

# VIERA CHARTER SCHOOL



# PANTHERS

**November 2019**

**TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE**

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## Principal's Message

### *Hello Panther Families!*

*It was an absolute thrill to mark such an important milestone as Viera Charter School broke ground on our new gymnasium and middle school building Nov. 7th. The school expansion will result in 24 new classrooms, a larger cafeteria, a new gymnasium, running track, space for baseball and soccer fields, and much more. The new building and renovations to the existing facility will allow enrollment to increase at all grade levels. This is great news to our many families who wish to have extended family members and friends attend VCS. Since our first year, word of mouth from satisfied parents and excited students has resulted in a long waiting list.*

*Our annual lottery for school enrollment slots has already begun. The expansion will be completed by the start of the 2020-21 school year, so now is the time to let your family, friends, and neighbors know. Have them go to [www.vieracharterschool.com](http://www.vieracharterschool.com) to register for the lottery.*

*Warmest regards,*

*Dr. Julie Cady*



*Dr. Cady praised community leaders, parents, and students for the success that has led up to the groundbreaking Nov. 7 for the new middle school and sports facilities, Pages 4, 5.*

## Storybook Characters Come to Life in Parade

To enhance reading skills and the love of literature, VCS continued its tradition of having kindergarten, first, and second grade students and their teachers dress as a character in their favorite book and travel on parade for all students, parents, and faculty to enjoy Oct. 31. Older students dressed in fall colors.



## Student of the Month for November: Fairness

Lukas Chapman is the Student of the Month from all of second grade for the character quality of Fairness. Lukas was voted by



all of his classmates for the award, and then all second grade teachers voted among themselves for the student whose character qualities best represented Fairness.

"He is super kind to everyone," said his teacher, Mrs. Moore. "On the playground, he makes sure everybody gets a turn. He is a great influence on his classmates." Way to go, Lukas!

## Elf on the Shelf Keeps His Word



Mr. Armstrong made good on his promise to dress up as the Elf on the Shelf Nov. 4 if students reached their fundraising goal for October's Boosterthon Fun Run.



## Eighth Graders Trek to Washington D.C. for Trip of a Lifetime

It's a trip anticipated for all three years of middle school. Eighth-grade "seniors" traveled to Washington, D.C. Oct. 23.



They flew in an airplane, traveled around by bus and on foot, and stayed two nights, and were able to hit all the U.S. historical and governmental top spots over three days, returning Oct. 23. — **Teacher Mrs. Rabun**



### AVID Students, Teachers, Parents Treated to Magic Win

AVID is a program that teaches students organizational skills to flourish in their current and future educational endeavors, and their career future.

They traveled on a field study to Orlando Nov. 15 to hobnob with business professionals, have dinner, and enjoy an Orlando Magic basketball game; The team was good enough to produce a win.

AVID elective students use a growth mindset to achieve their learning potential and develop useful skills for success in college and beyond," AVID faculty advisor Suzanne Hoffman said.





## First-Quarter Awards Honor Good Grades, Attendance, and Character



Principal Dr. Cady honors students in kindergarten, above, first, second, third, fourth grades, top left to right, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grades, bottom left to right, for their efforts at attending school every day, earning A or A-B Honor roll, and the six character qualities on which VCS is founded: citizenship, trustworthiness, fairness, caring, respect, and responsibility.

## Middle School Groundbreaking Ushers in Historic First Livestreaming Event

Many teachers brought their classes to attend the Nov. 7 groundbreaking for the new middle school, but it was not practical for all 1,054 students and their teachers to attend this important event. Mr. Boucher to the rescue! As VCS's IT Manager and also the computer programming teacher, his skills and willingness to help earned him Employee of the Year status for 2019-20. Mr. Boucher hooked up all the classrooms to receive the



Mr. Boucher



livestreaming feed from the event via special camera feed. Staff celebrated the important events with a cake decorated with an edible rendering of the new middle school and track and field. The event was carried live on Facebook for parents, and is on YouTube so that anyone can view this historic event. To view the groundbreaking, search Viera Charter School or go to the link: [watch?v=wMprV5nxupM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMprV5nxupM)

Mrs. Thomas's fourth-grade students were among the many in classrooms to simultaneously watch the Nov. 7 middle school groundbreaking via livestreaming.



## Viera Charter School is Key to Viera's Present, Future

November 7 was not only the groundbreaking for Viera Charter School's new middle school, but also the 30th anniversary of the groundbreaking for the community of Viera, said one of the community leaders tapped to speak at the event.

"It's our pleasure to partner with Viera Charter School in providing access to excellent educational opportunities for our residents," The Viera Company President Todd Pokrywa told the crowd, which was seated on the recently purchased 4.6 acres adjacent to the existing school. "We are a growing community and this expansion is key to our needs."

### Middle School Groundbreaking



VCS Board Chairman Robert Jordan emceed the morning ceremony — comprised of school and community leaders and accented with performances by school musicians, chorus members and cheerleaders — and then hopped aboard a large heavy backhoe and gouged out the first yard of earth.



Clasping golden shovels of fresh dirt were Principal Dr. Julie Cady and leaders representing the project's construction and design companies, the Brevard County School Board, Brevard County Commissioners, and VCS's management oversight team, Charter School Associates.



*Photo at right: Principal Dr. Julie Cady, VCS Board Chairman Robert Jordan, William Chivers of RUSH Construction, and The Viera Company's Todd Pokrywa addressed the crowd.*



**Want to view the  
groundbreaking?  
See Page 4.**





## PTSO Invites All to Panther Cup

The PTSO is looking for a few good golfers—and golfers of all talents—to play in the Saturday morning Dec. 7 Viera Charter School Panther Cup at Duran Golf Club. Donations for gift baskets in the auction are needed. Sponsorships are also greatly appreciated. For information, go to [Facebook.com/vcsptso](https://www.facebook.com/vcsptso). To register, go to [vcsptso.com](http://vcsptso.com).



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## Coming Events

### November

- Friday, Nov. 22, 9 a.m. Kindergarten Thanksgiving Feast, Cafeteria.
- Monday, Nov. 25, 9 a.m., First Grade Thanksgiving Feast, Cafeteria.
- Wednesday-Friday, Nov. 27-29, Thanksgiving Break.
- Saturday, Nov. 30, 6 p.m., Come See the VCS Float in the Light Up Viera Parade, start, VHS.
- Tuesday, Dec. 10, 5-7 p.m., Cocoa and Cookies, Cafeteria — *Replaces Fall Festival.*
- Friday, Dec. 13, 5-10 p.m. Spirit Night, Buffalo Wild Wings.

### December

- Tuesday, Dec. 3, Dress Down Day, Disney.
- Wednesday, Dec. 4, Second Grade Field Study to Sea Life Aquarium.
- Friday, Dec. 6, Middle School Dance, 6-9 p.m.



Kindergarten students and their teachers dressed in Fab '50s Oct. 6.