

# Knighly News

Van Buren Local School  
217 South Main Street  
Van Buren, Ohio 45889  
Volume: 38 No.: 8  
May 2018  
*Published nine times per year*

Superintendent's Office — 299-3578 High School — 299-3384 Elementary — 299-3416

## A Big Thank You for Another Great School Year

**Tim Myers, Superintendent**

As another successful school year comes to a close, I want to thank the students, parents, families, staff, and community that make our school so successful. The hard work and caring of the staff, the work ethic of our students, the parents and families that instill those traits, values, and expectations of our students, and the support and participation of the community make up that "One Team" that we emphasize in our strategic plan.

Our students show great achievement in the classroom, on the field, on the stage, and throughout the community. This year's senior class received 1.8 million dollars in scholarships, had a National Merit Finalist, and even had a student graduate with their Associates Degree before receiving her HS diploma. One student received the county's Franklin B Walter award that signifies the top student among the local school districts in the county. Students excelled in the community as well, doing service projects, earning awards, and helping others.

Congratulations to the class of 2018. Thank you to the staff, families, and community.

## Van Buren High School Choirs Do it Again!

Congratulations to the Van Buren Varsity Choir for their STRAIGHT SUPERIOR RATINGS at OMEA State Choir AE on Friday, April 27, 2018! This is the fourth year in a row for the Varsity Choir in Class A to earn the Superior rating when they have qualified before. The consistency of our program is sought after by many schools. Congratulations to the students once again!

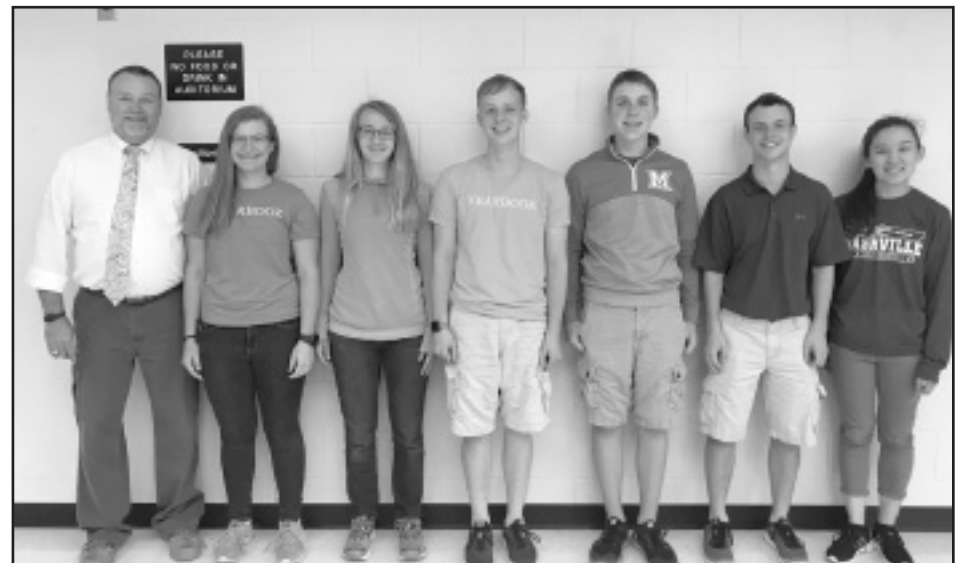
*The Class of 2018 Graduation  
ceremony will take place on  
Sunday, May 27, 2018, at 2:00 P.M.  
in the High School Gymnasium.*

**Summer Vacation is  
almost here! Have a Safe and  
Enjoyable Break!**

## Results of the Hancock County Math Competition

The fourth annual Hancock County Math Competition was held on Monday, May 7 at the Hancock County ESC Office. The eight Hancock County Schools (serviced by the ESC Office: Arlington, Arcadia, Cory-Rawson, Liberty-Benton, McComb, Riverdale, Vanlue, and Van Buren) were allowed to bring 6 students each to compete in the competition. Van Buren's students were: Autumn Pisarsky, Brandon Wehrle, Miranda Eaton, Brady Harmon, Olivia Sexton, and Kaleb Bishop. Cash prizes were awarded to the top three individual scorers. Van Buren took a third place finish with Kaleb Bishop receiving a \$25 gift card. Other Top-Ten Placers from VBHS were Autumn Pisarsky (fourth place, one point less than third place), Brandon Wehrle (seventh place), Brady Harmon (8<sup>th</sup> place), Miranda Eaton (9<sup>th</sup> place) with Olivia Sexton not far behind in 13<sup>th</sup> place. Even though we did not win the competition this year, our team overall was the strongest team that we have ever fielded in the four years of the competition.

Thank you to all of the students that participated in the competition for a job well done and congratulations to Kaleb Bishop for his third place finish.



Mr. Rader, Olivia Sexton, Autumn Pisarsky, Brady Harmon, Kaleb Bishop, Brandon Wehrle, Miranda Eaton.

## Hancock County Toll-Free Crisis Hotline

**1-888-936-7116**

Do you or someone you know need help, need to talk, or feel stressed? Please call 1-888-936-7116, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

This is a toll-free crisis hotline number.

# Treasurer News

## Data Deep Dive with the Treasurer

Alex Binger, Treasurer

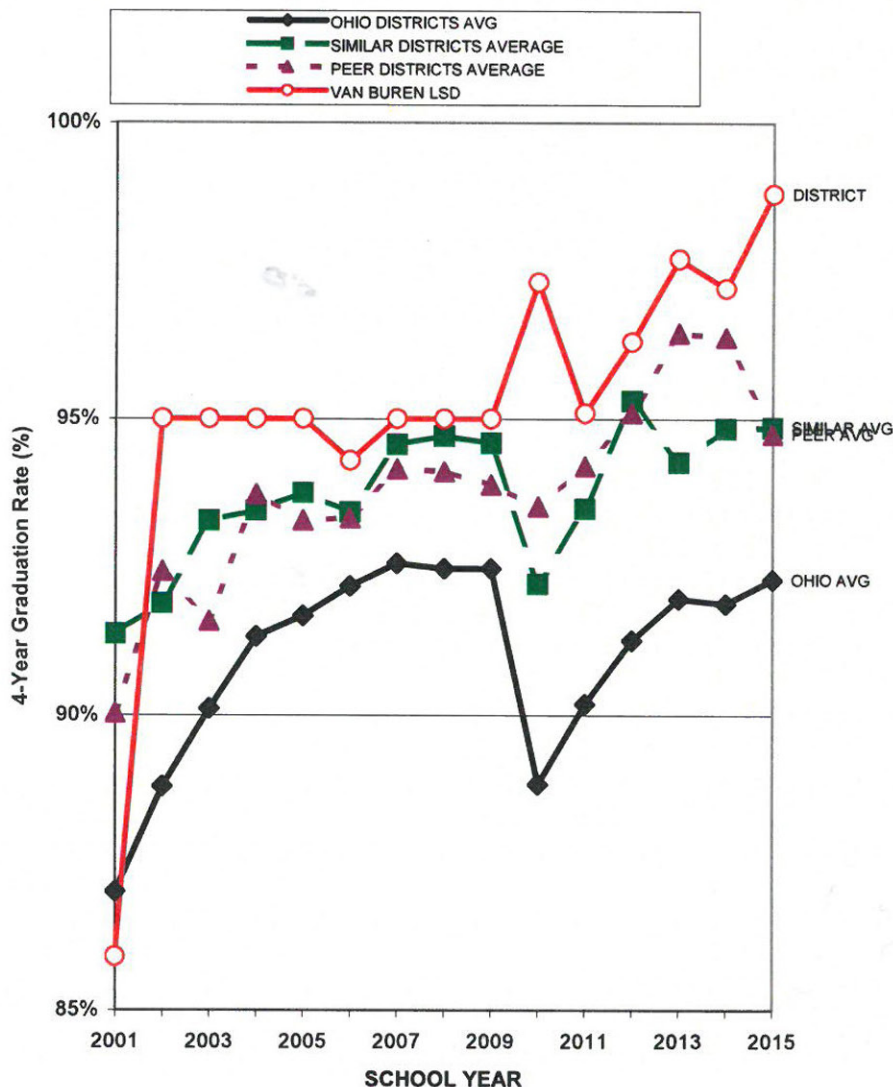
One of the goals of the Strategic Plan of our District is as follows: "Provide a K-12 curriculum instilling the desire to become a life-long learner and providing graduates with the 21st century skills and knowledge to become contributing community members." Certainly, there are many ingredients and many steps to the recipe when it comes to developing this life-long desire to learn, succeed, and contribute. Being that it is graduation season, before we all eat our grad party shredded chicken sandwiches and play our backyard games of cornhole and ladder golf, I want to highlight that step (graduation) of the recipe.

Here at Van Buren, we take pride in the excellent "raw ingredients" that our staff have the pleasure of educating. As you can see in the figures below, when you combine quality ingredients (our students) and a talented, knowledgeable and caring staff, the recipe for life-long success really starts to take shape. Figure IV-3 shows that our students here at Van Buren have achieved higher four-year graduation rates than all of the comparison groups (PEER, OHIO AVG, and

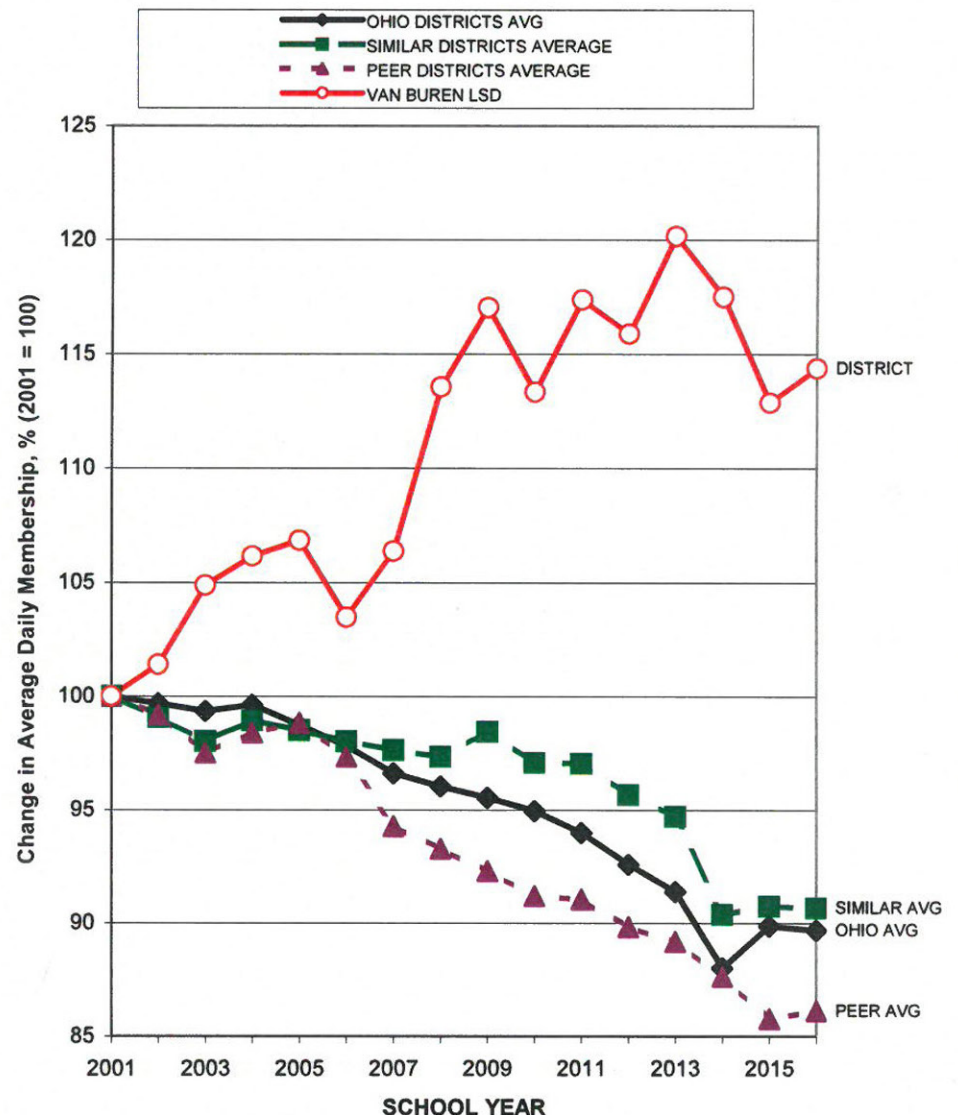
SIMILAR) that I highlighted in my first article for 14 of the past 15 years! Figure I-5 below shows the District's change in student population over the same time period. From 2001-2016, we have experienced about 15% growth in our student population. Over that same time period, all three of our comparison groups have experienced significant declining enrollments in the range of about 10-15%.

So, with graduation fast approaching, let's take a step back from the recipe book and take a look at what we have so far. Here at Van Buren, we have an exceptional and skilled staff, who not only help prepare our students for graduation, but also have accepted the responsibility of developing more and more life-long learners over the years. We have gifted and hardworking students who strive to transform from raw ingredients into life-long learners. And we have a strong community who supports our students and staff, knowing the benefits of their education will be far-reaching. It certainly seems that Van Buren is developing a RECIPE FOR SUCCESS. Congratulations to the Class of 2018!

**Figure IV-3: VAN BUREN LSD  
4-Year Graduation Rate (%)**



**Figure I-5: VAN BUREN LSD  
Change in Average Daily Membership**



## The Van Buren Academic Boosters Proudly Present

### March & April 2018 Awesome Knights

Students are chosen monthly by each high school teacher based upon one or more of the following: **Academic Achievement; Positive Attitude; Class Participation; Letter Grade Improvement; Outstanding Performance.**

All students chosen monthly will receive a gift certificate and a certificate of recognition from the Academic Boosters organization as well as having their picture placed in the showcase next to the high school office. The gift certificates this year have been donated by Ralphie's and McDonald's.



**March** - *Back Row:* Jared Wieggers, Lucas Badertscher, Nic Rettig, Brandon Klausung, Conner Ohlrich, Eli Holman, Ethan Johnson, Jon Hudok, Gannon Bahn. *Middle Row:* Lauren Hensel, Keana Rider, Raegan Miller, Millie Hernandez, Hope Dewalt, Emily LeCroy, Kennedy Rader, Mia Leal, Mikaela Volland. *Front Row:* Dessa Darling, Carl Fleck. *Not Pictured:* Hannah Betts, Sam Phillips, Connor Waltmire.



**April** - *Back Row:* Brady Losiewicz, Brandon Wehrle, Dani Hall, Adam McKinniss, Jace McCartney, Hope DeWalt, Sam Frost, Cheyenne Mendoza, Andrea Iloff, Brady Harmon, Jordan Bowling, . *Middle Row:* Josie Masters, Grace Hoerig, Amelia Durliat, Grace Heitkamp, Alex Marshall, Ginny Harr, Kearstin Sherick, Megan Sheeks, Jenessa Miller, Amanda Strapp. *Front Row:* Mady Parker, Agnes Durliat, Madalyn Riesen, Reese Recker, Faith DeWalt, Izzy Pawlak. *Not Pictured:* Josh Bowles, Izaiah Cline, Khail Fasone, Nate Gregory, Drew Insley, Sam Phillips.

### April 2018 Virtuous Knights



#### QUALITIES OF A VIRTUOUS KNIGHT:

**Generosity; Respect; Kindness; Pride in School; Responsibility; Enthusiasm; Pride in Self; Hard Working.**

*Thanks to the Van Buren Academic Boosters and Culver's for their support of the VBMS Virtuous Knight program.*

*Back Row:* Alexis Nivison-Brassell, Sasha Busey, Karissa Welte, Gabriel George, Dalton Hutchins, Olivia Cramer, Marissa Barchlett. *Front Row:* Madisyn Ferguson, Lindsey Stultz, Katie Krantz, Kye Cruz-Miller, Rae Coffey, Kayla Fisher, Ashlee Deitrick, Kadin Crawford. *Not Pictured:* Caleb Krout.

#### 2017 Van Buren Graduates

The following alumni need to pick up their Graduation (cap and gown) pictures - Brittany Arnold, McClain Brown, Kurt Kuhlman, Justen Stall, Jared Zimmerman.

Please stop to pick these up in the Superintendent's office at your earliest convenience during school hours. Thank you.



# High School News

## Hancock Youth Leadership

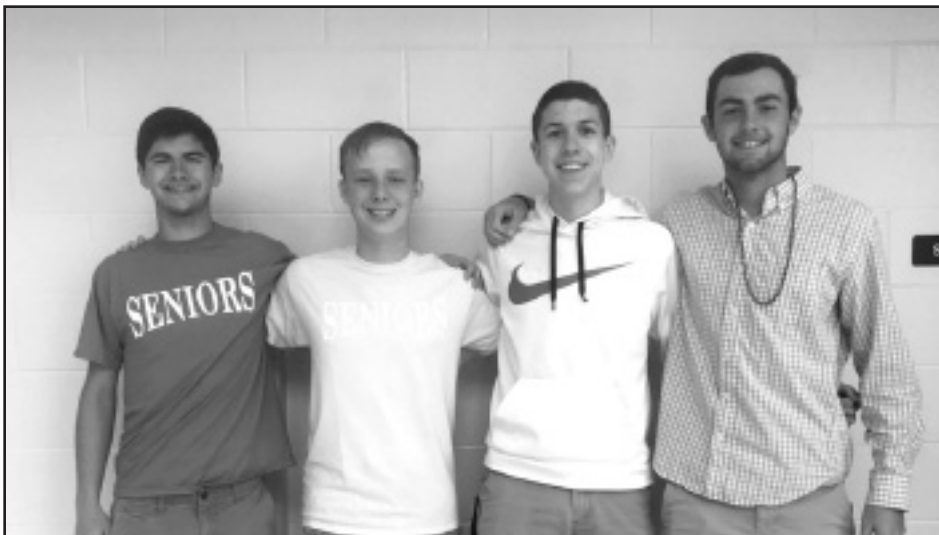
Congratulations to Olivia Sexton (not pictured), Carrie Below, Connor Ohlrich, Natasha Simons, and Hope Serrano on their HYL graduation.

Hancock Youth Leadership begins with a summer kick-off retreat and follows by educational session days once a month, Hancock Youth Leadership (HYL) is a service and leadership program designed to give a select group of high school students the opportunity to gain valuable experience and develop crucial leadership and communication skills. In addition to the educational insight, skills are put into practice with a servant leadership project completed by the end of the program. HYL members are selected through a competitive application process.



## Buckeye Boys State

Van Buren High School will have four Juniors attending Buckeye Boys State this year in June!



James Koehler, Brady Harmon, Josh Bishop, Connor Ohlrich.

## Van Buren High School/Middle School Guidance - Mr. Zender

- Any student who has to complete class credit work before next year needs to see Mr. Zender by June 5 for make-up work information.
- All senior final transcripts may be picked up in the guidance office until June 11, or you may email the guidance office for one in return.
- Any changes in scheduling for next year must be done before June 11 in the guidance office, unless summer school, make-up work, or advancement is involved. Remember, no more than 1 ½ study halls are permitted for the year.
- Guidance office summer hours will be from 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. until June 11, and again starting in the fall on August 3.
- Grade classification requirements for the start of next year are 5 credits to be a sophomore, 10 credits to be a junior, and 15 credits to be a senior. A letter will be sent out to those students who do not meet these requirements notifying them of their status and options.
- Current juniors should start making plans for college visits over the summer. Seniors next fall will be given 2 college visits in the fall with prior arrangements made through the guidance office. Be sure to check out the colleges you are thinking about applying to.
- College CCP classes for the fall need to be scheduled as soon as it can be done. Students should meet with Mr. Zender to finalize their schedule of classes at Van Buren. Also, email Mr. Zender any fall CCP classes scheduled over the summer for the fall.
- Any student who needs to contact Mr. Zender over the summer should use his school email.
- Students who are interested in credit flexing physical education over the summer for ¼ credit needs to contact Mr. Zender or Mr. Van Hoose by the end of the school year.

### Van Buren Academic Boosters *Rummage Sale*

**Saturday, June 2, 2018 at 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**  
**MS/HS cafeteria**

Come see what treasures await you in the middle/high school cafeteria! Plenty of parking and handicap accessible. Sale will be held rain or shine.

If you have any items that you'd like to donate towards the sale, please contact Heather Schlaeppi at [haanders@yahoo.com](mailto:haanders@yahoo.com) or 419-299-5018 (please leave a message).

# Middle School News

## Future Cities Exhibition Yields 3 Winning Designs

Three advisory groups will enjoy jumping at SkyZone after their designs were judged as the best of fourteen during our Future Cities exhibition on May 11. This 6+ month school-wide design challenge incorporated a number of disciplines (math, science, social studies, language arts, speech, art) and challenged students to work collaboratively across grade levels. Thanks to our three judges: Ruthann Hahn (Birchaven), Brian Thomas, and Todd Richard (City of Findlay). We also had a number of guests join us in the afternoon to check out the student products.



## MS Talent Show



**Van Buren  
Black Knights**



## Middle School News

### PenOhio Regional Competition

Seventh and eighth grade PenOhio (formerly Power of the Pen) team members traveled to Timberstone Middle School on Saturday, April 21, 2018, to compete in an imaginative/creative writing contest. The seventh grade team members are Allison Badertscher, Jack Campbell, Peter Harrington, Weston Heitkamp, Morgan Graber, and Ben Stultz. Karen Dishong is the the seventh grade coach. The eighth grade team members are Evan Clark, Emma Henry, Ben Hudok, Maddie Northcutt, Ashlynn Sortor, and Lindsey Stultz. The eighth grade team is coached by Stevie Brown.



Van Buren Middle School had an awesome writing day on Saturday. Seventh grader Allison Badertscher took 6th place overall. In the eighth grade, Lindsey Stultz placed 1st overall and Emma Henry took 3rd place. Furthermore, several students qualified for state, which will be held May 24 and 25 at The College of Wooster! Lindsey Stultz, Emma Henry, and Maddie Northcutt are the eighth graders that qualified for state finals. The seventh graders that qualified for the state finals are Allison Badertscher, Jack Campbell, Peter Harrington, and Weston Heitkamp. Good LUCK and Write On!

PenOhio teams you make us proud!



**Last Day for Students**  
**Thursday, May 24, 2018**

## Elementary News



7<sup>th</sup> Grade Team



8<sup>th</sup> Grade Team

### Elementary PBIS picnic at the Van Buren State Park.



# School News

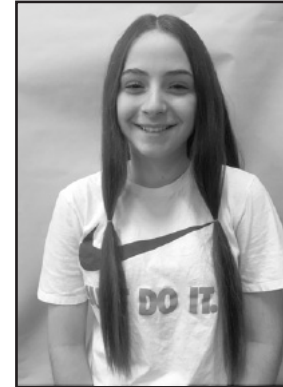
## Locks of Love Assembly

Monday, May 14, 2018, was Van Buren's 10th Annual Locks of Love Event, held at Van Buren Schools. Students chose to participate in honor or in memory of loved ones currently or previously fighting illnesses like cancer or alopecia that cause hair loss. Nine students, including some last minute sign-ups, donated their ponytails during the morning assembly.

Donors included: The only elementary donor, second grader Eden Orchard, who donated for the second time which is quite impressive considering her age! Rae Coffey, a sixth grade student, donated for the third time in memory of Family Friend Steve Lishawa. Seventh grade donors were led into the assembly by Olivia Hollar, followed by McKenna Morey, donating for the third time in memory of her Grandpa, Larry Beagle. Rounding out the middle school donors was Ava Leal, donating for the second time in memory of Great Uncle Steve Franks. Her sister, freshman Mia Leal, also donated in memory of their uncle for the third time. Sophomore Mikaela Voland, donated in honor of her Father Mike Voland. The Junior class was represented by Emily LeCroy, thanks to a last minute decision to donate. And our only male donor this year was Senior Carl Fleck. Austin Grant 's Salon also collected donatable ponytails and brought them to the event. All together, over 100 ponytails were collected and mailed to Locks of Love to be made into wigs for children suffering hair loss.

A huge shoutout and Thank You to our stylists! Halee Schafner and Kaitly Frost from Creative Hair Designs, and Kristy Schroeder from Austin Grant's Salon and Spa.

Van Buren's 11th Annual Locks of Love Event will be coming next May! If your hair will be long enough to donate 10 or more inches to this great cause, consider donating in the spring of next year! Mark your calendars for the Monday after prom!!!!



## Elementary News

### Knights of the Round Table

Students selected by their noon monitors enjoyed lunch and an ice cream treat as “Round Table Knights” — a reward for their positive attitude and behavior during the month of April. Students were also able to invite a friend or family member to join them at the round table.

Congratulations to these students!



*Back Row:* Camryn Masters, Grace Webster, Jamie Cavera, Cahleb Freytag, Anmithasri Senthilkumar, Logan VanderEnde, Timothy Grant. *Middle Row:* Jack Basinger, Kenna Thomas, Avery Beall, Kaitlyn Homan, Ashleigh Doyle, Mason Northcutt, Miley Eakin. *Front Row:* Laura Willey, Brynlyn Griffith, Connor Finley, Max Sabol, Ace Kidd, Kolton Preble, Sophia Webster, Tessa Konwiczka. *Not Pictured:* Ryleigh Keckler, Brooklyn Wilkin.

### Locks of Love



## School News

### VB Students Along with Two Other Students Compete as Lego Team

First Lego League Team, the Hydro Helpers, competed this school year at the regional competition in Toledo. They worked together as a team to come up with a specific project idea to present and also had fun competing against other teams with their EV3 robot. While they didn't move on to the next round in Dayton, they were nominated for innovative project and also gracious professionalism (meaning they showed great sportsmanship). Congratulations on a great season!



*Back Row:* Ryan Harmon (VB), Mucee Hansen (VB), Justin Schiefer (VB), Kaleb Bishop (VB). *Front Row:* Daniel Breneman (HS), Isaac Dyer (VB), Isaac Weese (Fdly) and Emily Bishop (VB).

### Yearbook News

#### CLASS OF 2019 STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

Your senior year is right around the corner, and that means you will be getting your senior pictures taken. I would encourage you to try to have your pictures taken this summer so you will not have any problems making the **Wednesday (December 19) before Christmas break deadline** to turn in the picture you want to appear in the yearbook. If you are not able to have your pictures taken during the summer, I suggest at least making the appointment during the summer so that the pictures can be taken in plenty of time to meet the deadline. The yearbook staff would also like to include a baby picture (any age) of each senior in the yearbook, and that can be turned in along with the senior picture. Those pictures will be returned to the student at the end of the school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Brian Bratt, yearbook adviser, at 299-3384 ext. 407 or [bbratt@vbschools.net](mailto:bbratt@vbschools.net).

# Elementary News

## Mulch Project

The fifth grade math students were once again working hard on our annual mulch project. Students did some measuring and calculations to figure out the amount of cubic yards of mulch that should be ordered for our Medieval Garden. Then they went out another day and got to work spreading the mulch. They did an awesome job!



## Amvets Contest

Congratulations to 1<sup>st</sup> grader Shiv Patel and 4<sup>th</sup> grader Deekshitha Ekbote!!! They each won first place in their grades for the Amvets Americanism Contest. This year's theme was "Why the Constitution is Important to Me". Shiv won 1<sup>st</sup> place for the first grade flag coloring contest and Deekshitha won 1<sup>st</sup> place for the fourth grade poster drawing contest. The Amvets Americanism Contest was open to all students in Hancock County. Shiv's flag coloring and Deekshitha's poster will move on to the district level. We wish them well!



## Attn: Parents/ Guardians

If your child(ren)'s workbook and classroom fees have not been paid, please take care of this obligation as soon as possible. If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact the office.

# School News

## Congratulations to the 2018-2019 Van Buren Cheerleaders

### Varsity Football

Ellie Fenstermaker  
Calloway Luke  
Lily McKeown  
Ally Rickenbacher  
McKenzie Rigsby  
Camrie Roberts  
Hope Serrano  
Paige Smith  
Sarah Stapley  
Ally Strong  
Madi Trumbull  
Natalie Williamson

### Middle School Football

Bri Adkins  
Lexi Camarano  
Ellie Clevenger  
Laynee Crow  
Kennedy Diemer  
Bella Saum  
Summer Siefer  
Chloe Sproles  
Melodee Vermillion

### Varsity Basketball

Jordan Lonyo  
Ally Rickenbacher  
Camrie Roberts  
Hope Serrano  
Paige Smith  
Ally Strong  
Madi Trumbull  
Natalie Williamson

### JV Basketball

Kaitlyn Baer  
Ellie Fenstermaker  
Ainsley Forsyth  
Malia Gehrisch  
Shaina Lako  
Abbie Losiewicz  
Audrey Marroquin  
Lily McKeown

### JV Football

Kaitlyn Baer  
Audrey Marroquin  
Annie Omlor

### Competitive Squad

Ellie Fenstermaker  
Ainsley Forsyth  
Malia Gehrisch  
Shaina Lako  
Abbie Losiewicz  
Calloway Luke  
Camrie Roberts  
Hope Serrano  
Paige Smith  
Madi Trumbull

### Middle School Basketball

Bri Adkins  
Lexi Camarano  
Ellie Clevenger  
Laynee Crow  
Kennedy Diemer  
Bella Saum  
Summer Siefer  
Chloe Sproles  
Melodee Vermillion

**Have you Moved?**

**Or are you moving over the summer months?**

**Do we have your current address/phone number?**

**Please Notify Us!**

Please report any changes in address and/or phone numbers to the school as soon as possible.

We want to maintain the most current information on each of our students. Please help us by notifying us of any changes that take place. This guarantees that all correspondence from the school reaches your home as quickly as possible. If you no longer have a 'land line' and are using your cell phones as your main line, please let us know.

If you move within or out of Van Buren School District, please let us know this as soon as it happens. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated! We need to be able to contact you in the event of emergencies or notices that effect your children.

FREE LUNCH AT

## GLENWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA

1715 NORTH MAIN ST- FINDLAY, OH

(Enter from East side behind Rite Aid Pharmacy- watch for signs)

**MONDAY - FRIDAY  
JUNE 4 – JULY 27, 2018**

**LUNCHES ARE FREE  
FOR AGES 1-18**

**ADULT PRICE \$3.20**

**SERVING TIMES:  
11:30A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.**

**CALL 419-429-8038 FOR INFORMATION**

**NO LUNCH ON JULY 4, 2018**

**\*\*COME FOR LUNCH, GAMES AND  
ACTIVITIES\*\***



*Lunch Program presented by: Findlay City Schools, Hancock Co Family First Council and Hancock County United Way Halt Hunger Initiative*



*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

### **PEOPLE WHO PURCHASED COPIES OF THE 2016 and 2017 KNIGHT**

The following alumni need to pick up in the HS office their copies of the 2016 and 2017 Knight that they ordered: 2016 - Brant Morton, Brandon Shepherd; and 2017 - Parker Evans, Annie Gilliland, Matthew Nieset, Lexi Woessner. Please stop to pick those up in the high school office at your earliest convenience. Thank you again for your support of Van Buren and our yearbook.

**For more information on  
VB Black Knight Sports, visit**

**[www.vanburenathletics.org](http://www.vanburenathletics.org)**



**Van Buren Local School**

217 South Main Street  
Van Buren, Ohio 45889

*Published by Van Buren Local School*

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POSTAL CUSTOMER RR 081

***Last Day for Students  
Thursday, May 24, 2018***

**First Day of the 2018-2019  
School Year for Students is  
Wednesday, August 15, 2018**

***Van Buren Board of Education:***  
  
Mr. Jeff Salisbury, President  
Mr. Mike Leifheit, Vice President  
Ms. Dee Cramer  
Mr. Jim Griffith  
Ms. Kim Thomas

**School Contact Information**

Middle School/High School Office, 217 S. Main St., Van Buren, OH 45889  
Elementary Office, 301 S. Main St., Van Buren, OH 45889

**MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL OFFICES 419-299-3384**

*HS Principal, ext. 401*

*MS Principal, ext. 301*

*Attendance, option #1*

**ELEMENTARY OFFICE - 419-299-3416**

*Principal, ext. 201*

**ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT - 419-299-3254**

**MAINTENANCE/TRANSPORTATION - 419-299-3052**

*Supervisor, ext. 504*

**FOOD SERVICE**

*Supervisor, ext. 501*

**SUPERINTENDENT Office - 419-299-3578**

*Superintendent, ext. 101*

*Superintendent Secretary, ext. 102*

**TREASURER Office - 419-299-3863**

*Treasurer, ext. 103*

*Assistant Treasurer (Budgetary), ext. 104*

*Assistant Treasurer (Payroll), ext. 105*

By using these numbers, your call should be handled much faster.