

Valley Ranch Elementary School
PTO Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 8th, 2011

Present

Sangeeta Bachani
Laura Blevins
Carrie Clark
Tracy Gipson
Angie Hux
Stephen Jackson
Peter Macrae
Dawn Massey
Aanchal Prakash
Nemie Roberts
Sandra Skrepnek
Jenny Van Luvan
Greg Williams

Apologies

Raegan Arrington
Cynthia Arterbery
Bliss Blodget-Stephan
Jan Cunningham
Donna Fultz
Casey Housouer
Debbie Macrae
Anu Mudigonda
Manju Ruikar
Melanie Watts

By Proxy:

Archana Godbole
Jo Ann Joyner-Loyd
Linda Krampitz
Jenny Quonoey
Christine Sanders
India Stanberry

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Call to order
 - Carrie Clark called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.
2. Minutes
 - The January meeting minutes were presented. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Laura Blevins and seconded by Dawn Massey. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Treasurer's Report
 - Laura Blevins went over the January 2011 financial report, explaining the various items. A copy of the report appears at the end of these minutes.
 - The January income was \$5012.06 and the monthly expenses were \$1813.79.
 - There is a negative \$20 listed on income for the Holiday Shop Income. Laura explained that there appears to have been a discrepancy with the deposit at the Credit Union. She is going to follow up with the credit union to get this figured out. The negative amount was added to get things to balance out for the month.
 - Laura explained that she has submitted IRS Form 990 (Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax).

- A motion to approve the January financial report was made by Nemie Roberts and was seconded by Sandra Skrepnek. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Principal's Report

- Angie Hux presented on behalf of Cynthia Arterbery.
- Angie mentioned that Friday, Feb. 18 will be an early release day for all elementary schools in CISD. This is to allow staff to attend a screening of the movie "Race to Nowhere". Although it is an early release day, the YMCA after-school care program will begin at 12:30 for students that attend this program regularly. In addition, school principals are asking for PTO volunteers to help watch kids that cannot be picked up early.

5. President's Report

- Regarding the "Race to Nowhere" movie, Carrie Clark explained that a special screening for parents will be held on Thursday, Feb. 17 at 6:30 PM in the CMS West Auditorium. This conflicts with the Parent Meeting with Brenda Bird that was rescheduled due to the school closure last week. Carrie is working on getting the Brenda Bird meeting rescheduled again.
- Carrie Clark distributed a list of upcoming important dates. The complete list is included at the end of these minutes. A few of the highlights are:
 - February 10 – Dallas Black Theatre Performance
 - February 11 – Cookie Grams delivered, Valentine class parties, Spirit Assembly
 - February 18 – Rescheduled Valentine Carnival
 - February 18 – Early Release Day (see above)
- Carrie mentioned that the next "Discussion" will be held on 2/16 from 12:30 – 1:30 in the CHS Lecture Hall. Click [here](#) for details.
- Carrie passed around an article from the Citizen's Advocate paper that discusses the redistricting options that the school board has been discussing. A scanned image of the article is included at the end of these minutes.
 - A special School Board meeting will be held on 2/21 where redistricting will be discussed. However, no public comments will be taken at this meeting.
 - The regular School Board meeting on 2/28 will provide an opportunity for public comments on this issue. This may be the meeting where the Board Members vote on a redistricting plan.
- Carrie mentioned that there will be a Science/Health Expo at CHS on January 29 from 9AM – Noon. Click [here](#) for a flyer about the event.
- The CISD web site was updated to indicate that the two scheduled weather make-up days (4/22 & 6/3) will be used to make up two of the days missed last week. The other days will not be made up as a waiver from the state was obtained.
- Carrie mentioned that we will likely get the Spring technology matching funds request from Mrs. Arterbery in the next month or so. This is likely to be the last such matching funds opportunity from the district. Therefore, the idea is that the PTO may want to give more than we generally would to take this final opportunity to get as many technology items as possible for VRE.
- There was a problem with the laminating machine at school so laminating will be limited to school approved uses only for the time being.
- The CISD Principal's Meeting (mentioned in last month's meeting notes) will be held at VRE in March. We are still interested in getting donations for door prizes. The idea was that getting things from local VR businesses would be nice but that is not a requirement.

- Carrie explained that members for both the Nominating and Audit Committees have been identified as follows:
 - Nominating Committee – Donna Fultz, Laura Blevins, Stephen Jackson
 - Audit Committee – India Stanberry, Aanchal Prakash, Christine Sanders

OLD BUSINESS

- Email vote for Valentine Carnival Committee funding increase
 - Carrie made a motion to increase the budget for the Valentine Carnival by \$300 due to increased costs and larger attendance due to larger school population.
 - Motion was seconded by Stephen Jackson
 - An email vote was sent out on Tuesday, Feb. 1.
 - The motion passed with a final vote of 18 in favor and no opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

- Peter Macrae mentioned that Friday, Feb. 11 is VRE Basketball night at Coppell High School. VRE students wearing their VRE shirts will get into the high school basketball game for free.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Valentine Carnival – Carrie Clark
 - The carnival was rescheduled for February 18th due to the bad weather last week.
 - Carrie mentioned that the Valentine Carnival Committee has been able to get some wonderful raffle prizes. These include 2 round trip airline tickets from Southwest Airlines (with no expiration dates) like last year and a Four Seasons Romance Package.
 - There is going to be a dance area in the library. Students will enter through one door, pay their ticket, dance for a song and exit another door. The plan is to have a video camera to project onto the smart board so the kids can see themselves dance.
 - Some of the activities will be spread through the hallways to ease congestion in the gym and cafeteria.
 - The ticket sale table may be placed in the cafeteria so that it doesn't block the entryway as it has in the past.

Volunteer of the Month

- Carrie announced that the members of the Valentine Carnival Committee have been selected as the volunteers of the month. The members of the committee are:
 - Raegan Arrington - Chairperson
 - Melanie Watts
 - India Stanberry
 - Aanchal Prakash
 - Joy Jeon

- Jeannette Finch
- Bee Warthen
- Archana Godbole
- Jo Ann Joyner-Loyd

Meeting adjourned 7:41pm. Next PTO Board Meeting is scheduled for March 8th, 7PM, but this may change.

Minutes submitted by Stephen Jackson, PTO Secretary

Valley Ranch Elementary PTO				
Statement of Activities - Budget vs. Actual				
Jan-11				
	One Month	Seven Months		
	Ended	Ended	2010 - 2011	\$ Over/(Under)
	1/31/2011	07/01/10 - 1/31/11	Budget	Budget
INCOME				
Apparel & Spirit Items Income	246.00	4,724.00	2,500.00	2,224.00
Baseball Night Income	0.00	0.00	900.00	-900.00
Field Day Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Calendar Income	0.00	735.00	750.00	-15.00
Fundraising - Bluebonnet Book Bake Sale	0.00	80.00	250.00	-170.00
Fundraising - Marquee Ad Sales	0.00	425.00	450.00	-25.00
Fundraising Inc - General (Sonic/Box Tops/Other)	884.07	1,420.00	2,500.00	-1,080.00
Fundraising Income - Popcorn/Drink Sales	0.00	413.00	925.00	-512.00
Fundraising Income - Volunteer Hours	0.00	0.00	800.00	-800.00
Fundraising Income - Write-a-Check	50.00	10,936.50	10,000.00	936.50
Holiday Shop Income	-20.00	4,707.41	4,200.00	507.41
Interest Income	4.49	30.90	100.00	-69.10
Membership Dues/Directory Income	15.00	4,844.00	3,750.00	1,094.00
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Multicultural Night Income	0.00	5,151.59	3,500.00	1,651.59
Donations income for Needy Families	125.00	295.00	0.00	295.00
Sales Tax Payable	0.00	0.00	350.00	-350.00
School Supply Income	21.50	10,619.50	17,000.00	-6,380.50
School Supply Income - Pre-K Fee	0.00	1,560.00	880.00	680.00
Valentine's Day Carnival Income	0.00	0.00	4,500.00	-4,500.00
Yearbook Income	3,686.00	3,686.00	6,250.00	-2,564.00
Total Income	5,012.06	49,627.90	59,605.00	-9,977.10
EXPENSES				
Apparel & Spirit Items Expense	0.00	3,061.06	1,600.00	1,461.06
Bank Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Baseball Night Expense	0.00	0.00	903.00	-903.00
Bluebonnet Books	0.00	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Calendar Expense	0.00	250.00	200.00	50.00
Communications Expense - Marquee Ads	0.00	22.64	40.00	-17.36
Communications Expense - PTO Connect	0.00	435.00	435.00	0.00
Field Day Expense	0.00	0.00	1,750.00	-1,750.00
Fundraising Exp - General (Sonic/Box Tops/Other)	0.00	10.20	100.00	-89.80
Fundraising Expense - Popcorn/Drink Sales	0.00	222.89	600.00	-377.11
Fundraising Expense - Write-a-Check	0.00	64.82	200.00	-135.18
Gardener - Earth Day	0.00	0.00	100.00	-100.00
General Administrative Expense	55.56	41.75	240.00	-198.25
Gifts to School Expense	40.00	7,132.82	13,227.00	-6,094.18
Gifts to School Expense - Transportation Expense	0.00	400.00	2,400.00	-2,000.00
Health and Welfare Expense	0.00	0.00	250.00	-250.00
Holiday Shop Expense	0.00	3,703.35	3,600.00	103.35
Hospitality Expense	0.00	196.39	500.00	-303.61
Insurance Expense	0.00	0.00	700.00	-700.00
Membership Dues/Directory Expense	0.00	464.70	450.00	14.70
Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Multicultural Night Expense	0.00	518.73	1,000.00	-481.27
Newsletter Expense	0.00	0.00	25.00	-25.00
Photocopy Expense	0.00	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Programs Expense	500.00	2,036.00	5,400.00	-3,364.00
Programs Expense - 4th Grade Symphony	0.00	600.00	600.00	0.00
Room Parent Expense	0.00	0.00	15.00	-15.00
Sales Tax Expense - Apparel, Snow Time Shop, Supplies	1,128.95	1,128.95	1,100.00	28.95
School Supply Expense	89.28	8,708.11	15,000.00	-6,291.89
School Supply Expense - Pre-K Supplies	0.00	1,520.01	820.00	700.01
Valentine's Day Carnival Expense	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Yearbook Expense	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	-6,000.00
Total Expenses	1,813.79	30,517.42	59,605.00	-29,087.58
Net Income	3,198.27	19,110.48	0.00	19,110.48

Important Dates

- February 8th – Cherry on Top Night
- February 8th – PTO meeting
- February 9th – new cookie gram/box top deadline
- February 10th - Dance Performance
- February 11th – Spirit Assembly – 2nd grade performs
- February 11th – Valentine’s Parties
- February 11th – Cookie Grams delivered
- February 15th – Fat Daddy’s Night
- February 17th - Community viewing of "Race to Nowhere" - CMSW
- February 18th – Valentine Carnival rescheduled
- February 18th - Early release day so staff can see "Race to Nowhere"
- February 18th – Star Savers Bank
- February 22nd – J Macklin’s Day/Night

SCHOOL

from page 1

students next year and Valley Ranch would have 655.

Valley Ranch Principal Cynthia Arterbery said the high enrollment has not overcrowded regular classrooms, but has affected "specials" like P.E. and art.

"If we could get the number down to 600 it would be manageable," Arterbery told Board members. "We do definitely need a long range plan."

More than 500 students from the Valley Ranch area already attend other CISD schools, with 255 at Mockingbird and 160 at Pinkerton. Some attend Denton Creek and Wilson for dual language programs.

Others may attend different campuses by choice.

In addition to owning property in the new Cypress Waters area, CISD owns land in Valley Ranch that was originally intended as a middle school site. Students from Valley Ranch are currently zoned to different middle schools — CMS East and CMS West.

Valley Ranch neighborhoods under consideration for redistricting include Vista Pointe, Reflections and Enclaves multifamily units, and single family homes in Vistas of Valley Ranch and the Hollows, and some homes east and west of Rodeo Drive. The impact on bus routes will be considered in any changes made.

Board members will discuss the matter in depth at a special meeting on February 21. The meeting will be open but there will not be a venue for public comment. However, residents will have a chance to speak in the open forum of the February 28 monthly meeting, when the Board may vote on the changes.

School Board Eyes Redistricting Options

By Jane Moore

Coppell ISD Board members on Monday discussed possible redistricting options to relieve overcrowding next year at Valley Ranch and Mockingbird Elementary Schools.

Due to unbalanced enrollment in elementary schools, CISD anticipates possible need for comprehensive redistricting and a new elementary in Valley Ranch or Cypress Waters in the next three to five years. In the meantime, several short-term solutions are on the table to deal with an increase in student population in the southern part of the District.

CISD is looking at moving

students out of Valley Ranch and Mockingbird next year to campuses with lower enrollments, including Town Center and Cottonwood Creek. Board member Bennett Ratliff objected to the idea of moving Valley Ranch students to Cottonwood Creek, which is in a neighborhood six to

seven miles away on the northwest side of Coppell.

"I have a problem with moving kids all the way across town," Ratliff said.

Ratliff's comments led to a suggestion to transfer some Valley Ranch students to Lakeside Elementary, which is a straight shot down MacArthur Boulevard.

According to the District, elementary enrollment on the north side has declined as predicted during the last redistricting in 2008, but numbers continue to increase in the southern areas. Left as is, the District projects that Mockingbird would have 554

Elementary Enrollment as of August 23, 2010

- Austin - 484
- Cottonwood Creek - 456
- Denton Creek - 499
- Lakeside - 498
- Mockingbird - 570
- Pinkerton - 343
- Town Center - 474
- Valley Ranch - 611
- Wilson - 515

see **SCHOOL** on page 15