

**The Parent Organization of Valley Academy**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**December 9, 2014**

Meeting was called to order at 8:20 a.m. by President Audra Nuttall. Those present included President and Valley Communication Chair Audra Nuttall, Athletics Chair Hiedi Chapin, Staff Appreciation Chair Lizette Johnson, Events Fundraising Chair Evan Neuman, Coyote Pride Chair Lisa Olsen, Eighth Grade Promotion Chair Angie Brey, Student Recognition Chair Tracy Lund, Office Fundraising Chair Luella Gourgue

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed.

Administrators attending: Mrs. Wilber

Guests: Elida Messick & Katie Libby

The update reading list was distributed.

Guest Comments: None

**Administrator's Report: Mrs. Wilber**

Mrs. Simon had her baby boy on Sunday, December 7, 2014, weighing 7 pounds, 5 ounces. Both Mrs. Simon and baby Kaison are doing well. On December 19th, the school kitchen will be locked and there will be no access. Mrs. Wilber reminded the council of the citation from the fire marshal due to the condition of the VAPO room at the last fire inspection. She would like the issues addressed before winter break, if possible, so the room can be inspected again. Discussion was had about the shelf still needed, and what still needs to be done. Mrs. Wilber attended an Arizona Department of Education reception on December 8th for the Blue Ribbon Schools in Arizona. Together with Ms. Mitchell and Mrs. Reid, there was a special meet and greet session with Superintendent Huppenthal, as well as a photo opportunity. They were presented with a certificate, recognizing Valley Academy for the recent National Blue Ribbon School Award. Mrs. Wilber advised that the school will be purchasing the Blue Ribbon Award spirit shirts for the VAPO council, when they become available, as a thank-you for their support.

**New Business: Mrs. Nuttall**

Mrs. Nuttall advised that Mrs. Gan would like the VAPO council to review the grade levels on the book list. Discussion was had that the teachers should change the grade levels, if needed. Mrs. Nuttall entertained a motion to accept the book list as presented. Mrs. Chapin gave the motion, and Mrs. Johnson seconded. The motion was carried.

**President's Report: Mrs. Nuttall**

Mrs. Nuttall would like to see the 20th year celebration incorporated with the Spring Festival, Boosterthon and other events. Discussion was had about a possible blue balloon release in honor of Valley Academy's 20th year. A date, lots of parent help, and the need to research with local city and airport authorities were mentioned. Arizona Balloon Boutique was talked about as a possible vendor. Mrs. Nuttall would like to have a dinner meeting for volunteers interested in helping with promoting the 20th year celebration. She will schedule a date soon. Information for the VAPO newsletter needs to be sent to Mrs. Nuttall by the 12th of the month, at the latest. January 22nd is the next School Board Meeting.

### **Secretary's Report:**

The October meeting minutes were not approved, as they need to be revised. Mrs. Nuttall entertained a motion to approve the November meeting minutes. Mrs. Brey gave the motion, and Mrs. Chapin seconded. The November meeting minutes were approved, with the exception of correcting the spelling of Mr. Neuman's last name.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Subtotal of cash funds for November were \$17,076.48. Vendor funds total \$3,381.60. Earmarked funds total 0. Self contained funds total \$2,269.56. Subtotal of general funds is \$14,806.92. Total upcoming expenses from current balance is \$200.00. The adjusted total from current general funds is \$14,606.92. Mrs. Nuttall advised that council members can ask for a budget amendment at VAPO meetings, after the treasurer's report. There was some discussion about VAPO purchasing a new coffee maker, espresso machine or Keurig for the teacher's lounge.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Curriculum:**

Mrs. McLemore advised that 25 books have been approved and they have 41 readers. Mrs. Coleman and Mrs. Martinez are doing a great job.

#### **Volunteer Communications:**

Mr. Dabberu advised that his committee has the November logs and are working on the report, as well as planning a meeting to update the council. Mrs. Nuttall mentioned that information about the volunteer of the month is still needed.

#### **Staff Appreciation: Mrs. Johnson**

Mrs. Johnson reported that the next staff appreciation event is planned for December 17th, and a sign-up genius link has been sent out. Christmas cards had also been prepared for the staff, and were available at the meeting for signature by the council members. Discussion was had about streamlining the card process for next time. Mrs. Johnson brought up that she needs a budget amendment for a new coffee maker for the staff lounge and stamps. More discussion was had about cards and gifts. Invitations will go out to the teachers soon about the upcoming event.

#### **Eight Grade Promotion: Mrs. Brey**

Mrs. Brey reported that the Chipotle fundraiser was successful, and brought in \$1,015.28, although it made \$842.22 less than last year's same fundraiser. It was mentioned that the lines were very long last year, and call-in orders were not available this year, which could have been possible reasons for the decline in overall funds raised. The next 8th grade fundraiser is scheduled at Jumpstreet on January 27th, and discussion was had regarding this event. 8th grade motto and color suggestions have been presented to administration for approval, and will then be voted on by the 8th graders.

#### **Office Fundraising: Mrs. Gourgue**

Mrs. Gourgue reported that she is planning the Boosterthon soon. Some cookie dough is still left and will be given to the teachers. Volunteers are still collecting box tops. Discussion was had about the best way to get the box tops to the volunteers.

## **Special Events:**

### **Athletics: Mrs. Chapin**

Mrs. Chapin reported that the Turkey Trot went well, and Sign-Up Genius was helpful. More volunteers are needed for concessions. Discussion was had about contacting the cheerleader and basketball parents.

### **Student Recognition: Mrs. Lund**

A location is still needed for the honor roll reception. Discussion was had about possible venues and the budget. The Caught Being Good poster hanging needs some help. Ideas were presented on how to hang it better. Mrs. Lund mentioned an amendment needed for her budget. Honor roll ice cream is going well.

## **Library:**

### **Event Fundraising: Mr. Neuman**

The talent show went well, although \$100 in repairs were made for a curtain. Discussion was had about only having the talent show every other year. Mr. Neuman is planning the Spring Festival and the theme is Candy Island Racing. Carters Farm will be providing a petting zoo and pony rides. Party Professionals is also being used. The Spring Festival committee is working on attractions and having a pine wood derby. 8th grade is responsible for the food, which requires 2 food trucks or a food both operated by 8th graders and their parents. VAPO donates \$400 to 8th grade for their help. 8th graders and their parents are expected to volunteer at the festival.

### **Coyote Pride: Mrs. Olsen**

Spirit Day ice cream is proceeding well, budget-wise. Spirit Day Shirts and Blue Ribbon Award shirts will be ordered in January. The council was made aware that some used uniforms are going to Goodwill, as there is no more storage room for them.

### **Valley Communication: Mrs. Nuttall**

The back VAPO room needs some cleaning and rearranging.

The next VAPO meeting will be held on January 13, 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Brey

Substitute Secretary and 8th Grade Promotion Chair

VAPO, The Parent Organization of Valley Academy