



## April 17, 2024 General Meeting

### Call to Order 7:00pm

### Day of Service Donation Presentation

Nearly 300 VDV students donated their Van Derbucks to the rescue squad as part of the MLK National Day of Service. Members of the Rescue Squad were presented with a check from the PTO for \$250, a banner signed by all students who donated and a thank you card.

### VDV & SMS Grant:

- Ms. Lanouette, a 5th grade teacher, gave a slide presentation thanking the PTO for granting her request for flexible seating in her classroom.

**Accept Minutes:** All approve minutes from the last meeting. Motioned by Amanda, Seconded by Melinda

**Membership Report:** All the same

### Treasurer Report

- Fiscal Report:
  - Opening Balance as of 3/20 is \$40,241.96
  - Disbursements \$11,882.19
  - Deposits \$13,614.06
  - Closing Balance as of 4/16 is \$41,973.83
- Fund Requests- no new fund requests at this time
- Fundraisers:
  - Hershey Park Ticket Sales made a \$2,289 profit
  - Dine to Donate at Panera is on 4/24 from 4-8:00pm
  - June Dine to Donate is TBD

### Ongoing Business & Committee Updates

- By-Law Updates:
  - Proposal to add 2 new board positions
    - Motioned by Amanda, Seconded by Melinda
    - Approved 14 in person yes votes, 2 online yes votes, 0 no votes
- Teacher Appreciation Week:
  - May 6- May 10
  - There is a sign up genius for dessert bar donations. A flier went home with a QR code to sign up.
  - "Bookworm Bonanza" theme
  - VDV and SMS will have the same schedule of events
    - Monday- Fill the Fridge
    - Tuesday-Trail Mix Bar

- Wednesday- Gift Card Raffle and Mailbox Treats
  - Thursday- Catered Lunch
  - Friday- Dessert Bar
- Field Day:
  - Thursday May 23 (rain date Friday, May 24)
  - PTO will provide SMS with ice pops
  - PTO will provide VDV with ice pops and volunteers
  - flyers will be going home next week with instructions on how to sign up to volunteer.
  - We are also looking for those who have 10x10 pop up tents and/or a pickup truck to transport materials to the fields.
- Executive Board Nominations:
  - Nominations are due by April 24
  - Email the PTO to nominate yourself or someone else

### **New Business**

- Nurses Closet:
  - The PTO and the Nurses from VDV and SMS have put together a wish list for the health offices. A sign up genius has been created and flyers will be coming home with more information on how to donate.

### **Updates from the Schools**

- VDV
  - Field Trips and Assemblies continue. Students in grade 3-5 will be getting a special presentation from Office Nikki on ways to be sage white using school computers and being online. This is done in connection with the Second Step curriculum that our Social Worker team uses SEL lessons.
  - Yearbooks are on sale. There is a link that is available on the VDV Newsletter and on the schools website to order.
  - During the April 5th extra day, we had a special guest speaker who spoke on his experience growing up with autism and on how to make anyone with any type of difference or disability feel included.
  - School Wide Read Alouds for the year will be raffled off soon. Thank you to the PTO for providing those books. This month's was on April 15th with a story called Just Ask.
  - Week of the Young Child was a success and we had a lot of families visit their pre-school students.
  - The Most Improved Student presentation was this evening at the Somerset Patriots. Several VDV students were in attendance to receive the nomination from their teachers.
  - The Health Fair will be on May 4th
  - Take Your Child To Work Day is on April 25 and forms were sent out.
  - April 26 is a ½ day for all students
  - The Science Fair is on May 2nd.

- The last coffee with the principals is on May 9th and 9:30am.
- The Spring Concert for Chorus and Band is at the SHS on May 21 at 7pm
- SMS
  - On Monday, April 8th SMS participated in the second annual Life Skills Day. It is an initiative where students focus on imparting essential life skills to ensure their success in both school and adulthood. Thank you Mrs. Kohlhepp Strang for coordinating the event
  - On Thursday, April 11th five SMS students were recognized at the Paul Robeson Youth Achievement ceremony sponsored by Raritan Valley Community College. SMS recipients included: Amaya Jordan, Amaya Adams, Dushman Dorsey, Tyrese Tilet-Gray and Jaden Gibson.
  - Upcoming Events for April:
    - Earth Day on Exchange Field for 8th graders- April 19
    - Peer Leadership Parent Night- April 23
    - Challenge Day for 8th graders- April 24
    - Bring Your Child to Work Day- April 25
    - ½ day students- April 26

Our May meeting is the last one for the 2023-2024 school year. Board elections will take place as well as the budget vote for the 2024-2025 school year.

**Close of Meeting:** Motioned by Amanda, Seconded by Melinda

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**PTO Executive Board**

Amanda Hoy, President	Alyssa Short, Co-Membership
Melinda Julian, Vice President	Sam Marx, Co-Membership
Janet Moody, Secretary	Megan Britton, Co-Communications
Randa Rydzy, Treasurer (Financial)	Korine Szot, Co-Communications
Ashley Finlayson, Treasurer (Fundraising)	

Meetings are 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of each month @ 7pm: 5/15