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# Voice of the Vaughan Voyageurs

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Issue 1

Week of October 4, 2004

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## *Administration*

Allan Hoyle, *Principal*

John Glezakos, *Vice-Principal, A – L*

Annette Oliver, *Vice-Principal, M – Z*

*Trustee:* Alan Shefman

*School Council Chair:*  
Joe Jonsson

*First Issue 2004/2005*

## *Highlights*

- October 7: Jr. & Sr. Boys' Volleyball Teams vs. Father Bressani and Langstaff S.S. Come out and cheer!
- October 15: Sr. Boys Volleyball Team play in Markville Tournament

## *Current Events*

### A Warm Welcome



On behalf of the Vaughan community, we would like to extend a warm welcome to our new principal, **Mr. Allan Hoyle**. In a very short period of time, it is evident how warm, friendly and dedicated he is to both staff and students. In his busy schedule, he always seems to find the time every day to walk through the halls and visit classrooms just to say hello. He continues to be highly visible throughout the school, always showing concern and interest in all students' needs. We are delighted to have him with us here at Vaughan!

*Ellen Rass and Patricia Obadia*

### Canada-Netherlands Exchange

Last year VSS initiated a very successful Canada-Netherlands exchange program, whereby ten of our students visited Holland for a week and we then hosted Dutch students at VSS. This was a very positive experience for all the students involved and we are hoping to repeat the experience this coming school year. For further information, please contact Ms Smullen in Guidance.

### *From Our Principal's Desk*

We have just completed the first month of the new school year here at Vaughan. What a tremendous experience it has been for me, as the new Principal, to see how well this school functions as a learning community. My time has been spent getting to know students and teachers both in and out of their classrooms. Our students have been friendly and welcoming, greeting me in the halls and helping me to find my way. Our staff is clearly a team of excellent teachers who are creative and innovative in the way they approach classes. I am eager to come to work each day to be a part of the Vaughan Secondary School community!

As we begin this new year some thanks are in order: to our Caretaking staff who have laboured throughout the summer to maintain our building; to our Secretarial staff who managed registration and the first days of school so well; and to our Vice-Principals, John Glezakos and Annette Oliver, who have worked to establish clear procedures and to help me learn about Vaughan. Thank you to all!

This fall our students at Vaughan will see some new faces. We are hosting several student teachers from many different institutions. It is a mark of the excellence of our teaching staff that there is significant demand from universities to place their teaching candidates in our school. In addition, we have been able to hire several new staff members. We welcome the following people to the staff of Vaughan Secondary School:

Glenda Adamthwaite-Huetl	Moderns
Chris Andrews	Technological Studies
Scot Angus	Science and Special Education
Alla Berditchevskaia	Special Education
Judith Currie	Department Head, Visual Arts
Constantine Gymnopoulos	Physical Education
Mirtil Lorincz	Family Studies
Chesky Neceski	Department Head, Music
Sanjee Sivanesan	English
Sandra Strong	Special Education

Over the summer several projects were completed at the school. These include a new carpet for the Library, and new floors in the computer labs. As part of our on-going renewal you will soon see a new

sign at the front of the school. Look for clearer messages there to keep you informed about what is going on at school.

Should you wish to contact me please call the school at 905-660-1397, or e-mail me at [allan.hoyle@yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:allan.hoyle@yrdsb.edu.on.ca).

Vaughan Secondary School is a wonderful place – I am thrilled to be part of the experience here and am eagerly looking forward to the next years.

*Allan Hoyle, Principal*

### ***From Athletics***

On Friday October 1st we will be having our senior girls' basketball tournament. We are pleased to say that we have teams from Barrie and Peel coming to join local schools. It will be a great day of basketball that starts at 9:00 a.m. and finishes at 9:00 p.m. Come out and cheer us on to victory!

### ***From the Guidance Department***

The Guidance Department visited Grade 12 classes to distribute information on Ontario universities and the Ontario Universities Fair. We will also be visiting Grade 12 classes to give out information on college programs. Colleges have expanded their programs and now grant Applied Degrees and have collaborative programs with the universities.

VSS has arranged for various university and college representatives to visit our school during the school day. Schedules and times of these visits are available in Guidance. Students can sign up for seminars in the Guidance office.

Guidance is also planning to visit Grade 9 classes to prepare students for Take Your Kids Day on November 3. On this day, students will have the opportunity to job-shadow in the workplace.

Students interested in helping out at the Scott Mission (a shelter for the homeless) and receiving volunteer hours should see Ms Smullen in Guidance or Mr. Malloy in the library. Our first visit this year is planned for Saturday, October 2. Students who volunteer there will be preparing food or unpacking food donations for distribution.

### **Peer Mediation Program at VSS**

Student peer mediators are looking forward to initiating a new program with Charlton Public School. Trained mediators from Vaughan will be visiting Charlton during the school day to work with younger students and model conflict resolution skills with them. We are very excited about this new program which will foster new relationships between elementary students and our high school students.

For further information, please contact Ms Smullen in Guidance.

## Current Volunteer Opportunities

Vaughan Public Libraries is looking for Reading Buddies - Training at Dufferin-Clark library will be held on Thursday September 30th at 4:00 p.m. Some useful websites:

- <http://www.volontario.org>
- <http://www.sympatico.ca/volunteer.toronto>
- <http://www.trilliumfoundation.org>
- [www.civc.ca](http://www.civc.ca)

For other opportunities and more information, please check the volunteer board outside the guidance office, or come in and speak to a counselor.

The Alzheimer Society of York Region needs volunteers for the following events:

Walk for Memories – January 2005

Volunteers needed to promote the event at school, to take registration & pledges, and help promote the event at local malls

Car Wash – Jiffy Lube Newmarket

Volunteers needed to make signs, promote the car wash and to wash cars.

Date T.B.A.

Please see Mrs. Avery in guidance if interested.

Contact Person: Mrs. Siew-Lee Brett, Sbrett@alzheimer-york.com, (905-895-1337).

## ***From the Technological Studies Department***

We are delighted to welcome a new teacher to our department, Mr. Andrews. He will be teaching grade 12 Comm. Tech (Radio) and grade 9 Integrated Technology. Mr. Andrews comes from the radio industry where he is still a well know DJ on the MIX 99.9, on weekends. His in-depth knowledge of the radio industry will certainly be of great benefit to not only our radio students but to all Comm. Tech students.

Our radio station, 90.7 RAVFM, still continues to flourish and we have listeners half way round the world. This year we will be working with a Dutch school to produce a 30 minute show which will be aired on RAVFM. Also because of our radio station, we will be offering a course next semester to students who have or are about to graduate from grade 12 and want to learn more about radio. It will be a Co-op course that will run out of Vaughan and will be taught by Mr. Andrews.

In the Grade 9 Integrated Technology class, we are off to a great start. Our first unit is on transportation and we are currently building a wooden car, to be followed by an electric car. The students use a variety of tools and equipment along with AutoCAD. We have started a project called "Joe Cool" which focuses on literacy. The students, in groups of 2-3, will take pictures of Joe Cool and write a brief summary describing what he is doing. A major part of the mark will be based on their literacy skills.

The Grade 11 Design and Technology class is working on a cyber challenge which is based on electricity and AutoCAD. Later on in the semester, they will be building some land walker robots.

## *Character Matters e-Newsbrief*

Once again, we welcome all parents to view past and current issues of a brand new e-brief published by Character Matters of the YRDSB on behalf of character educators across Ontario. At the site <http://yrhc.on.ca/charactermatters/attribute/>, you will also be able to subscribe to this bi-weekly publication. We encourage you to make a contributory story if you so wish. Please feel free to share this website with others.

### *Upcoming Events*

October 7:	Awards Assembly
October 13:	Letters of Concern Mailing
October 21:	Parents' Night
<b>October 27 &amp; 28:</b>	<b>Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test</b>
November 3:	Take Our Kids to Work
November 25:	Mid-Semester Reports
January 10 – 21:	Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics
January 27 – February 2:	Evaluation Days
February 7:	Semester 2 Begins
February 10:	Grade 8 Parents' Night
March 11:	Letters of Concern Mailing
March 31:	Parents' Night
April 26:	Mid-Semester Reports
May 26:	Prom
June 6 – 17:	Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics
June 21 – 27:	Evaluation Days

#### *Courage Quote:*

“You don't develop courage by being happy in your relationships everyday. You develop it by surviving difficult times and challenging adversity.”

## **Student Transportation Services of York Region**

For all school bus information including inclement weather and a daily “Late Bus Report”, visit [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com).

We encourage you to share this publication with other interested VSS parents. In order to subscribe, ask them to email us at [vaughan.ss@yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:vaughan.ss@yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

*Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving.*

*For further information, visit our school website [www.vaughanss.on.ca](http://www.vaughanss.on.ca)*