

VPO Meeting
Valley Arts and Science Academy
Thursday, August 27, 2009
Minutes

Attendees: Alma Zechman, Kristy Baptist, Sara Aranda, Mrs. Church, Mr. Goodale, Mrs. Nagao, Mrs. Hernandez, Mrs. Webb, Christy Hayes, Mrs. Mao Herr, Rita Bell, Espi Richart, Leslie Biedermann, Martha Hernandez, Erika Arellano, Alma Vudit Avila, Robert Gartin, Alice Keeler, Tameco Smith, Pamela Martinez, Michael Birdshong, Brandey Steiner, K.P. Phagnasay, Alejandro Barraza, Dr. Rick Zechman, Anthony Medrano, Hilary Van Horn, Dae Spering, Elnie Finkle, Burne Finkle, Gena Kirby

Call meeting to order (called to order 5:40PM, meeting end at 7:05pm)

Approval of July 23, 2009 Minutes (approved 5:50 PM)

Reports (If Needed)

Financial Report (as of 8/13/2009 balance is **\$6,143.64**)

Committees Reports (Parents that signed up during back to school night will be contacted by the VPO. Most urgent committee to address is Safety Committee)

- Fundraising (Alma and Kristy to oversee this committee)
- Marketing (Brandy Steiner, need more volunteers)
- Garden & Beautification Need volunteers to take over for Wendy Montejano who has overseen this committee for the past two years)
- Safety (Need volunteers in mornings to help direct traffic and children across the street, a 1/2hr to 45mnt commitment is required from about 7:45-8:15 am)

Announcements:

- Parliamentarian-Appointment (Mrs. Pam Mao Her was nominated and accepted the position of VPO rep.)
- 88.1 KFCF FM there is a radio show open to callers to talk about anything related to “parents, events, schools, etc...” Parent can call in for any questions, concerns, or comments at 559-266-8888 on Thursdays form 1-2PM)

Reminders:

Old Business:

- Box Tops – Still need Volunteer
- Carnival/Health Fair (October 17or 24, 2009)
-**MOTION:** Due to the fast approaching date cancel October Fair and reschedule, **PASSED**. **The new proposed date is March 20th or April 10th**. Per Mrs. Nagao there is no cost for the use of the field. She will also investigate if there are any conflicts with the school calendar and the Ted C. Wills center.
- Sock Hop (March 5, 2010)-Tony & Pam Martinez (DJ Event)
-There is a conflict between the Carnival and this event being so close to each other. Mr. Goodale mentioned there is another school event going on that same day and that it would be

nice to keep the Sock Hop for the afternoon. Mrs. Nagao reported the GYM has already been reserved for this date. Need to keep into account the setup and teardown for reservation time. The T.C. Wills Center has a fee charge on the gym.

New Business:

- **Storage Shed for VPO** - (Purchase of Storage Shed is being consider to address the need to consolidate all VPO equipment and supplies. There is a possibility to share the cost with the After School Program. Item to be tabled until further research is done. Brandy Steiner will be responsible for gathering information as far as size, cost, and possible storage location.

- **VPO By-Laws** – Tabled Item until next meeting and to be voted on.
Item to be voted on: Removing the Parent Center from the VPO By-Laws or instead keep it as part of a committee. Reason for removing it is that it currently does not exist due to lack of space on campus. Second Motion to Change VPO By Laws from \$5.00 Due per Family to say **\$5.00 voluntary donation per Family (was APPROVED by the VPO body)**.

- **Dollar Dress Day**- (Sept 3rd is the first day of “Dollar Dress Day”. A letter stating the Dress Code will be sent inside the Monday Folder to clarify to parents the proper dress attire. Kristy Baptist to take responsibility for letter. VPO is defaulting to use Fresno Unified Dress Code. A dollar is not required only suggested, any amount given is welcomed. This is a “DONATION” and there are no penalties for children without donations. These donations are used in different occasions throughout the school year such as helping fund field trips, classrooms stipends, teacher appreciation day, “Moms and Muffins”; etc... at end of school year the balance is reviewed and relocated towards teachers/classrooms)

- **Volunteer Hours** -School is asking parents to volunteer 20hrs to help the school. How can we increase parent’s participation in the school? Creating a list on how parents can participate and creating a tracking system as well. Mr. Goodale suggested that a good opportunity would be during Parent/Teacher Conferences if a list was available in the classroom for parents to sign up. This list would help if it coordinated these volunteers with scheduled school events such as Science Night. Mrs. Pam Mao Her and Alice Keeler to coordinate the creation of a list.

- **Increase parent attendance to meetings** (It was suggested to send announcement on the Monday Folders for meeting held that week)

- Other

Teachers Project - VPO suggested fundraising for specific cause/projects teachers would like to implement in the school. This would be considered by the VPO if there was a list available to review. Mrs. Webb will convey the information to the teachers and work with them to come up with a list of needs/projects, and other relevant information such as time lines, cost, and priorities.

Teacher Representative-(Mrs. Hernandez has been serving as the teacher VPO rep. for the past two years she is now standing down and Mrs. Webb is to be the new teacher rep.)

Holiday Grams as Fundraiser- The goal is to allow for classrooms to do some fundraising. A list of proposed Holidays will be selected. The rotation of the Holidays and how the funds will be allotted to the classrooms will be coordinated between

teachers and VPO. Mrs. Webb and Kristy Baptist will oversee the project. VPO agreed to purchase the event supplies with the stipulation pending the cost of the supplies.

Santa Shop as Fundraiser- We Need parent volunteers, tabled item.

School Year Book- School is to send a survey to find out if there is interest from parents to purchase a year book. Other items need to be researched such as cost to make book, parent involvement, photographer etc ... Robert Gartin is interested in helping determine the feasibility of this project.

Tabled Items:

- Non Profit Status (Still pending: need Tax ID)