




BIBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
VINEVILLE ACADEMY of the ARTS



July 6, 2016

Welcome Back Vineville Academy of the Arts PANDAS to the 2016 – 2017 school years! Hopefully, the summer has provided you with many memorable opportunities to spend time with family and friends! How BLESSED are we! We work in an amazing profession that allows for a fresh start every 12 months! Our work together this past year brought progress on many fronts. Now, with the start of this school year, we have new opportunities and challenges to enrich the lives and futures of our students. I am thankful that we have such a talented and dedicated staff! Vineville Academy of the Arts is a wonderful place to be and I appreciate you choosing to work in the BEST SCHOOL IN BIBB COUNTY!

It continues to be an honor and privilege to serve as the principal of such an exemplary and student centered learning community. As we prepare to embark on another year, I am reminded that the beginning of school is truly a special time, and I am eagerly looking forward to partnering with you as we continue to nurture the ongoing development of our students. Fortunately, our school continues to be a team of exceptionally talented and committed staff and this year proves the same! We are excited to announce “glows and grows” to our fabulous building and staff at Vineville Academy of the Arts. The BEST YEAR is yet to come! Join me in celebrating highlights of 2015-2016 and new PANDA staff!

A LOOK BACK AT 2015 – 2016 (Just to highlight a few...):

- 2016 GEORGIA PUBLIC BROADCASTING SPOTLIGHT ON SCHOOLS
- 2016 GOVERNOR DEAL DISTINGUISHED EDUCATORS
- 2015 and 2016 GREEN DAY HIGH PERFORMANCE SCHOOL
- 2014, 2015 and 2016 Bibb County School District QUIZ BOWL CHAMPIONS
- 2016 VINEVILLE ACADEMY OF THE ARTS YOUTH ORCHESTRA – First EVER!
- 2016 Bibb County School District ART OF READING – First Place Winner
- 2016 Bibb County School District CHERRY BLOSSOM ART – First Place Winner
- 2016 YOUTH ART MONTH Winners – The 567 Center for Renewal
- 2016 Cherry Blossom Festival Parade, Cherry Blossom Pageants, Cherry Blossom Poodles
- 2016 VINEVILLE HISTORIC TOUR OF HOMES
- 2016 A MUSKRAT LULLABY OPERA – Mercer University
- 2016 YOUNG GEORGIA AUTHOR - 2nd Place Winner
- 2016 REGIONAL SCIENCE and ENGINEERING FAIR – 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Winners
- 2016 TECHNOLOGY FAIR – 1st Place Winners
- 2016 STATE MEDIA FESTIVAL – 1st Place Winners

PANDA WELCOME to our newest staff members!! We are excited to have you join the PANDANATION! Each of you brings unique qualities, strengths and talents which will impact our students in strength of character, educational achievement, creative thinking, love of learning and skills to achieve their highest potential!

Sarah Slocum, Secretary
Pam Estes, Math Instructional Coach
Abby Perry, 4th Grade Teacher
Caitlin Reynolds, 4th Grade Teacher
Alison Mathis, 5th Grade Teacher
Jessica Garcia, 5th Grade Teacher
Christopher Freeman, Technology/Drama
Danielle Bocchino, Counselor
Mary Ann Dixon, PEC

In a continuing effort to ensure that our students are receiving a developmentally appropriate, challenging, and outcome driven Fine Arts school experience, many of our faculty members have been attending professional development opportunities: K- 5 Literacy Institute, Science Olympiad Training, Teacher Support Specialist and Model Schools Conference. Faculty and Staff have been working hard in preparing their classrooms and lesson plans that promise to make for another exciting and productive year. Our custodial staff has been working diligently to thoroughly prepare the halls and classrooms of the school facility in preparation for another school year. Please give a HUGE thank you to **Mr. Jackson**, **Mr. Brundage** and **Mrs. Clark** when you arrive! All we await for now, is our fabulous PANDAS students.

I would like to invite you to visit our school's website www.bcsdk12.net/vineville. This will serve as a resource tool for all upcoming events, student/parent handbook and dress code, reading lists, school hours, supply lists and important reminders. Being prepared and organized is essential, what you do on a daily basis is what constitutes the success of our children!

IMPORTANT DATES:

July 5 – Mrs. Graham and Mrs. Slocum RETURN

July 13 – Mrs. Sneider RETURN

July 18 – Mrs. Gilbert, Mrs. Estes and Mrs. Newberry RETURN

July 18 – 22 – 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. BUILDING OPEN for all faculty and staff who wish to begin work in classrooms. Dress comfortably and be prepared to set classroom items back in place. (Please remember items have been shifted or placed in other areas in order to clean, sanitize and wax the floors. **DO NOT** push or pull items across the floor. Everything must be picked up and placed in the correct location. **THANK YOU!**)

July 19 – 22 – NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION and NEW COUNSELOR ORIENTATION

July 25 – CONVOCATION – “School Culture Rewired” - FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL-ALL teachers must report to the school by 7:15 in order to board the BCSD buses to be transported to the Centreplex. **(ALL faculty members must wear convocation shirt, please come by the school to pick up your shirt before day of convocation)**

July 25 – DISTRICT WORK SESSIONS – AFTERNOON

July 26 – Vineville Academy of the Arts Faculty Meeting/Staff Training

July 28 – ALL PARAPROFESSIONALS RETURN

July 28 – OPEN HOUSE – 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. ALL classrooms, Media Center, Technology Lab, and Fine Arts must be ready for visitors. Be prepared and ready for visitors at 3:30 p.m. (ALL faculty, please park at the church next door to Vineville Academy)

August 1 – FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – In order to assist parents and students - all teachers and staff will need to arrive by 7:30 a.m. each day the first five days of school. **(ALL faculty members will need to park at the church next door to Vineville Academy on August 1, 2016.)**

| Elementary Schools | | | | |
|---|------------|----------|---------------|----------------|
| | Start Time | End Time | Hours per Day | Hours per Week |
| Office/Building Open | 7:50 | | | |
| Student hours | 8:20 | 3:20 | | |
| Teacher/Counselors/Media Specialist/other Certified Staff | 7:40 | 3:40 | 8 | 40 |
| *Office staff/Clerical | 7:40 | 3:40 | 8 | 40 |
| *Paraprofessional | 8:05 | 3:35 | 7.5 | 37.5 |
| Media Clerks | 8:05 | 3:35 | 7.5 | 37.5 |
| Early Care (if applicable) | 7:15 | 7:50 | | |

Teacher hours: 7:40 a.m. – 3:40 p.m. (MONDAY afternoons 3:45 p.m. will be mandatory faculty meetings, please refrain from scheduling any appointments, engagements, conferences, etc... on this day)

As your Principal, it is important to me that everyone who steps through our doors—teachers, students and parents—are excited to be here! This attitude enables us to meet the challenges of academic excellence in a positive, fun and nurturing environment. My door is always open and I welcome your input. Please feel free to stop in, call, text or email me to discuss any concerns, suggestions or ideas to help make this the best year yet!

I feel truly blessed to be the instructional leader of such an awesome school community!!

#PANDANATION #PANDAPROUD #PANDASTRONG #ARTSREALLYTEACH #VAOFTHEARTS #PANDAS

Sincerely,

Kristy F. Graham

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Principal

Vineville Academy of the Arts

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