

THANK YOU TO OUR VERTUS PARENTS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

Facebook Reviews and Comments:

"I personally like the program for My son, he can work at his own pace, & gets all the help he needs, the students have to be responsible to do their work, to Earn their credits, I'm glad to be a part of the Vertus Family!" -Theresa Olinger, Vertus Parent

"All I can say is...I'm loving the vast improvement I'm seeing in my son across the board!"
-Sheldon Allan, Vertus Parent

"This is a fantastic school and environment. Very professional and gets these boys on the right track to young men. They focus on these kids, get to know them. These students are far from just a number. You will see my other boys there as well." -Amy Quinones, Vertus Parent

"it's a unique school, they have a preceptor program that you can't find anywhere else plus tech training, MCC credit courses, lots of clubs. I can't believe how much it's influenced my nephew, he's a completely new person...a new MAN." -Jany Mo, Vertus Aunt

More Than A New Pair of Sneakers



Six Vertus students are getting a chance to explore their creative side this summer, after earning the opportunity to design their own original pair of sneakers. To qualify, students had no more than one school absence in June. Students meet twice a week with Justin Ortiz, Videographer and head of Generation Outreach.

The course allows students to work together to develop and produce their own sneakers through special software used in the sneaker industry. In addition to receiving a cool pair of customized shoes, participants also gain valuable marketing, presentation, and business experience throughout the process.

ABOUT VERTUS
Vertus Charter School prepares leaders of character through personalized curriculum, strong relationships, and career preparation: Vertus Charter School is a tuition-free, public charter high school for young men.

Vertus High School is currently accepting applications for enrollment for students entering 9th and 10th grades in the fall of 2017. To learn how to apply for next year, visit www.vertusschool.org, or call (585) 747-8911 or email info@vertusschool.org for more information.



Vertus Charter High School
21 Humboldt Street
Rochester, NY 14609
(585) 747-8911

THE VERTUS VOICE

Summer/Fall 2017

Vertus Students Far Exceed NWEA National Expected Growth

For the third straight year, Vertus students' learning growth has far exceeded high school students throughout the country! Vertus

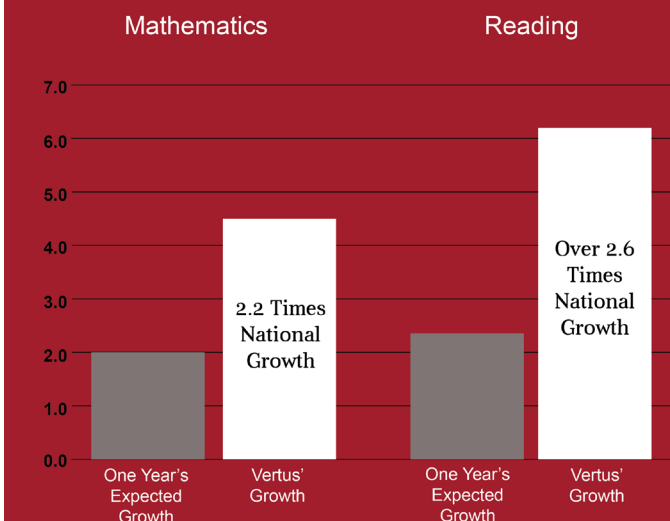
students substantially outperformed national averages on the standardized NWEA MAPS test, which is given to hundreds of thousands of students nationally---showing more than two years' growth this year in both reading and math.

More than 70% of Vertus students made more than one year's progress. Team Baxter topped the school, showing the greatest average learning growth among all our teams. The team received the NWEA trophy and celebrated their accomplishment with a trip to Sports Garden. Congratulations, Team Baxter!

THE RESULTS ARE IN...



Vertus students exceeded one year's expected growth on the NWEA in both reading and mathematics.



NWEA MAPS is a standardized test given to hundreds of thousands of students nationally. It shows how students' progress compares to the progress of students around the country.



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A Note From Dr. Mac

Our summer is off to a strong start! Summer is a good time for students to catch up in classes and to continue earning their credits. Vertus staff is doing their utmost to provide each student with individual help. We encourage our families to visit our school to see our learning labs and classes in action!

This summer, students who are on track to graduate do not have to attend school on Friday, although all students are welcome (we will provide RTS bus passes to any student who would like to come on Friday mornings to get extra help or do some extra work.) Students who need extra help to catch up in one or more classes are required to come on Friday mornings.

Vertus is designed to be different. Students begin at their own unique starting points and work until they have learned the material required to pass the Regents tests and graduate. Most schools give students only a set time to learn -- at the end of the time, the student gets an F if he hasn't mastered the material. Some schools move students along automatically from course to course and year to year -- only to discover that students cannot pass the Regents tests to graduate. We do not believe this is the best way to ensure students' success. We insist that all students learn, so that they can pass the Regents tests, graduate, and go on to college or a career.

We will have our first graduating class this coming spring. We expect more than 80% of our seniors to graduate in four years (and the rest to graduate in 5 years). The graduation rate for all male students attending schools within RCSD (as reported on the state's official report card) is 45% -- less than half! If you have questions about our program, please call your student's preceptor or the front office to make an appointment to meet with us, 585-747-8911.

Dr. Mac

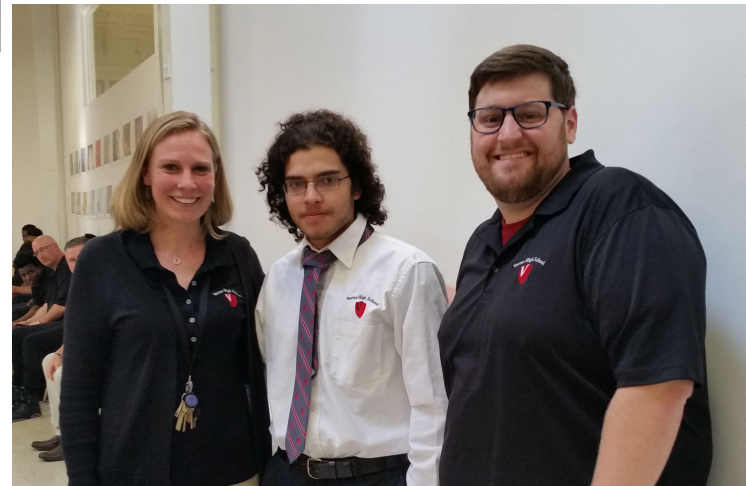
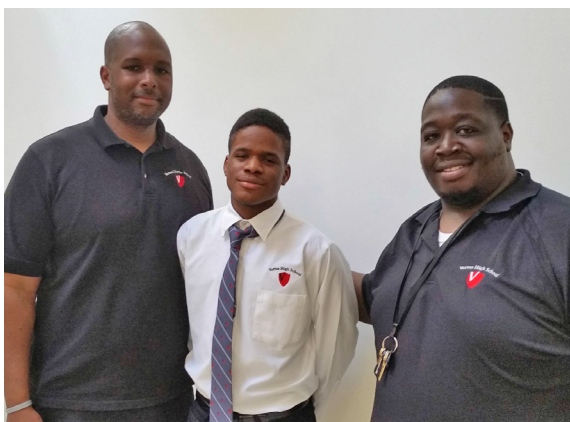
PROFESSIONAL TIES



This summer, Jorge Baez and Calvin Lucas made Vertus history as the first students to receive Professional ties for academic achievement and character.

Congratulations to our Vertus men who earned red ties over the past few months including:

Quentin Gibson, Nathan Kimbrough, Jahlil Archie, Roshawn Murraine, Shamont Stith-Burke, Marquis Floyd-Stanley, Ehvion Douglass, Ethan Miller Wilcox, Mohamed Nasser, and Rashad Walker



VERTUS SCHOLARS & MEN OF THE MONTH

Man of the Month



Roshawn Murraine
April 2017

Man of the Month



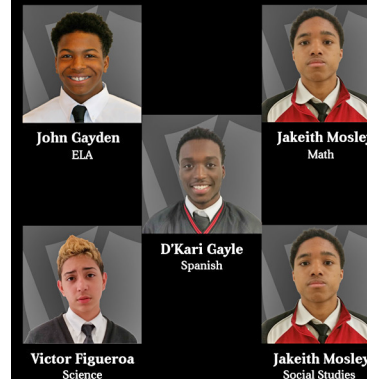
Lashawn Cason
May 2017

Man of the Month



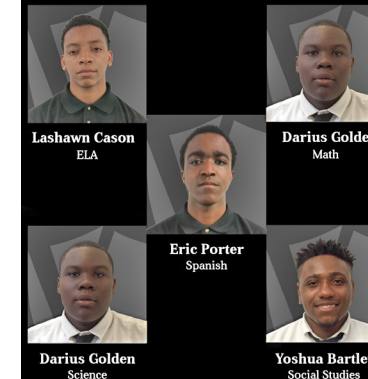
David Gayle
June 2017

Vertus Scholars



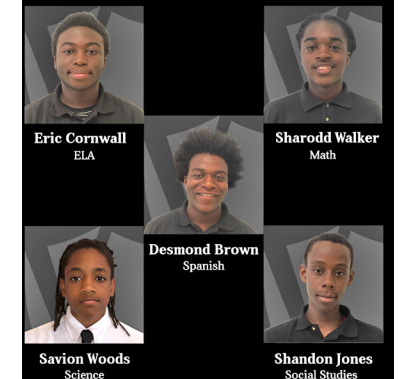
April 2017

Vertus Scholars



May 2017

Vertus Scholars



June 2017

Thank You, Harris



In June, students from four teams had the opportunity to tour the state-of-the-art facility and learn about careers in electronics manufacturing and engineering at Harris. This is a first step toward our developing a partnership with Harris, our next door neighbor.

"We at Vertus remain very interested in developing a long term partnership with Harris to help our students in their career preparation and future success. My hope is that many of our students will eventually be fortunate enough to work at and contribute to this powerhouse company."
-Perry White, Director of External Affairs

WARRIOR

B A S E B A L L



The Vertus Warriors held their first Junior Varsity baseball season this past spring. Coach Carlos Diaz focused his first season with the Warriors on developing baseball skills, knowledge of the game, and sportsmanship. On the mound, Shiquil Shipmon led the Warriors to their first win against Leadership Academy High School.

S O C C E R



Vertus High School's varsity soccer program, led by Coach David Wright, will be entering their second season of Section V competition. We welcome your incoming students to join us as we compete in our second season. High School athletics enhance students' health and quality of life and provides opportunities for personal development through an emphasis on respect, responsibility, and teamwork.

Tryouts for our varsity soccer team will begin the week of August 14th. In order for your student to tryout and participate with our varsity soccer team, Vertus will need to have a copy of an updated physical exam on file and medical eligibility form filled out by a parent/guardian by Thursday August 3rd. Medical eligibility forms can be obtained from the Vertus High School front office.

Looking ahead to later in the fall, Varsity and Junior Varsity basketball tryouts will start the week of November 6th.

Vertus will also be adding Varsity track to our athletic program in spring 2018.

If you have questions about any upcoming sport schedules or requirements, please call Athletic Director, Rich Maez at 585-397-0197.

STUDENTS EARN SUMMER JOBS ON CAMPUS

e-NABLE

e-NABLE is a community of volunteers from all over the world who use 3D printers to create 3D printed hands and arms for those in need. This summer 17 Vertus students have joined the Rochester e-NABLE design team to help create new approaches to providing low cost prosthetics to people who can't otherwise afford them. Our design team students work each morning for a three-hour block, followed by our research team, who work three hours each afternoon.

The instructor team guiding our students this summer consists of highly qualified and

Three engineering students also work in the lab this summer.



Melvin Cruz, Summer Workshop Leader, founded an e-NABLE group in Honduras. Tyler Bray and Prashant Gade, e-NABLE



Interns, serve as both student mentors and designers. Bray is a Biomedical Engineering student at the University of Pittsburgh; Gade is an engineering graduate student from India.



enthusiastic engineers and inventors, including the Founder of e-NABLE, Jon Schull. Schull is also the Co-Founder of Re-NABLE, and a former professor at RIT. Additionally, the lab is led by Skip Meetze, an e-NABLE Senior Designer, Co-Founder of Re-NABLE, and retired Xerox design engineer.

selected to develop a pilot "Brothers' Keeper" program this summer. Students will work with new Vertus Program Manager, Scott Rogerson, to take ownership of and design the program. The overall goal is for students to help their peers succeed in school and get on track to graduate. Participating students may continue as "Brothers' Keepers" throughout the school year, provided the pilot summer program is successful.

Mural Art

A group of seven Vertus men are meeting once a week this summer to design and paint a mural in Vertus' cafeteria with artist Jenn Kotler. Ms. Kotler is a user interface (website) designer at Xerox, game designer and



Brother's Keeper

Vertus encourages its young men to support, encourage, and help each other along in the path to become successful and productive members of our community. This ideal is fostered in the notion of the "brother's keeper." Nine students, who exemplify this idea, have been

fine artist. The mural will read "Brother's Keeper" and will serve as a reminder to the student body to foster relationships and encourage each other to be better.

Multi-City College Tour



DETAILS:
Monday, September 11-13
30 students

Day 1: MercyHurst University & Edinboro University

Day 2: Morgan State University & Howard University

Day 3: Fordham University & Hunter College (CUNY)

We are looking for 3-4 parent chaperones. If you are interested, please contact Leah Sneed at 585-694-8475

***All expenses will be paid for volunteers**

In addition to exploring potential career paths, Vertus students are supported in considering options for higher education. This fall, students will be given the opportunity to embark on a multi-city college tour over the course of three days. They will visit six colleges and universities and have the chance to tour each city, taking in the rich culture and history. This trip will allow our students to see the world through a wider lens and visualize how they may fit into a college community. The trip will include large, small, urban, rural, public, private, and historically black colleges.

Also, during the spring term, groups of students visited the University of Buffalo, Syracuse University, The College at Brockport, Buffalo State, and Alfred State. They toured each campus and maximized the opportunity by asking important questions about student life and academics.

“WE ARE CITIZENS WHO FIGHT FOR JUSTICE”

The Vertus Creed is based on Courage, Leadership, and Responsibility. We strive to understand, teach, and exemplify these virtues as articulated in our Creed. In May, a group of Vertus men, led by Preceptor, Jerome Wright, traveled to Albany. Students had the opportunity to live out a portion of this creed as “citizens who fight for justice.” They learned about the legislative process and advocated for a bill related to limiting solitary confinement.

Our students also met with representatives and witnessed the assembly voting. As we work to develop young leaders, trips such as this allow Vertus students to be empowered by advocating at the highest levels of our state government.



Career Exploration

Emergency Medical Services

For the past year, our students have worked with local EMT's to learn the ins and outs of what it takes to become an EMT and maintain a job in Emergency Medical Services. Our EMS partners performed a mock vehicle accident where students observed what an emergency

rescue situation really looks like and the skills required to successfully manage it. They got some hands-on experience using a firehose, exploring the inside of an ambulance, and feeling the weight of a hydraulic rescue tool, also known as The Jaws of Life.

A big thank you to our

Enrichment partner, Cody Pesta for arranging the demonstration, along with the rest of the Finger Lakes Ambulance team and the Engine 1 Fire Station.



MCC Manufacturing



Through our continued partnership with Monroe Community College, several of our students have had the opportunity to gain valuable manufacturing experience, while also receiving college credit. In the Advanced Manufacturing class in the spring, they manufactured and assembled the parts of a small motor powered by compressed air. The goals of the partnership are to promote career exploration, while also preparing students for college and beyond.

Vertus students are encouraged to take advantage of our partnership with MCC to gain college credit and continue career exploration. More than 25 students will be taking courses at MCC this fall.

“It’s introduced me to a lot of different machines that use different math techniques. I learned math in this class that I haven’t learned yet in school, so it just helps me improve.”

- Quincy Clayton,
 3rd year Vertus Student