



Van Raub Elementary PTO
8776 Dietz Elkhorn Road
Fair Oaks Ranch, TX 78015

**Van Raub Elementary School
2025 - 2026 PTO Board Meeting
April 15, 2026 10am – 12pm
VRES Campus**

1. Call to Order: 10:08 am

2. Roll Call:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| (y) Summer Gault, Principal | (y) Laine Beatty, VP Merchandise |
| (y) Krista Kimball, Staff Rep. | (y) Brandi Wright, VP Volunteers |
| (y) Sam Cooke, Co-President | (y) Erica Cepeda, VP Communications |
| (y) Erika Johnson, Co-President | (y) Natalie Samson, VP Fundraising |
| (y) Tia Flournoy, Treasurer | () Carissa Huertz, VP Events |
| (y) Avery Harmon, Secretary | (y) Lauren Tijerina, VP Staff Appr |
| (y) Katrina Doran, VP Sponsorships | <u>Additional Attendees:</u> |
| (y) Elizabeth Duenckel, VP Membership | Laurie Wolf |
| () Hannah Bowers, VP Campus Improvements | |

3. President Update - Sam Cooke & Erika Johnson

- a. Please be sure to send your committee updates to Sam the FRIDAY prior to our (Wednesday) meeting. This allows all information to be included in the agenda to help keep us on track.
- b. No update from monthly president meeting – Friday, April 10th, not able to attend.
 - a. TAW - The district is providing jerkey from Velocity and cookie cake from Great American Cookie (all donated). Our campus will receive their treats on Wednesday, May 6th.
 - b. Reminder: May 1 = PTO Officer Appreciation Breakfast (open to all PTO Board Members). Who can attend? We need to provide the district with our board RSVP by April 21st.

4. Treasurer Update – Tia Flournoy

- a. Copies of the latest financial report are being passed around. If you have any questions, please bring those up during all other business or feel free to reach out independently at any time.
- b. Budget Variances (positive or negative) to Date (for awareness):

Budget vs. Actuals_Budget_FY26_P&L_Report

July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026

INCOME	Actual	Budget	Over (Under) budget by
4100 Fall Fundraiser Revenue (APEX)	\$54,596.22	\$49,400.00	\$ 5,196.22
4200 Food Truck Revenue	\$38.00	\$500.00	\$ (462.00) *Not yet finalized, but need to be aware
4230 Ticket Revenue	\$17,685.00	\$16,300.00	\$ 1,386.00
4250 Silent Auction Revenue	\$40,193.00	\$28,000.00	\$12,193.00 *Reported as \$21k, but awaiting funding
4300 PTO Sponsorship Revenue	\$18,000.00	\$15,750.00	\$ 2,250.00
4400 PTO Membership Revenue	\$16,440.00	\$14,400.00	\$ 2,040.00
4661 Spirit Wear Revenue	\$9,194.00	\$10,050.00	\$ (856.00)
Total for Income	\$156,146.22	\$134,400.00	\$ 21,747.22

Saved to this PC

FINALIZED EXPENSES	Actual	Budget	Over (Under) budget by
5120 RR Dash Expenses (t-shirts & banner)	\$4,746.33	\$5,950.00	\$ (1,203.67)
5130 Fall Fundraiser VRES donation (classroom passback)	\$9,995.70	\$10,300.00	\$ (304.30)
5260 Vendor Expense - Fiesta Friday (estimate - not finalized)	\$25,894.00	\$22,000.00	\$3,894.00
5310 PTO Sponsor Banners Expense	\$1,254.52	\$1,500.00	\$ (245.48)
5660 VRES Family Event Expense	\$4,957.80	\$4,750.00	\$207.80
5735 BOA Student Support	\$675.00	\$0.00	\$675.00
5800 Grants & Donations (Educational Grants & BEF)	\$11,829.17	\$15,000.00	\$ (3,170.83)
5951 State Sales Tax Expense	\$592.10	\$1,000.00	\$ (407.90)
Total for Expenses	\$59,944.62	\$60,500.00	\$ (555.38)

Total Income & Expenses - FAVORABLE VARIANCE **\$22,302.60**

5530 Campus Improvements (Budget) \$62,000.00

- c. Unused Budgets – Sent to Summer for further review. Will likely cut checks to school. Additional \$100 paid toward All Pro Dad’s

	Actual Spend	Approved Budget	Remaining Funds Available	
5515 Assistant Principal Annual Budget Expense	\$ 100.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 600.00	\$100 spent on All Pro Dads
5540 Student Brag Tags	\$ 264.28	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 985.72	\$264 spent on glow in the dark brag tags for family glow dance
5580 After School Club Support Expense	\$ 122.93	\$ 400.00	\$ 277.07	\$123 spent on equipment for play club
5510 Principal’s Annual Budget Expense	\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	
		TOTAL	\$ 2,612.79	

- d. Outstanding Receipts
- e. We have unused budgets for some school related items. That info was sent to Summer for review. Fiesta (more to come later in the agenda, but) we made more on wristbands than we anticipated, which was great. We have the preliminary numbers to review, but waiting for some of the final revenue and expense transactions to post. Will have final results by the May meeting. Over-all no concerns, it’s all mostly good news.

be used toward the purchase of swag for next year’s membership drive. This will allow us to have the merchandise on hand when the school year starts, prior to the budget being approved.

7. Fundraising Update - Natalie Samson

- a. Apex (next year): October 26, 2026 – November 6, 2026 (Summer notified BOA director so they could schedule VRES around these dates.)

- a. Contract received and will be signed “soon” – pending review.

- b. Spirit Nights: Natalie is still trying to get our results from Cane’s and is also working through results with Arrows. Based on initial information from Arrows, VRES had 2 students, which earned us a total of \$10. [Viola Wilson had a spirit night there at the same time, so we will just call this a wash. Next time we will schedule and make sure there is only one school on that evening!](#)

[UPDATE: Sam spoke to the PTO president at VW and they do not believe the check they received was accurate. In good faith, it was returned to Arrows and both PTO’s agreed to split the total results 50/50. Arrows should have new checks available for both schools after Monday \(4/20\). More info to come on results in the May meeting.](#)

MONTH	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EARNED
MARCH 2025	RECEIVED LATE	(EARNED PRIOR YEAR)	RAISING CANE'S	\$ 260
AUGUST	8/7/2025	Meet the Teacher	Kona Ice	\$ 137
AUGUST	8/20/2025	3pm - 10pm	TXRH	\$ 450
SEPTEMBER	9/26/2025	4pm - 10pm	MIKEY'S CHICKEN & TAVERN	\$ 265
OCTOBER	10/23/2025	11am - 10pm	WILLIE'S	\$ 160
OCTOBER	9/29/25 - 10/3/25	Online*	BULVERDE PUMPKIN PATCH	\$ 55
NOVEMBER	11/21/2025	6pm - 8pm	KENDRA SCOTT	\$ 311
DECEMBER	12/12/2025	4pm - 8pm	RAISING CANE'S	\$ 340
JANUARY	1/27/2026	3pm - 10pm	TXRH	\$ 250
FEBRUARY	2/22/2025	4pm - 8pm	PANERA BREAD	\$ 38
MARCH	3/26/2025	5pm - 9pm	RAISING CANE'S	\$ -
APRIL	4/3/2026	2pm - 6pm	ARROWS ACTIVE PLAY PARK	\$ -
MAY	5/5/2026	5pm - 7:30pm	McDONALDS	\$ -
YTD TOTAL				\$ 2,266
*Purchase pass online now through October 3rd. Pass can be used any weekday in the month of October.				
				Annual Budget \$ 2,100
				LTG \$ (166)

- c. Spirit Stick Sales (**Good Practice:** Volunteers selling spirit sticks should ask the cafeteria monitor to announce pre-sale names first so there is less confusion and less opportunity to over-look those students.) [We have some older\(ish\) spirit sticks that we’d like to clear from inventory. Discussed offering them to students at a price of 2 for \\$1. Sam will also reach out to the FORES president to see if they would be interested in trading some of our older spirit sticks for some of their older spirit sticks. This might be more fun for students than a previously offered discounted spirit stick.](#)

DATE	VOLUNTEERS		SALES \$\$		
			CASH	ONLINE	TOTAL
	MEET THE TEACHER SALES			\$ 37	\$ 37
	GRANDPARENTS DAY SALES			\$ 16	\$ 16
	10am - 12pm	12pm - 1:30pm			
AUGUST 29th	NATALIE LAINE	NATALIE LAINE	\$ 159	\$ 90	\$ 249
SEPTEMBER 26th	TIA CATALINA VALDES	TIA SOFIA COUTTOLENC	\$ 162	\$ 60	\$ 222
OCTOBER 31st	NATALIE ADA ZIMMERMAN	NATALIE LAINE BEATTY	\$ 81	\$ 150	\$ 231
DECEMBER 5th	NATALIE LAINE	NATALIE LAINE	\$ 115	\$ 70	\$ 185
JANUARY 30th	LAUREN AVERY	TIA VIRY URDIALES	\$ 169	\$ 59	\$ 228
FEBRUARY 27th	TIA FLORISON MCQUEENY	TIA BRANDI	\$ 175	\$ 25	\$ 200
MARCH 27th	LAUREN ADA ZIMMERMAN	AVERY OPEN	\$ 81	\$ 55	\$ 136
APRIL 24th	NATALIE SAM	NATALIE SAM	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
YTD TOTAL			\$ 942	\$ 562	\$ 1,504
			63%	37%	100%
- 11/28 is Thanksgiving Break					
- 11/20 is Roadrunner Dash Day					
- Board decided to skip November sales and add Friday, December 5th					
				Annual Budget \$	1,200
				LTC \$	(304)

8. Merchandise Update – Laine Beatty

- a. 5th Grade Yard Signs (Laine / Lisa)
 - a. Sales began at Fiesta Friday and are coming in at a steady pace - 22 sold so far April 23rd is last day to order signs. Summer will send a Parent Square message to all 5th grade parents today.
 - b. Orders accepted through April 23rd, will be delivered to student (or front office) May 1st.
- b. School supplies contract for next year.
 - a. Sales are live, e-mails are going out, some sales received
 - b. Laine/Lisa –send Summer the info so she can send to the kinder families for us. E-mail addresses were collected during kinder round up.
- c. Upcoming Sales – YTD Revenue is about \$850 short (for the year), but we are still waiting on the last of the Fiesta sales to be recorded.
 - i. Kinder Round Up – How'd it go? Reasonably good sales, but forgot to pull actual results.
 - ii. Fiesta Friday – Fiesta Friday? How'd it go? Do we think it makes sense to see merchandise next year? Not enough adult inventory in the new (this year) merchandise. Discussed ordering new merchandise for next year, but decided it made more sense to offer new merchandise at meet the teacher vs. Fiesta. Could move sales back to an outside location or we could have signs indicating merchandise is being sold inside. More to consider for next year.

- iii. There is \$3,215 in the Cost of Goods Budget remaining to be spent this year (This would off-set lower revenue, but also plan to make a purchase prior to summer – should consider this during purchasing. May want to only spend closer to \$2,400 to be flush for the year).

9. Campus Improvement Update – Sam Cooke

- a. Total approved budget for the current year is \$62k, which includes \$32k in unspent Campus Improvement funds rolled forward from prior budget, plus an additional \$30k allocated from this year’s budget/fundraising goals.
- b. Review of bids received, vote on what should be done this year (likely summer-time) and what should be pushed to next year.
 - a. Five companies visited campus to walk through the projects, three submitted bids:

Informal Bids Tabulation Summary				VENDOR #1		VENDOR #2		VENDOR #3			
				Vendor Name:		Waterman		Geofill		Spawglass	
				Quoted By (Contact Name):		Art		Jan		Trey	
Enter "X" for selected vendor											
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION	ITEM	QTY	UNIT OF MEASURE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE	UP	
	1	1	ea		\$91,740.00		\$57,680.00		\$93,650.70		
	2		ea		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
	3		ea		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
	4		ea		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
	5		ea		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
	6		ea		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
	7		ea		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
	8		ea		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
	9		ea		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
	10		ea		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
	11		ea		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
	12		ea		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		
* DISCLOSURE NOTICE: By signing below, I hereby certify that all quotes recorded include all the firms that have been contacted for bids and their replies are reflected accurately on this form.				SUBTOTAL		\$91,740.00		\$57,680.00		\$93,650.70	
				SHIPPING COST							
				TOTALS		\$91,740.00		\$57,680.00		\$93,650.70	
				PAYMENT TERMS							
				F.O.B. SHIPPING TERMS							
				DELIVERY DATE							

- c. Summer has a comfort level around Geofill (company with most competitive bid). The \$58k expense includes \$28k for pavers in the courtyard (not an ideal solution).
 - a. May want to consider removing the pavers (to work toward a better solution in the future) and moving forward with the other projects. [Can we consider putting down ground cover for now? May want to look at options with a landscaper.](#)

[Tia motioned to remove pavers from the requested work and also extend sidewalk in front of the school so that it goes in front of the reserved \(annual\) parking spots, Brandi seconded the motion. Vote passed unanimously. Summer will inform BISD that we are ready to move forward with this scope of work, likely to be completed over the summer. Next year our Apex fundraiser will be ear-marked to earn the remaining funds for the second sunshade.](#)

- b. Need to consider the length of the sidewalk in the proposal and if it makes sense to extend that further (toward the reserved parking spots). This would create a more finished look vs what is currently in the bid.
 - i. If moving forward with this approach, next year's Apex fundraiser could be focused on raising the remaining funds needed to add a shade structure to the playground.
- d. Possible future campus improvement projects (notes for next year, after shade structure completion):
 - a. Additional (shaded) benches for the playground – revisit once new Sunshade is installed.
 - b. Additional (safety) window coverings for classrooms that face the drop-off / pick up loop in the front of the school.
 - c. Installing privacy fencing (similar to what we did with the PK playground fence) along the back field / walking path to Front Gate. Tia mentioned this idea in the December board meeting on behalf of Krista Kimball. Need more details from Krista to evaluate further.
 - d. Other possible ideas (not yet reviewed):
 - a. Filtered water (hot & cold) station for teacher's lounge
 - b. New refrigerator/freezer for teacher's lounge

10. Staff Appreciation Update – Lauren Tijerina May 6th will be jerky and Great American cookie company. Room moms can send out a little list of themed days for this week like bring your teacher a note etc.

- a. March 17th – Feeling Lucky Chocolate Bar - How did it go? It went great, lots of excitement with finding the golden ticket
- b. April 13th – Snowflake Donuts – How did it go? \$250 was A LOT of donuts – would do a different donut/kolache ratio next year w/ more kolaches than ordered this year & less donuts. Over-all the event went well.
- c. May 4th – 8th – Teacher Appreciation Week all is confirmed
 - i. Soda Float Bar – sponsored by Karen Tollman Now on May 5th
 - ii. Cinco De Mayo themed charcuterie breakfast and Summer Moon Coffee Set Up Now on May 4th
 - iii. Raising Cane's \$1k Sponsorship Order – lunch They are donating 4 wrapped baskets that will be teacher themed. There will be a raffle during the day and will draw names later that day. We will also use the Target gift card (donated by Target to Katrina) as a prize for this raffle.
 - iv. Chair Massages
- b. Monthly Recognition Days
 - a. April
 - i. April 2nd – School Librarian Appreciation Day – received thank you card from Ms. Polk
 - ii. April 6 – 10th – Assistant Principal Week – received thank you card
 - iii. April 22nd – Admin Professional Day
 - iv. April 28th – School Bus Driver Day
 - b. May

- i. May 1st – Principal Day
- ii. May 1st – Lunch Hero Day (celebrated National School Lunch Week in October instead)
- iii. May 4 – 8th – Teacher Appreciation Week – reviewed above (May 7th & May 8th – recess coverage)
- iv. May 6th – School Nurse Appreciation

11. Principal Update – Summer Gault

Feedback was Fiesta was one of the best of the year. Expressed gratitude for all of the work that went into making it a fun, special night for our students and families.

Everyone appreciated the snacks for the STAAR test.

All the teachers appreciate all the teacher appreciation!

12. Events Update – Carissa Heuertz (Sam)

- a. Nothing to discuss. See you next year!

13. Volunteer Update – Brandi Wright

- a. Upcoming SUGs Needed:
 - a. Blessings in a Backpack (Nicole Amedee / Sam Cooke) – Open spots for the second half of the school year. [SUG is full for the remainder of the year.](#)
 - i. Are there any board members that have not volunteered yet this year? Please review the SUG to see what works with your schedule.
 - ii. Teacher Appreciation – Playground Duty: - [Brandi created SUG last night.](#) [Can distribute now via social media, Summer’s newsletter and flyer with QR code at All Pro Dad’s on the 24th.](#)

Samantha Cooke <president@vrespto.com>
to Lauren, Brandi, Erica, Erika, bcc: Laine ▾

Mon, Mar 30, 11:02AM ☆ 😊 ↶

Hi Ladies - as part of TAW, Summer has requested recess coverage on Thursday (5/7) and Friday (5/8).

Brandi - can you please create the SUG by the end of this week? It should be a quick one! Once complete, I can create a QR code to display at All Pro Dad's on April 24th

Erica - just a heads up as we'll want to push this on social media immediately following Fiesta.

Thursday, May 7th

Kinder, 1st & 2nd recess - 7 volunteers needed from 11:00am - 12:30pm
3rd, 4th, 5th recess - 7 volunteers needed from 12:30pm - 2:00pm

Friday, May 8th:

Kinder, 1st & 2nd recess - 7 volunteers needed from 11:00am - 12:30pm
3rd, 4th, 5th recess - 7 volunteers needed from 12:30pm - 2:00pm

- b. National Volunteer Recognition – April 20th – 24th
 - i. Order more PTO cards – Laine (Completed, Received)
 - ii. Distribute cards & volunteer lists/assignments in April board meeting
 - iii. When should the completed cards be returned to Brandi for distribution to the volunteers? [List of names and cards were distributed at the meeting.](#) [Please return to the PTO mailbox by Friday of this week or Monday at the very latest.](#) [Brandi will distribute to the teacher’s next week so they can be sent home with the students.](#)

14. Communications Update – Erica Cepeda

- a. Monthly updates to PTO calendar
 - a. April updates by 4/1 – website calendar is still showing March [April updates are now complete](#)
- b. Upcoming Communication Needs:
 - a. April Spirit Stick Sales - Laine will open the pre-sale Friday, 4/17 and send the link to Erica. Erica will communicate via SM. [She will have something ready to go](#)
 - b. April & May – Experiences from Fiesta Friday Auction [Sam will be sending Erica photos as they come in. Let's post as soon as possible.](#)
 - c. Upcoming Appreciation Days:
 - 4/20 – 4/24 – Volunteer Recognition Week
 - 4/22 – Admin Professional Day
 - 4/28 – School Bus Driver Day
 - 5/1 – Principal Day
 - 5/4 – 5/8 – Teacher Appreciation Week
 - 5/5 – Spirit Night at McDonald's 5 – 8pm
 - 5/6 – School Nurse Appreciation Day
 - d. Update on password for Instagram & posting Linktree – Is this resolved now? [Sam provided info to Erica. The Linktree is posted now](#)
 - e. [Make a post for school supplies and yard signs](#)
 - f. [Announce next year's PTO Board](#)
 - g. [Announce we need to fill Secretary role for next year](#)

15. All Other Business

- a. 2026 – 2027 Executive Board Recruiting
 - a. Review of candidates presented by the nominating committee (Tia – Chairperson, with additional input from Natalie, Lisa, Avery)
 - b. Board Vote
 - i. Is General Vote Required?
 - a. If so, 4/17 – voting opens to general PTO, remains open for 2 weeks. Voting ends 5/1 and new board announced.
 - ii. This year's nominating committee: Tia, Natalie, Lisa, Avery
 - iii. May
 - a. Announce 2026 – 2027 Executive Board via Social Media & Summer's Newsletter
 - b. New board members to join monthly board meeting on Wednesday, May 6th.
- c. Open Positions (highlighted): [Name correction - Valerie Gomez not Valeria, Laurie Wolf staying on Merchandise committee. Tia motioned to move forward with candidates for VP positions, motion was seconded by Elizabeth and passed in a vote unanimously. Need to create a post to advertise Secretary position is open. Tia will email candidates to invite them to May meeting.](#)

Board or Committee	Role	Interested Candidate
Board	Co-President	Samantha Cooke
Board	Co-President	Laine Beatty
Board	Treasurer	Tia Flournoy
Board	Secretary	Avery Harmon
Board	VP of Merchandise	Lisa Hernandez
Board	VP of Sponsorships	Mara Barry
Board	VP of Staff Appreciation	Maureen Hensley
Board	VP of Events	Miranda Ramirez
Board	VP of Communication	Erica Cepeda
Board	VP of Fundraising	Natalie Samson
Board	VP of Volunteers	Brandi Wright
Board	VP of Membership	Elizabeth Duenckel
Board	Fiesta Friday Chair	Laine Beatty
Board	Fiesta Friday Co-Chair	Natalie Samson
Committee	Staff Appreciation	Lauren Tijerina
Committee	Staff Appreciation	Hilda Garza
Committee	Staff Appreciation	Alyssa Conklin
Committee	Staff Appreciation	Carolyn Kearns
Committee	Events	Carissa Heuertz
Committee	Events	Ashley Sawicki
Committee	Events	Kiere Wilkey
Committee	Events	Valeria Gomez
Committee	Merchandise	Vanessa Gold
Committee	Merchandise	Natalie Pakala
Committee	Blessings in a Backpack	Shauna Tressler
Committee	Fundraising	Elizabeth Duenckel

- b. New Podium for School
 - a. Student Council has committed \$1,000 toward this purchase.
 - i. Sam to work with Melanie on funds transfer.
 - ii. Company is not currently part of the approved purchasing program and would have to be asked to re-apply. Sam needs to re-visit options with Melanie.
 - a. \$1,300 budget in office furniture
 - c. TEA Celebration (Sam) – may have missed our window here? *Let's just move forward*
 - a. Ideas on what we could do to CELEBRATE (not necessarily treat related)?
 - b. Providing snacks during STAAR testing (Katrina): *This was well received, but some concerns with a couple of teachers not distributing the snacks on test day. Summer will follow up with an e-mail to the teachers prior to the 4/21 testing.*
 - i. 4/15/26 STAAR RLA Grades 3 – 5 (appx. 415 students) - COMPLETE
 - ii. 4/21/26 STAAR Science Grade 5 (appx. 125 students)
 - iii. 4/28/26 STAAR Math Grades 3 – 5 (appx. 415 students)
 - d. Provided snacks to Ms. Bowe for PLC Room (\$300) – will want to evaluate further when preparing next year's budget. *She was very appreciative of this*
 - e. Popsicles for Field Day on Tia volunteered her husband to pick up the paletas and the carts for us. *It was discussed/decided that we should offer fewer flavors this year. Discussed offering the more refreshing flavors but a point was made that the chocolate and oreo flavors were some of the more popular flavors last year and we should take that into consideration, too. So, just fewer flavors and organize the carts better. Sam*

will review and place order. Tia’s husband will pick up for us. Will need a SUG for distribution on field day. The more help, the better!

16. Fiesta Friday Review

a. **Financials** – expenses are still in the process of being finalized. Will review further in May meeting.

a. Carnival

	2025	2026	YOY DELTA	
PRE-SALE	\$ 8,030	\$ 7,275	\$ (755)	
WILL CALL	\$ -	\$ 3,020	\$ 3,020	*
TOTAL "EARLY" SALES	\$ 8,030	\$ 10,295	\$ 2,265	
EVENT SALES	\$ 8,685	\$ 7,300	\$ (1,385)	
TOTAL WRISTBAND/RAFFLE SALES	\$ 16,715	\$ 17,595	\$ 880	
MERCHANDISE SALES		\$ 464		
* Earned an additional (estimated) \$545 by not extending pre-sale and switching to will call.				

b. Auction

		2025	2026	YOY DELTA
EXPERIENCES	QUANTITY	106	108	2
	ACTUAL	\$ 24,290	\$ 26,980	\$2,690
	STARTING BID	\$ 8,990	\$ 11,500	\$2,510
	BUY IT NOW	\$ 32,080	\$ 34,600	\$2,520
	UNSOLD	4	3	(1)
BUSINESS DONATIONS	QUANTITY	46	34	(12)
	ACTUAL	\$ 6,161	\$ 5,491	(\$670)
	STARTING BID	\$ 4,370	\$ 2,970	(\$1,400)
	BUY IT NOW	\$ 22,230	\$ 14,330	(\$7,900)
	UNSOLD	3	1	(2)
CLASS BASKETS	QUANTITY	41	38	(3)
	ACTUAL	\$ 7,010	\$ 7,427	\$417
	STARTING BID	\$ 4,900	\$ 4,805	(\$95)
	BUY IT NOW	\$ 18,805	\$ 19,535	\$730
	UNSOLD	1	0	(1)
TOTAL	QUANTITY	193	180	(13)
	ACTUAL	\$ 37,461	\$ 39,898	\$2,437
	STARTING BID	\$ 18,260	\$ 19,275	\$1,015
	BUY IT NOW	\$ 73,115	\$ 68,465	(\$4,650)
	UNSOLD	8	4	(4)
DONATIONS		\$ 50	\$ 290	\$ 240
TOTAL RAISED		\$ 37,511	\$ 40,188	\$ 2,677

UNSOLD:	Reserved Annual Parking Spots - \$1,500
VV Ortho	Had to refund 1 Fiesta Parking Spot - \$125
CFA w/ LS	Have 1 unpaid auction totaling \$100 (Laine is reaching out)
CFA w/ 5th	
Kinder 2nd Row Seats	

b. **Process Review** - will add to this in the meeting. Initial feedback:

a. **Carnival**

i. **Pre-Sale**

- a. Filling orders weekly seemed to work well. Didn't have issues with people not getting wristbands.
- b. More raffle tickets sold in the pre-sale this year vs. last year (235 in 2025 vs. 289 in 2026)

ii. **Will Call**

- a. Need to update Cognito form to be more in-line with pre-sale form. Will call export didn't identify number of items purchased. [Update form a little - Laine](#)
- b. Process seemed to work well. Only had confusion from 1 student as to why wristband wasn't received with pre-sale wristbands. [Some confusion at will call pick up with regards to raffle tickets. Maybe more clear verbiage next year to let them](#)

know again that raffle tickets purchased were already filled out and in the drawing for them.

- c. Need to consider having 2 copies of the will call order sheet next year. Will help to get through the line quicker.

iii. Rides/Games

- a. Weather allowed for set up of canopy tents earlier in the day, which made things less chaotic at 2pm.
- b. Last minute changes with sponsors continue to make things challenging
- c. Last minute changes from Air Castles was an issue again this year.
 - i. Wanted to change rides the night before.
 - ii. Showed up with a ride that we didn't order (in place of a ride that we did order), with no prior communication.
 - iii. Felt problematic to make the weather call so early, but was nice to have everything set up earlier. Allowed the opportunity to walk the grounds and make adjustments.
 - iv. Added an extra generator last minute (\$175).
 - v. Games were not tested prior to go-live. One breaker "was already" blown when they plugged in 2 – 3 games. BISD maintenance acted quickly to resolve the issue, thankfully.
 - vi. Krista suggested/requested that next year we notify or remind the teachers of when the carnival will be set up as it impacts recess.
 - vii. Erika asked if all carnival employees have a back ground checks? Should they do a BISD check? Krista said this wasn't necessary as BISD background checks are only for non-school adult employees that would be left alone with a student. This is a public event.
 - viii. Sending kids down the slide too fast/before other kids could completely clear from the bottom? May want to review this for next year. No parent complaints or injuries
- d. Dunk tank process seemed much better this year. No real complaints from those being dunked. The cones worked well this year. A lot of positive feedback around the changes.
- e. Would recommend a call with them next year prior to booking rides & games.
- f. No line holding signs should be removed by us (PTO, volunteers) at the end of the evening.

b. Auction

i. Donations

- a. One (maybe two) items added late because of late pick up

- b. Experiences – review STAAR dates and take this into account with staff experiences
- c. Consider the start of staff experiences – takes time to coordinate which students will be participating in each of the experiences
- d. Sheet for signing out auction items (class baskets) was easier this year with the printed list vs envelopes.

ii. Set Up

- a. Seemed to go well for the most part. Volunteers may need more oversight next year (?). One “basket” was disassembled in the portable to be taken to the cafeteria. Next year we would maybe limit this set up to PTO board members and school staff members vs parent and student volunteers.

iii. Go-Live /Sale

- a. Items with no activity weren’t “featured” early/soon enough (Sam wasn’t aware of the feature)
- b. More promotion on Facebook last year seemed to build excitement

iv. Distribution of Items

- a. Not sure we need to have representation from “experiences” at 7pm pick up. Agree this wouldn’t be necessary next year. If any questions or notes, sponsorship or fundraising could make note.
- b. Not having envelopes for class baskets seemed to work well (one paper for all signatures). May want to consider this for business items next year. Or, maybe pull the paper from the auction table and have them sign that (potential cost savings).
- c. Reserved parking spots – may want to consider putting a cone in each spot next year. We had to refund \$125 for one spot this year because someone parked in it. Or possibly placing the reserved sign on the pole instead of over the permanent “visitor” parking sign.

c. Volunteers

i. SUG Creation

- a. Needs cleaned up with more general spots – example: game volunteer, ride volunteer, auction volunteer, sales booth volunteer, merchandise volunteer and then assign jobs (by priority) as people arrive. Continue to note 18+ where that makes sense.

ii. Getting Volunteers

- a. More focus sooner than 1 – 2 days prior

iii. Volunteer Mgmt. at Event

- a. Volunteer check in should be moved to just outside the gate prior to 5pm. (Maybe we have a will call sheet here for

distribution of wristbands? – would need to think through this process more.)

- b. Should not have volunteers assist with taking canopy tents down.
 - i. Bag torn (working on replacement)
 - ii. 2 – 3 sets of stakes left on ground
 - iii. Canopy cover left on ground over-night
- c. Let's stick to PTO board members taking baskets from the portable to the cafeteria, not volunteers.
- d. Could we have a check sheet for volunteers and what they are supposed to do when they get there. (Requested by Brandi)
- e. Consider not having volunteers in the portables next year.
- f. From Natalie: Don't really not need volunteers to help set up auction, maybe one teacher. We don't need anyone in there while it's going on.

d. Misc.

- i. Too many people were let in too early. Big improvement from last year, but still more opportunity for improvement here.
- ii. Wristbands distributed to some too early. If volunteers need to pick up wristbands, then let's open that up to volunteers beginning at 4:50 (or a specific time that makes sense). We can't accommodate one-off requests during set up.
- iii. Status of portable at end of evening
- iv. It would be very helpful to have each vendor and game labeled with the number that corresponds to the print out for setting up
- v. Might need signs for height minimum (ask about height minimums when ordering/reserving rides)

17. Future Business

- a. Review/Update VRES PTO Bylaws – Over time things have evolved informally with only minor updates to the bylaw document.
 - a. Recommend reviewing and updating to reflect current practices (example: timing of annual budget approval and spend that takes place from July 1st through early September).
 - i. Believe this would strengthen financial oversight and accountability (To be clear, there are no concerns with spend that takes place during the school year, but spend does take place leading up to the school year before the budget is actually approved. (precedent set)
 - ii. Would also like to provide more clarity and transparency of roles and responsibilities, both throughout the year and during leadership transition.
 - iii. And to be sure we are aligned with best practices of the school district

- b. Consider adding further verbiage to clarify sponsor recognition vs commercial advertising. Be sure to consider BISD policies on social media, etc. with regards to the commercial advertising (monetizing our social media accounts).
- b. School Assembly (Sam, Erika & Summer)
 - a. If you have any ideas or suggestions for a Spring school assembly, please let us know!
 - b. Received several options from Mobile Ed - to be reviewed further
- c. Graduation Walk (Sam & Erika)
 - a. Confirming date, but believed to be Monday, May 18th.
 - b. The seniors walking this year will be the first 5th grade class to graduate VRES.
 - c. Ideas on how to make it special for the seniors and their families:
 - i. Mrs. Polk confirmed she does have a copy of their (5th grade) yearbook in the library.
 - ii. Use photos to create a slide show (cafeteria)
 - a. Even if we don't create a slide show, we can have the actual 5th grade pictures on display in the cafeteria. Trying to locate copies of those, but may need to reach out to the company that provided the pictures that year.
 - iii. Coffee, Juice, Water, Donuts
 - iv. Photo Backdrop
- d. 2026 PTO Membership Drive (Elizabeth)
 - a. Finalize membership levels and swag for next year.
- e. Re-consider set up of SUG for Blessings next year:
 - a. Consider creating 2 SUGS – one for fall, another for spring so that you don't have to scroll as far to see the open volunteer spots?

Important Upcoming Dates:

- 4/20 – 4/24 – Volunteer Recognition Week
- 4/21 – STAAR SCIENCE (5th)
- 4/22 – Admin Professional Day
- 4/28 – School Bus Driver Day
- 4/28 – STAAR MATH (3rd, 4th, 5th)
- 5/1 – Principal Day
- 5/1 – Lunch Hero Day (NA - previously celebrated during National School Lunch Week in October)
- 5/1 – VP & Committee Updates due to Sam
- 5/4 – 5/8 – Teacher Appreciation Week
- 5/5 – Spirit Night at McDonald's 5 – 8pm
- 5/6 – School Nurse Appreciation Day
- 5/6 – VRES Art Show
- 5/6 – Monthly PTO Board Meeting 10am – 12pm
- 5/15 – Field Day (providing popsicles)
- 5/18 – Class of 2026 Senior Walk – 8am
- 5/21 – Last Day of School

Action Items: Please ensure completion or conversation by due date. Secretary will follow up weekly.

Action	Owner	Due Date	Status
Ask Summer to send out email about school supply purchases to incoming kinder parents	Sam	FUTURE – May 2026	
Work with Melanie on funds transfer/paying for Podium (re: student councils' portion)	Tia/Sam	OUTSTANDING	
Work on getting 5 th grade pictures for graduation walk	Sam/Summer	4/15/26	
Email new PTO board and committee members inviting them to May meeting	Tia		
Send themed list to room moms for teacher appreciation week	Lauren		
Write volunteer thank you notes	All board members	4/20 by the very latest	
Send photos to Erica from auction experiences so we can post those	Sam	On-going ASAP	
Post for yard signs	Erica		
Post for school supplies	Erica		
Create post that the PTO (Board) Secretary position is open	Erica		
Contact FORES PTO about trading older spirit sticks	Sam	4/20/26	COMPLETE
Send Parent Square note to 5 th grade parents about yard signs	Summer	4/15/26	COMPLETE
Notify BISD we are ready to move forward with Campus Improvement Projects (excluding pavers in court yard, plus extending side walk to in front of reserved parking spots)	Summer	4/15/26	

Order Paletas	Sam	4/30/26	
Pick up Paletas & return carts	Tia (husband)	5/15/26 5/16/26	
Create and distribute SUG for distribution on field day	Brandi	ASAP	

Meeting Adjourned: 12:09 pm