



REID TRADITIONAL SCHOOLS' Valley Academy



April 2014 Newsletter

Volume 18: Issue 7

Principal's Message

Spring is here and with spring come the very important state assessments. On April 7 – April 11, AIMS and Stanford 10 testing will take place for grades 2-8. Please have your student to school on time every day, after eating a nutritious breakfast. It is also important for them to get a good night's rest and to understand the importance of these tests. State test results are important indicators of what students have learned and whether they are mastering state standards at each grade level. We will begin testing at 8:30 a.m. and keep all the students in the classroom until 11:30 a.m. Once testing has begun students will not be permitted to enter the class, so please have them here on time. In addition, to keep disruptions to a minimum, our campus will be closed to visitors until 11:30 a.m. after testing has ended each day. If you need to schedule a doctor or dentist appointment, please schedule them in the afternoon. Your cooperation in these matters is greatly appreciated.

In addition, April 15 -17, Valley Academy's 8th graders have been selected to participate in the state's PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) field test. PARCC is the assessment that is planned to replace AIMS next school year. For more information go to www.parcc.org.

I hope you all have an enjoyable spring and we finish strong and academically focused.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs. Wilber

Mrs. Wilber, M.Ed.



CONTACT US

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www.ValleyAcademy.com
Office (623) 516-7747

Reception Desk: ext. 101
Attendance: ext. 108
Nurse: ext. 105
Principal/Asst. Principal: ext. 115
Business Issues: ext. 116
Parent Room (VAPO): ext. 308

April 2014

- 1 VAPO-hosted Staff Luncheon
Honor Roll Ice Cream
- 3 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
Student Council Movie Night
- 4 Spirit Day
7/8 Grade Assembly 8:15 a.m.
- 7 AIMS/Stanford 10
Testing Begins
- 8 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m.
- 11 VAPO Great Skate 5-7:30 p.m.
- 14 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.
- 17 *Caught Being Good* Giveaway
- 18 No School Spring Day Recess
- 23 Progress Reports
- 24 Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- 25 Early Release/Staff Development
- 28 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.
Book Fair Begins

Board Meeting

The Board of Directors meets on the fourth Thursday of each month unless otherwise posted. All regular meetings are open to the public, and parents are welcome to attend. Board Meetings are held at the Reid Traditional Schools conference room at 14841 N. Black Canyon Highway. If you wish to contact members of the Board, you may send a letter to the school or leave a message at the Reid Traditional Schools office, (623) 478-2344.



Health Office News

Mrs. McIver, R.N. & Ms. Lintz, R.N.

- * In order to help keep all of our children healthy, please remember that children must be fever-free without the use of acetaminophen or ibuprofen for 24 hours before they may come back to school.
- * Please do not allow your children to carry any medicine with them, including over-the-counter medications. All medicines need to be checked in and stored for your child in the Health Office.
- * If your child has borrowed a belt **PLEASE** return it. We currently have no belts to loan.
- * Please send a water bottle with your child, every day. We want to be sure to keep the students well hydrated.

Valley Academy Volunteers

The staff at Valley Academy is hosting an appreciation dinner. It will be held in the M.P.R. on Thursday, April 3, 2014, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. We have made arrangements for free child care for infants through eighth grade. There will be no food provided for children in the childcare rooms.

Also, Student Council will be hosting a Movie Night on the same evening They will offer some snack items for those who attend.

Art Show

Come see some of our students' art on display during the Book Fair, April 28th – May 2nd!

On Family Night, May 2nd, we will also have additional work on display in the art room from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Mrs. Watkins, Art Teacher

McKinney-Vento Information

If your family lives in any of the following situations:

- * *in a shelter;*
- * *in a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation;*
- * *in a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station;*
- * *doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship;*

Your school-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act. If you believe your children may be eligible, contact Mrs. McIver, our school nurse, to find out what services and supports may be available. There also may be supports available for your preschool-age children.

**McKinney-Vento Homeless
Student Resources**

Music News

Happy April! First, I just want to say a quick thank you to everyone who attended the performance of the chorus, beginning, and advanced band at the Spring Festival. Parents and family are always the most important audience to our young performers! We look forward to seeing you at the end of the year combined concert to be held on May 8th at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Laird, Band Director
Mrs. Wright, Music Director



Student Information Page

Happy Spring, Valley Academy Families!

Spring is here and with it comes warmer weather. Warmer weather means students are spending time on our playgrounds and the playground equipment. In an effort to keep our students safe, we would like to review some of the school's playground rules so when you are watching your children play on the playground before or after school you can help them follow our school safety rules. Here are some of the rules that help keep your children safe:

Go up steps and ladders; go down slides, tunnels, and poles.

Only one person at a time on the slides, tunnels, and poles.

Sit on your bottom and go down the slide feet first.

Do not jump off the platforms.

No climbing on top of the equipment.

Play tag in grassy areas, not in and around playground equipment or on sidewalks.

It is important to always supervise your children when you allow them to play before or after school hours. Children found unsupervised will be sent to the Coyote Club for supervision.

As things warm up outdoors, please remember to send water bottles with your children. They work hard and play hard, so it is important for them to stay hydrated to avoid the adverse effects of the heat and sun.

Enjoy Spring!

Mrs. Browne, M.Ed.



Student Council is hosting Movie Night on April 3, at 6:00. Students will be given popcorn and a juice box. We will also have candy available for purchase for \$1.00 each. We hope to see you there!

Mrs. Simon, Miss Cunningham, and Mrs. Licano

Join us at Great Skate, 10054 N. 43rd Ave. Glendale, on April 11th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Invite your family and friends to this family fun skate night reserved just for Valley Academy. Pay \$5 for admission and skate rental for the 5 - 7:30 p.m. session and stay for the next skating session (open to the public) for free. Also, non-skating adults are free. Great Skate is offering a coupon for a large pizza and pitcher of soda for \$18 and will give Valley Academy \$2 for each redeemed coupon.



"Caught Being Good" prize giveaway day will be Thursday, April 17th at lunch. Remember to bring all the tickets you have earned! Students may redeem them in the Multipurpose Room during their lunchtime.

Science Club

Science Club has had a fun-filled time this school year, and this is our last month of participation. Science Club will finish up on May 8th. There will be no Science Club during AIMS week.

Once again, thank you to all the parents for allowing your child to come and enjoy science with us.

Mr. Smith & Ms. Brasher, advisors



VAPO Announcements

Dear Valley Families,

As the end of the year draws to a close, the twelve -member VAPO team is actively trying to recruit new Council Members for the 2014 - 2015 school year. Each parent at Valley Academy is a free and automatic member of VAPO, but to be on the Council means that you would be in charge of one of twelve committees. Starting July 1st we will be losing five great volunteers and Council Members. These members have dedicated at least ten hours a month to Valley Academy. Some have served for over three years on the Council. Although they will still be volunteering at the school, their VAPO Council seat will be open. Please take a moment and ask the question, will you volunteer? We need more parental help in every area, not simply on the VAPO Council, but also in the classroom. Let your teacher know you are interested in helping. Email any member of VAPO and talk to someone about the Council and what kind of dedication is involved.

Do you want to be a copy mom? We can train you to do that! Do you want to make invitations to the teacher luncheons VAPO provides monthly? We need your help! There are lots of ways to help. The sad truth is that more than half of our Valley population is not volunteering their minimum three hours a month/ twenty seven hours per school year per family. These volunteer hours make our school a better place. They also help us when we apply for grants.

Please, please step up, reach out, and make a new commitment.

With gratitude,
Mrs. Nuttall
VAPO President

The **Day Family** was the Volunteer Family of the Month for February 2014. They volunteered 35 hours in order to earn this honor! We congratulate them and hope they know how very much they are appreciated!

Those families with over 25 hours for February are:

McKinnon Family*	169 hours
Mathur Family*	67hours
Nuttall Family*	38.5 hours
Day Family	35 hours
Perme Family	32.25 hours
Saini Family	30 hours
Brock Family*	29 hours
E. Smith Family	26.25 hours



Thank you all for each and every minute you have contributed! Let's keep up the great work and fulfill our responsibility of a minimum of three hours per month.

Many thanks - to all who stepped up and made the Spring Festival possible this year. We love our parent volunteers! We love our supportive staff, teachers and administration. THANK YOU! -

Student Recognition Committee

Calling all third through eighth grade parents! The first planning meeting for the Honor Roll Ceremony will be held on April 2nd at 8:15 a.m. in the VAPO room. Please join us to help make this event a huge success.

Recommended Reading List (RRL) volunteers

Did you know that an army of parents are sent home books to read and review to start the process of getting books on the recommended reading list? Well, we are grateful for these awesome readers!

VAPO would like to thank the two volunteers that keep the RRL program rolling along each week for the last three years. Mrs. Hunt and Mrs. Murphy are lovely ladies and have done a great job with the RRL volunteers. They both have 8th graders this year and will be moving on to volunteer at other places next school year. They will be missed. Does this sound like something that would interest you? Come check out what they do any Friday morning in the VAPO room. They would love to pass on their knowledge to new volunteers.

VAPD Fundraising Page

Valley Academy Annual Book Drive

It's time for our annual Spring Book Drive. You can earn Fiesta Book Bucks to spend at the book fair by donating your gently used books, no magazines please, from April 1st – April 23rd. We have only been given \$300.00 in Fiesta Book Bucks to give away, so hurry and turn in your donation before the deadline. All unused Fiesta Book Bucks will be returned the end of the school day April 23rd; they will no longer be available to pass out. Please contact Mrs. Snyder at tracey@traceybsnyder.com or Mrs. Gan in the Library for additional information.

To help during Family Fun Night contact Mrs. Chapin at (623)203-4478 or hiedi.chapin@cox.net. A Signup Genius will be sent out shortly to sign up for both the Fiesta Book Fair and Family Fun Night. If you have any questions about the book fair, please contact Mrs. Snyder at (602)722-9092 or tracey@traceybsnyder.com.



8th Grade Decoration Committee meets on Wednesday nights at Mrs. Snyder's home. We still need a lot of helping hands. If you are interested in helping in any small way or would like to attend the next meeting, please contact Mrs. Snyder at phxsnyderfamily@yahoo.com or [623-587-9678](tel:623-587-9678). 8th Grade Promotion Planning Committee meets on Tuesdays at Mrs. Harford's home. For more information and exact meeting dates, contact Mrs. Harford at sellaz@cox.net or [602-619-7895](tel:602-619-7895).

Boosterthon Fun Run

Thank you to all the families for participating in the Boosterthon Fun Run this year. With your involvement we have been able to raise \$ 13,920.76 towards the purchase of the Audio/ Visual Equipment for the M.P.R. Families like yours are what makes Valley Academy a great destination to learn. Thank you.

Norterra Earn and Learn Program

It is our pleasure to inform you that Valley Academy was the winner of the Norterra Earn and Learn Program. We won \$2,000 thanks to all the Valley supporters. The money was used to buy sports equipment for soccer and basketball teams on campus.

Box Top Contest Update

Our class count for March is:

Mrs. Freeman	961
Mrs. Kelly	756
Ms. Jubb	348
Mrs. Calderon	165
Mrs. Breshears	148

The class totals for the year are as follows:

Mrs. Keely	3509
Mrs. Henry	2198
Ms. Schambach	2148
Mrs. Freeman	1793
Miss Gross	1381
Mrs. Freeland	1372
Mrs. Lewandowsky	1356
Miss Malick	1296
Mrs. Mettes	1229
Ms. Jubb.	1186



Please continue to collect and turn in your box tops. Class competition continues through the month of April.


Reminder 8th grade students may wear their class t-shirts every Friday for the rest of the school year.

Check out our new Valley Academy 8th Grade Promotion Website! The Valley Academy promotion website is for the parents of 8th Grade Valley Academy students representing the Class of 2014 that will be participating in the 8th Grade promotion at: www.ValleyAcademyPromotion.com.

Please note your Private Login Access was emailed to you from Valley Academy. This login is for 8th Grade parents only. We have created this special site just for you. This site will help keep you informed of very important dates and activities for you and your 8th grader that will be taking place now through the end of the school year. We will also be in need of volunteers and have listed committees you can help (even while you are at home) to make the promotion event a success. We will be using this site for you to upload digital photos of your child for the promotion video... instructions are on the site.

We hope you enjoy the site and find it to be helpful. If you have any questions regarding the website or the 8th Grade Valley Academy Promotion, please contact Mrs. Roedl at Support@ValleyAcademyPromotion.com

April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1 VAPO hosted Luncheon Honor Roll Ice Cream	2	3 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner Student Council Movie Night	4 Spirit Day 7/8 Grade Assembly 8:15 a.m.	5	
6	7	8 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m.	9	10	11	12	
		AIMS/Stanford 10 Testing Week					
					Skate Night 5-7:30 p.m.		
13	14 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.	15	16	17 Caught Being Good	18 No School Spring Day Recess	19	
20	21	22	23 Progress Reports	24 Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. District Office	25 Early Release 12:15 Dismissal Staff Development	26	
27	28 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.	29	30				
