



# Weekly

# Update

## 1/1/24

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We hope this message finds you well and that you had a wonderful break with your family. As we welcome the new year and prepare for our students' return, we wanted to share some important reminders to ensure a smooth transition back to school.

## Return to Uniform and Punctuality:

We are excited to resume our academic journey together. Please remind your child that we expect all students to return to school in full uniform and on time. (7:40 AM) This consistency sets a positive tone for our learning environment and helps students focus on their studies from the very start. Remember, Students are not allowed into the building after 11:30 without a parent or guardian.

## Vertus Uniform



## Regarding Electronics and Valuable Personal Items

With the holiday season, some students may have received new electronic devices or gadgets. While we understand the excitement and joy these gifts bring, we kindly remind parents that the school cannot be held responsible for any lost or stolen personal items brought onto the premises. We encourage students to use leave unnecessary devices at home and to be mindful of their belongings.

We are looking forward to having our students back in the classrooms and continuing our journey towards academic excellence. Thank you for your continued support and collaboration in your child's education.

**Wishing you and your family a fantastic start to the new year!**

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## ***Last Week***

Our Winter Celebration was a joyful gathering that brought together our school community to celebrate the spirit of the season. The event was a beautiful culmination of talent, warmth, and togetherness, and your participation made it truly special.

A Special Shout-Out goes to the Voices of Valor for their breathtaking performance, marking their first of the year. Their dedication and talent illuminated the event, and we're grateful for the passion they bring to our school community.



Thank you once again for being a part of our Winter Celebration. We look forward to creating more cherished moments together in the future.

## **2023 Winter Celebration Recap at Vertus High School**





## Upcoming Events

### FASFA Fest- 1/16

As we strive to support our students in their journey toward higher education, we are excited to invite you to our upcoming FAFSA Fest!

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) plays a pivotal role in making college more accessible by providing financial assistance to eligible students. This event aims to provide valuable insights into the FAFSA application process and understanding college costs.

Light refreshments will be provided, offering a relaxed environment for learning and discussion. This event is an excellent opportunity for parents to empower themselves with essential information to support their child's higher education journey.

Please RSVP by 1/12 to ensure we can adequately prepare for the event.

If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact Mr. Strowe (Guidance Counselor) [strowe@vertuschool.org](mailto:strowe@vertuschool.org)

3:30  
Vertus  
Career Lab  
JAN  
16

**FAFSA**  
FREE APPLICATION for FEDERAL STUDENT AID  
Step 1: Complete your FAFSA (Student): For questions 1-11, click on the 'FAFSA' link. For questions 12-13, click on the 'FAFSA' link.

**FAFSA FEST 2024**  
Federal Student Aid

Meet with the Rochester College Access Network to:

- Complete your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Online
- Answer financial questions
- Provide individual counseling to understand college costs

Light food and refreshments will be provided!  
No need to pre-register.  
Volunteers include financial aid counselors from local colleges.

21 HUMBOLDT ST.



## EXAMINATION SCHEDULE: JANUARY 2024

Only students taking the exam will report to school

JANUARY 23 TUESDAY 8:00 am	JANUARY 24 WEDNESDAY 8:00 am	JANUARY 25 THURSDAY 8:00 am	JANUARY 26 FRIDAY 8:00 am
English Language Arts	Geometry	Global History & Geography I	Physical Setting/Earth Science
	U.S. History & Government		Physical Setting/Chemistry
11:30 am	11:30 am	11:30 am	11:30 am
Living Environment	Algebra I	Algebra II	Mathematics
	Physical Setting/Physics		Examinations - 10:00 a.m. Algebra I Examinations - 2:00 p.m.

\* Available in Restricted Form only. Each copy of a restricted test is numbered and sealed in its own envelope and must be returned, whether used or unused, to the Department at the end of the examination period.

DET 504 Jan 2024

## Regents Exams

- Jan. 23-26
- Students will only report to school if they are scheduled to take a regents exam.

## Black History Celebration- 2/1

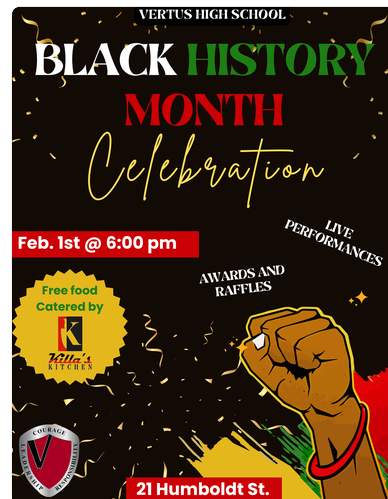
We are thrilled to invite you and your families to our vibrant and enriching Black History Celebration.

This event promises to be a memorable and inspiring celebration of Black history and culture, showcasing a variety of captivating performances and acknowledging the outstanding contributions of our community members.

Highlights of the event will include:

- **Live dance and music performances:** Experience the richness and diversity of Black culture through mesmerizing performances by talented individuals from our school community.
- **Free Catering by Killa's Kitchen:** Indulge in delectable and mouthwatering cuisine catered by Killa's Kitchen, offering a taste of authentic flavors and culinary delights.
- **Rochester Trailblazer Awards:** Join us as we honor and celebrate the achievements of remarkable individuals who have been pivotal in breaking barriers and shaping our community.

We warmly encourage you to attend and share in this celebration of unity, diversity, and excellence. This event is open to all, and we extend our invitation to our entire school community.



## Reminders:

### Attendance Matters

Each day of school presents invaluable opportunities for learning, growth, and social interaction. Here are several reasons why consistent attendance is crucial:

- **Academic Progress:** Regular attendance directly correlates with academic success. Being present in class ensures your son doesn't miss out on important lessons, discussions, and clarifications provided by teachers.
- **Building Foundations:** Each day builds upon the previous one. Consistent attendance allows your son to grasp concepts progressively, contributing to a solid foundation for future learning.
- **Active Engagement:** Active participation in classroom activities, discussions, and projects fosters deeper understanding and retention of information.
- **Social Development:** School is not just about academics; it's also a space for social interaction and skill-building. Regular attendance helps your son develop vital social skills, collaboration, and teamwork.



- **Habit Formation:** Consistent attendance establishes a habit of responsibility and discipline that will benefit your son throughout his life.

We understand that unforeseen circumstances may arise, impacting attendance. However, whenever possible, prioritizing regular school attendance greatly contributes to your son's overall success and well-being.

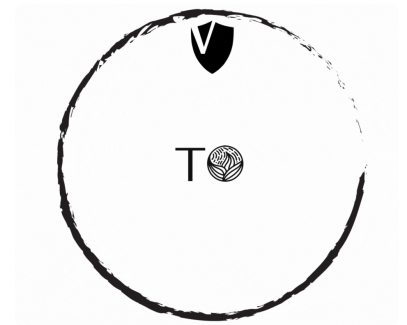
We are committed to supporting your child's educational journey, and we encourage open communication. If there are challenges affecting your son's attendance, please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we can explore ways to support him effectively.

## Student Pick-up

If you are picking your child up from school early, please call at least 15 minutes in advance before arriving. Parents can not pick students up after **2:45**. We are preparing for dismissal and cannot send students out after that time.

## Pathways to Success

The "Pathways to Success" program is aimed at providing additional support and opportunities for your child's academic and character growth. PTS is a comprehensive support system designed to cater to the diverse learning needs of our students. It offers a range of services to help students excel in their in-person and online classes, as well as challenge themselves with advanced material for those looking to get ahead.



Pathways to Success is available every Tuesday/Thursday from 3:15- 5:15 p.m. and every Saturday from 8:00-11:00 a.m.

Students who stay and work can receive bus passes to get home, or parents can arrange rides.

No Excuses!

## Need Transportation Options? RTS on Demand!

RTS On Demand is a ride-sharing mobility option in which ADA-accessible vehicles provide service on demand within On Demand Zones. Customers can request rides through the On Demand app, website, or by calling Customer Service.



Download the app or go to the website to learn more information: <https://myrts.com/on-demand>

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**Levi Bennett**  
Principal