



REID TRADITIONAL SCHOOLS' Valley Academy



February 2013

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Volume 18: Issue 5

1520 W. Rose Garden Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85027

A Pathway to the Future

By: Chris Ackerman

Eighteen years ago, before all of us students were born, Valley Academy was just established and adopted the motto "Providing a Traditional Foundation for the Future." Now all of these years later, Valley Academy continues to fulfill the motto and their promise to it.



I am an eighth grade student here at Valley Academy. I have attended school here for six years, and the quality of education I have received is unmatched. I couldn't have asked my dad to enroll me into a better school because no others would even come close to Valley. It stands on its own with its great group of administrators, teachers, and other faculty members. The experience at Valley has been a great one, and will not be forgotten even now that I am progressing into my next stage of education.

From the outstanding academics available, to the opportunities and help, Valley Academy takes you step by step on the path through your education. Valley prepares you for high school, college, and maybe even graduate school that await in the years yet to come. So, the performance that you show here is the first stage of construction for your life ahead.

"Strive for Excellence and Nothing Less" are words my algebra teacher, Mr. Hayo, has said numerous times. Don't go halfway or give up in the middle of something. Push through the obstacles because accomplishing your goals is the only way to become stronger and make yourself better. I chose to mention this quote because Valley Academy represents it in every way. The founders of this school set out with a mission to provide a good quality education to students. These men and women have accomplished this goal and set up on the best traditional schools available. There's a reason that the same students that first attended Valley in kindergarten and first grade are seen today all these years later. Their parents understand that Valley Academy is the best education they can give their child and that it will benefit them in the years to come. The founders of this school set their goal to reach excellence and wouldn't settle for anything less. Now today, they have completely surpassed their initial goal and have become one of the best schools in the entire state.

I am very thankful for what Valley has given me, and I appreciate all the hard work that the faculty and administration has had to undergo to make Valley Academy become what it is today. Thank you.

Important Dates

February 2013

- 1 Spirit Day
- 6 Progress Reports go home
- 7 Spring Festival Meeting 8:15 a.m.
- 11 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.
- 12 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m.
- 14 VAPO Valentine Staff Breakfast
Caught Being Good Give-away
- 15 Valentine Parties 11:15 p.m.
Early Release 12:15 p.m.
Waiting List Lottery 1:00 p.m.
Parent Teacher Conferences
- 18 No School Presidents' Day
- 21 Field Day Grades 1-3
- 22 Field Day Grades 4-6
- 25 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.
- 28 Read-In 8:30 a.m.
Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Important Numbers

- Main Number: (623) 516-7747
- Receptionist: ext. 101
- Principal/Asst. Principal: ext. 115
- Discipline Issues: ext. 115
- Attendance: ext. 108
- Nurse: ext. 105
- Business Issues: ext. 116
- Parent Room (VAPO): ext. 308

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. Susan McIver, R.N. & Mrs. Susan Elowson, R.N.

Achooo... We are in the middle of cold and flu season. Your donation of cough drops for sore throats and peppermint lifesavers for tummy aches would be greatly appreciated. Please remember, if your child, has a fever they must stay home from school and not return until they have been fever free for twenty four hours.

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 leave and spell the first and last name of your child. If this information cannot be understood, we will be unable to excuse the absence. You can also report your child's absence online at www.valleyacademy.com. 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.**

Let's hear it for third grade! ALL FOUR third grade classes were in the top five for Box Tops and Labels for the month of January!

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Ms. Crabtree's 3rd grade class | 491 |
| 2. Mrs. Breshears' 3rd grade class | 479 |
| 3. Mrs. Mettes' 3rd grade class | 477 |
| 4. Mrs. Freeland's 2nd grade class | 438 |
| 5. Mrs. Keely's 3rd grade class | 290 |



Here are the top ten in the ongoing Box Tops/Labels collection contest:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| 1. Mrs. Freeland's 2nd grade class | 2317 |
| 2. Mrs. Breshears' 3rd grade class | 1809 |
| 3. Ms. Crabtree's 3rd grade class | 1231 |
| 4. Mr. Smith's 6th grade class | 1199 |
| 5. Miss Hageman's kindergarten class | 1107 |
| 6. Mrs. Lewandowsky's 5th grade class | 1074 |
| 7. Mrs. Mettes' 3rd grade class | 1060 |
| 8. Mrs. Keely's 3rd grade class | 969 |
| 9. Ms. Jubb's 1st grade class | 965 |
| 10. Mrs. Licano's 5th grade class | 937 |

Keep up the great work!

Waiting List Applications for 2013-2014 School Year

We are now accepting student applications for the 2013-2014 school year. Siblings of current students have priority above the other names on our waiting list. Please fill out a waiting list form in the front office or online if you plan to enroll additional students at Valley Academy next year, including pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students.



Valentine Classroom Parties

Classroom Valentine parties will be held on February 15th at 11:15 a.m. Remember that a visitor's badge or a Valley Academy picture ID must be worn while on campus. Please remember that it is against Valley Academy's policy to bring small children, siblings, and/or friends of students on campus while visiting the classroom parties. Also, no red colored drinks are allowed at classroom parties, and all food must be store bought. Dress code will be enforced. Please respect our campus rules and have fun at the parties!

Valley Academy student artwork will be on exhibit at the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools offices in Phoenix from Feb. 1 – April 30th. The exhibit features the artwork of 25 students across all grade levels exploring a variety of topics and media. Valley students create such wonderful art work - striving to always do their personal best! Wonderful!



Student Information Page



Yearbook sales have begun, order yours now. The yearbook costs \$14.00. The sale price continues through February 15th. The price will go up to \$17.00 until February 25th, when the sale is over.

Read-In

On February 28th, Valley Academy will host its annual Read-In. We invite members of our community to read their favorite story and answer questions from our students. We will have our Student Council accompany each of our readers and assist in the success of our Read-In. Be sure to ask your child about it.



Student Council is busy in action!

Valley Academy Student Council would like to thank our Valley families for helping out with our Salvation Army clothing, food and toy drive! It was a huge success! We were able to donate over 5,500 items to those in need last holiday season! The Salvation Army representative said it was the most he has ever seen from one school, so we should all feel very proud!

Next up for the Valley Academy Student Council is our annual Valentine Gram sale! We will be selling Valentine's Day Lollipops for \$1 from February 11th to February 14th. Each lollipop will come with a personalized message from the person who buys it, and it will be distributed by Student Council Reps during the Valentine's Day parties on February 15th. Buy them for your friends and teachers. Parents you can even surprise your children with a Valentine Gram! All proceeds go to student activities. See Miss Ramsey, Miss Cunningham, or Mrs. Licano for details!



Sports News

Hello, sports fans. Valley Academy Girls' basketball is in full swing. Our young and fierce team is right in the hunt half way through the season. We are making our push towards the playoffs as we get into our home half of the schedule. The boys' basketball team is working hard to end the season on a positive note! With a current record of 4 and 2, the team hopes to maintain a winning record for the season and go into the tournament ready to win! Come out and support your Coyotes at the next home game, Monday February 4th at 5:00 p.m. Hope to see you there! Please check the Valley Academy website and make sure to come out and cheer on your Coyote Basketball teams.



The softball and soccer try-outs begin at the end of the month. Soccer try-outs will be Monday, February 25th, at the Reach 11 Sports Complex, and Wednesday, February 27th at Deer Valley Park.

Softball try-outs will be February 26th, and Thursday, February 28th. Both of these try-outs are at Deer Valley Park. All try-outs are from 3:30-5:00 p.m. Remember to hydrate!

Field Day

Grades 1-3 - Thursday, February 21st
Grades 4-6 - Friday, February 22nd

Mark your calendars! February 21st and 22nd, Valley Academy will be hosting its annual Field Day Event. Mr. Harford is looking for several volunteers to help Coach Mims run some pretty neat events that are sure to test your child's agility. Please call Mr. Harford at (602)619-7896 if you can volunteer on either Thursday, February 21st for the First through Third grade Field Day or on Friday, February 22nd for the Fourth through Sixth Grade Field Day. Additional volunteers are needed to donate bottled water or Fruit Roll Up type snacks that will be provided during the event. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Mr. Harford VAPO Athletics / Boosters

A SPECIAL THANKS!

A special thanks to all who attended the winter concerts. Our students did a great job! I am already starting on next year's program. Many of the grades surpassed my expectations, so I guess I will need to up the expectations! A special thank you to our parents who helped their child learn their songs.

Calling all singers grades 3-8

It's not too late to join the choir! We have 2 concerts and a musical festival coming up, and we are just learning the music now. Come and join us on Mondays after school until 4:15. (The \$40.00 activity fee applies)

VAPO Information Page

The Volunteer Family of the Month for November 2012 was the **Webb Family**. To earn this honor, the Webbs volunteered 37.3 hours! Congratulations, and thank you so much for your dedication. We love families like you!

For the month of November there were only three other families that volunteered over 25 hours! We truly appreciate their continued support. They were:

Harford Family*	39.9 hours
E. Smith Family (vom 8/12)	28.5 hours
Mathur Family*	26.25 hours

The Volunteer Family of the Month for December is the **McKinnon Family**, with 23.5 hours! Thank you!

During the month of December four families volunteered over 25 hours, they are:

McCulloch Family*	43.25 hours
M & TJ Evans Family*	27.25 hours
E. Smith Family (vom 8/12)	35 hours
Webb Family (vom 11/12)	25.9 hours

*Denotes VAPO Council member 2012-13

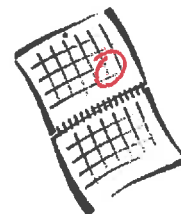
Now that the holidays are over and everyone is back to school from Winter Break, let's all try doing a little extra to fulfill our volunteer commitment of three hours per month!

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.



Dear Valley Academy Families:

It's the beginning of a new calendar year, and also the time that we start looking ahead to the next school year. As you look ahead this year, please consider becoming a part of the VAPO Governing Council for the 2013-2014 school year. VAPO is looking for motivated people to help keep things running smoothly. Please don't remove yourself from consideration because you have a regular job. Many VAPO Council members have had full-time jobs and are able to balance their commitments. Maybe you are good with numbers, or perhaps you're a great party planner or a talented artist. Whatever your talents, VAPO can put them to good use. Talk to any of our current VAPO Council members, and they can tell you more about their committee and others as well. Attend our monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of each month and find out more. Most meetings are about one hour, so you can be done and on with your day by 9:30 a.m. Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 8:15 a.m. in the VAPO room (Room 8 in the kindergarten area).



Hope to see you there!

Mrs. McCulloch
Valley Academy Parent Organization
Governing Council President



Valley Academy's annual Move-a-thon is coming up soon! Look for sponsor packets to come home in the next two weeks. This is a great opportunity to help our school raise funds. This year, we are fundraising for audio-visual equipment for the Multi-Purpose Room. If you'd like to help, please contact Mrs. Mathur at meghnmathur.az@gmail.com.

Honor Roll Ceremony Planning

Planning for this year's end of the year Honor Roll Ceremony is already underway. This is a very important event that requires many helpers to insure things run smoothly. Let's make this a special night for our hard-working students! If you are able to help with this event, please contact Mrs. Ogden at 480-686-7561.



Born to be the Best!

8th grade Promotion Committee will be meeting once a month to go over ALL the great 8th grade events to prepare for Promotion in May. Meetings will be at Mrs. Nuttall's house on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. on February 5th, March 5th, and April 9th. PLEASE COME!

The 8th grade Decoration committee will meet once a month also. Same time, and same place. We will be discussing colors, centerpieces, songs, and all the great details. All 7th and 8th grade parents are invited! Decoration committee meetings will be held on January 29th, February 19th, March 26th, April 23rd, May 6th. Thankful for all our volunteers,
Mrs. Nuttall audranut@gmail.com.

CLASS OF
2013
~*~



Awaawa Kula Luau

Valley Academy's Spring Festival

March 2, 2013

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Pre-sale Wristbands & Tickets

Order Forms will be sent out on Monday, February 11th

Order Forms Due Friday, February 22nd

*You may also purchase wristbands and tickets at the table in front of the office before and after school on Thursday, February 28th and Friday, March 1st.

Buy Early and Save

Wristbands: \$10 for entry to 1 Pony Ride, 1 Petting Zoo, & unlimited access to the 8 attractions

Game Tickets: 100 for \$20 20 for \$5 4 for \$1

Raffle Tickets: 6 for \$5

Meal Tickets: 1 for \$3

At the event prices will go up to:

Wristbands \$15

Raffle tickets 1 for \$1

Game tickets: 3 for \$1



Spring Festival Classroom Baskets



This year each class basket at the Spring Festival will earn 100% of their raffle tickets toward their OWN classroom, up to \$200! Therefore, if your class basket collects 100-\$1 raffle tickets, \$100 will go directly back to your class. If your class basket collects 300-\$1 raffle tickets, \$200 will go back to the class and \$100 will go into the VAPO general fund. With this money, your teacher will be able to purchase something for the classroom. ISN'T THIS EXCITING?

Here is a list of what each class theme is this year. I know there are some good deals going on right now, so please keep your classroom's theme in mind when you are out shopping.

Please bring all items for your basket to your classroom by **February 10, 2013**. Homeroom parents are in charge of gathering donated items and wrapping them up in a basket. More information will be coming to the homeroom parents as we get closer to the Spring Festival.

PLEASE DO NOT DROP YOUR DONATIONS OFF AT THE OFFICE.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Amy Joy Wilson
pluto4aj@hotmail.com
(623) 434-9435

Mrs. Johnson - Gift Card Tree	Mrs. McMahon - Family Fun
Mrs. Christopher - Pet Care	Ms. Ray - Sports
Ms. Hageman - Cooking	Mrs. Vig - Cooking
Mrs. Trotter - Camping	Mrs. Freeman - Water Fun
Miss Faber - Entertainment	Mrs. Henry - Arts & Crafts
Mrs. Gavin - Movies	Mrs. Lewandowsky - Summer Fun
Mrs. Jubb - Entertainment	Mrs. Licano - Emergency Essential
Mrs. Mineck - Summer Fun	Mrs. Biesemeyer - Handy Dads
Mrs. Calderon - Cooking	Mrs. Copper - Family Fun
Mrs. Freeland - Crafts	Mr. Smith - Family Fun
Miss Malick - Handy Dads	Miss Cunningham - Chocolate
Ms. Schambach - Movie Night	Miss Ramsey - Gift Card Tree
Mrs. Breshears - Camping	Mrs. Douthitt - Handy Dads
Miss Crabtree - Money Tree	Ms. Brasher - Money Tree
Mrs. Keely - Pool/Beach	Mr. Hayo - Movie Night
Mrs. Mettes - Family Fun	
Miss Gross - Sweets	

Awaawa Kula Luau

Spring Festival 2013
March 2, 2013 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Pre-sale Wristband & Ticket Order Form



- Raffle Tickets for Classroom Baskets 6 for \$5
- **\$10 WRISTBANDS Allow Entry to 1 Pony Ride, 1 Petting Zoo with Unlimited Access to 8 Other Attractions:**



Petting Zoo



Pony Rides



Beach Double Slide



Tropical Bounce



3 Lane Bungee Run



Fun Slide



QB Blitz



Dino Zone Bounce



Human Hamsters Zorb Balls



Obstacle Course

• Ticketed Games:

- 1 Ticket - Kalua Pig, Calamari Caper, Duck Surf, Coconut Bowling, Pineapple Drop & Tropical Roll
- 2 Tickets - Stroll on the Beach Cake Walk & Face Painting
- 3 Tickets – Craft
- 8 Tickets - Rainbow String Fling
- 10 Tickets – Petting Zoo
- 12 Tickets – Pony Rides

• Food

Hot Dog Meal

Nacho Meal

Meals include a drink, choice of chips or fruit and cookie

Shaved Ice

Cotton Candy

Kettle Korn

Pickles

Due February 22, 2013

Youngest Child's Name: _____ Teacher/Grade: _____

Wristbands (\$10 each): _____

Game Tickets: _____ (100 for \$20; 20 for \$5; 4 for \$1)

Raffle Tickets: _____ (6 for \$5)

Meal Tickets: _____ (\$3 each)

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Wristbands and Tickets will be given to your youngest child the week of February 25th. Please Make Checks Payable to VAPO.



FEBRUARY

2013



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

					1 Spirit Day	2
3	4	5	6 Progress Reports Go Home	7 Spring Festival Meeting 8:15 a.m. Room 8	8	9
10	11 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.	12 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m. Room 8	13	14 VAPO Valentine Staff Breakfast Caught Being Good Give-Away	15 Classroom Parties 11:15 a.m. Early Release 12:15 p.m. Parent Teacher Conferences Waiting List Lottery 1:00 p.m.	16
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