

	VHE PTO Meeting August 21, 2012 6:30pm Vintage Brewing Company Present: Board members Shelby Connell, Sarah Van Riet, Jennifer Roth, Carousel Bayrd, Principal Keeler, 5 other teachers, and 4 parents.	
MEETING CALLED BY	PTO PRESIDENT SHELBY CONNELL	
6:30 (10 MIN)	INTRO TO OFFICERS/PTO OVERVIEW	SHELBY CONNELL
	<p>2012-2013 officers: Shelby Connell (President), Jen Roth(Vice President), Dana McCloskey (Treasurer), Sarah Van Riet (Secretary), Susie Anderson (At Large), Valencia Bennett (At Large), Carousel Bayrd (At Large)</p> <p>PTO Notes/changes for this year:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More general (theme/info) meetings and fewer just for business 2. Fundraisers: continue Noodles night, add Great Dane night and a Barnes and Noble night. Scholastic book fair will continue. New science night- looking for coordinator. Cookbook sale planned as well as an Art/Craft Fair&Sale for spring. 3. Need parent volunteer/coordinators for both school directory and REAP fundraiser this year. 4. Kindergarten playdate set for 8/26 3-5pm at school. Will continue the K and new family bfst on first day of school as in past. 5. Open house planned ~3rd wk school and will sell pizza as in past. 6. Target stores has program on Facebook- votes get money for school through August. 	
6:40 (10 MIN)	PRINCIPAL'S REPORT	PEG KEELER
	VHE was a summer school site this year and it went well. New music teacher hired, Margaret Jenks, we are lucky to have her. Nikki Burke took job w/district and Lori Stehle will fill Instructional Resource position for us, so new 2/3 teacher to be hired. Mrs. Stehle will be looking for parents to help in book room. TAG program requesting reps from each school for advisory committee to commit to attend 3 mtg/year. Peg looking for parents interested in representing VHE.	
6:50 (5 MIN)	TREASURER'S REPORT	SHELBY CONNELL
	Shelby reported for Dana who is on vacation- Estimated \$4000 to start the year after bills paid. More formalized system will be in place for teachers to request "grants" from PTO, and will also have expense forms for reimbursements for expenses this year. PTO will have a budget finalized this year to help organize finances /plan. Budget will be voted on at Oct mtg.	
6:55 (5 MIN)	DIRECT APPEAL	TARA PABELLON
	Last year was first trial of this and we raised ~\$11,000 which surpassed our goal of \$10,000. Will plan to repeat direct appeal this year, group agrees it was a huge success. Should goal be same or increased? Should we request x amount per family or per child? Idea of asking grandparents/neighbors to contribute as well. Group agreed could suggest a certain donation per child, same format as last year with initial appeal 2nd wk school and reminders with final collection 6-8 wk later. Goal this year raise \$12,000.	
7:00 (10 MIN)	PHOTOGRAPHY FUNDRAISER	JEN & DAVE GUSTAFSON
	Jen and her husband have a photography business and would like to offer reduced fee photography sessions (either family sessions or back to school) with a portion of proceeds donated to PTO. Discussion was around best way to market this and what to offer. Discussed photos in garden or photo op at carnival or dance. Plan to advertise opportunity for 15-20 min family/kid photo session slots to be held one day at the school, families can sign up and funds will be raised for the school. Signup /information will be at open house.	

7:10 (5 MIN)	COOKBOOK PROJECT	BIANCA TOMISINI- JOHANSSON
	Bianca brought a sample cookbook from Morris Publishing that Thoreau school did last year which will be used by our committee as well. Option to include ads or sponsors to help pay for the books and then more money raised for school. Discussed how to solicit companies and who to ask- don't want to duplicate requests for carnival raffles and cookbook. Carousel and Dana who do raffle for carnival will collaborate w/Bianca on sponsor requests. Bianca requested some help on cover art and discussion continued around recipe ideas, etc. Committee will move ahead with this project.	
7:15 (5 MIN)	MUSIC ASSEMBLY	MARGARET JENKS
	Margaret Jenks, our new music teacher proposed an idea to invite a musician to do a concert and possibly present to kids in classroom a few days this year. Musician is Tony Memmel and is well respected, successful guitarist despite a physical disability, born with one arm. He is a former student of Mrs. Jenks' and he works well with children. All agree this would be an amazing learning opportunity. Evening or day concert would be ok. Mrs. Jenks is working on 4 music "themes" for the year including constructing music, imagination, music of the world, and community and music.	
7:20 (10 MIN)	HEALTHY SNACK GRANT/PROGRAM	MARGARET JENKS / JANE KOVAL
	Margaret and Mrs. Koval applied for and received \$1000 grant for healthy eating and fitness program. They will have school shared snacks every other Thursday starting Sept 20 featuring local and healthy foods, lots of produce, using farmers markets and local farms. Goal is to teach "food = fuel for play" and encourage children to try new and healthy snacks. Parent volunteers will be needed and are welcomed. Peg noted that a goal for the school is to work on a more formal nutrition policy for the following year to have consistent guidelines about sweets, snacks, etc. Overall group response was enthusiastic about this.	
7:30 (5 MIN)	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM (GARDEN) UPDATE	SARAH VAN RIET
	All classrooms participated and planted in garden last spring! VHE will apply for "Digging In" Madison Community Foundation grant through MMSD for expanding and developing curriculum in outdoor classroom. Many ideas for showcasing the garden, adding bridge to rain garden, building more raised beds, etc. Mrs. Miller is planning to have her class do their service project this year with goal of getting a Little Free Library for the Garden. Request was made for more seating in garden for classes to spend more time writing comfortably there. Idea of picnic table/benches that convert to table was discussed. Mary Michaud has secured a Garden Club Coordinator for fall garden club to meet Mondays for 6-8 wks starting 9/17. Oak Hill Correctional which supplies us with seedlings toured the garden as did the Growing Minds teacher group.	
NEXT MEETING	Sept 11, 2011 General meeting, Principal's "State of the School" and PBS information	