

## Former VICC Student, Now Teacher Shares Insight with City Parents

by Libby Wall

**"Everyone should know about it," one mom, Tyra Taylor, points out. Another mom echoes that same thought, adding, "It's a community problem."**

Their comments refer to the African-American achievement gap, an issue they heard about at an April dinner meeting for VICC families, held at their daughters' school, Valley Park Elementary.

"This is real," physical education teacher Latonya Davis warned parents as she talked to them about the troubling disparity in academic achievement levels between African-American students and non-African-American students.

While Davis' presentation included data specific to Valley Park, she notes that it's "typical" of what is occurring in other St. Louis county districts and across the country. Her statistics were from last year's MAP testing and showed African-American students scoring significantly lower than non-African American students in communication arts and math.

Included in Davis' powerpoint presentation was a video that emphasized the importance of summer academic and enrichment activities. No matter how much quality learning takes place from

August to May, without summer learning the achievement gap between low and middle income students widens further each school year, according to the video by Horizons National. Opportunities such as camps, trips, library and museum visits are recommended so that children reinforce good habits, expand their knowledge and retain what they learned the previous year.

The academic success of African-American students is near and dear to Davis' heart, being a former VICC student herself (see story below). She feels strongly that parents can positively affect their children's learning outcomes. "Tonight is the first step," she told them. "You are here."

Davis stressed the need for schools, parents, and students to work together closely to improve student achievement. "It takes a village," she said.

Valley Park Elementary principal Bryan Pearlman, also present at the meeting (along with many faculty) puts it another way: "The key to student success is the connection between all stakeholders. In today's world, every hour of every day is critically important. We can't waste any time. If a student is struggling, we need to put our heads together and come up with a modified recipe for success. With home and school working together, every student can be successful."



## Davis Offers this Advice:

### Recommendations for Parents

- Become involved in the school community. Participate in PTO, class parties or special events. It's always best when the school and family work as a team.
- Create open lines of communication with your students' teachers. Follow up on any problems and find out what you can do to support your children's success.
- Check homework.
- Remove television from children's bedrooms.
- Encourage daily reading, both independent and having your child read to you.

### Recommendations for Students

- Always complete assignments and keep grades up.
- Build relationships with teachers and faculty. Don't be afraid to ask for clarification or extra help when needed. Teachers want to help.
- Take prep courses for standardized tests.
- Read and study.
- Find an area of particular interest—sports, clubs, volunteering—and get involved.

Valley Park Elementary School P.E. teacher Latonya Davis, rear center, mingled and posed for pictures at an April meeting the district hosted for its VICC families where she presented information on the African-American achievement gap. A former VICC student, Davis believes her Rockwood education launched her down the road to success and she wants to ensure Valley Park students fare similarly. Here, second grader Mea McFerrin, standing with her mom Chenis Buckner (left) and grandma Natila Buckner, holds up a handout Coach Davis gave to parents that details the skills students should possess from birth through high school graduation in order to be positioned for success.

## Teacher's Passion Unmistakable Committed to Helping Students Flourish as She Did

by Peggy Magee

For the last four years, the meetings that Valley Park hosts for its VICC families have been coordinated by the elementary school P.E. teacher Latonya Davis, a former VICC student from the Rockwood district. Her keen understanding of the challenges and opportunities of voluntary transfer students has prompted her to take an active role in communicating with parents. As an educator who has walked in her students' shoes, Davis feels passionate about sharing with their parents information and advice to make the children's educational experiences as successful as possible.

The parents are always eager to hear what Davis has to say. "They listen to my every word," the 1997 Eureka High graduate notes. As she works her way around the school cafeteria visiting with families, she chats about her own background, how she grew up in north St. Louis having very few advantages and was the first in her family to attend college. And that, "Even though the chips were stacked against me, I never used that as an excuse." She tells them how far she's come—a bachelor's degree followed by a master's, her first teaching job being in the Rockwood district, then 10 years at Valley Park, where in 2007 the district recognized her with its ABC award (Above and Beyond for Children). Later, in 2013, Valley Park nominated her for its Teacher of the Year. And this year, she was nominated for Missouri Physical Education Teacher of the Year.

She takes pride in every one of these accomplishments and is quick to credit her Rockwood education with helping her become the success she is. In fact, it is Davis' intention to be for her students the kind of teacher she had benefit of in Rockwood. "I want to provide my students the same level of interest and support that I had in Rockwood."

Davis believes she benefitted greatly from the diverse school environment in her county district. "I learned to interact with all types of people, most whose culture and background were different from mine. I made friends with people I originally assumed I had nothing in common."

Another thing that Davis did in Rockwood that surprised her was taking on leadership roles on top of doing what she loved—cheerleading and track. In her busy routine she thrived, feeling an inner gratification knowing her horizons were being broadened, both intellectually and socially. She points out, "I tell my students that it's really important for them to be involved." She encourages them to be adventuresome, to meet new people and try new things. "Being well rounded is an asset," she explains.

Davis also recommends students develop a close rapport with their teachers, as she did. "It's good to have someone to turn to for guidance or help." Sometimes it just takes one teacher to make all the difference in a student's life, notes Davis, adding, "I want to be that one."

## GIRL SCOUTS

### Do you want to:

- design and build robots?
- cook delicious, nutritious meals?
- learn how to earn, save and spend money?

Then choose Girl Scouts! You'll gain new friends, have fun and do things you never imagined you could. What are you waiting for? Start the fun now at:

[girlscoutsem.org/learnmore](http://girlscoutsem.org/learnmore).

For more information, contact:

**Shirley Artis**

[sartis@girlscoutsem.org](mailto:sartis@girlscoutsem.org).



The summer issue of the *Parent Link* is always one of my favorites as I thoroughly enjoy reading about the hard work and success of our outstanding graduates throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area. I am sure that you are encouraged, just as I am, as you read these inspiring stories. Clearly, the success of these students is the result of their hard work and the support and dedication of their families and teachers.

Studies show that the students with the greatest academic achievement, as well as long-term success in life, come from families in which parents and other family members are involved in their learning in a significant way. I trust that you are making that investment now in your child's future so that, as they approach graduation, it is possible that their picture will be included in the issue highlighting our outstanding graduates. Investing in the success of our children is the best investment that any of us can make.

**David S. Glaser**  
CEO  
dglaser@choicecorp.org  
314.721.8422,  
ext. 3013

# Outstanding GRADUATES

## AFFTON

### Affton High School

Dedicated to helping others, **Tre'von Johnson** participated in the Alpha Phi Alpha mentor program and Big Brothers Big Sisters. He was also a member of College Bound, a program that aids with college prep, selection and admission. Tre'von will attend the University of Kansas and plans to pursue a career in information technology.

## BRENTWOOD

### Brentwood High School

With plans to study marine biology, **Cierra Lucas** will attend Coastal Carolina University. At Brentwood, she was a member of student council and National Honor Society. She participated in the world language and science program, speech and debate, robotics, the diversity club, taking a challenging load of accelerated and dual credit college courses and also volunteered heavily for community organizations. Athletically and academically driven, Cierra served as the captain of the field hockey, soccer, and color guard teams while maintaining a 3.93 grade point average.

## CLAYTON

### Clayton High School

Inspired by her family heritage and passion for math and science, **Amarachi Onyema** will study global medicine at Washington University. During her time at Clayton, Amarachi has excelled academically. Described by her teachers as intellectual and compassionate, she hopes to utilize her education to help lower the infant mortality and teen pregnancy rates in her parents' native country of Nigeria.

## HANCOCK

### Hancock Place High School

**Kierra Washington** focused on academics, sports and service during her high school years. She volunteered at Crisis Nursery and was a member of College Bound, an organization that aids with college prep, selection and admission. Kierra will attend Missouri Western University. She plans to study physical therapy, an interest developed from observing the care physical therapists provided to her younger sister.

## LINDBERGH

### Lindbergh High School

Twin brothers **Christian and Kenyon McCoo** are both planning on studying pre-med at the University of Missouri Columbia. Active members of the student body, the McCoo brothers played football, ran track, participated in show choir, a cappella choir, and

were members of Tri-M music honor society. They were members of the Link Crew freshman mentoring program and completed 60 hours of A+ service. Christian and Kenyon were Renaissance award recipients all four years for their academics, hard work and citizenship. Kenyon was a member of the Future Business Leaders of America. Christian was in DECA, a business career prep organization, and was a keynote speaker at the class of 2015 graduation ceremony. Both young men will be enrolling in the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC).

## MEHLVILLE

### Mehville High School

Demonstrating leadership, good character and a strong work ethic, **Victoria Riley** participated in the Teen Health Consultants, Special Olympics committee, basketball, track, and the senior executive board. She was an active member in Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. She was able to successfully balance extra-curricular activities and academics. Described by her teachers as a mature and motivated individual, Victoria has enlisted in the Navy.

## PARKWAY

### Parkway North High School

With a keen eye on how law and discipline impact society, **Khaila Jones** developed an interest in civics and social justice in high school. She will carry that interest with her to Westminster College where she plans to study pre-law. Khaila credits the VICC program as a secret to her success and appreciates the exposure she had in Parkway to diversity and social justice, as well as the opportunity to develop into a strong peer leader.

### Parkway Central High School

Despite having stereotypes and misconceptions of African-American achievement has been most satisfying for **Taylr Wilson**. Taking advanced placement classes, she excelled in academics while being involved in orchestra, step team, Gay-Straight Alliance, and Fempowerment. Taking advantage of her A+ Program scholarship, Taylr will attend St. Louis

### Parkway South High School

Shattering stereotypes and misconceptions of African-American achievement has been most satisfying for **Taylr Wilson**. Taking advanced placement classes, she excelled in academics while being involved in orchestra, step team, Gay-Straight Alliance, and Fempowerment. Taking advantage of her A+ Program scholarship, Taylr will attend St. Louis

Community College for two years and then plans to transfer to Loyola University in Chicago to study physical therapy.

### Parkway West High School

Graduating with a cumulative grade point average of 3.8, **Lexus Carson** has successfully proven that academics have always been her first priority. Through the VICC program, Lexus believes she has developed grit and perseverance, essential skills for achievement. This tenacity has helped Lexus map out her goals which include studying pre-med at the University of Missouri Columbia.

## ROCKWOOD

### Eureka High School

While at Eureka High School **LaRonn Woods** completed the A+ Program, was a recipient of the distinguished Glory of Missouri Award, and earned the Gold Standard Award two consecutive years for high academic achievement. LaRonn was recognized as Eureka High School Student of the Month and VICC Student of the Month his senior year. He plans to join the United States Navy.

### Lafayette High School

When, in her junior year, **Chelsie Hoppood** realized how great her potential is, she buckled down and earned a 4.0 her final two years. Her schedule included taking several advanced placement classes in the sciences to become better prepared for possible future studies in nursing. While excelling academically, she was heavily involved: National Honor Society, Renaissance Club, book club, choir, library advisory, track and field team, Key Club, plus her many church activities. Chelsie plans to attend Missouri State University.

### Marquette High School

Despite having learning challenges, **Desteon Malique Watkins** persevered and found his niche in art, excelling at it. His accomplishments are many as evidenced by the number of awards he was given, some for his talent in art and others that were teacher recommended for academics, character and overall excellence. He was a member of the National Art Honor Society. Desteon plans to study art at the college level and hopes to pursue a career that showcases his love of art.

### Rockwood Summit High School

**Joy Gbaranee Kuebee** coupled her rigorous course load (including advanced placement courses and three years of German) with training as a certified nurse assistant at South Tech High School. This honor roll student plans to attend UMSL's Bachelor of Science nursing program

and travel the world helping others. Originally from Nigeria, she is fluent in Khana and helped choreograph and perform African dance at the annual Renaissance Pep Assembly. She successfully completed the A+ Program, served as Link crew leader, mentored ninth grade as well as elementary students, and volunteered at Kingdom House. With her warm and kind spirit, she was a positive and integral part of her school communities.

## VALLEY PARK

### Valley Park High School

Throughout high school, **Charles White** took challenging classes, including advanced placement and dual college credit, and maintained a 3.5-plus grade point average. Ranked in the top 25 percent of his class, he competed with the Valley Park Academic Competition Team in the Scholar Bowl, ran cross country and gave back to the community as a member of the Inter Com club. Charles is headed to St. Louis Community College, utilizing his A+ Program scholarship, before transferring to Missouri State University to pursue a degree in fine arts/film studies.

## Webster Groves

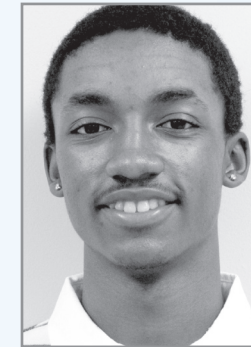
### Webster Groves High School

**Stephen Harris** played four years of basketball, receiving honors as a scholar athlete and the Renaissance award for academics. He will attend Austin Peay University in Tennessee on a full scholarship and intends to study nursing, possibly specializing in respiratory therapy.

## ST. LOUIS SCHOOLS

### Gateway STEM High School

Having transferred to Gateway for its specialized robotics curriculum, **Miranda Reuther** took full advantage of its opportunities. As an aviation major, she received dual credits for high school and college, getting two years of college under her belt while in high school, plus she garnered a paid internship with Jet Aviation. Beyond aviation and robotics, Miranda took advanced placement courses in literature and chemistry, in addition to being involved in the Air Force ROTC program.



**Tre'von Johnson**  
Affton High School



**Cierra Lucas**  
Brentwood High School



**Amarachi Onyema**  
Clayton High School



**Kierra Washington**  
Hancock Place High School



**Christian McCoo**  
Lindbergh High School



**Kenyon McCoo**  
Lindbergh High School



**Victoria Riley**  
Mehville High School



**Khaila Jones**  
Parkway North High School



**Anyaku "Anny" Okpara**  
Parkway Central High School



**Taylr Wilson**  
Parkway Central High School



**Lexus Carson**  
Parkway West High School



**LaRonn Woods**  
Eureka High School



**Chelsie Hoppood**  
Lafayette High School



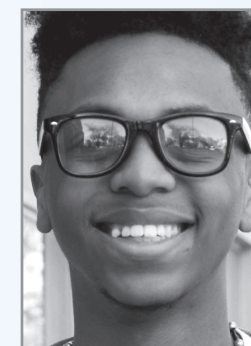
**Desteon Malique Watkins**  
Marquette High School



**Joy Gbaranee Kuebee**  
Rockwood Summit High School



**Charles White**  
Valley Park High School



**Stephen Harris**  
Webster Groves High School



**Miranda Reuther**  
Gateway STEM High School

## What Colleges Look For:

**High School Academic Record:** cumulative GPA, class rank, standardized test scores, core courses, and advanced placement and dual (college) credit courses

**Special Interests:** talents, subjects or activities that students enjoy and perform at a high level (academic, athletic, music, dance, etc.)

**Personality and Character:** How motivated are students to learn and do their best in school? How well do they get along with others? What do their teachers and administrators think of them?

# VICC STAFF

## Ready to Assist Transferring Families

The Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation (VICC) staff includes five counselors/social workers who can assist families with issues related to their school transfers.

Counselors are happy to respond to concerns and/or questions from parents or students regarding any issue that would interfere with the success of a child in the school setting, such as attendance, disciplinary issues, curriculum, achievement or other concerns. They can also provide counseling assistance for students and help parents understand their educational rights.

Counselors generally are assigned according to the first letter of the student's last name. They can be reached by calling 314.721.8422, and dialing the extension number below, or via email.



**A-C** Vickie Williams  
ext. 3011  
vwilliams@choicecorp.org



**D-H** Laverne Mitchom  
ext. 3020  
lmitchom@choicecorp.org



**I-N** Jennifer Christy  
ext. 3021  
jchristy@choicecorp.org



**O-R** Mildred Scott  
ext. 3027  
mscott@choicecorp.org



**S-Z** Mary Schafer Meehan  
ext. 3016  
mmeehan@choicecorp.org

## CONTACT PERSONS for Voluntary Student Transfer Program Families

Each of the districts accepting voluntary transfer students has a designated contact person. Contact persons coordinate the district's administrative responsibilities for the transfer program, and serve as the liaison between the Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation (VICC) and the district.

Contact persons' responsibilities may include enrolling transfer students, conducting orientations for new students and parents, processing applications and submitting transportation requests.

Contact persons are often the first individual from the district that a new transfer family meets, and they are a valuable resource for transfer families. They can answer specific questions about district policy and procedures and can refer parents to the proper school administrator if necessary.

### Affton

Dr. Travis Bracht  
314.633.5916

### Bayless

Mrs. Dawn Thieman  
314.256.8612

### Brentwood

Ms. Chantay Hadley  
314.962.4507

### Clayton

Dr. Greg Batenhorst  
314.854.6013

### Hancock Place

Dr. Timothy M. McInnis  
314.657.9199

### Kirkwood

Dr. Shonda Ambers-Phillips  
314.213.6105

### Lindbergh

Ms. Sandi Riley  
314.729.2400, ext. 4621

### Mehlville

Dr. Brian Lane  
314.467.5007

### Parkway

Ms. Rakiyah "Rocky" Talavedra  
314.415.7060

Dr. Charlotte Ijei  
314.415.5061

### Rockwood

Brittany Hogan  
636.733.2177

### Valley Park

Mrs. Vickie Pardeck  
636.923.3614

### Webster Groves

Mr. John M. Thomas  
314.918.4378

### Special School District

### St. Louis County

Mrs. Mary Lee Burlemann  
314.989.8125

## STARTING DATES

### for County Schools

Classes will begin soon in your county school. Make plans now to be at school every day, beginning on the very first day. Watch your mailbox for your bus card about one week prior to the beginning of classes. The first day of school for each county district is listed below:

<b>Affton</b> . . . . .	<b>August 19, 2015</b>
<b>Bayless</b> . . . . .	<b>August 20, 2015</b>
<b>Brentwood</b> . . . . .	<b>August 12, 2015</b>
<b>Clayton</b> . . . . .	<b>August 12, 2015</b>
<b>Hancock Place</b> . . . . .	<b>August 13, 2015</b>
<b>Kirkwood</b> . . . . .	<b>August 18, 2015</b>
<b>Lindbergh</b> . . . . .	<b>August 20, 2015</b>
<b>Mehlville</b> . . . . .	<b>August 13, 2015</b>
<b>Parkway</b> . . . . .	<b>August 12, 2015</b>
<b>Rockwood</b> . . . . .	<b>August 13, 2015</b>
<b>Special/Tech</b> . . . . .	<b>August 17, 2015</b>
<b>Valley Park</b> . . . . .	<b>August 13, 2015</b>
<b>Webster Groves</b> . . . . .	<b>August 17, 2015</b>

## Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation (VICC) complies fully with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). FERPA is a law that affords parents and students 18 years of age and older with certain rights with respect to the student's educational records.

A copy of VICC's FERPA statement is included in VICC student handbooks, which can be requested by calling 314.721.8422, ext. 3012. The handbooks are also available on the VICC website at [www.choicecorp.org](http://www.choicecorp.org). Click on the link for "City Residents Currently Enrolled in County Schools," and then click on "Voluntary Transfer Program Handbook." The full policy will be published in the next issue of the *Parent Link*.

## EMERGENCY

### Communication System

To improve communication with parents regarding transportation and their child's participation in the St. Louis Student Transfer Program, the Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation uses a telephone broadcast system, similar to ones used in many participating school districts.

This system, provided by School Reach, allows VICC to quickly send all households and parents a pre-recorded message by phone within minutes of a transportation emergency or unplanned event that could significantly delay a child's pick-up for or drop-off from school. These emergencies include traffic jams, bus breakdowns, inclement weather, accidents, etc. The service may also be used from time-to-time to communicate general program announcements or reminders.

This system will simultaneously call a home and one additional cell phone or alternate number for each student's family who needs to be contacted and will deliver a message from Tami Webb, transportation operations manager, or another official with the transfer program. Calls will be delivered to both live (in person) responders and answering machines. Calls not answered and busy signals will be automatically retried by the system two additional times in 15 minute intervals after the initial call.

Your child's school will also continue to separately announce school closings due to snow or weather, via the media or their own phone system. However, in the event your child's district is open, but road conditions are such that VICC's transportation department feels it is not safe to transport students to school, VICC would use this separate system to notify families attending the affected districts in addition to making the standard media announcements.

For this notification system to best operate, it is imperative that you keep your school aware of any future changes in your home and/or cell or alternate/emergency phone numbers. Your school then updates VICC's parent contact records so a separate notification to VICC is not necessary.

## TRANSPORTATION Information

Transportation to and from school is provided by the Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation so long as your child goes to a school in the correct attendance area. The phone number for the transportation staff is **314.721.8657**.

Transportation cards with the bus stop location and time are mailed to all transfer families about two weeks before school begins in the fall. If you do not receive your card by one week before the start of school, contact the principal at the school your child will be attending. Please do not call the transportation staff. After the regular school year begins, new cards will be mailed only if it is necessary to make a change to the bus/cab route. Please review each new card carefully, including the effective date, stop location, times and transporter and destroy all old cards.

Any day-to-day transportation problems or concerns you may have should be addressed by first calling the bus (or cab) contractor.

These include normal operating issues, such as the following:

- Looking for lost items left on the bus/cab
- Checking on activity bus location
- Questions or cancellations when VICC Transportation office is closed.

Refer to your child's bus card for the appropriate bus/cab company.

If the contractor is unable to resolve a concern, or if you have one of the following issues, please call the VICC transportation staff at 314.721.8657:

- Overall routing issues or concerns
- Pick-up or drop-off location concerns
- Concerns with driver or contractor
- Requesting cab or other alternative transportation service in the event your regular bus does not show.

### Student Responsibilities

Students are to board their bus/cab only at their assigned stop. They must **arrive at their designated pick-up location 5 minutes before the scheduled pick-up time, and remain at least 15 minutes after the pick-up time**, before calling the transportation staff at 314.721.8657 for advice on alternative transportation. If your children are not at the bus stop a full 5 minutes before the scheduled arrival time and do not wait the full 15 minutes after the scheduled time and they miss the bus, it will be your responsibility to get them to school. The transportation staff does not send alternative transportation in such instances.

For the safety of all children, students must obey general safety rules as well as those established by the school district they are attending. You should obtain a copy of your district's bus regulations and review them with your child. Violations of bus rules can result in a student being removed from riding the bus either on a temporary or permanent basis. If a bus suspension occurs, it becomes the parents' responsibility to transport the child to and from school for the duration of the suspension.

### Parent Responsibilities

Transportation may run late and/or routes may not be firmly in place during the first few weeks of school. Please make sure your child knows exactly what to do if his or her bus does not arrive. This includes knowing where to go and whom to call. Also make sure your child knows what is expected when he or she is dropped off at the end of the school day. If you normally meet your child at the bus stop, be sure your child understands what to do if you are not there.

If the transportation route to which your child is assigned does not operate in a timely manner, or other problems arise, please communicate with the VICC transportation office.

It is important for parents to keep the school as well as the district contact person informed of any changes in either the home phone number or the cell or alternate/emergency phone number for your child. Also, be sure to request that this information be forwarded to the transportation staff.

### If You Move

If you move during the summer, call the principal at the county school your child has been or will be attending, or that district's contact person immediately. All districts have central office personnel who work during the summer to handle such situations. Please remember, it takes up to 10 working days to make a transportation change. If you are going to move during the academic year, be sure to notify your building principal or district contact person at least two weeks before you move. If you move outside of your school's attendance area, you will need to request a transfer to a school in your new attendance area, or else provide your own transportation in order to remain at your original school.

### General Safety Rules

- Obey the driver promptly.
- Smoking, eating or drinking are not permitted.
- Remain seated until the bus arrives at your stop.
- Refrain from using loud or obscene language.
- Do not damage the bus/cab in any way.
- Do not throw objects on the bus/cab or out of the windows.
- Do not extend head, arms, legs or hands out of the windows.
- Do not tamper with the emergency door except in the case of a real emergency and only under the instruction of the driver.
- Fighting, scuffling or creating loud disturbances are not permitted.
- Avoid the Danger Zones next to the bus where the driver can't see you. This distance is approximately 10 feet around all sides.
- If you must cross the street after you get off the bus, wait for the driver's signal to you and then cross in front of the bus.
- Don't try to pick up something dropped near the bus because the driver might not see you.
- Remember that other motorists don't always stop for a stopped school bus. Use extreme caution when getting on or off the bus.
- Never run back to the bus, even if you dropped or forgot something.

### Student Safety

Help us protect your children as they travel to and from school. Certain types of children's clothing can create a hazard as your child exits the bus. Especially dangerous are jacket and sweatshirt drawstrings, long backpack straps, long scarfs or any other loose clothing. Such clothing could become caught in the bus handrail, door or other bus equipment as the child exits the bus. Please take the time to check your children's clothing. Also talk with your child about the behavior and safety rules.

### Trespass Policy

To bolster the safety of students riding buses to school, the VICC Board adopted the following trespass policy:

"Trespass occurs when anyone boards a school bus without prior approval from VICC. Any VICC-designated person (including students), contractor or school staff whose job responsibilities require him/her to be on a school bus shall be authorized and not be considered trespassing. Only with prior approval from VICC or a contractor may any parent, guardian or member of the general public be allowed on a bus at any time."

**Be sure to review the transportation section in the Voluntary Transfer Program Handbook (pages 8-17) with your child before the start of school. If you need a handbook, please call 314.721.8422, ext. 3012, or visit our website: [www.choicecorp.org](http://www.choicecorp.org)**