



THE

RED & WHITE

APRIL 2025

A LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Vicksburg Community Schools Families,

Spring is in full swing here at VCS. It's been exciting to watch our spring athletes taking to the fields, courts and track as the weather slowly warms up. I wish all our teams the best of luck this year.

I hope you enjoyed a resultful spring break and are ready to tackle the last few months of the school year. We have a busy time with state and district testing coming up for most students. Please encourage your child to get plenty of rest and arrive on time for those days.

We also have our kindergarten

Warm regards,

Keevin O'Neill, SUPERINTENDENT

kick-off events coming up this month at all three elementary schools. I look forward to welcoming our newest Bulldogs as they start their journeys here VCS!

In this month's Red and White, you'll read about all the wonderful ways we celebrated March is Reading Month. Our schools celebrate literacy every day, but this celebration took things to the next level to encourage a love of reading in all our students.

You'll also read about awards won by some of our students

and administrators.

As the school year moves toward its final months, let's continue working together to support student success. Your involvement and partnership make a difference!

Thank you for being a part of our school community. Wishing you all a wonderful April!



DECA Team Competes at Top Levels

Congratulations to our Vicksburg High School DECA state qualifiers!

Andrew Roiniotis, Sophia Gray, Morgan White, Lilly Troxell, Aleksandra Schwaiko-Belsner, and Viktor Robertson-Wicks all competed at state over the weekend.

The state finalists included Sophia Gray, Morgan White, Lilly Troxell and Viktor Robertson-Wicks.

And some of them are also now heading to Internationals!

Morgan White will be competing at Internationals in the Apparel and Accessories Marketing Series. Sophia Gray and Andrew Rointoitis will be attending to participate in the Academies training.

Great job to you all!



Tobey Elementary Turns 70

The Tobey Tigers celebrate 70 years of success!

The PTO hosted a 70th anniversary carnival for the school.

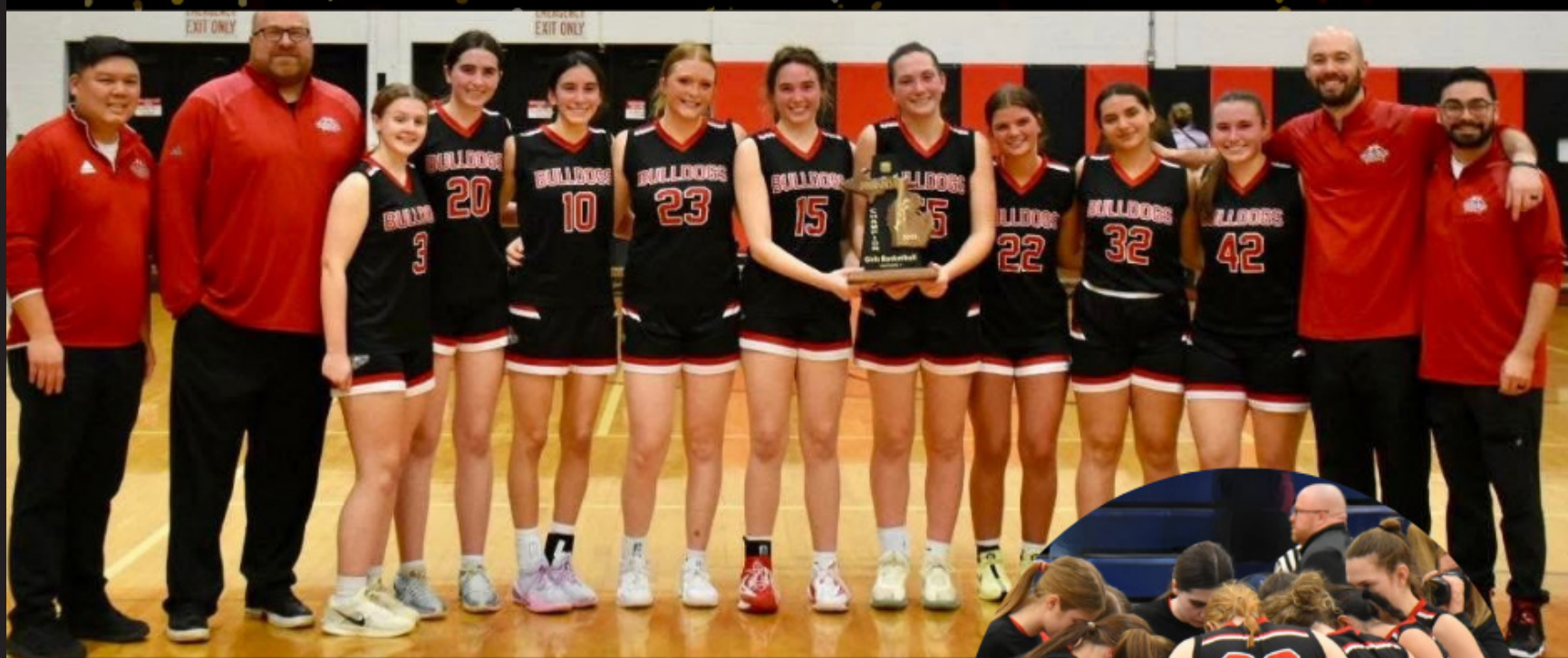
Current students enjoyed face painting and carnival games. A special highlight was the return of many Tobey alumni, including a member from Tobey's very first class! Several visitors also came back to see what they had placed in their time capsule 20 years ago!

We're looking forward to the next great 70 years of Tobey!



Varsity Basketball Finishes Amazing Season

THANK YOU LADY BULLDOGS!



While the Vicksburg High School girls varsity basketball team's season came to an end in the Regional Finals, this group of athletes has so much to be proud of!

The team ended their season with a 23-3 record.

The 5 seniors on the team finish their high school career with an incredible 83-15 record!

Together, they have won 3 straight Wolverine Conference Championships! (The first in school history!)

They have made 4 straight trips to the District Final and are back

to back District Champions.

This team is leaving an amazing legacy. Thank you Lady Bulldogs for an incredible run!

Air Zoo Visits Each Vicksburg Elementary School

The Air Zoo made stops at each elementary school to entertain and educate students with their program "Fizz, Boom, Soar!"

This year, we had a district-wide theme for March is Reading Month and encouraged students and staff to "Make Space for Reading!" The visit from the Air Zoo only made it better!

They tailored each show to the grade levels and had interactive activities and experiments for students to take part in. It was an out of this world experience!



Books Before the Bell at Indian Lake

Families at Indian Lake Elementary celebrated reading at their annual Books Before the Bell event!

They had story time, crafts and other fun activities to celebrate literacy. The event kept with the VCS March is Reading Month theme of "Make Space for Reading" with lots of space themed activities.

Thank you to all the families who showed how important reading is in the lives of our students.



Mike Roy Awarded by MIAAA

Congratulations to Vicksburg Schools Athletic Director Michael Roy, who picked up 2 awards at the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association conference!

He has been named the recipient of the 2024 Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (MIAAA) George Lovich Award of Excellence. The award is presented to individuals who exemplify outstanding leadership, dedication, and service in athletic administration.

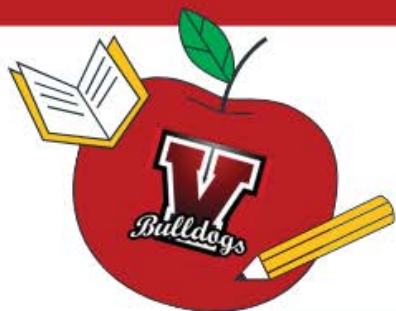
Mr. Roy was also named a 2024 National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) State Award of Merit recipient. This annual award is given to a NIAAA member in each state for recognition

of meritorious dedication to high school and middle school athletics.

The NIAAA said Michael Roy's career is a testament to these qualities, and his influence will continue to inspire future generations of athletic administrators. "Michael Roy represents the epitome of dedication and leadership in interscholastic athletics," said a colleague. "His impact on the athletic community, both locally and nationally, is profound and enduring."



KINDERGARTEN KICK-OFF 2025!



Kick-off your child's kindergarten education with Vicksburg Community Schools!

Kick-off Dates & Times:

Tobey: April 8th from 6 to 7pm
Sunset Lake: April 9th from 6 to 7pm
Indian Lake: April 10th from 6 to 7pm

Parents/Guardians can meet the teachers, learn about the curriculum, transportation, food service, parent organizations & before/after school care

This event is for adults

A meet & greet for students will be scheduled at a later date

Contact your school for more information:

Indian Lake
(269) 321-1400

Sunset Lake
(269) 321-1500

Tobey
(269) 321-1600

Make sure to start the registration process by scanning here:



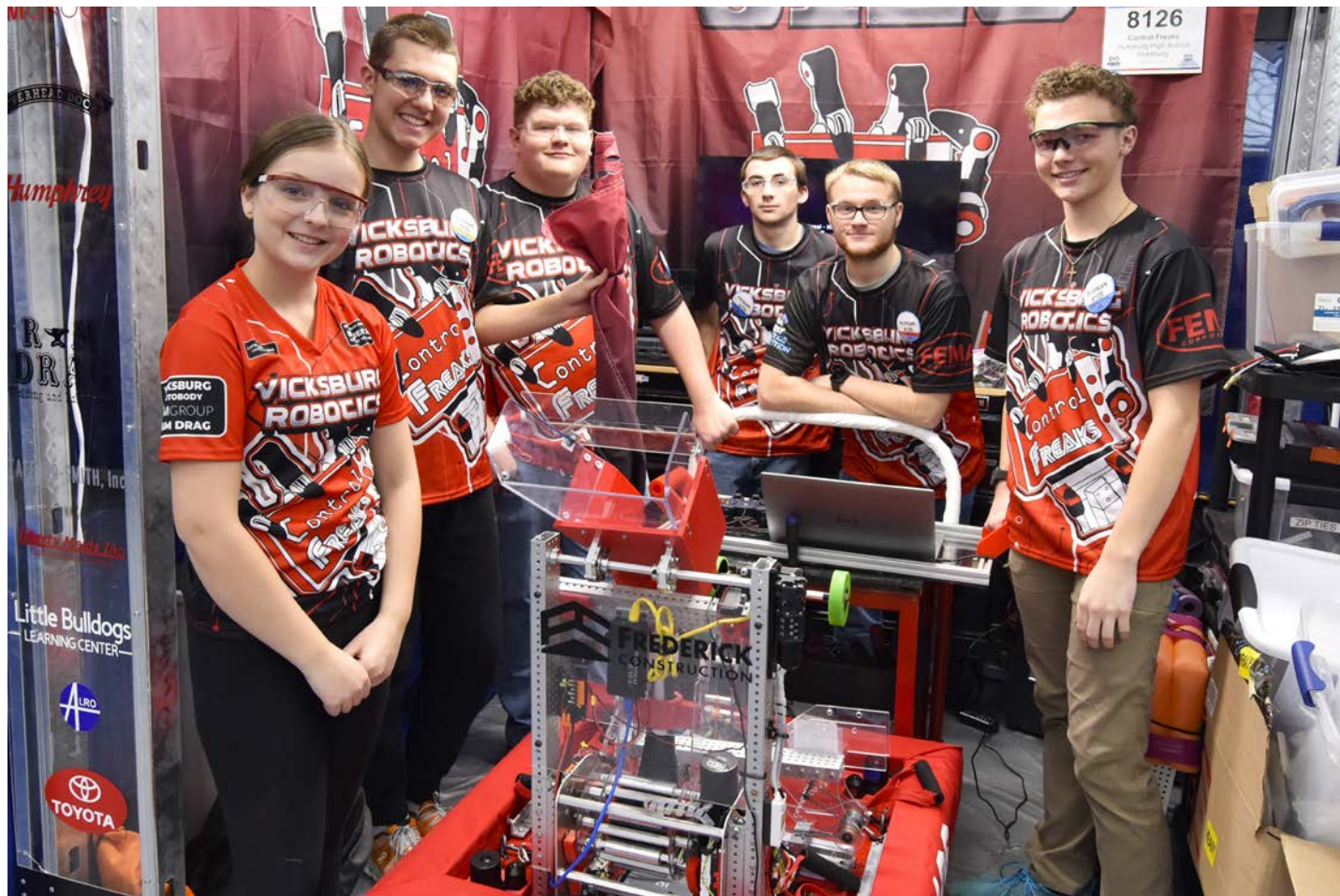
Robotics Team Reaches Great Heights

The Vicksburg High School Robotics Team, the Control Freaks, have had a successful season so far!

In February, at a competition in Battle Creek, they were chosen for the 8th alliance and called into the playoffs and took 3rd place overall! The team was awarded the creativity award. They got this award because one of their original designs caught the attention of the judges.

In March, the Control Freaks competed in Muskegon. The team was once again chosen for an alliance and participated in the event playoffs. During the Muskegon event, the team was awarded the team sustainability award.

Great job Control Freaks!



Literacy Night Celebrated at Sunset Lake

Family Literacy Night at Sunset Lake was an out of this world experience!

About 400 people turned out to celebrate literacy.

The event was headlined by former NASA scientist and children's author Dr. Kathryn Clark.

Dr. Clark, who writes children's books under the name Auntie KC, captivated students with a reading of her second book, which, like all her work, explores the wonders of space. It fit right in with our March is Reading Month theme of "Make Space for Reading!"

Dr. Clark shared fascinating

insights from her career, inspiring students to dream big and explore the worlds of science, engineering, and storytelling. We are grateful for Dr. Clark's visit and for encouraging our young learners to reach for the stars!

In addition to the special author visit, student leaders led grade level and department activities. Community space stations included the Vicksburg Historical Society, Vicksburg Arts, KRESA, Kalamazoo Literacy Council, and Gilbert & Ivy.

Thanks to everyone who made this great event celebrating reading possible!



Science Olympiad Student Competes at WMU

Vicksburg Middle School 8th grader, Abigail Harp, participated in the Region 10 Middle School Science Olympiad tournament at Western Michigan University on March 15.

Science Olympiad is an international non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of science education. The competitions are like academic track meets consisting of a series of team events.

Abigail competed in the Anatomy and Physiology event. Out of the Top 8 schools to qualify for the Road Scholar award, Vicksburg Middle School finished in 2nd place behind Portage West Middle.

Vicksburg Middle School was competing in Science Olympiad for the first time ever and hopes to grow the program in the future. Congratulations Abigail!



CTE Student Earns Second Place in State

Congratulations to Emily West, CTE Veterinary Science student from Vicksburg High School, on her FFA State Silver award for her original agriscience research project!

Emily investigated the effects of supplementing vitamin B12 in Pygmy goats. She wrote a professional research paper, and presented her research to the state qualifying committee via video.

As a State Qualifier in the Animal Systems division, she created a

scientific research poster and presented her project live to the state judges at Michigan State University. This was a very demanding project and Emily exceeded her goal in earning second in the state for her research!



Enter the 2025 Bookmark Contest



Vicksburg Community Schools
Foundation

BOOKMARK CONTEST

Rules:

- All entries must be received by June 1st
- Entries must be original artwork
- Designs may be created using crayon, colored pencils, markers, or watercolor paint
- No computerized designs or copyrighted characters accepted
- Bookmark may be horizontal or vertical
- Winners will be judged on creativity, neatness, and originality
- 1 Winner will be chosen from each of the following categories: Grades K-2, Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8, Grades 9-12, Adult
- Winning bookmarks will be printed with student name and age and be used for promotional purposes for VCSF
- Winners will receive several copies of their bookmark and recognition on our website

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Category (circle one): K-2 3-5 6-8 9-12 Adult

Design in outline above

Entries may be returned to
any VCS school or mailed
directly to:
VCSF 301 S. Kalamazoo St.
Vicksburg, MI 49097

