



REID TRADITIONAL SCHOOLS' Valley Academy



Welcome Back! It is always my pleasure to begin a new school year with such a fantastic staff and wonderful community of parents and children. I look forward to another "A" school year.



As always, our goal at Valley is to ensure that our campus is safe and running efficiently. In order for it to be safe and efficient, everyone must follow the school's safety practices including our preferred drop off and pick up procedures. We understand that only so many cars can legally park in our school's parking lots. Therefore, driving around campus and using our drop off/pick up areas is preferred. The lot in front of the office should be reserved for those needing to be on campus for administrative purposes. In addition, parents should not be parking in the red zones as they are for emergencies only. We understand that driving around the buildings takes more time in the morning and afternoon, but this is the safest option for every child, including yours.

Also, I am happy to announce that the parent identification badges have been created and distributed. As of Tuesday, Sept. 3rd the badges will be required to be worn while on campus and for picking up your children. If you still need a badge, you may stop by the library before or after school where Mrs. Gan will happily assist you. Valley Academy continually strives for the safest campus possible, and that requires your help. Thank you for supporting our school and our student safety procedures.

-Mrs. Victoria Wilber



In an effort to minimize paper use, all informational memos about what is happening on campus will be emailed to your primary email address. Please check to make sure that you have not inadvertently blocked Valley Academy's email.

Also, if you do not have email capabilities, please contact Mrs. Sommerfield, our school secretary, in the front office so that she can change your profile to receive paper copies of all information going out via the internet.

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CONTACT US

1520 W. Rose Garden Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85027

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

IMPORTANT DATES

September 2013

- 2 No School Labor Day
- 6 Spirit Day
- 9 Morning Assembly
- 10 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m.
- 11 Progress Reports go home
- 12 Picture Day
- 13 Skate Night
- 17 Cookie Dough Packet Due
- 19 Caught Being Good Give-away
- 20 Early Release 12:15 p.m.
- 23 Morning Assembly
- 26 School Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.
District Office

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.



Hello Valley Academy Families,

My name is Mrs. Sherrie Goesling and I will be joining Mrs. Mc Iver as the new school nurse on Mondays and Tuesdays. I have been in pediatrics for the majority of my career which I started as a new graduate at Los Nino's Hospital. After graduating from ASU with my BS in nursing, I moved over to the Phoenix Children's Hospital. I am excited to now make the transition to the school environment, and look forward to meeting you and your children!

Mrs. Goesling, RN

Early Release

September 20th is an early release day. Lunches are served to grades 1-6 on early release days.



Here are the school hours for that day:

Half Day Kindergarten: 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Full Day Kindergarten-8th grade: 8:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

P.M. Preschool is from 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Student Council Update: It's Campaign Week!

All Student Council hopefuls are campaigning this week for the 5 officer positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian) so do all you can to support them! Students will be giving their election speeches on Monday morning September 9th at our first morning assembly, and the election will be the following day on the 10th. After the officer elections, Class Representative elections will take place in all 4th – 8th grade classrooms. Wish all of our students luck! If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Simon, Mrs. Licano, or Miss Cunningham.

After School Enrichment Classes

These classes are offered after school on campus by Arizona Instruction. Arizona Instruction has been offering enrichment classes at Valley Academy for the past five years and has served students statewide for two decades.

Mondays: DANCE

Tuesdays: JR. CHEERLEADING & JR.SPORTS CLUB

Wednesdays: DRAWING, ARTS & CRAFTS

Thursdays: DRAMA CLUB

For more information call 602-291-0242.

Picture Day

Thursday, September 12th! Mark the date and don't forget to look your best! All students are photographed in their school uniforms. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Mrs. Olsen at 480-206-1846 or at lolsen17@gmail.com.



Attendance

If your child is absent, please remember to call the attendance line at (623) 516-7747 ext. 108, by 9:00 a.m. Please say and spell the first and last name of your child. If this information cannot be understood, we will be unable to excuse the absence. If you wish to request homework, please do so at that time. Teachers must be given appropriate time to gather the work. Homework requested after 11:00 a.m. will not be available until the next day. The homework can be picked up in the office at the end of the school day. Thank you.

Dress Code Reminder

- Students at Valley Academy should be well groomed and neat in appearance.
- Earrings must be simple and not hang below the earlobe.
- Shorts must be no shorter than the middle of the thigh and no longer than the middle of the knee.
- Fabric sashes may not be worn in lieu of a belt.
- Students are not permitted to wear eye shadow, mascara, or eyeliner.
- Only one bracelet may be worn at a time.
- It is recommended that boys have their hair length cut above the collar.
- Solid, uniform color socks must be worn.

Non-compliance of the dress standard will result in disciplinary action. Please help enforce the dress code by checking your child's attire before they leave the house. For more information, contact Mrs. Browne at extension 115.

Lunch Menu Update

In an effort to be more cost effective, our school lunch menu is available online. If needed printed menus are available in the front office.



2013-2014 Valley Academy Teachers & Staff

Administration & Office

Ms. Mitchell - CEO
Mrs. Wilber - Principal
Mrs. Browne - Asst. Principal
Mrs. Sommerfield -Secretary
Ms. Uhlving - Office Manager
Mrs. Goesling- Health Office
Mrs. McIver - Health Office
Mrs. George -Receptionist

Support Staff

Mr. Smith - Maintenance Manager
Mr. Carlson - Day Custodian
Mr. Bulfin - Day Custodian
Mrs. Schmidt -Food Service Manager
Mrs. Wilkins - Food Service Assistant

Kindergarten

Mrs. Christopher
Miss Hauser
Mrs. Johnson
Mrs. Trotter



First Grade

Miss Faber
Mrs. Galvin
Miss Hageman
Ms. Jubb

Second Grade

Mrs. Calderon
Mrs. Freeland
Miss Malick
Ms. Schambach

Third Grade

Mrs. Breshears
Ms. Crabtree
Mrs. Keely
Mrs. Mettes

Fourth Grade

Miss Gross
Mrs. McMahon
Ms. Ray
Ms. Vig

Fifth Grade

Mrs. Freeman
Mrs. Henry
Mrs. Lewandowsky
Mrs. Licano

Sixth Grade

Mrs. Biesemeyer
Mrs. Copper
Mr. Smith

Seventh Grade

Miss Cunningham
Mrs. Douthitt
Mrs. Simon

Eighth Grade

Ms. Brasher
Mr. Hayo

Special Area Teachers

Mrs. Watkins - Art
Mr. Crow - Computers
Mrs. Wright - Music
Coach Mims - P.E.
Mrs. Quijada - Spanish
Mrs. Gan - Library
Mrs. Holder - Resource
Mr. Woodbury - Resource Aide/
Coyote Club
Miss McGinnis - Speech
Miss Agee- Preschool (3YO)
Miss McCartney- Preschool (4YO)
Mrs. Ekdahl - Academic Tutor

Aides

Mrs. Baczynski
Ms. Berry
Mrs. Cummings
Mrs. Forsythe
Mrs. George
Mrs. Kamat
Mrs. Lowery
Mrs. Luckett
Mrs. Modi
Mrs. Morrison
Mrs. Robinson
Mrs. Webner

Afterschool Aides

Miss George
Miss Boatright
Mr. De la Cruz
Mrs. Martinez
Mrs. McGraw
Mrs. Snyder
Mrs. Wilkins



Get to Know Valley Academy Teachers

All our teachers' profiles are available in the front office for your review.

And now, a word from our Government ...

As a public school, Valley Academy is asked to make our families aware of certain state and governmental notices. Here they are, in a nutshell:

AZ HB2732-stipulates that 3rd grade students who obtain a score on the reading portion of the AIMS test that demonstrates the pupil is reading far below the third grade level may not be promoted from the third grade.

Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) – Parents are allowed to inspect school records and have an expectation of privacy in educational matters. For more information on FERPA rights, check out the *Academics/Curriculum/Special Education* area of our website, or ask the school office for assistance.

IRS Form 990 - A copy of the school's non-profit tax return is available in the school office upon request.

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) – The school has been inspected for asbestos and certified to be asbestos free. The required AHERA Management Plan and inspection materials are available in the school office.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) – Students with disabilities are entitled to a copy of procedural safeguards. For more information, check out the *Academics/Curriculum/Special Education* section of Valley Academy's website, or ask the school office for assistance.

McKinney-Vento Act – Special guidelines on the enrollment and education of homeless children are outlined in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. For more information, see www.ed.gov.



Stay Safe this School Year!

Some things to keep in mind as we start off the new school year:

Early Pick Up Parents, please remember that the end of the academic day is just as important as the beginning. Please refrain from signing your children out of school early. It is distracting to the whole class and your child is missing necessary academic time.

3:15 Pick Up Areas

If your child knows that you are walking up to pick them up, then he or she should be standing in quiet lines inside the music room. Please do not pick your child up from the classroom. It adds extra bodies in the halls and delays the proper process. In addition, parents should always have their name badges on while on campus.

If you are driving up, then your child/ren will be in the M.P.R. Please leave your name placard on the dashboard until your child is in your car. The teachers on duty in the colored zones also need to see them. This speeds up the process of dismissal. Also, please keep in mind that when your child gets into your car that others are waiting to pull up.

Please carry on conversations after you have pulled away from the pickup zones. We are trying to make this a safe but speedy process in order to get everyone safely on their way as soon as possible.

Early Drop Off In an effort to minimize traffic congestion on and off campus in the morning, Valley Academy offers **free** early drop off at 7:30 a.m. Please drop your child off on the east side of campus so that they may enter the M.P.R. where Valley Academy staff will supervise them until our teachers are on morning duty and they may enter the playground areas. We are providing free student supervision on campus at 7:30 a.m. in order to widen the window of our free drop off time. We hope that you will take advantage of the extra time and bring your children all the way around to the east side for drop off. Remember that the drop off area on the west side of campus is to be used only by families of kindergarten students; all others are to be dropped off on the east side behind the M.P.R. Please be respectful and mind the school's traffic procedures. If earlier drop off is needed, the Coyote Club is open as early as 6:30 a.m. Coyote Club fees will apply from 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. Please just leave 5-10 minutes earlier each morning in order to keep our students safe and out of harm's way! We really appreciate the parents who have made the effort to follow the school's rules. Together, we can improve the efficiency and safety on campus!

Late Pick Up 1st and 2nd grade students who are not picked up by 2:30 p.m. will be registered into Academic Arcade and parents will be billed monthly. Students who are not picked up by the end of the 3:15 p.m. dismissal process will be registered into Coyote Club and billed accordingly. Preschool students **must** be picked up promptly at dismissal time. Students who are not picked up will be escorted to the office and parents will be called.

Sport Information Hello, everyone, and welcome back! Valley Academy has a rich tradition of sports with numerous athletes going on to high school and even college sports. Right now we are gearing up for our first season consisting of flag football and our defending champion volleyball team. We have also selected our Cheer line and our new mascot for this year, and they are looking forward to spreading some school spirit at our home games. This winter, starting in November, our Girls' and Boys' basketball teams will be back in action. In the spring, we move on to our coed soccer season and our defending champion coed slow pitch softball season. If you're interested in any of the sports at Valley Academy, please see Mrs. Browne or Coach Ray for more details. Come out and cheer on all of our teams, and let's have a great year! GO COYOTES!



Chess Club -We are looking for adults willing to host the Chess Club on Thursdays each week. We have two teachers willing to share their classrooms for the club. We will have two clubs, one for grades 2-5 and one for grades 6-8. Please contact Mrs. Sommerfield in the office if you are interested.

Chorus-Do you like to sing? Come join chorus on Mondays after school until 4:15 p.m. We have fun singing and performing around town. Chorus starts on September 9th and has a yearly after-school fee of \$40.00. Come check us out.

Science Club-The first meeting for the Science Club will be on September 5th in Ms. Brasher's room. Students will have fun discovering all the ways that science affects their lives. The meeting begins at 3:30 and ends at 4:30 p.m. Those students who are not picked up will be in Coyote Club.

From The Valley Academy Parent Organization

Welcome Valley Academy Parents;

I would like to welcome you with open arms to the Valley Academy family! Being a part of this family is simple. You have a child attending the school, so that means you are now officially a member of VAPO (Valley Academy Parent Organization), pronounced VĀPŌ. Congrats!

Here are a couple of things you should know. I like an open door policy. If you are the first one in the VAPO room (#8 in the kindergarten area) in the morning, please leave it unlocked during the school day. All parents are welcome and invited into this room. If you are the last one to leave between 2:15 p.m. and 3:15 p.m., please lock the door. There are used uniforms and an indoor play area for little ones in this room. We constantly need help with sorting used uniforms by size or bringing lost and found items from the MPR to this room. Ask and I'll find a job for you. You can grade papers in this room, sort paper, volunteer in many ways, or simply hang out.

One more very important item: logging volunteer hours. Please, please, please log your volunteer hours on the website or by turning in the 1/2 sheet paper to your teachers. Our volunteer hours have consistently gone down every school year for the past nine years! That is shocking to me. I know we have great volunteers, because every family is asked to volunteer three hours month. Working parents, too, are asked to volunteer and most do. I have a sneaking suspicion that as parents we are not logging in our hours. These hours help our school receive grants and other financial aid. Take a minute and help us out. Go to the school's website and look under the VAPO tab and click on "Volunteer Time Log."

Thanks for your support,

Mrs. Nuttall

VAPO President, Valley Communication

CAUGHT BEING GOOD GIVE-AWAY

Students in 1st – 8th grades are awarded for good behavior and courteous acts with Caught Being Good tickets. These tickets are given randomly as staff members notice students being good. Tickets can be traded for prizes on Thursday, September 19th.

The Give-Away will take place during lunchtime.



Homeroom Parent Breakfast

The Homeroom Parent Breakfast will be Tuesday, October 1st at 8:15 a.m. Invitations will be sent out to the Homeroom Parents soon. Mark the date now!

This is a breakfast that will introduce you to the expectations for the classroom parties and Spring Festival duties. If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Nuttall at 623-261-7204 or audranut@gmail.com.



DIBELS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

DIBELS testing for our younger students is fast approaching. We are in need of parents who could help escort students between their classrooms and the testing room. There are two shifts available:

8:15 a.m.-11:15 a.m. or 12:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Any time you can donate will be gladly welcomed! Please call Mrs. Fisher 602-206-4981 or mrsfishr@cox.net to volunteer.



Spirit Day

It's not too late to purchase your Spirit Day Ice Cream cards! The next Spirit Days are Friday, September 6th, and Friday, October 4th. You can also bring 50 cents if you do not have an ice cream card. You can purchase the card for \$3.00. Order forms are available in the front office. Spirit Day Ice Creams are sold during your child's lunch time. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Mrs. Olsen at 480-206-1846 or lolsen17@gmail.com.

Spirit Day T-shirt orders will be delivered before October's Spirit Day



VAPO Announcements



A Look Ahead

September

- 6 - Spirit Day
- 10 - VAPO meeting 8:15 a.m.
- 12 - Picture Day
- 17 - Cookie Dough orders due
- 19 - Caught Being Good Give-Away

October

- 1 - Homeroom Parent Breakfast
- 2-Cookie Dough Pick Up A-L
- 3-Cookie Dough Pick Up M-Z
- 3-High School Information Night

Event Fundraising Needs Your Help!

The Event Fundraising Committee plan and run fun events on campus that raise money for our school. Our next fundraising event is our Annual Talent Show. Volunteers are needed to help the Event Fundraising Chair with auditions and rehearsals. If you are able to help, please contact Mrs. Combs at 480-254-6612 or email her at jodykay5@gmail.com.



We are proud to bring back for the 10th year Arizona Gold Gourmet Cookie Dough!



COOKIE DOUGH - VAPO is excited to announce our 10th year of Cookie Dough Sales with Fiesta Fundraising. Our last cookie dough fundraiser helped raise money for document projection systems for classrooms. This year, we are working toward purchasing audio/visual equipment for the M.P.R. We love being able to help our school, and cookie dough sales are a tasty way for everyone to be involved. Year after year VAPO hears compliments on Arizona Gold Gourmet Cookie Dough. There are so many great flavors to choose from-one favorite flavor is white chocolate macadamia. Yum! Please support VAPO and your school by participating in this fundraiser. Here are some important dates to remember:

- Packets were passed out Thursday, August 29th.
- Sell five items that first weekend and turn in the "coupon" located in the packet by Wednesday, September 4th, and your name will be entered in a drawing to win a great prize!
- ORDERS DUE Tuesday, September 17th
- DELIVERY DAYS Wednesday, October 2nd, last names A-L; and Thursday, October 3rd, last names M-Z.

Volunteers are needed to help with cookie dough distribution on October 2nd and 3rd. If you are able to help, please contact Mrs. Mathur at 480-241-6489 or meghnmathur.az@gmail.com.

QUICK START CONTEST: Sell five items by Wednesday, September 4th and be entered into a drawing for one of five special prizes!

Sell ten or more items and you will be entered in to win one of five different COOL PRIZES such as a \$30 gift certificate to Castles and Coasters, a \$25 Target gift card, or movie tickets, to name a few!

Win multiple prizes too! The more you sell, the more prizes you win!

VALLEY ACADEMY PARENT ORGANIZATION GOVERNING COUNCIL

President	Mrs. Audra Nuttall	Ph: 623-261-2704	Email: audranut@gmail.com
Vice President	Mrs. Tami Evans	Ph: 602-799-6593	Email: tamaradevans@gmail.com
Secretary	Mrs. Meghna Mathur	Ph: 480-241-6489	Email: meghnamathur.az@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mrs. JodyKay Combs	Ph: 480-254-6612	Email: jodykay5@gmail.com
Athletics	Mr. Rick Harford	Ph: 623-619-7896	Email: rick.harford@gmail.com
Library	Mrs. Tracey Snyder	Ph: 602-722-9092	Email: tracey@traceybsnyder.com
Special Events	Mrs. Hiedi Chapin	Ph: 623-203-4478	Email: hiedi.chapin@cox.net
Volunteer	Mrs. Brenda Fisher	Ph: 602-206-4981	Email: mrsfishr@cox.net
Curriculum	Mrs. Donna Padilla	Ph: 623-516-1920	
Coyote Pride	Mrs. Lisa Olsen	Ph: 480-206-1846	Email: lolsen17@gmail.com
8 th Grade Events	Mrs. Jennifer Brock	Ph: 602-571-1179	Email: jennybrock@cox.net

Student Recognition Unfilled: Parent Volunteer needed!



Keep Cool this year at the Reading Oasis Book Fair.

Welcome to another exciting year at Valley Academy. Our first book fair is October 22nd – 25th. Now is a great time to get a good start on your monthly volunteer commitment. We need help getting ready for the Reading Oasis Book Fair and Family Fun Night. Meetings for the Book Fair and Family Fun Night will be Wednesdays at 8:15 a.m. starting September 18th in the VAPO room. Everyone is welcome, and we look forward to seeing you at our first meeting.

Reading Oasis October 22-25, 2013

Family Fun Night

October 25, 2013 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help with the Reading Oasis Book Fair and Family Fun Night. Contact Mrs. Snyder at 602-722-9092 or tracey@traceybsnyder.com for book fair information and Mrs. Chapin at 623-203-4478 or hiedi.chapin@cox.net for family fun night.

VAPO FUNDRAISING INFORMATION

Fry's Community Rewards: Fry's has replaced its 'Cool Cash' program with a new program called 'Fry's Community Rewards Program.' All the participants must link (reconnect) their Fry's V.I.P. card to our organization in order for our school to earn Fry's rewards.

This is an easy way to support Valley Academy. You should register as soon as possible. This program is valid for all V.I.P. purchases starting from September 1, 2013. Present your Fry's V.I.P. card to the cashier and request him to link your card to Organization ID: 80616 (or by organization name as VAPO) for the Community Rewards Program.

SAFEGWAY/ESCRIP: If you have a Safeway Club Card, be sure to register online at eScrip.com to renew or begin donations for our school through eScrip. If you have previously registered with eScrip, you MUST renew each school year for our school to receive donations. You can also register debit/credit cards online with eScrip to earn money when you shop or dine. If you have questions regarding this program, please contact Mrs. Mathur at 480-241-6489 or meghnamathur.az@gmail.com.

BOX TOPS/LABELS: Keep collecting those box tops and labels for our Back to School Label Contest. The class with the most labels turned in by Friday, August 30th will have an ICE CREAM PARTY! We will continue with a monthly label contest throughout the school year with lots of great awards for the classes who submit the most box tops and labels. Remember, Box Tops and Labels are on ALL KINDS of products, not just food items. Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity that is easy and doesn't take a big time commitment? Contact Mrs. Mathur at 480-241-6489 or meghnamathur.az@gmail.com to help with Box Tops and Labels. Many opportunities are available to help, and all of your efforts help raise money for our school.



The Volunteer Family of the Month for April 2013, was the **Pape Family**. To earn this honor the Papes volunteered 18 hours! Congratulations and thank you so much for your dedication! We love families like you!

The following families volunteered over 25 hours:

B. Snyder Family*	63.5 hours	Webb Family (VOM 11/12)	39.5 hours
E. Smith Family (VOM 8/12)	49.5 hours	Schulte Family (VOM 10/12)	36.25 hours
Mathur Family*	40.4 hours	Palomo Family*	32.1 hours
Nuttall Family*	40 hours	McCulloch Family*	26.5 hours
T/M Evans Family*	39.5 hours	Ogden Family*	25.2 hours

The Volunteer Family of the Year was the **Schulte Family**, who gave 237 hours of their time to Valley Academy! You are one terrific family; keep up the great work!

*Denotes VAPO Council Board member 2012-13

Reminder to all Parents: Please remember when you are completing the volunteer forms you must include both first and last names of your student and yourself and *print* legibly.

Great Skate Family Fun Night

Friday, September 13, 2013

10054 N. 43rd Ave. Glendale, AZ 85302

Families and friends of Valley Academy are all invited.

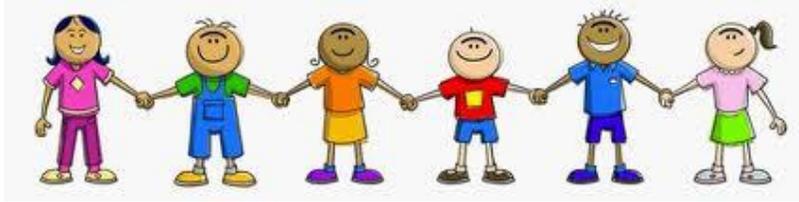
5:00 p.m. To 7:30 p.m.

Admission is \$5.00 and includes skate rental

Non-skating adults get in free!



September 2013



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2 No School Labor Day	3	4	5	6 Spirit Day	7
8	9 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.	10 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m. Room 8	11 Progress Reports go home	12 Picture Day	13 Family Skate Night 5:00-7:30 p.m. Great Skate 10054 N. 43 rd Glendale	14
15	16	17 Cookie Dough Orders Due	18 Book Fair Family Fun Night Meeting 8:15 a.m. Room 8	19 Caught Being Good Give-Away	20 Early Release/Staff Development Grades K-8 8:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Morning Kindergarten 8-11:00 a.m. P.M. Preschool 1:00-3:30 p.m.	21
22	23 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.	24	25	26 Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. District Office	27	28
29	30					