

# News and Views

from the Vandercook Lake Public Schools

Golf Avenue

November, 2000 Volume 42-No.2

Jackson, Michigan

## HOMEcomings 2000

The 2000 Vandercook Lake School District Homecoming was a big success. Tremendous school spirit was exhibited by the student body through dress-up days, pep rallies and float construction.

The annual homecoming parade was outstanding, with representation from the community as well as from the school. Mr. Darrell Dunckel, recently retired Vandercook Lake high school teacher and coach was the "Grand Marshall".

The floats based on the theme "Commercial Slogans" were clever and colorful. A special thank you to the families who hosted the float-making sessions and to the parents and teachers who supervised the construction. It is this type of involvement that makes our school and activities such a success.

The Jayhawk Band and a group of alumni students added to our celebration by performing at half-time. Thank you Mr. Bickel, the band, the flag corps and baton twirlers.

We give a huge round of applause to our sports' teams for their tremendous efforts during homecoming week.

**Grand Marshall, Darrell Dunckel and his wife, Kay**

**First Place Float - Sophomores**

**Second Place Float - Freshmen**

**Vandercook Lake Educator Wins National Award**

Patti Shafer, a Business and Career Prep Teacher, has been recognized as one of the nation's 100 most outstanding educators in the Education's Unsung Heroes Awards program, sponsored by ReliaStar and Northern Life Insurance Company.

The program recognizes kindergarten through 12th grade educators nationwide for their innovative teaching methods, creative educational projects, and ability to positively influence the children they teach.

Patti Shafer's "Financial Independence through Technology" project gives graduating seniors a better understanding of the money-management process. Emphasis is placed on using computers to gather information on personal-finance topics, which include researching career opportunities, goal setting, budgeting available funds, investment strategies, managing credit, and planning for a family. Learning is also enhanced by hands-on activities and in-class research sessions. The project teaches students skills that can help them remain financially independent throughout their lives.

In recognition, Shafer will receive \$2,000 to be used to further the project within the school or school system.

**The National Honor Society**

The National Honor Society is an organization of students dedicated to serving the school, the community and themselves. Members are elected on the basis of scholarship, character, leadership, and citizenship. Final election and approval of a membership rests with the executive board.

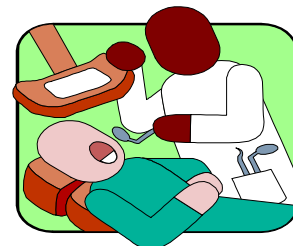
**Seniors:** Ehren Benson, McKenzie Boyt, Misty Click, Amanda Cowan, Jason Cure, Jessica Fall, Erica Gerding, Bobbie Norkey, Andrew Sabin, Jeff Spencer, Kristyn Sprangel, Emily Tripp, Melissa Tucker, Becky Weaver, Kenneth White, and Robynne Wilcox.

**Juniors:** Rachel Dunckel, Rebecca Dunckel, Jasmine Gary, Jessica Gazlay, Ashley Gorton, Jeremy Jensen, Danielle Lowe, Jill Phillippi, Tyler Pierce, Trista Rink, Laura Ritson, Ashely Rose, Erin Sedgman, Jessica Sheets, Scott Spencer, Jennifer Stevens, Andrea Surbrook, Kirsten Yonnick, and Sarah Zebarah.

**Mobile Dentists**

Mobile dentists will be at Vandercook Lake High School on November 22 and Townsend Elementary December 4. Mobile dentists is an in-school dental outreach program that provides:

- \* Dental examination
- \* Cleanings
- \* Fluoride
- \* Radiographs
- \* Sealants



Service can be FREE! If you did not receive an application, contact the high school or Townsend elementary.

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## Coronation

After the game, the coronation ceremony was held in the gym. The representatives were:

**Seventh:** Dusty O'Dell and Shelly Fushi; **Eighth:** Ryan Crum and Shiloh Maples; **Ninth:** Joe Sheets and Kali Briggs; **Tenth:** Spencer Tosi and Lindsey Adamczyk; **Eleventh:** Mark Rumsey and Jennifer Stevens. The senior representatives were: Richard Rice, Kristyn Sprangel, Angelo Edward, Misty Click, Jeff Spencer, Nicole Essex, Jacob Cure, McKenzie Boyt. Richard Rice and Misty Click placed as first runner's up. Tom Rose and Becky Morgan returned to crown the new King and Queen: **Jacob Cure and Nicole Essex.**

The senior high homecoming dance was held Saturday, September 30. The homecoming court, along with the newly crowned king and queen, were introduced. A festive dance was enjoyed by all. The junior high homecoming dance was held on October 3. The 7th and 8th grade princes and princesses were crowned at this dance. The sixth graders enjoyed an activity night in the middle school gym.

We thank President Tuxedo World for the tuxedos. We especially thank all of the people who loaned cars and helped to make the parade and coronation such a success.

In conclusion, we thank everyone who had a hand in making the 2000 Vandercook Lake Homecoming a success and look forward to your continued support in the future.

**2000 Homecoming King and Queen  
Jacob Cure and Nicole Essex**

**The Class of 1950 celebrated their 50-year class reunion. They began their festivities by riding on a float in the Homecoming parade.**

## McDevitt Elementary News

**The Michigan School Readiness 4 year old program** has gotten off to a great start this school year. The 4- year old students have been busy with puzzles, reading, creating art projects, singing, drawing, playing and getting to know each other. In September, the students participated in dress-up days for Homecoming. They enjoyed wearing their pajamas to school and wearing hats on hat day. Fire Fighters from the Summit Township Fire Department met with the students in October about fire safety, and the students were able to climb up in the fire truck to take a look around. The first "field trip" was on the bus to Townsend for picture day. The 4 year olds came ready for pictures with their best

**Brent, Zachary, and Billy construct a Lego building** smiles. The field trip at the end of October to Indian Brooke Farms to visit the pumpkin patch and take a hay ride was a huge hit. The new playground equipment and the repaired swings have offered lots of fun outside. Some of the high school students work with the 4 year olds a couple days a week. Building wood block castles and Lego Robots and reading a book is so much more fun with a little help. Also coming to work with the 4 year olds are "Reading Buddies" from Mrs. Cripe's and Mrs. Glead's fourth grade class. The students read together every other Friday. We look forward to the rest of the school and know we have many more fun days ahead of us.

**The high school alternative program** has made several significant changes this school year. The move to McDevitt is working well for this program. The students are working with new curriculum modules and have added a few electives to their course offerings. Some of the high school students are studying child development and have been working with the four year old students. This has been quite successful for everyone involved. Our younger students enjoy the help and attention from the older students, and our high school students are enjoying working with the four year olds.

"Reading Buddies"

Rachel Ritter and Jaimi Teeter

Amanda and Ryan work hard to build their piece of the Lego car.

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## **Curriculum Work Continues...**

The curriculum work at Vandercook Lake is a year-round process. Many teachers participated this summer in a curriculum alignment workshop at the Jackson ISD. During common planning, the teachers have continued to work on the curriculum at each grade level and in each content area. The teachers are developing sample lessons and assessments for each of the state benchmarks. The focus this school year is on math and Language Arts. We hope to complete a curriculum guide this year using common planning and inservice days for teachers in these two content areas.

**Mr. Tucker and Mr. Powers working on  
high school benchmarks.**

**Mrs. Warner, Mrs. Cripe and Mrs. Bennett  
work on elementary curriculum**

### **Latchkey Program**

Thanks to an outstanding staff, the move to McDevitt for the Latchkey program has been a smooth transition. The students and employees in the program are enjoying the extra rooms available to them for games, art projects, studying, or playing on the computers. The students are also able to play in the gym or on the playground. Wednesday mornings, Mrs. Harvey runs a basketball program for the students while others choose to play games, play on the computer, or watch a video. We still have openings for kindergartners in the morning. Contact Mrs. Bonnie Harvey, Latchkey supervisor, at 782-0342 if you would like to register your child.

**Mrs. Hause and Mr. Myers develop science  
lessons using the State framework**

## Parents

Don't forget that Townsend School still collects food labels for school equipment from **Campbells**. There are many non-Campbell brands included also. They are **V8, Franco-American, Swanson, Pepperidge Farm, and Prego**.

If you are interested in the entire list, contact Townsend, and we would be more than happy to send one to you. Even if you don't have a child attending Townsend, our students would benefit from your support if you saved and brought in labels.

Also we are still saving **Holsum** wrappers and **General Mills** boxtops.

We will be collecting throughout the entire school year.

**Thank you!**

## *Inclement Weather*

Vandercook Lake Schools will be following the same procedure for the 1999-2000 school year as it has in the previous years regarding school closing.

Factors that cause such closing are usually weather related, though mechanical problems such as water supply or heating problems can also be a cause. The following factors will be taken into consideration regarding the closing of school.

**ICE:** Roads are ice covered and not thawing.

**SNOW:** Snow is of a nature to make roads impassable due to snow depth and/or drifting.

**VISIBILITY:** The density of the fog or constantly blowing snow make driving hazardous.

**TEMPERATURE & WIND CHILL:** The temperature and wind chill factors along with the severity of the conditions.

During the school year, schools and police agencies throughout the county work closely together in tracking storms, monitoring weather and road conditions and communicating concerns that may be cause for delays in starting and/or closing times of school.

Every effort is made to make the decision for closing by 6:00 a.m. Uncertain or rapidly worsening conditions often give cause for decisions to be made later than 6:00 a.m. or with storms arriving during the day, it may be necessary to send the children home early. Jackson radio stations WKHM, WJKN, WIBM, Q106, and WILX-TV will be notified in these situations.

It is very important that the children are dressed appropriately for the ever changing weather. The children also must know where they are to go in case of early closing. We want to assure you, that the decision to delay or close school is taken very seriously. We hope this information helps in your understanding of what is involved in these decisions.

## Student Leadership

On Monday, October 9 Vandercook Lake high school students participated in the 19th Annual Student Leadership Forum at Spring Arbor College. Students attended sessions on topics concerning leadership, community involvement, school spirit, sports, and college topics.

Representing the freshmen were Kali Briggs, Nick Gallagher, Jenny McDaniels, Chad Myers, Kristen Yoakum. Sophomores were Jordan Clark, Ryan Essex, Danielle Ewers, Ben Masters, Matt Stevens. Juniors were Ashley Gorton, Jeremy Jensen, Dani Lowe, Tyler Pierce, Trista Rink, Scott Spencer, Kirsten Yonnick. Seniors were Misty Click, Brett Everett, Drew Sabin, Becky Weaver, Kenneth White.

Staff members making presentations were Steve Tucker on the topic of school spirit and Jim Biondolillo presented a senior college workshop....Les Essex, Advisor.

## Vandercook Lake Middle/Senior High School

**MESSAGE:** Should you have any questions regarding your student's progress, please feel free to contact his/her teachers at 782-8167 and leave a message in the Voice Mailbox Numbers listed below:

<b>TEACHERNAME</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>VOICE MAIL BOX</b>
Ms. Andrijonas	Science/Social Studies	136
Mr. Bareis	Social Studies	141
Mrs. Beasley	Middle School Art	114
Mrs. Benson	Special Education	110
Mr. Bickel	Band/Choir	158
Ms. Bigger	Library/Media Center	211
Mr. Biondolillo	Counselor	206
Mr. Blackledge	Math/Social Studies	112
Ms. Blair	Physical Education	216
Mrs. Blossom	Secretary	200
Mr. Bush	6th Grade Math	161
Mrs. Cook	Spanish	140
Mr. Essex	Administrative Assistant	203
Mr. Faber	Art/Pottery	154
Mr. Garrison	Computer Specialist	217
Mr. Gass	English	109
Mr. Goedert	English/Social Studies	142
Ms. Haney	Curriculum	703
Mrs. Hofer	Social Studies	200
Mr. Hollow	Principal	205
Mrs. Horsfall	Secretary	201
Mrs. Hunter	Secretary	207
Mr. Jacobs	Physical Education	215
Mrs. Knight	Math/History	111
Mrs. Koetsier	Counselor	208
Mrs. Lattas	6th Reading/English	163
Mrs. Ludtke	Special Education	124
Mrs. McVey	Special Education	125
Mr. Miller	Athletic Director	202
Mr. Pepper	Computers/Physics	224
Mr. Peters	Alternative High School	782-0342
Mr. Powers	English/Speech	145
Mr. Pryor	Science/History	138
Mr. Roberts	Special Needs	159
Mr. Robertson	Technology	157
Mr. Roggenbaum	Math/Chemistry	137
Mr. Schonhard	Assistant Principal	204
Mrs. Schupbach	English/Social Studies	107
Mrs. Schweda	In House/Attendance	127
Mrs. Shafer	Office Technology/Community As School	143
Mr. Stevenson	Biology/Zoology/Physical Science	134
Ms. Sumeral	Office Technology	128
Mrs. Talerico	Alternative Education	106
Mr. Thompson	Math	144
Mr. Tucker	English/History	139
Mrs. Ulrich	6th Social Studies	162
Mr. Varner	Physical Education	228
Mr. Vibbert	Life Skills/Health	108
Mrs. Weber	6th Science	160

## SENIOR ATHLETES 1999-2000

Amber Gorton and John Sharp earned top honors in their class as outstanding athletes. This is based on participation, achievement, and academics. Congratulations to these deserving students!

**Amber Gorton** has had an athletic career that will not be matched for many years. She was in four sports for four years - a feat unequaled by any other senior. Academically she was number one in her class with a 3.99 grade point. Amber is a special person. We all wish her the best in her future which is studying medicine at MSU.

**John Sharpe** represented Vandercook Lake High School in the best manner possible all through high school. He excelled in all sports he played. He was a leader both off and on the field. His football and baseball skills are outstanding. John richly deserves this award. He is presently attending Heidelberg College.

### ATTENTION ALL SENIORS!!!

The personal trustees of the John George Student Loan Fund want every high school senior who resides in Jackson County or attends school in Jackson County to know that they may be eligible for a college loan.

Need to borrow money for college? John George, the founder of the Jackson Citizen Patriot, originated a trust fund for loaning students money to attend universities, colleges and community colleges supported by the State of Michigan, i.e. state schools. This year, the John George Student Loan Fund will loan qualified students up to \$4,000 per year at a 2% interest rate to attend state schools.

Eligibility to receive a loan is not determined by financial need but students must carry at least 12 hours per semester and maintain 2.25 grade point average in college.

Requests for applications must be made during the months of October, November, and December and are available at 145 South Jackson Street, Jackson, Michigan, and **have to be made in person.**

Inquiries may be directed to Mrs. Karen Friend at 782-8126 between the hours of 8:30 am and 12:30 pm weekdays

2% LOANS

**Requests for  
Applications Can Be  
Made Only During  
The Months of October, November, and  
December**

## First Grade News

First Grade is off to a busy start and looking forward to a successful year.

Mrs. Frankila's class has completed units on fire safety, zoo animals and apples. They are having fun learning to read, writing sentences and practicing numbers.

The children in Mrs. Rininger's class have begun writing and "publishing" their own stories. They enjoy sharing their stories with each other.

Miss Schedeler's students have completed units focusing on the five senses and apples. They learned about Johnny Appleseed - tasted and baked apples.

In Mrs. Fish's room, the children are working on story problems during math, setting up a number sentence, listening to what the question is asking and solving problems using manipulatives.

The students in Mrs. Allen's room have completed an apple unit, which included tasting different types of apples and selecting favorites. They also made applesauce, which they enjoyed for a snack. Mrs. Allen's students are beginning to write stories and class books.

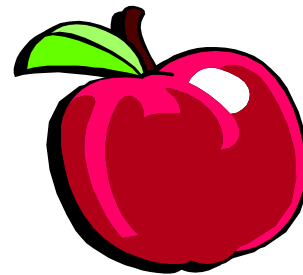
## Second Grade News

Second Graders viewed an assembly line in motion and observed multiple ways conveyor belts are used at their recent visit to Jiffy Mix in Chelsea. A slide show presentation and a Jiffy Mix sample reinforced their experience of products being made within a factory. Parents are welcome to plan a follow-up tour simply by calling 734-475-1361.

The annual Grandparents Day/Music Program is scheduled for Monday, November 13. Up to four grandparents are encouraged to attend their 2nd Grade grandchild's assembly. Hopefully, more out-of-town grandparents will be able to attend as they can use the weekend for traveling. Details will be sent home with each student.

In the classroom during language arts, students are learning how to summarize what they've read. They are also writing their ideas by using the five-step writing process. Math and science concentrate heavily on grouping things by common characteristics. Different types of graphing are then used to display what traits children have identified.

The classrooms are settled by now, and the children are truly enjoying social interactions while learning academics through many "hands on" approaches.....Mrs. Jones



## Third Grade News

Third Graders at Townsend have been busy this fall improving their reading, writing and math skills. In Language Arts, we've just completed a theme unit of fractured fairy tales. The unit included 3 unique versions of "The Three Little Pigs" and nonfiction articles about pigs and wolves. Students read and wrote about each version and had fun completing several art projects throughout the unit.

In Math, the students have been reviewing addition and subtraction and graphing techniques. Many 3rd Grade classes are emphasizing the use of new strategies for solving word and logic problems in preparation for next year's MEAP. Several rooms are piloting a new math book series. These books include some new learning games and lessons that the students find exciting.....Miss Waite



## Fifth Grade News

The 5th Grade classes are off to a fantastic start this year. Mr. VanEpps' class is working very hard on the "Core Democratic Values" for Social Studies.

Mr. Packer's class is in the process of learning how to study and focusing on writing skills.

Mrs. French's class has been reading some very exciting stories like Charlotte's Web and The Chronicles of Narnia. Miss Grant is subbing for Mrs. French while she is on maternity leave.

Mr. Myers' class is studying plant and animal growth in science. The class has enjoyed watching painted lady butterflies develop from the larva stage to adult butterflies....Mr. VanEpps

## Fourth Grade News

Fourth Graders in Room 618 are learning about the State of Michigan by studying our State parks. We will be "traveling" from Waterloo Recreation Area all the way to Fort Wilkins State Historic Park in the Upper Peninsula. Along the way, we will be studying the history, economy and geography of each region of Michigan. At the end of the year, each student will receive a free day pass for their family to any State park. Studying our great State will help us to learn from the past, appreciate the present, and preserve our outdoor heritage.....Mrs. Warner

## Kindergarten

Each day in our room begins with attention to the calendar, counting the days we have been in school, singing our days of the week to the tune of the Adams' Family theme then we learn the names of the months to a bouncy macarena beat. We review the letters and sounds we have learned to this point as well as the sign language symbol for those letters. We then move to our seats for a daily math. At this point, we are working on word problems in addition to the number 10. On Fridays, we have a special show and tell honoring our special letter person of the week. During Miss A week, we celebrated our first letter person by learning the sign language symbol for letter A, by learning the sound of letter A and by making homemade applesauce. We predicted the circumference of an apple as well as how many seeds are in one. Do you know how many there are? We read "Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?", to review our colors and then made a book of our own to share with our families. In mathematics, we were on a unit about graphing so we graphed our favorite colors. Our first reading unit was called, "All About Me" and during this unit we learned a song called, "I Am Special". For Mr. B, we worked as a cooperative group to make real butter in our room and we ate it on French bread. We read a story called, "The Three Bears" and made our own puppets in order to retell the story at home. To integrate our reading and math units, we read a book called, "The Button Box" and then sorted buttons by their attributes. For Mr. C, we made Halloween cats, read a story called, "Corduroy" and made our own Corduroy bears. We listened to the Japanese folk tale called, "A Paper Crane" and learned how they were made. We also sang a song about camels and now we know that camels come from Asia and from Africa and that they are used for riding and as beasts of burden. During D week, we made delicious doughnuts and dinosaur dioramas. We also decorated our own letter D. Continuing with our tradition of integrating music into our curriculum, we learned a song about ducks. Each letter also has a special poem to go with it. This week we learned a marvelous dinosaur poem and found all the letter D's in the poem. For Mr. F, we will be graphing our favorite fruit and making a fruit salad. We will be observing fire safety with a visit from a fire truck and real firemen from Summit Township. We will also be going to Safetyville to participate in their well-developed personal safety program for young children. Each Monday the children eagerly go to computer lab. In our current reading unit, "Color Is Everywhere", we read "Mr. Rabbit and the Lovely Present", we combined this with our math unit to reinforce patterning. The children enjoyed the first song we learned called, "Sing a Rainbow" and began to observe the color words as we did so. The children made a special picture from this unit for their families. It was called, "Every Day Is a Gift". And, when all the little faces take their places in our room, we know and are thankful that everyday is indeed a gift.....Mrs. Stapley

## Reading Recovery

Reading Recovery has been implemented this year at Townsend Elementary. Reading Recovery is an early intervention program designed to select children in the 1st Grade who are having difficulty learning to read and write. Children meet individually with a specially-trained teacher for 30 minutes each day for an average of 12-20 weeks. The goal is for the children to develop effective reading, writing and word analysis strategies, by making faster-than-average progress so they can catch up with their peers and then continue to benefit from regular instruction in the classroom. Several schools throughout the county are implementing this program with the support of the Jackson County Intermediate School District and several local foundations. We are pleased to be part of this initiative.....Mrs. Osypczuk

## Character Education

Townsend students have been learning about conflict resolution and peer mediation this fall. Our School Social Worker, Mrs. Boorman, and our Assistant Principal, Mrs. McQuillan, are going to classrooms to present these important concepts.

The 2nd and 3rd Grade students are learning these concepts through a program called "Peace Buddies". Peace Buddies are mediators. Mediators help children who are having a disagreement find their own solutions. They will be practicing their new mediation skills during the lunch recess. Each student will have the opportunity to be a "Peace Buddy" sometime during the school year. The children are excited by the program and consider it a privilege to be a "Peace Buddy".

The 4th and 5th Grade students participated in "Resolving Conflict Through Mediation". They learned that conflict is a normal part of life and that there are many ways in which conflicts can be resolved. Role playing, sending "I" messages, win-win conflict resolution situations, and active listening were practiced during the sessions.

We congratulate the students on their hard work and interest in these important skills.....Mrs. Boorman

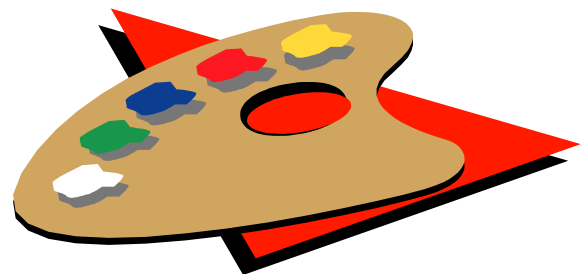
The next time you are visiting Townsend Elementary be sure to take a minute and stop by the Art Room. Beautiful examples of the students' works are displayed along the hallway. We are very proud of the wonderful program our Art teacher, Mrs. Suzanne Richardson, has developed.

Her students' artwork is earning community recognition. This year's Dahlem Center's Nature Art Calendar will feature the artwork of eight of our young "Rembrandts". David Causer, Travis Smak, Alan Cropsey and Michelle Burke's works are featured with a particular month. Brandon Whitford, Autumn Augustine, Casey Harvey and Nick Baxter received honorable mention.

The work of Jacob Worden was selected by Family Services and Children's Aid as the winner in their Holiday Greeting Card Contest. Jacob's angel will be on the cover of all their greeting cards this year. Brett Mercer's entry earned second place.

We congratulate all of our young artists!

Art



# Welcome new staff members

## Paul Varner

**High School:** Lumen Christi  
**College:** Adrian College  
**Major:** Social Studies  
**Minor:** Physical Education  
**Degree:** Bachelors  
**Assignment:** Middle School Physical Education  
**Family:** Wife, Amy and daughter, Madison (16 months).  
**Previous Experience:** Two years teaching at Holy Spirit (Grand Raids).

Three years teaching at JCMS. Seven years coaching experience.

**Hobbies and Interests:** My interests involve spending time with my family and playing golf.

**I went into education because.....**I enjoy working with kids and seeing them grow and succeed.

**My goal/philosophy as an educator is...**to be a positive influence in the lives of young students and athletes.

**I am looking forward to.....**working with the young people of Vandercook Lake.

## Aaron Bush

**High School:** Morley Stanwood  
**College:** Central Michigan University  
**Major:** Social Studies  
**Minor:** Language Arts  
**Degree:** B.S. in Elementary Education  
**Assignment:** 6th Grade  
**Family:** Wife, Erin  
**Hobbies and Interests:** Sports, coaching, reading.  
**I went into education because....**I want to make a positive effect on students' lives.

**My goal/philosophy as an educator is...**stressing the importance of education and being a role model for my students.

**I am looking forward to.....**helping students with extra-curricular activities and being at Vandercook Lake for a long time.

**Marianne Berkemeier** is a term sub working as a special education teacher in the middle school. Marianne attended the University of Dayton with a degree in special education and elementary education. She has had two years teaching experience and has four children.

## Lisa M. Weber

**High School:** East Jackson HS  
**College:** Eastern Michigan University  
**Major:** Science  
**Minor:** Social Science  
**Assignment:** 6th Grade Science  
**Family:** Husband, Bob, daughter, Madison (9 months).  
**Previous Experience:** Taught 8th

grade science for four years at Springfield Middle School, Holland, Ohio.  
**Hobbies and Interests:** Spending time with my family, traveling, playing softball, playing the piano.

**I went into education because....**I enjoy teaching science and I enjoy watching students discover new concepts through hands-on experiments.

**I am looking forward to.....**an exciting year with my sixth grade students doing many fascinating science labs and projects.

## Denise Beasley

**High School:** Ososso High School  
**College:** Central Michigan University  
**Major:** English  
**Degree:** B.S. in Education  
**Assignment:** Middle School Art  
**Family:** Husband, Terry - Choir teacher for JPS.  
**Previous Experience:** Litchfield Community Schools - 7th, 9th, and 11th grade English.  
**Hobbies or Interests:** Outdoor activities - camping, biking; Reading, painting and drawing; internet. Multimedia design.  
**I went into education because...**I wanted to have a positive impact in students' lives.  
**My goal/philosophy as an educator is.....**teach children to teach themselves and not depend on others to teach them.  
**I look forward to.....**beginning my masters in middle school education this summer at CMU.

## Donna Yocum

**High School:** Sunrise, Wyoming  
**College:** University of Wyoming  
**Major:** Elementary Education  
**Degree:** Bachelor of Arts  
**Assignment:** Fourth Grade  
**Family:** Husband, Steve, son and daughter-in-law - Robert and Angela Campbell, grandchildren - Joy and Allison (live in Jackson) daughter, Victoria. lives in Denver, Co.  
**Previous Experience:** Taught in Wyoming for 28 years, mostly in Douglas and Glenrock. Have taught 2nd through 8th grades.  
**Hobbies or Interests:** My family - especially my grandchildren! I also like to read, sew, craft, garden and travel.  
**I went into education because...**I love children.  
**My goal/philosophy as an educator is.....**to make a difference - one child at a time!  
**I look forward to.....**becoming a full time teacher in Vandercook.

# Welcome new staff members

## Amelia (Amy) Leighton

**High School:** Parkside (JPS)  
**College:** Spring Arbor  
**Major:** English  
**Minor:** Elementary Education  
**Degree:** B.A.  
**Assignment:** KGN - Townsend  
**Family:** Married; two sons 15 and 14.  
**Previous Experience:** Before teaching at Vandercook, I taught 2 years at Bennett School in JPS. I substitute taught at JPS, Townsend Elementary, and the area Catholic schools.  
**Hobbies and Interests:** I enjoy cooking and baking, cross-stitch, gardening and

a variety of art mediums.

**I went into education because.....**I enjoy helping children learn and watching them grow.

**My goal/philosophy as an educator is...**reach every child giving them the necessary skills to be proficient readers. In addition to teaching skills in the classroom, my greatest goal is to instill a love of learning.

**I am looking forward to...**a great school year and many years being a part of Vandercook Schools.

## Kris Leindecker

**High School:** Columbia Central High School  
**College:** Eastern Michigan University  
**Major:** Emotionally Impaired K-12 Special Education  
**Minor:** English  
**Degree:** Bachelors of Science  
**Assignment:** Resource Room 5th Grade  
**Family:** Husband - Rob; Sons - Kurt, 15; Joel, 12; James, 10. Daughter - Kayla, 8.  
**Previous Experience:** Teaching summer school (8-12 grade), substitute teaching, student teacher, special Olympics, teacher assistant, track coach  
**Hobbies or Interests:** Aerobic exercise, crafts watching my children play a variety of sports.  
**I went into education because...**I feel that children are very important, and I want to help shape them into responsible adults.  
**My goal/philosophy as an educator is...**to help each student to reach their highest potential and become responsible, contributing citizens.

## Jill Schedeler

**High School:** Columbia Central  
**College:** Spring Arbor College  
**Major:** Elementary Education  
**Minor:** Music, Spanish  
**Degree:** B.A. in Education  
**Assignment:** First Grade Teacher - Townsend Elementary  
**Family:** Single  
**Previous Experience:** Student taught 3rd grade in the district with Judy Bennett.  
**Hobbies or Interests:** I enjoy singing in a trio and directing children's choir. Also love to play golf in my free time.  
**I went into education because.....**I enjoy working with children and love teaching them new skills needed for life. The children keep me laughing.  
**My goal/philosophy as an educator is....**to show each and every student that they are special, and that learning is an adventure that may be a challenge but will always be rewarding.  
**I am looking forward to....**seeing how my students develop over the year and move on, as new years come.

## Marion Koetsier

**High School:** Berrien Springs High School  
**College:** Lake Michigan College (1982) E.M.U. (1995)  
**Major:** Elementary Education  
**Minor:** Science and Social Science  
**Degree:** BS in Elementary Ed; MA in K-12 Counseling  
**Assignment:** HS Counselor at Vandercook High School  
**Family:** Two teenagers: Jacob 17-1/2 and Rachael (almost 16). Have two younger sisters and parents who still live in Berrien County.  
**Previous Experience:** Taught 2nd grade at EJ for 5 years; been in education for 22 years as a secretary, teacher aide, teacher and counselor.  
**Hobbies or Interests:** Loves music, dancing, and chocolate! Reading, movies, golf, walking. Interested in taking swing dancing lessons. Interested in native American folklore and angels.  
**I went into education because.....**I love children of all ages and I love learning and teaching others. I'm very curious and enjoy being playful with kids.  
**I am looking forward to.....**touching as many lives as possible in a positive way and getting acquainted with the Vandercook Lake community.

## Les Essex

### Assistant Principal - HS

Mr. Les Essex joins the junior and senior high school administrative team as our Assistant Principal. Before joining our administrative staff this school year, Mr. Essex has taught elementary students in the district for the past 27 years. Les's long-term tenure with the district has given him community knowledge and educational experience that will be valued as our new assistant principal.

## Vandercook Lake High School Winter Sports Schedule

### VARSDITY & JV Boy's Basketball

12/5	at Springport	5:30
12/8	Michigan Center	5:30
12/12	Jackson Christian	5:30
12/15	Addison	5:30
12/19	Dansville	5:30
12/22	at Grass Lake	5:30
1/9	at Columbia Central	5:30
1/12	at Napoleon	5:30
1/19	Hanover Horton	5:30
1/23	at Concord	6:00
1/26	Manchester	5:30
1/30	at East Jackson	5:30
2/2	at Michigan Center	5:30
2/9	at Addison	5:30
2/13	at Waldron	5:30
2/16	Grass Lake	5:30
2/20	Napoleon	5:30
2/23	at Hanover	5:30
2/27	at Manchester	5:30
3/2	East Jackson	5:30
3/5	Districts	

Coaches:

Varsity: Paul Varner

JV Les Essex

### VARSDITY & JV Volleyball

12/2	at Lumen Christi Scrimmage	
12/16	at Jonesville	
12/18	West./Jack. Chr.	6:00
1/6	Var at EJ Invit.	9:00am
1/8	at Concord	
1/13	Vandy JV Tourn	9:00am
1/18	at Addison	6:30
1/25	Mich. Center	6:30
1/27	at Lenawee Chr.	8:00am
1/29	Leslie	6:30
2/1	Grass Lake	6:30
2/3	JV at Concord	8:00am
	Var at Morenci	9:00am
2/8	at Napoleon	6:30
2/10	at Spring Arbor Inv.	8:30am
2/12	East Jackson	6:30
2/15	at Hanover Horton	6:30
2/17	JV at E.J. Tourn.	9:00am
2/22	Manchester	6:30
2/26	Col. Central	6:30
2/28	Conference meet	
3/3	District	TBA

Coaches:

Varsity: Sue Hause

JV Heather Clemons

### JUNIOR HIGH BOY'S BASKETBALL

11/13	Napoleon	4:30
11/15	at Addison	4:30
11/20	Hanover Horton	4:30
11/21	at East Jackson	4:30
11/27	at Grass Lake	4:30
11/29	Manchester	4:30
12/4	Michigan Center	4:30
12/6	at Napoleon	4:30
12/11	Addison	4:30
12/13	at Hanover-Horton	4:30
12/18	at Mich. Center	4:30
12/20	at Manchester	4:30

Coach:

T. Pryor  
W. Stevenson

### JUNIOR HIGH VOLLEYBALL

1/22	Napoleon	4:30
1/24	at Addison	4:30
1/29	Hanover	4:30
1/31	at East Jackson	4:30
2/5	at Grass Lake	4:30
2/7	Manchester	4:30
2/12	Michigan Center	4:30
2/14	at Napoleon	4:30
2/21	Addison	4:30
2/26	at Hanover Horton	4:30
2/27	Jackson Chris.	4:30

Coach:

M. Boorman  
S. Palmer

**Vandercook Lake High School  
Winter Sports Schedule**

**VARSITY WRESTLING**

11/30	at Lakewood/Maple V.	
12/6	at Grass Lake	6:30
12/13	EJ/Clinton at HH	6:00
12/16	HH/Vandy Tourn	9:00am
12/20	at Mich. Center	6:30
1/6	at Union City Invit	9:30am
1/17	at Addison	6:30
1/20	at Erie Mason Invit.	8:00am
1/24	Manchester at HH	6:30
1/31	Napoleon at HH	6:30
2/3	at Dansville Invit.	9:30am
2/9	Conference at MC	
2/14	Team Dist.	TBA
2/17	Individual Dist.	TBA
2/21	Team Regional	TBA
2/24	Individual Reg.	TBA

Coach: TBA

**JV WRESTLING**

12/4	at Western	6:00
12/11	at Napoleon invit.	6:00
12/29	at Col. Central	10:00a
1/15	at Manch./scrim	

Coach: TBA

**BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL**

1/12	at Napoleon	4:00
1/19	Hanover	4:00
1/26	Manchester	4:00
1/30	at East Jackson	4:00
2/9	at Addison	4:00
2/20	Napoleon	4:00
2/23	at Hanover	4:00
2/27	at Manchester	4:00
3/2	East Jackson	4:00

Coach: A. Bush

**JUNIOR HIGH WRESTLING**

1/29	Addison	4:30
2/3	at Nap. Invit.	9:30am
2/5	at Hanover Horton	4:30
2/12	East Jackson	4:30
2/14	Grass Lake	4:30
2/21	at Manchester	4:30
2/26	at Mich. Center	4:30
2/28	at Napoleon	4:30

Coach: Chris Blackledge

**Athletic Ticket Booklets**

The Athletic Department is offering a booklet of ten tickets for both students and adults. Student booklets will cost \$15.00 and adults \$20.00. This is about a 50% savings. Booklets may be purchased at Mrs. Hunter's office in the high school.

**GO**

**JAYHAWKS**

**CALENDAR - 2000-2001**

November	1	Boys Golf, Football, Cheerleading Awards Night 6:30 pm
	2	Parent-Teacher Conferences 1-4; 7-9 pm; 1/2 Day of School
	3	Parent-Teacher Conferences 1-3 pm; 1/2 Day of School
	9	Girls Basketball-Cross Country Awards 6:30 pm
	13	Board Meeting - HS Library - 6:00 p.m.
	16	Elementary Picture Retakes
	17	Holiday Parade
	18	Apple Pie Sale
23-24	Thanksgiving Break	
December	8-9	5th-6th Grade Girls' Basketball Tournament
	11	Board Meeting - HS Library 6:00 p.m
	14	Holiday Band/Choir Concert High School Gym 7:00 p.m.
	25-Jan5	Winter Break
2001		
January	8	School Resumes
	15	Board Meeting - HS Library - 6:00 p.m.
	19	Teachers Record Day - <b>No school for students</b>
	23	Jazz Festival
February	1-4	5th and 6th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament
	12	Board Meeting - HS Library - 6:00 p.m.
	15	1/2 Day - H.S and Elementary - Begin winter break
	16-19	No school - Winter Break
	21	Parent Teacher Conferences 7-9:00 pm
	22	Parent Teacher Conferences 1-4; 7-9:00 pm, 1/2 Day of School
	23	1/2 Day of School
	24	Band Clinic
March	10	Middle School Band Festival
	12	Board Meeting - HS Library - 6:00 p.m.
	14	Boys Basketball, Cheerleading Dessert 6:30 pm
	15	Volleyball, Wrestling Dessert 6:30 pm
	17	High School Band Festival
	24	Cherry Pie Sale
April	2-6	Spring Break
	13	Good Friday - No School
	16	Board Meeting - HS Library - 6:00 pm.
May	10	Middle School Band/Choir Concert
	14	Board Meeting - HS Library - 6:00 pm.
	17	Spring Band/Choir Concert - 5th Grade Orientation
	23	Senior Dessert/Awards Night 6:30 pm
	24	Track Awards 6:30 pm
	25	1/2 Day of School
	28	Memorial Day - No School
29	Baseball, Softball Dessert Awards 6:30 pm	
June	3	Baccalaureate
	4	Commencement - Potter Center 8:00 pm
	4-7	Exams
	6-7	1/2 Days of School

**APPLE PIE SALE**

**Beginning Wednesday, November 1, orders will be taken from any Vandercook Lake middle-senior high school student for apple pies. The pies will cost \$5.00 each and weigh three pounds. Pies may be picked up on Saturday November 18, between 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the high school gym. Any special orders call: Chuck Miller at 782-8167.**

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