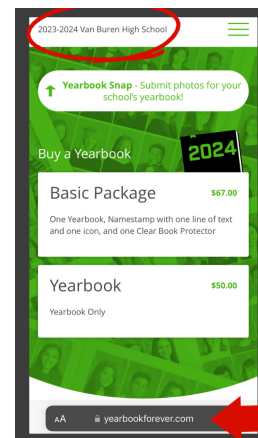
- **PLEASE NOTE:** If you are accessing this newsletter through Peachjar, hyperlinks will not work. You can click the "Learn More" button to go to the VBSD website or visit the high school website to be able to click the links directly. The Pointer Update is posted on the high school home page under "News and Announcements." Go to www.vbsd.us > Schools > Van Buren High School
- **Congratulations to the VBHS ROTC Raider Team 1** who took 1st place at the UAFS ROTC competition over the break!
- **Congratulations to Mrs. Fisher and the Van Buren Theatre department** for receiving top Superior ranking and top scores at the Arkansas State One-Act Festival. (This is like winning State in the Theatre world!) The Theatre Performance class performed *A Wrinkle in Time*. Because of their high rankings, they have been invited to perform in the Chapter Select Showcase at the Arkansas State Festival in February .
- **THERE WILL BE NO SCHOOL THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21 THROUGH FRIDAY, JANUARY 5 FOR WINTER BREAK.**
- The Student Senate and the Van Buren Police Department are sponsoring their **3rd annual Stuff the Squad Car** event tomorrow at WalMart from 10:00-2:00. Come support our Van Buren elementary students in need and help them have a better Christmas.
- **The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) will be held on Thursday December 7th.** The test will be located in the safe room starting 0815 and will last at least three hours. To sign up please contact SFC (Sergeant First Class) Peters or you may go see her in the JROTC building.
- If you need to **request a schedule change for the second semester**, please see your email from Mrs. McGhee. *Schedule change requests will close on December 8th.*
- **VBHS Winter Spirit Week** will be the week of December 11-15. See the graphic below for details.
- **Attention students and staff: The Pointer Cafe is now open!** Hours are 7:30-10:40 am and then 1:10-3:00 pm but closed during both lunches! We are not serving coffee at the moment but we have grab and go, hot coco and Italian sodas!
- **Anyone interested in FBLA it is not too late to join.** If you are interested in the spring conference and competing, please email President Gabby Russell or Mrs. Howard.
- **Student Senate is sponsoring a winter dance. The date has been changed to January 20.** The theme is a western Sadie Hawkins dance. Dress as casual or semi-casual as you choose. Cost per ticket is \$10. More information and a QR code for tickets can be found around the school and on social media.
- **Each junior will take the State ACT next spring. If a student receives an accommodation through 504, IEP, or ELL,** please refer to the Junior Google Classroom and complete the attached form. Return the form to Mrs. McGhee in the counseling office **ASAP**. This form gives us permission to upload all required documentation to the ACT. ***Even if you have already taken a national ACT test and received accommodations, we are still required to have this signed form.*** We cannot request accommodations through ACT without this signed form. We will not be able to accept forms returned after December 1st!
- **SENIORS: It's not too late!** The following link will take you to the Josten's website where you can order and pay NOW for your cap, gown, and tassel. This is the minimum you need for graduation!
<https://bit.ly/48WCri9>

If you need to order now and pay LATER, go to the counseling office or front office to scan the QR code.

- **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:** Graduation has been scheduled for Friday, May 17 at 7:30pm at Blakemore Field. If the weather is bad that evening, the ceremony will be pushed to Saturday with the time to be determined. The ceremony will continue to be pushed to the following day until weather permits. Please do not schedule any trips around this time to ensure you will be able to attend this important event.
- **Parents**, do you have or work for a business that would be interested in running an ad in the 2024 yearbook? Submit your information here: <https://forms.gle/VpHfXnRGULzNBnVT6>
- **Purchase your yearbook today!**
Where: <https://bit.ly/3LFCRjV>
For senior ads: <https://forms.gle/wtHSnWPf5t4fGNPo8>
Deadline: January 26, 2024
- **Reminder about ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES:**
 - **A written note or an email must be given to one of the secretaries in the office within 5 school days for an absence to be excused by parent permission (no doctor's note).** christie.murders@vbsd.us
 - **Any student who misses over 10 minutes of any class will be counted absent for that class.**
 - **Students who accumulate more than 10 unexcused absences in an individual class during the semester may be denied course credit. Students will be allowed 6 excused absences (without doctor's note); any absences after the 6 excused absence days will be counted as unexcused.**
- Attention Students: **Each student is required to wear THIS YEAR'S student ID while on campus.** The ID must be visible at all times, either on a lanyard or clipped to the student's clothing. Students are not allowed to clip an ID on their backpack.
- Would you like to receive the **Pointer Update in Spanish**? Join the Spanish Pointer Update Remind! Text @spanishpu to 81010 on your phone.
- **If your student is 16 and has not had his or her meningitis booster vaccine**, they must get it in order to remain in school. You may email our nurse your complete immunization record or email her with any questions. Tara.dorrrough@vbsd.us
- For policies regarding things such as **dress code, student ID badges, and attendance**, please click the link to go to the 2022-23 Pointer Procedures posted on the high school website. <https://bit.ly/440FOBY>
- **All Students:** If you leave or enter the building for any reason between the hours of 8:00am and 3:00pm you must exit and enter through the door in the Commons by the front office.
- Follow us on social media! **Twitter:** @VanBurenHS @PointerUpdate @VBHS_Counseling @VBSDPointers

Facebook: Van Buren High School, VBSD,

Van Buren High School Counselors



HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR YEARBOOK YET?

DEADLINE TO PURCHASE: JANUARY 26, 2024

WHERE TO BUY

Friday, December 1

7:00pm Choir Winter Concert in FAC

Saturday, December 2

Boys Basketball in Vilonia Tournament (4:45pm)
 Cheer Hosts Pointer Classic in Clair Bates Arena
 Friends of Quiz Bowl Tournament in Conway
 Robotics Competes in Victory in the Valley Comp
 in Russellville

Sunday, December 3

Happy Birthday, Dr. McLean!

Monday, December 4

Happy Birthday, Mrs. Newby!
 6:15 pm JV Boys Basketball in Rogers-Heritage
 Jamboree
 7:00pm Band Christmas Concert in FAC

Tuesday, December 5

5:00pm Basketball @ Ozark (JVB/VG/VB)
 6:00pm Wrestling vs. Russellville/Searcy @
 Russellville

Wednesday, December 6**EVENT - DAWG POUND TIME**

5:00pm JV Girls Basketball @ Springdale
 5:45pm JV Boys Basketball in Rogers-Heritage
 Jamboree

Thursday, December 7**EVENT - DAWG POUND TIME**

3:30pm Quiz Bowl vs. Southside in VBHS Library
 6:00pm Wrestling vs. Mena/Heavner @ Mena
 8:30pm Girls Basketball vs. Bethany, OK in Fort Smith
 Tournament of Champions @ Southside

Friday, December 8

Girls Basketball in Tournament of Champs
 Wrestling in Bentonville-West Tournament
 5:00pm Boys Basketball @ Subiaco (JV/V)

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Saturday, December 9	ACT
Monday, December 18	Semester Exams, Even Hours
Tuesday, December 19	Semester Exams, Odd Hours
Wednesday, December 20	Make-up Semester Exams
Thursday, December 21 thru Friday, January 5	Semester Break
Friday, January 5	Last Day for February ACT Regular Registration
Friday, January 5	Teachers Return for Classroom Prep
Monday, January 8	Students Return to School
Monday, January 15	No School for Students Professional Development for Teachers
Saturday, January 20	Winter Dance
Saturday, February 10	ACT
Monday, February 19	No School for Students Professional Development for Teachers
Tuesday, February 27	ACT for Juniors
Friday, March 8	Last Day for ACT Regular Registration

Tuesday, March 12 Thursday, March 14	2:00pm Early Dismissal 3:30-6:30pm P/T Conferences
Friday, March 15 thru Friday, March 22	NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
Friday, March 29	NO SCHOOL
Saturday, April 17	ACT
Tuesday, April 30 thru Thursday, May 2	ATLAS test for Sophomores
Friday, May 3	Last Day for ACT Regular Registration
Saturday, May 4	Prom
Monday, May 6 Tuesday, May 7	Senior Semester Exams
Friday, May 17	VBHS Graduation
Monday, May 27	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
Tuesday, May 28 Wednesday, May 29	Semester Exams
Thursday, May 30	Last Day of School for Students/Make-up Semester Exams
Friday, May 31	Last Day of School for Teachers
Saturday, June 8	ACT

UPCOMING TESTS/PROJECTS

TEACHER	COURSE	ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE	QUESTIONS?
Carlson	AP Biology	Vampire Lab Paper/Lab Notebook Mitosis Lab/AP Semester Final	Fri., Dec. 8 Dec. 14, 15, & 18	rebecca.carlson@vbsd.us
Carlson	HBS	Unit 1.2 Test	Tues., Dec. 5	rebecca.carlson@vbsd.us

