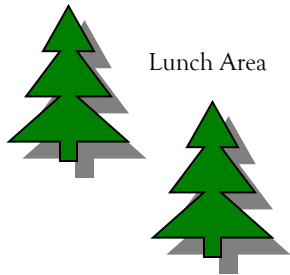


CAMPUS MAP:



Lunch Area

Room 5
School
Office

Room 4
Mr.
Anderson
8th
HomeRm.



Room 1
Mr.
Oliver
Science

Room 2
Mrs.
Van Houten
6th
HomeRm.

Room 3
Mrs.
Estrada
7th
HomeRm.

Allen Drive

VINEYARD CHRISTIAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Restrooms

LODI AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

West Lodi Avenue

STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK

2018-2019



Vineyard Christian Middle School

2301 Lodi Avenue
Lodi, California 95242

209 333-8300
Fax 209 339-4327

Mailing:
P.O. Box 210
Woodbridge, California 95258
www.vcmslodi.com

NOTES:

SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

- **A sturdy backpack**-Vineyard Christian Middle School does not have lockers or cubbies in the classrooms, so students must carry their belongings in a backpack and/or gym bag. A rolling backpack is preferred due to the weight of textbooks.
 - **A 3-ring binder of substantial size with dividers**- Students are asked to save papers for each subject each quarter. This requires a large sturdy binder with labeled dividers.
 - **A sturdy pencil pouch with the following supplies:**
 - Mechanical #2 pencils with erasers
 - Bic pen with black or blue ink for writing
 - Bic pen with red ink for correcting
 - Scissors, glue stick, Crayola crayons and colored pencils, highlighter
 - White Out tape only (No liquid or pens)
 - 12" metric and standard ruler
 - Mini stapler and pencil sharpener
 - **3 hole punched college ruled binder paper**
 - **Calculator with a cubed root function**
 - **Protractor & Ruler (Mr. Anderson)**
 - **Spiral bound 3 x 5 index cards (Mr. Oliver)**
 - **Highlighters -yellow, pink/red, blue, green (Mrs. Van Houten)**
 - **1/2 inch Binder w/ 10 dividers (Mrs. Van Houten)**
 - **Bible (New Living Translation preferred)**
 - **Composition Notebook (Mrs. Estrada)**
 - **Daily water bottle, snack and lunch**
 - **Burgundy or Gray VCMS tee-shirt**
 - **Black VCMS Gym Shorts (VCMS only)**
 - **Socks and Rubber soled shoes**
 - **One box of Kleenex (School office/Classrooms)**
- All items are to be clearly labeled with the student's first and last name.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

VCMS acts in accordance with and supports California state standards by offering standardized testing for all grade levels. Benchmark testing is done at the beginning of the school year, regularly throughout the school year and a final assessment during the spring. Test results will go home with students at the end of the school year.

COURSE OF STUDY

A breakdown of subject according to grade level is as follows:

Sixth Grade-

Christian Living	Bible/Old Testament
Science	Earth Science
Language Arts	Grammar/Writing/Literature
Math	Core Mathematics
History	World & Geography
Physical Education	Exercise/Athletics

Seventh Grade-

Christian Living	Bible/New Testament
Science	Life Science
Language Arts	Grammar/Writing/Literature
Math	Pre-Algebra
History	Medieval & European
Physical Education	Exercise/Athletics

Eighth Grade-

Christian Living	Biblical Application
Science	Physical Science
Language Arts	Grammar/Writing/Literature
Math	Algebra I/Pre-Geometry
History	United States
Physical Education	Exercise/Athletics

VCMS curriculum was carefully chosen to comply with California State Standards and to exceed those expectations. Education in the area of academics is conducted with the high school/college bound student in mind. A student is taught time management, organization, prioritization, note-taking, comprehension and study skills inside of the curriculum administered. A deviation from lesson plans is encouraged when current events demand, providing opportunity for discussion, explanation and/or action. A departure from regular curriculum must be approved by the administration. Videos are G or PG rated, and a staff member is required to review the selection prior to showing. On occasion, a PG13 rated movie is shown, but not without parental permission. A teacher will send a note home explaining the reasons for showing the movie; often the offensive scene(s) is removed from viewing. Movies must pertain to and enhance the subject matter of the curriculum.

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Daily Schedule:

Staff Prayer is 7:45p.m.
VCMS Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
School begins at 8:00 a.m.
Lunch Break is 12:15p.m. to 12:50 p.m.
School dismissal is 2:30 p.m.

MISSION AND VALUES

Mission Statement

Vineyard Christian Middle School is a partnership with Christian families and churches that prepares students to serve God responsibly in His world by equipping them with the academic knowledge, social skills, and Biblical vision for life, for the advancement of the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

Core Values

Christ Honoring– We honor and serve our Lord Jesus Christ with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Bible Centered– We believe the Bible to be inspired, the only infallible authoritative, inerrant Word of God.

Servant Focused– We follow our Lord’s example in serving as He made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant– to death on the cross.

Excellence Driven– We strive for excellence in all things as doing all things for the Lord Jesus.

Accountability Oriented– We believe in mutual accountability between VCMS staff, parents, students, board and the Christian community as defined and modeled by Jesus Christ.

Integrity Based– We endeavor to be people of integrity who are wholesome, pure and complete, pursuing uncompromising honesty, our greatest example being Jesus Christ.

I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5

Party Planners– Because there are plenty of opportunities to party, planners are necessary. VCMS celebrates the Harvest with a Festival, Jesus’ birthday with a Christmas party and Valentine’s Day with some special adults. Parent Club provides funds for these special events.

Recycling– VCMS families recycle aluminum cans and plastic bottles. Pick-up day is Friday; proceeds go to the Bear Creek Water Project.

SCRIP– The purchase of SCRIP is important to the fundraising efforts of VCMS. Purchasing gift cards/certificates to be used like cash in grocery stores, retail outlets, restaurants and the like returns a percentage of profit to VCMS. Percentages accumulate into what is potentially a great profit for VCMS students. Profits are part of the Parent Club income and translate into special assemblies, field trips, incentives and enrichment opportunities. A SCRIP newsletter accompanies each bimonthly SCRIP order. Scrip is also available for purchase in the school office.

Warrior Window Café– Warrior Window Café (WWC) is open for business every Tuesday & Thursday afternoon. Serving snacks and drinks students may chose from lower sugar candy, Chex mix, crackers, goldfish, pretzels, Gatorade, and water. Most items are one dollar or less. Student Council students and parent volunteers operate the WWC weekly, and any profits are designated to the enrichment of VCMS students.

Parent Club

Your 2018-2019 Parent Club Officers-

President	Amanda Hendrickson
Vice President	Stephanie Orlando
Secretary	Janelle Williams
Treasurer	Dustie Peterson

Committees

Scrip	Tricia Brock, Carrie Koenig, & Susan Williams
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VCMS NEEDS YOU!

Vineyard Christian Middle School depends on volunteer involvement for the organization, orchestration, implementation and ultimate success of many of its undertakings. While it appears that volunteers are mostly parents, it is not strange to see a sibling or a grandparent. VCMS welcomes volunteers to our campus with the understanding that certain rules and restrictions may apply.

Fundraising and Volunteers

BoxTops for Education- In partnership with Labels for Education, VCMS collects boxtops from designated Labels for Education products and submits them for cash.

Crab Feed- The Annual VCMS Crab Feed will generate funds for the eighth grade students who plan to attend the annual trip to Washington D.C. Many volunteers are needed to assure the continual success of this event. Held in conjunction with a silent auction, live auction and raffle, this evening of “fun”draising requires organization from the eighth grade families. Seventh grade students and their families are encouraged to assist with a servant’s heart...and in preparation for the following year.

Drivers- Volunteers are often needed to drive students to and from athletic events, field trips and community service events. Volunteer drivers must complete a driver’s form and provide a copy of their valid driver’s license and proof of insurance to be kept on file in the school office. A driver is responsible for the well-being of the children in his/her vehicle. It is understood that a driver/chaperone will refrain from using unacceptable language, cell phone use and excessive speed. A driver/chaperone will remain with the students at all times.

Hot Lunch- The VCMS Hot Lunch program provides students with the opportunity to have lunch on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons from a variety of food service options. Ordered and paid for in advance, lunch is distributed on campus. While the school office makes the arrangements, parents are asked to assist with pick-up.

Noon Duty- VCMS provides supervision of students during the lunch break. Volunteers are encouraged to assist with noon duty. Offering the staff a much deserved break, noon supervisors maintain order during the lunch break.



The staff of Vineyard Christian Middle School is a unique group with a diverse background. While each member brings their own distinctive personality to their work, collectively they share the vision of the school. Working with a commitment to the students and families of VCMS, the staff embraces new opportunities to incorporate the teachings of our Lord into every subject area. As a result, the youth who attend VCMS receive a complete education that includes lessons in academics and Christian principles.

Introducing the Vineyard Christian Middle School staff...

Principal/Science	Randal Oliver
Vice Principal	Christi Hilscher
Administrative Assistant	Jammie Morton
Math	Ryan Anderson
English/Literature	Ashleigh Van Houten
Christian Living/History	Lauren Estrada
P.E.	
Athletic Director	Jammie Morton
Student Council Advisor	Lauren Estrada
After School Program Director	Carole Skelton

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kim Nickel	Dustie Peterson	Mike Engle
David Brock	Katie Graves	Christie Smart
Kristen Saccone		Chad Reed

COMMUNITY

Following many months of planning and prayer, Vineyard Christian Middle School opened its doors following an awesome dedication ceremony on August 24, 2004. VCMS gives all of the praise and glory to our Heavenly Father.

AFFILIATIONS/COMMITMENTS

Vineyard Christian Middle School is a nondenominational school. We desire to remain united in the salvation and love of Christ, rather than focusing on denominational issues. This is possible with the cooperation of family, church and school.

Vineyard Christian Middle School offers its program to sixth, seventh and eighth grade students.

Vineyard Christian Middle School is a member of the Central Valley Christian Schools Athletic Conference.

Vineyard Christian Middle School is a member of Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

Vineyard Christian Middle School is committed to numerous community service organizations including the Salvation Army, Grace & Mercy Charitable Foundation, Lodi House, the Lodi Pregnancy Resource Center, Adopt-a-Child, Cure SMA, One-Eighty Teen Center, Lodi Cancer Kids, Upward Sports, and more.

PARENT CLUB

Parent Club is a vital component to the success of Vineyard Christian Middle School. A host of enrichment opportunities is made available to the students through the efforts of its members. Funds from *PC* are designated for field trips, assemblies, class parties, student incentives and more.

Scrip, Warrior Wear sales, and student activity fees are just a few of the ways that funds are generated for *Parent Club*.

Parent Club meetings are held monthly.

HOW TO...

Earn Honor Roll Status

A VCMS student who earns a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.5% to 3.99% on his/her quarterly report card has attained Honor Roll status. Honor Roll students are acknowledged in the Vineyard Press and celebrated during a breakfast held in their honor.

Earn Principal's List Status

A VCMS student who earns a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.0% on his/her quarterly report card has attained Principal's List status. Students on the Principal's List are acknowledged in the Vineyard Press. In addition, Mr. Oliver & Mrs. Hilscher takes the group to lunch at a local establishment where they are celebrated for their accomplishment..

Earn Perfect Church Attendance

A VCMS student who attends church every Sunday and as a result has perfect church attendance reflected on his/her quarterly report card is to be commended. Students who have earned perfect church attendance are acknowledged in the Vineyard Press, rewarded with a test pass, and celebrated for their commitment and faith to Christ's command.

Earn a Warrior Award

A VCMS student who exemplifies the model of a Christian by performing an act or deed clearly in accordance with Christ's commands and without solicitation or desire for notoriety is awarded the Warrior Award. Students who have earned the Warrior Award are acknowledged by the staff and given a token for Warrior Window Café.

HOW TO....

How to figure Grade Point Average:

<i>Core Subject</i>	<i>Class Credits</i>	<i>Grade x Credits</i>	<i>Points</i>
Christian Living	(4)	A=4 x (4) =	16
History	(4)	B=3 x (4) =	12
Literature	(4)	C=2 x (4) =	8
Math	(4)	D=1 x (4) =	4
Science	(4)	F=0 x (4) =	0
English	(4)	Inc.=0 x (4) =	0
Physical Ed.	(2)	A=4 x (2) =	8
Elective	(2)	B=3 x (2) =	6
		C=2 x (2) =	4
		D=1 x (2) =	2
		F=0 x (2) =	0
		Inc.=0 x (2) =	0
Total Class Credits	(28)		

In order to calculate a students' Grade Point Average per grading period, add the total number of points (based on the formula above) and then divide by the number 28. Do not round up.

For Example:

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade (value) x Credit</i>	<i>Points</i>
Christian Living	A	(4x4)	16
History	B+	(3x4)	12
Literature	B-	(3x4)	12
Math	A	(4x4)	16
Science	C	(2x4)	8
English	A	(4x4)	16
P.E.	A	(4x2)	8
Elective	C	(2x2)	4
		Total number of points	92

$$92 \text{ (points)} / 28 = 3.2\% \text{ GPA}$$

SCHOOL AND FAMILY RELATIONS

The school-family relations program shall be such that the family is fully informed about the educational program, the strengths and needs of the school and the services which are available to the school community. An informed citizenry is essential for complete cooperation and support.

Vineyard Christian Middle School believes that:

- a. Students are gifts of the Lord and belong to their parents, not to the state or to VCMS.
- b. Parents are responsible for the conduct of their children.
- c. The school derives its educational authority from the parents and stands in "loco parentis" during the school day.

Vineyard Christian Middle School encourages parental participation in as many programs and activities as possible. For example:

- a. Serving as volunteers in day-to-day activities.
- b. Attending/participating in the special programs and activities of the school.

Please see pages 28 & 29 for volunteer opportunities.

PARENTAL COOPERATION POLICY

Vineyard Christian Middle School's educational mission involves working with the home in the overall Christian education of students. On occasion this cooperation between the school and home may become difficult. To avoid such situations, the school requires parents to affirmatively support and cooperate with the school. As the parent, please agree to the following:

I agree to support the school with my prayers and with a positive attitude. Complaints, concerns or negative comments will be shared only with the teacher, administrator, or person involved and not with my child or other people, following the Matthew 18 principle.

I understand that if at any time the school determines, in its sole discretion, that my actions do not support the ministry, or reflect a lack of cooperation and commitment to the home and school working together, the school has the right to request the withdrawal of my child(ren).

UNIFORM/DRESS CODE POLICY

Dress Code/Uniform

At VCMS, it is our desire to uphold a high standard of excellence in all areas. Our goal concerning the dress code policy is to enforce school uniform guidelines that reflect our high standard in modesty and professionalism.

The VCMS colors are burgundy, black, white, gray and pink (not salmon or coral). A student may not dress in all black.

Physical Education uniforms consist of **VCMS (only)** black nylon shorts, gray or burgundy VCMS tee-shirts, socks and laced rubber soled shoes. Students may wear **solid black sweatpants** (no stripes or logos) during cold weather. Black P.E. sweats are available for purchase in the school office.

Shorts/Pants- Students may wear shorts/pants in black, gray or khaki. Shorts and pants are to be uniform style; **no cargo style, multi pocketed, patch pocketed**, frayed, top-stitched, or corduroy are permitted. Girls may wear capris/bermudas; all styles are to be worn at the waist/mid rise- no low-rise pants permitted. Shorts are to be no shorter than 4 inches above the knee; no rolling, sagging or improperly fitted clothing items are permitted.

Skirts- Skirts are to be uniform style. Girls may wear black, gray, khaki or VCMS plaid skirts. Skirts must be hemmed 2-4 inches above the knee (measured front and back, while kneeling on the floor). Skirts are to be worn at the waist/mid rise- no low-rise skirts are permitted. Tights and leggings are encouraged in dress code colors for warmth and to avoid the worry of the "skirt length issue".

Belts- Belts are not required, however if a belt is worn it must be solid in VCMS colors. No metal studded, jeweled or decorated belts are permitted.

Shirts/Blouses- Students must wear collared shirts, blouses, and turtlenecks in black, burgundy, gray, white and pink (not salmon or coral). Logos must **not be larger than 2 inches**. VCMS tee-shirts may be worn on **Fridays only**. **Tucking of shirts is optional. Shirts must be the appropriate length- not too long or short and properly fitted! Layering is not permitted.** Undergarments of any kind must not be visible.

Government, to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow Citizens of the united States at large, and particularly for their brethren who have served in the Field, and finally, that he would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all, to do Justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that Charity, humility and pacific temper of mind, which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed Religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy Nation. George Washington, 1776

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Off Campus Education- Field trips to a variety of locations may include the Gold Country, the Bay area, Sacramento and numerous local sites. Teachers are encouraged to take the classroom "outside" whenever possible in order to meet California state standards and enhance the learning opportunity.

Chapel- Chapel is held Thursday mornings, first period, in the Lodi Avenue Baptist Church Sanctuary. Guest speakers are invited to campus to share their message of faith and love.

Community Service- Students serve God while serving the community through programs such as Salvation Army Bell Ringers, PRC Walk for Life, Lodi Adopt-a-Child, Cure & Support for SMA, and other activities involving youth and seniors.

Student Council- Student government is run by leaders from each grade level. Interested students apply for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Rally Commissioners, Prayer Warrior and Class Representatives. Student Council is responsible for organizing Spirit Week in the spring. Student Council members sell beverages at lunch to earn funds. Student Council will meet under the leadership of Mrs. Estrada

After School Program- After school care/enrichment is offered on a daily basis through-out the school year for an additional fee. Program hours are Monday-Friday from 2:30-6:00 excluding holidays. The VCMS after school program is more than a child care program but an enrichment to our daily schedule with access to teachers and curriculum. Carole Skelton is the program director.

Vineyard Christian Middle School

CLASS TRIPS

Sixth Grade– Mission Springs Science Camp

This fall the 6th grade class will spend a week at Mission Springs. Nestled in the Santa Cruz Mountains and surrounded by majestic redwoods, the location provides an ideal setting for students to experience spiritual growth while having “tons of fun.” The entire class will attend the camp, accompanied by Mr. Oliver. For additional information please visit their website at www.missionsprings.com.

In John 4:34-38 Jesus speaks of the harvest and how ripe the fields are. In the camping ministry the staff of Mission Springs is often used by the Lord to reap the harvest.

Seventh Grade– “Rapture”

An awesome adventure awaits the 7th grade class as they take part in the expedition anchored off the coasts of the Channel Islands. Exploring the intricate sea life of the underwater world, along with the terrain of this beautiful island, *Rapture* proves to be a life-changing experience. Horizons are expanded, barriers are broken, and growth is achieved. This trip will depart from the VCMS campus, bound for the pier in Long Beach. There students will board the ocean exploring vessel. The trip will take place at the end of August. Students will be accompanied by Mr. Oliver and Mr. Anderson.

We provide mental and physical challenges through instruction and discipline by total immersion in the marine environment. Participants leave our program prepared to be the future stewards of our Earth and hopefully better human beings.

Eighth Grade– Washington D.C.

Next Spring VCMS 8th graders will travel across our nation to visit the capital city, Washington D.C. Led by Joshua Expeditions Christian Tour Company, accompanied by Mr. Oliver and Mrs. Estrada and supervised by parent chaperones, students will enhance their previous knowledge with regard to the layout of the city, its monuments, landmarks and sites of historical value. In addition students will experience the arts, the operation of government procedure, and the opportunity to meet with a few popular political figures. Details of the trip are arranged by Mrs. Hilscher; curriculum is taught prior to departure by Mrs. Estrada.

I now make it my earnest prayer, that God would have you and the State over which you preside, in his holy protection, that he would incline the hearts of the Citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to

Sweatshirts/Sweaters– VCMS logo SWEATSHIRTS are the only SWEATSHIRTS allowed to be worn at school. These sweatshirts are available for purchase through the Parent Club. Sweaters and vests in solid school colors are also permitted, however they must **not have designs, stripes and/or visible logos.** No other sweatshirts are permitted, even during recess. Sweatshirts and sweaters must be in good condition– no frayed, torn or unhemmed portion. Sweaters may be crew neck, V-neck or cardigan, long or short sleeve in only VCMS solid colors. Jackets and/or coats must be free of logos, and are not to be worn during class. Jean jackets cannot be worn as part of the dress code.

Socks– Students must wear black/white socks at all times. Fun socks may be worn on Fridays. The length of the sock does not matter (calf, knee, crew, etc) but socks have to be worn. Only solid black or white socks are allowed. “Nike Elite” colors need to be black or white only. Logos should be no larger than one inch.

Shoes– Shoes must be closed toe, low heel, and rubber soled. No sandals or boots (including Uggs) are permitted. Shoes with laces must be laced and tied. Moccasin style shoes are not permitted. “Tom’s” styles are acceptable. Laced athletic shoes must be worn during P.E.

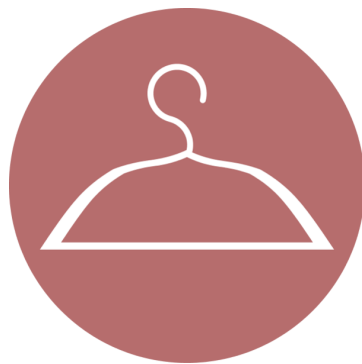
Jewelry/Accessories– Students may wear appropriate jewelry, not in excess. Large hoops, earrings or costume jewelry and expensive jewelry is not acceptable. Hair accessories can include headbands that are no wider than 2 inches and free from logos. Hair bows or flower accessories must not be large enough to be considered a distraction. Accessories need to be in VCMS school colors. Scarves can be worn during cold months in dress code colors only.

Grooming– Students are to be well groomed at all times. Hair is to be clean and well maintained, kept off the collar and out of the eyes. Hair needs to be natural in color, no dyed or bleached hair is permitted and this includes “Kool-Aid” hair colors. Teeth are to be clean; deodorant should be used and included in the gym bag. Clothing is to be clean, in good condition and well fitting. Because this is a period in a student’s life when he/she will experience much physical growth, we suggest that clothing be monitored (often for appropriate fit and condition.) We are seeking a distraction free environment while providing the best spiritual and academic experience.

VCMS CLOTHES CLOSET

In addition to purchasing your P.E uniform clothing & VCMS sweatshirts through Warrior Wear, Parent Club also operates a “gently used” clothes closet throughout the school year. There you will find previous worn but clean and gently used uniform clothing, VCMS P.E. clothing, and VCMS sweatshirts. Most items are \$1, sweatshirts are \$5. We ask that all VCMS students donate uniform clothing back to VCMS if they have outgrown them during their middle school years or once they graduate. It can be such a blessing to completely outfit a student for the school year for just a few dollars. The Clothes Closet is open for business on most Common Planning Days and when necessary (for missing P.E. clothes if a student happens to have a dollar with them) during recess and lunch. Clothes Closet will be open during other events throughout the school year including Back to School Night, New Student Orientation, Move Night, Common Planning Days, etc.

Please consider frequenting this VCMS endeavor and donating to the cause as well. You can also sign up to work the Clothes Closet during Common Planning Days. All proceeds directly benefit the VCMS Parent Club and all VCMS students.



QUALITIES OF THE CHRISTIAN ATHLETE

The Christian Athlete:

1. Plays hard, giving 100% all the time.
2. Plays by the rules and does not seek to gain unfair advantage by breaking the spirit of the rules.
3. Plays for God's glory and not for their own personal desire and glory.
4. Does not boast of their accomplishments, but directs the attention towards others.
5. Is genuinely humble because of their recognition of who they are in the light of who God is.
6. Is not a showman or showoff.
7. Does not blame others, teammates or officials for their own failures.
8. Desires to see others succeed and does not become jealous of their success.
9. Enjoys competition, never quits, and plays the game for the game itself.
10. Practices diligently, working on their weaknesses and improving skills.
11. Accepts unfair decisions graciously and handles adversity with self-control.
12. Is willing to sacrifice for the good of the team.
13. Becomes either a leader or one who supports the leadership of another.
14. Reacts positively to discipline, never with defiance toward authority.
15. Always wins, because winning is having played the game as well as possible. Therefore, one cannot tell by the actions or conversation of a Christian athlete whether in points scored they won or lost.

WARRIOR ATHLETICS

Athletic Director-	Jammie Morton
League affiliation-	CVCSAC
Fall Sports-	Boy's and Girl's Volleyball
Winter Sports-	Girl's Basketball and Boy's Basketball
Spring Sports-	Track Meet, Softball Tournament
Fee-	\$100.00 per player per sport (nonrefundable)
Mascot-	Warriors
Colors-	Burgundy and Gray/Silver

Vineyard Christian Middle School is committed to using every aspect of athletics to help students grow and trust in Christ. *“And whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” Colossians 3:23,24.*

Warrior Athletics is a natural avenue for discipleship; we will glorify God through team sports. We are committed to excellence; who we are as individuals and how we treat others will help define us as a team, and as a school. Whether we win or lose, we will always serve the Lord.

Sportsmanship is not an option for Warrior Athletics. Sportsmanship and the character of a Christian go hand in hand. We are a new creation in Christ, therefore when “calls” do not go our way, we will remember who we are and be good models. As Christians, we are called to be thankful in all circumstances and situations. We accept adversity as a friend and allow it to smooth out our rough edges, so that in all things Jesus Christ will be lifted up and then glorified.

VCMS Warrior Athletic Competitors Manual

A copy of the Athletic Policy Manual is available for review in the school office and/or from the Athletic Director. Policies, procedures, fees and permission forms are included in the manual. Please refer to the manual for specific rules that pertain to attendance, behavior, grades, and commitment/participation of a player. Each student who desires to play for a VCMS team will be afforded the opportunity providing they meet and respect the rules as outlined in the manual. It is a privilege to participate in Warrior Athletics, an extracurricular program offered by Vineyard Christian Middle School.

All coaches are subject to Live Scan.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance-

Regular school attendance provides a student with the classroom experience. This experience is composed of participation in class activities and direct instruction conducted by the teacher. The instructional program designed by each teacher is a progressive and sequential experience. It is generally impossible for that experience to be “made up”.

Daily Attendance-

Attendance is taken daily at 8:00a.m. by the first period teacher. If a student is going to be absent, parents/guardians are to call **prior to 9:00a.m.** in order to report the reason. Parents/Guardians **MUST** inform the School Office of a student's absence for any reason.

In the event the student is absent for more than one day, missed assignments may be provided. Parents/Guardians may call the School Office, or email the teachers directly. Students may also obtain information from a classmate, making sure it is accurate.

Upon a student's return to school, the student is given one day for each day absent to make up missed work. Any special circumstances must be discussed with the teacher; it is the responsibility of the student to meet with each teacher regarding make-up opportunities. If the missed work is not completed and/or not turned in according to policy, the student will receive an Incomplete.

Request for Pre-Arranged Absence (vacation, camp, etc.)-

Parents/Guardians **MUST** inform the school office of a student's absence due to vacation, camp, etc. A form requesting this type of absence is available in the school office; notification in advance is preferable in order to plan for a student's absence from classroom activities. In the event that a student will miss school due to an pre-arranged absence, **the teacher will use his/her discretion regarding the issuing of homework prior to the trip.** Due dates for homework will be at the discretion of each teacher upon return of the student. It is the responsibility of the students to meet with each teacher regarding class work, assessments and due dates.

It must be recognized that a student missing school for any reason is detrimental to his/her progress in school. Absences due to parent request should be kept to a minimum.

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GRADING AND DISCIPLINE POLICIES

Grading

Students at Vineyard Christian Middle School are graded on a four point grade scale with an A equal to a 4.0. A 2.0 grade point average (GPA) is the minimum expectation for all students. Students not maintaining a standard GPA may be placed on academic probation. (Refer to pages 20- *Probation* and 26- *How to Calculate GPA*)

Assignments turned without a heading (name) will receive a 0%. Incomplete, messy, illegible and unorganized work may be reassigned, and will be graded at the discretion of the teacher. (Refer to individual teacher's syllabus.)

To participate in the sports program at VCMS, a student must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA. A student who has a GPA that is less than 2.0 or has an "F" in any subject area may not participate in sports. Grades will be reviewed at midterm and end of the quarter grade report.

Discipline

The discipline policy of the school is intended to establish an optimum school/classroom learning environment. Discipline is training that develops self-control and character, as well as the attitude of submission to authority. The school's discipline policies include instruction, correction, consequence, and reward. All of these elements are Biblical principles. A balance between consequence and reward is essential.

Administrators and teachers will use the VCMS discipline policy as a guideline for the basic structure of discipline at our school. This philosophy establishes reasonable expectations and consistently hold students accountable. Detentions are served during lunch or in the afternoons and issued at the discretion of the teachers/administration. Three or more detentions results in a conduct referral. Three conduct referrals results in a suspension. A suspension can be issued prior to a detention in accordance with the discipline code of the policy manual.

Weapons- Weapons of any kind are not permitted on campus. Students found to be carrying a weapon will be disciplined according to the School Discipline code. A student brandishing a weapon, threatening others or acting in an irresponsible manner will be dealt with according to the guidelines in place with local authorities.

TECHNOLOGY AND VCMS

Renweb - VCMS uses RenWeb School Management Software. This technology gives parents an opportunity to get more involved in your child's academic progress and future success, all via the Internet. You are encouraged to access Renweb/Parentsweb online grading system on a daily basis. There you have access to daily announcements, calendars events, grades, homework assignments, email access to all teachers, report cards, attendance, as well as tuition & financial information. There is even an app for your mobile phone too!

VCMS Website - On our webpage you will find a wealth of additional information including pictures, forms, school and monthly activity calendars, contact/bio information for all staff members, scholarship information, enrollment information and forms, dress code and school supplies, fund-a-future wish list items and much more information. Please visit our website at www.vcmslodi.com

VCMS Facebook & Instagram - Become a friend of the VCMS Facebook page and "like us" on Facebook and Instagram! We update Facebook and Instagram on a regular basis with weekly student birthdays, class parties, spirit days, school events, and class/campus fun! We have a special place in our hearts for alumni too so connect with us and don't miss out. Tell your family too!

Chromebooks - The Internet and Chromebooks are used in the classrooms on a regular basis by students. Please see *page 18* for more detailed information regarding the *VCMS Internet Policy and Chromebook User Agreement*.

Probation- Probation is invoked when a student has a serious problem; probation gives a student an opportunity to correct his/her problem. If he/she does not improve to the level deemed acceptable by the administration, he/she may be dismissed from VCMS. Reasons that are academic in nature include insufficient academic progress and/or failure of the parents to follow through post consultation. Reasons that are attitudinal in nature include a rebellious spirit which is unchanged after much effort by staff and/or a continued negative attitude and bad influence upon other students. Reasons that are disciplinary in nature include continued deliberate disobedience, committing a serious breach of conduct which has an adverse effect upon the school's testimony and/or failure of parents to comply with the disciplinary procedures of the school. Probation is at the discretion of the administration; the school board will be notified.

School Calendar- Vineyard Christian Middle School will maintain a published school year calendar.

Student Sign Out- When taking a student off campus during the school day, the responsible party must sign the child out. A sign-out sheet is located in the school office. The date, time of departure, reason for leaving and a signature from the responsible party are required in order for VCMS to release a child. Always call the school office if someone other than the expected party will be picking a child up after school.

Vineyard Press- Every Wednesday the *Vineyard Press* is distributed to VCMS students. This publication is written and assembled by the school office, and everything a VCMS family wants and needs to know is included. The *Press* will often include items of extreme importance including hot lunch order forms, field trip permission slips, and a variety of similar forms that may require a response. Remember to ask your VCMS student for your copy of the *Vineyard Press*, every Wednesday afternoon.

Visitors on Campus- All visitors/volunteers must check in at the school office before reporting to any area, classroom or building for duty or a visit.

Volunteers- VCMS depends heavily on volunteers for many of the tasks that take place both on and off campus. Volunteers are not fingerprinted through the Department of Justice, however policy dictates that persons who drive, chaperone, and/or supervise will be asked to provide information that will assure the safety of all VCMS students. This information is kept on file in the school office. *Please see pages 28 & 29 for volunteer opportunities.*

TARDY AND HOMEWORK POLICIES

Tardy

- After three (3) unexcused tardies in a quarter, the student will receive one unit of detention. Each additional tardy will result in an additional detention. After serving 3 detentions related to tardies, a student will receive a Conduct Referral. Continual tardiness will result in a one day suspension and may affect reenrollment and/or graduation. Excessive tardiness is considered a serious problem. In severe cases, the School Board shall be informed.
- If a student is late to class after the passing period, the teacher may record the student as tardy. A student may accumulate numerous tardy marks in one given day.
- Excused tardies include doctor/dental appointments **with a readmittance slip from the attending physician.** Funerals, court appearances and illnesses with a note are considered excused.
- If a student arrives later than five minutes, he/she must check in at the school office.

Homework

Vineyard Christian Middle School recognizes the educational value and importance of homework. Homework should be a purposeful extension of the school day, which provides the student with additional opportunities for the development, and reinforcement of the school's instructional objectives. Christ-like character qualities of responsibility, initiative, orderliness and thoroughness are also developed as a result of homework.

The homework assigned will be within reasonable limits; total home assignments normally should require no more than two hours per night. Special circumstances may dictate that more or less homework than normal be assigned.

A variety of homework will be assigned. Time will be provided within the class period for students to begin the assignment and ask questions.

Planners are distributed to each student at the beginning of the school year. Students are encouraged to use their planner faithfully in order to develop successful organizational skills.

ADMISSION AND FELLOWSHIP POLICIES

Admission

It is the desire of Vineyard Christian Middle School to provide an atmosphere that will challenge Christian young people to grow strong in their faith. This will be accomplished through:

- Christian teachers who teach and disciple
- Emphasis on Biblical foundation
- Strong academic curriculum
- Positive peer and family relationships

The students and families will express a desire to:

- Actively pursue a relationship with Jesus Christ
- Attend school and abide by its policies and procedures
- Attend church on a regular basis

Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy as to Students

Vineyard Christian Middle School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Church Attendance

Believing that our role at VCMS is to assist the home and the church in the task of training young people, we feel that it is of utmost importance for all of our students, with their families, to be in regular attendance at their church. To that end, the school works in partnership with Christian families and churches in the community to prepare students to live responsibly in God's world. Church fellowship and worship is an integral part of the process. Student attendance is recorded for accountability purposes; low church attendance will be addressed by the administration, and reported to the school board. Continually poor church attendance may adversely effect enrollment/future enrollment of a student. *Hebrews 10:25*

Medicine- All medical supplies as well as non-prescription medications are kept in the school office; only school staff has immediate access. All prescription medications are to be kept in the School Office and are dispensed by the administration upon written direction from a parent/doctor. Exceptions with special circumstances may be approved by the principal. VCMS will not administer any medication without parental permission; VCMS will not provide medicine for the students. Students who do not adhere to these rules may be disciplined as to the Drug Abuse policy (*see page 17*).

Policy Manual- A copy of the school policy manual will be available for review in the school office.

Prayer- Prayer is a vital ingredient in our program of Christian training. Students at Vineyard Christian Middle School are trained in the importance of establishing a consistent daily prayer life. Teachers lead the students to understand how God is central to all of life and that continual communication with Him is essential to consistent Christian living.

Parent-Teacher Conferences- Scheduled Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences take place during the first week of November. At all other times, parents interested in arranging a meeting with a teacher should email the teacher directly and/or schedule a meeting. Parents are advised to communicate concerns with the teacher before contacting the Principal.

Parking Lot- Adherence to Parking Lot rules and procedures is mandatory and will be enforced by attendants and Administration.

Permission Slips for field trips - A school permission slip must be signed by a parent/guardian for every student. Permission slips must be returned by the due date; students will remain on campus if permission is not received as requested. No verbal approval will be accepted.

Phone Calls- The telephone located in the school office is not available for student use, unless in the case of an emergency and at the discretion of the administration. Students who forget their lunch, binder, gym clothes, etc. will not be permitted to call home during the school day.

Internet- Internet/Chromebook access has been established for a limited educational purpose that shall be consistent with the school's curriculum and standards. The term "educational purpose" includes academic activities; career development; and approved limited, high-quality activities. All students and parents/guardians must sign a copy of this policy and return it to their teacher in order to be allowed use of the school's computers/Chromebooks.

Lock Downs- In the event of a situation that requires that students be locked inside the school buildings, the Lodi Police Department will be notified. Students will remain in their classrooms until the administration deems the situation no longer a threat. Parents are asked to stay away from the school in this situation.

Medical Emergency- At the beginning of each school year, all students are required to file an "Emergency Card" which includes the name and phone number of the doctor to be notified, as well as the name, address and phone number of the parent/guardian(s) and an alternate person to be notified if the need should arise.

In case of more serious illness or injury, the family will be contacted by phone and the parents/alternate person may be requested to come to the school to pick up the ill student. In no case will the student be allowed to return home unaccompanied. In case of serious illness or injury, VCMS reserves the right to call 911. This may be done before consultation with the family.

Moral Misconduct- The potential for serious moral misconduct of students is real in Christian schools. It may become the responsibility of Vineyard Christian Middle School to maintain Biblical standards and discipline that is initially the responsibility of the parents and their local congregation. Therefore, the thrust of the school's action must be the maintenance of conduct standards, the safety of the students and staff, and the presentation of the Biblical role model. Moral misconduct is defined as any verbal or physical behavior(s) seen as being immoral, sexual in nature and/or categorized as an act of sexual harassment or otherwise. This would also include personal possession or distribution of any unacceptable language, music, pictures or other materials. Disciplinary action will be taken.

FEES

Before a child will be considered as a potential student, a completed enrollment application must be on file in the VCMS office. The application fee is \$50.00 (nonrefundable).

At the time a student is accepted to VCMS, a non-refundable registration fee of \$350.00 is required.

Tuition is \$420.00 per month beginning in June and ending in May. Tuition may be paid in one sum at any time throughout the year. Tuition is late after the 15th of each month, and subject to a \$25 late fee.

A nonrefundable fee of \$100.00 per player per sport will be paid by each participant of the VCMS Warrior Athletic program.

A \$50.00 student activity fee is requested by the Parent Club. This fee is used to operate the PC budget for each school year, providing numerous enrichment opportunities for the students.

A fee of \$25.00 will be charged for any returned check.

(Fees are subject to change.)

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

It is the belief of VCMS that a quality education is the result of (1) a curriculum that integrates God's Truth into all courses and adequately prepares the student for future educational endeavors; (2) teachers that are Christian in philosophy and practice and (3) classes of 28-30 students or less per teacher, which enables the student to derive maximum benefit from his/her academic exposure.

Each student is expected to use all available school and home resources and to perform at his/her highest level in order to take full advantage of the educational program. His or her originality and creativity is encouraged within the organized framework of the classroom.

While parent involvement in the classroom is usually not encouraged at this grade level, studies indicate that parent participation in campus volunteer activities is a major factor in the success of junior high students overall. VCMS encourages parents to be actively involved in their student's education in an advisory capacity.

PROCEDURES (AND MORE POLICIES...)

Cell Phones- Students are required to check in their cell phones at the school office upon arrival to campus. The phones will be kept in the office for the duration of the school day. No cell phones are to be used at any time while the student is on the VCMS campus. (Calls that are emergency status may be made from the School Office.) If a student is discovered to have a phone in his/her possession during the school day, the administration will keep the phone until a parent/guardian retrieves the phone. Disciplinary action may be taken. We appreciate that students and parents wish to communicate with each other, however we cannot allow interruptions, misuse and disregard for school rules to occur.

Cheating- Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated at VCMS. Cheating is a violation of the VCMS Code of Conduct, Core Values and of God's laws. Cheating (including plagiarism) will always result in disciplinary action. Cheating "cheats" the student by keeping him/her from an educational concept, lesson, experience, or goal.

Detention- Detention is held during lunch. One unit of detention is served from 12:15-12:50 p.m. during lunch. Detention will not be used as study hall, social time, tutoring opportunity, etc.

Dress Code Violations- Students are expected to monitor their own appearance, following the school rules at ALL times. (See Dress Code/Uniform Policy). Staff will note violations of dress code standards, will provide counsel and warning, and/or deliver a consequence/citation to the offending student. Obvious and repeated violations of the dress code may necessitate a student remaining in the office until the parents bring a change of clothing. The resulting absence from class is unexcused. For every 3 dress code violations, a student will be required to serve one unit of detention.

Drug Abuse- We believe that any non-medical involvement (i.e., consumption, procurement, provision) with controlled substances or material generally acknowledged to be harmful to an individual's physical, spiritual or psychological health is inconsistent with the Christian lifestyle. Scripture speaks directly to the problem of drug abuse, it instructs individuals in the maintenance of healthful lifestyles and avoidance of harmful indulgences and excesses. *Galatians 5:20* As a matter of policy, Vineyard Christian Middle School will investigate fully any incident suggesting drug involvement on the part of students, faculty, staff or parents. Confirmation of drug abuse, as defined above, will be reported to the appropriate legal authorities and will subject the individual(s) involved to an immediate expulsion hearing.

Electronic Devices- Electronic devices such as hand-held game systems, iPods, iWatches, Smartwatches, Fitbits, MP3 players, tape recorders and the like are not allowed on campus. Kindles, iPads, Nooks and other "book" devices can be used for classroom reading but must be turned into the office when not in used. Cameras, GoPros and other devices will be confiscated and the student will be disciplined if found to be possession of any said device. A student may use a calculator for the purpose in which it is intended. Please understand that the use of the internet on any of these devices during school hours is a violation of school policy and can result in disciplinary action or suspension depending on the offence and at the discretion of the administration.

Emergency/Disaster/Fire- A copy of the Vineyard Christian Middle School Disaster plan is available for review in the school office. A fire drill will be held frequently throughout the school year.

First Aid- A First Aid kit is kept in the school office.

Hats- Hats, caps, sweatshirt hoods are not permitted in the classroom during the school day. Hats or caps may be worn during outdoor instruction with a doctor's note and/or the teacher's permission.