



November 30, 2009

To: VSH Families

From: Principals: Mrs. Pinozzi (elementary), Mr. Rose (middle school),
Mrs. Brooks (high school)
Head of School: Mrs. Garfunkel

RE: Upcoming Changes in the VSH Learning Environment

As the winter season quickly approaches, we look forward to time spent with families, reminiscing, and traditions that will be passed from generation to generation. The teachers and administrators at VSH would like to extend a safe holiday season to our families and **express a most sincere expression of gratitude for entrusting your children in our care** for the 2009 – 2010 school year. We recognize the dedication and relentless hours of work on your behalf to support the mission and vision of our VSH.

Over the next few weeks, you will observe an incredibly intentional effort to address specific school policies that affect the learning environment of our school. These include, but will not be limited to, school uniform, profanity, fighting, cell phones, hallway transitions and lunchroom procedures. We are proactively informing you of these changes because you play an integral role with student policy at our school. The changes we are making at VSH will require your patience, understanding and flexibility. As we make these changes, we will need to hold our students and parents to a higher level of accountability. In doing so, **we may need to have difficult school-home conversations about policy, expectations, and consequences.**

Most immediately, we will be addressing our **zero-tolerance uniform policy**. Within the next few days, you will be receiving several correspondences and/or phone calls re-explaining the uniform policy and the consequences attached to students who do not comply with the expectations. The change in uniform policy will begin on **Wednesday, January 6th, 2010**. It is imperative you read over the policy to ensure your son/daughter is in full uniform on the first day of our new uniform implementation.

As always, we thank you in advance for your cooperation as we strive to build and sustain a safe learning environment where all students are learning and engaged.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, you can reach us via phone at 541-2048.

Please return this portion of the letter by Wednesday, December 2nd, 2009 to your homeroom teacher

_____ Yes I have read this letter and understand that VSH will be implementing new policies that will be strictly enforced on a daily basis. These changes will require 100% parental support.

Student name

Parent signature