

The Hedgehog Herald

Van Hise Elementary Monthly Newsletter

August 2024

NEXT PTO MEETING: Tuesday, September 10th at 6:30 pm. IN PERSON @ VHE in the library.

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



Hello School Year

We are so excited for another school year! The Van Hise PTO is an organization for families, teachers, and staff. All are automatically members - there is no membership fee. Our mission is to support our school, students, teachers, staff, and community through fundraising, community engagement, volunteerism, and more. We hope that you will join us - there are lots of ways to get involved! To learn more, come to our first meeting on September 10th at 6:30 in the library or email prez@vanhisepto.org.

Email List Note

If you are receiving this email and have moved on to 6th grade or to another school, simply unsubscribe using the link at the bottom of this email. We thank you for your help in getting our list updated! (Note that unsubscribing can make it difficult to re-subscribe, so we urge you to stay on the list if you are still a VHE family. Please email communications@vanhisepto.org if you unsubscribe in error). If you have friends or neighbors new to Van Hise, we encourage you to head to our webpage at www.vanhisepto.org to click the link to be added to our mailing list!

2024-25 Daily Schedule

The VHE school day starts earlier this year. Please take note of the new times.

Morning

8:10 am - Doors open

8:10 - 8:25 am - Breakfast is available

8:25 am - Tardy bell

Dismissal

2:00 pm on Monday

3:20 pm on Tuesday - Friday

Stay tuned for more information about drop-off and pick-up procedures as we get closer to September.

AUGUST 13

INCOMING KINDER PLAYDATE



2024-25 School Enrollment

New and returning students must enroll each year. The process takes several minutes and includes reviewing, confirming or updating information with the school district. This is an online process, and you can find the MMSD link below. Online enrollment is currently open; in person registration is available on August 15.

[MMSD Enrollment Website](#)



Incoming Kindergarten Playdate

The PTO has a tradition of holding informal playdates for incoming kindergarteners. This opportunity to come together to play is scheduled for **August 13 from 4.30-6 pm on the Van Hise playground**. We will not have access to the building, so please plan accordingly.

We look forward to seeing new faces and helping our incoming kinders feel more comfortable before they start in September.

Class Assignments

Families and students are always eager to learn who their child's teacher is going to be! Once registration closes in a couple of weeks, class assignments will be finalized. You will likely hear from your teacher(s) and Principal Stein about class assignments in mid- to late-August.



School Supplies

If you ordered supplies through the PTO fundraiser, they will be sorted and delivered directly to your student's classroom by PTO volunteers. If you're interested in helping with school supply delivery, please let us know - it will likely be the last week of August.

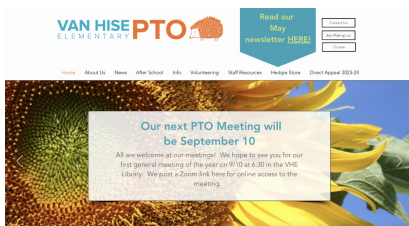
If you did not order supplies, you can find the school supply list [here](#). If you need assistance with school supplies, please contact the Van Hise Office for guidance in contacting our new Van Hise Social Worker.

Connections and Community



We have heard from families about interest in connecting over a variety of topics. This includes follow-up from the Spring regarding community safety and opportunities to partner with Hamilton Middle School. We also explored parent/community empowerment groups throughout last school year. These are groups driven by the needs and interests of the Van Hise community, not by the PTO directly. **Please review and complete this form** if you are interested in connecting.

We have also heard from families about finding more opportunities to connect and build community - even sometimes without the kids. Please let us know if you're interested in getting together with other Van Hise adults and if you have any particular interests you'd like to explore (e.g., knit or crochet, games, reading, pickleball, running, language learning, etc.). Email **prez@vanhisepto.org** if you're interested!



We Welcome YOU!

Our monthly PTO Meeting is coming up on Tuesday, September 10th.

This will be our first meeting of the new year, and we hope that you can make it to our

general meeting. There are lots of activities to plan, and we'd appreciate your voice!

- Please send any questions to **prez@vanhisepto.org** by Sunday, September 8th.
- Let us know by September 8th if you may need child care at the meeting (PTO provides free of charge to families). Email **prez@vanhisepto.org**.
- We will send a reminder email with the agenda when we get closer to the meeting.

As always, check out our website at **www.vanhisepto.org** for up to date news.



PTO Class Reps

If you're interested in serving as a representative for a specific grade(s), please let us know which grade(s) via **prez@vanhisepto.org**. We will share more information as we get closer to September and the school year starts.

What is a Rep?

A group of representatives will work together to support a classroom and grade level teaching team or specials team - this includes navigating wish list and need items within the classrooms, coordinating teacher and staff gifts, and helping be a link between families and classrooms and the greater Van Hise community.

This is a great way to get to know our fantastic VHE community!

After School Classes

The PTO works with staff once they return to school in



late August to help create after school enrichment programming for all grades. We will share information in advance of enrollment and we will not begin classes before September 16. The PTO works with the school social worker to ensure all kids have access to after school classes. Information about scholarships will be

included with future messaging. Please see our After School page for information and examples of previous classes at www.vanhisepto.org. Just look for After School in the menu!



Ollie's Labels

We want to reduce the items in Lost and Found this year and ensure your student's items make it back to them. 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 throughout the year.

[Order Labels](#)

Bucky Books

Van Hise PTO is participating in Bucky Books this year. Stay tuned for more information.

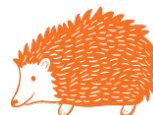
Mark Your Calendar

- **September 3: Kinders start + PTO hosts kinder send-off coffee and treats for families**
- **September 4: 1st - 5th grades start**
- **September 10: First PTO meeting - 6:30 - 7:30 pm in the library**
- **September 19: Back to School Open House + Ice Cream Social - 4:30 - 6:30 pm**



You've reached the end. We hope to see you Tuesday, 9/10 at the PTO meeting! Check www.vanhisepto.org for updates, and keep an eye out for another email as first day of school approaches!

VAN HISE PTO
ELEMENTARY





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