

August/September 2021

NEXT PTO MEETING: Tuesday, September 14 at 6:30 pm via [Zoom](#)

This is a long email! Make sure to expand your email to view the whole message. You'll see a singing hedgehog at the end!



Co-Presidents' Spotlight: WELCOME BACK!

On behalf of the Van Hise Elementary Parent/Teacher Organization (VHE PTO), we welcome your family to the 2021-22 school year! Coming off a year like no other and heading into a new year with lots of unknowns, there remains a lot of uncertainty. The one thing we know we **can** count on is this highly engaged and supportive parent community!

At Van Hise, our dedicated teachers and staff, caring administrators, and passionate parents work together to ensure that every child has a rich and supportive learning experience. The VHE PTO's role in that partnership is organizing volunteers and sponsoring programs, activities and fundraisers that build school community and advance all students' learning and growth. While we will continue to move forward with this same mission, the year will look different than in non-pandemic years. For example, while volunteers are not permitted to enter the building during the school day, we will need to hold off on scheduling events and activities that require volunteer support. We are hopeful this will change as the year progresses!

As a parent/guardian of a VHE student, you are automatically a member of the VHE PTO. Getting involved is the best way to learn about the school and meet other parents and staff. Plus, the more people pitch in, the more we can accomplish together! We heartily encourage you to attend PTO meetings (2nd Tuesdays of the month from 6:30-7:30 PM on Zoom) to share your voice and ideas and to stay informed about school updates, events, and other happenings. You can also look for our monthly PTO newsletters in your email box and follow us on Facebook at /VanHisePTO.

Thank you in advance for your support of our school community. Please reach out with any ideas, questions or concerns.

Let's do what we can to make it the best year possible!

Sincerely,
Emily Cusic Putnam & Kim Wheeler-Yates
Co-Presidents, VHE PTO

Events at a Glance | September

SEPT 2

FIRST DAY FOR
K & 1st GRADES

**Tears & Cheers
K/1 Parents Reception**
Directly after drop off, outside
doors on west side of Waukesha
St. garden (LMC entrance)

SEPT 3

FIRST DAY FOR
2nd - 5th
GRADES

SEPT 6

NO SCHOOL
LABOR DAY

SEPT. 14

PTO MEETING via ZOOM
6:30 - 7:30 pm
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)



IMPORTANT INFO

There is a lot to keep track of. Find Principal Seidl's Re-entry Info slideshow posted on our PTO website at www.vanhisepto.org. Note that it was updated on 8/26 to reflect the new start and end times, the soft start morning entry, and more.

SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS!

To address the many questions about the new school year, we are building a FAQs page as a resource for families. Please **EMAIL** your burning questions to us and we will try to track down answers and compile the answers all in one place.



You may also visit www.vanhisepto.org for current school and PTO updates!



WHAT ARE YOUR SUPERPOWERS?

As we start the year, volunteers are not permitted in the building to reduce exposure, however we have various opportunities for pitching in and getting involved from home. Once volunteers are cleared to be in school

again, there will be many (shelving books in the library, reading with kids, helping with events, etc.) Please use **this form** to let us know where you'd be willing to share your interests and talents!



CALLING ALL KINDERGARTEN & FIRST GRADE PARENTS!

On the morning of September 2nd, Van Hise kindergarten and first grade students will be starting the school year. K/1 parents are invited to the **TEARS & CHEERS RECEPTION.**

When: Directly after drop-off

Where: Outside the doors to the west of the gardens (and right outside the LMC) on the Waukesha St side of the building



You've reached the end. We hope to see you Tuesday, 9/14 at the PTO meeting! Check www.vanhisepto.org for updates.

