



The Vanguard School

2018-2019

Annual Report

A **free** public school education with
the rigor, individualized student
support, and close community of a
private school



From the Board

The mission of The Vanguard School is to help guide students in development of their character and academic potential through academically rigorous, content-rich educational programs. We are proud to present our Annual Report. Our students develop lifelong habits of excellence in virtue and intellect allowing them to prosper as classically-educated individuals advancing a free society. As Board leaders, we salute our students' achievements and the hard work of our teachers, administrative team, and support staff in their ability to ensure our enduring nationally acclaimed programs prepare graduates for advanced education, meaningful contributions to society, and a life of purpose.

Those things that embody truth and beauty are hallmarks of the Vanguard environment and are readily discerned in our school. We teach that objective right and wrong exist. In this environment, objective rights and wrongs exist, and our American patrimony is explained, embraced, and celebrated. Ultimately, the school culture – the school's environment and the people whose labors shape it – helps equip students to lead

virtuous lives and achieve at the highest intellectual levels. As stated in the Vanguard culture statement, the school is a beacon for students and families, and in the wide society. It serves, in the words of T. S. Eliot, as "the preface to our successors' victory."

We thank you for choosing Vanguard, and as we near our 25th Anniversary in 2020, we pledge to continue to bring you and your families the very best in educational offerings in Colorado Springs. You deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,



Dan Geoffroy
Immediate Past President



Matthew Hughes
Current Board President



Academic Highlights

- The Class of 2019, with 66 graduates, earned \$8,328,541 in scholarships.
- Sophomore Adele (AC) Wilson was one of 47 2018/2019 Classic Learning Test 10 National Reward Recipients. These top performers scored within the top 1% of all test takers in the nation and are eligible for a one-time, \$2,500 scholarship, to any participating CLT partner-college.
- The Senior Capstone presentations are always a highlight. These presentations represent the synthesis of the student's learning in response to the question "How does one live well?" Congratulations to the 2019 finalists and winner Alix Walters!
- Seventh grader Connor Sherrow scored a 1200 on his SAT's after taking the junior high DukeTIPS elective.

Organizational Highlights

- U.S. News and World Report ranked The Vanguard School #1 in Colorado Springs and #3 in Colorado.
- Ranked by Niche as the #1 Charter High School, Junior High, and Elementary School in Colorado Springs.
- The Colorado Department of Education bestowed multiple awards on The Vanguard School in 2018-2019. The high school, junior high, and elementary school all were awarded the John Irwin School of Excellence Award. The high school also received The Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award for "exceptional student growth." Additionally, the high school was the only school in all of Colorado Springs and El Paso County to win the High School Academic Growth Award.
- The Class of 2020 scored an average of 27 on the ACT and 1218 on the SAT during their junior year. Collectively, 14% of the class earned recognition through the National Merit Scholarship program.
- Sixty-six students took 138 Advanced Placement exams in the Spring of 2019. The percentage of total AP students with scores of 3 or higher (on a 1 to 5 scale) was 90%. American colleges generally grant placement and course credit to students who obtain scores of 3 or higher on exams.
- The Vanguard School was ranked fourth in the nation by the Classic Learning Test for rigor and high performance of secondary students.



**National
Merit
Scholarship
Program**

Athletic Highlights

- The high school boys club volleyball team won their fourth consecutive State Championship.
- The high school boys basketball team finished second in the state 3A tournament and completed the team's best season ever.
- Seth Fuqua joined the ranks of the elite becoming the third highest scorer in the history of Colorado high school basketball, and one of only 12 individuals to have ever reached 2,000 points. He finished his high school career with 2,374 points.
- The junior high girls basketball team finished the 2018-2019 season undefeated (32-0).
- Vanguard sixth grader Lorenzo Bustamante (11 years old) placed first in his age range for the Knights of Columbus State Free Throw Championship.



Arts and Extracurricular Highlights

- Our Team America Rocketry Club (TARC) students traveled to Virginia to compete in the national tournament. Our team was one of only two clubs in Colorado that qualified to compete at the national level in 2019.
- Vanguard's Global Studies Program took trips abroad to the northern Mediterranean coast and to Costa Rica.
- The fall musical, "110 in the Shade," was a phenomenal showing of talent. Senior Hans Mueh is now studying musical theatre in NYC.
- The award-winning Forensics Team (Speech and Debate) had two individuals who were invited to participate in the national competitions in Dallas, Texas. Both placed in the top 20% in the nation.
- In the 2018-2019 school year, Vanguard high school and junior high art students won a National Gold Medal, a National Silver Medal, and eight state-championship Gold Key awards at the Colorado Scholastic Art Awards. Vanguard art students also won three awards at the Fifth Congressional Art Competition and nine awards at the Young Peoples Art Exhibition. Additionally, junior Alyssa Jameson won her third consecutive National Award making her the most decorated young artist in our school's history.



Finance Report

Notable Capital Projects:

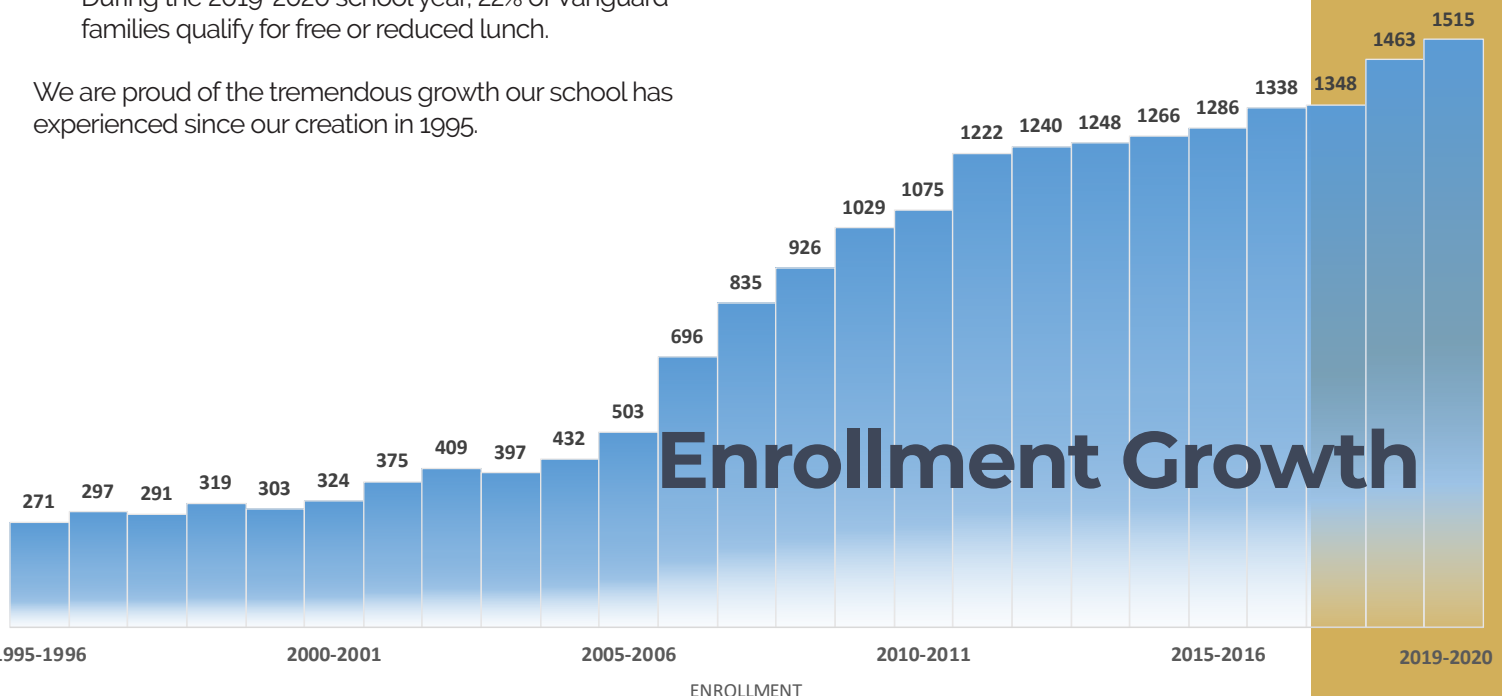
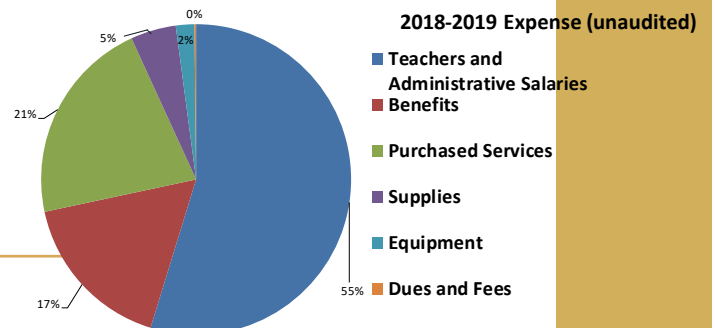
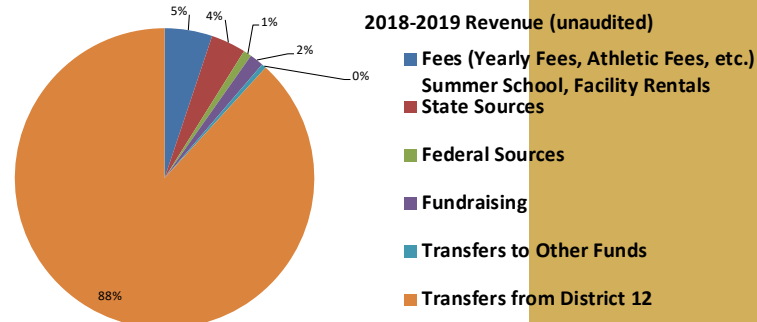
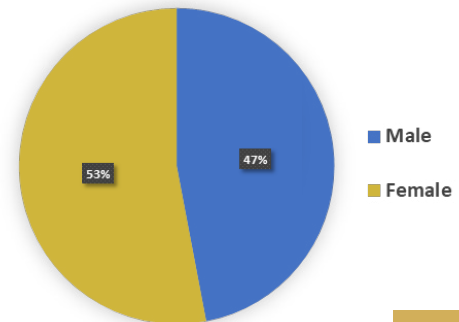
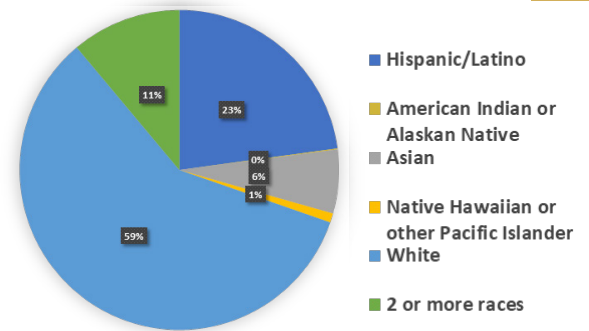
- The Vanguard School undertook several significant capital improvement projects during the 2018-2019 school year. Security cameras were installed in all building interiors to provide visibility of student common areas helping to increase safety and security across both campuses. A major portion of funding for this project was provided by a donor whose son works at the school and whose grandchild attends Vanguard.
- The school also was able to repair the roofs on every building, except the newly opened Dome, through a combination of insurance claims and a BEST (Building Excellent Schools Today) Grant. In total, the school received over \$1.6 million in funding to support these improvements that will extend the lifetime of our facilities for many years to come.



- During the 2018-2019 school year, 18% of Vanguard families qualified for free or reduced lunch.
- During the 2019-2020 school year, 22% of Vanguard families qualify for free or reduced lunch.

We are proud of the tremendous growth our school has experienced since our creation in 1995.

Student Demographics





From the Principal

Renee Henslee, K-6

The Vanguard School is dedicated to supporting both character development and high academic achievement in a caring and nurturing environment. Beginning in Kindergarten, students are mastering cursive, which stimulates the development of fine motor skills and reinforces the blending of sounds within words. In fourth grade, students begin the study of Latin, which improves their vocabulary and ability to think logically.

Students are continually challenged to reach their potential through achievement level grouping and content-rich curriculum and are exposed to a coherent, incremental, and knowledge-based curriculum utilizing Direct Instruction methodology and the Core Knowledge® Sequence. This sequence is intended to help children establish a strong foundation of knowledge necessary to master the content in junior high, high school, and beyond.

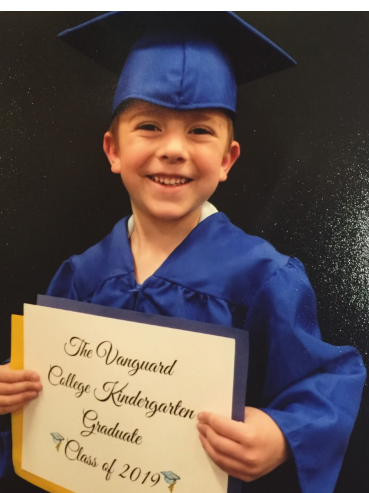
The school's focus on character is just as essential as our academics, and in elementary, we focus on The Keys to Success: Citizenship, Respect, Integrity, Self-Discipline, and Excellence. To celebrate our students' exemplary character, we proudly award quarterly "Pure Grit Awards" to students who embody these traits.

We appreciate your strong support of our school, and we hope that as you read this report, you will gain a greater understanding of the tremendous difference Vanguard makes in the lives of our students and their families.

Sincerely,

Renee Henslee

Renee Henslee
K-6 Principal



From the Executive Director

Colin Mullaney

The Vanguard School offers a coherent, aligned, classical education from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Our “college kindergarten” students learn to read and learn to write in cursive. Thirteen years later this skill has developed such that our seniors are articulating their thoughts on “how to live well” based on the world of ideas with which they have immersed themselves as part of their thorough classical education. **Our goal for our students is that they are prepared for the moral and intellectual challenges that face them beyond high school, such that they may truly live well for their entire lives.**

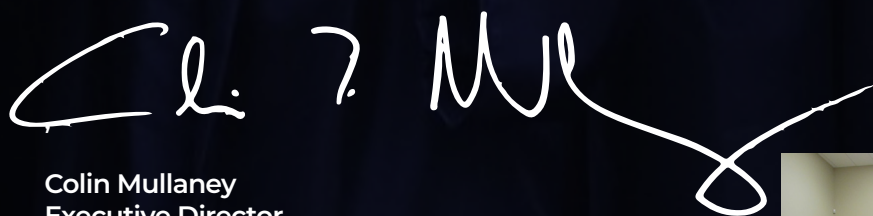
The Vanguard School high school is nationally ranked and consistently named one of the very best schools in Colorado. Our classical liberal arts and sciences college-preparatory curriculum is designed to help students develop virtue, master a deep foundation of knowledge, learn critical analysis, and become confident communicators. Students engage in important, challenging work in a structured, safe, and supportive environment, and they grow their talents and interests correspondingly.

Our vision for our students goes well beyond high school. Students develop academic skills as well as the time management and study habits to succeed at the most elite colleges in the country. Each year we offer at least fifteen courses in which students can earn college credit, and our college counseling program begins working with students in ninth grade to ensure they are exploring opportunities and finding the right fit for their next level of education.

The ultimate test of an education is in living it. Vanguard junior high and high school students participate in a vast array of clubs, activities, and athletic offerings. These opportunities allow our students to practice leadership and virtue in a setting outside the classroom while guided by caring sponsors, coaches, and mentors. They create community in a culture of support that strives to achieve excellence in all we do. The actions modelled and practiced lead to habits of excellence that transcend our high school or our students’ time enrolled. They learn to be excellent in all aspects of their lives.

We are proud of the work of our teachers and students. The results manifest on a daily basis and will last a lifetime.

Sincerely



Colin Mullaney
Executive Director
7-12 Principal



Board Members

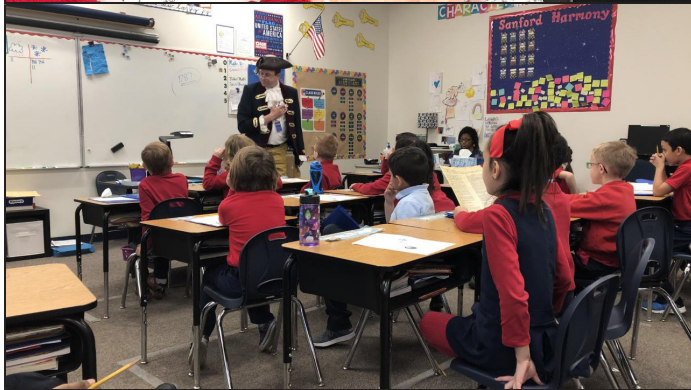
Mr. Matt Hughes, President

Mr. Dan Geoffroy, Vice President

Dr. Kurt Peters, Treasurer

Mrs. René Chatham, Secretary

Mr. Sperry Redd, Director



Administrative Leadership

Colin Mullaney, Executive Director and 7-12 Principal

Renee Henslee, K-6 Principal

David Kennington, 9-12 Assistant Principal

Bethany Danjuma, 7-8 Assistant Principal

Clint Randall, 4-6 Assistant Principal

George Sikalos, K-3 Assistant Principal

Susan Novak, Director of Student Services and Special Education

Jeff Yocum, Operations Director

Diane Borre, Business Manager

Audrey Szychulski, Director of Advancement

Jennifer Blanchard, Admissions Officer

Austyn Callahan, Information Technology Manager

Joseph Simboli, Athletic Director

2018-2019

Booster Club

The Vanguard Arts and Athletics Booster Club was started in the 2018-2019 school year. The group was established to support all arts, athletics, and extracurricular opportunities at The Vanguard School.

Thank you to the organizations who have already chosen to support our Booster Club!

Courser Level Sponsors:

Academy Kids Dental, Vision, and Orthodontics

Highest Point Real Estate and Property Management

Lighthouse Auto Glass

TW Stucco

Gold Level Sponsors:

Pink Realty

The Booster Club also held their Inaugural Golf Classic.



★ INAUGURAL COURSER ★
Golf
CLASSIC

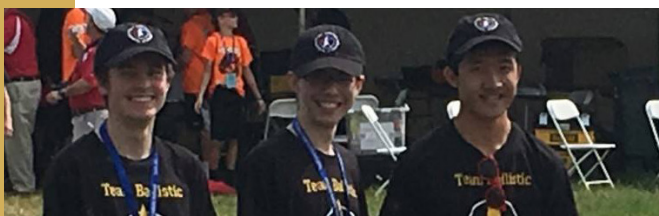
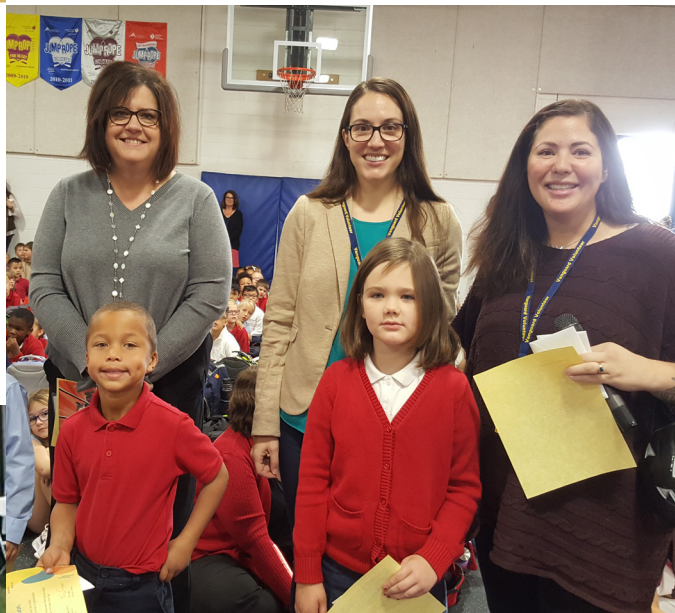
THE Vanguard School

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

COLORADO
BEHAVIOR AND LEARNING GROUP
COLORADO SPRINGS

Parent-Teacher Organization

The Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) helps to provide a variety of support for our classrooms in addition to helping host fun activities for students and families. Through the Cookie Dough Fundraiser, Trunk or Treat, Game Nights, Parent/Child Dances, K-6 yearbooks, Pizza Fridays, Knowledge Bowls, and so many other events, these volunteers work hard. Thank you!



Donors

The Vanguard School appreciates the support of many individuals and organizations!

As a charter school, we do not receive taxpayer funded bond proceeds which requires us to use our operating revenue for basic capital needs. This limits our funding available for teachers' salaries and classroom needs. Therefore, we ask for support so that we can continue improving our programs, meeting our facility needs, and pursuing our mission of developing the character and academic potential of our students.

The following individuals donated during the 2018-2019 school year through one or more of the following opportunities: Colorado Gives Day; The Brick, Bench, and Tree Campaign; The Benefit Bash; and non-specific opportunities.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!


Donor Listing

Aaron & Evie Beck
 Aaron Fitzgerald
 AdPro 360 Results
 Agnes Flaum
 All Seasons, LLC
 Amazon Prime
 American Furniture Warehouse
 Amy & John Mittelstedt
 Angelica M Gonzalez
 Angelina Mabe
 Anne Campbell
 Anonymous (x33 donors)
 Athena
 Bree Tippit
 Brenda Harris
 Carla Parker
 Carolyn Rogers
 CH (LTC) Ralph & Carol
 Bieganeck
 Charles Petering
 Chase & Hannah
 Chin Chung
 Christine Clark
 ColoradoGives Community
 First Foundation
 Courtney Runyan
 David & Sandy Clark - in honor
 of Promise Clark from your
 grandparents
 Deborah Prins
 Dede Schuck
 Deena Gerber
 Dennis & Nadine Garcia
 Dodi Dalessio
 Dr. & Mrs. Trent Glaser
 Dr. Kurt & Dr. Traci Peters
 Dusty & Kim Hill
 Eric Lewis
 Eva Gebhards
 First Bank
 Gary & Janey Cadenas
 Genee Lyn Wilson
 Hayley Harris
 Holly Ware
 Jan Isaacs Henry
 Jane Emerson-Brown
 Jane Morgan
 Janet Dinnen
 Jeff Kazanow
 Jeffery & Anna Robinette
 Jeffery Albin & Audrey
 Szychulski
 Jenna Fariss

Jeremy Jones
 Jeri Keen
 Jill Corey
 Jill Justus
 Joe & Kim Lee
 John & Laura Ruffennach
 John Rodgers
 Jojo Olle
 Jonathan & Lara Rowell
 - in honor of all Vanguard
 teachers
 Jonathan Miller
 Jung Hwan Cho
 Karen Kaley
 Karen Winter
 Kathy and Dennis Hisey
 Kevin Kilimann
 Kevin O'Connor
 Kodiak Kellett
 Koppisch Family
 Krishna Dash & Rupesh Jain
 Laura Marth
 Lee Wall
 Leslie Gray
 Lila Torres Meraz
 Linda Weber
 Lindsey Jones
 Luis Pacheco
 Mabe Family
 Maria Douty
 Marilyn Ensley
 Mark Albright
 Martina Metcalf
 Mary N Aesoph
 Michael Peterson
 Michael Smolik
 Michael Thiel
 Morris Flaum
 Mullaney Family
 Nelson Family - in honor of
 Kimblerly & Hunter
 Nelson
 Nieradka Family - in honor of
 Adlan Nieradka
 Ohana Kava Bar
 Paul & Georgette DeJong
 Paul Koch
 Rebecca Crammer
 Rebecca Sherrow
 Renee Henslee
 Rex Watson
 Rita Meehan
 Robert and Beverly Fenton
 Sabrina Cohen

Scott & Tricia Jesse
 Scott A Deeds
 Sharon Pighetti
 Sharon Stasiuk
 Shawn & Liz Raiter
 Shay Knowles
 Spoorthi
 Stephanie Shortt
 Stephanie Shortt - in honor
 of Kahli Rahn
 Susan Novak
 Suzanne Erskine
 Tala Harmon
 Teresa Donn
 The Anderson's
 The Baker Family
 The Bowens
 The Boyer Family
 The Bragassa Family
 The Brown Family
 The Cecil Family
 The Chatham Family
 The Colorado Health
 Foundation
 The Colt Family
 The Cruz Family
 The Custer Family
 The Gard Family
 The Garvens Family
 The Gorgas/Ancevic Family
 The Holden Family
 The Hughes Family
 The Jimeson Family
 The Le Family
 The Miller Family
 The Palmer Family
 The Redd Family
 The Schaefer Family
 The Sucher Family
 The Yocum Family
 Thomas Thompson
 Thompson Family
 Timea Kennedy
 Tom & Diane Nieradka
 Tony & Karine Pignatiello
 Tracy de Nieves
 Travis & Jocelyn Nelson
 Treva Gottwein
 Tyler James Co-Archer
 Veronica Lindstrom
 Walt & Sharon Mullaney
 Wayne & Jackie Timura
 Westmont Construction
 Whitney Hughes





Detailed information available on
www.TheVanguardSchool.com

November 27 – 29, 2019 – Thanksgiving Break
December 10, 2019 – Colorado Gives Day
December 20, 2019 – End of the 2nd Quarter
December 23, 2019 – January 6, 2020 – Christmas Break
January 7, 2020 – Students Return
January 8, 2020 – Graduate Luncheon
January 16, 2020 – High School Information Night #1
January 23, 2020 – Junior High Information Night #1
February 5, 2020 – High School Information Night #2
February 7, 2020 – The Benefit Bash
February 19, 2020 – Junior High Information Night #2
March 13, 2020 – End of the 3rd Quarter
March 23 – 27, 2020 – Spring Break
April 15, 2020 – National Honor Society Induction Ceremony
April 16, 2020 – Parent-Teacher Conferences
April 16, 2020 – Prom
May 4 – 15, 2020 – AP Exams
May 18, 2020 – Graduate Walk
May 22, 2020 – Baccalaureate
May 23, 2020 – Graduation
May 28, 2020 – Field Day
May 28, 2020 – End of the 4th Quarter
May 28, 2020 – Junior High Moving-Up Ceremony
June 1, 2020 – Second Annual Courser Golf Classic



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