



# Turtle Tracks

March 12, 2010

A WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER FOR THE VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL COMMUNITY

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### MAR 12

Pi Day (Observed)

### MAR 14

Daylight Savings Time

### MAR 15

Governor's Institute Applications Due

### MAR 25

PACS Coffee Hour  
VCS Library  
7:45 am - 9:00 am

### MAR 26

End of Third Quarter

### MAR 31

Nova Scotia Mini-College Fair  
VCS Commons Room  
11:50-12:30

### APR 2-3

School Play  
"Thoroughly Modern Millie"

## Head of School Attends Statehouse Meeting

Submitted by Peter Gilmore



Peter Gilmore attended the public hearing on statewide redistricting on Wednesday evening. Over 200 people jammed the meeting room spilling out to the hallway to share the microphone for two minutes each. The joint senate and house committee listened to every word as people from all over Vermont defended school choice and independent schooling in general. The following was sent out by the Vermont Principals Association in follow up to the event:

### ***The House and Senate Education Committees held a public hearing on varying proposals to restructure education governance statewide.***

*Many believe that a top down approach with the state mandating redistricting and larger, bureaucratic supervisory unions is doomed to fail. They question if cost savings would actually be realized and expressed concern over the loss of local control. Finally, the loss of school choice, especially on the part of parents who send their children to private schools was a common concern. Jeff Francis, of the Vermont Superintendents Association, spoke in favor of the House Education Committee's proposal to take a phased approach using incentives in order to create a favorable environment for merging districts. A draft bill championed by Rep. Peter Peltz (D-Woodbury) would encourage districts to move toward unifying through budget incentives rather than mandating change, which a majority of Committee members believe would meet with local resistance. The Chamber and GBIC expressed general support for efforts to encourage redistricting as well as for the appointment of a Secretary of Education by the Governor.*

## VCS Cross-Country Team

Submitted by Hannah Stanyon

This year, thanks to Rachel Lachman and Cara Simone, VCS will be having a cross-country team for the first time in the history of the school! Fifteen students have joined, and many more are interested in joining. Rachel and Cara came up with the idea to start a cross-country team, and the community's response was overwhelming. So they will start practices soon, holding them at Shelburne Farms during the P.E times on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as well as weekends. To sign up, just talk to Cara, the teacher, Rachel, the captain, or Sandra, the co-captain. "You have to like to run...it will be intensive," said Rachel, who fell in love with running three years ago. (And has been running almost every day



**Head of School:****Peter Gilmore****FACULTY & STAFF**

Greg Askew

Chance Cardamone-  
Knewstub

Mark Cline Lucey

Jennifer Cohen

Adriana Comtois

Conor Driscoll

Peter Goff

Kathy Hockman

Zhenyan Li

Hans Manske

Ben Patrick

Jessica Redmond

Jordan Romm

Cara Simone

Jasmine Walker

Ben Wang

Assistant Head of  
School: Hans ManskeDean of Faculty:  
Cara SimoneDirector of Academic  
Enrichment Center:  
JoAnna EastonDirector of Admissions &  
College Counseling:  
Sarah SouleDirector of Development:  
Jordan RommBusiness Office:  
Emily TupperRegistrar:  
Allison FayleMarketing:  
Wendy McArdleTurtle Tracks Editors:  
Hannah Stanyon and  
Allison Fayle

since, just for fun.) The team has set a goal, for each of them to run five miles in a marathon leg, a marathon is 26 miles. The cross-country website will be set up soon. Just go to the Vermont Commons home page and there will be a link.

**PACS Coffee****Submitted by Colleen Leffler**

The next PACS sponsored coffee hour will be on Thursday, March 25 from 7:45 - 9:00. Please join us for some light refreshments and a great opportunity to mingle with other parents, VCS faculty and staff.



**REMINDER: Governor's Institute  
Applications are due to the Main  
Office by March 15<sup>th</sup>!**

**Grandparents Day****Submitted by Colleen Leffler**

We are pleased to announce that our Grandparents Day event has been scheduled for Friday, May 14th. We want to be sure to include all grandparents in our invitation mailing. If you have not submitted your grandparent's address to us, you may do so by clicking on the following link.

<http://tinyurl.com/y!924ak>



Vermont  
Commons  
School

75 Green Mountain Dr.  
So. Burlington, VT  
05403

Phone: 802-865-8084

Fax: 802-865-2429

Email: [info@vermontcommons.org](mailto:info@vermontcommons.org)

Website: <http://www.vermontcommons.org>