

## First day of school - Tuesday, August 22nd



# Viroqua Area Schools

## Back- To- School Night

Thursday August 17th

Viroqua Area Schools will host

a “Back to- School Night”

for parents and students

to see their classrooms

and meet their teachers.

4:00-6:00 pm Open House

6:00-7:00 pm Family Tailgate Event

(outside the District Office)

## Educational Options Available To Resident Children

The Viroqua Area School District offers the following educational options for resident school aged children :

- Full-time Enrollment Opportunities which include: Core Course Academic Education, Reading Instruction, Fine Arts Education, Physical and Health Education, Education for Employment Programs, Career and Technical Education, Environmental Education, Drug and Alcohol Education, Bilingual Education, and Programs that meet the needs of Students with Disabilities.
- Early College Credit Program (<https://dpi.wi.gov/dual-enrollment/eccp>)
- Start College Now (<https://dpi.wi.gov/wise/data-elements/sectionprogram>)
- Open Enrollment (<https://oe.dpi.wi.gov/>)
- Part-time Enrollment for Non-public School Children ([https://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms\\_basconf](https://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms_basconf))
- Elementary Summer School
- Middle School Summer School
- High School Recovery Credit Summer School
- Grades K-12 Virtual Learning Option through Viroqua Area Schools.
- Early Learning Center Before & After School Care 7am- 7:30 am and 3:30 - 6:00pm  
Bus pick up and drop off  
Contact Sharon Engh 608-637-1112 for more information and pricing.

### Census Data Residents of Viroqua Area School District

If you are a resident of the Viroqua Area School District, please call the District Office, 637-1181, to register your children, birth to age 21, for the Viroqua Area School District Census. We are required to collect this information for all persons under the age of 21 that reside in the Viroqua Area School District. If your child has been enrolled at the Viroqua Area Schools, there is no need to re-register.

If you have any specific concerns regarding your child's speech, hearing, vision, walking, learning, or behavior, please contact Cathy Reed, Student Services Director.

### Important Notices for Viroqua Area School District

#### Education of Homeless Children and Youth

Homeless children and unaccompanied youth within the Viroqua Area School District must have access to public school educational programs and services that allow them to meet the same challenging state academic standards to which all students are held. Homeless children and youth are identified as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence. The term includes children and youth who are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reasons;
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or campgrounds;
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Abandoned in hospitals;
- Awaiting foster-care placement;
- Living in a primary night-time residence not used as a regular sleeping accommodation;
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and/or
- Migratory children living in any of the circumstances described above.
- If you are personally aware of or are acquainted with any children who may be homeless, please contact Cathy Reed, Student Services Director, 637-1182.

#### Title 1

Title 1 is a federally funded program. The Viroqua Area School District operates a Title 1 program that provides academic support to students in Kindergarten through grade 6. Students are identified for participation through the use of classroom assessments, standardized testing, and teacher observation. Parents are notified of their child's eligibility by the classroom teacher. Parents have an opportunity to accept or decline service. The Title 1 program supplements the instruction that is provided in the classroom through small group instruction in the classroom, small group and individual pull out instruction, and extended learning opportunities. Any questions related to the Title 1 program should be directed to Pat Olbert, Title 1 Coordinator (637-7071).

#### Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity

Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex, (including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability (Protected Classes) in any of its student program and activities.

#### Student Harassment & Bullying (Policy #5517, 5517.01)

The students of the Viroqua Area School District have the right and can expect to attend school in an environment free of harassment. Harassment is defined as any deliberate, unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct. This may include, but is not limited to, any blatant sexual overtures such as: leering, pinching, patting, displays or graphic or written material, subtle repeated verbal or physical action such as comments, innuendoes, gestures, or actions, which involve bullying and/or intimidating others, explicit derogatory statements or discriminating remarks that are offensive or objectionable to the individual or which cause the individual discomfort or which interfere with the individual's academic performance. Students who feel that they are being harassed should report it to their building principal, school counselor or any staff member.

## Viroqua Area Schools Mission Statement

**“The Viroqua Area School District provides a quality education for all students that inspires continuous learning, positive relationships, curiosity and compassion in an environment that welcomes diversity while developing respectful and responsible citizens.”**

## Administration & Supervisors

District Administrator - Tom Burkhalter

Phone: 637-1181 Email: [tburkhalter@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:tburkhalter@viroquablackhawk.org)

High School Principal - Jason Cress

Phone: 608-637-1605 Email: [jcress@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:jcress@viroquablackhawk.org)

Middle School Principal - Steve Christianson

Phone: 637-1603 Email: [schristianson@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:schristianson@viroquablackhawk.org)

Elementary School Principal - Pat Olbert

Phone: 637-1104 Email: [polbert@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:polbert@viroquablackhawk.org)

Director of Business Services - Mike Brendel

Phone: 637-1184 Email: [mbrendel@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:mbrendel@viroquablackhawk.org)

Director of Student Services - Cathy Reed

Phone: 608-637-1182 Email: [creed@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:creed@viroquablackhawk.org)

Director of Instruction - Krista Woodward

Phone: 608-637-1115 Email: [wookri@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:wookri@viroquablackhawk.org)

Transportation Supervisor - Randy Pederson

Phone 637-1642 Email: [rpederson@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:rpederson@viroquablackhawk.org)

Buildings & Grounds Supervisor - Kodi Ethridge

Phone: 637-1636 Email: [ethkod@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:ethkod@viroquablackhawk.org)

Food & Nutrition Dept Supervisor - Kristi Ethridge

Phone: 637-1645 Email: [ethkri@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:ethkri@viroquablackhawk.org)

Early Learning Center Director - Sharon Engh

Phone: 637-1112 Email: [sengh@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:sengh@viroquablackhawk.org)

We are Mobile! To receive school delay and closing information, announcements, event calendars, daily menus and much more go to the App store on your phone and search “Viroqua Area Schools” and the Apptegy App should be your top choice. It's free! Just click and download. There is also a link to the App stores at the bottom of our school website.  
\*Like us on Facebook!

## School Telephone Numbers

Elementary School	637-7071	Fax 637-1211
High School	637-3191	Fax 637-8034
Middle School	637-3171	Fax 637-8034
District Office	637-1186	Fax 637-8554
Student Services	637-1182	
Bus Garage	637-1642	
Food Service	637-1645	
Nurse	(Elem) 637-1103	(HS/MS) 637-1509
HS/MS Activity Director	637-1610	
Early Learning Center	637-1112	

## School Supplies

***Viroqua Area Schools is excited to be able to provide general school supplies for the 2023-24 school year. General school supplies include items such as paper, pencils, scissors, glue, colored pencils, etc. Students and parents will be responsible for some items including organizers/binders, backpack, water bottle, tennis shoes, physical education clothing (VMS/VHS), and any other personalized items, as needed by your child(ren)'s grade level. Your child's teacher may communicate if there are specific school supply needs for their class. Please check each school's websites for more school supply info.***

## Special Needs Scholarship Program Overview

The Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP) allows a student with a disability, who meets certain eligibility requirements, to receive a state-funded scholarship to attend a participating private school. The SNSP is governed by Wisconsin Statute [115.7915](#) and Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter [49](#).

#### PUBLIC RELEASE

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND BREAKFAST PROGRAMS, SPECIAL MILK PROGRAM

This is the public release that was sent to The Vernon County View on 8/2/23.

#### RELEASE STATEMENT

The Viroqua Area School District today announced its policy for children unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program or milk for split-session students served under the Special Milk Program. Each school office and the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The following household size and income criteria will be used for determining eligibility. Children from families whose annual income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free and reduced price meals or free milk if a split-session student does not have access to the school lunch or breakfast service.

#### FAMILY SIZE INCOME SCALE

#### For Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced Price Meals or Milk

Family (Household) Size	ANNUAL INCOME LEVEL		MONTHLY INCOME LEVEL	
	Free <i>Must be at or below figure listed</i>	Reduced Price <i>Must be at or between figures listed</i>	Free <i>Must be at or below figure listed</i>	Reduced Price <i>Must be at or between figures listed</i>
1	\$18,954	\$18,954.01 and \$26,973	\$1,580	\$1,580.01 and \$2,248
2	25,636	25,636.01 and 36,482	2,137	2,137.01 and 3,041
3	32,318	32,318.01 and 45,991	2,694	2,694.01 and 3,833
4	39,000	39,000.01 and 55,500	3,250	3,250.01 and 4,625
5	45,682	45,682.01 and 65,009	3,807	3,807.01 and 5,418
6	52,364	52,364.01 and 74,518	4,364	4,364.01 and 6,210
7	59,046	59,046.01 and 84,027	4,921	4,921.01 and 7,003
8	65,728	65,728.01 and 93,536	5,478	5,478.01 and 7,795
For each additional household member, add	+ 6,682	+ 6,682 and + 9,509	+ 557	+ 557 and + 793

Application forms are being sent to all homes with a notice to parents or guardians. To apply for free or reduced price meals or free milk, households must fill out the application and return it to the school (unless notified at the start of the school year that children are eligible through direct certification). Additional copies are available at the office in each school. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by agency or other program officials. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year.

To obtain free or reduced price meals or free milk for children in a household where one or more household members receive FoodShare, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Wisconsin Works (W-2) cash benefits, list the FoodShare, FDPIR or W-2 case number, program name, list the names of all school children, sign the application, and return it to the school office.

For the school officials to determine eligibility for free or reduced price meals or free milk of households not receiving FoodShare, FDPIR or W-2 cash benefits, the household must provide the following information requested on the application: names of all household members, total number of household members, and the adult signing the application form must also list the last four digits of his or her Social Security Number or mark the box to the right of “Check if no SSN”. Also, the income received by each household member must be provided by amount and source (wages, welfare, child support, etc.).

Under the provisions of the free and reduced price meal and free milk policy Nora Christianson will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he/she may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. If the parent/guardian wishes to make a formal appeal, he/she may make a request either orally or in writing to Tom Burkhalter, District Administrator

115 N Education Ave. Viroqua WI. 54665. If a hearing is needed to appeal the decision, the policy contains an outline of the hearing procedure.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size changes, the family should contact the school. Such changes may make the household eligible for reduced price meals or free meals or free milk if the household income falls at or below the levels shown above, and they may reapply at that time.

Children formally placed in foster care are also eligible for free meal benefits. Foster children may be certified as eligible without a household application. Households with foster children and non-foster children may choose to include the foster child as a household member, as well as any personal income available to the foster child, on the same application that includes their non-foster children.

The information provided by the household on the application is confidential. Public Law 103-448 limits the release of student free and reduced price school meal eligibility status to persons directly connected with the administration and enforcement of federal or state educational programs. Consent of the parent/guardian is needed for other purposes such as waiver of textbook fees.

#### Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. **mail:**  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:** (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:** [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## Parents Have a Right To Know

- Whether a teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subjects taught.
- Whether a teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional license or whether licensing criteria have been waived.
- A teacher's degree major and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher and the discipline of the degree or certification; and
- Whether a child is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

***If you have questions, please contact any building principal.***

## DISTRICT BOARD POLICIES

**Viroqua Area School District Board Policies can be found on the District [www.viroquaareaschools.com](http://WWW.VIROQUAAREASCHOOLS.COM)**