



October 1, 2017

TO: Charles Glaes, Superintendent  
Vicksburg Board of Education

FROM: Alyssa Thompson, Community Education Director

## 2016-2017 COMMUNITY EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT

The 2016-2017 school year was a year of change for the Community Education Department. Even though we experienced staff changes during the year, programs and activities continued to run smoothly and experienced a successful year. Below is the overview of the Community Education highlights.

Programs and activities in community recreation continue to be well attended. We offered several summer camps in 2016 that drew in over 350 students. The athletic and art class activities that were offered throughout the school year were attended by more than 1400 students. The variety of programs offered provided a safe and positive environment for not only our Vicksburg students, but include children from the surrounding areas.

The youth dance program continues to be a very popular program with three nights of classes all year long and concludes with a wonderful recital at the Performing Arts Center. Over 900 enrollments took place throughout the year and the very talented dance instructors continue to make this a success each year.

The Kids Klub Before and After School Child Care program finished its 24<sup>th</sup> season of operation with 260 students participating. Our staff continue to be creative and enthusiastic about making this program a fun experience for those children attending. Summer Kids Klub was also added for the 2017 summer. This was a highly successful pilot year for this program. We had 73 students enrolled for the summer. The staff did an

excellent job making each week special with different themes, projects, activities, and included trips to the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, The Alligator Sanctuary, Wolf Lake Fish Hatchery, local park, Vicksburg Community Library, and Appleknockers for ice cream!

Bulldog Beginnings Preschool successfully finished its third year of three full-day classrooms. Forty-eight children had a preschool experience Monday through Friday for 31 weeks.

More than 1,000 Vicksburg students visited the Outdoor Education Center (OEC) last year for seasonal visits.

The Community Education Office schedules all facility usage and rentals for the District. The amount of rental requests from outside the district continues to increase. Our Dyncal software provides us with the resources for users/viewers to follow the school year activities and allows people to sync school calendars to their personal calendars. We continue to distribute all flyers and forms for the various programs/activities that are being offered to our families in the district.

The District's 2016 United Way Campaign contributed \$12,201 with 82 people participating. We are hoping to increase the staff participation in the upcoming school year.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Hearty Hustle 5K Walk/Run was held May 13<sup>th</sup> with 222 participants that ran or walked into the Vicksburg Stadium. Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation has provided planning leadership and race day support in this successful community event. Vicksburg Community Education, The Village of Vicksburg, Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation, along with other sponsors, volunteers, and participants created an amazing display of community spirit.

The Community Education department is striving to be engaged with the community by hosting/organizing the annual Community Tailgate Celebration. This is a fun evening for the families in our community to attend as the school year begins. We had 23 sponsor booths this year and the event was well attended.