



October 12, 2015

TO: Charles Glaes, Superintendent
Vicksburg Board of Education

FROM: Tonya K. Nash

2014-2015 COMMUNITY EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT

The 2014-2015 year marked another challenging, busy and exciting year for the Community Education Department. The department continues to make improvements in service delivery, enhancing efficiencies, and provide a high level of customer service. Below is the overview of the Community Education highlights.

Programs and activities in community recreation continue to be well attended. The youth sports programs: basketball, volleyball, tennis, and summer sports camps average over 500 participants each year. These experiences provide a safe and fun introduction to sports. The youth dance program continues to be a very popular program with three nights of classes all year long and two recitals at the Performing Arts Center. Almost 1,000 enrollments took place throughout the year in this highly successful dance program.

The Kids Klub Before and After School Child Care program finished its 22nd season of operation with 210 students participating. Again this past year, sites bumped up against our state licensing maximum requirements. Staff continue to focus on new experiences for children. The Kids Klub staff continued to be enthusiastic, resourceful, creative, and dedicated to providing a quality childcare opportunity to the families of Vicksburg.

Bulldog Beginnings Preschool successfully finished its first year of three full-day classrooms. Forty-eight children had a preschool experience Monday through Friday for 31 weeks. (See attached report)

Summer Camp Wanna Read for Kindergarten, First, and Second graders had a successful summer experience with 48 students having a fun and enriching reading experience.

More than 1,700 Vicksburg students visited the Outdoor Education Center (OEC) last year for seasonal visits.

The Community Education Office continues to orchestrate all facility usage and rentals for the District. Last year over 3,775 reservations were run through the office totaling over 10,000 hours of after-school usage of District facilities. Our Dyncal updated software has provided us with enhanced back office features, more intuitive for users/viewers and allows people to sync school calendars to their personal calendars. The Department monitors flyer distribution and other forms of student and staff solicitation as the District continues to experience increases in requests.

The District's United Way Campaign contributed \$8,167.00 with 52 people participating.

The *Red & White* production team continues to produce a professional publication with appealing photos and interesting school news. The production team's efforts manifest six superior issues of the *Red & White*. The team includes five building site reporters, Printing Services, and Beckie Oswalt. With the team's commitment and energy, Vicksburg continues to produce one of the finest newsletters in southwest Michigan, possibly the whole state of Michigan.

The Adult Education High School Completion program had six graduates this past year and many individual student successes. Despite minimal funding from the state of Michigan, Vicksburg continues to provide a valuable educational service to the South County area and one of the few High School Completion programs in Southwest Michigan. The State has reconfigured the Adult Ed Regions and we now report to Calhoun ISD for funding and programming.

The 28th Annual Hearty Hustle 5K Walk/Run was held May 9th. Four hundred and fourteen enthusiastic participants ran or walked into the Vicksburg Stadium. Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation has provided planning leadership and race day support in this successful community event. Fun and fellowship took first place at this community event. Vicksburg Community Education, Bronson Vicksburg Outpatient Center, The Village of Vicksburg, Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation along with volunteers and participants created an amazing display of community spirit and collaboration.

The Community Education staff endeavors to stay active and engaged with the community of Vicksburg. Collaborating and connecting with South County Community Services, United Way, Generous Hands, Vicksburg Community Foundation, Bronson Vicksburg Outpatient Center, the Village of Vicksburg, Vicksburg Historical Society, and the Chamber of Commerce. The annual Community Tailgate Celebration is a prime example of community connecting with the schools.

The Community Education Department continues to support the District's public relations and marketing efforts. The District's web page is one of the best in the area, and has been recently updated to be mobile friendly. It maintains a professional look and relevant information. The District's fan page on Facebook continues to increase in the number of followers and share great happenings in the District.

With continued support from the community, staff, administration, and the Board of Education, the Vicksburg Community Education Department can capitalize on boundless opportunities to address community issues and do great things to meet the challenges of our community.