

Meeting was called to order at 8:21 a.m. by President, Audra Nuttall.

Those present included President and Valley Communication Chair Audra Nuttall, Vice President and Staff Appreciation Chair Tami Evans, Secretary and Office Fundraising Chair Meghna Mathur, Treasurer and Event Fundraising Chair JodyKay Combs, Special Events Chair Hiedi Chapin, Volunteer Communication Chair Brenda Fischer, Library Chair Tracey Snyder, Coyote Pride Chair Lisa Olsen, Student Recognition Chair Amanda Laswell, and 8th Grade Promotion Chair Jennifer Brock. Five guests were present including Mrs. Wilber.

Guest Comments:

The guests showed interest in VAPO and joined to get familiar with the VAPO meetings.

Administrator's Report:

Mrs. Wilber informed the council that the Board of Directors is looking for people who believe in traditional education to get involved with the board. She invited the parents of the school to attend the board meeting on October 24, 2013.

Mrs. Wilber also shared with the council about the discussions going on with the teachers about the strengths of the school and also to make the school competitive enough to keep the kids from kindergarten all the way to Eighth grade. Keeping that in mind the school will be opening two rooms of Full Day Preschool for the 4 year olds. The time period is yet to be determined, which will not interfere with the regular flow of the school. She also mentioned that the school has sent personal invitations to the 3 and 4 year preschool parents for early enrollment in the Kindergarten.

Mrs. Wilber also handed over the Dragon Forest book to the Curriculum committee for circulation for the book approval list. She also asked the committee to have a more formal process to borrow books from the library and circulated some rules to follow in this process.

New Business:

The president presented the Curriculum Book List for approval. JodyKay motioned to approve the recommended book list for the Curriculum committee. Tracey Snyder seconded the motion and the book list was approved by those present.

The president proposed a new fundraiser, Booster-thon, to take the place of Move-a-thon of Office Fundraising committee. She explained the fundraiser to the council and stated that the committee will have to put-in \$2000 and expects to raise around \$20,000. Audra confirmed that the date for Boosterthon will be the Field Days and will not interfere with the regular activities planned for the day. Coach Mims will be contacted to have both the events done in coordination. Tracey Snyder motioned for Booster-thon to be approved as a fundraiser. Tami Evans seconded the motion and the fundraiser was approved by those present.

President's Report:

The President, Audra Nuttall welcomed all the guests for attending the meeting and showing their interest.

The president reminded all members to bring their notebooks to the meetings and to submit the declaration page as soon as possible. She also reminded the members to schedule the sub-committee meetings on the VAPO calendar. The Article IV- Membership of the Bylaws was reviewed and discussed.

Playroom clean up was reminded and it was decided that parent volunteers should be scheduled to clean the play room. Audra reminded all to keep the playroom as safe as possible for the kids.

Audra confirmed to the council that the timeline for the approval process of events will be edited and passed out to the members soon.

She mentioned that the volunteer database for the committees has been passed out and that the chairperson of the committee should contact all their volunteers.

Audra also shared the notes from the September Board meeting. She explained that the meeting involves three boards-Reid Traditional, Valley, and Painted Rock board. She said that the board has requested VAPO, and all Valley parents to attend the meeting on October 24, 2013. President urged the members to attend the meeting and to RSVP to her. Audra informed that the board talked about the Charter Board and also about the flow of money to schools under them. She also said that the board is in the process of approving the PARCC testing, which is a field test.

Secretary's report:

The secretary, Meghna Mathur presented the September 10, 2013 meeting minutes to be approved. Jennifer Brock motioned for the September meeting minutes to be approved. Brenda Fisher seconded the motion, and the September 10, 2013 meeting minutes were approved by those present.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer JodyKay Combs read out and explained the September budget to the council. The working balance of VAPO is as follows:

Library \$1669.58

Booster \$491.24

Earmark Funds \$7,478.36

General Funds: \$7,327.15

Upcoming Expenses (pending invoices from vendors) due from the General Funds are estimated at \$400. These expenses include Spirit Day Ice Cream Orders. We will have Scholastic Book Fair payments to make but that payment is based on the number of books we sell. JodyKay also mentioned that the Booster-thon approved will be costing \$2000, leaving the General Funds to \$13, 320.94.

JodyKay also explained the envelopes for collecting and depositing money for the committees who earn the money. Tami Evans suggested the use of Real Estate locks for security reasons and the treasurer requested Tami to look for the locks.

JodyKay also confirmed that the new printer was working well and the president thanked her for the new printer.

Committee Reports:

Special Events

The chairperson Hiedi Chapin informed the council that the Lock Down Kits are all ready and only water needs to be filled. A discussion was made on the Lock Down Kits for the Special areas.

Hiedi informed the council that the Fall Family Fun Night is on October 25, 2013. She confirmed that the theme is Egyptian and that the committee is ready with the games and crafts for the evening. She also reported that the committee is in need for volunteers.

Volunteer Communication

The chairperson Brenda Fisher informed the council that the data entry has been updated and that the committee has volunteers to take care of it all. She requested all to log-on their volunteer hours.

Brenda also confirmed that the spread sheets with volunteers information has been circulated to the members.

Coyote Pride

The chairperson Lisa Olsen reported that the Spirit Day ice cream went well. The Spirit Day T-shirt orders will be entertained again in January.

She also reported that the Picture Day went well and the picture retake day has been scheduled for October 23, 2013.

Lisa informed that the extra used uniforms have been donated and that the uniforms are all labeled properly.

Staff Appreciation

The chairperson Tami Evans confirmed that the committee is preparing for a Teacher and Administration dinner on October 17, 2013 during the parent/teacher conferences. She

informed that the invitations has been sent out and the dinner will be between 3- 7 p.m. She also expressed a need of volunteers during the dinner.

Birthday cards for the months of October and November were circulated.

Eighth Grade promotion

The chairperson Jennifer Brock informed that the Great Skate made a record profit of \$517.

Jennifer also reported that the High School Night went well and there was a lot of parent involvement in the Q/A section. She mentioned that the committee will be inviting college students to stress the importance of Valley Academy. A discussion was made on how to showcase the importance of being in the school all the way to 8th grade.

The chairperson also reported that the Car Wash made a profit of \$782.10. She informed that the school wide pre sales went down considerably, but the sales on the day of the car wash went well.

The chairperson informed to the council that the Fall Dance is on October 11, 2013 and Brenda Fisher has been working on it. Brenda reported that the preparations have all been taken care of. The theme for the evening will be Starry Night and the decorations will be tested before the final day.

Office Fundraising

The chairperson Meghna Mathur reported that the Cookie Dough pick up went well and the committee made a profit of approximately \$11000. She thanked all volunteers, council members and ex- members for helping. Meghna informed the council that the committee has some extra cookie dough and opened the list for sales. She reported that Sydnie G. (3-Crabtree) won a \$50 Target gift card for maximum sales. All prizes from the drawings have been distributed to the students.

Meghna reported that Valley Academy is leading the Norterra Earn and Learn program. She informed that there are some fall occasions coming up where the school can earn bonus points. An alert now will be send to the parents. Meghna also suggested the 8th grade committee some fundraiser options at Shops at Norterra.

Meghna confirmed that the alert now for the Target- Take charge of education program was sent to the parents and that a flyer will be prepared and approved from the president.

It was also reported that the labels collection was going well, and this month's collection is expected. Back to School label contest was won by Mrs. Keely's third grade class. They won an ice cream party, which went well.

Curriculum

The chairperson Donna Padilla was not present. The new books were approved earlier.

Library

The chairperson Tracey Snyder confirmed that the Fall Book Fair will be from October 21-25, 2013. The committee is in need for volunteers. All flyers will be put up soon. Tracey informed that the committee is working with Mrs. Gan and they are doing an inventory of the Library and so the committee will not be expecting more money but will be purchasing books for the library. The volunteer meeting will be on October 15, 2013.

Athletics

The chairperson Rick Harford was not present. The committee was doing well.

Event fundraising

The chairperson JodyKay Combs confirmed that the Talent Show try-outs will be on October 29 & 30, 2013. The committee will be coordinating with the volunteers. Mrs. Wilber suggested that the try-outs be in costumes. The dress rehearsal will be on November 15th and the final Talent Show will be on November 16, 2013.

JodyKay informed that the Spring Festival basket theme drawings was done at the Homeroom Parent Breakfast. The committee is looking for a volunteer for the raffle room during the festival.

Student Recognition

The chairperson Amanda Laswell reported to the council that the Caught Being Good was going well and it has been moved to Thursday, October 10, 2013. The Honor Roll ice cream will be on Monday, October 28, 2013.

Amanda informed that the committee is still working on the venue for the Honor Roll Ceremony.

Valley Communication

The chairperson Audra Nuttall reported to the council that the Homeroom Parent Breakfast went well.

Audra requested the members to submit the newsletter articles by October 15, 2013.

Upcoming Events:

Caught Being Good: Thursday, October 10, 2013, students redeem tickets given by aides from last month for prizes.

7th/8th Grade Fall Dance: Starry Night on Friday, October 11, 2013 between 7-9 p.m.

Newsletter Articles: Articles due to the president by Tuesday 15, 2013.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Thursday and Friday, October 17-18, 2013.

Teacher Dinner: Thursday, October 17, 2013 sponsored by VAPO from 4-7 p.m.

Book Fair: Egyptian theme, Monday- Friday, October 21-25, 2013.

Picture Retake: Wednesday, October 23, 2013.

Board Meeting: Thursday, October 24, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the district office.

Family Fun Night: Friday, October 25, 2013 between 6-8 p.m.

Honor Roll Ice Cream: Monday, October 28, 2013 during the lunch recess.

Talent Show tryouts: Tuesday, October 29, 2013; 3:30 p.m.-finished for PreK- 3rd grade.
Wednesday, October 30, 2013; 3:30-finished for 4th- 8th grade.

Spirit Day Ice Cream: Friday, November 8, 2013

Newsletter Articles: For December and January due on Wednesday, November 13, 2013.

The next VAPO meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2013 at 8:15 a.m. in the VAPO room.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. by the president.

Respectfully submitted

Meghna Mathur

Valley Academy Parent Organization

Governing Council Secretary