

# The Hedgehog Herald

Van Hise Elementary Monthly Newsletter

January 2024

**NEXT PTO MEETING: Tuesday, January 9th at 6:30 pm. IN PERSON @ VHE in the library with Zoom option. 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](http://www.VanHisePTO.org)

## Happy New Year!

As we enter into the first days of 2024, we hope that this newsletter finds you happy and healthy. We have lots planned for the upcoming months, and we hope that we can see you and your family join us in community events and celebrations focused on our fantastic VHE students, teachers, staff, and families.



-VHE PTO

## Events at a Glance | JANUARY

**JAN 9**

**PTO MEETING**  
6:30 in the VHE Library  
Zoom Link [HERE](#)

**JAN 15**

**NO SCHOOL**

**JAN 16**

**SHAKE SHACK RESTAURANT  
NIGHT**  
11:00 am - 9:00 pm  
Code: [DONATEFRY](#)

**JAN 26**

**NO SCHOOL**

## We Welcome YOU!

Our monthly PTO Meeting is coming up on Tuesday, January 9th.



We will continue our process of having updates from the PTO and Principal Stein in the first 30 minutes, with a Zoom option. We will then move to in-person only discussion and work on upcoming events and coordination needs (including Spring events like the Carnival).

- Please send any questions before Tuesday's evening.
- Let us know by 1/7 if you may need child care at the meeting (PTO provides free of charge to families).
- Check out the agenda [HERE](#).

As always, check out our website at [www.vanhisepto.org](http://www.vanhisepto.org) for up to date news.

### We Need YOU:

We are currently looking to fill some important volunteer roles. In addition to putting together committees to help with the planning and implementation of events like the school dance and carnival, we are also putting together a nominating committee to do the important work of recruiting new officers for our PTO board. We have positions that are vacant or soon to be vacant. Please consider filling this important committee role! You can either express interest at our general meeting on January 9th or email [prez@vanhisepto.org](mailto:prez@vanhisepto.org).

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

<https://www.vanhisepto.org/volunteering>



### JUST Coffee Fundraiser Through January 18th

For the first time, VHE has partnered with Just Coffee Co-Op to create a limited edition, custom Hedgie Brew! It's a sure way to stay warm during the cold winter season.

Additionally, all proceeds from this PTO fundraiser will support future staff appreciation events.

You should find flyers in your child's backpack (if you haven't already!) Please return the order form with cash or check to your classroom teacher by **Thursday, January 18th**.

Email Ena Lee at [Ena.Lee.DDS@gmail.com](mailto:Ena.Lee.DDS@gmail.com) with questions.



### Shake Shack Restaurant Night

Our monthly restaurant night at Shake Shack is coming up on **January 16th**. Head over to Shake Shack at 558 N. Midvale in Hilldale Mall for dine-in or carry out between 11:00 am and 9:00 pm. 25% of proceeds go directly to the PTO!

Use Code: **DONATEFRY**



## Carnival Committee Volunteers Needed

The VHE Carnival is BACK! We are so excited to have this much loved event taking place. The 2024 Carnival will be **Friday, April 26** from 4:30pm - 7:30pm. This is such a fun and wonderful event, but it takes a lot of volunteers to make it happen. We are currently looking for volunteers to lead our various carnival committees.

**Sign Up to Volunteer**

For questions please contact Adam Gratch at [adamjgratch@gmail.com](mailto:adamjgratch@gmail.com).

**Food, Prizes, Games, Facility Maintenance/Floaters, Raffle**



## Get Ready to Dance

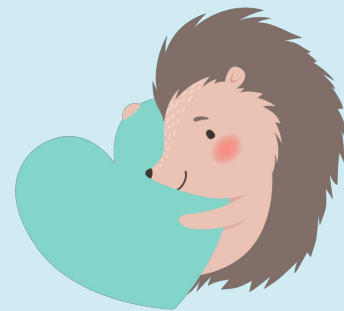
There is a school wide a dance coming up on **February 9th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm**

Keep an eye out for more details and opportunities to volunteer!

## Needs in the Health & Social Work Offices

The health office always appreciates donations. The health office has identified the following needs:

- Cheese sticks, pretzels, and apple sauce
- Underwear for all grades/ages
- Socks for all grades/ages



Our social worker has identified the following needs:

- Pants in all sizes (but especially smaller sizes)

Items may be dropped off in the VHE office. Thanks to all who have donated in the past!



## After School Classes

It is busy in the PTO After School Program!

Thank you to all families who have signed up for classes. Some classes are already starting, while others will begin later in the semester. Remember to check our website for lots of details and FAQ about our program.



## 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**

## Interested in Substitute Teaching?



Consider working as a substitute for the District.

You can choose to only be available for assignments at Van Hise Elementary. More information about substitute teaching is available [HERE](#).



## Thank You to Black Belt America

Madison's Black Belt America has donated \$2380 to the Van Hise PTO. A check was presented at a recent graduation, where several Van Hise Hedgies graduated. Thank you to those who donated, and thank you to

Black Belt America for your generosity!

## Coming Up..

Just to get you ready, here are some important things coming in February and beyond. We will send details as we get closer to the events.

- School Dance: February 9, 6 - 8 pm
- No School: February 16
- Carnival: April 26



**You've reached the end. We hope to see you Tuesday, 1/9 at the PTO meeting! Check [www.vanhisepto.org](http://www.vanhisepto.org) for updates.**

**VAN HISE** PTO  
ELEMENTARY



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