

VAILS GATE STEAM ACADEMY

NEWS LETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

The school year is off to a wonderful start, with students actively adjusting to daily routines, forging new friendships, and engaging deeply in their learning activities. This month's academic priorities center on strengthening classroom communities, reinforcing key safety procedures, and fostering a strong enthusiasm for reading and mathematics. Additionally, every Friday is designated as STEAM Friday, a special time dedicated to fueling students' creative spirits and encouraging hands-on exploration of new concepts. Throughout the month, classes are also celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month through various projects that honor Hispanic culture.

A strong relationship between families and the school is central to student success, as children feel far more confident and supported when home and school work together. Simple daily practices—such as reading together at home, discussing the school day, or participating in school functions—make a meaningful impact on a child's education. Families are reminded to ensure their contact phone numbers and email addresses are up to date, sign up for ClassDojo, and regularly check their children's backpacks and folders for important updates and event notices. Daily attendance is equally vital, as attending school consistently promotes social-emotional well-being, builds self-esteem, supports academic growth, and establishes positive long-term habits.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



SEPTEMBER 7TH- FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

**SEPTEMBER 7TH -LABOR DAY
NO SCHOOL**

**SEPTEMBER 21ST - YOM KIPPUR
NO SCHOOL**



FALL OPEN HOUSE

SEPTEMBER 24TH

5:00-6:30

Come meet your child's teacher!



HISPANIC HERITAGE

SEPT 15TH - OCT 15TH

Students and teachers have been working on a variety of projects to celebrate Hispanic culture.



DISTRICT NEWS

TECH NEWS!

If your scholar has a broken laptop or charger, please send it in to school and [fill out a help desk ticket](#) so we can fix/ replace your devices!

Are you signed up for "Parent Portal"? Parent Portal allows you to view your scholars': school calendars, health records, grades, attendance records, bus routes, and update family cell numbers and email addresses! Contact the main office for more help signing up, and view this [link](#) for more information.

TEXTING BEGINS!

The district will begin sending texting messages this fall. To receive the messages, make sure your cell phone number is correct in the cell phone field. The number can be listed twice if that is your primary number. All parents/guardians who wish to receive a text should make sure their number is listed in the correct spot in their personal Parent Portal Account.

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE CONTINUED

Attendance Matters!

Health and wellness remain top priorities at Vails Gate STEAM Academy. Parents are urged to keep sick children home if they experience fever, vomiting, diarrhea, heavy congestion, unexplained rashes, or severe pain. Students must be fever-free for at least 24 hours without medication and show improving symptoms before returning to school. Don't forget to get your family flu shots, and please note that updated physical exam forms are required for students in Kindergarten, grades 1, 3, and 5, as well as all new students.

HEALTH OFFICE NEWS

Health Office Reminders

The health office looks forward to helping you keep your child healthy and safe in this new school year! Please be sure to notify the Health office with any health concerns, current physical forms, immunizations, and current contact information for your family (Emails are accepted.) Current contact information is very important for when students are ill or injured in school. Please keep an eye out for the "pink cards" in your scholar's bookbag and fill them out and return them as soon as you can!

Health office phone number: 845-563-7905

Nurse Jodi Jashembowski

Nurse Jackie McVeigh

Ms. Mary Olympia, Health Clerk