

Vermilion High School

The Compass

Volume XX

October 2023

Issue 1

High Schoolers Celebrate Homecoming

by Riley Sanders and Sheree Dunn



This year's homecoming happened on September 13th. Representing the freshmen were Faith Sergent and Timothy Anders. The sophomores were Suzanna Holmes and Luke Berta, and juniors representatives were Isabella Urday and Joseph Webb. Finally, the senior female candidates were Camrin Lowder, Livia Penton, Meagan Rini, and Olivia Ritchie. The male candidates were Keegan Frey, Landon Kidd, Seamus Long, and Christopher Mundell.

Some of the court felt grateful, honored, and thankful, others were shocked; but all of them were very excited. When polled before the game, most members of the court's guesses for the homecoming queen were Meagan Rini, Livia Penton, and Olivia Ritchie. The guesses for the king were Seamus Long, Keegan Frey, Christopher Mundell, and Landon Kidd, but everyone felt that everybody who was voted for deserved it. But at Friday's game, it was announced that Livia Penton and Keegan Frey were voted homecoming queen and king. Mr. Walter, the teacher in charge of homecoming, said that everyone was a great candidate,

and deserved the opportunity they got.

Although the homecoming game ended with the Sailors losing, the dance turned out to be a total success and was very fun. Some of the people felt that the theme of the dance, "On Cloud Nine," was different than what they usually do, but most of thought it was a good idea, and they liked the idea that it's meant to drive away the negative energy and bring out positive energy.

Students Celebrate Homecoming

by Cody Garcia and Troy Brown

This year's homecoming was truly an exceptional experience that will be etched in our memories for years to come! From the moment students stepped into the school, the atmosphere was full of excitement. The theme for this year's homecoming, "On Cloud Nine," added a magical touch to the evening. It was heartwarm-

ing to see how creatively students embraced the theme. The commons area was transformed into a dreamscape, with fluffy clouds and twinkling stars adorning the decorations.

The music selection was on point, featuring a perfect blend of high-energy tracks to keep the dance floor alive and the occasional slow dances that allowed couples to share intimate moments. Among the many memorable moments, "Golden Hour" by JVKE

seemed to resonate with everyone. Classics like "Dancing Queen" and songs that involved well-known dance moves added to the fun and excitement of the night.

One standout of the evening was junior Joseph Webb, who dazzled everyone with his dance moves. Additionally, Senior Caleb Ditmer's impeccable style was widely admired

What's The Most Popular Sport?

by Lilyan Jordan & Olivia Welty

Recently we asked several VHS teachers, including Mr. Pisano, Mr. Colahan, Mr. Palm, and Mr. Gabriele, which sport they preferred, football or soccer. Unsurprisingly, most teachers chose football as their favorite sport, with soccer as a close second. Football is many people's favorite sport to watch at their homes and stadiums since there are many NFL football teams to enjoy, like the Cleveland Browns, Kansas City Chiefs, Cincinnati Bengals, and many others.

Football brings students, family, and fans together each Friday. Whether you are a player or a fan, football has a way of capturing your heart and creating a sense of passion. It's no wonder that football is the most popular sport at VHS!

The Vermilion Varsity football team has won 3 games this season, breaking a long losing streak from over the past 4 years. The football team's name hasn't been the Vermilion Sailors since the time it's changed. The football team changed initially from the Vermilion Seahawks to the Vermilion Sailors in the mid 1900s after the two middle schools combined.

Football is the most popular sport in Vermilion Ohio, it allows students to show off their skills and talent through the game playing many matches with various different teams. Football has been concluded as the most popular sport because of its incredible way of allowing others to become friends with each other and bond in similar ways. As a result, football is the most popular sport here at Vermilion High School.

What The Eighth Grade Football Thinks

by Riley Sanders and Natalie Stroud

Vermillion's eighth-grade football team has had a successful year, with 5 wins, 2 losses, and one tie game. The team consists of a talented group of players, including Sean Rini, Trent Garcia, Carter Boley, Isaac Kyser, Marshall Flew, Braeden Siesel, Balian Hinman, Luke Richardson, Tristen Wood, Micah Smith, Will Neely, Wesley Mayer, Trey Colahan, Micheal Dunn, Draven Gillespie, Bryce Keller, Chase Jackson, Daniel Roy, Conor Graf, and Dj Metz. The team has two excellent coaches Coach D'Egidio and Coach Paul Wearch.

The football players have very strong opinions about their sport, including preferred plays such as the Luke play, 80 jailbreak, 48 toss, Ram 38 toss, and Ram 34 belly. Their favorite positions are safety, linebacker, running back, and D end. The preferred game-time drinks are water, Gatorade, and a unique

beverage called Dan juice, named in honor of Trainer Dan. Additionally, the cheers "Let's go sailors" and "Believe it, do it" are their favorite.

The team has identified its strongest players as Isaac Kyser, Daniel Roy, Luke Richardson, and Triston Wood. They have also noted that Trent Garcia, Triston Wood, and Chase Jackson are the team's best throwers, while Luke Richardson, Micah Smith, and Trey Colahan are the primary punters. Lastly, Carter Boley, Chase Jackson, and Isaac Kyser are the team's best runners, as identified by the players themselves.

What drives the players to play football? Some play for their family, others for teamwork, some for food, and some out of spite. Even though they have different opinions they all agree that football is very important to them.

An Interview With Sailorway Middle School's Athletic Directors

by Elyse Myntti

The two athletic directors for Vermilion Middle Schools, Mr. Palm and Mr. Pisano, have many duties as an athletic director at Sailorway. These duties include "Scheduling parent meetings, scheduling games, buses, reserve gym times, and administering games." And on top of this all they have to make sure, "Everything with the programs is going smoothly, as well as parent concerns occurring."

Mr. Palm became an athletic director because he wanted to stay involved in middle school sports. Mr. Palm "used to be a football coach but, due to some schedule conflicts that occurred" he had to stop coaching. But the opportunity to be an athletic director came

up, he decided to do it because "it still allowed him to see his football players play, and what they will achieve." And, it also still allows him to "see his players in the classroom." Mr. Pisano became an athletic director because he "felt that coaching was too much but wanted to still be involved with sports."

These teachers manage being teachers and athletic directors by "having good schedules, and solving problems before they become problems. As well as [using] Post it notes and writing everything down." Their favorite sports to follow are, "Football, and Girls Basketball." Both men think it's important to have good "communication with others, and organization."

Sailing through Marching Band Season

by Bella Judd

The Vermilion Sailor Marching Band, led by Mrs. Kim Judd, has had a very successful year so far. From three wins to their very own band festival, they are truly the epitome of school spirit. The band has grown a lot since they first started in July.

This year's theme, "the Kings and Queens of Pop," was chosen because "We wanted something that the crowd would recognize and that would be fun to play," reports assistant band director Grace Boucher. Songs from this show include Firework

by Katy Perry, Crazy In Love by Beyonce, You Belong With Me by Taylor Swift, I'm Still Standing by Sir Elton John, Blinding Lights by The Weeknd, and Beat It by Michal Jackson.

But it takes a lot of hard work for the band to get here. The band starts working in mid-July and doesn't stop working until the end of October. Ms. Boucher said that the band has improved so much since then. "I am so amazed at how much the band has grown and changed as musicians, specifically in the ability to sight read mu-

sic for the first time, and the ability to adapt to new situations well."

The band gets many special opportunities throughout the year like performing at Woollybear and Fox 8, which happens to be Ms. Boucher's favorite activity that the band does all year. Another amazing opportunity is performing at halftime every Friday, which provides the band with a chance to improve and strive for a better performance every week.

8th Grade Student Council Has Been Elected

by Soraya Ramos and Lily Jordan

The 8th grade has elected their lineup for student council for the 2023 to 2024 school year. Elyse Mynntti is the President, Addison Williams is Vice President, Treasurer Riley Sanders, Secretary Vern Smith, and the Representatives will be Cassie Caffarel, Morgan Frenk, Lauren Peffely, Sophia Pulley, Kate and Maddie Smith, Sean Rini, Will Neely, Kennedy Baisden, Trey Colahan, Trent Garcia, Amelia Dahl, Sophia Habermehl, and Lily Pulley.

President Elyse Mynntti and Vice President Addison Williams are "very grateful" and "happy for being elected;" these two were "not very positive in the beginning" due to "being picked last year". They are both excited to plan the 8th-grade dance. They decided to take on this role as they thought they "would be good role models for everyone," and Williams loves to "be a leader". And Mynntti loves to "be a leader to others, and they both have experience" as President and Vice President.

These two are both "very excited to be working with each other." And are "very shocked" on being elected two years in a row, as Williams stated, "I'm glad that people thought we were probably good last

year, and picked us again." Mynntti and Williams are hoping to include 8th grade more and do more activities with the grade as a whole, due to the fact that 8th graders can't fully participate in all the high school events.

Secretary Vern Smith chose this role due to it being "a job he can be good at;" he is very "grateful" for being elected. Vern is going to manage this role by "coming to every meeting, and "doing what he is tol." He is planning to "help with the events" as the 8th-grade Secretary.

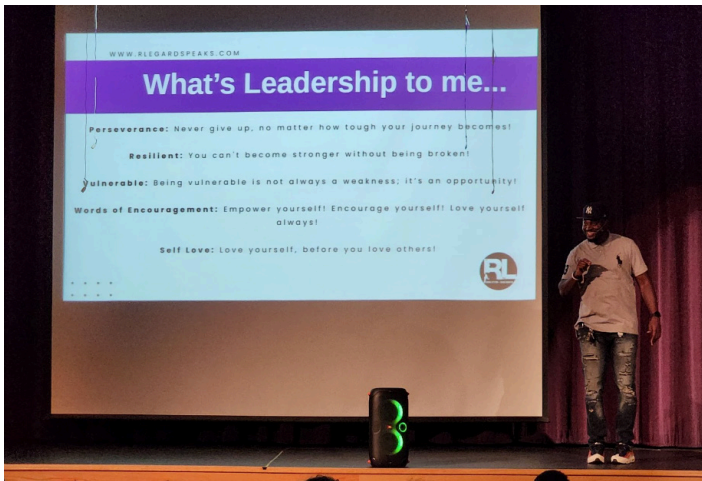
Upon being elected, treasurer Riley Sanders "feels very special", and as she stated, "I'm really happy you guys were able to see me as your treasurer and trust me to handle of the money, and help plan our 8th-grade dance." Riley is planning to manage this role by "trying to keep track of everything. . . we bought, spend, how much money we have left." Riley is looking forward to working with the members of the student council.

Kate Smith, Maddie Smith, and Morgan Frenk are some of the 8th grade representatives, and also shared some thoughts. Kate Smith chose this role because she is "responsible," and she likes to be a "part of different things and activities." She is

looking forward to working with others in the student council. She plans to manage this role by "helping out and showing up to every meeting".

Morgan Frenk chose this role because she, "likes to do activities, and setting up fundraisers and helping out." Morgan is also looking forward to working and being a part of the student council and the others in it. Maddie chose this role because she "likes planning and helping out with activities that we do." Maddie looks forward to working with others because everyone in the student council is "really nice". She plans to manage this role by "keep on being responsible" and "spreading the word about things that we plan.

Everyone involved in the 8th-grade student council hope to do an amazing job with the 8th-grade events. All of them have some experience in student council, and enjoy helping and planning events. And, all involved have bright ideas for the future of the 8th-grade events for the 2023 to 2024 school year.



Rashan Legard talks to VHS students about what it means to be a leader



VHS freshman AJ Baughman and guest speaker Rashan Legard take a moment to entertain the crowd

Speaker Delivers to Vermilion High School by Trevor Hector, Chase Williams, and Brenden Breudigam

On Friday, September 22nd, Vermilion High School had a speaker named Rashan Legard give a speech to the male students on the power of resilience. Legard is an ex-Military member, sexual assault survivor, and near high school dropout. He had behavioral issues in grade school, leading him to get a 1.4 GPA and only a 15 on his ACT. His teachers and peers teased him for years because of this. He delivered his message of what resilience meant to him, and how students can apply it to their own lives.

The event began with some technical difficulties, but he decided to use the setback as an example of his message. Throughout his life, Legard experienced many difficult times and situations that he has had to learn to deal with. Not only did he graduate high school and college, but he also went into the Military and became a motivational speaker. Legard said he became a motivational speaker in 2013-14. He started speaking online and at local schools. Rashan also started posting

his story online, spreading his story to thousands of people. This is how Vermilion found him, and why they chose for him to speak. In the assembly, he had students interacting the whole time. Some would talk about personal experiences similar to Rashans. Others would get on stage to dance. This led to an extremely fun and informative assembly for the VHS boys.

Once the speech started he asked what students valued, and what leadership meant to them, to transition into what he interpreted it as. He gave his background, being a class clown and bully, who had learned who he was over the years and setbacks he faced. He told the audience that resilience fueled his journey to better himself and prove himself to those who didn't believe in him. One of his biggest points was that who you are is only determined by you, not anyone else around you.

From multiple interviews, we gathered that the majority of the masses enjoyed the assembly. Some really enjoyed the assembly, saying that the

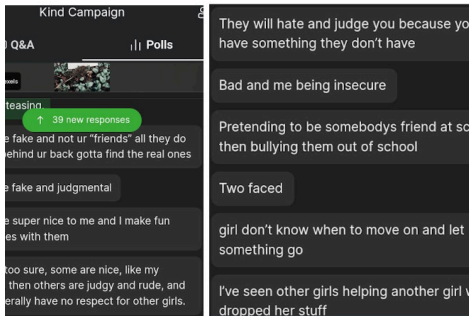
speaker was really captivating and energetic the whole time. People liked how Legard interacted with the audience instead of just doing a two hour speech. They also liked how he brought people up on the stage.

**The Compass is
written by
members of the
VHS Creative
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The Kind Campaign Comes To Vermilion

by Jennifer Gray



Poll answers texted by the VHS audience were displayed on a large screen at the assembly.

On Friday 22, Vermilion High had an assembly for the girls of the school. The assembly was about kindness and bullying and took place in the gym. It's very common to hear girls talking about others behind their backs. It was a much-needed assembly.

The first thing done was the audience was asked a question, 'What experience do you have with the way girls treat each other?' They were able to answer the question on their phone, and they could see other people's answers too. Answers ranged from girls helping each other out and girls being fake with each other. Most of it was negative, though.

Then a documentary called *Finding Kind* was shown. It was about Lauren and Molly, the founders of the Kind campaign, and their road trip around the US going from school to school and interviewing different girls and their experiences with "girl against girl crime", and spreading the word of kindness.

After the movie, every girl was given three papers. A kindness pledge, a kind card, and an apology card. They were asked to write something for each paper and if they wanted to, they could share it with the rest of the assembly. For the kindness pledge, the girls were asked to promise how they would spread kindness. "I kindly pledge to make someone's day better if they've had a bad day" said one girl. The kind card was a paper to thank someone for



VHS students were all smiles by the end of the Kind Campaign assembly

their kindness. A girl wrote one to her friend Alivia, saying "Thank you Alivia for being my friend, you are so beautiful and trustworthy."

The apology was a note made to apologize to someone they've hurt. One girl wrote the apology to herself, "I'm sorry for being so rude to myself." Lots of girls shared what they wrote. Everyone was asked to hand the kind card and apology card to the person privately after the assembly.

While many believed the assembly was for a great cause, not everyone cared for it. Most people believed that the assembly, at the end of the day, wouldn't change anything. "The thing is, nobody really cares", said one girl. "Do they really think a movie would change people? People don't care about people on a screen, real or not" said another.

A lot of girls were more upset about the difference between the boys' assembly and the girls' assembly. The boys' assembly took place in the auditorium and was about courage. The boys ended up having a dance battle and many girls were upset that the boys were allowed to goof around while they had to sit for two hours on uncomfortable seats. "Why did the boys get the good seats? They didn't have to sit on their butts for two hours." That seemed to be what annoyed the girls the most but some were more upset that the boys weren't included in the bullying assembly. "The boys do just as much bullying as the girls, why couldn't we just have an assembly that was inclusive for all genders?"



The Kind Campaign founders Lauren Paul and Molly Thomas. Find out more about them at kindcampaign.com

Just because some didn't like it doesn't mean that the message isn't important. According to the creators, Lauren and Molly, the campaign started because of personal experience.

Lauren's story started at one of her friend's birthday party, the girls started bullying her and Lauren ended up hiding in the bathroom crying for her mom to come pick her up. The bullying continued at school and left Lauren with severe depression and an eating disorder. It started getting better when she finally told her parents what was going on and she finally got the help she needed. She realized that "These school hallways are not your whole story...It gets better".

Molly was friends with a group of girls who suddenly decided they didn't like her anymore and turned on her. They would gossip and harass her, going as far as becoming physical. Molly would hide in the bathroom at school and turn up late for class just because she didn't even want to see them out of fear.

The girls wanted to prevent others from going through what they did. So they created the Kind campaign. They wanted to spread kindness and show that there is light at the end of the tunnel. "We're gonna spread kindness because that's what we want to do!"

Students Celebrate Spirit Week

by Bella Judd, Olivia Welty, Natalie Stroud, and Sophie Meadows



Spirit Week has been a high school tradition for many years. It allows students to dress up in crazy outfits and immerse themselves in school spirit. From country versus country club, to deck the halls, to class colors and purple and gold day, this week has been full of sailor spirit.

Homecoming prompted the very first spirit week for the 2023-2024 school year. The themes for this week were County versus Country Club, Disco, Cameo, USA, and Purple and Gold/Class Color Day. As well as the awesome themes, the students celebrated homecoming by participating in Deck the Halls. Deck the Halls is when students from each grade level decorate their classes' respective hallways in their class color. This week's favorite themes are Camo, Country, and U.S.A. The students loved seeing the cowboy hats, wigs, and sparkly outfits.

Vermilion High School celebrated homecoming 2023



with a pep rally, parade, bonfire, and spirit week. There was also hallway decorating and every grade level got to decorate a section of the hallway. Each grade level did a great job.

Every day VHS had several students participate in each theme. Students were evenly split on which was the best theme; according to the students polled, USA day had 5 votes, class colors 3, camo 6, disco 1, and lastly, country or country club 4. Some students even said that if there was a different theme they would want it to be Ken and Barbie. The students at VHS really enjoyed this week and thought it was very eventful.

Spirit Week is such an exciting time at VHS. It's a week full of fun and creativity where students get to show their school spirit through different themed dress-up days and activities. It's a time when the school community comes together and has a blast. Every student at VHS enjoyed this week.