

News from the VVPC

Valley View Parents' Club Newsletter

March-April 2017

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Science Night in January: Annika does the density squeeze

by Mrs. Marinakis, Principal

Family Science Night at VV was a resounding success! We had a packed house full of families doing fun experiments from making mini-catapults to exploring surface tension. Mrs. Farrell, Ms. Aviles, Ms. Cossette, Mr. Berrechid, Mr. Moseley, and Ms. Zemke all provided science projects and demonstrations. Winners of the raffle received presentation boards for their science fair projects!

The SBAC (state testing) window opens soon. This is the state test that reflects student progress on the California Common Core State Standards. Students in grades 3-8 and 11 take this assessment each year. It is a multiple choice test in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math followed by a Performance Task for each subject. This year our students will take the SBAC mid-April through May. The new CAST (California Science Test) will be piloted by our 5th graders in March. We will not receive a score for this assessment this year. Please let your child have a chance to practice the SBAC on the CAASPP website through March 27th. More information will be coming from your child's teacher.

Demolition/Rebuild Update: *Happy Anniversary!*

Valley View has been in its temporary campus for one year! Teachers are glad to be able to control the temperature of their classrooms and students enjoy the new play structure. The demolition of the old campus is scheduled to be completed this summer. The old multipurpose room will remain, as well as the three portables to its right. There will be grass in place of the old school structure and there will be a new location for the school garden.

Contact the VVPC if you'd like to help get the new garden started!

Unfortunately, Valley View did not make the short list of schools that the district will rebuild with remaining bonds. According to the reprioritization process used by the district, Valley View is next in line for improvements...but only if a new bond measure is passed. So, in the meantime, let's stay active and informed! WCCUSD school board meetings take place twice every month: see wccusd.net for more information.

Programs



Music

In honor of Black History month, the winter concert featured music with roots in Africa. Teaching Artist Ms. Debbie Gold of the Oakland Youth Chorus (OYC) led the students as they sang a variety of music, from spirituals to traditional Ghanaian songs to pop! We feel

like we struck gold with our new music program and Ms. Debbie. Thank you for helping us fund this program!

Ms. Boyd/Reading Specialist

The VVPC partially funds the reading specialist position held by Mrs. Boyd. It seems like Mrs. Boyd taught first grade at Valley View forever before finally retiring. She really missed the kids, so she came back to help students learn how to read. She supports the 1st and 2nd grade blocking program by helping small groups of students with reading. She also helps English Language Learners and students in other grades who are struggling with reading. Having Mrs. Boyd at Valley View is a gift!

VAPA (Visual and Performing Arts)

Thanks to funding from WCCUSD and VVPC, each class at our school will be participating in Visual and Performing Arts classes this spring. Teachers chose from a variety of classes including Salsa dance, Polynesian dance, Drama, and Visual Arts. This is yet another example of how your fundraising efforts support all students at Valley View...thank you!

Fundraising

- Our **See's Candy** fundraiser will run from March 9 - March 27! Look for catalogs in backpacks as well as in the office. Sell chocolate to your friends and neighbors and make money for the school!
 - Eat out for lunch or dinner at **Mod Pizza** (2830 Pinole Valley Road), Tuesday, April 18. Present the Valley View flier and 20% of your purchase will go to Valley View. *We made almost \$500 from all you ate last month at the Habit Burger Grill...thanks for going out to eat for us!*
 - Donate to the **Ed Fund** today! We collected over \$500 from the audience at the winter concert and are now halfway to our goal of raising \$10,000! Bring your donation to the front office in a labeled envelope. Checks can be made out to VVPC and are tax deductible. Everything counts!
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Reminders

Smartphones: Hand-held media devices (smartphones, cell phones, ipods, etc.) must be turned off and kept in backpacks at all times during the school day.

Dress Code: As the weather warms, remember that students must have sleeves on their shirt/dress. Spaghetti straps and tank tops are NOT part of the dress code. Ripped up

jeans are also not part of the dress code. Parents will be called and asked to bring their student clothes under these types of circumstances.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up: PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE Do not park in the drop-off/pick-up lane! You may NOT leave your vehicle unattended. Parents, please be patient. The line usually clears within 10 minutes. Children cannot be dropped off or picked up in the drive through lane. Either be patient in the line, park, or park and walk in.

Make Valley View *YOUR* school

Come to a General Meeting!

We need your feedback and your ideas to keep Valley View strong! The VVPC is open to any parent/guardian of a Valley View student. Membership is free and you simply sign up at the meeting. **The VVPC provides free childcare and pizza during general meetings so you can bring the kids!**

Next General Meeting: April 12 @ 6:15

At the April 12 meeting we will be accepting nominations for next year's board positions. You can then vote on the nominees at the general meeting in May. Below is the list of current board members. While you are welcome to run for any board position, (OPEN) means the position will be vacant at the end of this year. Positions last one year with a two-year term limit.

Feel free to contact these board members with any questions you have about their positions. If you don't see a position for you, let us know what we should add!

VVPC Board Members 2016-2017

Co-Presidents: Elizabeth Smith & Sylvia Zemke

Vice President: Kay Wilson (OPEN)

Treasurer: Navneet Kaur (OPEN)

Auditor: Pam Barlesi (OPEN)

Co-Secretaries: Shubhra Rastogi & Shweta Thote

VP - Communications: Tabitha Ames & Elizabeth Smith

VP - Hospitality: Alison DeJung (OPEN)

VP - Fundraising: Kelly Greninger & Renee McKim (OPEN)

VP - Programs - Sandra Mulhearn

VP - Rebuild: Jon Ames & Sandra Mulhearn

VP - Volunteer Coordinator: Anne Dinklage (OPEN)

VP - Room Parent Coordinators: Alison DeJung and Marina Flores

VP - After School Education Program Coordinators: Kelly Greninger & Renee McKim

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VVPC Mission Statement: The Valley View Parents' Club strives to enhance the educational experience of Valley View students by supplementing school programs, supporting teachers, promoting family involvement, and fostering a cooperative, inclusive school community.

Calendar

March

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| 2 | End of second trimester |
| 8 | VVPC General Meeting, lunchroom, 6:15pm FREE CHILDCARE & PIZZA! |
| 9 | Valley View Science Fair, old MPR, 6-7pm |
| 9-27 | See's fundraiser |
| 20 | VVPC Board Meeting, old portable 16, 6:15pm |
| 24 | Multicultural Celebration, old MPR, 6-8pm |
| 29 | WCCUSD Board of Trustees Meeting, DeJean Middle, 6:30pm |
| 30 | Spring Picture Day |
| 31 | Yearbook orders due online |

April

- 3-7 Spring Break: no school
- 12 VVPC General Meeting (board nominations for 2017-18), 6:15pm
FREE CHILDCARE & PIZZA!!
- 12 WCCUSD Board of Trustees Meeting, DeJean Middle, 6:30pm
- 17-21 Scholastic Book Fair, old MPR
- 18 MOD Pizza fundraiser, 10:30am-10pm
- 20 Open House: minimum day
- 24 VVPC Board Meeting, old portable 16, 6:15pm
- 26 WCCUSD Board of Trustees Meeting, DeJean Middle, 6:30pm
- 27 Secretaries Day
- 28 Last day of ASEP
- TBA No Place for Hate parent workshop - lunch room, 6-7:30pm
- TBA Mustang Trot!

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[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

www.valleyviewcommunity.org