

**Veterans High School**  
**2026-2027**  
**Warhawk Guide**  
**For Students & Parents**



340 Piney Grove Road  
Kathleen, GA 31047  
478-218-7537    [www.vhs.hcbe.net](http://www.vhs.hcbe.net)

*Mr. Chad Simmons, Principal*

# Veterans High School

## 2026-2027 Student Expectations

To all of our Warhawk students and families for the 2026–2027 school year, **WELCOME!** We are excited to begin another great school year at the V.

The Warhawk Guide for students and parents is designed to serve as a resource for answering questions about how we do things at VHS. It provides a closer look at the policies, procedures, and expectations we follow daily to ensure a positive and successful school experience.

We encourage all our students to look for opportunities to find their fit on our campus. Get involved, build meaningful relationships, and use your talents to help our school grow and thrive. Whether through academics, athletics, fine arts, clubs, or service opportunities, there is a place for every student to connect and contribute.

At Veterans High School, we are committed to building strong relationships among our students, families, staff, and the outstanding community we serve. Our motto is, “Excellence is the standard, not the goal.” We are committed to partnering with our students and parents to make that expectation a reality each day. We are eager for you to be a part of all that we are building together as a Warhawk family and look forward to a successful year at the V!

Mr. Chad Simmons - Principal

Dr. Mark Antley - Assistant Principal

Ashley Brock - Assistant Principal for Instruction

Maggie Grange - Assistant Principal

Shawn Masters - Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

Dana Morris - Assistant Principal/CTAE Supervisor

Main Office: 478.218.7537  
Counseling Office: 478.218.7566  
Fax: 478.218.7570  
Counseling Fax: 478.218.7571

340 Piney Grove Road  
Kathleen, GA 31047

*Veterans High School student expectations comply with Houston County School District policies. Adherence to expectations and regulations set forth in this guide are expectations of the entire student body.*

# Table of Contents

|                                                       |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Mission/Vision/Core Beliefs .....                     | 3  |
| VHS Faculty and Staff .....                           | 4  |
| 2026-2027 Bell Schedule.....                          | 6  |
| VHS Positive Behavior Intervention System Matrix..... | 7  |
| 2026-2027 HCSD Calendar .....                         | 8  |
| Frequently Asked Questions .....                      | 9  |
| <b>Guidelines and Procedures</b>                      |    |
| Academic Integrity .....                              | 13 |
| Advanced Placement Program .....                      | 13 |
| Advisement Program.....                               | 14 |
| Attendance .....                                      | 14 |
| Beginning of the Day .....                            | 14 |
| Bullying.....                                         | 14 |
| Cafeteria.....                                        | 15 |
| College Visitations .....                             | 15 |
| Confiscated Items .....                               | 15 |
| CTAE Pathways .....                                   | 15 |
| Deliveries .....                                      | 16 |
| Discipline .....                                      | 16 |
| Dress Code.....                                       | 16 |
| Dual Enrollment .....                                 | 17 |
| Electronic Devices.....                               | 17 |
| End of School Day .....                               | 17 |
| Extracurricular/Co-Curricular Activities .....        | 17 |
| Guidance/Counseling Office .....                      | 18 |
| Lockers.....                                          | 18 |
| Media Center.....                                     | 18 |
| Obligations .....                                     | 19 |
| Parking .....                                         | 19 |
| Respect for Faculty and Equipment.....                | 19 |
| Schedule Changes .....                                | 19 |
| Section 504.....                                      | 20 |
| Semester Final Exams .....                            | 20 |
| Standardized Testing .....                            | 20 |
| Student Records/Transcripts.....                      | 21 |
| Title IX .....                                        | 21 |
| Visitors .....                                        | 21 |
| Voters Registration.....                              | 21 |
| Withdrawal .....                                      | 21 |
| VHS Clubs & Extracurricular Activities .....          | 22 |

# Veterans High School

Established 2010

## *Mission:*

*To develop graduates of character in an environment of excellence.*

## *Vision:*

*To be the standard for all facets of student achievement, producing successful, active citizens.*

## *Core Values:*

- *We believe we are cultivating tomorrow's leaders.*
- *We believe we are developing character to empower to define and create success.*
- *We believe we are enabling students through academics and extracurriculars to graduate.*

## *Alma Mater:*

*From the pride of our great nation,*

*Reared against the sky,*

*Proudly stands our Alma Mater*

*As the years go by.*

*Moving forward toward our future,*

*We shall never fail!*

*Hail, to thee, our Alma Mater,*

*Veterans High School, hail!*

# **Veterans High School Faculty and Staff**

## **2026-2027**

### **Administrative Personnel**

Mr. Chad Simmons, Principal  
Dr. Mark Antley, Assistant Principal  
Ashley Brock, Assistant Principal for Instruction  
Maggie Grange, Assistant Principal  
Shawn Masters, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director  
Dana Morris, Assistant Principal/CTAE Supervisor  
Steven Devoursney, Chief of Athletics

Kadie Griger, Guidance Counselor  
Daphne McMahon, Guidance Counselor  
Jennifer Stafford, Guidance Counselor  
Lisa Stewart, Guidance Counselor  
Laura Whitaker, Guidance Counselor

Jessie Gardner, Media Specialist  
Heather Sans, Media Clerk

Stephanie Taylor, School Secretary  
Connie Connell, Bookkeeper  
Kim Martin, Receptionist  
Lenora Spensley, Counseling Clerk  
Ginger Towe, Administrative Technology Secretary  
Shauna Stillings, Attendance Clerk  
Marchien Ballard, Athletics Administrative Clerk  
Jana Bougetz, Medical Technician

### **Support Personnel**

#### **Custodial Staff**

Steve Greene, Lead Custodian

#### **Cafeteria Staff**

Andrea Lewis, Manager

# Instructional Staff

## English

Ike Thompson, Department Chair  
Jack Bates  
Colton Jones  
Megan Jones, Gifted Lead Teacher  
Katelyn Kersey  
Salina Mendez  
David Ondike  
Matt Roth  
Johnathan Simmons  
Laura Stimus  
Lonna Wheeler  
Melissa Young

## Social Studies

Renee Shelton, Department Chair  
Clint Abbott  
Matthew Boone  
Dana Burress  
Brandon Cain  
Chris Chavous  
Sam Clark  
Angela Copa  
Chip Flemmer  
Matthew Fortson  
Dan Jackson  
Andrew Moore

## Mathematics

Taylor Butler, Department Chair  
Jaeda Boyd  
Triston French  
Christina Maloney  
Heather Martin  
Lesley Murkerson  
Jeff Sans  
Jennifer Scannell  
Cynthia Scheuermann  
Katrina Sloan  
Jessica Smith  
Chantal Taylor  
Brayden Whitley

## Science

Kristi Cannon, Department Chair  
Julie Andrews  
Jennifer Bolton  
Meagan Borders  
Haley Bowen  
Stacy Brunelle, PBIS Coach  
Lindsay Lambert  
Hilary Lane  
Rusty Lane  
Megan Netherland  
Naketa Philius  
Maegan Tomlinson  
James Watson

## Fine Arts

Grayson Mullis, Band Director/Department Chair  
Amanda Coody, Drama Director  
Kaitlyn Griffin, Assistant Band Director  
Sarah Harlow, Art  
Justyne Strohmeier, Art  
Mystee Wilcox, Choral Director

## World Languages

Stephania Charles, Department Chair  
Phillip Hoskins  
Sally Lempsink  
Emma Mullis  
Mayvet Ranson

## Career/Technology/Agricultural Education

Belinda Collier, Department Chair  
SMSgt. Steven Brooks (ret.)  
Cyndi Fuller  
Amy Layfield  
SMSgt. Garrett Martin (ret.)  
Col. Christopher Nick (ret.)  
Tobias Stripling  
Julie Vinup  
Clay Walker  
Emily Wiegert  
Andrew Wilson  
Jeff Wilson

## Physical Education

Joseph Strohmeier, Department Chair  
Ashley Anders  
Steven Devoursney  
Patrick Flowe  
Bryan Horton  
Patrick Hunter  
Diona Johnson  
Cam Morgan  
Jeremy Rowell  
Jason Simmons

## Special Education

Leah Jones, Department Chair  
Christina Peek, Department Chair  
Monconia Browner  
Tajhea Chambers  
Jessica Devoursney  
Courtney Dillard  
Brandon Driggers  
Michael Johnson  
Triola Josey-Gould  
Chris Kothe  
Eric Mack  
Cody Miller  
?  
Kamron Smith  
Mark Stein  
Lakeisha Swinson-Sheppard  
David Wiegert  
Jordan Woodson

# Veterans High School

## 2026-2027 Bell Schedules

### Regular Bell Schedule

|             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 8:00-8:50   | 1st period         |
| 8:55-9:45   | 2nd period         |
| 9:50-10:40  | 3rd period         |
| 10:45-11:35 | 4th period         |
| 11:40-1:10  | 5th period & Lunch |
| 1:15-2:05   | 6th period         |
| 2:10-3:00   | 7th period         |

|   |                           |                          |                          |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| A | 1st lunch<br>11:40-12:05  | 5th period 12:10-1:10    |                          |
| B | 5th period<br>11:40-12:10 | 2nd lunch<br>12:10-12:35 | 5th period<br>12:40-1:10 |
| C | 5th period 11:40-12:40    |                          | 3rd lunch<br>12:40-1:10  |

### SOAR Time Bell Schedule (Tuesday)

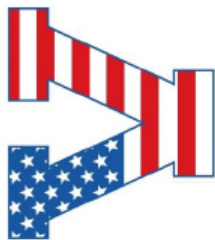
|             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 8:00-8:40   | 1st period         |
| 8:45-9:25   | 2nd period         |
| 9:30-10:25  | SOAR Time          |
| 10:30-11:10 | 3rd period         |
| 11:15-11:55 | 4th period         |
| 12:00-1:30  | 5th period & Lunch |
| 1:35-2:15   | 6th period         |
| 2:20-3:00   | 7th period         |

|   |                           |                          |                         |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| A | 1st lunch<br>12:00-12:25  | 5th period 12:30-1:30    |                         |
| B | 5th period<br>12:00-12:30 | 2nd lunch<br>12:30-12:55 | 5th period<br>1:00-1:30 |
| C | 5th period 12:00-1:00     |                          | 3rd lunch<br>1:00-1:30  |

### PM Activity Schedule

|             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 8:00-8:45   | 1st period         |
| 8:50-9:35   | 2nd period         |
| 9:40-10:20  | 3rd period         |
| 10:25-11:10 | 4th period         |
| 11:15-12:45 | 5th period & Lunch |
| 12:50-1:35  | 6th period         |
| 1:40-2:25   | 7th period         |
| 2:30-3:00   | Activity period    |

|   |                           |                           |                           |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| A | 1st lunch<br>11:15-11:40  | 5th period<br>11:45-12:45 |                           |
| B | 5th period<br>11:15-11:45 | 2nd lunch<br>11:45-12:10  | 5th period<br>12:15-12:45 |
| C | 5th period<br>11:15-12:15 |                           | 3rd lunch<br>12:15-12:45  |



# Valued at the V

## VHS POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION AND SUPPORTS MATRIX

|                       | Hallway                                              | Cafeteria                          | Restroom                          | Classroom                                 |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Value our School      | Keep it clean.                                       | Place ALL trash in garbage cans.   | Keep the restroom clean.          | Respect school property.                  |
| Accept Responsibility | Be on time to class.                                 | Keep your area clean.              | Use the restroom between classes. | Always be prepared.                       |
| Lead by Example       | Communicate without profanity.                       | Wait in line.                      | Report any misuse.                | Be in charge of your own learning.        |
| Understand Diversity  | Use kind words.                                      | Include others and use kind words. | Respect others privacy.           | Treat others like you want to be treated. |
| Embrace Excellence    | ...in academics and character in a safe environment! |                                    |                                   |                                           |



## HCSD CALENDAR



# 2026-2027 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

## 2026

### JULY

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

### AUGUST

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

### SEPTEMBER

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### OCTOBER

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

### NOVEMBER

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### DECEMBER

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

## 2027

### JANUARY

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

### FEBRUARY

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### MARCH

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

### APRIL

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### MAY

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

### JUNE

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

Holidays/District Closed

Pre/Post-Planning & Collaboration

Distance Learning/Site Collaboration

First & Last Days of Semesters

@HOUSTONCOUNTYS



1100 MAIN STREET, PERRY, GA  
478.988.6200 | WWW.HCBE.NET

Approved on June 10, 2025 by the Houston County Board of Education

### JULY

28-31: Pre-Planning/Site Collaboration

### AUGUST

3: Pre-Planning/Site Collaboration  
4: First Day of School

### SEPTEMBER

7: Labor Day Holiday  
8: Distance Learning/Site Collaboration

### OCTOBER

9: Student Holiday/Site Collaboration  
12-16: Fall Break

### NOVEMBER

11: Veterans Day Holiday  
23-27: Thanksgiving Holiday

### DECEMBER

18: Last Day of Semester - 1/2 Day for Students  
21-31: Winter Break

### JANUARY

1: New Year's Holiday  
4: Student Holiday/Site Collaboration  
5: Second Semester Begins  
18: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

### FEBRUARY

15: Presidents' Day Holiday  
16: Distance Learning/Site Collaboration

### MARCH

26: Student Holiday/Site Collaboration  
29-31: Spring Break

### APRIL

1-2: Spring Break

### MAY

26: Last Day of Semester - 1/2 Day for Students  
27-28: Post-Planning/Site Collaboration  
27-28: High School Graduation  
31: Memorial Day Holiday

### HALF-DAY DISMISSAL TIMES

- 11:30 a.m. - Middle Schools
- 12:00 p.m. - High Schools
- 12:30 p.m. - Primary and Elementary Schools

# Frequently Asked Questions

## ***What do I do if I . . .***

### **1. HAVE BEEN ABSENT?**

If you have been absent, you must bring a written excuse from your parent/guardian stating the reason for your absence. It is the student's responsibility to turn in documentation before the beginning of the school day. This written excuse is to be submitted to the attendance office, and the original notes will be kept on file. These will be needed in the event of an absence related discrepancy. This written note must be brought to school within 3 days after the absence and must contain the following information:

*Name of Student*  
*Date of Note*  
*Date of Absence*  
*Reason for Absence*  
*Parent Signature*  
*Phone Number of Parent*

The State Board of Education policy allows only the following circumstances as excused absences:

1. Personal illness
2. Death or serious illness in the immediately family
3. Recognized religious holidays
4. Absences mandated by a governmental agency
5. Conditions which render school attendance impossible or hazardous to the student's safety and health
6. Students who serve as a page in the General Assembly

All other reasons will be classified unexcused. When 5 unexcused absences have accrued, the student is considered truant.

Veterans High School shall enforce the Georgia Compulsory Attendance Law, Mandatory Attendance, which requires that all students between the ages of 6 and 15 attend school. All students missing more than 5 unexcused days in Georgia are declared as truant by law.

Veterans High School students are affected by and fall under the provisions of our attendance protocol which is stated as follows:

Level I: Three (3) unexcused absences. A letter will be mailed home by the Attendance Office.

Level II: Five (5) unexcused absences. School staff will notify parents of the truancy and request a conference with the parents to sign an Attendance Contract.

Level III: Eight (8) unexcused absences. School staff notify Social Services Department; Social Services provides data to the court for judicial proceedings to begin, or warning for students 15 or younger.

### **Military Family Deployment - Absences for Special Consideration**

Veterans High School is supportive of our military families, especially during the difficult time of deployment. To ease the burden of our students who have parents deploying, Houston County Schools will allow up to a total of 10 days of administratively excused (AE) absences each academic year to allow families time during the deployment cycle. Absences may be planned to best fit your individual family needs. Excused absences will be allowed for the following situations:

- Pre-deployment, the day before deployment - one day;

- Day of departure - one day;
- Reunion, post-deployment - one day;
- R&R break-up to three days; or
- Travel to visit an injured parent - up to five days.

Forms may be picked up in the Attendance Office.

## **2. NEED TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY?**

A written parent request must be made before permission will be given for a student to leave campus early for any reason. The written request must be taken to the attendance office prior to the beginning of the school day. All notes requesting an early dismissal must contain the full name of the student and a telephone number where a parent may be reached for confirmation. At the time of the dismissal, the student must sign out in the attendance office.

Appointments should be arranged for after school hours when possible. Remember that each teacher keeps individual attendance. Students must provide verification from their doctor or dentist for school time missed to be counted as excused. It is the student's responsibility to prove all absences were documented excused. Notes written after the third day grace period will not be accepted.

Students who arrive or leave school outside of the regular school start/end times must enter/leave school through the attendance office and the main entrance.

## **3. AM TARDY TO SCHOOL/CLASS?**

Tardy to school will be defined as arriving to school at 8:00 AM or later. If a student is late to school, he or she will report to the attendance office to check in and receive an admit slip to class.

- Attendance for 1<sup>st</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> periods will be taken by each teacher.
- Tardies to 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> periods will be recorded by each teacher. No students will be sent to the office to have tardies recorded during the school day.
- All tardies will be cumulative each semester.
- Discipline will be as follows for accumulated tardies:
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> tardy: warning conference/tardy notice
  - 6<sup>th</sup> tardy: alternative discipline
  - 9<sup>th</sup> tardy: automatic .5 day of ISS
  - 12<sup>th</sup> tardy: automatic 2 days of ISS/behavior contract
  - 15<sup>th</sup> tardy: automatic 3 days of ISS

Subsequent tardy discipline is at the discretion of the administration, and discipline will be assigned progressively.

## **4. NEED TO USE THE PHONE?**

Office telephones are to be used only with the permission of office personnel. Students using the office phone must sign the phone log. Students will not be allowed to use school phones unless they are conducting school business. Sick students should be sent to the Med Tech/Clinic with a pass. In case of emergency, a student must have a pass from a teacher to use the phone in the attendance office. Failure to follow this standard procedure may result in disciplinary action.

## **5. ARRIVE AT SCHOOL EARLY/NEED TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY?**

*The school building will not be officially open to students until 7:15 AM.* Any student who arrives prior to 7:40 AM should report to the cafeteria, and students will remain in the cafeteria until 7:40 AM.

Students need to remember that once they arrive on the campus or board a school bus, they are considered to be officially at school.

Students should arrive and enter the building as follows:

Bus riders: Students should exit the bus upon direction and enter through the bus ramp entrance only.

Car riders: Students should be dropped off at the front of the building and enter through the main office entrance only.

Student drivers: Students should park in their designated spots and enter through the gym parking entrance only. Student drivers should exit their vehicle and enter the building upon arrival.

Any student who needs early dismissal should do so through the attendance office. Documentation for early dismissal should be turned in at the attendance office prior to the beginning of school, and the student should sign out through the attendance office at the appropriate time. If a student needs to leave early in an unplanned fashion, the parent can call the attendance office to authorize early dismissal. All entrances/exits outside of the school day hours must go through the main entrance.

Any student who leaves campus for any reason without following the appropriate check-out procedures will be subject to disciplinary action. This rule applies even if you leave before 1st period starts.

## **6. REMAIN AFTER SCHOOL?**

School ends daily at 3:00 PM. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities; however, students who are participating in activities should be in the activity's area under staff member supervision. Students may not loiter in the building or in other unsupervised areas, and students not in supervised school activities are expected to leave campus by 3:15 PM.

## **7. HAVE LOST SOMETHING?**

Students who lose, misplace, or feel they have had something stolen, need to report the incident to school personnel immediately; a member of the clerical staff in the front office can assist students with incident reports. A lost and found area is also located in the front office. All misplaced textbooks that are turned in or found by faculty members will be returned to the appropriate department chair. Students are responsible for all items issued to them by the school and all personal items; the school does not assume responsibility for lost or stolen items.

## **8. HAVE AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE?**

In compliance with local policy JCDAF, students are permitted to possess cell phones and other electronic devices while on school property and during school functions.

However, in light of Georgia House Bill 1009, use or visibility of electronic devices is not permitted during the school day from student arrival on campus to school dismissal (3:00 PM). Listening devices, such as ear buds, headphones, and Bluetooth devices, are also not permitted to be worn or in use. Students who violate this policy will receive appropriate disciplinary action. Electronic needs for instructional purposes will be met through school-issued Chromebooks, as assigned to all students, not personal devices.

***Veterans High School will not be responsible for lost or stolen personal electronic devices.***

## **9. HAVE FORGOTTEN SCHOOL RELATED MATERIALS/PROJECTS IN MY VEHICLE?**

Students are not permitted in the parking lots during the school day for any reason. Students must have all necessary materials before entering the building for the school day. Administrators and the school resource officer check the parking lots throughout the day for school safety and security.

## **10. NEED TO SEE A COUNSELOR?**

The counselor is one of the most important individuals a student can get to know in a high school. Counselors are directly responsible for student schedules, post-secondary information, personal counseling, and student records, to name a few. An appointment is needed if you need to see a counselor. This appointment can be made with the counseling office secretary. Emergency situations will be addressed at any time. Students who have a personal emergency and need to see a counselor during the class time must get a note from their current teacher. Because counselors are involved in testing, classroom guidance, registration, and other conferences/duties, emergency situations are handled on an on-call basis. Students who have conflicts with other students should see the counselors. Many times, conflicts can be resolved with minimal disruption if school personnel are made aware of the problem early. The counseling student assignments are as follows:

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Mrs. Stewart  | A - C |
| Mrs. McMahon  | D - H |
| Mrs. Bickle   | I - M |
| Mrs. Griger   | N - R |
| Mrs. Whitaker | S - Z |

## **11. NEED TO SCHEDULE A CONFERENCE?**

Veterans High School wants all procedures, expectations, and decisions to be fair and consistent. In some situations, parents or students may need to conference to discuss student needs or consequences. For classroom needs, the teacher is the first point of contact. Please contact the teacher via email or phone call. If necessary, contact the counseling office to set up a teacher conference. If a conference is needed with a counselor for academic planning, dual enrollment needs, or other student supports, contact the counseling office. If a conference is needed for special education services or supports, please contact the student's case manager.

## **12. NEED FIRST AID, MEDICAL ATTENTION, OR MEDICATION?**

If a student becomes ill during the school day, he/she should report to the med tech's office/clinic and a call will be made to the parent. Parents requesting permission for their student to check out of school will go through the office staff. These dismissals will be excused or unexcused, and the same regulations will apply to graded and make-up work as far as daily absences. Any student who is injured at school should notify school personnel immediately. Students who are injured are required to fill out an accident report with the med tech.

Students who are under doctor's care and require medication during the school day need to report this condition, with the appropriate medical documentation, to the med tech in the clinic. If a student needs to use the elevator or needs extra time to travel between classes because of a medical procedure or need, he/she should speak to the med tech about an elevator pass and needed accommodation. All prescription or over-the-counter medication must be housed in the clinic and can only be administered by approved personnel. Students should not have any type of medication on their person. Students should never under any circumstances share or take medication from another student. Any student caught with unregistered medication, including over-the-counter medications, will face disciplinary action.

### 13. NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CLASS PROGRESS?

It is important to stay aware of academic progress and needs throughout the school year. Report cards are issued, and credit is granted every 18 weeks at the end of each semester. Progress reports are sent home every six weeks. The dates for progress reports are scheduled:

| Semesters                 | End Date     | Date Reports Issued |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Progress Report, Day 30   | September 15 | September 23        |
| Progress Report, Day 60   | November 4   | November 12         |
| End 1st Semester, Day 86  | December 18  | January 6           |
| Progress Report, Day 120  | February 23  | March 3             |
| Progress Report, Day 150  | April 14     | April 22            |
| End 2nd Semester, Day 180 | May 26       | May 26              |

Current grades and attendance may be monitored through Infinite Campus. Parents must register online to obtain a username and password; parents must have the student number, social security number, and date of birth to register online. Students also have Infinite Campus access accounts. For more information or to register go to <http://www.hcbe.net/parents.htm> . If you need help registering, please contact the ATS clerk in the counseling office.

Georgia Milestone Assessments, state standardized exams, are required in the following high school courses: Algebra I, Biology, Literature & Composition II, and US History.

## GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

### Academic Integrity

The academic integrity of courses at VHS is of the utmost importance; as such, cheating or academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. If a student cheats or plagiarizes on any assessment, the result is a zero as a placeholder until the student has had the opportunity to demonstrate learning on an alternate assignment; the teacher must make parent contact.

If cheating or plagiarism occurs on a major assessment, the student should be referred to an administrator for review. Cheating or plagiarism on a major assessment will also result in in-school suspension. The ISS assignment will be progressively graduated if it is a repeated offense.

### Advanced Placement Program

The following AP classes are offered at Veterans:

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Biology               | Physics 1       |
| Calculus              | Psychology      |
| Chemistry             | Spanish         |
| Economics             | Statistics      |
| English Language      | Studio Art      |
| English Literature    | U.S. Government |
| Environmental Science | U.S. History    |
| Pre-Calculus          | World History   |

Students who take Advanced Placement courses have the opportunity to take the College Board/AP exam in May to earn subsequent college credits. Students interested in taking AP courses should contact Mrs. Brock or a counselor for details.

## **Advisement Program**

All students are part of the advisement program. Parents should check their student's transcripts, monitor progress through Infinite Campus, and meet with counselors periodically to ensure student success.

Night Advisement will be held to provide parents with the opportunity for input regarding course selection and academic progress during the month of March. Night Advisement information including the designated date/time will be mailed to parents.

## **Attendance**

In the System Guidelines and Policies portion of the handbook, state and county rules regarding absences from class are defined.

In addition to these rules, VHS students should note the following:

- It is the responsibility of the student to obtain any work missed and arrange for any test makeup as a result of absences.
- Skipping constitutes an unexcused absence and will result in disciplinary action.
- Students who are failing 2 or more classes may not be allowed to attend a scheduled NI at the discretion of the principal. NIs are absences for activities such as non-instructional field trips or extracurricular activities.
- Work missed during an NI will be expected to be made up the next school day if the work missed was announced prior to the absence. Work previously announced prior to a regular single absence should also be made up the following day. In the case of extended absences, the student must make up missed work within 5 school days. This should be arranged before or after school and at the convenience of the teacher.
- Students must follow attendance procedures outlined in this guide. Students who are absent have 3 days in which to present a note stating the reason for their absences. Responsibility for proving that an absence is excused falls directly on the student. Students who are out for 10 or more consecutive days for a medically documented illness should apply for hospital homebound services.
- Exemption status is contingent on students having 5 or fewer absences in the given semester, not including NIs. There are no exceptions granted for exceeding the five-absence requirement.

## **Beginning of the Day**

Students may be dropped off no earlier than 7:15 AM, and students should not be on campus prior to that time. The main entrance and the student parking lot gym entrance are open at 7:15 AM.

## **Bullying**

In accordance with Georgia law, bullying is defined as:

1. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so; or
2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
3. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that
  - a. Cause another person substantial physical harm within the meaning of Code Section 16-5-23.1 or visible bodily harm as such term is defined in Code Section 16-5-23.1;
  - b. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
  - c. Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
  - d. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.Any bullying incident should be reported to an administrator immediately.

## **Cafeteria**

Breakfast and lunch will be served at school daily; breakfast costs \$2.00, and lunch costs \$3.00 for students. Menus can be found at [www.hcbe.net/schoolnutrition](http://www.hcbe.net/schoolnutrition).

Free and reduced meals will still be available to those who qualify, which can be found at <https://www.hcbe.net/snpcommunityeligibility>. Reduced price is \$.30 for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch. More information on school meals including pricing, free and reduced meal applications, and Q&A's can be found by visiting <https://www.hcbe.net/schoolnutrition>.

Snacks are available for purchase at the register. For speed of service and convenience, we encourage families to put money on their students' accounts at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). Checks should be made payable to Houston County School Nutrition and the student's ID number should be written on the check or clearly labeled on an envelope containing cash; payment drop boxes are available in the attendance office and the main cafeteria for in-house payments.

Students are expected to respect other students and the cafeteria space. Trash should be placed in appropriate receptacles. Students should go to the cafeteria in an orderly manner. Cutting in the lunch lines or throwing food/objects will not be permitted. All papers, food, and other trash should be removed from the floor, table, and grounds wherever lunch is consumed. Good manners and cleanliness are expected at all times. Failure to follow proper cafeteria procedures will result in disciplinary action.

## **College Visitations**

Seniors will be allowed one excused absence, not a school NI, for the purpose of visiting universities, colleges, technical or vocational schools in a school year.

## **Confiscated Items**

Confiscated items (i.e., hats, electronic devices) may be picked up in the front office after 3:00 PM.

## **CTAE Pathways**

Students who graduate from high school after successfully completing a CTAE "Career Pathway" are equipped for immediate employment, post-secondary education and life-long learning. In essence, students in CTAE are "college, career and workforce ready" - prepared to compete in the global marketplace.

The decisions made regarding which CTAE courses to take and career interests to pursue will affect the rest of a student's life. The CTAE Pathway selected should align with personal interests and future goals. Whether interested in agriculture, food and nutrition, marketing, graphics or business, there are class offerings that will provide the foundation and knowledge for growth in the skills and talents needed to make the most of an individual's interests.

Pathways consist of 3 courses in a related field that are taken sequentially. Veterans High School offers the following CTAE pathways on campus:

- AFJROTC
- Agriculture (Ag Mechanics, Food Animal Systems, Forestry/Wildlife, Horticulture)
- Business and Computer Science (Entrepreneurship, Financial Services, & Game Design)
- Early Childhood Education
- Family & Consumer Science (Food & Nutrition)
- Graphics (Graphic Communication)
- Marketing, Sales & Service (Sports & Entertainment Marketing)



Additional career pathways are offered through the Houston College & Career Academy (HCCA). For information on those pathways, please see a counselor.

Every educational journey is different, and students should take full advantage of these pathway offerings to explore and develop passions and unique skills.

### **Deliveries**

Students may not receive personal deliveries of any kind, such as flowers, balloons, candy, or food, during the school day. This includes deliveries from commercial vendors, delivery services, friends, or parents.

### **Discipline**

School is a place designed to promote positive learning experiences. This process becomes limited when students choose to be disruptive or non-compliant. Research shows that students learn best, and teachers provide the best instruction in a safe and orderly environment. Students who choose to violate school rules and policies will receive consequences accordingly. Parents are strongly encouraged to contact administrators, counselors, and/or teachers should discipline problems arise with their student.

Any student involved in physical altercations/fighting will be issued a ticket and/or be arrested by the Houston County Sheriff's Department. Offenses involving drugs, alcohol, violence, sexual misconduct, or theft are considered extremely serious and may result in immediate recommendation to tribunal and/or involvement of law enforcement officials.

Veterans High School uses a progressive discipline system; each incident has a progression of discipline based on the severity of the infraction. The consequence severity and type will increase with each reported incident. Each student will be disciplined according to the particular incident and his/her cumulative discipline history. NOTE: It is conceivable that two students could be involved in the same incident and receive different punishments if their discipline histories are different.

In the District Guidelines and Policies portion of the handbook, state and county rules regarding discipline are defined. Possible consequences include conferencing, teacher detention, administrative detention, dismissal of bus transportation, dismissal of parking privileges, dismissal of technology use, in-school suspension, behavior-discipline contract, restitution, out of school suspension, alternative discipline, notification of law enforcement, and/or tribunal hearing. Discipline and its progression are at the discretion of the school administration.

### **Dress Code**

Expectations for student dress are outlined in the Houston County Board of Education Policy JCDB, and local rules are defined in the District Guidelines and Policies portion of the handbook. Students who are found to be in violation of the dress code are subject to disciplinary action. Highlights of the student dress code include these provisions:

1. Obscene pictures, symbols, or depictions of weapons, illegal drugs, tobacco products or alcoholic beverages, inflammatory, suggestive, racial, or other inappropriate writing, advertisement, or artwork shall not appear on clothing.
2. Extremes of dress shall not be permitted. These include lack of cleanliness, bare feet, bare midriffs, tank tops, see-through clothing, open-back shirts, pajamas, etc.
3. Shorts, skirts, and dresses should be mid-thigh or longer.
4. Clothing which is cut, slashed, or has holes and exposes skin above the knee is prohibited.
5. Undergarments of any kind (bras, underpants, etc.) must not be visible. Sagging pants are not allowed, and pants must be worn at the waist.
6. Head coverings are not allowed in the building during the instructional day.

All clothing is to be worn appropriately and in the manner for which it is designed. The school reserves the right to establish rules during the school year regarding new fashions in dress. Principal discretion applies to all of the above.

## **Dual Enrollment**

Earning college credit while in high school is an option for students in the Houston County School District through Dual Enrollment. Eligible high school students may enroll full-time or part-time in college-level approved courses through Dual Enrollment. Dual Enrollment provides opportunities for Georgia high school students to take college-level approved courses, which earn both high school and college credit simultaneously. The Houston County School District will set a registration deadline that is different from the postsecondary institutions. Deadlines will not be waived due to college entrance exams score reports.

Students who participate in Dual Enrollment program are expected to do the following:

- Enter and exit the building through the main entrance. Failure to follow this procedure may result in disciplinary action.
- Use resources such as the attendance office, the school web site, and the counselor's office to stay informed of school events (i.e. progress reports, prom, graduation, scholarships, senior activities)
- Keep up with schedule changes due to school activities
- Maintain school dress and school rules any time on campus

Limited Dual Enrollment courses through Central Georgia Technical College and Middle Georgia State University are offered to qualifying juniors and seniors on campus; more information is available through the counseling office.

## **Electronic Devices**

In accordance with GA House Bill 1009, the use of electronic devices during the instructional day is prohibited. These devices include cell phones, smart watches, AI glasses, headphones and listening devices, etc., Students may use the phone in the office for emergencies.

A violation includes intended use and unintentional use such as alarms, alerts, notifications, or text message alerts. Electronic devices should not be visible or in use from school arrival to school dismissal. Any student found in violation of the above shall be subject to the disciplinary policies of the school.

|                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1st Offense             | Warning/Confiscation      |
| 2nd Offense             | Alternative Discipline    |
| 3rd Offense             | 3 Days of ISS             |
| 4th Offense             | 5 Days of ISS             |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Offense | 1 day OSS                 |
| 6th Offense             | 2 Days OSS/Parent Meeting |
| 7th Offense             | WIN Academy Placement     |

All students have been issued Chromebooks for instructional technology support and resources. Personal electronic devices are not permitted from student arrival on campus until 3:00pm.

***Refusal to surrender device to a staff member is failure to follow direct request and will result in 1 day of ISS. VHS is not responsible for lost or stolen electronic devices.***

## **End of School Day**

The regular school day ends at 3:00 PM. All students should be off campus no later than 3:15 PM unless they are under the direct supervision of a staff member.

## **Extracurricular/Co-Curricular Activities**

Students learn teamwork, discipline, responsibility, and many other social skills through participation in extracurricular activities. Participation in extracurricular activities is considered an integral part of high school life that enhances the development of the total student. To participate in competitive extracurricular activities, students must meet all eligibility requirements and other policies governing participation as set forth by Georgia High School Association and the local Board of Education who are responsible for establishing eligibility requirements. Below are the general guidelines for eligibility. All eligibility issues should be discussed with the athletic director.

Participation in any extracurricular activity or sport is a privilege, not a right, and is subject to school/coach/sponsor requirements, expectations, and procedures.

The following information is in effect as of July 1, 2003:

- All academic requirements are based on a minimum passing grade of 70.
- GHSA refers to the Georgia High School Association activities that are governed by that body.
- State Board of Education No Pass/No Play policy pertains only to competitive interscholastic activities.
- Approved high school and middle school summer school is an extension of the spring semester.
- All students must meet the following requirements to be eligible:
  - Age - To be eligible to participate in interscholastic activities a student must not have reached his/her 19th birthday prior to May 1st preceding his/her year of participation.
  - Semesters -students are only eligible to participate for 8 consecutive semesters from the time they enroll in their first 9th grade course. (Alg. I in the 8th grade does not count in the semester rule).
  - Home school enrollment - Students must participate in activities at the school where they first entered the 9th grade. Students who enroll in another high school during their 8 semesters are subject to migratory rule requirements and a form B must be completed.
  - Students must pass 5 out of 7 classes and meet on-track requirements.

All students who are entering the 9th grade for the first time are eligible for the first semester provided they meet the age requirement. At the end of the 1st semester and every semester thereafter, students must pass 5 out of 7 classes, meet on track requirements, and satisfy the age requirements. In addition to the above GHSA and state requirements, all students must have a current physical form on file, a parent permission form, and an insurance waiver form to be eligible to participate.

To participate in extracurricular activities, a student must be counted present on the day of participation. Ex: A student may not stay home for the day then participate in a contest that afternoon or evening.

***Students should remember that the same discipline expectations, rules, and regulations are in effect at any school-sponsored event in any location as would be expected on campus during the school day.***

## **Guidance/Counseling Office**

Services available through the guidance/counseling office include personal counseling to students, individual and group activities for academic, emotional and career development, information about course offerings and programs, college and career information and counseling, scholarship and financial assistance for post-secondary opportunities. The Counseling office also coordinates intervention/prevention services, maintains all student records, provides ASSET, PSAT, SAT, and ACT information, and

coordinates school-wide testing services. Parent conferences should be scheduled through the counseling office.

### **Lockers**

General lockers in the main building are issued based on student request. Students may contact the front office for a locker assignment. Contents of the locker are the responsibility of the assigned student, and lockers are subject to search at any time.

Gym lockers are available in physical education classes, and students are encouraged to use these lockers during gym. Students should see their teacher for gym locker use. Students are responsible for the contents of their lockers at all times, and the school is not responsible for stolen items.

### **Media Center**

The Media Center opens daily at 7:40 AM and closes at 3:15 PM. Students going to the Media Center during class time should have a pass from their current teacher. Books may be kept for a three-week loan period. Students needing more than three books at a time should consult with a Media Specialist. Students are reminded that Internet/computer access is provided in the Media Center, but classroom assignments may supersede individual student use. Students who misuse, abuse, or in any way manipulate the internet for purposes other than research will be subject to disciplinary action by the school administration.

### **Obligations**

Students are directly responsible for all debts incurred during the school year. Students should be aware that items issued directly to them are their responsibility until the item is officially returned; such items include chrome books, textbooks, calculators, uniforms, instruments, and like school equipment. All student obligations shall be cleared before the end of the semester they are incurred. Students will not be issued replacement textbooks or equipment until the obligation has been cleared. Students will not be allowed to participate in dances (homecoming/prom), the graduation ceremony, or field day until all fines are cleared; additionally, students will not be allowed to exempt any final exam until all obligations are cleared.

### **Parking**

Students must purchase and display a valid VHS student parking pass in order to park on campus. The operation and parking of a vehicle on campus is a privilege granted by the school to students who have a valid driver's license. Students should remember that they are directly responsible for every item in their vehicles, and vehicles are subject to random search at any time.

All students are expected to observe traffic regulations. Failure to follow school parking rules, school parking expectations, or traffic regulations can result in a parking fine, suspension of parking, or revocation of parking privileges. Students whose permits are revoked will not be reimbursed for any portion of the parking fee.

All vehicles must be registered if they are parked on campus during the school day. The registrant of a motor vehicle is held responsible for the proper use, all contents, parking, and operation of his/her vehicle. All vehicles must have a visible parking permit while on school property. No parking permit is to be transferred, sold, loaned, or given to another student.

Parking permits can be purchased from the school receptionist in the front office before or after school. Parking rules and required documentation information are available on the school website or from the school receptionist.

### **Respect for Staff and Equipment**

VHS students are fortunate to have the privilege of attending school in a modern, well-maintained facility. Students should take pride in their school and make every possible effort to help maintain its appearance and cleanliness. Each student is expected to assume responsibility for the care of all school property. Students who damage property accidentally are responsible for paying for the damage. Students who willfully deface or damage school property in any way shall pay in full for all damages and/or repair and will receive appropriate disciplinary action.

It is the student's responsibility to comply with classroom and school rules. Students are required at all times to obey school expectations and reasonable requests from faculty members. This includes identifying themselves to staff members when asked to do so. Failure to respond appropriately or refusal to follow the direct request of a faculty member will result in disciplinary action.

### **Schedule Changes/Dropping Courses**

After registration, schedules will only be changed for the following reasons:

- A student is in a class for which he/she has already received credit.
- A student needs credit for graduation.
- A student is enrolled in a class that he/she has previously failed under the assigned instructor.

All schedule changes must be completed during the first ten days of the new semester. Neither students nor parents are allowed to request teachers or change schedules from selections made at registration. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to check schedules at the beginning of each semester to make sure the student is in the appropriate level and proper course sequence. Any scheduling concerns should be addressed with the student's counselor.

### **Section 504**

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Action of 1973 prohibits discrimination and assures that disabled students have educational opportunities and benefits equal to those provided to non-disabled students. Any inquiries concerning Section 504 may be referred to the student's counselor.

### **Semester Final Exams**

Final exams will be given on the last three days of each semester. Students and parents are asked not to schedule vacations and out-of-town trips on exam days. EXAMS WILL NOT BE ADMINISTERED EARLY EITHER SEMESTER.

Students may exempt their exams if they meet the following criteria:

1. have a B average (80 or above) in the course,
2. have no more than 5 excused or unexcused absences over the course of the semester,
3. must not have received Hospital Homebound Services,
4. must not have been assigned ISS/OSS during the semester, and
5. must have cleared all financial/material/school property obligations to the school.

Exceptions to the district-established required criteria for exemptions are not made.

### **Standardized Testing**

**PSAT:** This examination is an excellent opportunity for students to understand the requirements of the SAT, which is a critical reasoning exam used as a criterion in college admissions. Tenth grade students who participate in the October administration of the PSAT at their home high school receive a detailed Score Report Plus in December. The Score Report Plus provides students with a comprehensive skills analysis of their performance and gives them a code which provides access to a website with additional test information and an interactive career information program called My Roads.

Students may take the PSAT as freshman or junior for a fee. Junior students who take the PSAT are eligible to be considered for National Merit Scholarship. Confer with your student's counselor in August about ordering the PSAT for your junior.

The counseling department facilitates registration and admission of the PSAT at the school level; this year's administration is October 21, 2026.

**SAT:** The SAT reasoning test is a measure of the critical thinking skills needed for academic success in college. The SAT assesses how well a student analyzes and solves problems. All colleges and universities in Georgia accept scores from the SAT for admission purposes. The College Board determines the national testing dates and testing sites for the SAT exam.

Students are responsible for registration and payment for SAT testing online. Students may register at: [www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat](http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat) . The College Board offers fee waivers for students meeting certain financial criteria.

**ACT:** The ACT examination assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college level work. All colleges and universities in Georgia accept scores from the ACT for admission purposes. ACT determines the national testing dates and testing sites for the ACT exam.

Students are responsible for registration and payment for ACT testing online. Students may register at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) . ACT offers fee waivers for students meeting certain financial criteria.

### **2026-2027 SAT and ACT Test Dates/Registration Deadlines**

| <b>SAT Test Date</b> | <b>SAT Registration Deadline</b> | <b>ACT Test Date</b> | <b>ACT Registration Deadline</b> |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| August 22, 2026      | August 7, 2026                   | September 19, 2026   | August 14, 2026                  |
| September 12, 2026   | August 28, 2026                  | October 17, 2026     | September 11, 2026               |
| October 3, 2026      | September 18, 2026               | December 12, 2026    | November 6, 2026                 |
| November 7, 2026     | October 23, 2026                 | February 27, 2027    | January 22, 2027                 |
| December 5, 2026     | November 20, 2026                | April 10, 2027       | March 5, 2027                    |
| March 6, 2027        | February 19, 2027                | June 12, 2027        | May 7, 2027                      |
| May 1, 2027          | April 16, 2027                   | July 10, 2027        | June 4, 2027                     |

### **Student Records/Transcripts**

Veterans High School maintains records for students currently enrolled, and records are housed for three years after graduation. Written parent permission or a signature of an 18-year-old is required for release of a student's record, and these may be requested through the counseling office. Students or parents may also request transcripts for universities, colleges, or other related programs. Students can request that transcripts be sent electronically through their Georgia Futures account.

### **Title IX**

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities. Any inquiries concerning Title IX should be directed to the administration.

Further information is available in the Houston County School District handbook: <https://www.hcbe.net/titleix>

### **Visitors**

All conferences with teachers should be arranged through the counseling office; conferences will be scheduled either before school or after school. Visitors are not allowed to go directly to any classroom without prior approval. Any visitor should report to the main office where a visitor's pass will be issued.

All visitors must wear badges while in the building. Upon departure, badges should be returned to the main office. Students are not permitted to invite visitors during the school year.

### **Voter Registration**

Students who are 18 years of age may register to vote in the Media Center.

### **Withdrawal**

A parent/guardian must come to the school to withdraw a student. All books and the student's school issued Chromebook must be returned and fines cleared before completing the withdrawal process. Records will not be released to a new school unless the receiving school has sent an official request for records.

## ***VHS Clubs and Extracurricular Activities***

### **AFJROTC RAIDERS AND FITNESS TEAMS**

**Sponsor:** Col. Christopher Nick, SMSgt. Steven Brooks, and SMSgt. Garrett Martin

**Membership Requirement:** Open to all AFJROTC cadets

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** See instructors

**Purpose:** Develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community.

**Planned Activities:** Competition teams, competition orienteering team, Awareness Presentation team, Academic Bowl team, Kitty Hawk Air Society, Raiders, Rocketry team, and Honor Guard

### **BAND/WARHAWK SQUADRON MARCHING BAND**

**Sponsor:** Grayson Mullis and Kaitlyn Griffin

**Membership Requirement:** Enrollment in band class / by audition

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** \$450 base cost

**Purpose:** To produce hardworking, compassionate and determined students of character and integrity through the medium of music.

**Planned Activities:** Performance at varsity football games, 3 annual marching band competitions, and HCSD Band Night

### **BETA CLUB**

**Sponsor:** Jennifer Bolton

**Membership Requirement:** Membership is by invitation only for those students with a 90+ GPA. New invitations are extended at the beginning of first semester for sophomores, juniors, and seniors; or at the beginning of second semester for freshmen.

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** \$60.00 new members; \$30 returning members

**Purpose:** Beta Club is a nationally recognized service organization which recognizes its students for their involvement in the community and their academic achievement. Students are inducted into Beta Club by invitation only. Students must have a minimum academic average of 90 and exhibit the characteristics of achievement, character, leadership and service. Students will participate in several service projects throughout the year. Students will also participate in state and national convention and competitions.

**Planned Activities:** Volunteer at Humane Society of Houston County and feeder schools. Collect items for Macon Rescue Mission Humane Society & Ronald McDonald House. Raise funds for Relay for Life and participate in many other service projects throughout the year.

### **CHICK-FIL-A LEADER ACADEMY**

**Sponsor:** Megan Jones and Johnathan Simmons

**Membership Requirement:** Application and selection

**Financial Obligation:** N/A

**Purpose:** To build capacity as student leaders and promote servant leadership opportunities in our school and community.

**Planned Activities:** Shop with a Warhawk, Spring Impact Project

## **DECA**

**Sponsor:** Andrew Wilson

**Membership Requirement:** Open to anyone interested in Marketing, Sports and Entertainment marketing, or Business Ownership

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** \$25.00 dues plus the cost of conference/activity participation fees

**Purpose:** DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.

**Planned Activities:** TBD

## **ENGAGE: CIVIC ENGAGEMENT CHAPTER**

**Sponsor:** Renee Shelton

**Membership Requirement:** Open to all students; must apply

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** \$25

**Purpose:** To empower students to become informed, active citizens who engage in their communities through leadership, service, and civic learning opportunities.

**Planned Activities:** Launch, Youth Assembly, Day at the Capitol, Youth in Government Expo, voter registration drive, meetings with government and community leaders, awards night

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB**

**Sponsor:** Meagan Tomlinson and Julie Andrews

**Membership Requirement:** Open to all students

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** None/optional shirt cost \$18

**Purpose:** To educate and motivate young adults to help their environment, bringing awareness of how we can give back to our world, starting with our community.

**Planned Activities:** Quarterly campus clean-up events, Green Team, & community service opportunities with local organizations

## **FAMILY, CAREER, COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA - FCCLA**

**Sponsor:** Amy Layfield and Julie Vinup

**Membership Requirement:** Open to all students in a FACS or ECE class.

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** \$40 plus the cost of conferences, trips, and competitions

**Purpose:** An organization that promotes personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Science Education and Early Childhood Education

**Planned Activities:** Chapter meetings, community service, competitions, conferences

## **FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES - FCA**

**Sponsor:** Lesley Murkerson and Jeff Sans

**Membership Requirement:** Open to all who come, leaders must apply

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** N/A

**Purpose:** Serving local communities by equipping, empowering, and encouraging people to make a difference for Christ.

**Planned Activities:** Huddle meetings meet weekly, Fields of Faith, monthly and quarterly school gatherings, Leadership and Sports Camps, Coaches' breakfast, and other opportunities.

## **FRENCH CLUB/FRENCH HONOR SOCIETY**

**Sponsor:** Stephania Charles

**Membership Requirement:** Students must be enrolled in or have completed French

**Financial Obligations/ Dues:** \$25.00

**Mission:** To promote appreciation of the French language and Francophone cultures through engaging activities

**Planned activities:** Monthly Cultural celebrations, French cooking events, music and art activities, language games, and community service projects

## **FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA - FBLA**

**Sponsor:** Tobias Stripling and Cyndi Fuller

**Membership Requirement:** Open to all VHS students



**Financial Obligations/Dues:** \$40 plus cost of conferences/trips

**Purpose:** To inspire & prepare students to become community minded business leaders in a global society through relevant career preparation & leadership experiences.

**Planned Activities:** Fall Rally, community service and travel opportunities, challenging competitions, leadership development workshops, conferences, friendship and fun social outings and fundraising

#### **FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA - FFA**

**Sponsor:** Clay Walker and Jeff Wilson

**Membership Requirement:** 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> students currently in Agricultural Education class

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** fundraising

**Purpose:** FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential or premier leadership, personal growth and career success through Agricultural Education

**Planned Activities:** National Convention, State Convention, Georgia National Fair

#### **FUTURE GEORGIA EDUCATORS**

**Sponsor:** Phillip Hoskins

**Membership Requirements:** By interest

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** Fundraising

**Mission/Purpose:** To help identify, recruit, prepare, and retain the next generation of Georgia educators

**Planned Activities:** TBD

#### **LITERARY**

**Sponsor:** Mystee Wilcox

**Membership Requirement:** Students must meet GHSA eligibility

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** None

**Purpose:** Literary is an academic and musical competition sponsored by the Georgia High School Association. Meets are held at both the region and state levels, and events include boy's and girl's solo, boy's quartet, girl's trio, boy's and girl's essay, boy's and girl's dramatic interpretation, and boy's and girl's extemporaneous speaking. The region meet takes place the second week of March, and the state meet takes place in late March. More information can be found at [www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net).

#### **MU ALPHA THETA / MATH HONOR SOCIETY**

**Sponsor:** Triston French

**Membership Requirement:** Two-year completion of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra & geometry, and have completed or are enrolled in a third year of mathematics; 3.0 math GPA; no behavioral discipline

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** One-time \$25 registration fee

**Mission/Purpose:** To inspire a keen interest in mathematics, developing strong scholarship in the subject and promoting the enjoyment of mathematics among high school students

**Planning Activities:** Monthly meetings, induction ceremony (September), community service (one per semester), Pi Day celebration

#### **MISS VHS PAGEANT**

**Sponsor:** Taylor Butler

**Membership Requirement:** Eligibility is based on the GHSA requirement of a student passing 5 out of 7 courses per semester and being on track for graduation at the completion of each year of study.

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** To be determined

**Purpose:** The Miss VHS pageant is held annually when a student is crowned to represent Veterans High School at school and community events. The pageant awards the winner and runners up. Applications are available in advance, and a parent/participant meeting and rehearsal schedule will follow.

#### **NATIONAL ART HONOR SOCIETY/ART CLUB**

**Sponsor:** Sarah Harlow

**Membership Requirement:** Open to current 2<sup>nd</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> year art students. Must participate in service events and meet minimum monthly meeting requirements (at least one monthly Art Club meeting, at least two monthly NAHS meetings).

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** \$10 local art club/\$20 NAHS - Includes senior cord with active membership and participation in all events.

**Purpose:** To inspire and recognize students who have shown an outstanding ability and interest in art and to encourage helping our community through art.

**Planned Activities:** Participation in school/community activities, shows, and contests. Fun, artistic events. Earning service hours towards Art Diploma Seal and National Art Honor Society

#### **NATIONAL ENGLISH HONOR SOCIETY**

**Sponsor:** Colton Jones and Megan Jones

**Membership Requirement:** Juniors and Seniors only - Application/acceptance/minimum GPA in English classes

**Financial Obligation:** \$30 dues new members/\$20 for returning members

**Purpose:** To celebrate literature and style

**Planned Activities:** Monthly meetings, service

#### **PARTNERS CLUB**

**Sponsors:** Tajhea Chambers, Brandon Driggers, Christina Peek

**Membership requirement:** Application

**Financial Obligations:** \$30

**Purpose:** To foster inclusion, empathy, and leadership by partnering students of all abilities through friendship and shared experiences

**Planned Activities:** Monthly gatherings during lunch, Special Olympics, outings with students with exceptionalities

#### **RHO KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY**

**Sponsor:** Dan Jackson and Renee Shelton

**Membership Requirement:** Juniors and seniors with an A average in History classes are invited to apply

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** \$15 per year

**Purpose:** Rho Kappa provides national recognition for outstanding students and encourages an interest in, understanding of, and appreciation for social studies.

**Planned Activities:** Club meetings, History Night Live (October), Spring field trip, Movie Night (April/May), annual student scholarship

#### **SCIENCE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

**Sponsor:** Kristi Cannon

**Membership Requirement:** See application for membership requirements.

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** \$50 new members/\$35 returning members per year

**Purpose:** To foster the love of STEM through our school, community and county

**Planned Activities:** STEM nights, school suppl fundraiser, Mad Scientist Scholarship 5K

#### **SCIENCE OLYMPIAD**

**Sponsor:** Stacy Brunelle, Kristi Cannon, & Megan Netherland

**Membership Requirement:** Interest and Commitment

**Financial Obligations/Dues:** \$50

**Mission/Purpose:** To build STEM enrichment with a competitive team-based approach

**Planned Activities:** Monthly meetings, practice, and preparation for Science Olympiad Regional Tournament

#### **SHIELD OF FAITH**

**Sponsor:** Taylor Butler and Jessica Smith

**Membership Requirement:** Open to all students

**Mission/Purpose:** To provide a welcoming community where students can grow in their faith, learn about Jesus, and encourage one another.

**Planned Activities:** Bi-monthly meetings, service opportunities

#### **SPANISH HONOR SOCIETY**

**Sponsors:** Sally Lempsink

**Membership Requirement:** Three semesters of Spanish with 90 or above  
**Financial Obligation/Dues:** \$25 membership fee/dues  
**Purpose:** To foster the understanding of the Spanish language and culture.

#### **STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

**Sponsors:** Haley Bowen, Dana Burress, Naketa Philius, and Chantal Taylor  
**Membership:** By student election and administrative approval  
**Purpose:** To represent the student body in the Warhawk tradition and to plan activities to support a positive school culture and climate  
**Planned Activities:** Homecoming, Care Closet

#### **THESPIAN TROUPE 7662**

**Sponsors:** Amanda Coody  
**Membership Requirement:** Invitation after completing two shows  
**Financial Obligation/Dues:** \$30  
**Purpose:** An honor society that recognizes and rewards excellence among the participants in the theatre arts program  
**Planned Activities:** Meetings, activities, Fox field trip

#### **WARHAWK GRAPHICS / SKILLSUSA CHAPTER**

**Sponsor:** Emily Wiegert  
**Membership Requirement:** Graphics students or high interest in graphic design  
**Financial Obligations/Dues:** \$30 (covers local, state, and national dues)  
**Mission/Purpose:** To build a student-led creative community focused on graphic design, leadership, professionalism, and producing meaningful work for Veterans High School and beyond.  
**Planned Activities:** Champions Rally (October), Fall Leadership (November), Region 5 Competition (January), State Leadership and Skills Conference (March), Nationals (June), and more

#### **WARHAWK WELCOME TEAM**

**Sponsors:** Dana Burress and Jessie Gardner  
**Membership Requirements:** Application process  
**Financial Obligations/Dues:** None  
**Purpose:** To create a welcoming environment and help transition incoming students to their new home at VHS.  
**Planned Activities:** SOAR Sessions, Open House, Meet and Greet, Job Fair

### ***VHS Athletics***

All student-athletes at Veterans High School are required by the GHSA (Georgia High School Association) to have a physical examination on file to try out for any sport. There is a specific form to be used for the physical examination as mandated by the GHSA, which can be obtained from the school or on-line at [ghsa.net](http://ghsa.net). Student-athletes are also required to maintain certain academic requirements to compete in GHSA sanctioned events and athletics. For further information, please contact the sport's head coach or the school's administration.

#### **Baseball**

##### **Head Coach: Jeff Sans**

Baseball is played as a team sport. The team will be divided into a 9<sup>th</sup> grade, Junior Varsity, and a Varsity team as participation numbers allow. The season begins in January and concludes in May at the state championship tournament. You are required to try out for the team and must be selected to participate on the team. Baseball is a region and state championship sport.

#### **Basketball - Boys**

##### **Head Coach: Brandon Driggers**

Basketball is played as a team sport. The team will be divided into a 9<sup>th</sup> grade, Junior Varsity, and a Varsity team as participation numbers allow. The season begins in October and concludes in March at

the state championship tournament. You are required to try out for the team and must be selected to participate on the team. Basketball is a region and state championship sport.

#### **Basketball - Girls**

##### **Head Coach: Tracy Fendley**

Basketball is played as a team sport. The team will be divided into a 9<sup>th</sup> grade, Junior Varsity, and a Varsity team as participation numbers allow. The season begins in October and concludes in March at the state championship tournament. You are required to try out for the team and must be selected to participate on the team. Basketball is a region and state championship sport.

#### **HOUSTON COUNTY STUDENT BASS FISHING FEDERATION**

##### **Sponsor: Ike Thompson**

**Membership Requirement:** Students must meet GHSA eligibility

**Financial Obligation/Dues:** Yearly dues paid through sponsorship.

**Mission/Purpose:** To promote sportsmanship, teamwork, and a love for the outdoors through competitive bass fishing. More information can be found at [www.ghsa.net](http://www.ghsa.net).

**Planned Activities:** HCSBAF tournaments and GHSA tournaments

#### **Cheerleading**

##### **Head Coach: Courtney Dillard**

Cheerleading is divided up into three teams: Junior Varsity Football Competition, Varsity Football Competition, and Varsity Basketball. All athletes must try out for the squads in which they would like to participate. Tryouts are usually held in March of the preceding school year. The spirit cheer season is aligned with the sport in season (football and basketball). The cheer season begins in August and concludes at the end of the given sport's playing season. Varsity competition cheerleading is a region and state championship sport.

#### **Cross Country - Boys & Girls**

##### **Head Coach: Jennifer Bolton**

Cross Country is a competitive running sport in which athletes cover a 3.1-mile course of varying terrain. The season begins in August and concludes in November at the state meet. There are individual winners and a team winner at meets. Cross Country is a region and state championship sport.

#### **E-Sports**

##### **Head Coach: TBD**

E-Sports involves organized competitive gameplay between two teams, governed by set rules and guidelines. A GHSA sponsored activity, E-Sports has a competitive fall season and spring season.

#### **Flag Football**

##### **Head Coach: Eric Mack**

Flag football is played as a team sport, where de-flagging ends the down and tackle contact is not permitted. The season begins in August and concludes in late fall. Flag football is a region and state championship sport.

#### **Football**

##### **Head Coach: Steven Devoursney**

Football is played as a team sport. The team will be divided into a 9<sup>th</sup> grade, Junior Varsity, and a Varsity team as participation allows. The season begins in August and concludes in December at the state championship game. Football is a region and state championship sport.

#### **Golf - Boys & Girls**

##### **Head Coaches: Patrick Flowe**

Golf is conducted as both a team and individual sport. There are individual medalists and team winners at each meet. The season begins in January and concludes in May at the state championship tournament. You are required to try out for the team and must be selected to participate on the team. Golf is a region and state championship sport.

**Soccer - Boys****Head Coach: Matt Roth**

Soccer is conducted as a team sport. The season begins in January and concludes in May at the state championship tournament. You are required to try out for the team and must be selected to participate on the team. Soccer is a region and state championship sport.

**Soccer - Girls****Head Coach: Patrick Hunter**

Soccer is conducted as a team sport. The season begins in January and concludes in May at the state championship tournament. You are required to try out for the team and must be selected to participate on the team. Soccer is a region and state championship sport.

**Swim - Boys & Girls****Head Coaches: Colton Jones and Joe Strohmeyer**

Swimming is conducted as both a team sport and an individual sport. Swimmers compete in events of different lengths and different strokes. Events also include relays. The season begins in October and concludes in February. Swimming is a region and state championship sport.

**Softball - Fast-Pitch****Head Coach: Jeff Sans**

Softball is played as a team sport. It is fast pitch only. The team will be divided into a Junior Varsity and a Varsity team. The season begins in August and concludes in October at the state championship tournament. You are required to try out for the team and must be selected in order to participate on the team. Softball is a region and state championship sport.

**Tennis - Boys & Girls****Head Coach: Jamey Watson**

Tennis is conducted as a team sport. The season begins in January and concludes in May at the state championship tournament. You are required to try out for the team and must be selected to participate on the team. Tennis is a region and state championship sport.

**Track - Boys & Girls****Head Coach: Kam Smith and Tajhea Chambers**

Track is conducted as both a team and individual sport. There are individual medalists and team winners at each meet. The season begins in January and concludes in May at the state championship meet. Athletes compete in various events including sprints, intermediate distance, and long-distance running. Athletes may also compete in jumping, long and high, and throwing events. Track is a region and state championship sport.

**Volleyball****Head Coach: Sam Clark**

Volleyball is played as a team sport. The team will be divided into a Junior Varsity and a Varsity team. The season begins in August and concludes in October at the state championship tournament. You are required to try out for the team and must be selected to participate on the team. Volleyball is an area and state championship sport.

**Wrestling - Boys & Girls****Head Coaches: Bryan Horton**

Wrestling is conducted as both a team sport and an individual sport. The season begins in October and concludes in January for the team championship tournament and February for the individual championship tournament. Wrestling is an area and state championship sport.