

Amazing Race for Education

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



What is the VSF Amazing Race for Education?

Teams of four people work together to complete a variety of challenges at locations throughout Valparaiso. Your team will travel together in a vehicle, charting your route and working as a team to earn as many points as possible. It is a game of teamwork, strategy, and unique challenges that will have you looking at Valparaiso in a whole new way. This is a “build your own” adventure in that you will be provided a list of 25 tasks, assigned a starting location, and charged with completing what you can (it certainly won’t be all 25) in the allotted time. **Physical fitness is not required!**

This is not an actual road race. Teams are expected to follow all driving laws, speed limits, etc.

When and where will this take place?

The October 1, 2022 event will kick off at the Urschel Pavilion in downtown Valpo. Teams arrive at 2:30 for check-in, packet pick up, and instructions. The Amazing Race starts at 3:00; teams have four hours to complete challenges. All will gather back at Urschel Pavilion by 7:30p for a picnic & results.

Who can participate?

This adults-only (18+) event is great for friends, co-workers, and adult family groups. It is a fun team building experience for co-workers and/or a unique corporate challenge opportunity, too. Challenges are varied so that everyone should find one that suits their strengths.

Are there prizes?

The team scoring the most points will have a \$3,000 VSF scholarship funded in their name, and the team will be invited (but not required) to present the scholarship in mid-May at the VHS Awards Night. The winning team will also win a “trophy and bragging rights”.

The second-place team will have a \$2,000 VSF scholarship funded in their name, and the team will be invited (but not required) to present the scholarship in mid-May at the VHS Awards Night. Sorry...no bragging rights included.

What will Valpo Schools Foundation do with the event proceeds?

VSF exists to support teachers and students in the Valparaiso Community Schools. We fundraise to provide classroom grants to teachers and post-high school scholarships to graduating seniors. During the 2022-23 school year we will award up to \$50,000 in classroom grants (actual amount depends on applications received) and will award \$50,000 in scholarships. Your participation in the Valpo Schools Foundation’s Amazing Race for Education will support us in this mission.

Will we have a good time?

We sure think so! We piloted this concept pre-covid on a smaller scale and it was a huge success. Some even dubbed it “The most fun I’ve ever had as an adult.”

What should I wear?

Comfortable clothing is recommended. Most of the challenges will take place outside, so dress for the weather. Team “uniforms” or costumes would be a fun touch!

What if it rains?

We will certainly be hoping for clear skies, but in the event of rain we will proceed. If there is thunder and lightning, we will have a picnic in the pavilion and provide instructions for teams to complete a slightly amended version of the Amazing Race on a day of your choosing within a specified period.

Do I need to bring anything?

A cooler of drinks and some snacks in your car is a great idea. Please also bring your choice of beverage for the post-event picnic.

For the Amazing Race, a clipboard and a pencil/pen will be useful. It is wise to be prepared with other tools of your choosing. *Pro-Tip: If this event was hosted in 1985, useful supplies would have been: a phone book, a compass, a yardstick, a clipboard, pencils, a calculator, chalk, a flashlight, and yarn.*

Will technology be utilized?

The scoring system utilizes Google Sheets. Your team will need to designate someone as Team Captain, and this person must have a Google account with the ability to access Google Sheets. *An invite to your team’s Google Sheet will be sent in late September.*

Unless noted in a task, you are more than welcome to utilize any methods of technology, both primitive and modern, to complete a task.

How do I register?

Space is limited and registration will close when all spots are filled. Pre-registration and pre-payment of \$400 per team is required via Eventbrite: <https://bit.ly/3QUPusd>.

Only the Team Captain needs to be identified when registering your team. ***Waivers, the Google sheets link, and day-of instructions will be emailed the week prior to the event.***

Still have questions?

Contact Molly Phelps at mphelps@valpo.k12.in.us.

