



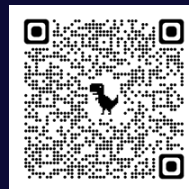
*From the Principal's Desk* MR. CHRIS SMITH

*What a great week this has been! We have just completed the first week of VLA classes for students K-12. I am truly amazed at the instruction and engagement of our students at the Virtual Learning Academy. We have had tremendous growth in this program as we continue to develop the best practices for student success. There was great energy in the air at our Open House and I loved seeing the smiles on the faces of students, parents, and teachers. We received a surprise visit from Superintendent, Dr. Parker last week as he took a tour of our expanded building. His support and willingness to embrace flexible learning are imperative to our success and the future of this program.*

*I am excited to kick off Student Support the week of September 12th as students will be able to come to the Point Option complex and work with their teachers as we provide a small and safe environment for them. Please remember to bring your Chromebook on testing and Student Support days. Let's have a GREAT school year.*

*Stay tuned for more exceptional opportunities for all of our wonderful students and families at the VLA. Please email me at [Chris.Smith@nn.k12.va.us](mailto:Chris.Smith@nn.k12.va.us) or call at 757-591-7408 if you have any questions.*

## COUNSELING CORNER



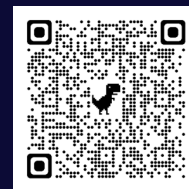
SCHEDULE A MEETING  
WITH MRS. SPEAS

MRS. SPEAS

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR

MELISSA.SPEAS@NN.K12.VA.US

SENIORS! SCAN TO SCHEDULE  
YOUR SENIOR MEETING WITH  
MRS. SPEAS.



Dear VLA Middle School Students and Families,  
Welcome to a new school year! I am very excited to be the VLA Middle School Counselor and am here to help students with their social/emotional development, academic success and college/career readiness! I do this through classroom counseling lessons and individual counseling with students via Zoom and during in-person support days. Each month we will have a monthly character theme that will guide the K-8 Counseling Program. September is Self-Awareness! Using this character trait, I will work with students on organizing their schedules, understanding their needs as a learner, setting goals and creating personal and academic habits that will help them kickstart a successful year!

Please use the contact information below to reach out with any questions or concerns! I look forward to meeting all our virtual learners over the coming weeks!

Here's to new beginnings and a great school year!  
---Mrs. Horrigan-Smith, MA, LPC



[Leah.HorriganSmith@nn.k12.va.us](mailto:Leah.HorriganSmith@nn.k12.va.us)

Message me using the Inbox on Canvas!  
(great for students!)

757-524-0141  
(call/text during school hours)  
**Schedule a Zoom with me!**  
(students or families)

Save the Date

# BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

## SEPTEMBER 20

JOIN US ON ZOOM FROM 7-8 PM. ZOOM LINK  
WILL BE SHARED SOON!



### Upcoming State Testing

September 13th – 6th, 7th, 8th  
Reading Growth Assessment  
Location: Point Option  
Start time: 9:15 am

September 20th – 6th, 7th, 8th  
Math Growth Assessment  
Location: Point Option  
Start time: 9:15 am

ANY QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT JENNIFER FRAZIER,  
STUDENT SUPPORT SPECIALIST AND SITE TESTING COORDINATOR,  
JENNIFER.FRAZIER@NN.K12.VA.US OR 757-591-7408

### VLA STUDENT SUPPORT COURSE

LOOKING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT  
CANVAS AND THE VLA? LOOK FOR THIS  
COURSE CARD IMAGE ON YOUR  
STUDENT'S CANVAS DASHBOARD! THIS  
COURSE CONTAINS HOW TO'S,  
RESOURCES, AND TROUBLESHOOTING  
TIPS FOR VIRTUAL LEARNING!



**IN-PERSON SUPPORT STARTS  
THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12.**

- **TUESDAY: MIDDLE SCHOOL**
- **THURSDAY: HIGH SCHOOL**

**BRING YOUR FULLY-CHARGED  
CHROMEBOOK AND CHARGER!**

Click to view the NNPS School  
Calendar for upcoming dates.



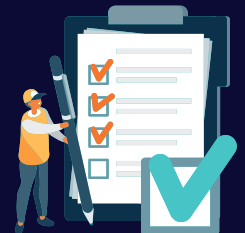
### PSAT TESTING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 12TH!

PSAT and PSAT 8/9 will be given at Point Option on October 12th at  
7:30 am!

**Please complete this form** if you plan to take the PSAT (Grades 10 or 11)  
or the PSAT 8/9 (Grades 8 or 9). This form must be completed by  
September 13th at 3 pm!

Newport News Public Schools pays for all 10th and 11th graders to take  
the PSAT, however, we ask that students complete this form to reserve  
their seat on testing day!

The PSAT 8/9 is available to 8th and 9th graders at the cost of \$18 per  
student exam. Cash or money order will be accepted at Point Option  
until September 13th to order the exams. Payment must be received by  
September 13th at 3pm for your exam to be ordered!



**Questions?**  
Reach out to  
Mrs. Horrigan  
(Middle School)  
or  
Mrs. Speas  
(High School)