

Valley / Valley Southwoods PTO
Minutes of the General Council Meeting
Thursday, November 8, 2018 11:00 AM at the LRC

Present: Julie Bebensee, Ronda Bern, Stephanie Horak, Laura Porter, Jodi Stahl

Jodi called the meeting to order at 11:07.

The group had all reviewed the minutes from the September 13 General Council meeting. Jodi mentioned that the yoga idea referenced in the minutes has been tabled for now. Julie moved to approve the minutes. Ronda seconded the motion. The motion carried and the minutes are approved.

The group reviewed the committee reports.

Treasurer Ronda Bern passed out the bank statement and the actual/planned budget sheet. These were reviewed by the group. Ronda would like to develop some financial guidelines for the PTO. The group was all in favor of this step.

The group discussed a potential problem with the recently printed & distributed VHS/VSW Student Directory. It seems there were people listed in the directory who should not have been. We know this was not a PTO error, but we're not clear on if it's a parent error or a district error. Regardless, VSW administration had requested a reprint which Jana agreed to. However, we have not had any further contact from Mitch on this topic. We cannot proceed without several questions being answered. Jodi will reach out to him to see where this matter stands.

Stephanie reported on an effort by the District's Joe Libby to start a program to bring law enforcement officers into the buildings to have lunch with the students. Joe asked the parent groups to donate \$75/school to start a lunch account for the officers. \$75 would enable 2 officers to visit 10 times. This would be street patrol officers – not the school resource officer. Accounts would be set up at each school.

Why offer school lunches to Police Officers?

- Provide a stronger connection between school and community
- Builds relationships outside crisis
- Offers a sense of more security to school community
- Reinforces positive behaviors through relationships
- Better acclimated to school and safety protocols.

In the future, Joe would like to open this up to the Fire Department as well.

Stephanie made a motion to spend \$150 on the above program. For now we will take it out of the Activities & Events line item, but next year we find the effort is successful we could add this as its own budget item. Ronda seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Jodi said there has been a request for the PTO to provide a prize for a teacher activity, a fixer-upper contest among the six teacher lounges. She proposes we give \$200. Stephanie made the motion to provide up to \$200 for the prize. Julie seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

There was no clear line item for this to come out of. Ronda will amend the budget with a Misc line item and a Teacher Request line item. We will vote on the amended budget at the next meeting.

Adjourned 11:52

Respectfully submitted.

Stephanie Horak
Secretary

Upcoming Meetings –

- January 10 – 11:00 AM – LRC *Followed by Parent Body Meeting at Noon*
- April 11 – 11:00 AM – LRC *Followed by Parent Body Meeting at Noon*

Valley / Valley Southwoods PTO
Minutes of the Parent Body Meeting
Thursday, Nov 8, 2018 12:00 PM at the LRC

Present: Julie Bebensee, Ronda Bern, Jodi Castillo, Sarah Connolly, Alicia Emanuel, Stephanie Horak, Cheryl McDonnell, Kathy Naja, Sandy Niland, Sarah Overton, Scott Raridon, Patty Scallon, Jodi Stahl, Rajal Vyas, Shirong Yao, June Yuan

Jodi called the meeting to order at 12:00.

Jodi extended a big thank you to all Homecoming volunteers and also to the conference meal donors.

No principals attended, so there was no principal's report.

VHS Counselor Eric Traynor gave a presentation on College Planning. The presentation will be emailed to all meeting attendees.

- Four year planning for high school begins 8th-9th grade.
- The fall of sophomore year, two meetings are held for further planning.
- Parents are encouraged to visit the VHS Counseling web page.
- A DMACC counselor comes to Valley once a week.
- Naviance Student is a free program for all students.
 - All students have a user name & password.
 - The site features a resume builder, a career search tool, a strengths explorer, a college search tool and a college visit sign-up tool.
- Stephanie & Jodi reminded attendees that the PTO is selling printed course catalogs this year.
- New this year – every Junior will take the ACT during a school day. FREE!

Stephanie Horak gave a presentation on Clive Community Services which offers a Food Pantry, a Clothing Closet, English lessons & a Free Medical Clinic.

Adjourned 1:07 pm

Respectfully submitted.

Stephanie Horak
Secretary

Upcoming Meetings

- January 10 – Noon – LRC
- April 11 – Noon – LRC