

VAPO Governing Council Meeting September 9, 2014**VAPO Governing Council September 9, 2014****Meeting Minutes**

Meeting was called to order at 8:17 a.m. by President Audra Nuttall. Those present included President and Valley Communication Chair Audra Nuttall, Treasurer and Event Library Chair JodyKay Combs, Curriculum Chair Debra McLemore, Events Fundraising Chair Evan Neuman, Coyote Pride Chair Lisa Olsen, Eighth Grade Promotion Chair Angie Brey, Volunteer Communication Chair Prasad Dabberu.

Administrators attending: Mrs. Wilber

Guests: Hannelise Blease, Pawan Chhabra

Parent Comments: Mr. Neuman commented that enrichment classes are expensive for some students attending Academic Arcade. Discussion was had, and Mrs. Wilber agreed to take the matter into consideration.

Administrator's Report: Mrs. Wilber

The beginning of the school year has gone well. School was in session, even with the heavy rain, and went okay. She has received mostly positive comments concerning this issue. Valley Academy and Painted Rock will be changing the format of the monthly newsletter to a one-page text-type document, with links and references to the Valley Academy website. This document will be sent out the 1st of each month for the school and the 15th of the month for VAPO. She is hoping for feedback from parents, as many had expressed that they weren't reading the previous monthly newsletter, due to the large amount of information. The Painted Rock website will be updated soon, due to a grant, and Valley Academy's website will be updated next. A parent Spalding class is being taught by Mrs. Wilber on Tuesday evenings at the school, and is full. The board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 24th this month, due to the schedule conflict of a board member. The status of the Blue Ribbon Award is unknown at this time. September 18th is the actual 20th anniversary of Valley Academy.

President's Report: Mrs. Nuttall

The volunteer handbook is now available in the office. VAPO members were given copies to put in their notebooks. New parent survival guides are also ready to go out, with 50 or more still needing to be printed. Mrs. Nuttall reviewed the lost and found policy, and asked VAPO members to each sign-up for a month to carry out this policy. Lost and found items are kept in the MPR for a month, and then they are brought to the VAPO room lost and found bin. After the items have been in the VAPO lost and found bin for a month, they are donated to Goodwill. Class lists are available for VAPO council members only. Mrs. Nuttall asked that VAPO council members come prepared to our events, with agendas, if necessary, for meetings and anything else required to be organized. Items for the VAPO newsletter that goes out on the 15th of the month need to be turned into Mrs. Nuttall by the 10th. It needs to include a short blurb and a link for the website, if applicable. Links to the Valley Academy website need to be set-up prior to submitting to Mrs. Nuttall. VAPO council members need to create forms for their events, get them approved through the approval process, find the link on the website, and give to Mrs. Nuttall to put in the VAPO newsletter. An example would be a dance permission form. There was some discussion regarding the new newsletter policy and links to the website. Mrs. Nuttall is concerned about the cookie dough fundraiser. Mrs. Laswell needs help. Please invite and encourage parents to participate in this fundraiser.

VAPO Governing Council Meeting September 9, 2014**Secretary's Report:**

Mrs. Combs recommended that meeting minutes be factual only. She asked VAPO council members to go through each section of the August meeting minutes and submit changes as necessary to Mrs. Saldana.

Treasurer's Report: Mrs. Combs

Mrs. Combs advised that she can email new members or members not at the VAPO council meeting the treasurer's report. Subtotal of cash funds for August are \$38,319.33. Vendor funds total \$992.06. Earmarked funds total \$25,000.00. Self contained funds total \$1,235.72. Total of general funds is \$12,083.61. Total upcoming expenses from current balance are \$3,481.12. The adjusted total from current general funds is \$8,602.49. Cookie dough and book fair projected income and expense numbers are not included. Mrs. Combs asked that everyone please double-check the budget numbers for your committee.

Committee Reports:**Curriculum: Mrs. McLemore**

Mrs. McLemore commented that her sub-committee has been very helpful, especially Mrs. Coleman and Mrs. Martinez. They have 53 readers confirmed and 24 forms completed. They are working on the rest of the forms.

Volunteer Communications: Mr. Dabberu

Gear-Up For School Night was very successful, as well as the food trucks. There was a good response for volunteer sign-ups. Shannon Day has made a list of volunteers. Mr. Dabberu would like a copy of the student data base, if possible. Discussion was had about volunteer hours and volunteer of the month.

Staff Appreciation:

Mrs. Nuttall needs a budget report for the teacher breakfast.

Eight Grade Promotion: Mrs. Brey

Curriculum night brought in about 25 volunteers for the 7/8 grade committee, and more have been added since then. There is a kick-off planning meeting for promotion scheduled at the school in the Kinder-MPR at 6:30 p.m. on September 23rd. An agenda for the meeting will be provided. High School Information Night planning is going well, and Mrs. Brey is working with Mr. Hayo to confirm the schools and former students that will be in attendance. 8th Grade Car Wash is still in need of a leader. Mrs. Currey has agreed to head up the 7/8 Fall Dance. Mrs. Wilber reminded that everything needs to be approved by her. Mrs. Brey has advised Mrs. Currey of the process. Mrs. Nuttall encouraged promotion of these events and emphasized that the students need to be reminded of the dress code for the dance. Mrs. Brey also brought up that Mrs. Douthitt and Mr. Hayo are still in need of homeroom parents. Mrs. Nuttall mentioned that everything for the 7/8 school parties needs to be cleared with the teachers.

Office Fundraising:

Mrs. Nuttall needs help counting money from the cookie dough fundraiser on September 16, 17, and 18 from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Lots of help is needed. The Boosterthon will be held Tuesday, April 21st from 8:15-8:45 a.m. for grades K-5 and 8:45-9:15 a.m. for grades 5-8.

Special Events:

Mrs. Nuttall needs lock-down kit information.

Athletics:

Mrs. Chapin needs more volunteers.

Student Recognition:

Mrs. Lund had sent Mrs. Nuttall an email with some suggestions for the Caught Being Good program. She asked if pins were okay? Mrs. Wilber confirmed that magnet pins would be acceptable. Mrs. Lund also suggested coupons from vendors around town for drinks, slushies, ice cream, and movie tickets. Mrs. Nuttall and Mrs. Wilber expressed some concern with rewards that would cause parents to spend money at the vendor locations. Mrs. Lund also suggested a letter from the principal for the program and posters that say "Rise Above The Ordinary". Mrs. Wilber is not opposed to ideas and change, and will take the suggestions into consideration. Honor Roll reception planning has started.

Library: Mrs. Combs

An Alert-Now for the fall book fair will go out soon. The spring theme is called "Under the Sea". It will be the same week as the Boosterthon. Mrs. Saldana is working on Family Fun Night in conjunction with Mrs. Combs and the book fair. It is free and a great theme. There will be a parade and dress-up for Family Fun Night.

Event Fundraising: Mr. Neuman

There will be a talent show committee meeting on September 17th in the VAPO room. Mrs. Combs is helping and the time has changed to 10:00 a.m. They may change their vendor from AZ Party Rentals to White Knight Party Rentals.

Coyote Pride: Mrs. Olsen

Mrs. Olsen ordered 387 spirit day shirts. Picture Day is tomorrow. A few more volunteers are needed. Spirit Day ice cream has gone well so far. Mrs. McLemore buys the ice cream, as the vendor is near her work. The extra ice cream in the freezer could be used for something else. The used uniform sale on curriculum night went okay, but there were only a few sales. Mrs. Nuttall suggested a change for next year. Mrs. Olsen has also suggested that this committee be subdivided next year.

Valley Communication: Mrs. Nuttall

Mrs. Nuttall is planning for the homeroom parent breakfast in October sometime. She will help recruit home room parents for Mrs. Douthitt and Mr. Hayo. Mrs. Nuttall asked for help for a Lowes grant that is due October 15th. Mr. Neuman agreed to help. Items for the September VAPO newsletter are due tomorrow. They are normally due by the 10th of the month. The VAPO picture is cancelled this year. Great Skate is on September 12th. The board meeting will be on September 24th. Cookie dough pick-up is scheduled for October 1st and October 2nd, depending on last name.

The next VAPO meeting will be held on October 14, 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Brey

Substitute Secretary and 8th Grade Promotion Chair

VAPO, The Parent Organization of Valley Academy