



Date Minutes

In Attendance:

Call to order

A meeting of the VHE PTO was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mimi Johnson.

Approval of minutes

A motion with second was made to approve the _____ minutes. Motion carries.

Reports

New business

Fundraising

- Glow dance raised \$386 impromptu for snacks/drinks.
- Direct appeal is still open.

Next pulse survey will go out 1/14. 55 responses to the first survey.

MMSD board member Q&A is next week 1/21. In person only, no Zoom.

- 5-10 minute introduction from Savion, then Q&A.
- Class reps will send reminders, teachers putting a reminder in their newsletter.
- There will be babysitters in the cafeteria, meeting in the library

Volunteer needs:

Recess and lunch requested from staff

- Carnival scheduled for April 4th
 - Leads needed to organize, solicit donations for the raffle.
 - Sign up for general volunteers will be soon.

Board position nominating committee, April elections.

School Updates from Becca

- Thank you for the Glow Dance, great improvements from the fall dance (divider in the gym).
- No school 1/20
- Spelling Bee 1/22: 1-3pm
- Quarter ends on 1/24
- 1/28 Battle of the Books
- Read your Heart Out - 14th of February. Assembly will be held this day. Middle school usually helps. Black and African American students come and read. Maybe some food options for all students to try. Having some community leaders speak at the assembly. PTO has supported with the breakfast.
- Hedgestock scheduled for Wednesday, May 21st. Will be similar to last year.
- Field Day is back! June 6th.
 - There will be volunteer needs for field day.
- Collaboration Labs - Extended time as teams to do personal plans for students aimed at a year's growth in a year's time. For example, students above grade level should still have a year's growth in that school year. Started 1/14. Next round will be June 2, 3 and 4.
 - Asking for volunteers in the future - June 2, 3, 4.
 - Buddy classrooms come together for activities.
- Student practicum students from UW-Madison started this week. Have a good chunk of student teachers that come to Van Hise. Most grade levels at least have one. Becca will meet with them tomorrow evening with student teachers, UW, and some other principals. Thankful to the staff who are sharing their talents with the student teachers.
- Staffing update
 - Had a staffing resignation by a special education teacher that moved out of Madison.
 - Still working to hire for that position. Becca has been actively recruiting, talking to universities and other districts.
- Lockdown drill on February 20th. Van Hise does not practice assimilations. Try to not make it traumatic.
- Becca did a walk through with the insurance company, buildings and ground teams to identify potential updates.
 - For example - railing coming down the stairs on Waukesha was replaced last year after a similar walk through.
 - Hamilton entry was also highlighted. It is a direct entry into a hallway, there is not a welcoming center - PTOs around have also flagged this.
 - Question: has there ever been a discussion around putting doors between Van Hise and Hamilton? This was mentioned during the walk through - potentially making the breezeway a welcome center. There are also discussions around altering Hamilton's entryway.

In Person Connections

- Empowerment and Community Groups
 - Library is reserved most Tuesday nights.
 - Meant to be parent-driven.
 - PTO can reserve space, bring in food, babysitters, be a link with the district.
 - Kids with learning differences has a model at other schools so that might be the quickest to get up and running. Also help at the district level.
 - Franklin-Randall has an empowerment group for Spanish language.
- Carnival Raffle
 - Goal is 50 items
 - Last year there were 6 staff donations
 - Plan is to increase the price of raffle tickets from \$1 to \$2
 - Cost of bracelets to get into the carnival will also go slightly. PTO provides scholarships via Amy.
 - Popular types of raffle items?
 - Sports, UW
 - Restaurants
 - Have avoided alcohol
 - Experiences - fishing trips, hunting trips, golf
 - Wristband sales online will start six weeks out. In person wrist-bands will be day-of at drop off (if Adam can find a volunteer); and at the door.
 - Typically each grade is assigned a different game to volunteer sign-ups
- Adam has committee leads for everything except the raffle
- Restaurant night on February 5th at Qdoba on Mineral Point. Renee working on one every month from now until June. Renee working also on an Open Gym night with Madtown Twisters (under 7 a parent needs to stay; 7 and up can be dropped off).
- Next meeting there will be class rep coordinator check-in and hangout at the Great Dane.

Next Steps/Follow up

Announcements

Respected submitted by
Date