

December 2025

NEXT PTO MEETING: Tuesday, January 13th at 6:30pm.
IN PERSON @ VHE in the library. Zoom link [HERE](#)

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

December Newsletter Items Include:

- Thank you!
- After School Classes Update
- Direct Appeal
- Updates from the School Social Worker
- MMSD News
- Garden and Green Spaces
- Upcoming Reminders: Bucky Book + Minted



Thank You!

We are grateful for you and all that you do to support our school community.

The VHE PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) is a volunteer-run organization that works to engage our school community and enhance classroom learning by providing volunteer and monetary support to a broad range of events and projects that benefit students, teachers and families. All are members.

If you have any feedback or thoughts about how to engage this year - please use the **Hedgie Feedback Form**.

If you want to be contacted about opportunities to volunteer or have specific availability or interests, please consider submitting a **volunteer interest form**.

You can also visit the **VHE PTO Sign-up Genius page** to see what opportunities are available to support our school community.

If you plan to volunteer with VHE, MMSD requires volunteers at school-based events involving kids (including field trips) to be approved. Please work through the **MMSD volunteer page** to get approved or check your current status.

After School Classes

HELP STILL NEEDED - Help the PTO deliver after school education — please fill out our survey!



The VHE PTO is actively working to address the district's concerns about our PTO after school classes. One hurdle is ensuring we have supervisors in place from 3:20-3:38 each day we offer classes to help with the transition after school as kids settle in for snacks and before instruction begins. You can opt to receive after school class tuition credit when you sign up to supervise.

Please complete this survey by December 15th if you are available to help fill this necessary gap. We need adult supervisors on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:20-3:38.

REGISTRATION OPENS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12 FOR WINTER CLASSES
Registration for **Winter Classes** begins Friday, December 12 at 12:00 PM and closes Thursday, December 18 at 11:59 PM. Please be in touch with prez@vanhiseppto.org or afterschoolclasses@vanhiseppto.org if you have any questions.

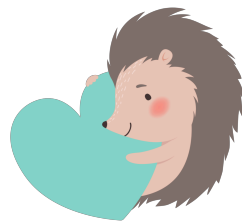
The PTO remains committed to working with the school and district to understand how best to structure the after school program that supports so many of our families.

Please share your feedback here so that we can continue to build upon what works and find ways to improve and make the program even better.



2025-2026 Direct Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has helped contribute to our **2025-2026 Direct Appeal** so far - we are at 22% of our goal! We will continue to provide updates and share the many ways in which your donations are put to use to support our school community.



Updates from the School Social Worker

VHE RESOURCE ROOM

The VHE Resource Room was created to help our community alleviate any financial stressors that they are facing. We want all of our students to have access to some basic needs so they can engage in academic, social and play activities at school. This is available to the entire VHE community.

Families can put in one request per month using **this** form. Requests will be accepted until the school year ends or supplies run out. This program is made possible by the generosity of our community. Please request only

what you need so we can support as many families as possible. There are no requirements or questions asked to access the resource room. Once you have completed the form, please allow one week to receive the supplies.

Information is confidential and not shared. School Social Worker, Amy Robel, manages the requests and the resource room.

MMSD News

Recent updates and opportunities announced by MMSD include:

- ***MMSD Strategic Framework***
- ***Boundary Review***
- ***Volunteer Opportunities***
- ***Winter Weather Reminders***

The PTO looks forward to working with **MMSD's Director of Family, Youth and Community Engagement**. We are excited to explore opportunities to partner more with the West-feeding elementary schools this year and we anticipate the PTO-led work to support parent and family empowerment groups and meetings last year will transition to be more school- and MMSD-led this year.

Van Hise Spiritwear

Are you interested in helping design spiritwear for VHE? If so, please contact communications@vanhisepto.org.



Garden and Green Spaces Team Updates

VHE PTO Garden and Green Spaces Team Meetings - all are welcome. The committee meets in the VHE library.

- Wednesday, February 4th from 5:00PM - 6:00PM
- Wednesday, April 8th from 5:00PM - 6:00PM



Bucky Books

We are excited to partner with Bucky Books again this year. The PTO receives \$10 for every book purchased. **Click here** to purchase your book today!



Minted

Shop & Support Van Hise: Every stationery and gift purchase helps our school!

Purchase items from **Minted** year-round with promo code FUNDRAISEVHPTO to get 20% off your order and 10% will be donated back to the VHE PTO.



You've reached the end.

We hope to see you Tuesday, 1/13 at the PTO meeting!

Check www.vanhisepto.org for updates.

VAN HISE PTO 
ELEMENTARY



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