Veterans Memorial Middle School

OPEN HOUSE
2020-2021
Please use the link or QR code to access the sign-in sheet.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ch_ylvfg-0SqZZslx4tNz63wp8pVADpHu100Y53OQehUQUIRVEVMOTIYFSVMMTFHMtUOTFYWFlBSy4u
• Dr. Curry is in charge of the daily operations of our school.

• You will see her often in the classrooms and hallways and she is more than willing to help with whatever you may need.
• Mr. Alston and Mrs. Rachels help Dr. Curry run Veterans Memorial Middle School.

• They handle discipline, administer school-wide testing, support our sport teams, and much more.

• They lead with their hearts and will do anything to help you succeed.
The Office Staff

SRO - Deputy Robinson

Ms. Grimes

Ms. James

Ms. Moreland

Ms. Freeman
The school counselors along with Ms. Elliott are available when you need to talk about anything. They will also help you plan for your future!
The mission of the Instructional Coaches is promote student success through supporting teachers and providing opportunities for reflection of their instruction, professional growth, collaboration and implementation of effective practices.
Case Manager for Tier 2 and Tier 3 students receiving academic and behavior interventions and supports.

Mrs. Byrd
Instructional Technology

Mrs. Wren
Media Specialist

Mr. Occilien-Similen
School Technology

Mr. Wren
School Technology Assistant
Parent Involvement

- Maintain a good working relationship with your child’s teachers
- Visit the virtual learning classes
- Know and understand school rules
- Attend meetings (curriculum nights, conferences, etc.)
- Make sure your child attends virtual learning classes everyday and on time
- Make contact with all of your child's teachers
- If you have raised adolescents, be willing to share advice and information with other parents
- Review infinite campus on a regular basis

(Ford-Coabley, Crenshaw, DelAunter & Isaacs, 2006; The elementary to middle school transition: Five helpful hints for parents, n.d.)
Stakeholder Input

We want to hear from you! Do you have any suggestions for how we can best reach out to, communicate with, and work with you as equal partners? Do you have any suggestions for our Parent and Family Engagement Policy, School-Parent Compact, and/or Parent and Family Engagement funds? If so, please provide us with your comments on the Stakeholders' Input form below and leave this form in the office or send it in with your child.

https://newtoncounty-my.sharepoint.com:/p:/g/personal/jones_bianca_newton_k12_ga_us/Eea6bvyzHFpIlmq-ZpmSsGsB-7pg8_VMS9TZEc0QwIbDsHA?e=8eAxl
WHAT HAPPENS IF PARENTS GET INVOLVED

Decades of research show that when parents are involved students have ...

• Higher grades, test scores, and graduation rates
• Better school attendance
• Increased motivation
• Better self-esteem
• Lower rates of suspension
• Decreased use of drugs and alcohol
• Fewer instances of violent behavior
• Greater enrollment rates in post-secondary education

(Ford-Coabley, Crenshaw, DeLaunter & Isaacs, 2006)
Ms. Hollowell

I am a 2015 graduate of Mercer University with two concentrations: ELA and Social Studies. I am also a member of the National Honor Society. This is my 6th year teaching at VMMS as an 8th grade ELA teacher. I am currently the 8RED Team Leader. I was honored to be the 2019-2020 Teacher of the Year here at Veterans.
I am originally from Boston, Massachusetts.
I have a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics, from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. This is my second year teaching 8th grade math. I am married and have 2 beautiful children.
Coach Daniels

I am originally from Valdosta Georgia. I have two degrees in chemistry and biology and I love sports. I have a beautiful wife and two amazing sons. This is my 6th year teaching at VMMS.
Mr. Simonet

I am originally from Opelousas, Louisiana and am a graduate of Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. I am a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and also a former Marine. I have previously worked in the Houston Independent School District and Rockdale County Public Schools.
Mrs. Kuthuru - ELA

I am Mrs. Swarna Kuthuru, Grade 8 ELA Co-teacher. This is my 6th year at VMMS. I earned my Masters and 3 Bachelor degrees from Osmania University, India. I enjoy reading books and spending time with my family. I look forward to being your teacher this year. We will work together and make it a successful and epic year.

Mr. Whisnant - Science

My name is Adrian Whisnant. I have been teaching here at Veterans for 5 years. I graduated from the University of Georgia with a bachelor of Science. I took a master's degree in science at Walden University.
Dr. Martin-Math

My name is Dr. Martin and I am new to Veterans Memorial Middle school. I have been teaching for 21 years both in New York and Georgia. I grew up in the beautiful island of Jamaica.

Mrs. Williams-Social Studies

My name is Ms. Tiffany Williams. I am the 8th grade Co-Teacher for Social Studies. My goal as an educator is to spark curiosity in the minds of students to reach their highest achievement.
I am very passionate about education, particularly history and believe that education is the path to contentment personally and professionally. I have 3 children who have all graduated from the Newton County School System. I look forward to guiding you through this challenging time.
The 2020-2021 school year brings me to my 15th year at Veterans Memorial Middle School after switching careers from the private sector to the profession of education, which I had always been so passionate about. My undergraduate studies were taken at the College Of Charleston in South Carolina, my native state, where I like to spend as much time as I can with my parents, 4 children and enjoying the beach. My graduate degrees were obtained from Grand Canyon University and Lincoln Memorial University.

I am excited about the opportunity to reconnect with many of you that I taught in 6th grade, and I'm looking forward to connecting with those that I have yet to meet. This will no doubt be a challenging year, but we will work together to make it an exciting and successful one!
I have always loved math, but I understand it can be challenging to some. I grew up in Newton County and graduated from Eastside High School. I love playing video games and spend way too much time watching Youtube. I know we are going to have a great year and can’t wait for us to begin!
Mr. Jason Johnson
This is my 20\textsuperscript{th} year in education
18\textsuperscript{th} Year at VMMS
Graduate of the University of West Georgia
Native of Newton County

I have a passion for science and making connections from content with real world applications. My wife also taught here at VMMS and now is a nurse at Piedmont Newton. I have 2 Children that both attend Newton County schools; Carson (10) and Zettie (7). I look forward to being your teacher this year and can't wait to meet you.
Mr. T. Johnson, Mrs. Black, and Mr. Roberts are located on the E-Wing.

The STEM program at Veterans is designed to introduce students to project based learning. The ultimate goal of our STEM program is to produce a student that is high school and career ready.
My name is Tyrell Johnson and I have had the pleasure of teaching Math for 17 years. I was born and raised in Rochester, NY. I attended Georgia State University where I earned both my undergraduate and graduate degrees. I am married with two children Omari & Elijah. Away from the classroom, I am often found in gyms as a High School and College basketball referee. I welcome you to T. Johnson’s Mathnasium!
My name is Chandra Black and I was born and reside in Covington, Ga. I attended the University of Georgia (UGA). I have a sister and three nephews. I got married in 2008 and have two children (Kylie and Keegan). I enjoy shopping and spending time with my family. I have been teaching for 16 years!
My name is Cliff Roberts and this will be my 15th year in the classroom. I will be teaching Physical Science down on the e-wing. I have a passion for science and hands on learning. I attended Georgia Southern University in Statesboro Ga. My wife is also a teacher in the NCSS as well. I have 2 sons that both attend schools in Newton County. Walker (12) and Will (9). When I'm not in the classroom you can usually find me on the golf course or doing anything outside. I love sports and am a huge fan of the Atlanta Braves and Falcons. I look forward to being your teacher this year and can't wait to meet you.
Welcome to the Virtual ESOL Sheltered ELA and Social Studies Classroom for Sixth through Eighth Grades!

My name is Mrs. Montrez Stephens, and I look forward to an exciting year of learning whether you are learning online or in-person later this year! I have taught for approximately 22 years, and I have taught at the elementary and middle school levels. I have a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Speech Communication Education, a Master of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Education, and an Education Specialist Degree in Teaching and Learning. Please feel free to email me anytime throughout the year at stephens.montrez@newton.k12.ga.us. If there is ever a need for a translator, please do not hesitate to let me know.
Welcome to the Virtual ESOL Sheltered ELA and Social Studies Classroom for Sixth through Eighth Grades!

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¡Bienvenido al salón de clases de estudios sociales y ELA protegido virtual de ESOL para los grados sexto a octavo!

Mi nombre es Sra. Montrez Stephens y espero un año emocionante de aprendizaje, ya sea que esté aprendiendo en línea o en persona a finales de este año. He enseñado durante aproximadamente 22 años. He enseñado en los niveles de primaria y secundaria. Tengo una licenciatura en educación en comunicación del habla, una maestría en educación infantil y un título de especialista en educación en enseñanza y aprendizaje.

No dude en enviarme un correo electrónico en cualquier momento del año a stephens.montrez@newton.k12.ga.us. Si alguna vez necesita un traductor, no dude en hacérmelo saber. La mayor parte de la información a la que puede necesitar acceder en su idioma materno se puede ver en Puntos de conversación.
For all classes, please have a notebook and a writing utensil. Also, a calculator for math.
Connections classes will introduce you to many new subjects, including Foreign Language, Business and Computer Science, Art, Family and Consumer Science, Physical Education, Technology & Engineering, Band, and Chorus.

Veterans is on a block schedule, which means you only attend one connections per day, alternating every other day.
At Veterans, there are many fun extracurricular opportunities and groups you can join, such as Robotics, FCCLA, Student Council, Generals 360, The News Show, FBLA, and much more....
There are also sports teams like the basketball, football, wrestling, cheerleading, track, soccer and softball. All students have the opportunity to participate in all sports.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday and Wednesday</th>
<th>Tuesday and Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:15-8:40</td>
<td>Homeroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:55-9:05</td>
<td>Login to SRA</td>
<td>Login to SRA</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:05-9:50</td>
<td>SRA</td>
<td>SRA</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:50-10:00</td>
<td>Login to Next Class</td>
<td>Login to Next Class</td>
<td>Login to Next Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:10-11:10</td>
<td>Connections 1</td>
<td>Connections 2</td>
<td>Connection 1/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:10-11:20</td>
<td>Brain Break</td>
<td>Brain Break</td>
<td>Brain Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:20-12:30</td>
<td>Academic 1</td>
<td>Academic 2</td>
<td>Academic 1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-1:20</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:20-1:30</td>
<td>Login to next class</td>
<td>Login to next class</td>
<td>Login to next class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30-2:40</td>
<td>Academic 3</td>
<td>Academic 4</td>
<td>Academic 3/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:40-2:50</td>
<td>Select Extended Learning Class</td>
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<td>2:50-3:20</td>
<td>Extended Learning</td>
<td>Extended Learning</td>
<td>Extended Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:20-4:10</td>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>Office Hours</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# Veterans Memorial Middle School

## Virtual Classroom Expectations

### Prepare For Success

- Set up your device in a place that is quiet and as free of distractions as possible. For example, setting up your device in the living room with the TV on will not help you learn!
- Dress properly for participating in virtual classrooms. Students should not be in their pajamas/sleepwear during virtual class settings.
- Print out your “class schedule” to help keep yourself on track.
- Reach out to your teachers for help when you need it. Each of your teachers will provide online “Office Hours” to provide extra help for students who need it. Pay attention to Canvas to find out when your teacher will be available so that you can take advantage of their help.

### Canvas

- Access Canvas at the beginning of each day.
- Each of your teachers will use Canvas to provide you with weekly assignments. You will need to access Canvas to access these assignments, view resources to help you complete the work, and to submit the work for feedback and grading.

### Zoom

- Access Zoom at the beginning of each virtual class. Each of your teachers will post a link to his/her virtual classroom.
- Click the link to join each virtual classroom when it is time for the class to start. Remember to always use your NCSS username and password to login.

### Virtual Class Etiquette

- Be professional and respectful at all times in the Zoom Virtual Classroom. Virtual school follows the same expectations as in person school. Students are expected to be respectful and professional at all times.
- During each virtual class, students should:
  - Raise their “hand” to ask questions, answer questions, and participate in discussions without interrupting the teacher or other students.
  - Use appropriate language when communicating orally or via the chat feature in the virtual classroom. Avoid abbreviations, such as LOL, when sharing responses.
  - Refrain from engaging in distracting behavior, such as texting or posting to social media.
  - All aspects of the NCSS Code of Conduct applies to Virtual School, including but not limited to the use of inappropriate language or gestures, bullying, etc.

### Review

- Review written feedback from your teachers and check your grades regularly. Your teachers will continue to give you feedback and grades just as if you were in school.
Important To Do’s

Download these Apps:

➢ Infinite Campus

➢ Remind

Complete these two online forms:

➢ Breakfast/Lunch Form - https://newton.strataapps.com/

➢ Sign In Form -
Meal Delivery Locations and Times:

- [https://versatransweb04.tylertech.com/NewtonCounty/onscreen/mystop/loginmobile.aspx](https://versatransweb04.tylertech.com/NewtonCounty/onscreen/mystop/loginmobile.aspx)
- **Mystop Instructions:**
  - [https://www.newtoncountyschools.org/parents/my_stop_app](https://www.newtoncountyschools.org/parents/my_stop_app)

Meal Cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BREAKFAST</th>
<th>LUNCH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1.25</td>
<td>$2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced</td>
<td>$0.30</td>
<td>$0.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Click the link below or use the info attached to join our remind.
Class code is 7636gf

https://www.remind.com/join/7636gf
Tell people to text @46kb9k to the number 81010

They’ll receive a welcome text from Remind.

If anyone has trouble with 81010, they can try texting @46kb9k to (307) 459-3168.
REMIND – VMMS 8 Blue 2020-2021

Pick a way to receive messages for VMMS 8 Blue 2020-2021:

If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/46kb9k

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You’ll be prompted to download the mobile app.

If you don’t have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @46kb9k to the number 81010.

If you’re having trouble with 81010, try texting @46kb9k to (307) 450-3168.

* Standard text message rates apply.

Don’t have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/46kb9k on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.
YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THE **AFTERSCHOOL PARTY!!!**

- **Rap Sessions**
- **Homework Help**
- **Life Skills**
- **Science Projects**
- **Virtual Talent Shows**
- **Cooking Classes**
- **Educational Games**
- **Scavenger Hunts**
- **Money Matters**
- **Celebrations**
- **Tutoring**
- **Incentives**

Program is offered virtually Monday-Friday
4:30-6:30 PM

For more information and registration contact:
Tonique Robinson robinson.tonique@newton.k12.ga.us
Student Log in -

username: lastname+first initial+middle name initial+ two digit birth month+ two digit birth day

Password: student ID

Example for Bobby C. Smith:
Username: smithbc1115
Password: 123456

*The initial login will take a few minutes.
*If you have any technology concerns please contact Device Support