



NEW TEACHERS AT VERNON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Welcome Vernon's New Teachers!

MRS. CARSTENS

Mrs. Carstens, new music and language arts teacher at VMS, was born in Lincoln, Neb. She grew up on a farm near Fairfield, Iowa, and went to high school there. While in high school, she participated in many music activities. She received her college education at Parsons, and has taken graduate work at SU.

She has taught high school music (West Branch and Williamsburg), junior high music (Franklin in Cedar Rapids), and elementary music (9 years here in Marion).

Mrs. Carstens' interests include playing the piano, making crafts, especially pine cone work, attending concerts, and working with the foreign student exchange known as AFS. Her family has hosted a "daughter" from Johannesburg, South Africa.

Her husband is a carpenter. She has three daughters, all of whom attended Vernon. Cheryl is a senior at Luther. Joy is a freshman at SU. Jennifer is a high school junior in Marion.

Welcome, Mrs. Carstens!

MRS. KRAUSE

One of the new teachers at Vernon this year is Mrs. Jean Krause, a sixth grade language arts teacher. She is married to a design engineer.

Before she moved to northwest Cedar Rapids, she taught in Illinois after graduating from Northeastern Illinois University.

Mrs. Krause enjoys teaching because she likes working with kids and teaching them any way she feels would benefit them the most.

She also likes to golf, make ceramics, and read. If she hadn't become a teacher, she thinks it would have been interesting to be a lawyer.

Mrs. Krause finds it very different at VMS because before teaching here, she has always taught in a self-contained classroom. However, she is really enjoying it.

MR. SINGER

Mr. Singer's last teaching job was at Mentzer. He has also taught at Irving, Longfellow, Lincoln, and Starry schools, all in Marion.

Mr. Singer grew up in Cedar Rapids. He graduated from Jefferson High School. His activities in high school were band, and trainer for football and basketball.

He graduated from college at Northeast Missouri State University, where he earned an M.A. degree.

Mr. Singer's interests are all sports, hunting, refereeing football, golf,

kids, and fixing up his van.

Good luck at Vernon, Mr. Singer!

MRS. HESS

Who is the full-time multi-disability teacher that you probably see in the halls every day? It's Mrs. Hess.

Mrs. Hess was born in Independence, Iowa. She knew that when she grew up, she wanted to help kids because she had always liked them. She went to Upper Iowa and UNI to get her degree. After she finished college, she went to Europe.

When she returned from Europe, she worked in Cedar Rapids for a year before she went to teach in Dunlap. From Dunlap she came to Mentzer Elementary in Marion, where she has taught for three years.

She likes working at the Middle School. She thinks the kids are great and the faculty is very friendly. She doesn't like the bells between classes. She likes working with cheerleaders. She likes playing sports, especially softball.

Mrs. Hess is married to Mark Hess and they have two children, Melissa is one year old, and Doug is two months old.

MRS. CHESTER

Mrs. Chester comes from Arlington, Iowa. Even when she was young she wanted to be a teacher. Both her mother and grandmother were teachers.

She went to college at Upper Iowa University, in Fayette, Iowa. She taught one year in Stanley, Iowa. She has also taught for 18 years at Emerson and Mentzer schools.

She enjoys teaching school here at the Middle School. She thinks the sixth graders fit in nicely.

Mrs. Chester enjoys traveling, sewing, going to the games at school, and watching television. She also enjoys teaching reading, naturally. She doesn't, however, like to cook.

MR. GALLAGHER

Mr. Gallagher was born and lives in Cedar Rapids. His college education came from the University of Iowa and Upper Iowa University.

He has taught 6th grade at Starry School for eight years, where his classes were math, social studies, and science. He enjoys teaching 6th grade. He likes teaching social studies the best, and then science and math. In math and science he has created games.

Mr. Gallagher's interests include baseball (his favorite team is the St. Louis Cardinals), football (Chicago Bears),

The Messenger

C.B. Vernon Junior High

OCT. 26, 1978

Middle School Survey Taken

From Editor Todd Twachtmann

C.B. Vernon Middle School--
Success or Not?

During this year, many changes have taken place here at Vernon Jr. High or

should I say Vernon Middle School. The most drastic of the changes are the moving of the sixth grade here, different class hours, and the lunch hours.

Is the change good or bad? There are many advantages as well as disadvantages that should be considered before your final decision.

In many ways the change is helping. Elementary schools are less crowded and have a better atmosphere for learning, the school district is saving money, the sixth graders are now learning in a much broader educational setting, and the sixth graders get another year to grow up and enjoy worry-free days at the Middle School. Also, look at the expanded extra-curricular activities now available, such as intramural sports, library, camera, dramatics, and newspaper clubs.

On the other hand, the Middle School is now more crowded, and study halls are full to the brim. Activities for 7th and 8th graders are cut, such as full-time for intramurals, chorus, and open art courses. The halls are more crowded, and free time is almost cut in half from what it was. Also, parents' concerns for their children are high.

The arguments for each side could go on forever, but it is still your decision --is Vernon Middle School a success . . . or not?

(Notice results from a student survey elsewhere)

wrestling (Iowa U. fan and will be going to the Big 10 championships and national tournament this winter), and music. He doesn't care for reading, but if he gets a good book, it's a different story.

He doesn't like Mondays because they're the first day of the week. Fourth hour bothers him because he gets hungry. He loves Fridays.

If you don't have Mr. Gallagher for a teacher, please understand that he's a really nice guy.

MR. RINDERKNECHT

Mr. Rinderknecht is a new math teacher at Vernon Middle school. He grew up in Cedar Rapids. He was an electronic technician in the navy. Before coming to Vernon he taught at Washington Elementary school.

He received his college education for teaching from the University of Iowa, but before this he studied at Coe College for one year. He also studied for four years at a seminary in Springfield, Ill. to become a pastor.

He decided to become a teacher because his wife, who teaches. He likes to teach at VMS because he likes teaching math full time.

Mr. Rinderknecht is married and has one daughter and two sons. His family also has a Shetly dog.

He likes to play tennis and watch football. He is also an amateur radio operator, and talks to people around the world when the conditions are right.

All who know Mr. Rinderknecht think he's interesting, as I do.

MRS. FRANKLIN

As most of you already know, Mrs. Franklin is our new counselor here at Vernon.

She was born in New York City. She went to East Waterloo High School and was active in several clubs. After high school she went to the University of Northern Iowa and then to Iowa State.

She has been married to Jim Franklin for ten years. She has no brothers or sisters.

Mrs. Franklin's favorite interests are playing cards, reading, and baking.

I asked Mrs. Franklin what she thought about the school year so far. She said that she has really enjoyed it. She feels that the students and staff are very friendly and easy to know.

Survey Results

By Todd Twachtmann, Editor

student survey on vernon middle school

With respect to my editorial, "Is Vernon Middle School a Success or Not?"

I ran a survey October 12 of 385 6th, 7th and 8th graders on that subject. I asked them this question: "Do you think this school year is going better than last year?" The results were interesting.

Overall, 68.3% like this year better, while 31.6% like last year better. 98.5% of 6th graders prefer this year over last. Among 7th graders, 94.3% like this year over last. Only 17.3% of the 8th graders prefer this year.

It would seem the year so far is successful for 6th and 7th graders. The 8th graders seem to be in an odd and uncomfortable position. The changes seem to have affected them greatly.

STAFF SELECTED FOR YEARBOOK

NOTICE FROM MRS. STAHL

The yearbook staff has been chosen and will be selling subscriptions from October 23 through November 3. The cost is \$4.00.

THE MESSENGER STAFF...

EIGHTH GRADE

Todd Twachtmann, Editor
Tim Adams, Associate Editor
Renee Kane, Associate Editor
Cheryl Port, Associate Editor
John Godar, Photography Editor
Paula Akers
Tom Begley
Elizabeth Chapman
Rhonda Coghlan
Mike Decious
Erna Frederick
J.P. Imgrund
Pam Miller
Kurt Ozburn
Marc Pollock
Bill Reed
Deanne Schlemmer
Mark Wright

SEVENTH GRADE

Mitch Anderson
Eddie Duncan
Michele McCleary
Danell McDowell
Roxi Port
Kurt Trout
Tracy Weltha
Robbie Zier

SIXTH

JoElla Butterfield
Ricky Hancox
Kelly Johnston
Todd Landuyt
Ron Livingston
Amy McComas
Kevin Miller

Vernon Fall Open Houses Are Termed "Successful"

By Tim Adams, Associate Editor

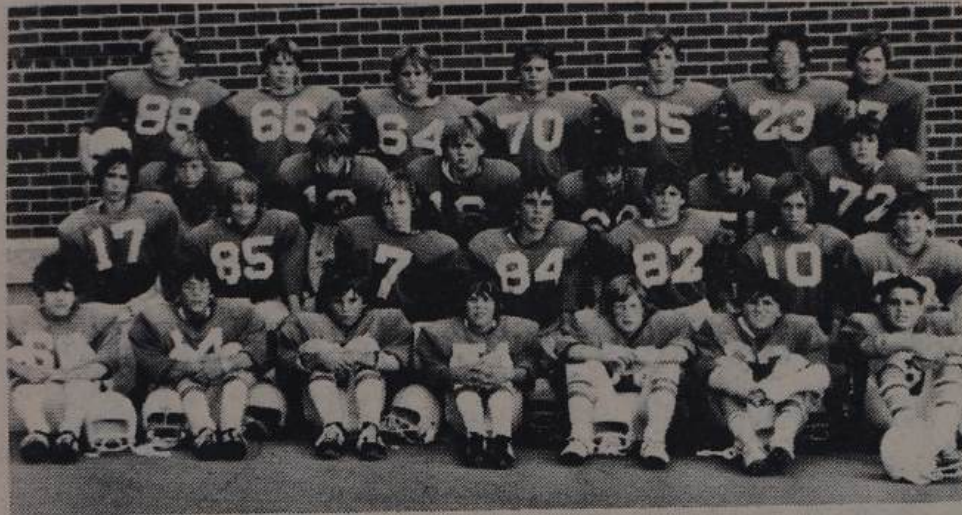
The annual Vernon Fall Open House was held on the evening of September 28 and seemed to be a big success with the 309 parents in attendance. The evening was designed to give parents the opportunity to visit each of their students' classes and to learn about the curriculum the students are studying. Parents attending seemed to enjoy the evening a great deal.

This year sixth and seventh grade parents nights were also held. The sixth

grade night was September 18 and the seventh September 19. These were also well attended. Since the sixth and seventh graders are new to the school, this experience gave the parents a chance to meet the teachers and familiarize themselves with the building, the system, rules, regulations, etc.

These first meetings were felt to be successful. More of similar events will be held later in the year. (Courtesy of Mr. Fowler).

Seventh Grade Football Teams



SEVENTH GRADE "A" TEAM



SEVENTH GRADE BOYS WITH COACH SINGER

Music Events Set For Year

(courtesy of Mr. Shultz)

Marching demonstrations for the October 27 football game will be our opening program for the year. Members will be wearing their new red and gold jackets for their marching band uniform.

Following this program will be a Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 7, at 7:30 p.m. Next the students will work hard on their solos and ensembles for Festival Contest on Saturday, February 24.

On Tuesday, March 13, we will join with the 5th, 6th and High School bands in our annual Parade of Bands Concert to be held at the High School.

The year will climax with our Spring Concert on Tuesday, May 15.

KICKBALL RESULTS

By Kevin Miller

As of October 16, the sixth grade kickball standings are as follows:

Tie for 1st: 129, 110, 310 (4 and 1; 4th: 306 (3 and 2); Tie for 5th: 134, 135 (2 and 3); 7th: 206 (1 and 4); 8th: 130 (0 and 5).

First Vocal Concert Set For Dec. 7

(courtesy of Ms. Silver)

For the first time at Vernon, eighth grade chorus has been included during the regular school day as a class for interested students. There are 45 chorus members who meet every other day for 52 minutes of rehearsal. Their first scheduled public performance is the December 7th Christmas Concert.

Seventh grade chorus now meets before school every other morning. There are about 40 members when everyone remembers the rehearsal time and can get to them. They are learning to sing in 2 and 3 part harmony.

An eighth grade girls chorus has also been started; it meets after school three times a week. There are approximately 30 members who are attending these rehearsals and working on music for the Christmas Concert.

Eighth Grade Football Team



EIGHTH GRADE FOOTBALL TEAM AND COACHES --
MEGGERS AND DOLINAJ

Birthdays

NOVEMBER

Nov. 8--Dave Miller (7) and Julie Shultz (8)

Nov. 9--Joe Prouty (8) and Emili Nove (8)

Nov. 10--Ed Duncan (7)

Nov. 13--Sharon Enneking (8)

Nov. 19--Heidi Breckle (8)

Nov. 20--Cheryl Port (8)

Nov. 23--Dawn Neve (8)

Nov. 24--Caroline Twachtman (8)

Nov. 25--Kim Potter (8)

Nov. 30--Barry Smith (8)

(8), and Eric Johnson (8)

Dec. 5--Pete Christiansen (7)

Dec. 6--Colleen Darrah (7)

Dec. 7--Jim Berns (8)

Dec. 8--Tammy Barron (8)

Dec. 11--Beth Blair (7) and Molly Barker (8)

Dec. 12--Renee Kane (8)

Dec. 15--Judy Martin (8), Amy McComas (6)

Dec. 17--Kelly Sondag (7) and Joe Sondag (7)

Dec. 19--Teresa Landuyt (8)

Dec. 25--Michele Mehlberger (8)

Dec. 27--Mr. Eygabroad

Dec. 30--Angel Spinler (6)

DECEMBER

Dec. 1--Lisa Canavan (8)

Dec. 4--Sue Wilson (6), Dave Klein

Eighth Grade Girls Gymnastics



EIGHTH GIRLS' GYMNASTICS TEAM

Seventh Grade Girls Gymnastics



GIRLS' GYMNASTICS -- SEVENTH GRADE



MAJOR NIELAND TALKS TO EIGHTH GRADERS