

Ventana Vista FFO General Meeting Minutes for August 23, 2012

VV FFO Co- President Tara Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

The board introduced themselves to the attendees.
Chairpeople introduced themselves to the attendees.

Principal

Principal Kim Boling welcomed those present and explained the CFSD district mission. The mission of CFSD and VVE is to guarantee that each student achieves academic and personal excellence, becomes a lifelong learner and is a responsible citizen of the world, by engaging students in meaningful programs which meet the highest standards within a caring, collaborative learning community. She explained the district's 2011-2013 Strategic Plan, reiterating the school's objective that is to develop students that are self-directed critical thinkers who produce quality work. She encourages parents to make a habit of asking kids questions, and getting them to ask questions, this will be worked on school-wide. The Arizona Department of Education granted Ventana Vista the highest grade, an A, based on the school's performance in the Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS tests) last spring.

Secretary

VV FFO Secretary Bianca Rowley made a motion to approve the May 2012 VV FFO minutes. Motion approved.

Calendar

Tara Kirkpatrick made a motion to approve the VV FFO 2012/2013 Calendar. Motion approved

Treasurer

Tara Kirkpatrick explained that the FFO has run on a surplus over the past few years. Therefore the FFO has taken \$20,000.00 and earmarked it towards shade structures for the school. The areas we are looking to shade are the Kindergarten playground, a field area, and the area where children wait for parent pick-up. VV FFO Co-Treasurer Kelly Medvec explained the proposed budget for the year, which is attached to the minutes. This year each teacher has been given an additional \$500 for classroom supplies. Budget approved.

Science Fair

Bryn Allen is rebuilding the Science Fair Committee, please contact her if you would like to join or have any ideas, she is looking forward to a great Science Fair. It will be a parent driven event but teachers are encouraged to participate. VV has done very well in the Southern Arizona Regional Science and Engineering Fair (SARSEF). She is looking to see if Community Schools will do an after school early release program dedicated to helping the students work on their projects. The Committee's first meeting is tentatively set for Friday August 31 at 8:30.

Book Fair

Jacki Nichols announced that this year's Book Fair will be held on Sept 7th. She will set up on Wednesday, September 5th and is looking for volunteers. The book fair will remain open online for one month, with proceeds from the book sales still going to Ventana Vista.

Plant Science Family Night

Carol Jones announced this year's Plant Science Family Night will be held October 5th from 5-8. Everyone is invited to this AMAZING free event. There will be active student participation while learning and thinking about plants, and outstanding scientists from around the world will be here. Spread the news!!! There will be a school assembly to focus and prepare the students for an evening of hands-on fun! A formal request will be submitted to the FFO to make this event free to all students.

Promotions

VV FFO Vice President Nadine announced fundraising is critical. Companies are donating portions of everyday purchases to the school. Safeway has an E-scripp program. When parents sign up a portion of their purchases will go back to the school. Parents have to sign up every new school year. At the Safeway on Swan and Sunrise there is a big box with Ventana Vista's name on it, she asks that families put their receipts in there and Safeway will donate a portion of those purchases to the school. Bashas sells prepaid cards to buy groceries. When families sign up for those cards a portion of their purchases will come back to the school as well. When shopping at Amazon we encourage families to use the following link so the school gets a portion of purchases back: <http://www.amazon.com/?tag=ventvist0b-20> Nadine is trying to set up Fundraising Nights pending approval from the district. The Ben's Bells program is interested in hosting an event night at VV, she will have more information on that at a later date.

Halloween Bingo Night

Lalita Hadley announced this year's Halloween Bingo Night will be October 26th. There won't be trick or treating around the school, so the kids will get gift bags instead. There will be a DJ, costume contest, and other exciting events all held in the MPR. She is looking for volunteers.

Bobcat Run

Kris Johnson announced the 2nd annual Bobcat Run will be held Saturday November 3rd from 7-9am at Sabino Canyon. The T-shirt design contest is in progress. She has sponsors lined up. Coffee and bagels will be served at this family morning event.

VVFFO.ORG

Cheryl Novalis-Marine runs the VV FFO website and wants to drive traffic up this year. Please send all flyers/notices to her to put on the website.

5th grade Camp

Donations.

New Business

Julie Farbarik announced and Education Forum will be held Wednesday October 3rd at Catalina Foothills High School from 6:30-9:00 to hear candidates for the Arizona General Elections.

Adjournment

VV FFO Co-President Tara Kirkpatrick adjourned the meeting at 9:55.

The next FFO General Meeting will be held Thursday, October 18 at 8:30 a.m. in the Kaleidoscope Room.