

November 1, 2019

Greetings from the Superintendent!

Welcome to VSDB's new website. As we continue to enhance the website, you will see new features added throughout the year, so please check back soon! The "Superintendent's Corner" will be published quarterly with highlights of the great things happening at VSDB. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or input. We love hearing from you!

The start of the 2019-2020 school year has been a busy one! Below are some key highlights of events that have occurred and things to come:

- VSDB continues to enjoy great support from across the Commonwealth. So far this year, we have been honored with VIP visits from UVA and fellows from LEAD Mongolia, Virginia's Secretary of Education Atif Qarni, VDOE Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Student Services, Dr. Samantha Hollins, and VDOE Superintendent of Instruction, Dr. James Lane. We look forward to more VIP visits in the future!
- In honor of Veterans Day, on Monday, November 11th, VSDB will host a special event that will allow us to honor and thank those VSDB employees who are veterans. Veterans will be recognized and invited to eat lunch with the students. We look forward to honoring our veterans!
- VSDB will celebrate its 180th Birthday on Friday, November 15th. The celebration will begin with a rededication of the twin fountains in front of Main Hall at 9:15am. We are so excited to have these historic fountains repaired and running again! After the rededication ceremony, the celebration will continue in the auditorium for VSDB's Birthday Celebration at 9:30. The newest video addition to the VSDB History Series will be shown and afterwards, people will be asked to share memories of VSDB. Visitors are invited to stay for cake and punch and an opportunity to videotape their special VSDB memory.
- VSDB is working to spread the word about the specialized programs and services that it offers, free of charge to students within Virginia! Take a look at VSDB's new website and/or FaceBook page and be sure to "like" our FB page in order to keep up with daily student happenings! Also, be on the lookout for new VSDB Public Service Announcements (PSAs) coming soon that will highlight the unique programs and services offered at VSDB. In addition, VSDB information packets are available for the asking! Please contact the Admissions Office if you would like a packet sent you.
- VSDB is known for providing fully accessible opportunities to its students that they may not experience elsewhere. Recently, VSDB was recognized for being one of two schools in the country to establish a blind soccer team. The first game was played last month against Maryland School for the Blind. VSDB is taking a lead to support the establishment of a blind soccer league. Go Team VSDB!

- On another sports note, the VSDB Goalball Team will travel in November to Texas for the national tournament. Goalball is a sport for the Blind that is played at the local, state, national, and international level. In the past, VSDB has enjoyed recognition as the East Coast and National Champions and looks forward to heading to Texas to demonstrate what they can do! Best wishes to the team!

Thank you for your interest in VSDB! Please check back often to keep up with the great things that are happening at VSDB!

Sincerely,

Pat Trice
VSDB Superintendent