



VALLEY PARK
SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Developing students today in preparation
for tomorrow*

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April 30, 2021

Dear Valley Park Community:

April has come and gone and brought plenty of showers (and snow) to spring May flowers. The school year continues to move forward, and we are very close to the end of a year for the ages. Our school district and our Valley Park community have weathered a storm that no one saw coming. We were knocked down, bounced right back up, and responded as needed to meet the needs of our students socially, emotionally, and academically each day in preparation for tomorrow. It has not been a straight, easy path. We have had our patience, character, and resiliency tested, but we have focused on doing the best we could for students, achieving desired results, and living our mission. Life changed a lot in the 2020-2021 school year, and I think if we all step back, we will realize that we have so much to be grateful for and lots to celebrate. Together we weathered the storm because we have great people in our community and great teachers and staff in our schools educating and caring for our students. I am very grateful to be a part of such a vibrant and resilient learning community. Thank YOU for all of your efforts to make this year a success for our students.

The spring athletic seasons are off to a great start after the pandemic forced a year off, and we are excited to see our students participate in baseball, girls' soccer, track and field, and golf. We are also proud of the efforts of our boys and girls basketball teams this winter and our softball, volleyball, and boys soccer teams who competed in the fall alternative season and represented our district so proudly this spring. We are excited to announce that we will hold multiple Youth Sports Camps this summer. [Click on this link for more information and to register your student now!](#)

As we look ahead, there are many celebrations still on our calendars this month. All of them require safety mitigations and protocols approved by the St. Louis County Department of Health, such as limited spectators, masking, social distancing, etc. Still, we are excited to offer and present our spring concert, musical, awards night, and graduation in a safe and secure environment that allows us to celebrate the success of our students. Having these events warms my heart more than anyone will ever know. These events are only possible because of the hard work and determination of our building administrators and maintenance staff and their efforts to create safe environments that the county and our community can have confidence in. Look for more information about how you can join in celebrations like our Class of 2021 Carcade and LiveStream Graduation below and in future communications.

In the meantime, please do your part to reduce the spread of the virus and its variants. Utilize the universal precautions over the next several months and take advantage of any opportunity to obtain a vaccine. Every collective safety step taken today will ensure a brighter tomorrow, and a more traditional learning environment come the fall.

Respectfully,

Dr. Tim Dilg
Superintendent



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IMPORTANT UPDATES/REMINDERS

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Our Valley Park teachers open minds, awaken curiosity, encourage risk, cultivate dreams and affect eternity. Today and every day, we are grateful for their care, kindness, creativity, and service to our students. I encourage VPSD families to [send electronic Thank You Cards](#) to our teachers and staff throughout Teacher Appreciation Week, **May 3rd-7th**.

MAYORS FOR MEALS

Valley Park Mayor, Chandra Webster and Valley Park School District Administrators will be collecting non-perishable food items on the Valley Park School District parking lot from 9am-noon on **Saturday, May 8th** to support the [St. Louis Area Foodbank](#). All shelf-stable food and personal care items welcome! Please stop by and donate your items on May 8th.

CLASS of 2021 CARCADE

Join us to celebrate the Class of 2021 on **May 16th** with a Student CarCarade through the Valley Park Community! The parade will begin at 2:00 PM at the Valley Park School District Campus and then proceed on the following route:

- Depart VPSD and take Valley School Drive to Crescent and turn right over bridge;
- From there they will use the same route as the Valley Days Parade:
 - South on Meramec Station Rd to Fernridge.
 - Right on to Lookout Ave down to Forest Ave.
 - Right on to Forest to Didian. Left on Didian to Beckett Memorial left on Vest to 9th St
 - 9th Street circle back to Benton St.
 - Benton Street down to the City Hall.
 - Parade will end and disperse at City Hall

GRADUATION

The Class of 2021 Commencement Ceremony will take place on **May 21st at 7:00 PM** in the Valley Park School District Fieldhouse. Masks must be worn by everyone during the entire ceremony. Seating is limited. Each graduate will be given a pod of 4 seats for their guests that are spaced throughout the fieldhouse 6 feet apart. The event will be live streamed. A link will be shared by email, on social media, and on our website.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Students' last day of school for the 2020-2021 school year is **Thursday, May 27th**. Dismissal Times are as follows:

- Middle School and High School--11:30 AM
Grades 3--12:05 PM
- Grades K-2--12:40 PM

EARLY CHILDHOOD & KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

The Valley Park School District is now enrolling Early Childhood and Kindergarten students for the 2021-2022 school year. If you have school-aged children or know of a resident who does, please call us today @ 636.923.3600! A child is eligible for admission to kindergarten if the child reaches the age of five (5) before the first day of August of the school year beginning in that calendar year. For more information on [Kindergarten Registration click here](#). For more information on [Early Childhood, Registration click here](#).

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

As of this writing, we anticipate welcoming all students back to campus and providing in-person instruction five (5) days a week, beginning with our first day of school on **August 24, 2021**. [You can view our full 2021-2022 calendar by clicking here](#). Full details of our Return to Learn Plan for 2021-2022 will be released later this summer.