

Valley Academy Newsletter



April 2012



1520 W. Rose Garden Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85027

Phone: (623) 516-7747 x 101

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www.ValleyAcademy.com

FAREWELL TO A LONGTIME VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD DIRECTOR AND FORMER VALLEY BOARD PRESIDENT

At our last Valley Academy Board Meeting, Mark Mettes resigned from the board. Mark served on the Valley Academy Board for eight years and he was the president of the board for seven years. The most outstanding and obvious contribution Mark made during his tenure is the new school building that was built during his Presidency. What cannot be seen, and are equally important, are the countless hours Mark spent as a board member over those eight years, making sure that the school was run properly, was properly funded, and met the academic achievement we have come to expect as Valley parents.

Mark may have left the Valley Academy Board, but he will not be far away. Mark will continue to serve as Reid Traditional Schools' Painted Rock Academy School Board President. In this role, Mark will make sure the longtime Valley Academy dream, of bringing a Valley Academy quality education to even more students, is brought to fruition. Thank you, Mark, for your contribution to Valley Academy!

Ms. Angela Fischer,
Valley Academy Board President

Important Dates

April 2012

- 2 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.
- 4 New Parent Orientation 6:30 p.m.
- 6 No School-Spring Break Day
- 10 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m.
- 12 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner & VASC Movie Night
- 13 Spirit Day
- 16 AIMS/Stanford 10 Testing Begins
- 20 VAPO Great Skate 5-7:30 p.m.
- 25 Progress Reports
- 26 *Caught Being Good*
- 26 Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- 27 Early Release/Staff Development
- 30 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.



Important Numbers



Main Number: (623) 516-7747

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

Board Meetings

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 encouraged to attend.

If you wish to contact members of the Board, you may send a letter to the school or leave a message with Jeannine at ext. 116.



Health Office News

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

- ☺ In order to help keep all of our children healthy, please remember that children must be fever-free for 24 hours before they may come back to school.
- ☺ Please remember that students may not carry any form of medication on campus including over the counter medication or vitamins. If your child needs to take a medication during the school day, please bring it in to the Health Office in its original container. Thank you!
- ☺ Please be sure to send a water bottle with your child on a daily basis. We want to be sure to keep the students well hydrated.

Cafeteria Donations needed!

The lunch room (cafeteria) is always in need of donations of *creamy* peanut butter and *grape* jelly. We also appreciate bread, spoons, forks and straws. PB&J is for emergencies only. Please make sure your child has a lunch whether it is a hot lunch or sack lunch. We charge \$1.00 for an emergency PB&J sandwich. If your child does receive one, please pay this amount as soon as possible.



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. 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.

AIMS/Stanford 10 Testing

April 16 - April 20, 2012 is AIMS and Stanford 10 testing for grades 2-8. Please have your children 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. Students will have the opportunity to eat a nutritious snack mid-morning during testing. If you are able, you may send them to school with a nutritious snack (cheese, crackers, fresh fruits or vegetables, etc., *no cookies or candy, please*). 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. If you need to schedule a doctor or dentist appointment, please schedule it in the afternoon. Your cooperation in these matters is greatly appreciated.

Lost and Found Reminder

Lost and found items will be kept in the MPR until the last day of each month. On the last day of each month the remaining articles will be transferred to the VAPO room and held for an additional 30 days. After this additional 30 days, the remaining items will be donated to charity.



ORDER LUNCH ONLINE

The May menu order form is now available online. Click on the "Orders Lunches" link on the right hand side of the Valley Academy home page. May orders are due no later than April 9, 2012.

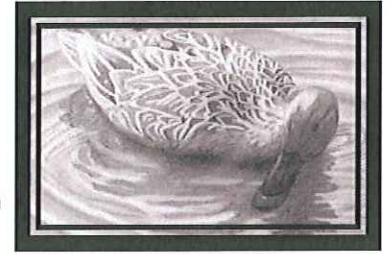
Student Information Page

Arizona Junior Duck Stamp Contest

Congratulations to Valley Academy students who placed in the highly competitive Arizona Junior Duck Stamp Contest!

In the K-3rd grade division, Anusri V. won an Honorable Mention Ribbon.

In the 4th – 6th grade division, Yasmine L. won a 1st Place, Ananya P. a 2nd Place, and Megan C., Yusuf K., and Ashwin R. all won Honorable Mention Ribbons. There will be an Awards Ceremony on April 21st at the Phoenix Zoo from 9:00 – 11:00 am. Congratulations to the other students in the contest who will receive Certificates of Participation and to all of our Valley Academy students who did such beautiful drawings and paintings while learning about mallard ducks. Bravo to all!



Harkins Summer Movie Fun:

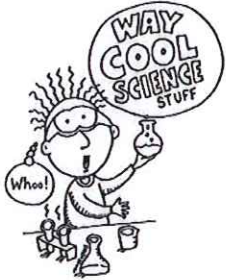


Thank you to all families who ordered Harkins Summer Movie Fun Passes. Orders have been submitted to Harkins, and movie passes will be delivered in April. If you missed the deadline, don't worry-Summer Movie Fun Passes will go on sale at Harkins box offices beginning April 13, 2012.

Congratulations to Jacob H. (7th grade) and Madison G. (5th Grade), who won movie gift cards for their donation of books for the new Painted Rock Academy library at the Spring Festival. If you'd like to help stock the shelves of Valley Academy's new sister school, we are still accepting book donations at the front office. Thanks to all who donated, the Painted Rock Academy library is off to a good start!



Science Club



The remainder of the year we will be working with chemistry and engineering. This has been a fun year and we hope your child has enjoyed it.

Band News

Just before heading into Spring Break, the bands had exciting performances at the Arizona Grand Senior Living Center. They did a great job and played to a very appreciative audience. Please join us for our final concerts which will be held on Friday, May 4th at 6:15 during the Book Fair and Tuesday, May 8th at 7:00 p.m. We would also like to acknowledge the generosity of Mrs. Robertson who donated a beautiful drum set to the band last month. Thank you so much!

Student Council

Pennies for Patients was a huge success! The money raised will go to the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society. The final numbers are still being gathered and will be announced soon. The class who collected the most money will have a pasta party courtesy of Olive Garden. The 2nd place class will have an ice cream party, and the 3rd place class will get to enjoy cookies one afternoon. Student Council would like to thank everyone who donated to such a worthy cause.



Music

The choir just had a wonderful, fun-packed day at the 2012 Choir Festival sponsored by the Phoenix Children's Chorus. We learned many new and exciting things about theory and new warm up techniques. We will be putting these to good use during the next two months. We have a performance with our bands on May 8th and a community service performance at a retirement center on May 12th. It is not too late to come join us for these two events. We meet Mondays after school until 4:15 p.m.



Parent Information Page



If you have not yet registered your Safeway card with eScrip, please go to www.escrip.com to register your Safeway card AND your debit card. Remember, you need to re-register with eScrip every school year, so if you haven't registered since August 2011, you're not registered. Did you know that eScrip contributions have NO LIMIT and are for more than just groceries? Even if you don't shop at Safeway, you can still earn contributions for our school by registering your debit card. Other participating members include restaurants, online retailers, and more.

Carpool...

Are gas prices breaking the bank? Check out Valley Academy Carpool Connections at www.carpoolworld.com/va_carpool.html for information about carpooling.



Move-a-thon:

Thank you to all families who submitted sponsor forms and/or donations for the Move-a-thon. Students who submitted five completed sponsor forms or \$25 or more in donations by the February 22, 2012 deadline received a special "Thank You" treat from VAPO this week.

Jacob B. from Mr. Bauer's seventh grade class completed the most sponsor sheets and was awarded a \$50 Target gift card. All students who submitted five completed sponsor sheets or \$25 or more in donations by the February 22, 2012 deadline were entered into a prize drawing for one of five \$10 Target gift cards. The following students received \$10 Target gift cards:

Shreya D.	First Grade, Ms. Jubb
Zachary H.	Second Grade, Ms. Schambach
Kendall B.	Fourth Grade, Mrs. McMahon
Harini S.	First Grade, Ms. Jubb
Tharun R.	Fifth Grade, Mrs. Henry

Students participated in the Move-a-thon during P.E. the week of March 26, 2012.

Please join us!

The next VAPO meeting is on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 8:15 a.m. in the VAPO room. All parents and guardians are welcome. As elections for the 2012-2013 Governing Council elections approach in May, we urge you to come see what VAPO is all about and how you might help.



Spring Festival

Valley's Barnyard Hoedown Spring Festival earned \$7,787.80 this year! Over \$2,500 of that money will go back to the teachers to spend in their classrooms from the raffle earnings of classroom baskets. THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the raffle baskets and who participated in the raffles. VAPO hopes to purchase document projection systems for our classrooms with the earnings from the festival. It is amazing what a fun day our Valley Academy community had together! Thanks for the memories! VAPO can't wait until next year!



Honor Roll Ceremony Volunteers Needed Save the Date:

The Honors Reception is May 22, 2012 at Sandra Day O'Connor High School. There will be two ceremonies for 3rd - 8th grade honor roll students that night. Watch for your invitation and details coming soon! Would you like to help plan this student recognition event? Are you willing to help serve refreshments that night? Please contact Patricia Ogden at 480-686-7561 or by email at patyno@hotmail.com. Thank you.



Spirit Day Ice Cream



Spirit Day Ice Cream sells for 50¢ or you can use your pre-purchased ice cream card. Spirit Day is usually the first Friday of every month. Students may wear their Spirit Day T-shirts and buy an ice cream at lunch with their pre-paid ice cream card or for 50¢.

Thank you Field Day volunteers for making it such a great day for the students!

VAPO



VAPO Wants YOU!

We are looking for highly motivated individuals who want to be part of this dynamic organization. Would you like to help enhance the quality of our students' education?

What is VAPO?

VAPO is a vessel that puts "u" (you) directly in the middle of all the F-U-N at Valley Academy! We are a twelve member council that sponsors events that light up our children's faces, broaden smiles, spark imagination, fuel creativity, tap into talents, and foster enthusiasm. You have the AWESOME privilege of being a part of all of this. All parents play a vital role at Valley Academy, and VAPO is the vehicle for parents to have a positive impact on their children's education.

We are looking to fill four spots on the council.

We welcome you to step up and shine in a vital role on our Governing Council for the 2012-2013 school year. Elections for next year's Governing Council will take place during May 8th's VAPO meeting at 8:15 a.m. We will begin to accept new council applications the week of April 23, 2012.

Please log on to www.valleyacademy.com and click "Members and Committees" under the "VAPO" tab to see what committee may interest you. You can apply to be a Governing Council member by filling out an application from using the link on the VAPO page or by picking up a form at the front office. Then, join us at our VAPO meetings! We welcome you to talk with us about our committees, or any questions you may have, or even shadow us to see how the committees work.



VAPO elections are coming in May

Please consider joining this wonderful organization and give back to Valley Academy. Applications can be found in the front office or on the Valley Academy website.



The Wilsons were the Volunteer of the Month for February 2012 with 62 hours!

Thank you so much for your assistance in so many things. You are terrific!

These are the names along with the number of hours volunteered. (Families are listed by last name, except when there are multiple families with the same last name): *denotes members of the VAPO Board

Please remember – only the new volunteer form will be accepted!

Complete the form in its entirety always including the parent's and student's **last** name(s).

Seaton	25 hours	R. R. & N. Padilla *	31 hours	Palomo *	25.5 hours
DiModugno	33.5 hours	Abarca	25.75 hours	Stradling *	36.25 hours
Garrison	26 hours	Pape (vom 12/11)	37.5 hours	T&A Young	27 hours
Hansen	42.5 hours	Good	27.5 hours	Nuttall *	44.5 hours
Benham	28 hours	Day *	45 hours	Roberts	28.5 hours
Webb	51.25 hours	E Smith	30 hours	Waters (vom 1/12)	52 hours
Harford	30.3 hours	Hochhalter	57.25 hours	Ogden *	30.5 hours
McCulloch *	63 hours	Mettes	30.5 hours	Skow (vom 8/11)	68.5 hours
Combs	30.5 hours	Lowery *	86.8 hours		
R. Jackson (vom 9/11)	31 hours				

Box Top & Labels Update

Box Tops and Labels for Education continue pouring in. As of this date, our school has collected over 30,000 Box Tops and over 16,000 Labels for Education points. Be on the lookout for new balls and jump ropes from Labels for Education in the near future thanks to our dedicated Valley Academy families.

The year-long label collection contest continues to be too close to call between Ms. Schambach's first grade class and Mrs. Keely's third grade class, with Box Tops and Labels still being counted.

Keep those Box Tops and Labels coming in!



BOOK FAIR Luau

It's a Reading Celebration!

Coming to Ka Puke Nui Moku
(The Big Book Island)

April 30th - May 4th



Open daily 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and
5:30-8:00 p.m. Friday during the Family Fun Luau

Put on your Hawaiian shirt and hula on over to help us out. This is one of the last opportunities to fulfill your volunteer commitment for the year. We need help with the Book Fair and Family Fun Night. Meetings are held each Wednesday at 8:15 a.m. in the VAPO room. Come be a part of the fun!

Book Drive

April 16th - 27th

Donate books to earn
Maui Money to spend at
the Book Fair Luau.
3 books = \$1; earn a
maximum of \$5 for 15
books. Watch for more
details soon.



Family Fun Luau

May 4th from
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
There will be lots of
great books, fun
games, entertainment,
and yummy food.

Volunteers are needed to help with the
Book Fair Luau and Family Fun Night.
Book Fair: Lisa Schulte at (602) 628-6717
or razzleberry@msn.com
Family Fun Night: Cheryl Stradling
at 602-734-5255 or grinnie99@yahoo.com

Food is pre-sale only! Be on
the look out for order forms
coming soon!





Enjoy the Art Walk featuring artwork
from our talented Valley students.
Dress code must be Valley Academy appropriate.





APRIL 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	2 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.	3 8th Grade Parent Meeting	4 Book Fair Meeting 8:15 a.m. New Parent Orientation 6:30 p.m.	5	6 No School Spring Day Break	7
8	9	10 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m. Room 8	11 Book Fair Meeting 8:15 a.m.	12 Honor Roll Meeting 8:15 a.m. Volunteer Appreciation Dinner/VASC Movie Night 6:00 p.m.	13 Spirit Day	14
15	16	17 8th Grade Parent Meeting	18 Book Fair Meeting 8:15 a.m.	19	20 VAPO Great Skate 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	21
Stanford 10 (2nd grade)/AIMS (3rd-8th grade) Testing						
22	23	24	25 Progress Reports Book Fair Meeting 8:15 a.m.	26 Caught Being Good Honor Roll Meeting 8:15 a.m. Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. Staff Lounge	27 Early Release 12:15 p.m. Staff Development	28
VAPO Applications Accepted						
29	30 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.					



Valley Academy -Lunch Menu-



Lunch Pass = \$3.00



Extra Pizza = \$1.25



Extra Milk = 50¢



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4/2	4/3	4/4	4/5	4/6
<u>Choice #1</u> Crispy Chicken Tenders <u>Choice #2</u> Toasted Cheese Sandwich	<u>Choice #1</u> Cheeseburger <u>Choice #2</u> Bean & Cheese Burrito	<u>Choice #1</u> Meatball Sub <u>Choice #2</u> Mini Cheese Ravioli	Pizza 1st Grade Field Trip	NO School Spring Day Recess
4/9	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13
<u>Choice #1</u> Tex Mex Turkey Rice Bowl <u>Choice #2</u> French Bread Cheese Pizza	<u>Choice #1</u> Mini Corn Dogs <u>Choice #2</u> Bean & Cheese Burrito	<u>Choice #1</u> Baked Chicken Nuggets <u>Choice #2</u> Toasted Cheese Sandwich	Pizza	<u>Choice #1</u> Italian Chicken Parmesan <u>Choice #2</u> Cheese Pizza Dippers
4/16	4/17	4/18	4/19	4/20
<u>Choice #1</u> French Bread Pepperoni Pizza <u>Choice #2</u> Cheese Lasagna	<u>Choice #1</u> Cheesy Chicken Potato Broccoli Bake <u>Choice #2</u> Creamy Macaroni & Cheese	<u>Choice #1</u> Rotini Pasta Bake <u>Choice #2</u> Bean & Cheese Burrito	Pizza	<u>Choice #1</u> Chicken Fillet <u>Choice #2</u> Veg. Chili w/Potato Bake
4/23	4/24	4/25	4/26	4/27
<u>Choice #1</u> Popcorn Chicken <u>Choice #2</u> Cheese Pizza Dippers	<u>Choice #1</u> Bagel Dog <u>Choice #2</u> Taco Pocket	<u>Choice #1</u> Italian Chicken Parmesan <u>Choice #2</u> Toasted Cheese Sandwich	Pizza	<u>Choice #1</u> Cheeseburger Lunch Munchie <u>Choice #2</u> Creamy Macaroni and Cheese *Early Release Day (1st-6th only)
4/30				
<u>Choice #1</u> Penne Pasta w/meat sauce <u>Choice #2</u> French Bread Cheese Pizza				



April 2012

