

February Newsletter

Stay caught up with what's happening at VSA, and even get involved!

Meet Our Newest Staff Member: Jen Halsall!

We are so incredibly excited to add Jen Halsall (Noah's Mom) to our VSA Staff Team! Jen will be starting at VSA as a part-time para on Monday, February 4. She will be assisting teachers with their current class loads, as well as training with our tutors so that she can tutor as well! Jen has had OG training and was a tutor at Rocky Mountain Camp this summer. We are lucky to have her and her knowledge and passion on board!



Past Parent Opportunity: Testimonials

We are still looking for testimonials for our website (hoping to go live this month!). If you would like to share your experience with VSA to help other families along their dyslexia journey, please send short blurb to Ms. Alex at agriffen@verticalskillsacademy.org by Monday, February 25.

Past Parent Opportunity: "Family Experience Catalogue"

We would like to create a document or "catalogue" of sorts for new/prospective families. The idea is for each current family at VSA to provide a brief description of their student, how they came to find VSA, how they were able to make it work (financially, with their families, etc.), and how it has impacted them. Once all of the stories are compiled, we could hand the document to new/prospective parents and they could choose who to reach out to for questions or insights based on whose stories they relate to the most. This could become a very valuable tool to help us serve more impacted students despite the perceived barriers that may be in the way of their enrollment. If you are willing to be a point of contact for new/prospective families and would like to contribute to this document, or if you have any questions or insight about it, please contact Ms. Alex at agriffen@verticalskillsacademy.org

Fundraising Opportunity: Give Back at Dandelion's Cafe!

Dandelion's Cafe, our old (and very missed) neighbor, has offered to do a special promotion for our school! **For the month of February only**, when you go to Dandelion's Cafe and mention that you are from Vertical Skills Academy, **10% of your bill will be donated back to VSA!** If you haven't been to

Dandelion's in a while, or ever, now's the time to go! Bring your family, your friends, neighbors, random strangers off the street! Stop in and grab some breakfast with your kiddo(s) before school, snag lunch on our half day, or get some early dinner after school day! What an easy (and delicious) way to raise money for VSA!



More Fundraising: Valentine's Parent Night Out

Want to have a date night without the kids for this romantic holiday? Let VSA help you out! **On the evening of Thursday, February 14** (that's right- Valentine's Day) we will be hosting our **annual Parents Night Out from 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm**. Students are welcome to bring siblings and/or friends to join them for fun and games during this event, and permission slips for anyone hoping to participate are in the email with this newsletter. Suggested donation of \$60 (still less

than your average babysitter!). We ask that you do not bring any children under the age of 6. If you already know that your child will attend, OR if you would like to donate any food/snacks for this event, **please RSVP to Ms. Alex at agriffen@verticalskillsacademy.org with the number of children and/or food you plan to bring by Tuesday, February 12.**

February Board Meeting

This month's board meeting will take place at 5:30 pm at the school on Tuesday, February 26th. All are invited and welcome to join. We hope to see you there!

Thank You!