

May 2024

## NEXT PTO MEETING: Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm. IN PERSON @ VHE in the library with Zoom option. Link <u>HERE</u>.

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!



www.VanHisePTO.org



## **Message from the Principal**

#### **Becca Stein**

Thank you for joining us during our conferences over the past month. We believe that strong schools have strong alliances with our families and community. It was wonderful to have time to talk about each child's growth and personal goals, while seeing many examples of their successes within our building through projects, demonstrations, and artwork! Thank you also

to our PTO and families for supporting us with dinner and snacks!

## **Staffing Update for 2024-25**

As we continue to plan for our next year, it is important to know that we will continue to balance our staffing needs at VHE. Staffing and funding is based on student enrollment and some other factors. Next year's allocations will include the following at this time:



Grade Level <sup>™</sup>	Sections	Average Class Size	Classroom Teachers
5K	3	NA	Elyse Ford, Donna McGuire, Becka Robbins
1	3	22	Sana Khaja, Maria Prunikovich, New Hire
2	3	23	Dixie Lane, Leah Glanzer, Jenn Savage
3	3	25	Erica Koval, Andrea Nelson, Mary Powell
4	3	22	Chris Dyer, Sharon Jimenez, Sally Ludwig
5	3	25	Heather Drenk, Cassie Krum, Katie Mahr

Specialty Area Teachers	Staffing
Special Education	Christie Ashmore, Kirster Gyorkos, Melissa Tollefson
Specials	Erin Miller-Bishoff (REACH), Jennifer Follett (LMC), Keegan Lynch (Art), Sarah Sorenson (PE), Mark Ziegler (Music/Strings), New Hire (PE)
Multi-Lingual	Kristie Betzweiser, Chia-Wen Hsieh, New Hire
Pupil Service	Kari Meyer (School Psychologist), Amy Robel (Social Worker)
Instructional Specialists	Jessy Gamez (Coach), Lisa Friend-Kalupa (AL Teacher)

### **Transition Planning**

This time of year I am joining with district and building leaders to plan for next school year to allow for communication and collaboration to continue to be a priority. It is one of my favorite times of the school year as we reflect on the achievement of our students and staff, along with making goals for the upcoming school year. A few years I want you to be aware of:

- Having a building wide transition plan is important for both the Spring and the Fall. This spring students will all have time to meet upcoming grade level teachers, begin to build relationships, and see the classrooms that they will join. Our incoming 5K students will enjoy some playdates throughout the summer, as well as we have planned for a family informational night. In addition, during our Professional Development days (May and August), our staff will have vertical team meetings to allow for each child's strengths and educational needs to be discussed amongst teachers & support staff.
- Having our year's plans established with important dates, events, and happenings allows for us to ensure these things to happen. Over the next months, I am putting together a "Pulse" calendar that will be shared with you in the fall that includes during the school day events and PTO celebrations too!
- We are in the process of finalizing VHE's Master Building Schedule for 2024-25. There have been some changes at the state and local levels regarding requirements for grade levels and schools. This will be reflected in the schedule. Two changes to mention:
  - We will have 2 lunch periods for 6 grade levels within the cafeteria to accommodate Hamilton's MS Schedule. We will be having lunch between 10:45-12:00 (two lunch periods)
  - Beginning and end times have been changed to the following:
    - Mondays 8:25-2:00
    - Tuesdays-Fridays 8:25-3:20
- Following our state mandates/laws regarding attendance is a priority for the
  district and VHE in the upcoming year. It is critical that students are at school
  as much as possible (90% or higher is expected). MMSD will be
  communicating further about this. I mention it now as you begin planning for
  next school year.

## Milk Carton Recycling New to Van Hise Elementary

Over the past few months, I have partnered with Sustain Dane in ways to improve our environmental practices within our school. In May, we launched recycling milk cartons within our cafeteria allowing us to decrease the amount of landfill waste,



lessen the amount of trucks going to the landfill, and decrease the amount of custodial work to empty trash bins. Our 5th Grade PrinciPALS assisted with this kick-off during an all school assembly as well.

Spring Events 2024			
Date	Event		
Friday, May 10	Transition Day for Grades 5K-4th Incoming 5K Informational Family Meetings		
Tuesday, May 14	3rd Grade Field Trip to Overture PTO Meeting 6:30		
Wednesday, June 15	K-2 Physic Show @ VHE		
Friday, May 17	Last Day for Library Check Out		
Sunday, May 19	Plant the Gardens @ VHE		
Tuesday, May 21	Hamilton Musical Performance for Grades 1st-5th 5K Zoo Field Trip		
Wednesday, May 22	Hedgestock Festival Grades 5K-5th		
Thursday, May 23	Library Books Due for Inventory		
Friday, May 24 & Monday, May 27	NO SCHOOL		
Friday, May 24	Black Girl Magic Conference		
Thursday, May 30	5th Grade PrinciPALS Leadership Field Trip to WI Dells 2nd Grade FT Goodman Youth Farm		
Friday, May 31	Sports Day 5K-5th (1:15-3:15)		
Monday, June 3	Good Character Assembly		

	5K Graduation	
Tuesday, June 4	5th Grade Rocket Launch	
Wednesday, June 5	MMSD Senior Walk Through @ VHE	
Thursday, June 6	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 5th Grade Promotion Celebration	
Friday, June 7	Report Cards Posted in Infinite Campus for Families	

## **Summer Opportunities**

## Summer Arts Academy Offers FREE Access to Visual & Performing Arts for MMSD Students

The Summer Arts Academy - Arts Community Seat Program is designed to expand access to visual and performing arts summer programming for selected K-11



MMSD students at no cost for families. Several Madison-area summer community arts providers have held a limited number of seats in their summer programs for students who are selected through an application process. **Learn more!** 

# Registration for Middle School CTE Discovery Programs Begins April 29

Join us this summer for a FREE immersive Career & Technical Education (CTE) Exploration and Skill Development Program – designed exclusively for *rising 6-8 grade* MMSD students.



Learn more!

## Events at a Glance | MAY

**MAY 6 - 10** 

**TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK** 

**MAY 14** 

**PTO MEETING** 

6:30 in the VHE Library Zoom Link HERE

**MAY 19** 

**GARDEN PLANTING DAY** 

**MAY 21** 

SHAKE SHACK FUNDRAIDSER

**MAY 22** 

**HEDGEFEST** 

**MAY 24** 

**NO SCHOOL** 

## **MAY 27**

**NO SCHOOL** 



## We Welcome YOU!

Our monthly PTO Meeting is coming up on Tuesday, May 14th.

The year is about to come to a close, but

we hope that you can make it to our general meeting. There is lots happening, and we are already planning for next year.

- Please send any questions to <u>prez@vanhisepto.org</u> by Sunday, May 12th.
- Let us know by Sunday if you may need child care at the meeting (PTO provides free of charge to families). Email <u>prez@vanhisepto.org</u>.
- Check out our agenda HERE.

As always, check out our website at <a href="https://www.vanhisepto.org">www.vanhisepto.org</a> for up to date news.

Remember to head to the Volunteering page on our website for a list of volunteer opportunities and links to sign up.

PTO Volunteering Page



## Hedgestock + Sports Day Shirts Are Coming!

The PTO is pleased to support the VHE tradition of each grade getting a different colored shirt. In past years, families have been asked to contribute \$8 - \$10 for each shirt. If you are able, we welcome

donations in any amount to offset the cost of purchasing these shirts for all students and staff.

# Students will have the opportunity to wear the shirts on both May 22 for Hedgestock and May 31 for Sports Day!



Voluntary donations can be made via Paypal with the button below or with the QR code.

### **VHE Paypal Giving Link**



## **Helpful Information from Nurse Lauri**

Head lice are spread most commonly by direct head-to-head (hair-to-hair) contact. However, much less frequently they are spread by sharing clothing or belongings onto which lice have crawled or nits attached to shed hairs may have fallen. The risk of getting infested by a louse that

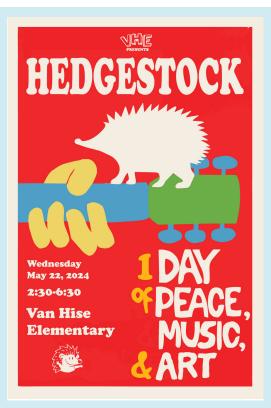
has fallen onto a carpet or furniture is very small. Head lice survive less than 1–2 days if they fall off a person and cannot feed; nits cannot hatch and usually die within a week if they are not kept at the same temperature as that found close to the scalp.

## The following are steps that can be taken to help prevent and control the spread of head lice:

- Avoid head-to-head (hair-to-hair) contact during play and other activities at home, school, and elsewhere (sports activities, playground, slumber parties, camp).
- Do not share clothing such as hats, scarves, coats, sports uniforms, hair ribbons, or barrettes.
- Do not share combs, brushes, or towels. Disinfest combs and brushes used by an infested person by soaking them in hot water (at least 130°F) for 5–10 minutes.
- Do not lie on beds, couches, pillows, carpets, or stuffed animals that have recently been in contact with an infested person.
- Machine wash and dry clothing, bed linens, and other items that an
  infested person wore or used during the 2 days before treatment using
  the hot water (130°F) laundry cycle and the high heat drying cycle.
  Clothing and items that are not washable can be dry-cleaned OR sealed
  in a plastic bag and stored for 2 weeks.
- Vacuum the floor and furniture, particularly where the infested person sat or lay. However, spending much time and money on house cleaning

- activities is not necessary to avoid reinfestation by lice or nits that may have fallen off the head or crawled onto furniture or clothing.
- Do not use fumigant sprays or fogs; they are not necessary to control head lice and can be toxic if inhaled or absorbed through the skin.

#### For more information on head lice visit CDC



## Hedgestock 2024

Hey Families! This year's VHE arts event is coming on **Wednesday**, **May 22nd**. We introduce you to HEDGESTOCK '24!

This school community event will feature live music performed by VHE students, a student art showcase, a makers market, book making, a student talent show, and more! We can't wait to have you come and help us celebrate the arts, creativity, and our amazing school!

We could still use some volunteers! Click on the button below to help out.

-Brought to you by the Van Hise Specials Team and our awesome PTO

Help Out at Hedgestock



## **Art Room News**

What a terrific year of art! And it ain't over yet... As the VHE artists transition out of clay, we've remained sculptural with our yearly fibers unit. We've got weavings, stitchings, and sewings of all varieties happening in the art room. Students have been building skills in areas of embroidery, knot-tying, loom building and the ever-present art of "over-under". Be on the lookout for some fabulously fibrous incoming artworks!

As our year comes to a close, we greatly anticipate this year's arts celebration: Hedgestock! We hope many can join us for music, art, ice cream and more on **Wednesday**, **May 22nd 4:30-6:30 on the VHE playground** (don't forget about the all school concert at 2:30!) If you would like to get involved, please email me at *kjlynch@madison.k12.wi.us* 

That's all for now, Mr. Lynch







## Order Next Year's School Supplies

As is tradition, the PTO is partnering with First Day Supplies to give you the

opportunity to click a button, order your school supplies based on district lists, and have them all delivered to the proper classroom next year! On top of the convienence, the PTO gets a portion of sales.

#### Order by July 1st!

Order School Supplies





## **Teacher Appreciation Week**

We are so grateful for all of you showing up to show how much we appreciate our Van Hlse teachers and staff this week. Here's just some of what we came together to do:

- Chalked the walk
- Delivered beautiful flowers and vases crafted at the Makers Faire
- Generated incredible framed Hedgies filled with words describing how much your teachers mean to you and your family

- Dressed in your teachers' favorite colors
- Delivered their favorite treats in bags designed and printed at the Makers Faire
- Delivered thank you notes across the building to teachers and staff
- Filled the lounge with breakfast and lunch treats throughout the week
- Offered massages

Let us know how this year's teacher appreciation week went via the *Feedback Form* (it can be submitted anonymously).



#### PTO Feedback Survey



### **Garden News**

We cleaned up the VHE gardens in April, and they are ready for planting. Mark your calendars for the May 19th Garden planting day and follow the QR code below to

RSVP. We also encourage you to fill out our garden survey via the button below.

## May 19th: Garden Planting Day

All community members are welcome. Please rsvp here.

## Sign up to Help Plant the VHE Garden

The PTO Green-TEAM could use your family's help planting our gardens.





Scan Me to Sign Up to Help Out Date: Sunday, May 19th, 2024

Time: 10 am to 1pm (or come when you are available)

**Location:** Meet at Waukesha St. Garden (Garden tools/gloves provided, but bring own if have)

Event Plan: To plant our vegetable garden (Waukesha St.) our Rainbow/Sensory Garden (Playground) and front entryway garden (Waukesha St).

Please email <u>garden@vanhisepto.org</u> if you have any questions or if you would like to help out but can not attend the event.

### Garden Survey



## Math Workbook Sale

Back by popular demand, we are partnering up with Parent Teacher Mode for a Math Workbook Fundraiser. These are math workbooks that are purchased at the end of the year and students can continue their math learning over the summer. Books are tailored to the age/grade of your child.

- The ordering window is now open. It will close on May 23rd.
  - Click on the flyer to see it bigger or print it!

Please reach out to our social worker if your

family is in need of a complimentary book. Molly McNett:

mmmcnett@madison.k12.wi.us

### **Order Workbooks**

## **Dine-out Nights in May**

May 21 - Final Shake Shack Night of the year

(Code - DONATEBURGER)

### May 22 - Hedgestock Night

On the day of Hedgestock, parents can swing by any of the below restaurants to pick up dinner on their way to the after-school portion of the day.



NOTE: There will be free ice cream/cold treat options available at school on the evening of Hedgestock.

### **Chipotle**

4000 University Ave.

4-8 PM

Show flyer in restaurant or use coupon code YXYN4T7

#### **FreshFin**

542 N. Midvale Blvd.

4-8 PM

Mention "Van Hise Elementary School" in restaurant

#### **Noodles and Company**

3600 University Ave.

Mention "Van Hise Elementary School" in restaurant or use coupon code **GIVING25** 

#### Portillo's

7230 W. Towne Way 4-8 PM

Show flyer in restaurant or use coupon code PORTILLOS69



### Ollie's Labels

We have established a new fundraiser with Ollie's Labels. If your Hedgie is off to summer camp or new experiences this summer, consider getting

name labels from Ollie's Labels and VHE PTO receives 20% of every sale. This fundraiser is ongoing, and we will send reminders as we prepare to come back to school.

**Order Labels** 

## **Needs in the Offices**

Our Hedgies are hungry! Please consider donating snacks to the office.



### Popular snacks are:

- Pretzels
- Gold fish
- Cheez-its



## Playground and Lunch Volunteers

The PTO helps out with extra eyes and hands on the playground and in the lunch room. Consider volunteering for a time slot or two. Volunteers check in at the office and receive a vest. Remember: to volunteer, you must have completed the MMSD steps to become an "Approved Volunteer" (see the MMSD volunteer page for information).

Head to the Volunteering page on our website to find the sign up links!

PTO Volunteer Page

# Incoming Kindergartner Playdates Spread the Word!

Playdates for incoming kindergarteners and their families are a PTO tradition. These are entirely optional and just meant to be a way to meet other incoming kinders and connect with VHE families and the PTO.



So far, we have two playdates planned - they will be on the playground of VHE (no access to bathrooms). We do not have rain dates scheduled at this time. Heading to our website over the summer will keep you informed! <a href="https://www.vanhisepto.org">www.vanhisepto.org</a>

**Saturday, June 15 - 10-11.30am Tuesday, August 13 - 4.30-6pm** 

We will likely have more playdates and community meet-ups scheduled throughout the summer and will post to the web as we do.



You've reached the end. We hope to see you Tuesday, 5/14 at the PTO meeting! Check www.vanhisepto.org for updates.





Van Hise Elementary | 246 South Segoe Road, Madison, WI 53705

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