



Parent Partnership Committee (PPC) Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2017

Attendance: 9 parents, 5 VCS staff members

Opening Prayer:

Lori Gorton, VCS PPC Prayer Chairperson, opened the meeting in prayer.

Follow Up Items:

HIS Club – Paul Harrell provided an update on the next HIS Club project, which is this weekend to paint the high school parking lot. Mr. Allen has received a response from 5 volunteers and \$200 in donations. Due to the rainy weather forecasted for this weekend, the project has been postponed.

Mr. Harrell thanked Colleen Bradeson for taking all of the donations for the fire victims to Mission Solano last Friday.

Alaska Students for STEM Demonstration

Mr. Harrell reported that all incoming Alaska students have been provided a home for their stay on Sun., Nov. 5th and returning on Thurs., Nov. 9th.

Parents were concerned that students in PE during homeroom are not getting the daily announcements. Mr. Harrell and Faith Shipley, Director of Marketing, reported that the PE teachers who teach homeroom are receiving the daily bulletin and are reading the bulletin to their students. The daily announcement is also posted on the HS office door for viewing.

Parents asked about the use of the loud speaker at the high school. George Allen, VCS Director of Operations, looked into this issue and reported that the loud speaker is working, just not being used. To use the loud speaker system would require a pre-recording of the announcements. The loud speaker and phone systems are 2 separate systems and do not communicate with each other. The HS staff prefers to use the phone system due to the possible last minute additions to the daily bulletin. Mr. Harrell will speak to Joseph Rowland to make sure all staff members have the volume turned up

on their phones. Mr. Harrell will also speak to Mr. Rowland about the possibility of a student and/or Student Council representative to communicate the daily announcement to “pep it up”.

PPC Parents were concerned about the inconsistency of inputting assignments and grades in Power School. Mr. Harrell followed up with Mr. Rowland to ensure standards are being kept. Teachers who may have had difficulty, have now received the training needed to input grades properly. Mr. Harrell is looking into making sure all assignments for the week are in Power School by Monday.

PPC Prayer Chair, Lori Gorton, shared that the PPC Prayer Group meetings every other Thursday or Friday at the cross at the high school. She will have more information sent out in the weekly eBulletins. A PPC parent suggested that the prayer group be moved to Tuesdays before chapel so that parents can pray over the students while they are in chapel. PPC parents request that prayer group information be added to the weekly ebulletins and Sunday devotions. If you are interested in joining the PPC Prayer Group, please contact Lori Gorton at gorty2@juno.com.

A PPC parent request that a reminder for the PPC meeting be sent out in advance of each Wednesday meeting. Faith Shipley mentioned that she will include it in the ebulletin on the Friday in advance of each meeting.

Mr. Harrell reported about the lock out which took place on Tues., Oct. 31st @ 4:24 p.m. Vacaville PD instructed the VCS safety officer, Angelia Manuel, to put the campus into “lock out” due to suspects running through the HS parking lot toward the bike path next to the HS building. The lock out did not remain in effect too long, at which time Vacaville PD contacted Mrs. Manuel to remove the lock out. An announcement and text were sent out to all VCS parents advising of the situation. Mr. Harrell commended Mrs. Manuel for a job well done.

A PPC parent asked for clarification about what a “lock out” is. Mr. Allen explained that a lock out is due to a threat in the area. All children are kept inside, away from doors and windows, and doors are locked. Staff and administration communicate via walkie talkie and cell phones. Parents requested that a safety bulletin be sent out to parents about the difference between a lock down and lock out, and the VCS protocol for both situations. Mr. Allen stated that he would ask Mrs. Manuel to send out an all school bulletin. Mr. Allen reminded parents that we all need to remain diligent and be aware

of our surroundings. He asked that if parents feel there is a threat on campus and if they cannot get to an office or call a staff member to report the incident, to please call Vacaville Police and report the incident. Mr. Harrell commended our VCS students and their diligence in reporting all incidents to administration.

Sports Update:

Michael Gomez, VCS Athletic Director, informed parents that the ladies varsity volleyball team won last night against Ripon Christian and will be moving on in playoffs. The next game is Thurs., Nov. 2nd against Brett Harte in Angels Camp, CA.

Athletic Advisory Committee – parents wanted more information on the formation of this committee. Mr. Harrell shared that the Athletic Advisory Committee is still in the early stages of formation and working to set the tone and policy at this time. Request for parent involvement will be forthcoming.

Cheerleading - Mr. Gomez is hoping to have more information by the end of the week regarding a coach/advisor for cheer. He wants the cheerleading program to be more about cheering for sports teams and promoting school spirit, not enrolling in any competitions.

Communication - Parents asked if sporting events can be posted on the website for ease of information to our parents and prospective parents. Parents mentioned that the Power School app has very useful information and asked if the game schedule can also be added. Mr. Gomez shared that this is another location to update as game schedules often change. He encouraged families to utilize Max Preps, Resource Scheduler, Athletics Newsletter, Daily Announcement and VCS website for up to date sports information. Mr. Gomez is looking into adding MS/HS student email addresses and K-12 parents to the email list for the weekly Athletic newsletter.

Mr. Gomez interviewed Student Council members to ask if they felt informed of upcoming sporting events. Student stated that they knew of the games, not always who the opponent is. Mr. Gomez is working on defining the roles of the Student Council Athletic Advisor to assist with advanced preparation for home games and promoting school spirit – i.e., preparing posters. PPC parents requested an action plan for all home games and events leading up to home games.

A PPC parent reminded everyone that the MS Cross Country championship is today @ 3:30 p.m. at Lagoon Valley.

PPC parents asked if students can receive sports updates via text message or instruct students where to go to get more information on sporting events.

Falcon Nest - Per Mr. Gomez, a section has been set up in the gym for VCS students to sit together for all home games.

Booster Club – Per Mr. Gomez, this club is slowly forming. All officers are in place and he anticipates the first meeting to take place next week. PPC parents requested that a general invite be sent out in the future for officer positions.

A PPC parent inquired about the \$60 strength and conditioning fee. Mr. Gomez stated that each coach has a conditioning program for their sport in advance and during their season. Parents asked if this cost could be worked into the program fee and/or be made more transparent as to what the fee is for.

Outreach Program - PPC Parent asked about the community outreach program for varsity sports. Mr. Gomez explained he has spoken to all coaches for winter sports and explained that it is mandatory for each team to participate in an outreach ministry with an organized group, clinic or specific group of kids.

A PPC parent expressed concern over time 2 hour time period between when school gets out and when some later practices start. Mr. Gomez informed parents that VCS will be offering a free study hall for K-12 students, Monday – Thursday, from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. This study hall is only for students who are enrolled in a sport. This is not extended care, students will be required to do homework while in study hall.

PPC parents want to send out a thank you to all the volunteers who assisted with homecoming and the tailgate party.

New Agenda Item:

A survey went out to all 5th grade parents, 6th grade parents and 7th/8th grade parents regarding middle school dress code. The response was definitive and spirited. Mr. Harrell is in the process of conveying this to the constituents' concern.

Open Floor:

A PPC parent expressed a concern about updates to the VCS website. Faith Shipley shared that she has been working with a hosting company to finish all programming updates. We have hired a new company and they are fixing a lot of the problems. She has had limited access within the website while updates are being made. As access is granted, she is working in stages to complete all edits. Parents asked if a “website under construction” sign can be placed on the website home page so that parents and prospective parents understand that we are working on the site. Faith agreed, and will look into putting this information on the site and in all ebulletins.

A PPC parent asked that parents continue to pray for VCS staff.

PPC parent Brenda Vincent closed in prayer.

Next Parent Partnership Committee Meeting – Wed., Nov 15th @ 8:00 a.m. in the First Baptist Church Conference Room.