# **VL Murray PTO Meeting**

Date | time 9/22/2019 3:00 PM Location VLM Library

## **Agenda**

* **Welcome /Introductions:**

Allison Dwyer- Selden (principal), Carrie Cooper (PTO President), Wei Wei Xing, Ellen Patterson (3rd grade teacher), Kate Swartz, Ruei-Jen Abraham-Fan, Barkley Laing, Mabby LaVoy, Elizabeth Contiliano (PTO Treasurer), Heidi Stone (PTO Secretary)

* **Principal's Report**
* Excellent turnout at Back to School night.
* Drive up procedures for drop off have markedly improved.
* September 30th- Professional development day, NO SCHOOL
* Safety drills happen with great frequency in September
  + 3 fire drills have been completed so far
  + 1 lock down drill
    - In the future there will be notification sent to parents about this drill
  + Bus evacuation drill (all children will participate even if they don’t ride the bus).
* Wednesday, September 25 is the Day of Caring- volunteers will be around the school helping to beautify the grounds. Wednesday is also the Rhythms Around the World assembly.
* At the end of this month is the first Morning Meeting. The teachers will run this meeting🡪 October 27th 8:05AM
* October morning meeting will be on Halloween (October 31) which is a Thursday. Pre-K thru second grade will wear costumes and parade around the school (details of this are still being worked out).
* November 1- NO SCHOOL (day after Halloween): Teacher Development Day
* **Parent question:** *Why do buses linger in front of the gym?* Suspected to be buses waiting to start a second run but Principal Dwyer-Selden will verify this answer.

**Answer clarified by Carla Dodson 9-23-2019:** The buses that are outside the gym on the road in the morning are waiting for all the other buses to be in place. These two buses need to be the last into loop due to the SPEd students and ramp use. These buses need to be close to the door.

* **Budget Review**
  + **Venmo is up and running @VLM-PTO**
* This is a trial for Venmo to make monetary transactions less challenging for treasurer and also parents.
* Fall Fund Drive is coming up! Our goal is to raise $22,000. Last year we raised just over $24,000.
  + There is no activity associated with this Fund Drive. It is simply a request for donation. Requested amount this year will be $80 per student.
  + Methods to donate: Venmo (if this is set up attached to a checking account then there is no fee, if it is set up to go to a credit card then there is a 3% fee), Check made out to: VLM PTO, Cash, and PayPal (there is a 3% service charge on these transactions).
    - If your means of donation includes a service fee, please consider increasing donation to cover.
* **Old business**
  + **Teacher Spirit Item – tabled until fall fund drive**- no new information
  + **Logo Development**- no new information
  + **Helping Hands Update**- no new information

No updates on these items at this time.

* **New business**
  + **Fall fund drive will go out in next 2 weeks**
    - Request for funds will go out the first part of October.

- Donations to this drive are considered a tax deduction

- Fall fund drive will last 6-7 weeks.

* **Volunteer Needs?**
  + **Fun Run** (spirit event) – Planned for 10/18. Barkley Laing

\* Silicone wrist bands🡪 Go Mustangs

\* Should we do a sign up genius? We need more volunteers.

\* Heidi Stone will purchase and deliver the popsicles for the event.

\* The children will all run about a ½ mile course around the school.

\* Suggested donation last year was $7 per child

\* On flyer there will be a notation to say in lieu of donation to Fun Run please make an additional donation to Fall Fund Drive.

\*Does anyone have an outdoor speaker and want to play music?

* + **Flick on the Field** – 9/27, rain date is the following week.

\*Hot chocolate and Bake sale will occur for 5th grade fundraiser

* **Party Parade** – Kira’s table below🡪 Goal is to raise $4K thru these events this year.

-If you would like to volunteer to coordinate or lend aid to any of these events, please send an email to Kira Graf (chair of Party Parade) or Carrie Cooper (PTO president).

- [kira.graf@gmail.com](mailto:kira.graf@gmail.com)

- [carrielcooper@gmail.com](mailto:carrielcooper@gmail.com)

* **Art Supply Conversation**
  + Line item in budget that speaks for Art Supplies. Increased last year to $1500.
    - * *There was some miscommunication in notes from one of last year’s meetings which resulted in the incorrect assumption that this budget was doubled. We are attempting to reconcile this miscommunication to determine if this increase is needed. The school has an art budget. Principal Allison Dwyer-Selden will check with the art teacher, Abbi Pence, to see what needs remain for art supplies.*
  + $1000- For Art teacher (Abbi Pence)
  + $500- school supply closet
  + Ellen Patterson (Murray teacher) suggested that these budgets should be separated to limit confusion of fund allocation.
* **Art Print-** tabled until next meeting.
* **Parent Council**- Purpose of the parent council is to address issues of concerns for parents. Our representative, Rei Jen Abraham-Far attends meetings at central council.
  + Last month: Region 10 Mental Health Support🡪 services from Region 10 are free.
  + Bus Drivers are needed in Albemarle. Job comes with insurance benefits.
  + Monthly meetings at central council. Meetings last about 2 hours. (Third Wednesday of the month).
  + Last year Diversity was the big topic of focus.
  + Cell phone discussions are also big topic for this year.

**🡪Meeting concluded at 3:58PM in order for attendees to make their way to the new parent social event.**

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| **Event** | **Target Audience** | **Location** | **Date** | **Start Time** | **Fundraising** | **Notes** |
| October | | | | | | |
| Parent Social | Parents | King Family | Wed October 09 | 6 PM |  | Kickback? |
| Mom's Night Out | Moms | Love 2 Thai | Mon, Oct. 14 | 7 PM |  |  |
| November | | | | | | |
| Habitat Rake-a-thon | Family | Various | Sat. Nov 16 | 9a -1p |  |  |
| Dad's Night Out | Dads | Star or Pro | Wed. Nov. 06 | 7 PM |  | Kickback? |
| December | | | | | | |
| Cookie Exchange | Parents | Cafeteria | Mon. Dec 09, | 7 PM |  | Flexible date |
| January | | | | | | |
| Minute To Win It Competition | Family | Murray Cafeteria | Saturday, January 11, | 3:00 PM | $15 pp | Friday if cannot do weekend in school |
| Mom's Night Out | Moms | TBD | Wed Jan 29, | 7PM |  |  |
| February | | | | | | |
| Cocktail Party | Parents | TBD | Saturday,Feb 22, | 8 PM | $50 pp | Potential hosts or winery |
| Dad's Night Out | Dads | Star or Pro | Mon, February 03, | 7 PM |  |  |
| March | | | | | | |
| Pi Night pizzas and Math games | Family | Murray Cafeteria | Friday, March 13, | 7 PM | $15 pp |  |
| Mom's Night Out | Moms | TBD | Wed March 25, | 7 PM |  |  |

-Ben and Jerry’s?