

AGENDA

1. Welcome/Intros
 1. What is one word that describes your feelings about the return to in-person? *Answers included : happy, relieved, stressed, much better, excited, happy AND stressed, grateful. It feels good to be back in the routine.*
 2. Thanks to staff for pulling things together so quickly
2. Principal's Report - Interim Principal, Kathy Costello
 1. Staff (teachers + SEAs) are truly amazing
 2. Amazed at how much work goes into switching routines, etc. to convert from in-person to virtual and back
 3. Long hours for the staff - thankful for hours that they put in to help Ms. Costello through that process
 4. VHE is doing well thus far - 4 staff out (other schools have more). Covering classes with staff - so far, so good. Continue to look for subs and be proactive about how to cover shortages should that be needed in the future.
 5. So many good things that we don't always get to share with families
 - i. Theme this year - KINDNESS - They've done so much even without that theme ("I've never been part of such a kind school as Van Hise" - Kathy Costello). Food drives, welcoming families from Afghanistan, are just a few examples. Staff who are on the Climate & Culture Committee area putting together a list of efforts to date to share with families.
6. Thresholds for returning to virtual?
 - i. District will make decisions - not looking at going virtual.
 - ii. Staff at the Doyle (MMSD Admin) building are currently working in schools to help cover staff shortage. Prior to that, only about 39% of sub requests were being filled. With district admin staff, sub coverage is closer to 69%.
 - iii. Can families choose to opt back into virtual learning?
 1. There is no option for concurrent virtual learning (i.e. you are part of your current classroom but learning virtual)
 2. Virtual learning option - If a family wants a student to be in a virtual learning environment, they need to call Madison virtual school dept and get on the waitlist - there are currently 58 kids on the waitlist for 2nd Semester to attend class virtually.
 - iv. Measures that the school is taking to help keep kids healthy
Teachers reinforcing mitigation efforts that the school has been using throughout the year
Majority of positive cases and/or close contacts at VHE were exposed outside of school
 1. Kids cannot be in class w/out a mask
 2. Vaccine isn't mandated so there isn't anything that the school/district can do
 3. 3' of distance
 4. Focus on proper mask use
 5. Distance while eating
3. Report from Nurse Lauri Ysen | laysen@madison.k12.wi.us, 608-204-4632
 1. Isolation time after positive case
 - i. CDC public guidance is 5 days after testing positive
 - ii. **CDC school guidance - DPI and public health - MMSD follows DPI and public health.** We will likely change isolation time to 5 days. Negative test required
 - iii. Will no longer do contact tracking in schools that were doing prior to break
 1. Public health stopped doing it in Oct 2020 - sheer volume of positives and low number of staff
 2. **MMSD no longer doing contact tracking - staffing, focusing on positive cases, general/overall illness, caring for students w/ chronic illness.**
 - a. **We will no longer be getting emails reporting cases at school. You can assume that there is always at least one positive case at school .**
 - b. Prior to break, when health office was doing contact tracing, spread among close contacts at school was extremely low (about 1%)
 3. Looking at best use of resources - how to keep staff and students safe
 4. **Reminder that VHE/Hamilton now has a drive-up testing site**
 - a. Open the wknd of 1/15 and 1/16 (8AM - 5PM)
 - b. Open weekdays during school hours (8AM - 4PM)

- c. Test site is for **MMSD staff + families and students + people in their home**
 - d. **Do not need to be symptomatic**
 - e. Nursing assistant is leaving on 1/14, so please be patient as Nurse Lauri will be the primary point of contact for VHE and Hamilton
 - f. 10 days of isolation after positive, no test to return (TBD if testing will be needed if isolation period changes to 5 days)
 - g. **If symptoms develop at school**, parent/guardian will be called to pick child up and can take child to on-site testing clinic.\
 - h. Preferred form of communication w/ Nurse Lauri is Email. If you don't hear back in time, please feel free call
4. Report from Rachael Nachtwey, Social Worker
- 1. Thank you for all of the gift cards for the staff (before winter break)
 - 2. Rachael is School Social Worker for VHE & Shorewood elementary
 - 3. PTO is amazingly gratuitous when it comes to sharing funds that are passed onto families in need (groceries, paying for internet bill for education use). Being in person has alleviated those kinds of needs
 - 4. **Greatest need has been after school care**
 - i. On-site child care fills up quickly - biggest concern is trying to find ways that she can connect families (carpool, walk home together, etc.)
 - 1. NOTE from parent: Wisconsin Youth Company is modifying their definition of close contacts. Staffing and infection rates impacting things.
 - 2. PTO sponsored after school classes are still not an option - unsure whether it will be in an option later in the year
 - 3. Other options?
 - a. Kid's Best at Midvale Baptist Church (near bike path)
 - b. Black Belt America? - not sure if they are offering after school this year
 - 4. There are situations where paid programs would be difficult for families
 - 5. **Perhaps families would be willing to spend a few minutes with a student in need- sometimes care needs are just 15 minutes or a short amount of time after school (for example "I need help until 4:00pm")**
 - 6. Emily Cusic Putnam (PTO Co-President) - Could Ms. Nachtwey put together a list of care needs (without naming families), share out info. to classroom families. Parents are more likely to respond to classroom teachers/class-specific requests. *Can the playground be re-opened after school? This could also provide a space for families to provide a few minutes of added childcare for other families.*
 - 5. Winter snow gear is always helpful - snow pants size 7-14 (will take donations if you have them), waterproof mittens are especially helpful. **Looking to donate items? Leave a bag in the school vestibule and labeled for Rachael Nachtwey**
 - 6. Supporting families from Afghanistan - focusing on making sure that the kids have clothing, food and the families have furniture.
5. What are people doing for after school care? SEE NOTES ABOVE
6. Announcements
- 1. Rolling Spring Grants - We'll vote on spring grants in Feb and March if we receive requests
 - i. PTO wants to be more nimble for staff
 - 2. **Upcoming Parent Engagement Groups:**
 - i. **Parents of Children with Learning Challenges, Thurs Jan 13, 6:30 PM**
 - 1. Kids with IEPs, 504s or simply need accommodations in a more informal way
 - 2. Share info. that they've learned or peer support
 - ii. **Parents of Black & Brown Children, Thurs Jan 20, 6:30 PM**
 - 3. Other Announcements?
 - i. PTO sponsored events are still on hold (including Winter Carnival - which usually takes place in February)
 - 1. Will revisit whether this can take place in the spring - again, very much on hold right now
 - 4. Monthly Staff Appreciation efforts throughout the year (vs. doing it all in May during Teacher Appreciation Month). In January, SEAs were recognized for their support with getting things ready for the transition to virtual learning
 - i. Small appreciation efforts have taken place throughout the year, to spread joy
 - 5. Classroom Reps - Thank you to Andrea Olson (andrea@lordolson.us) for helping to coordinate PTO Classroom Reps for each VHE classroom! Thank you to all Classroom Reps for your assistance.

7. Next Meeting, Tues, Feb 8 @ 6:30 - Meetings are open to all - Have a topic you'd like to have us discuss? Send to prez@vanhisepto.org

VHE PTO Meeting | November 9, 2021

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89179812285?pwd=U3RSR1ZleUdhSWZRaGtRLzVsMVUrQT09>

Welcome & Introductions (Kim)

Update from Nurse Lauri Ysen

- Available for questions anytime!: ok to email nurse Lauri at any time for questions: laysen@madison.k12.wi.us
- Covid cases remain isolated @ VHE, no need to close classrooms, not a lot of spread w/in the building
- Q: generalized anxiety about COVID and about vaccine?
 - A: some students are stressed by pulling out and testing procedures. Nurse using time to reinforce masking, hand hygiene protocols with students. Level of stress may not match their personal level of risk. RE: vaccine fear- could trial Emla (sp?) cream for numbing the area of injection. Talk about the benefits of vaccine, normalizing it.
- Q- anticipate restrictions loosening up in the school building
 - A: no change in processes in the school building, no talk
- Q- vaccine clinic at VHE?
 - A- everyone wants a vaccine clinic, 100 doses going to leopold, if those appts don't fill will be opened up to other schools. VHE has a higher degree of resources, lots of community resources/clinics set up. Website : vaccine.gov can search for appts by zip code.
- Q: once kids are vaccinated will they need to quarantine if they are a close contact?
 - A:(some notification process. If fully vaccination (2 weeks post 2nd dose) with no sx will not need to quarantine if exposed 5-7 days after exposure get tested, continue to monitor for sx.
- Q: Will we report our kids vaccination status to MMSD?
 - A: any vaccination that you get shows up in WIIR, and that will carry over to infinite campus, about a week delay for this update. Nothing wrong with sharing that info directly to the school
- Q: ending the dane county mask mandate doesn't affect masking mandates in the district? A: no plans at this time to change masking policy; district-wide
- Q: what is the definition of a close contact?
 - A: any student who is w/in 3 feet for 15 minutes or longer when masked, or 6 feet without mask. If they are maskless (i.e. during meals) then the distance changes to 6 feet. Eating outdoors is helpful for reducing close contacts. Teachers are doing a great job of keeping students spaced apart- desks/tables are measured, good reminders
- Q: any rec's for handling the holidays?
 - A: Vaccinate your kiddo as soon as possible. The larger the group to higher the risk, so mask if possible. Distanced when eating if possible, hand hygiene.

Treasurer's Report (Ian)

- Budget update- approved budget at start of school year
- Direct appeal is a big part of the incoming dollars
- In great financial standing- grants on the table for discussion are well within our budget.
- Stipends for other student facing staff: would like to consider expanding who is eligible for those grants. Currently all classroom teachers (\$200), CCT (\$100), ESL (\$100), specials (\$500) get stipends. Many staff do not get stipends i.e. custodial, nurse, orchestra, sp. Ed. proposed \$2300 to cover remaining staff. Could be done w/o amending the budget at this point.
- Q: are there restrictions on how the stipend is used? A: current process is staff spend their own money, and request reimbursement. Items purchased are property of VHE.
- EM: can speak to how the money is used. Often the money is used to do a special classroom project. Sometimes it can be used to replace or upgrade equipment. One year 3rd grade teachers purchased group

t-shirts. Also Question- thinking about the jobs and roles that staff play some of the budget numbers may benefit from adjusting (i.e special ed needing a lot of manipulatives). How do you decide how much is allocated to staff (teacher vs. SEA, vs cross categorical)?

- A: some is simply historically set levels from prior years
- EM: some staff are excited about the idea of using stipends and sharing with less prosperous schools.
- Motion to expand staff stipend support all staff to \$100 for this year, with continued discussion on refining the specific spending level mechanisms (Ian), seconded (Megan Reed). Motion passes unanimously

Fall Grants Review / Vote (Emily)

- Slate of grants: attached
- Motion to support grants as proposed (Ian), seconded (Megan Reed) - passed unanimously

Fundraising Report -

- Direct Appeal Update & Other (Matt)
- Direct appeal: \$7500 approx consistent with last year, if pace is maintained will hit funding goal (\$14000). <https://www.vanhisepto.org/direct-appeal>
- Get out the word!
- Bucky book fundraiser: <https://www.buckybook.com/van-hise-pto> PTO gets \$10 per book. Runs through January.
- Next Monday Nov 15th- Chipotle on University (4000 university ave). Code to enter if online ordering : 26Y2DXE

Monthly All School Reads (Edie)

- All school read centering on Indigenous Heritage *When we were alone* PTO reminder to discuss with students at home. Many titles throughout the year are available on youtube.

Announcements (Kim)

- Thanks to Playground Volunteers & Class Reps
- Parent Engagement Groups (see below)
- Other Announcements

Adjourn

Mark Your Calendar:

- Parent Engagement Groups:
 - o Families with Children Experiencing Learning Challenges, 2nd Thurs @ 6:30
 - o Families with Black & Brown Children, 3rd Thurs @ 6:30
- The [Scholastic Book Fair](#) will be held ONLINE from Nov 9-14. Free shipping to your home with book orders of \$25+. Van Hise receives a portion of the sales to use toward buying more books!
- Chipotle Restaurant Night, Mon, Nov 15, 4-8 PM (Univ Ave only)
- Hedgie Spirit Store opening soon!
- UPCOMING PTO MEETINGS: Dec 14, Jan 11, Feb 15, Mar 8, Apr 12, May 10, June TBD

2021-2022 VHE PTO Board

Co-Presidents: Emily Cusic Putnam & Kim Wheeler-Yates
Co-Treasurers: Ian & Kate Orland
Secretary: Nicole Schmies
At Large: Becki Brausen, Matt Cooper-Borkenhagen
(Fundraising), Lauren Harlowe (Communications),
Mimi Johnson

VHE PTO Meeting | October 12, 2021

Meet Interim Principal Kathy Costello

- Born and raised in Madison and graduated from the UW Madison with my BS degree in elementary education and Masters in Child Development. I have a Masters from Marian College in Educational Leadership and a Masters from Cardinal Stritch University in Curriculum and Instruction.
- Was principal for 24 years before retiring in 2019 as the principal of Thoreau Elementary in MMSD. I was principal at Thoreau for 9 years and before that time, I was the principal at Annie Jackson Elementary School in Green Bay, WI. Annie Jackson is also a Blue Ribbon School! I was also an elementary education teacher and taught in both high school and at community colleges.
- During my retirement, I have spent a lot of time in my garden and being with my 2 grandchildren. My granddaughter is at Hamilton and my grandson attends West High School. Two of the best things I left in MMSD are my 2 daughters. My youngest daughter is a teacher at Memorial High School and my oldest has been the school nurse at Stephens School for twelve years. Our son lives in Milwaukee and is an electrical engineer. My husband and I lived in Fargo, North Dakota, Escanaba, Michigan before moving to Green Bay, where we lived for 22 years. Both my school and our home were close to Lambeau Field. In fact, my school was the only school allowed in the Don Hudson Center as we were the Packers' school.
- Speaking of sports, my parents and aunts and uncles all went to the Badger football games for over 60 years. My own family now has their seats and my 3 children and their spouses, my brother and his wife and my 2 nephews and their wives all sit next to each other during the home games. My other cousins sit nearby. I love that for me, it's a family affair. I come from a large family with 7 brothers and sisters and multiple first cousins. My father and his brothers were born in Greece so you can imagine all the Greek food and traditions I was raised with!
- As an educator, my passion is reading and writing. I feel reading is the most important subject we can teach our children. I have always promoted the research that states that if a student reads 20 minutes each day, they will be proficient readers and I give that advice to both parents and students. Every school I have worked at I made sure reading was the most important goal we had.
- I am enjoying getting to know your students! I have never been with a group of students who have so much empathy for others and care about both their friends and teachers. The students come to school every day ready to learn and enjoy each other's company. It is my pleasure to fill in for Mrs. Seidl during her leave.
- Becoming more familiar w/ the school staff and kids
 - Welcomes students in the morning
 - Does 1.5 hrs. Of indoor recess
 - Will be starting teacher observations - all staff has mini evaluations - great way to meet the kids (and see them interact w/ teachers)
 - Hopes to be in the classrooms a lot more in the future

Annual Direct Appeal Kickoff - Matt Cooper Borkenhagen - 10/12 and ends 11/19

- Direct appeal fundraiser - 1x per year that we ask families to consider providing monetary donations to the PTO/school
- Contributions can be submitted here <https://www.vanhiseppto.org/direct-appeal> - you will also receive information via school newsletter, on the school website, etc. **Donations can be made online, via check to the school (your student can bring to school and give to their teacher)**
- Your donations are more important now than ever before - our ability to fundraise in other capacities (school carnival, after school classes, etc.) is limited
- Funds help support school - contributions go directly to students/families/teachers
- Look for email from the school for more info. about how your donations are used - teacher grants, etc.
- Donations of any amount are welcome. We understand that not all families are in a position to donate.

A is for Anti-Racism Group - Emily Ruedinger

- Meets via Zoom, every other Saturday 9-10am
 - Next meeting: Saturday, 10/16
- Action - Little Free Library on/at VHE playground - aim to continue to restock | Signage outside of the school
- Learning - Podcasts, talks about different topics
- Parenting - Discuss struggles about trying to parent anti-racist students
- Mx. Edie Mileham (3rd grade teacher) is a part of this group
 - Is part of the school equity team
 - There will be school wide read alongs associated w/ major celebrations of identities (including Hispanic Heritage month)
- New families are welcome to attend and join!
- Email emily.ruedinger@gmail.com if you have questions

Announcements

- **School wide picture day is 10/28/2021**
- Purchase a \$35 Bucky Book to save with area businesses. Plus \$10 goes to VHE! <https://www.buckybook.com/van-hise-pto>
- Direct appeal opens tomorrow - Look for the letter in your inbox on 10/13
- **Scholastic Book fair online - 11/1-14th**
- Rachael Nachtwey, School Social Worker, is looking for cloth masks for kids. If you have extra or are willing to make some, please let her know (rlnachtwey@madison.k12.wi.us)
- Fees for damaged chromebooks begins 10/18 ([see details here](#))
- **NEXT PTO MEETING > Tuesday, 11/9 at 6:30PM (we'll be voting on fall grants)**

Classroom Reps for 2021/22

- This role is still TBD for this year

- Can be a shared role w/ multiple families for each class
- This can entail as much or as little time as you are able to commit
- Can often be done via email
- May include coordinating holiday and/or end of year gifts for teachers or staff, reminding classroom families about Staff Appreciation in May, etc.
- Andrea Olson (andrea@lordolson.us) is the parent volunteer who helps coordinate Classroom Reps

COVID testing - parent Andrea Olson shared her experience

- Available at Thoreau Elementary school, Memorial, etc.
- Rapid tests and PCR testing (taking about 1-2 days to get results) - PCR test is what is needed for symptomatic students to return to school
- Share questions regarding COVID testing, health protocols, etc. to prez@vanhisepto.org PTO will share with Nurse Lauri (laysen@madison.k12.wi.us) for future follow up

VHE PTO Meeting | September 14, 2021

(MS. SEIDL)

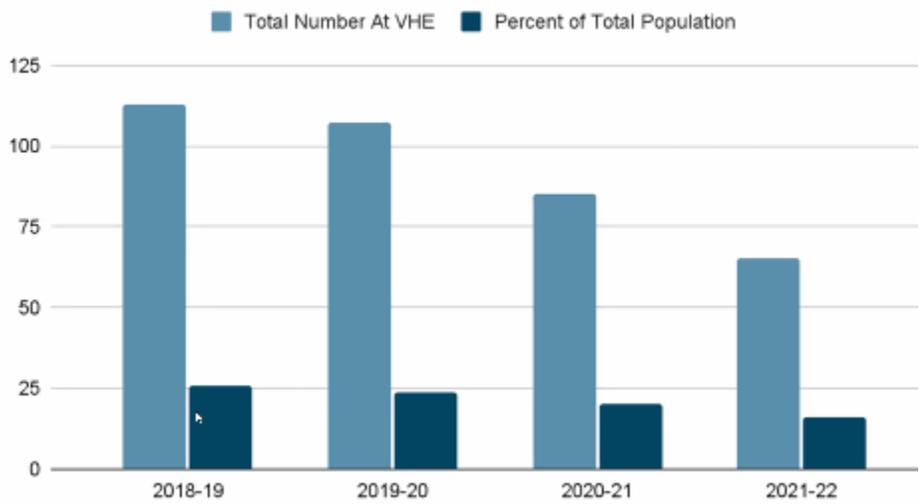
- A brief overview of our vision and who we are at VHE
 - At van Hise We All Belong; We are a welcoming school that lifts student, family, staff and community voices in order to build relationships that support academic excellence for all students.
 - We are trying to maintain some consistency for our students (in an inconsistent time) - staff has been intentional about keeping some consistency as much as possible (i.e. bathroom use procedures, using hand sanitizer when going in/out of the bldg., etc.)
 - As a school we embrace that we have many successes to celebrate but we also know that that success is not the experience of ALL students
 - Staff has spent time thinking about experience of students
- Enrollment Projected 417 enrollment, currently at 409 students - 3 sessions at every grade level. 60 students at 1st and 2nd (classrooms are around 19-21 students). 3rd, 4th, 5th largest class size
 - 2 students - 43 students per MMSD school opted to go virtual, 2.4% of school population (10 students)
 - No changes in staff size

Our overall enrollment has declined.

Demographically, we have been consistent; however, there has been a decline in the students that identify as Asian.

Our English Language Learner population has declined significantly.

EL Demographics At VHE and Percent of Total Population



- UW travel restrictions, student VISA issues, etc.
- No Kindergarteners currently ID'd as English Language Learners - assessments will take place in the early weeks of school
- Q&A
 - Why not before/after school playground access?
 - Change in start time + Supervision
 - This changed staff contract time. Staff don't contractually start until closer to 8:05 school time
 - Liability issue since we don't have staff avail. To supervise
 - Wisconsin Youth Company - Contractually have access to playground after school
 - Contact tracing

- School needs to know where every student is at every moment
- Staff is monitoring who is playing w/ who as recess monitors, who sits by who in class
- Staff wants to have a tight structure in place so they can monitor & ID close contacts
- Schools that have positive cases say that having this tracking in place is very helpful
- If the playground was open to everyone, it would be really hard - would have all grade levels together at all time
- It can be tricky to have masks on at all time, esp. heavy breathing, increased chance of droplets
- Who can ride the bus?
 - Only families that live 1.5 miles or farther
 - Contract tracing
 - Safety protocols

Why is it recommended for parents to mask up?

Children learn first and foremost by example.

Crossing with the crossing guard and wearing a mask on school property provide your child with an example of the way we do school safely.

- Adults model behavior that we want children to follow
- It's not mandated that parents/guardians wear masks on school property, it's very much appreciated

Looking Ahead

What is the #1 ask that you'd share with all families when it comes to supporting our staff and school community?

To partner - your voice and trust



- Reach out to Ms. Seidl (out Thursdays + Fridays, but does check email)
- If you have questions "why do we do this?" "why can't we do this?"
- VHE is Stronger Together - it's important for us to be partners in the work that is being done
- What is the status of testing on-site?
 - We were supposed to have a pop-up kiosk on-site on 9/13. Hopeful that it will happen this week
 - Turnaround time during testing result waiting - turn around time for appointments and then results for PCR tests is 1.5-2 days notes VHE parent - students are to stay at home until test results come back
 - Staff to provide some work via Seesaw, Lexia, etc. - no concurrent teaching taking place
 - Facing Door 6 (near office) - Door that leads into Hamilton gym - Located there (b/c there is an outlet). This is a testing kiosk , staffed by Madison Public Health vs. school
 - Indoor recess - Staff is doing 1.5 hours of recess duty (this is more time than outdoor). Staff can't move between rooms and creating safe distance

Welcome Kathy Costello Thursdays and Fridays

It is an honor to work with Mary and the staff in your Blue Ribbon School. I am looking forward to meeting you and your students. I have heard so many awesome things from Mary about the parent community that I can't wait to meet you.

Mary and I have worked together in several different capacities over the years, and I know as a team, we will keep Van Hise not only running smoothly, but moving forward keeping the excellence that is the tradition at Van Hise alive. Please feel free to introduce yourselves to me during the time I am at Van Hise.

Kathy



- Most recently a Principal at Thoreau
- Will be on-site Thursdays and Fridays during Ms. Seidl's time away
 - This will enable Ms. Seidl will be able to focus on the health and care of her husband
- Ms. Ann (who retired in 2019? Early 2020?) has volunteered her time to help train Ms. Amie Gorman

KATE & IAN ORLAND - Treasurer update

- Budget update for review <https://www.vanhisepto.org/budget>
- 2020 - \$6K more spent than raised. It's not particularly concerning b/c going into the pandemic we were in great financial shape. Had fantastic fundraising for what we were able to do.
- Purpose of approval process - won't go through line-by-line - is that it gives the Treasurer spending authority up to approved expenditures. Can start spending \$ for each line item, room on the budget to write a check. Can amend the budget, but it's nice not to have to amend each line.
- Blue column - spending estimates

	B	D	F
1 Van Hise PTO Budget 2021-22	Income	Expense	Total
2	Budgeted	Budgeted	Budgeted
3 Afterschool Classes			
4 Class Fees (and refunds)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
5 Teacher Salary	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ (2,000.00)
6 Class Expenses (teaching and Popsicle/Stripe)	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)
7			\$ -
8 Fundraising			
9 Direct Appeal	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 11,800.00
10 School Carnival	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
11 Playground Fundraiser	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
12 Amazon	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00
13 Community Fundraising			
14 Great Dane Night	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
15 Food Carts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
16 Other Food Nights	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
17 Sales			
18 1st Day School Supplies	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
19 Year Book	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -
20 Bucky Books	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
21 Other, Passive (e.g. REAP, Box tops for Education)	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
22			\$ 15,850.00
23 School Community			
24 5th Grade Graduation	\$ -	\$ 650.00	\$ (650.00)
25 Academic Success Nights	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
26 Birthday Items	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ (100.00)
27 Mid-Year Cultural Night	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ (200.00)
28 Ice Cream Social/End of year	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ (200.00)
29 Kindergarten Tears & Cheers	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ (100.00)
30 Multicultural Night	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ (400.00)
31 Safety Patrol	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ (250.00)
32 Science Night	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ (300.00)
33 Van Hise Dance	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ (300.00)
34			\$ (2,500.00)

- Direct appeal = single ask of families to give what they can to support the school. For this year we are projecting \$12K of income. This is inline w/ the past 3-4 years w/ how much has been raised. This represents about 1/3 of "normal" fundraising efforts for the year
- After school classes and school carnival represent the other 2/3 of big fundraising efforts - both are TBD for 2021/22

- Other fundraising efforts - food nights (area restaurants give % of profits on a particular night go to VHE), 1st Day School Supply boxes, Bucky Books (NEW to VHE in 2021/22)
- School community events - \$0 spent in 2021. No idea if we'll spend that again this year. Placeholders are in the budget
- Fall/Spring grants for staff - PTO prioritizes these. These are big expenses for PTO. Having you at the meetings is important and useful b/c PTO reviews and decides which of these to fund. Know that as members (parents/guardians of students), YOU get to decide how the \$ is spent.
- Teacher stipends - Specials and grade level teachers get set amts/classroom. They can buy the things they need to make their classroom function as needed (folders, special seating, etc.). It's up to the teachers to decide how to spend their allotted funds Considering expanding # of staff members (10-20 more) who also support students but have not historically received these funds
- Black Girl Magic - Has been supported in the past as part of Spring grants. Would like to make this as its own line item - so that we don't have to go through the grant process each year.
- Social justice program - Run in collaboration w/ our school social worker. She is able to ID direct family needs w/in our school community. Includes groceries, rental assistance, etc. Gift cards to Target, grocery gift cards, etc. She was able to react to the needs of families - who lost jobs, etc.
- Staff Appreciation - Happened organically in 2020/21. \$ raised through those efforts, that's where we want to carry over into 2021/22.
- Nicole Schmies motioned to approve. Maia Skillings seconds the motion.
 - No questions raised via Chat or on the phone
 - Vote took place - type Yes or No in Zoom chat - all parents/guardians/staff (if on the call) are all voting members
 - Motion passed! - additional votes will be counted

KRISTEN COOPER BORKENHAGEN (BUCKY BOOKS - FUNDRAISERS)

Send questions to fundraiser@vanhisepto.org

- PTO will get \$10 for every Bucky Book that is ordered
- No shipping cost
- MOD Pizza fundraiser is scheduled for 9/29 - located near West Towne Mall - avail. for online/in-store/delivery. Can't be ordered through a 3rd party. More email + promo code will be sent out. 20% of sales that day will be paid to VHE PTO
- Direct apparel fundraiser - More info. will be sent out in October. Cost TBD - may be \$35?

EMILY CUSIC PUTNAM - EVENTS & OTHER PROGRAMS - STATUS UPDATE

- No in-person events until COVID protocols allow otherwise (i.e. no volunteers, etc.)
- Events calendar is on hold for now
- This includes PTO created after school classes (these are enrichment programs, not childcare programs)
 - Historically teachers have taught these as have some outside parent volunteers
- Option for virtual after school classes
 - Scratch programming class for 4th and 5th graders - run by UW students)
 - Tuesdays starting the last week in Sept.
 - Last year this class (15 person headcount) filled up quickly
 - Options for additional virtual classes TBD
- Other options might include family, grade level, playdates - classroom reps could help arrange - Weekends, would need to be supervised by parents. Would allow for outdoor, masked community building

MAGGIE - GARDEN COORDINATOR

- Sign up will go out via email in the coming days
 - Interested in recruiting families to help with harvesting of school gardens
 - Nice way to be outside, be productive and get to meet other families

OCTOBER 12th is the next VHE PTO meeting - we'll be considering/reviewing grants

[VHE PTO Meeting | August 31, 2021](#)

Welcome to the 2021-22 School Year at Van Hise Elementary

Welcome from PTO Co-President, Emily Cusic Putnam

Kim Wheeler-Gates (fellow Co-President) will join us next month

Welcome Kindergarten, 1st grade and all new families!

Welcome existing hedgeie families!

Visit <https://www.vanhisepto.org/> for the latest & greatest PTO news!

Intro from Principal Mary Seidl

Intro from VHE staff (attending members only)

Nurse Lauri Ysen - Feel free to email or call her w/ any questions that you may have. New to VHE but has been w/ MMSD for many years

Nurse Lauri contact: laysen@madison.k12.wi.us 204-4632

Edie Mileham - 3rd grade teacher

Keona Farris-Stovall

Leah Glanzer - 2nd grade teacher. Looking forward to hearing what questions families have

Amie - NEW head secretary at VHE!

AGENDA - SLIDE DECK WILL BE SHARED ON PTO WEBSITE following tonight's call
PTO features slide decks and other important resources that are presented during PTO meetings
Review of submitted questions

- Lunch
 - How will lunch work?

There are general procedures and grade level specific procedures (K's and fifth graders are different sizes and have different needs/wants for eating times).

General procedures were included in the updated welcome back slides.

Lunches will be brought to classrooms 15 minutes before serving.

Student will be served at their desks.

Classroom specific procedures should be discussed with your classroom teachers at RSG and/or via email.

-
- Reach out to your classroom teacher w/ additional questions not addressed during these slides
- Lunch will be brought to the hallway and teachers will bring it into the classroom

All eating will happen in classrooms.

Students to be unmasked and eating for breakfast and lunch.

All students may receive a free breakfast and/or lunch daily.

Food that is unfinished will be tossed unless unopened.

Unopened food may be saved for next eating time or taken home.

UPDATED 8/26/21

Meal Process

UPDATED 8/26/21



Wash hands and sit back down at desk (food is placed by teacher)

Unmask and eat
Maximum of 20 min. for breakfast & 30 min. for lunch

Mask up as soon as done eating

Toss waste, wash hands, sanitize surface

- Teachers are coordinating seats for meals, etc.
- How do we sign up for lunch? 15 breakfasts & lunches for all room - to start
 - There is always additional staff that is avail. to bring additional meals to classrooms if needed (this will esp. be the case on 9/2 when limited # of students will be in school, but the full staff will be there)

- After the first full week of school staff will start to see a pattern of how many students are typically taking school meals

To start, every day 15 breakfasts and lunches will be brought to the room.

There are staff available to pick up extra if needed.

After the initial week, we will begin the process of checking in for lunch. We tend to see a pattern with time.

Teachers will use a check in process to monitor lunches and milks.

There is no fee.

- If bringing lunch from home

Different classrooms may have different restrictions.

Nurse Lauri will share a little about dietary restrictions.

Teachers may share allergy information with permission from a parent. This information often comes in a newsletter.

We ask that you avoid allergens specific to your child's classroom.



- Families do not need to register for free lunch
- Teachers will ask students (each day) "would you like school lunch today?"
- Teachers/school keep track of who is having school provided meals but families do not need to do anything - school is tracking for federal funding reasons only
- All district provided lunches are nut free/peanut free - ideally lunches from home are also peanut/tree nut free - general practice it's good to do
- Teachers have a list of students who have life threatening food allergies - with permission from families, this info. would be shared w/ classroom families. This info. is typically shared in class newsletter early in the school year
- Classroom snacks need to be pre-packaged, nut-free/peanut free, recommended snack list is on MMSD - no bakery items, no homemade items.
- There is 1, full sized, refrigerator in K/1 wing and 1 in 3/4/5 hallways. Not be used for student food - only staff. Exceptions have been made by Ms. Seidl if someone brings in perishable snacks. Work w/ your teacher re: what's avail. to keep things fresh.
- Recommendations for Kindergarten families (regarding foods, packaging to send)
- <https://www.madison.k12.wi.us/wellness>

Easy to open items - practice!

Ask them - follow your child's lead, they may surprise you.

Becka??? Items that are fairly quick to eat and have some protein are great (Ex: Cheese sticks or meat sticks accomplish a lot without a ton of bites)

Kids get faster at eating, but plan to have an after school snack ready right away those first few days because kids often don't finish their food and are hungry at the end of the day.

Things that aren't super messy/likely to spill are great!

- Students will come home very hungry, tired and thirsty - so consider sending a water bottle to school w/ your student and to have a snack, etc. at home
- Students will be eating outside as much as possible during warmer weather months/days
- Be mindful of items that are not too messy (i.e. syrup, etc.)
- Most classrooms do have snacks - some teachers may ask families to consider bringing in snacks for the entire classroom. 2nd grade, for instance, may have a classroom "pantry" of pre-packaged snacks that students can have. If

you prefer that your child have a personal snack (i.e. fresh fruit) that is an option too. **Check with your classroom teacher to find out what the preferred option is for your class.**

Lunch and Breakfast are free for all and anyone can sign up.

Teachers will work to get accurate counts, we will have plenty on hand for the first week.

Some classrooms will be eating outside (most), but please be mindful that there are students with allergies, including to grass and bees, so know that if we are not eating outside often, there may be circumstances.

Health information is confidential, however, work with your classroom teacher for additional information.

-
- If your classroom isn't eating outside, please know that there may be a particular reason (i.e. bee or grass allergy, etc.). See your classroom teacher w/ specific questions.
- **The first few weeks of school will be focused on procedures - learning and modeling them** - this includes talking about times when masks are off (i.e. eating time)
- Additional questions

Vaccination information, like all health information is confidential. It is not for public information.

There are discussions on mandatory vaccination ongoing with the Board of Education at this time.

Stay tuned....

-
- VHE administration cannot share staff vaccination status (nor are they able to ask staff that information themselves)
- Testing of staff and students
 - Health office has the ability to do rapid testing on symptomatic staff & students
 - Kiosk - Outside vendor will staff, there will be 1 kiosk for Van Hise & Hamilton
 - When is a rapid test done? Only done when someone has symptoms - considered a close contact or wants a test for reassurance reasons, the rapid test would not be done.
 - No discussion of regular testing for students - no plan for that

Quarantine Guidance for Positive Cases

A person with COVID-19 infection will need to stay home and away from others for at least 10 days after the start of their symptoms. They also need to isolate until they are without fever for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication and their symptoms are improving. If they have no symptoms, they will need to isolate for 10 days after the date their positive test was collected.

Quarantine Guidance for Close Contacts

Anyone who is not fully vaccinated and has NOT had COVID-19 in the past 90 days and has been in close contact with a positive case within 48 hours of them becoming symptomatic or having a positive Covid-19 test must quarantine for at least 7 days after their last exposure and continue to monitor for symptoms for 14 days after their last exposure to the person with COVID-19.

- o Vaccinated people are not required to quarantine if they meet all of the following criteria:
 - Completed a COVID vaccine series two or more weeks before the exposure
 - Get tested 3-5 days after exposure (recommended)
 - Wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or have a negative covid test on day 3-5
 - Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure
- o People who were diagnosed with COVID within 90 days of the exposure should get tested 3-5 days after exposure

-
- Students wearing masks are not considered close contact

At this time the virtual option for elementary is under construction. The application for virtual only closed yesterday, 8/30/21.

We will learn more about what virtual options will be available for those who are needing to quarantine in the near future - I will keep all informed.

- Will virtual option be available for students who need to quarantine? TBD
- While teachers won't be using Seesaw and other virtual tools right away, they will likely be used (and/or available) at some point should students need to use this virtual option at a later time

Student absences

At this point, we are continuing to support our past practices:

Students get 10 excused absences per year (or 5/semester).

Our attendance goal is 94%

As the incidence/prevalence of COVID is being monitored closely, we may adjust. Stay tuned.

- There may be some exceptions for students who are absent due to COVID (there were last year)
- Reach out to Nurse Lauri to help answers questions - i.e. What do I do if my child has seasonal allergies, etc.

What to do if your child has a symptom on the daily tracker.

- If your child has any of the symptoms on the daily tracker, submit the tracker and call the attendance line to report your child out. Health services staff will be contacting you.
- If your child has an underlying health condition that may cause Covid like symptoms you must submit the tracker and keep your child home until you've communicated with the school nurse and a plan has been developed.

- Know that school nursing team, school secretary, etc. will reach out to you regarding your child's symptoms
- If you have a negative rapid test + symptoms, you need to have a negative PCR test before MMSD will allow your child to return to school
- If your child has health conditions which cause symptoms similar to COVID, reach out to Nurse Lauri. She will work with you to consider baseline testing (for allergies, etc.)
- What happens if there's a positive case in a classroom pod?
 - Each individual situation is looked at. Depends on what students are doing in that classroom (spaced out, wearing masks - then they wouldn't all be quarantined). There is no blanket statement that says that if there is a positive case an entire pod is quarantined.
 - If there is a positive case in the bldg., the entire school receives email
 - Close contacts and/or nurse contacts families by phone
 - There are variables that determine if/when families are notified - including whether the positive case was at Hamilton
- Every day you will receive an email (to the address you have listed in Infinite Campus) that includes a health screener. If your child does not have any of the symptoms listed, then you do not need to fill out the health survey. If you've been told by Public Health that your child was notified that they were a close contact OR your child has symptoms, then you should fill out the health survey

- Drop off and Pick up

Students may be dropped off on Waukesha or Segoe sides of the school.

Parent should say goodbye to students on the sidewalk, if walking this may be on the pathway to the driveway.

If coming in a car, please drop them off and do not leave your car unattended to walk them up the sidewalk. We have over 400 students so we ask for kindness to get everyone at school safely.

Do NOT have children cross Waukesha street or Segoe road, please take time to drop them on the school side of the street.

- Families should say goodbye on the Waukesha side of the bldg. (i.e. not by the doors)
- Every doorway will have a staff person who has extra masks avail., roster of students and hand sanitizers
- SEGOE SIDE - The parking lot is closed - do not drive up that road to drop off your student
 - Families can walk up the path, but do not get close to the doors
- Do not cross Waukesha, Segoe, etc. outside of crosswalk areas

A friendly reminder...

Dogs are not permitted on school grounds during school hours (the exception is for service animals - please contact Mary)

Please be mindful that some children may be frightened by animals and we ask for your partnership in helping all students arrive safely and ready to learn.

On Waukesha...

IF you drop off on the non-school side of the street, please do so near the crossing guard. Students/Parents can NOT cross mid-street.

Parents are not allowed out of their vehicles. Please say good-bye in the car, drop off and staff will support students from the sidewalk into the building.

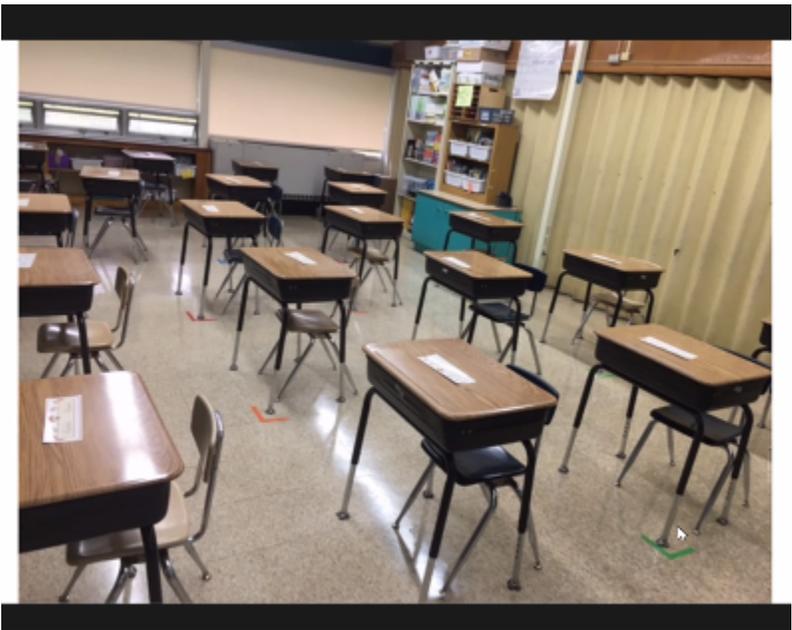
If you would like first day photos, please do that ahead (a practice run) or at home versus at drop off.

- Parents please consider wearing a mask even outside - we are the best models for our students
 - Pick-up procedures
 - Teachers will walk students out
 - K/2 exist on Waukesha side
 - 3-5 will exit either by breezeway or office doors (depending on grade). If your older student has a younger sibling, they will be dismissed on the Waukesha side & allowed to meet younger sibling
 - Teachers will know where specific students will be dismissed and monitor that they are sent to that space
 - SEGOE side- Families can drop off/pick up at black top, lower level
 - 5th grade Safety Patrol this year? Yes
 - Can Hamilton siblings pick up VHE students - Hamilton will dismiss at 4 something vs. VHE 3 something so this will not work- feel free to reach out to classroom teacher, Ms. Seidl, etc. to find out what options are available
- On the first day of school, how will students know which room to go to?
- Kindergarten - All students will receive a lanyard that features a color group (blue, red or yellow). Your child will go to that table, there will be teachers there. There will then be a staff member who will help students go to their accompanying blue, red or yellow group.

- Classroom placement for Kindergarten will likely come out this week Friday OR Saturday morning
- Families will be able to sign up for Ready, Set, Go! (15 minute) conferences w/ your student's specific teacher
- Older students - Look for your teacher
- 3, 4, 5 will be in the upper half of the school (breezeway to office) and K/2 lower (breezeway toward end of bldg)
- Lockers - Some lockers will be shared (especially in cases where lockers are shared)

Classrooms and outdoor spaces

- **Playground will not be open/available before school** - No staff available for coverage
 - **After school playground is not available until after 5PM (or later) as Wisconsin Youth Company has access to this space due to contractual agreements**
- Grade levels may be mixed at recess - but they be masked
- Classes + lunch will be outside when possible
- Bathroom procedure is the same procedure as last year - will be practiced, taught and modeled
- Classroom layout (example shown is 3rd grade class that holds 25 kids)



- Colored tape by desk helps staff know parameter of where we want the desk to be
- 3' of space (when masked)
- Students may eat every other row (i.e. masked, unmasked, masked) - this would allow 6' of space between unmasked students
- It's likely that classrooms will eat outside during the first few days of school
- Desks
- Desks may have hooks to place masks (when eating)
- Time when most likely to be transmitting COVID = when masks off
- Want to teach procedures (like removing masks carefully w/ sanitized hands, etc.), then practice them



All classrooms are set up for the number of students rostered.

Classrooms are de-cluttered!

Most are using desks.

- Classrooms can have 1-2 file cabinets and that's it
- Sample Kindergarten room (where they'd like to have tables)



Kindergarten is using tables.

Lunch "special" table.



-
- Stool = special "lunch table" - this would allow students to eat in the room
- **Students may be moved for safety reasons (for example: If Ms. Glanzer has 10 students go virtual and Ms. Robbins has 0, some students may be moved to balance out classroom sizes)**

Specials will be in person.

Masks.

Outside when possible.

Students will learn to use
zoom & see saw over
time...just in case!

-
- Ms. Jenks will teach all music classes
- Mr. Hampton will join VHE for gym
- Each classroom will have a protocol for students who need a mask break - if a student is unmasked, we want to make sure that they are far away.

Students need to have basic needs met in order to learn!

All classroom teachers will work with students to support their comfort.

Students will be in the hallways at soft start.

The first week, all hands will be on deck to support the safe arrival of all students.

Students will be taught, will practice, and we will model our behavior matrix.

- How will VHE help students who may need a break, is feeling hyperactive, etc.
 - Classroom teachers are amazingly gifted at making tweaks to schedule, giving movement breaks, etc.
 - Understand what your class needs (whether it's 15 kids or 20/25 kids), classroom teachers are adept at recognizing and adjusting as needed to best meet student needs
 - We know that students can't learn if their basic needs aren't being met

Staff will be working on using these ideas during the first few weeks...

2021-22 VHE Schoolwide Matrix ☆ 📄 ☁

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Add-ons Help Last edit was made 4 days ago by Rachael L. Nachtwey

100% Normal text Acme - 17 + B I U A

Handwashing, Social Distancing, Masks, and Health Office Lessons for 4K-5
 (lessons from this doc are linked below in the purple section for helpful teaching suggestions!)

****Expectations and routines subject to change as we learn!**

At Van Hise we are...	Arrival/Dismissal Slide deck	Bathroom Slide deck	Hallways/Lockers Slide Deck	Eating Space Slide Deck	Playground Slide Deck	Classroom Slide Deck	Families
	You may want to pair/teach with. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the Helpers Social Distancing video • Kg - 2nd grade Social Distancing 	You may want to pair/teach with. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4K-2nd grade HOW Do We Wash Our Hands • 4K- 2nd grade: WHEN Do We Wash Our Hands • 3-5 grade Why and How Do We Wash 	You may want to pair/teach with. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the helper wearing a mask video • 4K & Kg Wearing a Mask • 1st - 5th grade Wearing a Mask 		60 Social Distancing Games/Activities	You may want to pair/teach with. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intro to the Health Office Changes and new PPE. 	

- Behavior model for 2021/22 - Teach, Practice, Model
- Devices for 2022 - Ms. Seidl will work with Ms. Dana Prager to find out when 5th graders will get their devices
- Compared to last year (for younger years), do you anticipate that students will spend as much time on devices? It will be different. Will we still use these devices? Yes - it's a learning tool (Lexia, Dreambox for math, etc.). We will provide instruction in person but will still use these tools to supplement. Seesaw - there is a need to teach this to students so that it can be used if school needs to go virtual or due to COVID absences, etc. Ms. Seidl does not anticipate heavy use of these devices the first 2 weeks of school

-Students should bring school issued devices (from last year) to school with them the first weeks of school, even if they aren't going to be using them initially.

-Is there an option to go virtual once semester starts? No. You can decide at semester. This may change.

School notifications - Sign up for MMSD school notifications (emergency situations) as well making sure that VHE emails don't go to your junk mail

REMINDER: Individual questions about any topic can be directed to your student's classroom teacher

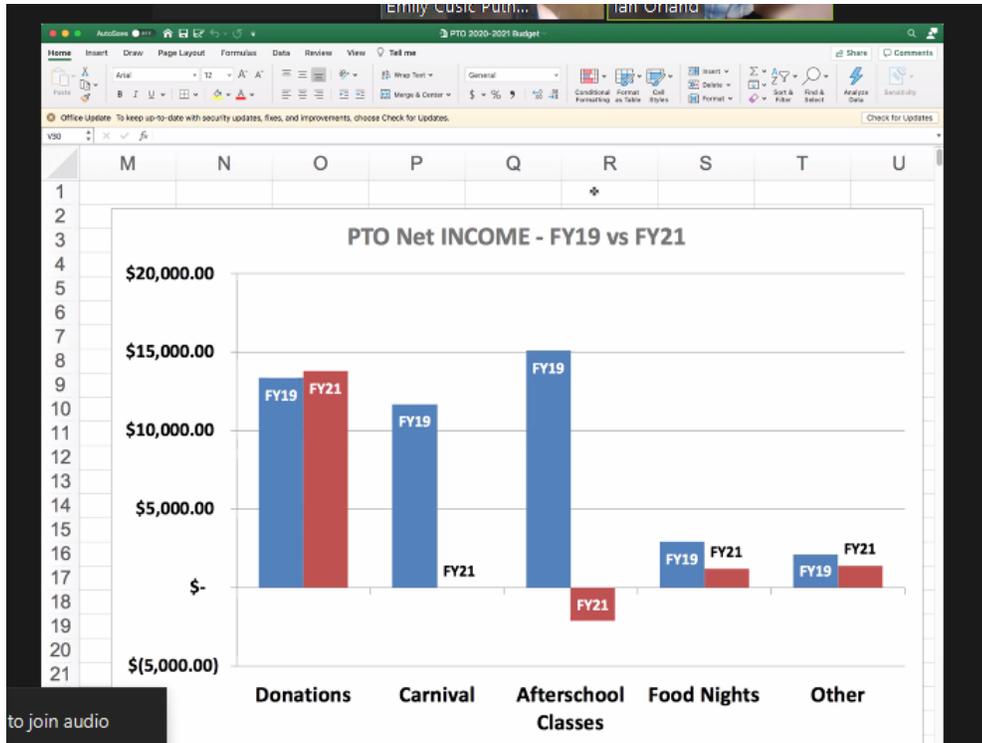
Next steps

School Secretary search is on

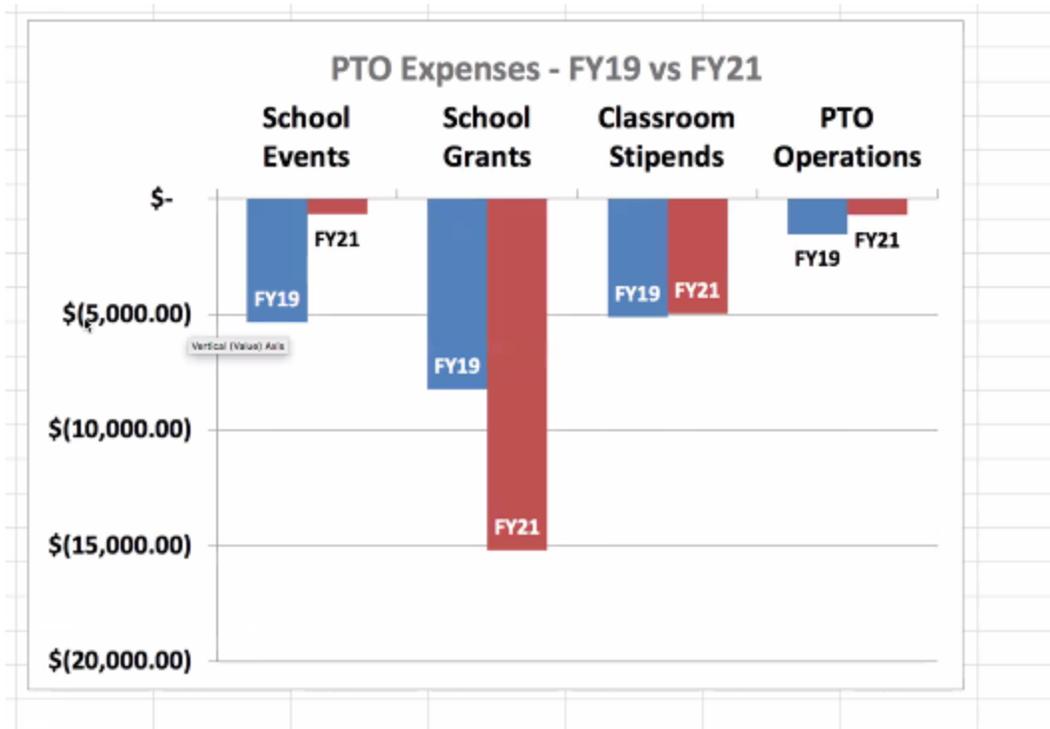
- Ms. Seidl is currently hiring for school secretary. Hoping to fill this position by the end of the week, but searching for the ideal person
- Recommendation from central office is that perhaps Ann could return for a few weeks
- If not able to hire in time and no overlap, Ms. Ann *may* come back for a few days to help train the new person.
- Reminder that Ms. Amy, current school secretary, is moving to Washington State.

Ian Orland, Treasurer

- Anticipated lower amount of fundraising in 2021
- Came out better than expected



- Spending \$7K into our savings vs. \$20K
- Plotted last normal year (FY19) - blue bars are income totals that Shelley and Jeff Maxted projected for 2 years ago
- Red bars are projected income for current year
- Our anticipated lower amts of fundraising was true
- Anticipated no after school classes and no school carnival - that was accurate
- Families and community were incredibly generous in the regular fundraiser (Direct Appeal in the fall). We were also able to expand our use of PayPay via Giving Fund portal - for billing and using donation links in our direct appeal emails
- We outreached what we did in 2019 - SO amazing!
- Why is After School Classes negative? We paid teachers their salary from last summer's summer classes and that was realized after the fiscal year.
- Food nights - No Great Dane Night (in-person) dinner impacted revenue for this year



- School events - FY21 anticipated expense (TBD) - 5th Grade graduation
- School grants - We went & above and beyond in our grant giving (Spring, Fall, rollover expenditures from last year). We set out to support our social justice fund & that was really fantastic. Working w/ closely with school social worker and she was able to distribute \$3,500 in rental assistance, gift cards, etc. before federal assistance kicked in - all for families in our school community.
- What is not shown here and is not part of our budget is the facilitation of the Office Depot fund (\$9,000) to school and teachers for supplies - desks, chairs for teachers that were working from home. We should be really proud of this PTO contribution
- Classroom stipends - Right on w/ previous years
- PTO operations - Fewer printing needs (i.e. take home flyers) than in years past
- On the whole, this is a year to be really proud of. Given all of the things that we faced, great generosity of our community and the efforts that we were able to support.
- QUESTION: Has Rachel N. (social worker) continued to ask for support for families in need?
Ian: She does not anticipate needs. She is likely done accessing the funds this year. Very grateful to be able to lean on the fun this year. Ideally our families are feeling supported. You may have heard about district changes to ways that school social workers can support families - this may be a mute point for our particular school

EMILY CUSIC PUTNAM

- High level overview of the year
- Feeling celebratory as we approach the end of the year. Hopeful that we'll return to some semblance of normalcy next year.
- 2020
- Missing events included 1st day reception, multicultural night, science night, ice cream social, after school classes, Kindergarten / parents night out.
- Volunteering in school - clerical duties, chaperoning, classroom celebrations, meeting in-person with staff teams. So much of what we hold dear did not happen...
- BUT
- Lots of opportunities for celebration
- How tightly we held the things that we value, closely
- We've had fantastic participation in our PTO meetings this year
- Zoom is much more accessible - we'll want to consider it (how we'll do it) in years to come
- Mary's steadfast participation in meetings, kept us together through changes. Passionate leader for our school. Thank you for the time that you give us during your evenings.
- Generosity- families have stepped up again and again to support one another., paying for yearbooks for students that may need one, generosity during staff appreciation (really important to do that - help to raise staff morale at the end of the year). We were able to give a generous gift card to every staff member. We made sure to treat our staff as a team.
- There's a lot to be proud of - thanks for stepping up and showing up ... Emily feels very uplifted from this year - what we can do with constraints. The sky's the limit for next year!
- Gaps/needs
- Kindergarten summer play dates** > Looking for additional families to help host. It's always helpful if you have younger kids. It's not necessary though. If you can help answer questions that parents have coming in, please consider helping out. 1 hour time commitment. You can do it by yourself or with another family/parent. Interested? Reach out to prez@vanhisepto.org
- These can be weekend, weekdays. Mornings may be more comfortable from a weather (heat) perspective.

-Summer garden maintenance sign up - We have gaps in coverage for July/August. Sign up to help out <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B49AF2FAB9-vanhise1> Take a week and go 2-3x. You'll receive detailed instructions. It's fun, easy and kids can help too!

-After school classes

At this time we will likely not have school classes at the beginning of the school year

We do not have a coordinator right now - if you would like to assist you can work together as a team with others. Email prez@vanhisepto.org for more details

A working parent can do it, but it may be easier for someone who works part-time or is able to spend some time in the school during the school day

MS. SEIDL UPDATE

-Thank you Emily, Kim + full PTO for full month of teacher appreciation, it means a lot

-Thank you for helping to lift the school staff and Ms. Seidl in particular

-Working (along with daughter, Cleo) a movie featuring this year's car parade!

Great job staff bikers!! So lucky to have had a beautiful day for the parade! The whole parade was about an hour and 40 minutes.

Great job 5th grade team for creating the route. The dragon - symbolizes us coming together and carrying with one another. Girl Scouts chalked every 5th grader driveway to honor that they were the graduates - pretty cool! Music will be added to the video that is being created. A link (private YouTube channel) will be sent out. The video even features an in-coming kindergartener. Mr. Seidl drove through the parade- such a neat experience. He commented that we have such a neat community - a rich (in care/support) community. Fun and supportive community.

Special thanks to Cleo Seidl for putting this great video together!

-When Mr. Seidl started driving he said "You don't throw candy? ... and you have this many people that show up? - it's AMAZING, so cool!"

-No positive cases of COVID that required quarantine during the in-person segment of the year

EMILY - To current kindergarten families - there's so much community awaiting you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Garden Sign Up Genius is on the homepage of PTO webpage

-If anyone has questions about coordinating after school classes please send me an email. I organized classes with Emily and Megan for a couple of years, but my schedule doesn't allow for continuing coordinating next year. amskillings@gmail.com

KIM - Thank You

Ms. Seidl - Thank you for making us a priority even though you are going through so much

Huge thank you to Emily. You've done a phenomenal job this year. Behind the scenes - you've made things look so easy, but all of your hard work is appreciated

Ian & Kate - Thank you for stepping in and stepping up w/ treasurer roles

Lauren - Thank you for all that you've done w/ the website. Very, very appreciated

Thank you Matt for coordinating fundraisers. Your efforts were super fun, super successful - super delicious!

Thank you board members and families!

MS. SEIDL - There may be slight changes to the school calendar for 2021/22 school year. May not know before school is out. Check your email once the district, school board and DPI approve it. Trying to squeeze a few more days of professional development days for teachers at the beginning of the year. Trying to build in 5K, 6th grade & 9th would start a day early. We won't be starting earlier, it may be a few days later. **5K 9/2, Grades 1-5 on 9/3 ... proposed change** Not sure if there will be a virtual option for 2021/22. So far upcoming school year calendar is a 5-day calendar.

-There may be some changes to the way that Ms. Seidl has structured class placements based on virtual or not

- 3 sections of each grade level (projected right now)

-Mr. Lynch will be at Chavez 1 day per week. Received a decrease b/c our enrollment #'s are lower

-Open enrollment is live for Van Hise

Teachers will likely not check emails much during the summer

Thank you again, Lauren for the beautiful VHE PTO website!

Thanks all! Have a great summer!

AUGUST 11th is the NEXT PTO MEETING