



# NORTHERN EXPOSURE

The Newsletter of Village Academy North, Inc.

Summer is over, and the new academic year is upon us. This year, we start the year as The Best Of St Augustine for 2009. We're extremely proud to win after only two years of operation. We thank you, our parents, for your

support, your votes, and for the trust you place in us each and every day. As we tell our teachers, there is no more important job they will ever have than this one, because they get to make a difference in a child's life.

## VILLAGE ACADEMY NORTH

STAFF CHANGES

OPEN HOUSE

AFTER SCHOOL

VPK-3 HOURS

VOLUME III, ISSUE 7  
DATE: AUG 18, 2009

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## AFTERNOON VPK OPTION

You will read below that we lost 3 teachers this week to the County School system. That has caused our VPK plans for fall to be thrown into disarray. Our *preferred* solution is to have a 4th VPK class that will meet from 12:30 to 3:30. We need 4 more parents to volunteer to move to this class, which will be limited to only 10 students. Please help us out. The leader of our VPK program will be teaching this class, so it will have the highest quality and the smallest class size!

## STAFF CHANGES

Staff changes can be frustrating for all of us, but we have pledged to keep you informed.

As most of you know, Miss Rachel is now the director at our main campus in St Augustine. It was a very

sudden move necessitated by the forced resignation of an individual working there. We are still trying to find a replacement for her.

We thought, given the state of the economy, that we wouldn't lose any teachers to the school system this year - and boy, were we wrong. It seems that St. Johns County is hiring teachers at the last minute, and we're getting very little notice when someone is hired away. At any rate, we lost 3 teachers in a week - Miss Michelle, Miss Amanda, and Miss Lori. Fortunately, we have a lot of bench strength. Things are a bit chaotic this week as we work through reassignments, but we should have the situation fairly well controlled next week.

We are also changing some staff assignments. Miss Jen from 2s is moving to Toddlers. She will teach there this year and then move with the children to 2s the following year. Miss Jessica is moving with the 2s to 3s, and

Miss Erica is moving from Toddlers to 3s. Miss Terri is returning from the main campus and will teach 2s. Miss Morley will now be full-time, and will teach VPK-2.

## OPEN HOUSE THIS SATURDAY!

We are having an Open House this Saturday, the 22nd, from 2-4 pm, for Toddlers and up. Come by, meet your teacher, and find out about the plans for the fall, curriculum, etc.

## VPK 3 HOURS: 9:15 TO 12:15

To try and ease the parking lot crunch in the morning, VPK 3 (only) will run from 9:15 to 12:15. Unless you are on wraparound, you may *not* bring your child prior to 9:00. We aren't staffed for it.

## AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Don't forget the Village Academy *North* After School program. We pick the children up in our air-conditioned, seatbelt-equipped vehicles. We provide a snack, homework time, and rotations through a variety of ever-changing, fun activities. And remember, we are open on at least 16 of the days the elementary school after-school programs are closed - days when you have to still be at work. Depend on us; your child will be safe, supervised, and productively occupied!

DATES TO REMEMBER	AUG 25	SEP 7	OCT 16	OCT 30
	Enrichment Classes Start	Village Closed (Labor Day Holiday)	St Johns County Schools Closed (Village <i>North</i> Open)	St Johns County Schools Closed (Village <i>North</i> Open)

## ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

We are really excited about the Enrichment Programs for VPK students that we are offering this year. First up will be "Mad Science" on Tuesdays, which was such a hit this summer that we had to offer it twice. Experiments, demonstrations, fun activities - it's a blast! On Wednesdays we have "Art on the Gogh", taught by Miss Jenn G who has a Masters in Art! Students will create art from a variety of materials, as well as learn about famous artists and their styles. Thursday, Miss Cheryl Blythe is back by popular demand to teach gymnastics and tumbling. Friday is "Where in the World is Carmen St Augustine" - a year-long trip around the world (and my personal favorite). The children will learn about one country each month through crafts, food, music, geography, language and stories. We only have room for 15 children in each program, so please hurry and sign up. Classes start next Tuesday, the 25th.

## THE VPK CONGA LINE

For parents whose children attend the 3-hour program only, we will bring your child to you at your car. While we get to know you, you will have to show ID, and have a dashboard sign displayed that we will provide. So just form a conga line, and we'll get you in and out as fast as we can.

## SWINE FLU

Swine Flu is still with us, and will be an issue for everyone this fall. The state has decided to require us to educate our parents about the flu as a condition of keeping our license. So we have to print a brochure at our expense, and then get your signature that you have read it, and make it a permanent part of your child's file. We'll be trying to do all that during the week of August 24th. Please help us!

## MEDICINE

Parents, remember we cannot administer any medication to your child without a signed form. Also, we cannot administer any prescription medication unless it is in its original packaging. Also, if the dosage on the box of an over-the-counter medicine says "Doctor recommendation" required for under age 6, we cannot administer the drug without a Doctor's note.

## ADMIN NOTES

Please have your children here by 9:00 (9:15 for VPK-3). Show your children that you think school is important - it is a lesson that will last a lifetime...Do not leave valuables out in the open in your car. We have been hit by a high-speed smash and grab gang that is victimizing patrons up and down Route 1... Remember to clock in and out; it keeps DCF happy...We are a non-smoking campus, *including* the parking lot...Your annual registration fees are due by Monday the 24th.