



A Staff Guide to Retirement

If you are thinking about retirement, but don't know where to start, the Personnel Department is putting together a guide. This is not a hint! We just want to do all we can to help you, our valued staff members, make informed decisions and help ease the transition into this next phase of your life.

Once completed, we anticipate that this guide will include a retirement checklist, a sample retirement letter, contact information for the NYS Employee Retirement System and Teachers Retirement System, and more. There will be Retiree FAQs, with information on receiving health benefits after retirement. We also want you to know the importance of when to file your retirement application.

Once this guide is finalized, we will make it available on the Staff web page and notify you through the appropriate monthly staff newsletter.



See page 3 for some wonderful events coming up soon!





Cover Photo -

At Tioga Hills, Teacher Aide Melissa Lillie, Kindergarten Teacher Kelly Doolittle, and Kindergarten Aide Susan Meza enjoy the annual Gingerbread Cookie Day as much as their students!

Dear Golden Bear Staff,

I cannot express what a privilege it has been leading you into a New Year as your Superintendent! I look forward to the Spring as we progress through this school year and prepare for the next.

Currently, we are working on construction and renovation initiatives included in our Capital Project, approved by District voters in December 2022. This construction and the other improvements to be implemented will enhance your work environment and make us all more safe and secure.

In addition, we have begun the work of building the School Budget for the 2024-25 school year, reviewing budget lines, assessing expenditures, and doing all we can to propose a fair budget for consideration on May 21, 2024.

I wish all of you and your families a happy, healthy, and successful New Year!

Superintendent Clifford R. Kasson

OMNI 403(b) Retirement Plan

As an employee of the Vestal Central School District, you have the opportunity to save for retirement by participating in a 403(b) plan with The OMNI Group. You can participate in the Plan with pre-tax contributions by completing a Salary Reduction Agreement (SRA) found online at www.omni403b.com. Submit the completed SRA to The OMNI Group, either by fax to 585-672-6194 or by mail to U.S. OMNI, 220 Alexander Street, Suite 400, Rochester, NY 14607.

You may contribute up to \$23,000 annually (subject to change). If you have at least 15 years of service with the District or are at least 50 years old, you may be able to make additional catch-up contributions. If you have any questions, please contact Stacy Wickham, Benefits, Ext. 2228, or call The OMNI Group directly at 877-544-6664. More information can be found at www.omni403b.com.

School Board Meetings

6 p.m., Tuesday, January 30*
Board Conference Room, ADMIN

6 p.m., Tuesday, February 13
Clayton Avenue Auditorium
Clayton Avenue Elementary

6 p.m., Tuesday, February 27
Board Conference Room, ADMIN

*Rescheduled from January 23, 2024

December Staff Photo



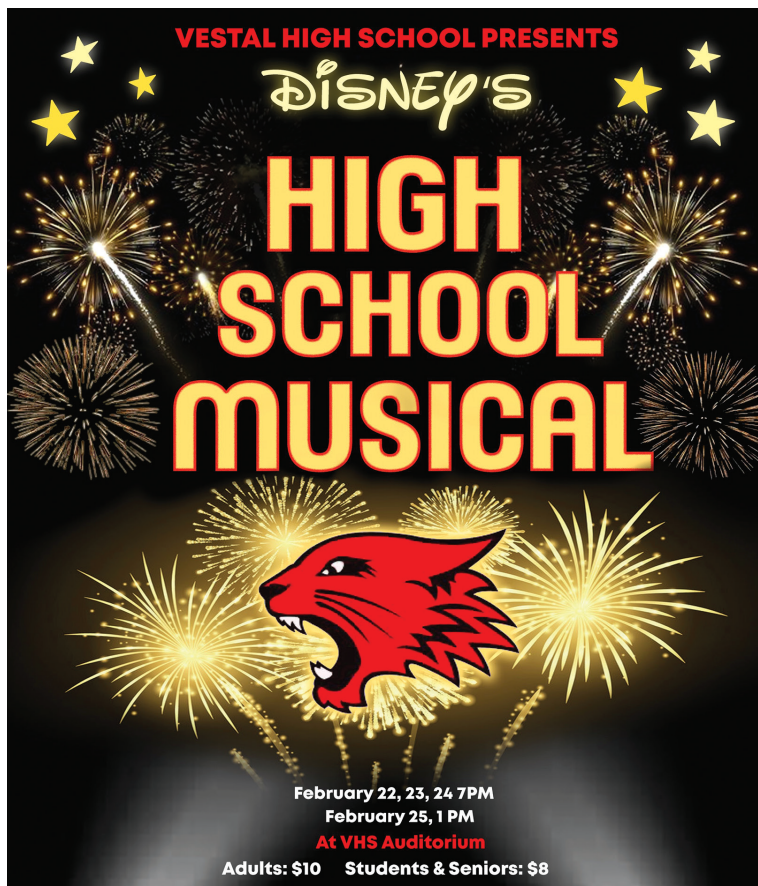
Tioga Hills Teacher Aide Ashley McKay helps a kindergarten student cut out her Gingerbread cookie.

This week,
don't miss!..

A poster for 'Emerald Fire' presented by Vestal Winterguard. The background features vibrant green and yellow flames. The text includes the title 'EMERALD FIRE' in large yellow and green letters, the subtitle 'The Sport of the Arts', and the event details: 'Saturday Feb. 3 5:00 p.m. Vestal HS'. Ticket prices are listed as \$10 for general admission, \$8 for students and seniors, and free for those under 5. Logos for Vestal Winterguard, WGI, and the Vestal School District are at the bottom.

Vestal Winterguard presents **EMERALD FIRE** Saturday Feb. 3 5:00 p.m. Vestal HS
The Sport of the Arts
TICKETS: \$10
STUDENTS & SENIORS: \$8
UNDER 5: FREE

Tickets on Sale February 5:

A poster for 'Disney's High School Musical' presented by Vestal High School. The background is black with yellow stars and fireworks. The title 'HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL' is in large, bold, yellow and orange letters. A red and white wolf head logo is at the bottom. Text includes 'VESTAL HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS', 'Disney's HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL', showtimes for February 22, 23, 24 at 7 PM and February 25 at 1 PM, and ticket prices: Adults \$10, Students & Seniors \$8.

VESTAL HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS
Disney's **HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL**
February 22, 23, 24 7PM
February 25, 1 PM
At VHS Auditorium
Adults: \$10 Students & Seniors: \$8

SHOWTIMES:
7 PM - FEB 22, 23, 24
1 PM - FEB 25

Request your Staff
Ticket at



www.vestal.stier.org/MusicDepartment.aspx

Save the Date:

VESTAL MIDDLE SCHOOL'S PRODUCTION OF



7 PM - APRIL 26 & 27 / 2 PM - APRIL 28

Ticket Sales
anticipated to begin
March 25