

# Excellence *on display*

spring 2018

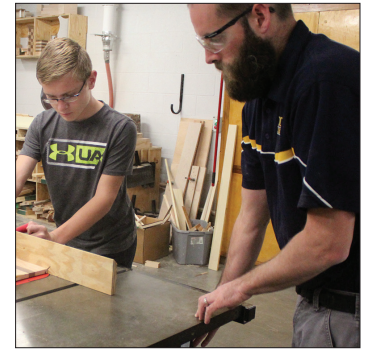
VICTOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS MAGAZINE





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## Budget Vote Information

*District residents will cast ballots on the proposed 2018 – 2019 budget at the annual budget vote and Board of Education election on **Tuesday, May 15**. Voting will take place in the **Victor Intermediate School Auditorium** from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Voters must be at least 18 years old, a registered voter and a resident of the District for at least 30 days prior to May 15, 2018.*

## Voter Registration

On Tuesday, May 8, 2018, the Victor Central School District will hold voter registration from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the District Office Conference Room. This registration is for residents currently not registered to vote in the general election.

For more information on voter registration and/or the upcoming budget vote, contact VCS District Clerk, Maureen Goodberlet at 924-3252, ext. 1402 or email her at [goodberletm@victorschools.org](mailto:goodberletm@victorschools.org).

### VCS Board of Education

Karen Ballard  
Timothy DeLucia  
Kristin Elliott  
Gary Gilbert  
Deborah Palumbo-Sanders  
Christopher Parks  
Michael Young

The Board of Education meets on the second Thursday of the month in the Victor Early Childhood School boardroom at 7:15 p.m. Residents are welcome to attend.

### District Clerk

Maureen Goodberlet,  
(585) 924-3252 ext. 1402

### Superintendent of Schools

Dawn A. Santiago-Marullo, Ed.D.

*Excellence on Display* is the official publication of the Victor Central School District.

(585) 924-3252 ext. 1407

[www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org)

# The 2018–2019 School Budget

*A Message from Our Superintendent Dawn A. Santiago-Marullo, Ed.D.  
and Debbie Palumbo-Sanders, President, Board of Education*

Education has never been a more important part of the fabric of our society. It is the center of families, friendships and entire communities. Putting together a budget that supports the intellectual, physical and emotional health and well-being of Victor Central Schools' students is an awesome and humbling task. Thanks to your continued support, we are pleased to present a proposed budget that combines excellence in education with fiscal respect and responsibility towards taxpayers.

The 2018-2019 Victor Central Schools' fiscal plan reflects a realistic budget-to-budget increase of \$2,869,992 or 4.33%. It also includes a true value tax rate of \$16.16 per thousand, up a fraction from last year. For taxpayers, this rate equates to a .74% increase from this year's true value tax rate.

At \$69,222,879 the 2018-2019 budget is both responsive and responsible. It allows us to add new and much needed positions at every building level, from the Early Childhood School to the High School. For a complete listing of specific proposed positions, see page 11.

Building a budget that supports the well-being of all students is challenging, especially in a day and age when we must always look for ways to do more with less. Between outside governmental factors which we have no control of, to year-to-year fluctuations in student needs, VCS continues to build budgets with two goals in mind, to provide every child with the highest quality education possible and to remain fiscally responsible to our taxpayers.

We hope that after reviewing the finer points of the 2018-2019 budget in this publication that you will agree that VCS continues to pave a path for success for our students, staff and entire community.

Sincerely,



Dawn Santiago-Marullo Ed.D.  
Superintendent



Debbie Palumbo-Sanders  
Board of Education President

## Proposed Expenditures

New York State law provides that all district budgets be identified in three categories:

### Administrative Expenses

- Curriculum Development
- Staff Development
- In-Service Development
- Personnel
- District Audit
- Tax Collection
- Central Printing/Mailing
- District Votes

### Program Expenses

- All Student Services
- Instructional Support
- Transportation Operation
- Instructional Salaries and Benefits

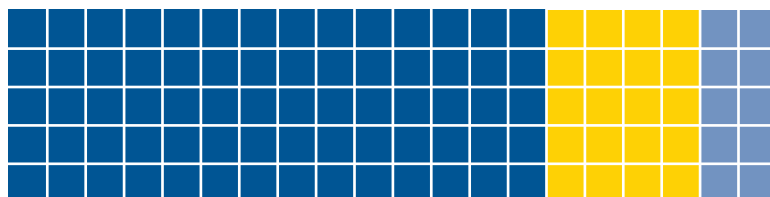
### Capital Expenses

- All Facilities Costs
- Debt Service
- Operations/Maintenance
- Supplies
- Utilities
- Personnel

### Expenditures by Component

|   | Budget<br>2017-2018 | Proposed<br>Budget<br>2018-2019 | Difference       |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Administrative Component</b>         |                     |                                 |                  |
| Board of Education                      | 73,110              | 78,780                          | 5,670            |
| Central Administration                  | 216,113             | 224,480                         | 8,367            |
| Finance                                 | 374,261             | 369,384                         | (4,877)          |
| Staff                                   | 571,042             | 626,372                         | 55,330           |
| Central Services                        | 449,575             | 469,269                         | 19,694           |
| Special Items                           | 869,833             | 903,439                         | 33,606           |
| Curriculum Development                  | 551,844             | 568,843                         | 16,999           |
| Curriculum Supervision                  | 1,702,608           | 1,722,261                       | 20,063           |
| Pupil Personnel Services                | 349,723             | 363,038                         | 13,315           |
| Employee Benefits                       | 1,834,190           | 1,856,049                       | 21,858           |
| <b>Administrative Budget</b>            | <b>6,992,299</b>    | <b>7,182,324</b>                | <b>190,025</b>   |
| <b>Program Component</b>                |                     |                                 |                  |
| Legal Services/In-Service               | 20,700              | 20,700                          |                  |
| Teaching                                | 27,374,022          | 28,816,054                      | 1,442,032        |
| Instructional Media                     | 1,240,090           | 1,379,708                       | 139,619          |
| Pupil Services                          | 2,384,983           | 2,474,539                       | 89,556           |
| Co-Curricular/Interscholastic Athletics | 1,295,430           | 1,336,870                       | 41,440           |
| District Transportation Services        | 2,700,196           | 2,783,226                       | 83,030           |
| Community Services                      | 10,360              | 10,645                          | 285              |
| Employee Benefits                       | 14,783,142          | 15,307,392                      | 524,249          |
| <b>Total Program</b>                    | <b>49,808,923</b>   | <b>52,129,136</b>               | <b>2,320,211</b> |
| <b>Capital Component</b>                |                     |                                 |                  |
| Operation                               | 2,249,485           | 2,359,661                       | 110,176          |
| Maintenance                             | 1,067,151           | 1,129,214                       | 62,063           |
| Employee Benefits                       | 849,268             | 889,584                         | 40,316           |
| Debt Service                            | 5,385,760           | 5,532,962                       | 147,202          |
| <b>Total Capital</b>                    | <b>9,551,664</b>    | <b>9,911,421</b>                | <b>359,756</b>   |
| <b>Total Budget Increase</b>            | <b>66,352,887</b>   | <b>69,222,879</b>               | <b>2,869,992</b> |

Programs: 75%    Capital: 15%    Administration: 10%





## Bus Purchase Proposition

School bus fleet maintenance and safety are driving a bus purchase proposition on the ballot May 15, 2018. Residents will be asked to approve the purchase of five 77-passenger buses and three 30 or less passenger buses or vans.

The proposition totals \$879,000. New York State will provide more than 60 percent of the funding through NYS Transportation Aid. The new buses will replace vehicles that are at least 13 years old and have mileage in excess of one hundred thousand miles.

**Notice is further given** that a Bond Proposition in substantially the following form shall be presented to the qualified voters of the District at such Annual District Meeting and Election.

### **Bond Proposition Resolved:**

- (a) That the Board of Education of the Victor Central School District, in the Counties of Ontario, Monroe and Wayne, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to purchase various school buses for use by the District, and to expend \$879,000 therefor;
- (b) that a tax is hereby voted in the aggregate amount of not to exceed \$879,000 to pay such cost, said tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by said Board of Education; and
- (c) that in anticipation of said tax, bonds of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of not to exceed \$879,000 and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable.

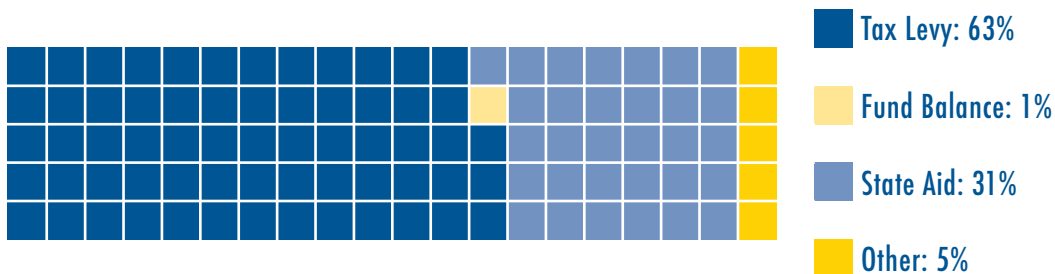
## Budget Proposition

Shall the Board of Education of Victor Central School District be authorized to expend \$69,222,879 during the school year 2018-2019 and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

### Victor Central School 2018-19 Budget Revenue Plan

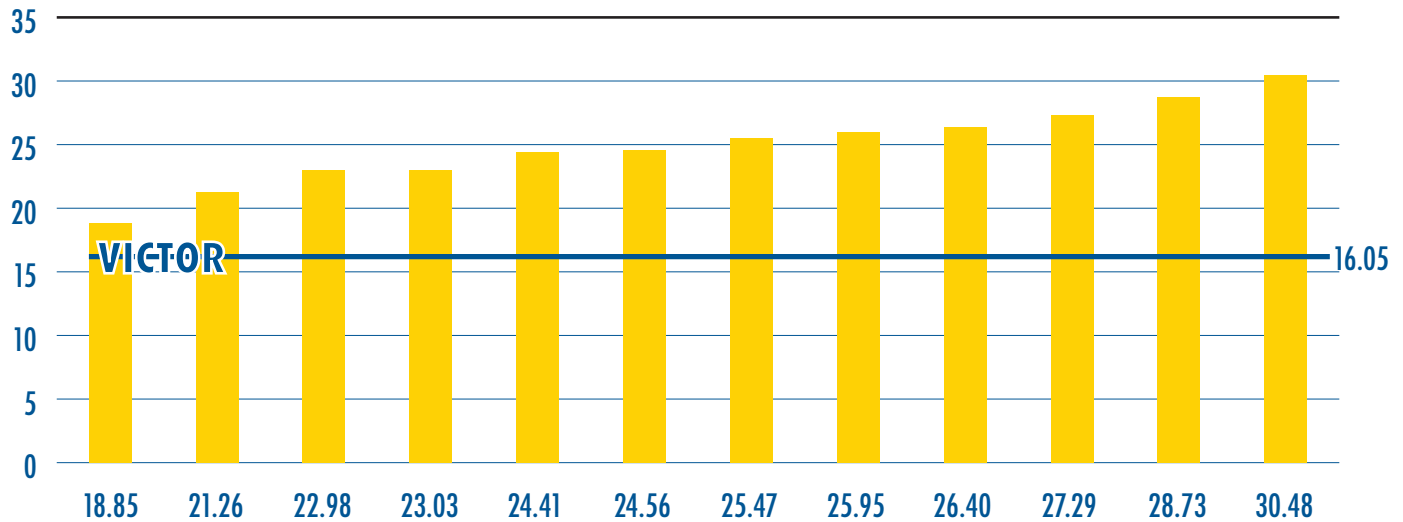
|                          | <b>Budget<br/>2017-18</b> | <b>Proposed<br/>2018-19</b> |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| State Aid                | 20,761,180                | 21,381,402                  |
| Payment in Lieu of Taxes | 2,433,255                 | 2,589,158                   |
| Interest and Earnings    | 40,000                    | 80,000                      |
| Reserve Funds            | 289,681                   | 479,681                     |
| Other Sources            | 380,400                   | 380,400                     |
| Fund Balance             | 529,000                   | 529,000                     |
| Tax Levy                 | 41,919,371                | 43,783,238                  |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>    | <b>66,312,887</b>         | <b>69,222,879</b>           |

## Where the Funding Comes From



## 2017-18 True Tax Rate Comparison

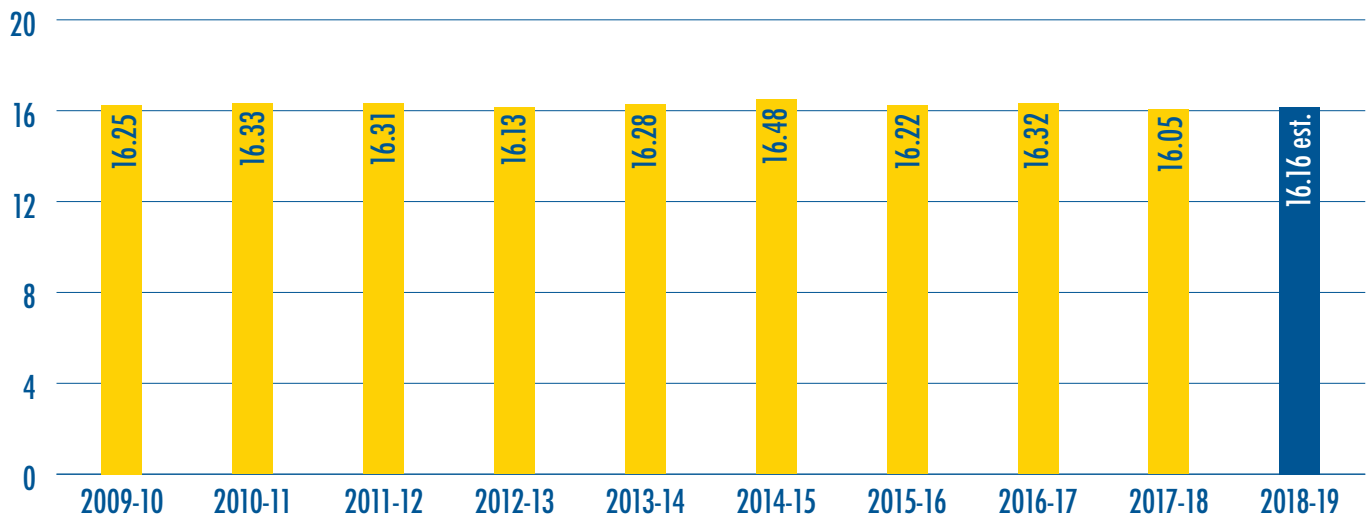
(Source: Four County and Monroe County School Board Association)



Tax Rates in the graph above represent the following districts (not necessarily in the order listed): Bloomfield, Brighton, Canandaigua, East Irondequoit, Fairport, Honeoye Falls-Lima, Manchester-Shortsville, Palmyra-Macedon, Penfield, Pittsford, Victor, Webster, West Irondequoit

The figures above represent the true value tax rate per \$1,000 of home assessment. In comparing the 2017-18 true value tax rates among Ontario County schools plus our contiguous and academic benchmark districts in Monroe County, Victor's true tax rate was the **lowest at \$16.05 per thousand**.

## Victor Central Schools' Tax Rate History per \$1,000



## STAR Program Information

The NYS School Tax Assessment Relief (STAR) program provides qualified homeowners with a \$30,000 assessment reduction for tax purposes. Senior citizens receive a \$66,800 exemption. More than 900 senior citizens throughout the District received a reduction in their tax bills for the 2017-2018 school year.

2017 Estimated Basic STAR  
Exemption Savings

\$485



## Victor Central School NYS School District Budget Notice, including Contingent

### Property Tax Report Card

The following is the Property Tax Report Card information that we are required to send to the newspaper per NYS regulations:

|   |            | Projected  | Contingent          |
|---|------------|------------|---------------------|
|   | 2017-2018  | 2018-2019  | Budget<br>2018-2019 |
| Total Budgeted Amount   | 66,352,887 | 69,222,879 | 67,359,012          |
| Increase/Decrease for the 2018-19 school year   |            | 2,869,993  |                     |
| Percent Increase (decrease) in each proposed budget   |            | 4.33%      | 1.52%               |
| Change in Consumer Price Index  |            | 2.13%      |                     |
| Total Proposed School Tax Levy  | 41,919,371 | 43,783,238 |                     |
| Total Permissible Exclusions  | 1,118,474  | 945,587    |                     |
| Proposed School Tax Levy Limit <i>(without permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)</i> |            | —          |                     |
| School Tax Levy Limit   |            | —          |                     |
| Difference <i>(positive value requires 60% approval)</i>  |            | —          |                     |
| Administrative Component  | 6,992,299  | 7,182,324  | 6,809,551           |
| Program Component   | 49,808,923 | 52,129,136 | 51,010,814          |
| Capital Component   | 9,551,664  | 9,911,421  | 9,538,647           |

Should the 2018-2019 budget be defeated and the above contingency budget be adopted, the Victor Central School District Board of Education will make the final determination of budget cuts in a contingency budget. The following is a list of options the Board may choose to eliminate or reduce: some athletic teams, administrators, teachers, support staff, and instructional programs. In addition, equipment purchases must be eliminated and all community groups will be required to pay for the use of buildings (please note that Section 2023 of the Education Law requires school districts to provide this statement of assumptions made in estimating the contingency budget).

## A Budget Q & A

### What is a tax levy?

A tax levy is the total sum of money raised by a school district after subtracting out all other sources of revenue, including state aid. The tax levy is used to determine the tax rate for property owners.

### What is a tax rate?

A tax rate is the amount of taxes paid by property owners for each \$1,000 of assessed value of their property. Tax rates paid by individual taxpayers may differ greatly from one household to another, based on such things as equalization rates and assessed property values.

### What is the New York State Property Tax Cap?

New York State's Property Tax Cap law establishes an annual tax levy limit for each school district. The tax levy limit allows school districts to increase their property tax levy from one year to the next by the lesser of two percent or the rate of inflation, with some exceptions, based on a multi-step formula. The law does not restrict proposed tax levy increases to two percent however it does determine the level of voter support needed for a school budget to pass.

### What is the New York State Property Tax Relief Credit?

If you are a homeowner receiving a STAR benefit and your locality and school district have kept tax increases under the tax cap, you may be eligible for the NYS Property Tax Relief Credit. Qualifying New York State homeowners must also:

- Receive either the Basic or Enhanced STAR property tax relief
- Have an income of 500,000 or less
- Have paid school property taxes in 2017

Beginning in 2017 the property tax relief credit will be a percentage of a homeowner's STAR benefit, with lower incomes receiving a higher percentage benefit.

# Five Residents Seek to Fill



## **Karen Ballard**

### ***Address:***

5883 King Hill Drive, Farmington, NY

### ***District Resident***

13 Years

### ***Education***

A.A.S. from Community College of the Finger Lakes (now FLCC) Travel/Tourism Management; B.A. from Rochester Institute of Technology Hotel/Resort Management

### ***Profession***

Currently work for Morgan Communities as an AR Clerk/Internal Auditor.

### ***Community Activities***

I continue to support the parent groups within our district by attending meetings, events and promoting their dedication to our students and staff.

### ***Family***

I am blessed to have a supportive family. I have 3 children, Jonathan (VCS Class of 2013), Sarah (VCS Class of 2015) and Cassie (Class of 2017). My husband Bob and I have been married for 24 years and counting.

### ***Personal Statement***

I am deeply appreciative that I was elected in 2015. I want to continue to advocate for the students and staff of the District.

It is important for parents to continue to be engaged in their children's academic, social and physical well being especially as it relates to VCS. Parents and community members should be partners with VCS to uphold the goals, initiatives and code of conduct. The students of VCS are our future and together we need to keep our community safe, continue the love of learning and provide opportunities for all to make a positive difference.

I would be honored to continue as a Board of Education member of Victor Central Schools. I would appreciate your support to serve our District in this role.



## **John Garvey**

### ***Address:***

5980 Monarch Drive, Farmington, NY

### ***District Resident***

23 Years

### ***Education***

- Ithaca College, BA
- Cornell University, Graduate Study
- University of Virginia, Sr. Executive Institute

### ***Profession***

Sr. Manager, Ontario County

### ***Community Activities***

- Ontario County ARC Community Advisory Board
- Victor Band Boosters
- Member, Community Advisory Committees Superintendent and Principal (past appointments)
- Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency 2020 Commission Member
- Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency Technology Assessment Committee (CTAAB)

### ***Family***

Kathleen "Kate" Garvey, RN MSM – wife  
Dr. Christine Garvey DVM – daughter  
Meghan Garvey MSW LCSW – daughter

### ***Personal Statement***

My wife, Kate and I moved to Victor with our daughters in 1995. Both children had successful experiences in the Victor Central Schools.

I am committed to maintaining and improving a teaching and learning environment where every student can achieve his or her full potential in life. Our Board must support our teachers, staff and administrators and help them become their best in meeting each student's academic needs. We must strive to support students with disabilities and find the best ways to meet their needs. These goals must be accomplished while maintaining the fiscal discipline our community expects.

*Continued on page 10*



# Two Board of Education Seats



## **Gary Gilbert**

### ***Address:***

6904 Dorsett Trail, Victor, NY

### ***District Resident***

27 Years

### ***Education***

1987 – Victor Central High School Graduate

1991 – BA from Ithaca College, Speech Communication

### ***Profession***

27 years as a Telecommunication/ IT / Corporate Real Estate and facilities professional with concentrations in education, federal, local government and business-to-business development.

### ***Community Activities***

- 6 years Victor Central Schools School Board
- Vice President of Ithaca Alumni Group- ICUnity
- Vice President of Tauxement Preschool, Alexandria, VA 2001-2003;
- Mentoring youth and professional development.
- Coaching, Victor Little League Baseball, Victor Youth Wrestling and Victor Soccer Club

### ***Family***

Wife, Alison S. Gilbert, Children: Morgan (19),

Kylie (16), Tristan (14), Mara (11)

Mother and Father, Moses and Judyth Gilbert

### ***Personal Statement***

During my 6 years on the Victor Central School Board it has been an honor to be part of the growth that Victor Central Schools has experienced. During my tenure I have learned a tremendous amount about what it takes to support our students, teachers, administration and staff. I am dedicated to the community I've called home since the 1970's and to continue its outstanding academic growth.

*Continued on page 10*



## **Thomas Kolb**

### ***Address:***

316 Hook Road, Farmington, NY

### ***District Resident***

19 years in district

### ***Education***

- Graduated Victor Central Schools 2013

- Graduated Roberts Wesleyan College 2017

### ***Profession***

Sales Executive for CGI Communications

### ***Community Activities***

Involved in St. Patrick's Church; Was a Eucharistic Minister; Helped with visitation ministry

### ***Family***

Mother-Nancy Kolb; Father-Robert Kolb

### ***Personal Statement***

The Victor Community has been a home for me as long as I can remember. Victor Central Schools offered an education to me that set me on a successful path through college and now into the corporate world. My passion for being a member of the School Board comes from getting the chance to influence the evolution of a District that I am not far removed from. I can relate to the needs of the students while being cognizant of the financial responsibility to the community. I know the teachers, curriculum, and athletics well because I was immersed in various activities throughout my education. Nobody else can offer this perspective. My experience will provide a beneficial perspective to the Board as they address issues. Through my devotion to working with members of the community, I will be the best advocate for you and your family for years to come.

## Candidates continued

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### **Michael Vistocco**

#### ***Address:***

168 Huxley Way, Victor, NY

#### ***District Resident***

23 Years

#### ***Education***

- Masters-Brockport College
- Certification in School Business Administration-Brockport College

#### ***Profession***

- Retired School Business Administrator, after 26 years, Victor Central School District
- Current: Part time Assistant Project Manager for a local company that oversees school construction

#### ***Community Activities***

- Victor Dollars for Scholars, Financial Oversight Committee
- Past member of PTSA
- Was involved in various booster clubs and youth sporting groups while my children attended Victor Schools.
- Recipient of the 2018 Victor Local Development Corp Ambassador Award

#### ***Family***

Wife, Deborah; Children: Angela, graduated from Victor Schools in 2007, Angela is an Accountant and lives with her husband in Cleveland; David, graduated from Victor Schools in 2009, lives in Victor and is employed as a teacher and a coach at Victor Central Schools.

#### ***Personal Statement***

I was employed at Victor Schools for 26 years. I was hired as the District Treasurer in 1992 and then became the School Business Administrator in 1995. I held this position until I retired from Victor Schools in March of 2018.

As the School Business Administrator, I was responsible for the business office and all financial matters including the budget. I also oversaw the Food Service and the Transportation Departments during a period of significant growth for all aspects of our School District. I have seen the enrollment grow from 2,721 students to 4,500

students. I have worked with 30 different Board of Education members and have attended almost every Board of Education meeting over the past 26 years.

I believe we must continue to move the District forward and not become complacent or satisfied with our success story. We must continue to improve the educational opportunities and extra-curricular activities we provide for our students. Safety and Security continues to be in the forefront of the news and we must do everything possible to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

It would be an honor to continue to serve the Victor Community as part of the Victor Board of Education. As a member of the Board I will continue to support all efforts to maintain fiscal strength and responsibility while we strive to provide the best possible educational experience for our students. I will utilize my knowledge and past experiences while working with the other Board Members to support the District administration, faculty, staff members and the community as we facilitate change and continuous improvements to District programs. Victor Central School has been an important part of our life here in Victor and it is time to give back to the School District. The Victor-Farmington community is an amazing place for a child to grow up. I will do my best to ensure the School District continues to provide the resources needed to support our children as they work towards their future success stories.

### ***John Garvey (Continued from page 8)***

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I have worked for 25 years in local government in Ontario County. I also worked in manufacturing management and State government. I believe that my experience in management, labor and finance will help me contribute positively to moving the District forward.

### ***Gary Gilbert (Continued from page 9)***

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Playing three sports and a member of the VCS marching band, orchestra and chorus during the 1980's, I have an appreciation and understanding of the need to be academically sound, athletically rounded and have a strong gratitude for the arts. As a School Board Member, I will continue to be an advocate for the continuation of thriving academics, all co-curricular activities, fiscal common sense and technological advancements.



## VCS Budget Additions

### **Instructional**

- ~ 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher (VECS)
- ~ .5 FTE Special Education (VPS)
- ~ 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher (VIS)
- ~ 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher (VSH)
- ~ 1.0 FTE Teacher Social Studies/Math (VSH)
- ~ 1.0 FTE School Counselor (VJH)
- ~ 1.0 FTE ELA Teacher Coach (District Wide)
- ~ .4 FTE Adaptive Physical Education Teacher (District Wide)

### **Non-Instructional**

- ~ 8.0 FTE Special Education Teacher Aides (District Wide)
- ~ 2.0 FTE Cleaners (District Wide)
- ~ .2 FTE Office Support VSH)
- ~ .4 FTE General Purpose Teacher Aide (VJH)

***Full Time Equivalent = FTE***

## Construction Update

Victor Central Schools' \$25,000,000 capital project continues to move along. The project, which includes a \$4,000,000 energy performance contract was approved by District residents in the fall of 2016. Project highlights include the expansion of the Intermediate School gymnasium and an improved bus loop and additional classrooms at the Early Childhood School. Chris Marshall, Victor Central Schools' Director of Facilities said construction plans were approved by the New York State Education Department and formal project bids were received in April. The District hopes to break ground on the construction project this summer.

## Victor Bids Farewell to Retirees

*This school year, Victor Central Schools bids farewell to fourteen men and women who have made a big difference both inside and outside of our classrooms. Congratulations and best of luck in your future!*

### **Victor Early Childhood School**

*Ellen Osborn, 1999-2018, Elementary Teacher*

### **Victor Intermediate School**

*Anniken Molinari, 1988-2018, Elementary Teacher*

*Jackie McCaffery, 1991-2017, Library Clerk*

### **Junior High School**

*Carla Clark, 1988-2018,*

*Social Studies Teacher/Standards Leaders*

*Lori Babcock, 2002-2018, Typist*

### **Senior High School**

*Jerold O'Dell, 1985-2018, Social Studies Teacher*

*Diane Hartz, 1987-2017, Typist*

*Yvonne O'Shea, 2002-2018, Principal*

### **Facilities**

*Luigi Maenza, 2002-2017, Cleaner*

### **Transportation**

*Barbara Flugel, 1993-2017, Bus Driver*

*Alfred Lucas, 2012-2017, Bus Driver*

### **Food Services**

*Maureen Weigert, 1996-2018, Food Service Manager*

### **District**

*Mike Vistocco, 1992-2018, School Business Administrator*

*Ronald Whitcomb, 1991-2018,*

*Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics*

*Retirees as of April*



## Victor Central School Achievements

### Academics

- In June, 2017, 97% of our students graduated with a Regents Diploma, 33% percent earned a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation.
- In 2017 Victor Central Schools' SAT scores were among the highest in the Greater Rochester Area ranking 15th out of 51 school districts.
- This past year the U.S News and World Report ranked Victor Senior High School the sixth best school in the Rochester area, the 71st best school in New York State and the 689th best school nationally out of 21,000 public high schools nationwide.
- Last fall senior Cole Vandenberg was named a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist. Cole was one of approximately 16,000 semifinalists in the 63rd annual National Merit Scholarship Program.
- This past fall, 99 juniors and seniors were inducted into the prestigious National Honor Society.
- The Junior High School has maintained its extraordinary status as a New York State high performing middle school and "School to Watch" for the past 12 years, since first being designated in 2006.
- This spring, Victor DECA students took home 12 medals and 16 trophies at the 2018 New York State DECA business competition in downtown Rochester. Of those four were first place winners. Sixteen students also qualified for the national competition in Atlanta, Georgia.

### Arts

- This past fall, 15 students were inducted into the prestigious Tri-M Music Society.
- This past fall two students, Casey Schreck and Lauren Bayles were named to the 2017 All New York State Orchestra.
- This past fall our Senior High Drama Club produced the play *The Diary of Anne Frank* and this spring, they put on the musical, *James and the Giant Peach*.
- This winter art students, Hanna Gefell and Brian Martin took home two of the 24 awards given at the Rochester-Finger Lakes Middle and High School Art Exhibition at Rochester Institute of Technology.

### Athletics

- Victor Central Schools boasted many Sectional and State athletic winners during the 2017-2018 school year:

**Fall 2017 Sectional Champions:** *Girls Tennis Team; Individual Girls Tennis Doubles*, Sarah Marro and Emily Stanley; *Girls Volleyball*

**Winter 2018 Sectional Champions:** *Varsity Hockey Team; Varsity Cheerleading Team; Boys Bowling Team; Indoor Track:* Girls 4 x 400 m relay – Paige Lind, Grace Kitterman, Payton Elliott and Sarah Urban; *Indoor Track:* Boys 4 x 800 m relay Hunter Braun, Conrad Bremer, Connor Preston, Nico Bellavia; *Indoor Track:* Boys 600 m Run - Nico Bellavia; *Alpine Ski:* Slalom and Overall, Alpine Combined - Lucy Haggerty; *Alpine Ski:* Giant Slalom – Katie Carrier; *Wrestling:* Alex Samson and Jack Kumpf

**2017-2018 New York State Champions:** *Alpine Ski:* Giant Slalom and Overall Alpine Combined – Katie Carrier; *Varsity Cheerleading* – New York State Large Division One; *Varsity Hockey* – New York State Division 1





## Nathan Wolf Teaches Life and Work Skills



"I greatly enjoy the process of creating finished products from raw materials and adding beauty and utility to the material," Wolf said. Through the years, Wolf has helped close to 2,500 students add beauty and utility to hundreds of projects.

One of the most unique challenges he and his students have undertaken was designing a passive phone amplifier for Apple phones. "We made templates using a computer controlled laser. These templates were then used to guide a router to create the sound chambers and pocket to hold the phone. When we tested the finished design we were able to increase the sound output by 10 decibels." Sound was not the only thing Wolf and his students evaluated during this project. They also tested different species of wood and discovered the best results were a combination of walnut and maple laminated together.

Having a passion for finding the best results is something Nathan learned from his father, Brian Wolf, who taught Drawing and Design for Production (DDP), Materials Processing, Power Mechanics and Adult Education at Victor Central Schools for 34 years before retiring in 2008. "My father instilled in me a strong work ethic. He would never ask me to do anything that he would not do himself. I view my role as an educator in the same way. I have no problem with a student concerned or reluctant to use a tool in my lab. I just require them to explain the process and set up the tool or machine, I will check the settings and assist them to complete that part of the process," Wolf said.

In a world of high tech processes such as computers, one might think hands-on technology such as woodworking and other trades are old school, but Wolf argues this is hardly the case. On the contrary, now more

than ever, this type of technology is vital to a well-rounded education.

"Trades can provide meaningful employment as well as personal satisfaction as a hobby.

We all live in structures that must be maintained and in most cases will be in need of modification and improvement. Having the skills to do these trades allows students to seek employment upon graduation or to save money and have the sense of accomplishment making the repairs or doing renovations for themselves," Wolf said.

Whether a student is taking one of his technology classes for fun or as preparation for a career, Wolf said his primary teaching goal is the same. "First of all my goal is safety, anytime I am in my classroom I preach safety. I begin every work session by saying, 'Have fun and be safe.' For students that are graduating or will be in the next few years, my goal is to also guide students to find a profession that they can be passionate about. As the saying goes, if you love what you are doing you will never work a day in your life," Wolf said.

Wolf and his wife Samantha, a teacher at Marcus Whitman, live in Canandaigua with their 9 year old daughter, Ryleigh and their 4 year old son, Garin.

They enjoy being outdoors as a family. In addition to woodworking Wolf also enjoys archery and other outdoor activities.



# Victor Students Attend Roc2Change Summit

*Sometimes engaging the world begins at home.*



On Friday, March 23rd, fourteen Victor Senior High School students attended the Roc2Change Summit at the Wegmans Conference Center in Rochester, New York. The Summit, hosted by the Churchville-Chili School District brings together hundreds of students from all over the Greater Rochester area to engage in facilitated dialogue with peers related to race, racism, privilege, internalized racism, non-racist and anti-racist topics.

Senior High School chemistry teacher, Alyse Wuest, who co-chaperoned the event with Senior High School social studies teacher, Troy Bajardi, said a different school hosts the summit each fall and spring and although each hosting school puts a different spin on it, the event centers around how to promote racial acceptance in schools. "We're hoping to bring some ideas back to Victor to reinforce our new motto at the high school, Respecting Diversity and Cultivating Kindness," Wuest said.

The Roc2Change movement emerged in 2016 as students from Monroe County began to come together to address race relations in their community. The organization's guiding principles include a variety of missions and mantras such as:

We are in this together; Be respectful; Be present; Speak briefly; Speak from your own experiences; Be mindful of the messages body language can send; Ask clarifying questions; Challenge ideas, not people; Accept conflict and resolution as an opportunity to learn; Suspend judgement of yourself and others; Treat the openness of others as a gift; Honor the confidential-

ity of personal sharing; The goal is not to agree, but to gain understanding; When we disagree, we . . . "Treat people like people," "Listen, listen, listen," "Pause. Breathe. Love." "Distract them," "Accept."

Bajardi said Victor's student ambassadors did an incredible job representing our community at the Roc2Change spring event. This critical conversation will continue in the fall when the Brighton High School hosts the next summit.





# 2018 Volunteer of the Year Named

On Friday, March 16th Victor resident Susan Chapman was honored with the 2018 Volunteer Committed to Service award at a special recognition ceremony in the JH/SH Arts Center during Victor Central Schools' spring staff conference day.

Her nominator, Senior High School Library Media Specialist Danyelle Westbrook said Chapman is an invaluable asset in her Media Center volunteering approximately ten hours a week of her time, two to three days a week.

"Sue has been volunteering for us since January of 2016. She knows the computer system and has helped to genrefy the library. She is also very creative and helps with displays. To top it off, her organizational skills are stellar!" Westbrook said.

Prior to volunteering at the Senior High library Chapman worked as a travel agent for thirteen years before becoming a stay at home mom. "While raising my kids, I became an unofficial genealogist and spent a lot of time in libraries! Once my kids were of high school age, I decided it was time for me to actually spend more time in a library. I am grateful that Danyelle welcomed me into the Media Center at the Senior High School. I love the library, and wish I was 20 again so I could become a librarian or a teacher!" Chapman said.

She might not have the title "teacher" or "librarian" but Westbrook said Chapman is more than qualified. "As a parent of VCS students Sue has an instant rapport with a lot of the students. The library is a very busy place, serving roughly 200 students a day and we rely on her support to pick up the duties we are not able to accomplish. She covers lunch breaks, puts books away, takes attendance, and so much more."

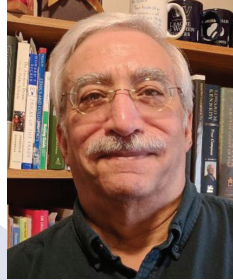
The Volunteer Committed to Service award was created in 2009 by Victor Central Schools and the Victor Teachers' Association as a way to pay tribute to those special men and women who give of their time and talents to VCS, whether through one major event or years of service to a group of students or a building.





## Local Educator and Advocate Dr. Ralph Spezio Named 2018 Graduate of Distinction

On Thursday, May 10th at 7:15 pm at the Board of Education's regular monthly meeting, a well-respected local educator and leader in the fight against childhood



lead poisoning, Dr. Ralph Spezio (VCS Class of 1965), will be recognized as Victor Central Schools' 2018 Graduate of Distinction. The Graduates of Distinction program was initiated in 2002 as a way to recognize VCS alumni who have demonstrated outstanding achievement and made significant contributions to society.

Ralph Neil Spezio, Ed.D. served for 33 years in the Rochester City School District as teacher, curriculum specialist, vice principal, and principal. As principal of Enrico Fermi School No. 17, a large urban elementary school in the heart of Rochester's 'poverty crescent', Dr. Spezio initiated wide-ranging partnerships and groundbreaking programs to improve the health and well-being of students and the entire community. ■

## Alumni Banquet Set for June 10th

Victor Central Schools will celebrate its 123rd Alumni Banquet on Sunday, June 10th at the Ravenwood Golf Club, 929 Lynaugh Road, Victor, NY. The celebration will include a cash bar at 6:30 pm and a buffet dinner at 7:00 pm. The cost for this event is \$19 per person payable upon arrival. Reservations are required. Please contact Sue Whitney Masseth, Class of 1966 at 585-727-2359 [susanjmasseth@gmail.com](mailto:susanjmasseth@gmail.com) to secure your spot. ■

## VCS Welcomes New School Resource Officer

VCS is pleased to welcome Ontario County Sheriff's Deputy Zdenek Chumacero as the District's new School Resource Officer. Chumacero replaces Deputy Nate Bowerman who accepted a new position as an investigator at the Sheriff's Department. Chumacero comes to VCS with fifteen years of experience in law enforcement. Prior to joining the Ontario County Sheriff's Department he was a correctional officer for the San Diego, California probation department where he worked with young adults. ■



## Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics Announces Retirement

Long time VCS Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics, Ronald Whitcomb will retire effective June 30, 2018. Whitcomb came to VCS in 1991 with more than 13 years of experience as a Health and Physical Education teacher at schools in Ohio and Athletic Director/Drug Prevention Coordinator at East Rochester Schools. Before VCS, he was also a Varsity Wrestling Coach and Assistant Football Coach at other districts.

While at the helm, Whitcomb led not only a nationally recognized Physical Education program, but also, one of the most competitive athletic programs in the area.

Under Whitcomb's leadership VCS athletic teams have achieved 318 League championships, 177 Sectional championships and 15 New York State championships. ■



## Long time Business Administrator Retires

VCS School Business Administrator,



Michael Vistocco officially retired on Thursday, March 29th after 26 years with the District.

Vistocco started in Victor as the District Treasurer in January of 1992 and became the School Business Administrator in 1995. Before arriving at VCS he worked at Romulus Central

School District.

Over the past two decades Vistocco was a part of many changes at Victor Central Schools. He worked with four Superintendents and thirty different Board of Education members. In addition, he oversaw a budget increase from \$21 million for the 1991-92 school year to our current \$66 million budget and watched our student population grow from 2,721 in 1991-92 to today's enrollment of approximately 4,500. During Vistocco's tenure he was also involved with more than \$100 million in capital improvement projects successfully passed on the first try. ■

## Senior High School Principal Yvonne O'Shea Set to Retire

Victor Senior High School Principal

Yvonne O'Shea will retire on August 4, 2018 after nearly sixteen years with the District.

O'Shea has seen a lot of changes during her tenure at VCS. Her first graduating class in 2003 had 195 graduates. This year's senior class has 350 students,

"When I started at Victor Senior High School there were five Advanced Placement (AP) classes and pretty limited electives and programs. We now have 23 APs, a full IB Diploma program and Project

Lead the Way," O'Shea proudly said.

Course work is not all O'Shea has seen change through the years. The graduation rate in 2003 was 86%. In 2017 it was 97%. Significant changes also occurred in athletics during this time.

When asked what she will miss the most in retirement, not surprisingly, O'Shea said, the people.

"We have an incredibly talented and dedicated staff, respectful students who care about their school and their futures and a very supportive community," she said. ■

## Victor Central Schools' Education Foundation to Hold Fourth Annual Devil Dash 5K!

Please consider signing up and recruiting a team for the fourth annual Devil Dash 5K and family walk on Saturday, September 2018. All Devil Dash proceeds will support the four main VCS Education Foundation Projects including Field Trips Forever, Technology for Today and Tomorrow, The Art of Teaching, and a general fund. The Devil Dash registration site is open at <http://devildash.itsyourrace.com>.

For more information on the 2018 Devil Dash or other VCS alumni stories, you can follow the VCS Foundation on: Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/VCSEFoundation/> and Twitter - @VCSEF. Please feel free to contact the VCS Education Foundation Devil Dash 2018 Planning Team at [victordeildash@gmail.com](mailto:victordeildash@gmail.com) for additional questions or feedback. ■



## New Visual and Performing Arts Hall of Fame Selects First Recipients

Victor Central Schools is proud to announce the first ever inductees of its new Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) Hall of Fame. The program, which was rolled out earlier in the school year, was created to celebrate and honor the accomplishments of outstanding alumni, staff and community members who have excelled in the arts. It was also established to inspire current students to make contributions to the arts by reconnecting those selected for the hall of fame with our students, staff and community.

Please join us in welcoming our first four inductees into the new Visual and Performing Arts Hall of Fame!

### David Cowles



Artist David Cowles graduated from Victor Senior High School in 1979. His work has appeared in *Entertainment Weekly*, *Rolling Stone*, *Vibe*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *People*, *The Village Voice*, *Money*, *Worth*, *Fortune*, *Fast Company*, *Los Angeles Magazine*, *New York Magazine*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Chicago Tribune* and *The New York Times* to name just a few.

### Alan Hood



Upon graduating in 1982, Hood transferred his love for the trumpet into collegiate music studies. In addition to an illustrious teaching career (He currently teaches at the University of Denver's Lamont

School.) Hood has performed music for more than 35 years. Among his most notable gigs, Hood toured the world with Phil Collins and appeared with the orchestras of Woody Herman and Glenn Miller.

### Elizabeth "Betty" Enright Kocher



Former music teacher Elizabeth "Betty" Kocher (1956 – 1980) was instrumental in bringing the Suzuki method to VCS in the fall of 1966, a program that has taught thousands of young musicians how to play the violin through the years. After attending the National Suzuki Conference in the summer of 1966, Kocher was so inspired she worked with the Board of Education to start a program at VCS in the fall of 1966. She also arranged to have founder, Dr. Shinichi Suzuki visit Victor four times!

### Beth Thomas



Former Senior High English teacher Beth Thomas (1983-2014) was an integral part of the Senior High School theater arts community for more than two decades serv-

ing as the theater arts coordinator, International Baccalaureate (IB) theater teacher and the Senior High drama director.

Victor Central Schools' new Visual and Performing Arts Hall of Fame inductees will be honored at a special ceremony on Thursday, June 14th at 7:15 PM in the Early Childhood School Boardroom during the regular Board of Education meeting.

Friends and family of all of our new inductees are welcomed to attend! ■



## Principal O'Shea Named Secondary Administrator of the Year

Congratulations to Senior High School Principal Yvonne O'Shea.

This spring she was selected as a 2018 Region 11 SAANYS Secondary Administrator of the Year!

The Region 11 Board honored O'Shea at an awards ceremony on Thursday, April 26th at Midvale Country Club in Penfield, NY. ■

## VCS Names New Business Administrator

This past December at its regular monthly meeting, the Victor Central Schools' Board of Education appointed Joseph Dougherty as the new Business Administrator for the District. Dougherty replaced long time Business Official, Michael Vistocco, who retired in March.

Joseph Dougherty comes to Victor from Watertown, New York where he was the

School Business Administrator for the Indian River Central School District in Philadelphia, New York.

Prior to his School Business Administrator position, Dougherty was the Director of Operations for the Creative Toy Company, Inc. in Liverpool, New York where he was the principal in the development of

a distributing company consisting of international trade.

"It is truly an honor to be selected as the next School Business Administrator at the Victor Central School District. I am excited to become a part of a community with an educational institution that has achieved outstanding accolades in academics, the arts and athletics. It is my intention to utilize my skills and experience to uphold the exceptional leadership that has come before me in order to properly

facilitate the resources to achieve our educational mission of excellence,"

Dougherty earned a Bachelor of Science in management and Economics from the State University of New York at Cortland, a Masters of Business Administration from the State University of New York at Oswego and a Certification in School Business Administration (SBA) from the State University of New York at Brockport. ■

## New Assistant Principal Named at Junior High

This past December the Board of Education appointed David E. Thering as the new Assistant Principal at the Junior High School. Thering replaced Chris Barnard who accepted a principal post at another school district.



Thering, a Fairport resident, comes to Victor with a wealth of teaching and leadership experience in elementary and middle school grades in the East Rochester School District. There, he was a sixth grade direct/indirect special education consultant teacher at their junior-senior high school, a 2nd and 3rd grade co-taught classroom teacher, a 12:1:1 special education teacher for grades 3, 4 and 5 and a general education summer school teacher.

"I'm very excited to have the opportunity to help lead Victor Junior High School. I'm looking forward to working with the students, staff, and community to continue the rich traditions of excellence and continue to grow the well-rounded, high-quality education that Victor students receive," Thering said. ■



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To: Victor Central School District Residents

*The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services maintains a list of registered sex offenders and offers many resources through its web site, [://criminaljustice.state.ny.us](http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us). People may search the Sex Offender Registry using the criteria of name, county or zip code. Parents and guardians may want to talk with children about interacting with adults and people they do not know.*

## Family Fun Festival



**May 15, 2018, 3:30 - 9:00 p.m.**  
**VCS Campus**

## VICTOR CENTRAL SCHOOLS 123RD ALUMNI BANQUET

### Ravenwood Golf Club

929 Lynaugh Road, Victor, NY 14564

**Sunday, June 10, 2018**

6:30 p.m. Cocktails ~ 7 p.m. Dinner

For information contact Sue Masseth at 585-727-2359

## Seventeenth Annual Senior Citizens' Ball

Free and open to ALL

**Victor Central School District**

Dinner Senior Citizens! Dancing

**Saturday, May 12, 2018 — 5 – 7 p.m.**

**@ Victor Intermediate School Gymnasium**

Entertainment provided by "Western New York Big Band"

Reservations required, call School & Community Relations at 924-3252,  
ext.1407 or e-mail [welche@victorschools.org](mailto:welche@victorschools.org) or [laskysh@victorschools.org](mailto:laskysh@victorschools.org)

## VCS Class of 2018 Graduation Ceremony

**Friday, June 22, 7:00 p.m.**

**War Memorial Blue Cross Arena Rochester**

## ARE YOU RECEIVING THE VCS E-NEWS?

**SPECIAL EVENTS · IMPORTANT UPDATES!** Throughout the school year, our VCS Superintendent and building principals send out electronic newsletters highlighting special school events, unique accomplishments, important updates and other timely information. Are you receiving these vital sources of school information? If not, we strongly urge you to sign up for both the Superintendent's and building principals' e-news by going to our web site: **[www.victorschools.org](http://www.victorschools.org)**