



VALERIUS ELEMENTARY J-HAWK JOURNAL

Valerius Mission: ALL Valerius Students will SOAR to success!

(S)Strive for Success (O)Ongoing Improvement (A)Achieve Goals (R) Show Respect and Responsibility

IMPORTANT DATES

9/4 NO SCHOOL
9/7 PTO MEETING (7PM)
9/11- HOMECOMING WEEK
15
9/12 PUMP IT UP PARTY (6PM
AT PUMP IT UP)
9/13 LATE START
9/15 CLASSROOM SPIRIT
PARTIES
9/18 RUNNING CLUB BEGINS
9/27 LATE START

SCHOOL INFO:

Regular School Hours:

8:55-3:35

Late Start Hours:

10:00-3:35

Breakfast Time:

8:40-8:55

CONNECT WITH VALERIUS

OFFICE #: 515-457-6500

FACEBOOK:

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
VALERIUSELEMENTARY](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VALERIUSELEMENTARY)

GOOGLE CALENDAR:

<https://goo.gl/qM1JB9>

MESSAGE FROM MRS. MAURO

Homecoming Updates: It's that time of year- Homecoming! Here are some ways that our elementary JHawks can get involved:

Court members come and read at Valerius! Thursday, September 14th

Homecoming Parade Thursday September 14th 6pm (from UMS to UHS)

New this year: JHawk street party- instead of a community pep assembly this year. September 14th 5-8pm @UHS parking lot What: games, JHawk tattoos, prizes, food trucks, Football team sign autographs, DJ, Face painting and more!!

Please join the fun and celebrate UHS Homecoming!

MESSAGE FROM MRS. MACGREGOR

Hello Valerius Families! Welcome to a new school year! We've had a great start to our year with so many students remembering our three big PBIS behavior expectations: be respectful, responsible and safe! Be on the lookout for blue Talon Tickets coming home with your students and be sure to ask them about how they've been being role models for others by following our behavior expectations. Starting the first week in September, we will have a weekly drawing from all the Talon Tickets collected. Students whose names are selected will come down to the office for a prize. In addition, each classroom will be selecting a Student of the Week. This is a student who has done an excellent job that week modeling respectful, responsible and safe behaviors for others. They will bring home a certificate and a copy will be added to our display in the office. As always, please reinforce these behaviors at home, too. Enjoy the beginning of fall!



September 2017

MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Attendance Phone Number 457-6503

When to Stay Home

Fever- Student must be fever free for 24 hours (less than 101 degrees) without a fever reducer medication.

Vomit- Student must have not vomited for 24 hours before returning to school.

Diarrhea- Student must be free from diarrhea for 24 hours.

Pink Eye- Student can return to school after 1st dose of medication or as directed by your physician.

Lice- Student is not sent home the day of discovery. Allowed to return after initial treatment.

Restrictions- Any school related or PE related restrictions needs a doctor's note to allow the student to sit out of any physical activity.

Medication- All medications that are to be administered in the health office needs to be in the original container, needs to have the pharmacy label attached, and the medication authorization signed. Medications will not be administered without these.

Stock Medications- There are NO stock medications in the elementary health office. If you would like your student to have Tylenol or Ibuprofen, you will need to send the medication to school, in the original container, with the Medication Authorization form.

MESSAGE FROM THE SPECIALS TEACHERS

Music: Mr. Leffler

Hello All! Welcome to another school year!

Music is just getting going- and we are off to a great start! 4th and 5th grade have started the year by playing a few singing games called 'Welcome Back and Good Mornin.' I think they like it, as they wanted to keep playing when it was time to go! 2nd and 3rd grade have been working on reviewing their learning from last year, and Kindergarten and 1st grade have had some encounters with some invisible magic music elves... but you'll have to ask them about that. Upcoming dates: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade will have their music program on Monday, October 16th at the Urbandale High School Performing Arts Center. Also, if your 4th or 5th grader would like to order a recorder, order forms and money are due on 9-22.

Be sure to watch for the beginning of the year music letter, coming to you in the next few weeks! Thanks for reading!

PE: Ms. Jones

Hello All, and welcome to the 2017-18 school year! PE classes are off to a wonderful start. We have been starting this school year with some teamwork activities. In September, 2nd grade through 5th grade will begin their fall fitness testing. Fitness testing includes pull-ups, sit-ups, sit and reach, and finally the mile run (1/2 mile for 2nd grade). Kindergarten and 1st grade will be working on body control and locomotor skills during September. Please make sure your child has appropriate shoes to wear when they have PE.

The J-Hawk mile is coming up on Wednesday, September 13. For more information please visit http://www.urbandalecommunityed.com/youth_sports/2017-18/J-Hawk_Mile

Running club needs more volunteers! [Sign up now and volunteer for a running club day!](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE SPECIALS TEACHERS

Art: Mrs. Scharper

I am ecstatic to be teaching art in the Urbandale School district, and it has been an absolute pleasure to have met each and every one of your children the last few days. The first days of school, your children have learned all about how the art room functions and what it means to be artists. We also read my favorite first day of art book called, "The Beautiful Oops" by Barney Saltzberg. This book walks through the many challenges we face as artists when we make mistakes, and how to change our "accidents" into something beautiful. If your child has not already told you about it, I encourage you to ask them about this book! In the weeks to come, we will be diving into our first projects in the art room. Kindergarten will be exploring all different kinds of lines and they will also be working on cutting and glueing. The first graders will begin to learn about the famous Vincent Van Gogh and will be creating textured sun flower paintings. Second graders are going to be reviewing lines and begin a new technique in the art room called printmaking, and they will also be introduced to another famous artist named Andy Warhol. Third graders will begin talking about abstract art while combining line, shapes, and colors to create pictures using oil pastels and taking cues from Russian abstract artist, Wassily Kandinsky. Finally, fifth graders will begin a project about Wayne Theibaud and create some tasty treats while learning how to blend chalk pastels to show value. I highly encourage you to ask about our art projects at home, and to take interest into the awesome artists your children are learning about in the art room. I look forward to creating art with your children in the months ahead, and I count it as a privilege to create with them every day.

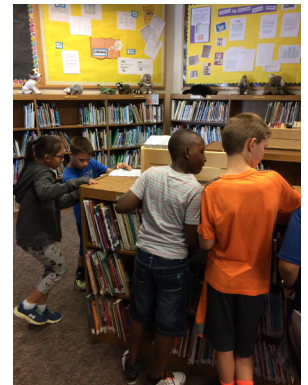
ELP: Mrs. Choudhury

Great minds think alike...well not always. In fact, as children grow and develop their needs change. I work closely with classroom teachers to identify children who have "eaten" the main course in the classroom but are still hungry for more learning. They may need a different "diet" than other classmates. I work to accommodate and create programming that results in every child going home "full." You can help with a "second course" at home by providing an environment full of healthy choices. Sometimes children's reading level is far above their age appropriate level. My favorite go-to is the website listed below. You can find age appropriate books and technology. You're wondering if that new app or social networking site is safe? Chances are, you can find it here with age recommendations and details.

www.commonsemmedia.org

Library: Mrs. Mefford

I'm very excited to be the new Teacher Librarian for Valerius!! Library classes for 3rd-5th grades have been reviewing library procedures, where books are located in the library, and book care. Students were able to use a scavenger hunt to learn this information. It was a fun way to make rules and procedures a little more exciting (see photos below). Students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade have been learning where books are located in the library, book care, and library procedures through books that I read to them.



ELL: Mrs. Vogeler

Our school is fortunate to have students and their families representing a variety of home languages and cultures. Currently some of our students speak Vietnamese, Arabic, Spanish, Bosnian, Swahili, Kinyarwanda, Krahn, Nuer and other languages.

This week, Valerius English language learners have been busy developing their mission, code of cooperation and setting learning goals for the new school year.

In the picture - a second grade group (left to right): Maggie Do, Epenuela Hailudhuru, Peterlyne Targblor and Yareli Contreras.



Volunteer Sign Ups for 2017/2018 are now available online! [View the lists](#) to see where you could give an hour and make a difference in your child's education.

Classroom Party Money - If you have not yet contributed to classroom parties, please send \$5 in an envelope labeled "Homeroom Party Money" with your child's name, grade and teacher. PTO sponsors 3 classroom parties each year where the kids play games, have treats and celebrate! The three parties are [Spirit Party](#) (Sept 15), [Winter Party](#) (Dec 22) and [Friendship Party](#) (Feb 16).

Homeroom Parents - We also still need a Homeroom Parent for 3rd Grade - Gillespie and 5th Grade - Bruggeman. You can [sign up here](#)! These parties aren't possible without your volunteer support. Thanks in advance!

Pump It Up! You're Invited to a climbing, sliding, jumping fundraiser at Pump It Up! Jump into the school year with your friends and support Valerius! [Register online today](#)! Click on the event to register/pay and make check in quick and easy. You can also register and pay in-person the day of the event.

When: Tuesday, September 12 from 6-8pm

Cost: \$7 per person (you may drop off or stay and get to know other Valerius families)

Our **BIG FALL FUNDRAISER** will be here before we know it (beginning of October), but we're still looking for someone to [answer the call to lead it](#)! Better yet...grab a friend and tackle this together.

Without the donations supporting our [Read-A-Thon](#), we will struggle to fund the grade-level field trips and CultureALL Day opportunities that so enrich our students' lives! This is our 6th year conducting this fundraiser so the framework is there, we just need someone to step in and make it happen!

{NO ONE}
can do *everything*

but

{EVERYONE}
can do *something*

- unknown

PTO Meeting at 7:00pm

Thursday, September 7th

Valerius Library

Attend the first meeting of the year to learn more about your PTO and the volunteer opportunities.

Upcoming PTO Events - All PTO events can be found on the school's shared Google Calendar called "Valerius Events and Activities"

The link is available on the connect with Valerius section on page one of the J-Hawk Journal.