May 2023

The Vision Voice

VISION CHARTER ACADEMY

Acadience & Galileo

Acadience testing began on May 1st and will continue until May 12th. Galileo testing will be held on May 12th at the LC. For further information, please contact your HQC or POC.

Cinco De Mayo

HQC Stephanie Barnett will host a Cinco de Mayo celebration at the Learning Center beginning at 12 p.m. on Friday.

8th Grade Continuation

We will conduct our 8th grade celebration on May 4th at 1:30 pm, and we welcome our families with incoming Freshmen to attend for some important information regarding high school.

Upcoming Events

May 4th- 8th Grade Continuation

May 5th- Cinco de Mayo event

May 17th- Graduation

May 26th- Last Day of School

May 29th- Grades are due

Acadience Testing
May 1st-12th

Galileo Testing
May 12th @LC

No explorations or field trip

A WORD FROM CARYN

By: Caryn Braddy

"Start strong, stay strong, and finish strong by always remembering why you're doing it in the first place." Ralph Marston

It seems surprising that we are already in our last month of school. Remember the beginning? The anticipation of learning new things, using new materials, experiencing those aha moments and dreams of mastering it all by the end of the year.

We enter into our last month of school with the satisfaction of knowing we have persevered through the tough days when our schedules felt overwhelming and the tough skills or tasks that eluded us for longer than we anticipated. We still have a few more weeks to continue progress towards learning new things and celebrating all that we have accomplished this year together.

The school itself will begin the highly anticipated process of remodeling our building in May. This will make activities in the building a bit more difficult during the months of May-August, but we are extremely excited to have our space ready to expand our in person opportunities next year. We ask for patience with us as we transform this school building into a vibrant learning environment.

Finally, I know the challenges that parents face as you support, facilitate, and guide your learners through their weekly targets. I know the challenges staff members face as they complete requirements for the school, district and state that allow this school to educate learners in this unique model while maintaining healthy relationships with families and learners and achieving a work/life balance. I know the feeling of being overwhelmed, exhausted and ready for a break.

A Word from Caryn Cont.

And then I come to the school and see these bright, enthusiastic faces who deserve everything that I can do to help them achieve their future. These young people are why we are doing all of it. In this last month, finish strong for the possibilities of the future that we know and those we have yet to discover.

CMAS & (P)SAT Testing

We would like to thank everyone of our families that took the CMAS, PSAT, and SAT this year. We understand that getting your children here for those days is a significant sacrifice, and we greatly appreciate the extra effort. This year, we received a lot of positive feedback about how enjoyable it was for everyone. Learners were able to display what they had learned throughout the year and enjoy meeting other youngsters in a low-pressure environment.

Participating in state testing allows us to better serve your learner. We use the assessment data to help shape our programming and plan for resources for the following year. On a larger scale, your child's involvement in the state assessment contributes to the current state-level hostility to our educational paradigm. It demonstrates that our pupils are public school learners who are held to the same standards of accountability as all other public school learners. Some critics continue to point to our low participation rates on state assessments as evidence that our model should not be recognized as part of the state educational funding system. While we fully support parents' right to opt their children out of testing, it does place a burden on us as we continue to challenge the Colorado Department of Education's current funding model. Thank you again to everyone who took part!

By: Kim Signs

Enchanted Prom

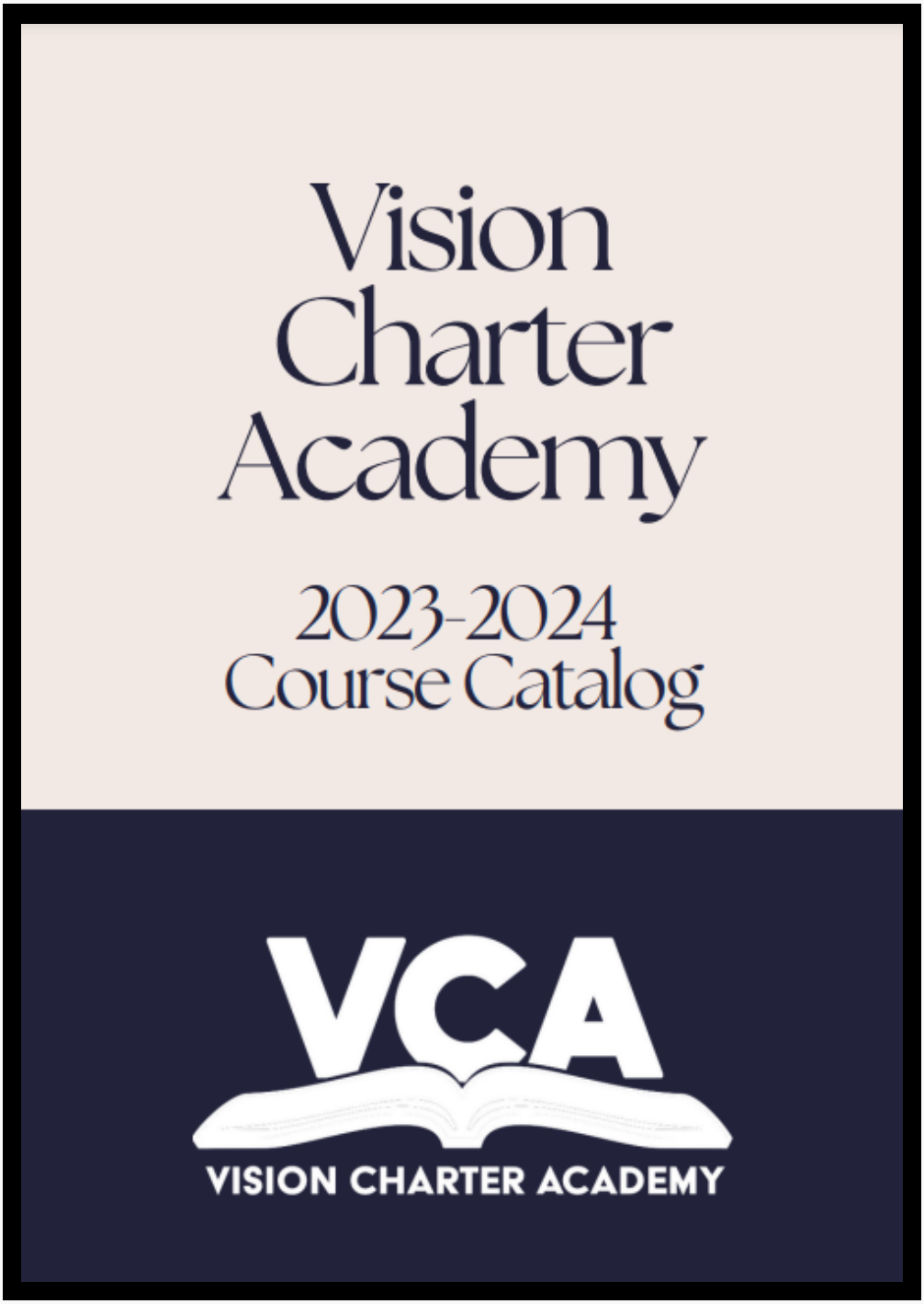
This year's VCA prom is open to all high school grades (9–12) and is absolutely free, including photos. VCA learners who are attending prom may ask a guest to join them. Guests must submit a completed form to Renee Joyce, by May 4th at 4pm. The prom tickets will be free to reserve and will be available on the day of the event. The Grand March for the Prom will be available to the learners' friends and family and will begin at 6:30 p.m. on the dance floor of the Elks Lodge on the second floor (there is an elevator for those who want extra accessibility). Prior to the Grand March, learners must check in at the Elk Lodge and confirm their guest information.

To reserve a ticket, learners need to sign into their VCA Google account at https://www.visioncharteracademy.org/prom.
Once the learner confirms their reservation, they can return to the same website to be redirected to a page where they can request any favorite songs or see what songs their peers have requested. If a parent or guardian has any questions, please contact Shawn Joyce at sjoyce@visioncharteracademy.org or Renee Joyce at rjoyce@visioncharteracademy.org.

By: Christian Alires-Gallegos

Course Catalog

Our 2023- 2024 Course Catalog is officially here!



Check out the VCA course catalog showing available classes for the 23-24 school year. Here is the link.

By: Tammy Nelson

Food for Thought

Those of you who have been following our FFT updates each month may be aware that on average, 160 bags are produced and distributed each week. Due to the planned building remodel, access to the building will be limited in May. To make sure FFT was available for learners for the rest of the year, it was decided that one bagging session would have to produce a month's worth of bags. So, to accomplish this for a month's worth of food, we collaborated with Sharing Ministries to receive a massive food order and had a group of excellent volunteers who were indispensable to the project. A special thanks to Sharing Ministries and everyone who volunteered; because of you, we were able to provide a fantastic service to our community, and you should all be proud of what we accomplished.

VCA staff members and learners tirelessly working to complete the final FFT order of the year.

By: Christian Alires-Gallegos

Showcase & Talent Show

We hosted our annual Showcase and Talent Show at The Delta First Baptist Church on April 27th. This is an event at which our seniors present their projects, and we can see how much time and effort our learners put into their work. We are very proud of the hard work our learners put in, and we want to thank our staff members who assisted with the set-up. Following the Showcase, we went to the chapel to witness all of our learners' incredible talents. We saw performances ranging from piano to harp to singing, and we even had our own poetry reading. Thank you to the learners who shared their abilities and skills with us.

Leaner Taylor Vincent presenting her senior project to VCA Board Chair Leann Jiron.

Learner Mikayla Kaiser sharing her singing skills with us at this year's talent show.

By: Christian Alires-Gallegos

Civil Art Patrol

Civil Air Patrol (C.A.P) is an amazing organization that I have been a part of for about 1 1/2 years and had just recently promoted to the rank of C/SSgt (Cadet Staff Sergeant). Below is a list of what My Squadron in Montrose and C.A.P itself has to offer, and basic things you need to know. In order to be an official member of the Squadron you have to be present and participate in three weekly Thursday meetings. They start at 18:45 and end at 21:00 (6:45-9:00 P:M we meet at the Montrose Armory). The layout for weekly meetings is as follows: The First Thursday of every month is Awards and promotions night. The next two meetings are Aerospace and Leadership, And the final meeting of the month is PT. (Physical Training). When you first come to the meetings to see what they are like it is recommended that you at first wear dark jeans and a black shirt (preferably a plain one) Once you join you will need three types of uniforms for the meetings. They are ABU's, Blues, and PT. Along with becoming a member you will be eligible to have five free powered plane flights, glider flights, and hot air balloon flights. These are held every month and signing up beforehand is required. We also do 1-2 monthly activities that help with promotions including, sledding and search and rescue training in the winter, and a 14er hike in the summer (along with many more activities to mention). One activity that many cadets look forward to is the COWG (Colorado Wing) Encampment at USAFA (United States Air Force Academy) more information about this activity can be found at https://cowg.cap.gov/cowg-cadets/cadet-encampment If there are any questions that you may have send an email to me at hayden.knight@visioncharteracademy.net

By: Hayden Knight

High School Happenings- May 2023

News you can use for all High School Learners 2022-2023

VCA Graduation Date
May 17, 2023 at 5:00pm
Delta Performing Arts Center
822 Grand Avenue, Delta, CO
All Seniors and their Speakers need to attend rehearsal at 3:45pm
VCA provides a cap and gown for each graduate. If Seniors want to keep and/or decorate their graduation cap, they will need to purchase their own cap on Amazon.
Matte BLACK, Amazon/Graduation Mall

By: Darci Hellman

April Explorations & Field Trip

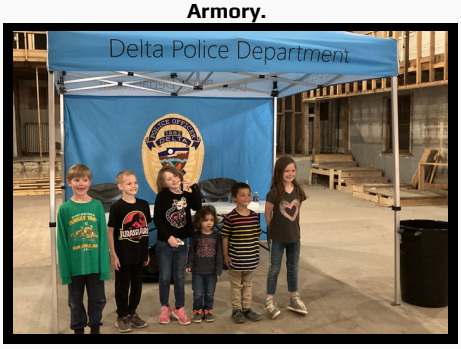
Because April was a testing month with a week off school, there were only a few explorations and the usual one field trip. However, VCA learners had the opportunity to experience something incredible on April 5th when we were given a hands-on tour of A&M Creations by Co-owner Alena, who was fantastic in working with the learners as we learned what it takes to run a restaurant. Then, on April 12th, learners were given a tour of our local police department as well as a visit to the old Delta Armory to learn about the future plans for the police department. We were unable to conduct an exploration on April 26th due to the FFT project (which you can read about earlier in this newsletter), but learners had a great time visiting Bananas Fun Park in Grand Junction for our final field trip of the year. As a result, we were able to end the year on a high note, with learners already expressing interest in next year's engagement events.

Having said that, I am grateful for my time as Engagement Coordinator and for getting to know our wonderful and bright learners throughout my time at Vision. Thank you to all of our families for coming to my events and allowing me to work with your amazing children.

A&M Creations co-owner Alena with a group of learners.

Learners participating in one of Bananas Go-kart races.

Learners after receiving a tour of the Delta Armory.



By: Christian Alires-Gallegos

Suggestions for 2023-24 School Year

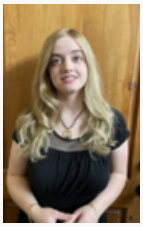
With no explorations or field trips until September, we'd like to pick your brain and find out what you'd like to see from Engagement next year. By clicking HERE, you will be taken to a survey where you can recommend anything from explorations to field trips to school clubs. Everything you send will be valuable information that the new Engagement Coordinator can use to plan tons of fun activities for your learners. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey so that we can begin planning for next year.

Thank you

By: Christian Alires-Gallegos

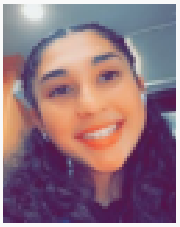
Spotlight Zone- Class of 2023

Keyin Zayne Barthelmas-Rundberg is a multi-talented graduate who is passionate about history while also extremely creative, artistic and witty. He has attended concurrent college courses while completing high school, and one of his most significant accomplishments is getting a piece of artwork and a poem published in a book. He will be attending Colorado Mesa University as an ASCENT student and plans to study history and philosophy. Keyin is a National Honor Society Member.



Noelle Torrey Camp has so many diverse interests and talents she is uncertain where her path will take her. She has so many skills she will be working on discerning her best path. Whether she ends up arguing a case as a lawyer, caring for others in the medical field, or taking her culinary arts to a new level, she plans to attend college to pursue higher education and find her true passion.

Lillyanne Marie Christensen has earned a National Career Readiness Certificate as well as being a highly skilled artist and has won many awards with her creations. She loves books and writing. Lillyanne plans to pursue a career being creative whether it is through her drawings, paintings and artistic creations or writing the next great novel.



Alicia Mari Cruz attended the Technical College of the Rockies and will continue with her training in cosmetology. She strives to help others and worked full time at the Delta House care center while completing high school.

Domenick Joseph Marius Deltondo completed all graduation requirements early and is a December Graduate. He has earned a National Career Readiness Certification and working full time and pursuing owning his own business.

Zoe Foster-Frank has earned a National Career Readiness Certificate. Zoe loves nature, natural healing and has a great appreciation for all things beautiful. Her goal is to love creating beautiful things and memories on her journey to discover what her future brings. “It’s why I believe we are on this planet. To have a beautiful experience and create connections with the Earth and our fellow human beings.“

Aidan Cesar Garcia has earned a National Career Readiness Certificate. Aidan loves sports, music and art and is very expressive. He is considering seeking training as a Heating and Air Conditioning technician in the future**.**

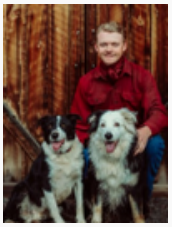
Ruby Lee Rae Gehm (no photo) has completed multiple concurrent college courses with Colorado Mesa University. She is the President of National Honor Society and has dedicated several hours filling food bags for Food for Thought as well as initiating a Coat Drive for foster care children. Rudy will be attending Colorado Mesa University in the fall and pursuing a degree in Political Science.

Spotlight Zone- Class of 2023

Breonna Renee Giron has earned a National Career Readiness Certificate as well as completing a year-long internship with the City of Delta. She provided valuable assistance in collecting data for grant applications and monitoring progress. Breonna plans to attend college and study history and political science. Breonna is a member of National Honor Society and has been an instrumental leader in many service projects with VCA.

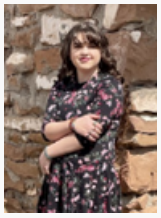
Mikayla Rose Kaiser has earned a National Career Readiness Certificate as well at completing the Cosmetology 2 year program at the Technical College of the Rockies. Mikayla will continue to pursue a career in cosmetology after graduation.

Kameron James Moreland completed all graduation requirements early and is a December Graduate He has earned a National Career Readiness Certificate as well as completing Level 4 Welding with the Technical College of the Rockies. He is currently employed full time as a welder.



Chance Vaughn Rice has earned a National Career Readiness Certificate as well as completing Level 3 Welding with the Technical College of the Rockies. Chance also completed an internship with the National Forest Service where he has secured full-time employment for the future.

Isaiah Keith Schoening has earned a National Career Readiness Certificate. His passion is Pokémon and using his imagination. He likes collecting rocks, Transformers, Bakugan and Pokémon. Isaiah will pursue entering the workforce after graduation.



Taylor Catherine Vincent will be attending college in Mississippi in the fall to major in Psychology. She loves art and creating beautiful things, however, she is drawn to pursue a career where she can have a bigger impact on helping people.

Isaac David Weber has earned a National Career Readiness Certificate and completed the Explorer Internship Program to learn more about becoming an EMT. Isaac plans to travel to Europe with his family after graduation and then pursue further education toward his career goals.

Kyla Jean Winston has earned a National Career Readiness Certificate. Kyla plans to pursue a career in crime scene clean up after graduation. Kyla has been instrumental in many service project at VCA throughout her high school years. You will usually find her leading up a team to prepare for a party or dance.

Kudos Korner

For the Month of April We have the Following Staff Highlighted for Kudos!

Theresa Hardin: By Rebecca Gober

- Theresa is eager to assist not only her own family, but other families. She is incredibly kind, and I am delighted to be on her team.

Kim Signs: By Laurel Jones

- Thank you, Kim, for your incredible job in coordinating all of those CMAS resources and learners for a successful testing week!

Fellow K8 HQCs: By Laurel Jones

- This year's team is fantastic!! It's fantastic to be able to learn from and bounce ideas off of such a skilled group.

Adrienne Weams: By Jennifer Vodopich

- Adrienne is very patient and takes her time answering questions.

Mike Gauthier and Mark Miller: By Vanessa Ryser

- Thank you both for your continuous hard work on the building and the floors.

Caryn Braddy: By Vanessa Ryser

- Thank you, Caryn, for your perseverance in obtaining the financing and the legislation. I know many hours have been spent on this, so thank you for your hard work .

Tammy Nelson: By Vanessa Ryser

- Tammy, I appreciate your endless hours on the catalogue; I know it will look fantastic.

Kim Signs and Tammy Nelson: By Jenn Sanders

- Organizing, scheduling, and everything else associated with state exams was a difficult task. Excellent work, ladies!

Amy Winston & Shannon White: By Mike Gauthier, Mark Miller and Karen Brewer

- They both handle themselves professionally in the middle of often chaotic situations.
- Amy is an expert at multitasking and has been invaluable in organizing for the remodel.
- Amy is always helpful in my quest for family resources!

Christian Alires-Gallegos: By Nan Latta

- Thank you, Christian, for all of your work and effort in making Food for Thought a success this year! Not only for VCA families, but for all students in the district.

Vanessa Ryser: By Karen Brewer

- Vanessa is always cheerful and prepared to assist at the drop of a hat.

Jane Knob: By Wendy Shima

- Thank you, Jane, for your continual support and kindness as we navigate our education!

The Admin Team: By Wendy Shima

- With all of the craziness of the coming changes and upgrades, you all took time to put together an lovely pd day including the escape room boxes!

Want to earn a shot at winning a $5 gift card of your own? Send kudos when you catch staff going above and beyond to: hrdocuments@visioncharteracademy.org

YOU CAN'T WIN IF YOU DON'T PARTICIPATE!

VCA
Enchanted
PROM
Saturday May 6th
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Ticket Reservation at
www.visioncharteracademy.org/prom
Elks Lodge
563 Main Street Delta, Colorado 81416
Available for High School Learners (Grades 9 - 12)
Free Admission

WE NEED YOU!

THE ART DEPARTMENT IS CREATING A COLLABORATIVE ART PROJECT AND WE NEED YOUR HANDPRINT!

Here at VCA we want everyone who drives by our school to know who we are and what makes us so great! The high school art students have painted the window facing Main Street with a blue ribbon. This ribbon is to show the public who VCA is. We are students, parents, staff, board members, and community partners. Everyone is encouraged to put their hand print on the blue ribbon to show how many people make VCA so great. Please come by the school during one of the times below and add your hand print to the window art. (We are using water soluble tempera paint that easily comes off with soap and water.) Please come help show us VCA STRONG!

Friday
May 5th
10am-12pm

Friday
May 12th
12-2pm