



VSA 7th Grade

2024-2025



Contact Information



Mr. Damboise-ELA

Damboiseb@springfieldpublicschools.com

Mrs. McGarvey—Math

Mcgarveyl@springfieldpublicschools.com

Mr. Pestana—Social Studies

Pestanaj@springfieldpublicschools.com

Mr. Doming—Science

domingt@springfieldpublicschools.com

Mr. Healy – Counselor

Healym@springfieldpublicschools.com

School Website—

<https://www.vansickleacademy.org/>

Facebook Page —

<https://www.facebook.com/Van-Sickle-Academy-113601739991428>

Welcome!

- Welcome back to VSA for your second year of middle school!

PowerSchool

- Parents and families will have access to PowerSchool to track grading and grades will be updated weekly
- Access is available through the parent portal on www.springfieldpublicschools.com
- Username: student id number
- Password: Spmmdyy (ex: Sp091802)

Meet the Teachers!

Mrs. McGarvey -7th Grade Math.

My name is Lea McGarvey and this is my 19th year at Van Sickle Academy. This quarter we will be learning about Scale Factor, Proportional Relationships, and Circles. I am looking forward to working with you this year.

Mr. Pestana – 7th Grade Social Studies

My name is Justin Pestana and this is my 10th year teaching in Springfield and my second year teaching at Van Sickle Academy. Outside of school, I'm into photography and sports. This quarter we will be learning about Ancient Greece and Rome. I can't wait to meet and work with you all this year.

Mr. Doming – 7th Grade Science

I am Troy Doming and this is my fifth year teaching at VSA. In my free time I like to powerlift, listen to live music, and advise the VSA workout club. This quarter we will be learning about energy and systems engineering.

Mr. Damboise —7th Grade ELA

My name is Brian Damboise and this is my 13th year teaching in Springfield and my first full year at VSA. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family and coaching my daughters in sports. This quarter we will be reading and writing a whole bunch.

Mr. Healy – 7th Grade School Counselor

I am Morgan Healy and I really enjoy facilitating our groups every year using Character Strong. In addition here to support, listen and encourage student growth and ability.



Expectations for 7th Grade

What Your Child Needs to Succeed!

- Breakfast is provided in the classroom every morning starting at 7:30 am and classes begin at 7:45 am. Food will not be allowed in the classroom after 7:45. Attendance will be taken in advisory.
- Uniforms must be worn every day, which consists of a collared black shirt, khaki or black pants or khaki or black shorts and skirts that hit below the knee, and close-toed shoes and sneakers.
- All cell phones will be collected in the morning during advisory and returned to students at the end of the day.
- Students should bring all materials necessary for learning, including their laptops and charger. If they have tech issues outside of school time, please contact the IT Help Desk.
- Laptops should be only be out at teacher direction. Only school-appropriate and on-task websites should be visited during school hours.
- Extra Help will be held on select **Wednesdays (ELA and Social Studies) and Thursdays (Math and Science) from 3:15 to 3:45**. A Calendar of specific extra help days will be posted.

Assignments and Grading

80%

Tests, Quizzes & Projects—**Summative Assessments**

20%

Classwork, Homework, & Participation—**Formative Assessments**

You will be graded on your participation in discussions and homework, which will include required reading, classwork, and many other forms of formative and summative assessments.

Academic Integrity

All work that you submit must be your own work. You may not do any of the following:

- 1) Turn in or copy someone else's work.
- 2) Copy someone's work and change a few of the words.
- 3) Copying words from a source or website without citing it and giving credit to the source.

If a student is doing any of the above or anything else that constitutes cheating, he or she will receive a zero on that assignment and will be referred for discipline.

Mark Your Calendar!!!

Labor Day: No School – Sept. 2nd

PD Day for Teachers: No School – Sept. 3

MAP Testing: ELA— Sept. 11
Math— Sept. 12
Science— Sept. 13

VSA Open House – October 1st
More info coming soon

MCAS Testing: ELA – April 10 & 11
Math – May 8 & 9

Extra Help/Late/Make-Up Work Policy

The expectation is that you submit all assignments on time.

- If you are absent, it is your responsibility to follow proper procedures for each class to ensure that you receive your work.
- Late work may be accepted at the discretion of the teacher. Please speak to your teacher to create a plan.
- Extra help sessions occur on some **Wednesdays and Thursdays** for students who need extra assistance.

If there is a special circumstance, please contact your teacher.

We are glad you and your child are joining us for this upcoming year!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us using our emails or you may contact the school at 750-2887.