

Van Buren Elementary PTA – Updates

September 25, 2011

Your involvement matters... it's your school, your community, your PTA

Comments or questions? Volunteer or support opportunities?
 (We love volunteers! We love all involvement!)
 Please contact GENNIFER GATAN at gennifergatan@yahoo.com

**Thank you to our Van Buren community of families and volunteers, we value
 your continued support!**

PTA PROGRAM	UPDATES	CONTACT INFO
COMPLETED – EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS KITS	PTA sold kits for \$5, delivery to students classroom by 9/23.	Committee chair, Laura Lindblom paintgregg@aol.com
COMPLETED – PTA GENERAL ASSOCIATION MEETING BTS NIGHT	Presented PTA list of programs and proposed budget for schoolyear 2011-12. Hosted PTA table; sold spirit wear, movie tickets, other items.	PTA President, Gennifer Gatan gennifergatan@yahoo.com
COMPLETED – STAFF HOSPITALITY	PTA hosted a welcome-back-to-school luncheon for VBE faculty and staff on Friday, 9/09.	Hospitality committee chair, Chris Boner luvcuteshoez@aol.com
COMPLETED – COFFEE WITH KEN	PTA hosted a coffee bar on first day back to school so parents can visit briefly with our principal!	
COMPLETED – PREPPY K HOSPITALITY	PTA offered light refreshments as parents met in the MPR at their 8/30 orientation, and to new Preppy K'ers at the playground. Welcome to the Van Buren family!	
COMPLETED – SCHOOL PACKETS	PTA volunteers came in the week of 8/29 to manually assemble 650 students' informational packets that go home the first week of school.	
COMPLETED – SCHOOL GARDEN CLEAN-UP	PTA volunteers and their families pulled, hoed, and tilled to prep our beautiful school garden for the new transplants this year. Mr. Valburg treated the hard workers to his special homemade ice cream... what a treat!	
COMPLETED – KDG ASSESSMENT	PTA volunteers hosted a welcome wagon tent on 8/18, as KDG faculty met with 50+	

HOSPITALITY	incoming kindergartners. We offered coffee and light refreshments. Welcome to the Van Buren family!	
AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS, FALL SEASON	Sign-ups now! Art classes by Fibonacci on every Tuesday, 2:20-3:20PM, from 10/11 through 11/08. ChessMasters by ASEP on every Friday, 2:20-3:20PM, from 9/30 to 11/18.	PTA President, Gennifer Gatan gennifergatan@yahoo.com
ANNUAL TALENT SHOW	The 2012 Talent Show is set for Wednesday, April 4 th 2012.	Talent Show committee chairs, Makiko Shibata, mshibata@pylud.org; Elsie Liu
ARTS ADVOCACY CHAIR	VACANT – PTA is looking for a parent rep	PTA President, Gennifer Gatan gennifergatan@yahoo.com
BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION	The very successful BTFE program continues this year, with more incentives.	VP – Fundraising, Cilla Peters cillapeters@roadrunner.com
FOUNDERS' DAY CHAIR	VACANT – PTA is looking for a parent volunteer	PTA President, Gennifer Gatan gennifergatan@yahoo.com
GARDEN	PTA needs help from a parent who knows how to write and apply for a grant to help maintain our school garden.	Garden committee chair, Sonja Moreno smoreno18@roadrunner.com
JOG-A-THON 2011	JAT 2011 kicks off the week of 9/26. Students have until 11/01 to collect pledges. Goal for each student is to raise minimum \$100 in pledges. JAT t-shirt theme is “Reach for the stars,” JAT day is on Friday, 11/18. JAT core committee has been meeting to decide on prizes, logistics, vendors, etc.,. Committee continues to meet weekly.	JAT committee chair, Ron Kennedy, kennedyron@yahoo.com
MEMBERSHIP	PTA enrolment flyers and envelopes to come home with school packets on week of 9/06.	Membership chair, Lisa Pierro sewsail@yahoo.com
OUTDOOR SCIENCE SCHOOL (gr. 6)	The 6 th grade class raised some money during one pizza night in July, and will do Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough fundraiser in September.	First VP, Irene Pearson irenepearson@gmail.com
RALPHS COMMUNITY	Sign-ups now! VBE PTA has signed with Ralphs CCP so a portion of grocery bill goes to VBE	VP – Fundraising, Cilla Peters

CONTRIBUTION PROGRAM	PTA.	cillapeters@roadrunner.com
RECYCLING PROGRAM	PTA is exploring similar programs at other local elementary schools to continue to promote the message of recycling and can also generate income for VBE. Ideally it should require less labor, preferably a mobile unit that can pick up recyclables onsite.	VP – Fundraising, Cilla Peters cillapeters@roadrunner.com
REFLECTIONS ARTS PROGRAM	Reflections 2011 “Diversity means...” kicked off, as PTA hosts arts-at-lunch events at school, plus an arts show, see calendar for dates.	Reflections committee chair, Matti Garrow jmgarrow@pacbell.net
ROADRUNNER NEWS	Our first 2012 newsletter comes out in October! Please check calendar for deadlines.	Newsletter team, Karin Robertson karinrobertson@gmail.com Gennifer Gatan gennifergatan@yahoo.com
SCHOOL PLAY	It’s “The Wizard of Oz!” Auditions begin October 24 and 26. Practices every Wednesday, 2:20PM-4PM.	School Play committee chairs, Robin McCormick brettnrobin@aol.com Belinda Zuniga zunibely@yahoo.com
SPECIAL ED ADVOCATE	VACANT – PTA is looking for a parent rep.	PTA President, Gennifer Gatan gennifergatan@yahoo.com
VALET	Morning valet program in place. Please see newsletter for valet guidelines.	Valet committee chair, Tammy Hayashibara mochih@yahoo.com
WEBSITE	Great work in progress! Parent volunteer Karin Robertson has been working diligently to update VBE’s website to make it more efficient, user-friendly, and current!	VBE Webmaster, karinrobertson@gmail.com