

Andrew pride

VICTOR J. ANDREW HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • MARCH 2019

The VJA Winter Percussion marimba section performing on elevated platforms during the middle movement of their 2019 show "And I Lost You".



The VJA Winter Colorguard performed their 2019 show "Clown" at their first competition of the season and celebrated a 3rd place finish.

2018-2019 School Calendar

Dates to Remember

March

- 4 No School
- 5 Parent/Teacher Conferences
(no student attendance)
- 13 Spring Parent University
- 22 Early Dismissal
- 25-29 Spring Break

April

- 1 Classes Reconvene
- 9 "SAT Testing (Juniors)
- PSAT 10 Test (Sophomores)
- PSAT 9 Test (Freshmen)"
- 19 No School
- 30 AndrewFest Celebration

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This winter has been one of the worst in recent memory when it comes to school operations - even though our kids love the idea of "SNOW DAY" - we all know that at least 75% of us will want our summer vacation to begin on time in late May. That said, this month begins our thaw and the start of a very busy time of year.

As we try to make improvements to our school, we are all facing a new and different structure with regard to evaluating public schools. For years, we became accustomed to No Child Left Behind and Race to the Top. At their essence, they judged the success, or lack thereof, of a school based on a singular measurement of success - college entrance exams (ACT and SAT). Although schools like ours valued these exams, we all realize there is so much more to both individual student and whole-school success.

Now we have ESSA...which, this past year, provided a summative rating of COMMENDABLE, the second highest rating possible. That, essentially, means we are not within the top 10% of high schools in the state who received EXEMPLARY status; but we were with roughly 55% of other schools that did not have any failing subgroups (racial/ethnic groups, EL, IEP, and low income), or did not have any of the categories evaluated in the lowest 5% among state schools. Looking at our actual rating compared to the top 10%, we were fairly close and likely fell within the top 20-25% of schools.

That said, this letter is reflecting the categories that are now part of a portfolio for high schools. As we unravel the mathematics of the rating, we will continue to establish goals to help us eventually meet the challenge to become EXEMPLARY. The list below includes the category, brief description, and the 2017-18 performance for VJA:

- **Graduation Rate** - This includes three graduation years - four year, five year, and six year - and requires schools to reach as close to 100% graduation rate among all three graduating classes. This is 50% (or 50 points) of our overall rating, VJA received 37.6 points.
- **SAT** - Illinois establishes annual rates for the junior class performance on both the English-Language Arts exam and the Math exam. Schools need to meet or exceed that annual benchmark on the April exam. This is 20% (20 points) of our overall rating, VJA received 19.3 points.
- **Chronic Absenteeism** - Illinois tracks student absenteeism and considers a student chronically absent for missing 10% or more of a school year (including all categories of being absent). Students who miss 10% or more are counted against the school's rating. This is 7.5% (7.5 points) of our overall rating, VJA received 5 points.
- **Freshmen on Track** - All freshmen need to pass five courses and not fail any core classes to be considered on track. Students that don't do either will count against a school in this category. This is 6.25% (or 6.25 points) of our overall rating, VJA received 4.9 points.
- **EL** - Our students who indicated a language other than English is spoken in the home must take the ACCESS exam. Student performance on that exam is benchmarked each year and students must meet or exceed that benchmark to be considered passing. This is 5% (or 5 points) of our overall rating, VJA received 2.4 points.
- **College/Career Readiness** - The State of Illinois has yet to define this benchmark for last year. As such, all schools received full credit. This is 6.25% (or 6.25 points) of our overall rating, VJA received 6.25 points.
- **Climate** - Each year, the state asks stakeholders to complete the 5Essentials survey. Last year, all schools who had minimum participation received full credit. For this year, student participation will be weighted. This is 5% (or 5 points) of our overall rating, VJA received 5 points.

In total, VJA received 80.61 points out of 100, and was around 7 points shy of reaching EXEMPLARY status. Clearly, we will be looking to increase our score where possible and have chosen to target graduation rate and chronic absenteeism this year.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out at molting@d230.org.

Robert Nolting
Principal

CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 230

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Andrew Pride is published by the Consolidated High School District 230 School Board.
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DECCA

The DECCA club at Andrew High School provides students with the opportunity to learn the skill of Marketing. Students who are involved with our school-to-work program are required to become members of this club, while the rest of the student population can voluntarily join. Students participate in competitions that will help them make professional connections and practice their networking skills. This club is a perfect way to begin building a professional resume at a young age. Jessica Koleno is the club's sponsor and has recently led the group into their first round of statewide competitions. The first round was held at Moraine Valley Community College on January 25, 2019. Among the students who qualified were:

- Logan Williams:** Automotive Services Marketing, 3rd place
- Cathy Sojka:** Restaurant and Food Service Management, 3rd place
- Ryan Devine:** Sports and Entertainment Marketing, 3rd place
- Zayd Hussein:** Entrepreneurship, 1st place
- Trey Burch:** Business Services Marketing, 3rd place
- Patrick Flores:** Quick Serve Restaurant Management, 4th place

The next round of competitions will be held in Rosemont, Illinois, on March 7 through 9. If your student has any questions about how to join the club, please email Mrs. Koleno at: JKoleno@d230.org



Mark Your Calendar...

Spring Parent University, Wednesday, March 13, 2019, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Sessions include Pre-Prom Parent Meeting (required for all parents with students attending Prom), Adjusting to College Life, The College Search Checklist, etc. There will be sessions for parents of students in all grade levels.



Prom Parent Meeting

If your son or daughter plans on attending Prom, a parent must attend the **MANDATORY PROM PARENT MEETING on March 13 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Performing Arts Center. In order for your student to purchase a ticket to Prom, a parent must attend this meeting.

SENIOR ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

In February, we recognized over 70 seniors for their outstanding academic achievements accomplished at VJA over the last seven semesters. The students listed below received one or more of the following recognitions: Top 1% of the Class of 2019, Top 5% of the Class of 2019, Top 10% of the Class of 2019, Illinois State Scholar, National Merit, Outstanding Senior, or Department Award Winner. Congratulations to all!

Lana Abuawad, Michael Allen, Elizabeth Baier, Mia Bartolotta, Cameron Bilek, Rebecca Blomberg, Noor Bsul, Gina Canavan, Jessica Carroll, Brianna Cozzolino, Ryan Croce, Stephanie Curtiss, Noelle Doody, Evan Duncan, Omar Elhayes, Ahmad Elsholi, Clarice Ferrolino, Ethan Gaughan, Julia Gomez, Hannah Gromen, Samantha Guzik, Brendon Herrin, Seth Huisenga, Reeba Jacob, Julie Johnson, Lauren Johnson, Michael Johnson, Nika Kaiser, Elle Kakaletis, Khadijah Kareem, Amy Kowal, Benjamin Kramek, Patrick Landers, Lyly Le, Olivia Lehnert, Elise Lettiere, Amanda Long, Aniah Long, Armando Lopez, Dave Manguerra, Adam Mannion, Christopher Mathew, Zachary Mattix, Katie McLaughlin, Madeline Mertdogan, Ryon Meuris, Danae Meyers, Amaan Mirza, Caitlin Morris, Luke O'Connell, Tyler Owsianiak, Makayle Palucki, Andrew Pappas, Nicholas Pappas, Alondra Parquette, Payal Patel, Anna Petro, Emily Petro, Nicole Pukala, Cailin Robertson, Alma Romo, Kya Ikon Sanchez, Haley Smith, Christina Soltis, Gabriela Sportiello, James Subka, Nathan Tkach, Brigid Tunney, Luciano Valdez, Samantha Warpecha, Victoria Watkins, Luke Watzke, and Abby Williams.

TEACHING INTERNSHIP

The Teaching Internship class prepared for February 11, their first day of school at their feeder schools at District 140. They are working at their cooperating schools on Monday's, Tuesday's, Thursday's, and Friday's. They have been busy constructing resumes, cover letters, parent letters, bulletin boards, and education papers. They will be working with grades kindergarten through 8th grade. The interns' responsibilities are to work with his/her cooperating teacher, construct and teach lesson plans, work cooperatively with the students and staff, assist cooperating teacher in classroom presentations, create bulletin boards, and conduct mini lessons (create worksheets, review games, reading to the class, individual assisting, small group work, learning centers, assessments, etc.).

This year's interns are: Angelica Aguilar, Kyla Corona, Alexandra Dennis, Baillie Hess, Allison Jensen, Hayley Jesionowski, Samantha Koppers, Christopher Mathew, Nicole Pannitto, Abigail Shambo, John Sikorski, Kailey Stariha, Leah Stoecker, Alexia Szyszlak, Brianna Tejack, Hannah Torres, Kathryn Wilbur, Abby Williams, and Riley Withers.



Annual Residency Verification

All District 230 students must prove residency within the district each year. Our upcoming dates to accomplish this are:

Tuesday, March 5 • 12 noon – 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 17
8 a.m. – 12 noon; 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

Saturday, May 4 • 8 a.m. – 12 noon

Scholarship Opportunities

Scholarship applications continue to arrive in the Guidance Office throughout the spring months. Students are encouraged to stop in and review the latest announcements. Many of these awards have specific requirements. If you meet the requirements, you should consider applying. Scholarship information is also on the VJA website under Guidance.

Scholarships Awarded

If you have been awarded a scholarship, please let Mrs. Driscoll know by emailing her at ddriscoll@d230.org.

Include the following information:

1. Name of University or organization awarding the scholarship
2. Title/name of the award or scholarship
3. Amount of the award for each year over 4 years (if applicable)

The amount of the awards will be kept confidential. The district uses the totals for statistical data. You are not required to share the financial information if you do not wish to do so.

Summer School

Summer School registration is currently in progress. Students can sign up for summer school by visiting their counselor. Whether your student is getting ahead or catching up, it is wise to register now in order to reserve a spot in the class. Classes will only be offered if there are enough students who enroll. Summer School will be offered at Sandburg High School this year, with the exception of a few courses to be held at Andrew. For more information, click on the Summer School tab at <http://chsd230.eduk8.me>

Prime Time for College-Bound Juniors

March is a great month to have your junior son or daughter make an appointment with his or her counselor to discuss college plans. Students interested in selective colleges are especially encouraged to make an appointment to begin preparing for the application process that will begin next August. Parents are always welcome to join students for this appointment in order to discuss the college selection and financial aid process.

It takes time and energy to find the right college match. Counselors recognize that this is a family decision. However, they can be helpful in sorting out the priorities and finding colleges that are the best fit for each child. Remember, when your child returns from summer vacation, he or she will be expected to have a short list of colleges ready for application. Most applications should be completed by November 1 of the student's senior year.

Upcoming College Fairs

Two opportunities for sophomores and juniors to begin their college research are coming up later this month in the area. Lewis University will host an Illinois Regional College Fair at the Romeoville Campus from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12. Over 100 colleges and universities are scheduled to attend.

The Guidance Department will be offering a bus for students who are interested in attending. Please come to the Guidance Office for more details. Moraine Valley will also host a Regional College Fair on April 3 at the Palos Hills campus. All sophomores and juniors and their families are encouraged to attend.

Juniors and Spring Break

Many families find that Spring Break provides the perfect opportunity for juniors to visit college campuses. Often, families who plan ahead can visit four to five schools in the same geographical area over two to three days. It is important to call schools in advance. In many cases (especially at private schools) the college may offer

free housing to students who want to stay overnight for a sample of dorm life. Because many schools are not on break at this time, a visit now is much better than during the summer when campuses are relatively vacant. If you need a list of questions to ask when you visit, please see your counselor.

Getting Into College - Some Helpful Tips

Whether your child is trying to get into Harvard or any other college, admissions committees will be asking five basic questions: How difficult was the curriculum chosen by the student?; How well did he or she do in that curriculum?; How did the student do on college entrance exams?; What activities outside the classroom did the

student join?; and What was the quality of the involvement in those activities? While the questions are simple, the answers may be complex. Helping your child stay focused on these questions will ensure the greatest number of options after high school. If you have questions about college planning, please contact your child's counselor.

Passing Required Classes

As Summer School approaches, parents are reminded that students must pass both semesters of a required class in order to move on to the next level. For example, students who fail either semester of

Freshman English must repeat the failed semester before moving on to Sophomore English. Summer School is strongly encouraged for students in this position.

Children at Risk

Parents are reminded that they are always welcome to share their concerns regarding the welfare of children with the Guidance staff. Prevention is the important word on this topic. If you have a concern, please do not hesitate to contact your child's counselor. The Guidance staff is always

willing to contact teachers, speak to their students, or facilitate a meeting or referral to specific services when necessary. We work in partnership with parents and students to provide the best possible learning environment for the children and families that we serve.

“What’s Your Story?” / From The Social Studies Department

This is Luciano Valdez’s Story

A common newsletter theme this year centers on the concept of “What’s Your Story?” What are the things that shape who you are and where you want to go. Our goal has been to highlight a different student each month and let them tell their own story about how the school, fellow students, or teachers have influenced their future career path. This month’s story is from Andrew High School senior student Luciano Valdez.

My name is Luciano Valdez and I am a senior. I have been interested in being a social studies teacher since my freshman year. My ultimate goal is to teach a variety

of social studies classes to high school students.

My first positive experience in a social studies class was my freshman year taking Honors World History with Mr. Stirn. Mr. Stirn was the first teacher to get me interested in social studies. After taking his class, I took as many possible social study classes that Victor J. Andrew offered that would fit into my schedule. I took a variety of classes ranging from AP Government with Mr. Wool, to AP Psychology with Mrs. Scott. Each social studies teacher taught me something new. Every class was interesting and different, yet

all were under the Social Studies subject. I find it very surprising that so many different and interesting topics were available under the same department. Learning this made becoming a social studies teacher even more appealing. There are always more topics to learn and to teach. The variety of topics available would keep teaching social studies fresh. If one topic starts to get stale, I could easily switch to a new one. Being a social studies teacher creates the opportunity to expand my knowledge in a variety of ways, and to share that knowledge with future generations would be a dream come true.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

On Tuesday, March 5, 2019, Victor J. Andrew High School will host Parent/Teacher Conferences from noon until 7:00 p.m. Conferences are based on appointments made in advance.

Athletic Leadership

The T-Bolt Varsity Athletic Leadership had their first reading day with our D140 feeder elementary schools. On Feb 6, 10 Athletic Leadership students, along with Athletic Director Kevin McKeown, traveled to Bannes and read to their kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade classes. In each classroom our athletes read the favorite books of the class, getting into character, asking questions, and answering questions from students. “It was an initiative idea I got at one of our NIAAA professional developments from a fellow athletic director and I immediately wanted to start it at my own school” says AD McKeown. “Our VJA students had so much fun interacting with, and reading to our future T-Bolts. I know from this experience it will help develop a stronger sense of community in our kids, and also give our future T-Bolts a great first interaction with our school.” This is something that our leadership team will be doing twice a month throughout the semester, traveling to each of our feeder grammar schools.



DEANS’ OFFICE:

Take 5 Update - Being On-Time to First Period

Parents, thank you for continuing to take an active role in committing to get our students to class on time for 1st period. We have observed many more cars using the NORTH driveway to drop off students in the morning. This has reduced the number of cars going to the south lots, which allows students who drive to school an opportunity to move quicker and safer through our south parking lots.

The addition of a “1 minute warning bell” that rings 1 minute before the start of the next period has been well-received by staff and students. Observations to the warning bell has shown immediate physical reaction from students. They end conversations and move quickly to their next location.

Two tardy check-ins, where we stop

students who have not entered their classroom before 8:00 a.m. and have a brief conversation with them, have resulted in a better understanding of some extenuating circumstances some students face prior to the start of school. We have also been able to communicate directly with all parents of students stopped at tardy check-ins. These parent conversations have been positive and supportive.

As parents, please continue to stress the importance of on-time behavior. Parents who drive students, commit to leaving 5 minutes earlier. Parents of kids who struggle to get out of bed, ask them if they have all their books and clothes prepared for the morning. Simple opportunities illustrated above may result in better on-time behavior.



See something.
Say something.

SECURITY TIP HOTLINE

Victor J. Andrew High School has a safety and security tip hotline. The purpose of this 24-hour line is to provide parents and students with an opportunity to leave a message related to security and safety with a Dean. If you believe that there is an issue and school officials should know about it, please call the following number and leave a message describing the information you have obtained.

(708) 342-5800 x4222.

Andrew Athletics Update

Spring is officially here! Like everyone, our athletic department looks forward to getting back outside to the warm air. On behalf of our athletic staff, we wish you a Happy St. Patrick's Day, and hope you and your family enjoy your upcoming Spring Break at the end of the month. Our 12 spring programs have officially begun, and hopefully, weather permitting, we have few cancellations and reschedules! We wanted to take an opportunity this month to summarize the successes of our winter programs and an outlook for our spring programs. Please remember to confirm your child's registration on 8to18 as well. You will need to use the same login credentials each time you register your athletes. In order to tryout for any sport, a student must be registered on 8to18 and show a valid sports physicals.

The varsity competitive dance team concluded their competitive season with a 12th place finish at the National Dance Team Championships in Orlando. The team placed among some of the best teams in the U.S. Congratulations to the team and especially to the seniors for their dedication over the past 4 years. We'll have a little break and then start up with tryouts in May for the 2019-2020 season! The Andrew Varsity Cheer Team has finished one of its best competition seasons in a long time. The athletes consistently hit their routine this season and their confidence and perseverance soared! They qualified for the IHSA State Finals, placing 4th at Sectionals. They placed in the Top 20 in the state for the 2nd year in a row this past weekend. We are extremely proud of this successful season and the talented athletes!

Boys' and Girls' basketball finished out the regular season in February, using every opportunity to prepare for their IHSA Regional tournaments. Both programs look forward to their summer camps. Both programs are also excited at the future potential of their programs with both having strong seasons at the lower levels.

Boys' and Girls' bowling had another great year with both teams advancing to the IHSA sectional, and our girls' program advancing as a team to the IHSA State Finals after taking first at regional and third at sectionals. Noelle Doody took first place, Meghan DeYoung took third place, and Bryanna Battles took eighth place. We had Sectionals at Town and Country Lanes in Joilet. If your child is interested in joining our bowling program, have them get as much practice time at Orland Bowl as they can. Our season will kick back up again in October of 2019.

The Lady T-Bolts gymnastics team finished their season with Isabella LaPera and Claire Scheulin advancing to the IHSA Sectional held at Hinsdale South. Thanks to all our families and fans for coming out to support

us. The future looks bright for a number of our gymnasts as we look forward to our summer camp. The men's team started their season at the end of February and we had a great turnout. Thank you to all our Sandburg and Stagg athletes that joined our Coop team this spring.

Varsity wrestling team once again traveled to the state finals held in Champaign last month. Congrats to JP Migawa and Luc Valdez for representing Andrew High School with pride in their performance at the tournament. The T-Bolts now prepare for their summer camp later in June.

The boys' swim team has been swimming very well the past month. The boys won the Shepard Invite and took second at the SWSC conference meet. The program also shined at the IHSA sectional held at Lincoln Way Central High School.

Girls' soccer is underway. The Freshmen squad will look to build a legacy, while the JV squad looks to continue their unbeaten streak from 2018. The Varsity team returns 18 players from their 4th in State roster and adds several from last year's talented JV squad. Their schedules have been bolstered, but these teams look forward to the challenge. Play begins with the Windy City Ram Classic on March 12.

Bolts Track and Field returns after an outstanding 2018 season where they had two Sophomore State Qualifiers. This season, the Bolts expect big things from their returning state qualifiers John Bickel (200m dash) and Mychah Spells (110m Hurdles), as well as major contributions from Senior Sprinter Luke Watzke (100m & 200m), Junior Jordan Vela (High Jump, Triple Jump), Junior Malachi Spells (Sprints and Relays), Sophomore Dillon Peters (Jumps), Junior Jack Ballard (Distance), Senior Kyle Sadowski (Distance), and Luke Snedden (Distance) to name a few. With close to 100 athletes in the program again this year, the Bolts should have the depth to improve on last season's successes and battle for a Conference championship, as well as multiple IHSA State qualifiers! Stay in touch with the Bolts by giving them a follow on Social Media: @BoltsTrack. Feel free to come out on March 30 to the Andrew Invite in our Stadium and watch these guys FLY!

The girls' track team started their indoor season in February with strong performances at the Hinsdale South meet. With an impressive group of returning juniors and seniors, combined with a talented young group of freshmen and sophomores, the rest of the season looks to be successful. Early standouts in the sprint events are the speedsters Senior Kaily Stariha and Freshman Bridget Gaik. In the distance races, which require speed, stamina, and race strategy are Senior Gina Canavan and Freshman Fiona McHale. In the

throwing events, the spotlight is on the strength and nimble footwork of Seniors Mary Dyslin and Emily Pustelnik. In the jumping events, the high flyers include Senior Caitlyn Nguyen and Sophomore Isabelle Vaccaro. Every athlete on the team is looking forward to improving on their personal bests at each competition.

The varsity baseball team is excited for another season. After winning a conference and regional championship last year, the team has worked hard in the off-season and is ready for another solid season. The team has a very competitive schedule, as we will compete against the top teams in the area.

Batter up! The 2019 Andrew Thunderbolts Softball program is looking forward to an exciting season! All three levels will be ready to compete at the highest level this spring. With a talented incoming Freshmen class, and a strong core of JV players, the program's future looks bright. The Varsity team, led by Head Coach Matt Fish, will look to compete for a SWSC Conference title and a strong showing in the IHSA playoffs behind the leadership of Senior Kaitlin Lynch and Juniors Keke Tholl and Ella LeMonier. With the addition of some new keys players, the Thunderbolts are a team to watch.

The Andrew boy's Lacrosse team begins competition in Mid-March and is looking forward to building on a successful inaugural season where the Bolts ended with a 13-4 record. Come check out Andrew's newest sport and join the excitement!

This year's Varsity and JV tennis teams look forward to a successful season and add to the legacy of the Andrew program. The Varsity Boys' season begins on March 20 with a Home match against Providence Catholic. The only other match scheduled for March is Crete-Monee, which is away on March 27.

The boys' volleyball program begins March 6. They will compete in three strong tournaments this year (Marist, WWS, and Brother Rice's Smack Attack). Experience and competitiveness is what gives this team its edge this season. They are looking forward to a great year!

Finally, as we always ask, please consider being a member of our Athletic Booster Club. Their hard work and commitment to our athletes helps us every year in purchasing new uniforms, supplies, and equipment, totaling more than \$50,000 annually. We cannot say enough how much we appreciate all the hours they volunteer for our kids. We ask all our athletics parents to please be a paid member of our organization. Every dollar raised goes right back to our programs. We look forward to seeing you at our next home competition. Go T-Bolts! Best of luck to our winter programs as they compete in post-season play this month!

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

Plan to attend our monthly Athletic Booster Club meeting. All members are invited. It is also a great way to become involved. All sports team reps are encouraged to attend. This is how we know about your sport's team. Our next meeting is on Wednesday, March 20, 7:00 p.m. in Room 220.

WANTED: New Directors for 2019-2020 Season. We are currently looking for next years: **Concession Director, Boys' Basketball Concession Helper, Track Concession Helper, and LaCrosse Concession Helper, and Spirit Wear Director.** Please contact Rena Sheehan at rena.espo.sheehan@gmail.com, if you are interested.

Spirit Wear: Spirit wear will be available at Spring Sports Night, on Monday, March 12. For any other information, please contact Missy Geibel at missygeibel@ymail.com or Robin Murphy at robinmurphy23@att.net

Variety Show: For all the latest information visit our website at: www.andrewathleticboosters.org Shows are March 7 thru March 9.

Athletic Scholarship Forms: Students whose family has joined the Athletic Boosters by December 1 can be considered for scholarships. Attention **SENIOR ATHLETES:** pick up, fill out, and turn in your scholarship application for the Booster Club's scholarship drawing. The form is not part of the common scholarship application. Please pick up forms at the monthly Booster Club meeting, Guidance Office, or Athletic Office. March 21 is the deadline for scholarship forms. The scholarships are \$1000.

MATZ FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP: Attention SENIOR VARIETY SHOW CAST MEMBERS: pick up, fill out, and turn in your scholarship application for the scholarship drawing. The forms and requirements are in the Guidance Office, or available at Booster Club meetings. We are not part of the common scholarship form. March 1 is the deadline for scholarship forms. The scholarships are \$500.

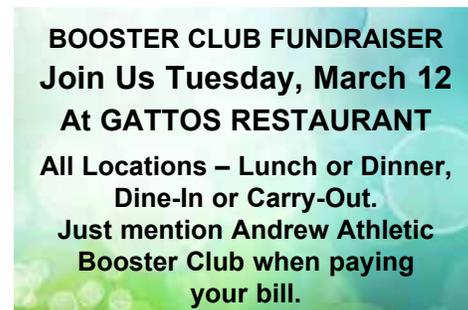
SPECIAL THANKS: Thank you to the directors for their help in all our winter sports concessions. Athletic Boosters are also grateful to the parents and teams

who helped with basketball and wrestling concessions. We very much appreciate you volunteering your time. We could not be a success without parent involvement. We hope to continue our success with your help in the future. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please contact Rena Sheehan at rena.espo.sheehan@gmail.com.

Remember your time leads to your athlete's success!

Our website is:
www.andrewathleticboosters.org

There is a link on the VJA main website or <http://www.athletics2000.com/andrew>



BOOSTER CLUB FUNDRAISER
Join Us Tuesday, March 12
At GATTOS RESTAURANT
All Locations – Lunch or Dinner,
Dine-In or Carry-Out.
Just mention Andrew Athletic
Booster Club when paying
your bill.

TPPO. (Thunder Pride Parent Organization)

Our most anticipated day of the year is fast approaching in May - Scholarship Night! The TPPO is able to award six scholarships this year. We would like to thank our TPPO Members, our parents, and soon-to-be Andrew parents for participating in our fundraisers throughout the school year.

Scholarship Night is truly rewarding for the TPPO to give to our students of the future! Check out our Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/AndrewHighSchoolTPPO/> for reminders and information. Any questions, contact Tracie Zaghoul at traciezaghloul@gmail.com.

MUSIC BOOSTERS

The new semester has seen lots of activity in the VJA Music Department. Both our Winter Guard and Winter Percussion have started their seasons and are off to a great start with Winter Guard placing 3rd in their division at the Steperette Cadet Competition, and Winter Percussion placing 1st at the IPA Frankfort Central Invitational. The groups also had their community show at Central Middle School and were joined by the newly formed Winter Guard team from Central. The teams have also started their road trips to Indianapolis, Dayton, and beyond as their competitive seasons heat up. Good luck to both teams and stay tuned for more on their season!

Don't forget the Spring Music Parents Craft show on March 2 and 3. The show is open 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Saturday, and 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Sunday. Just \$3 per adult and kids under 12 are free. Please join us, and not only pick up some fantastic craft items, but also help support our music programs here at Andrew. Also, save the date for our annual Pancake

Breakfast on Sunday, April 7 from 8 – 11 a.m. In addition to breakfast, you'll have the chance to catch our student musicians as they perform throughout the event.

The various music ensembles have been busy performing at a number of events; including the SWSC Band Festival, UIC Jazz Festival, Carl Sandburg Concert Band Festival, and the Lemont Midwest Music Festival. In addition, on February 15 the Wind Symphony took a trip to Illinois State University to participate in a clinic and recording session. The department was also honored to host composer David Reeves who has written a piece for our own Wind Symphony. The composer worked with the band on the piece as well as spending time with the Winter Percussion group providing insight on their show, which he also arranged.

Upcoming events in March and April include The District 230 Band Showcase on March 13, the Spring Instrumental Concert on March 14, and the ISU Concert Band Festival on

April 26. We are also excited to present The Spring Musical, Aida, by Elton John and Tim Rice, which will be running April 25 through the 27. Shows will be at 7 p.m. on April 25 and 26, with a 3 p.m. performance on April 27. Please join us for another wonderful musical performance from our amazing student performers.

Last but not least, we are proud to have four student musicians that were selected for the All State Orchestra. Congratulations to Michael Allen, Cameron Bilek, and John Sikorski upon their placement in the honors orchestra, and to Althena Yu for her selection to the all-state orchestra.

As always, we'd love to see you at our Andrew Music Parent meetings where you can keep up to date on all the news from the Music Department. The next meetings will be Wednesday, March 6, and Tuesday, April 16, at 7:30 p.m. in the choir room.

Thank you and Eyes with Pride!!



VICTOR J. ANDREW HIGH SCHOOL

9001 West 171st Street
Tinley Park, IL 60487
Phone: 708-342-5800
<http://andrew.d230.org>

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ORLAND PARK

CUPCAKE WARS CHALLENGE

This Spring the Culinary and Woodworking classes will be working together on their 2nd Annual Cupcake Wars Challenge. The students will form groups and design, build, and bake cupcakes and displays. The students start months in advance by working together to come up with a design that fits the theme of prom, Glitter & Gold! The woodworking students build and paint the displays for the cupcakes. The culinary students will bake and decorate dozens of cupcakes to fill the displays. During prom week, the cupcakes will be displayed and students will vote on their favorite displays. The winners receive fame and notoriety. The cupcakes will be sold during Andrewfest as a fundraiser for next year's Cupcake Wars Competition.



WELCOME NEW T-BOLTS – SEMESTER 2

In January, our Administration hosted a breakfast for our new T-Bolts. Students that entered VJA after our Welcome Breakfast in September participated in a question/answer game regarding all things VJA. Welcome to VJA!



Nurse's Office Important Reminders from the Nurse's Office

Attention Junior Parents/Guardians (class of 2020)

All students entering 12th grade in the State of Illinois are required to show proof of having received one dose of Meningococcal Conjugate vaccine given on or after their 16th birthday.

Proof of having received the Meningococcal vaccine is required and should be submitted to the School Nurse as soon as the vaccine is given.

Vaccine documentation can be:

- Dropped off in the Nurse's Office
- Mailed to Victor J. Andrew High School, Attention: Nurse's Office
- Scanned and e-mailed to the Nurse's Office at: vjanurse@d230.org
- Faxed to the Nurse at: 708-737-7725

It is important to note that your child will *not* receive a schedule, participate in athletics, or apply for a parking pass in the 2019-2020 school year until *documentation of having the vaccine is received in the Nurse's Office.*

If you have any questions, please contact the Nurse's Office at 708-342-5858.

Attention Incoming Freshman Class of 2023

It is never too early to start thinking about the required school physical and immunizations for high school. Call your doctor to schedule your appointment early to avoid delays in Schedule Release in August. Forms can be located on the VJA Nurse's Page on the school website: <http://Andrew.d230.org/resources/nurses-office/>

A packet with information and required forms was distributed at Freshmen Registration on Saturday, February 2, 2019. Completed forms are due to the Nurse's Office by May 1, 2019.

Asthma Health Alert

Illinois Law requires an Asthma Action Plan to be completed by a physician for all asthmatic students. Please submit completed forms to the Nurse's Office as soon as possible. Any questions, please call the Andrew Nurse's Office at 342-5858.

March is Poison Control Month

The Poison Center hotline number is 1-800-222-1222

The phone call is free and it is confidential.

The website for information on poison control is: Illinoispoisoncenter.org.