



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

**Van Raub Elementary School
 2025 - 2026 PTO Board Meeting
 November 5, 2025, 10am – 12pm
 VRES Campus**

1. Call to Order: 10:05 am

2. Roll Call:

- | | |
|---|--|
| (y) Summer Gault, Principal | (y) Laine Beatty, VP Merchandise |
| (y) Krista Kimball, Staff Rep. | () 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 | (y) Carissa Huertz, VP Events |
| (y) Avery Harmon, Secretary | (y) Lauren Tijerina, VP Staff Appr |
| (y) Katrina Doran, VP Sponsorships | Additional Attendees: |
| (y) Elizabeth Duenckel, VP Membership | Lisa Hernandez (merch committee) |
| () Hannah Bowers, VP Campus Improvements | Laurie Wolfe (merch committee) |

3. President Update - Sam Cooke & Erika Johnson

a. Educational Grant Update – Approved spend of \$12,264 in October Board Meeting. We were able to purchase all approved items for \$11,420 for a savings of approximately \$850 (details below). Total spend of \$11,420 vs budget of \$15,000. The only outstanding item to be purchased is the rolling storage cart for Coach Miles for the indoor gaga ball pit. Item has not been released into production yet, but is expected to be prior to year end.

Generation Genius Savings	\$	(200.00)	Agreed to a flat rate renewal for this year
Pebble Go Savings	\$	(199.90)	Agreed to a flat rate renewal for this year
GaGa Pit Savings	\$	(403.05)	Found same gaga pit for appx. \$300 less. The rolling cart has not been released yet, but should be by the end of the year. Another \$100 temp savings (delayed spend).
Fossil Coupon Savings	\$	(1.60)	Amazon Coupon
Increased Cost on Dice Poppers	\$	29.95	Dice poppers requested were no longer available. Increased cost on a similar item.
Total Increased Cost on Multiple Play Items for PK Request	\$	(12.02)	Price increases from time requested to time purchased
Chompsaw	\$	20.10	Found coupon code to be used and was able to get the tool set to go with the saw for only \$20 more than what was requested
Pretend Play Toys	\$	(4.92)	Total savings on multiple items for Ms. Polk - price differences between time requested and time ordered
Zipper Pouches for Math Manipulatives	\$	(0.16)	Price savings from time requested to time purchased
Owl Pellets	\$	(37.12)	Price savings from time requested to time purchased
Light Box & Rolling Cart for Art (Upper Grades)	\$	(34.73)	Price savings from time requested to time purchased
	\$	(843.45)	

b. Fiesta Friday – April 10th: Will officially kick of planning & prep and role assignments in the December meeting, but we need to secure the vendor for rides & games ASAP! Will Review / Discuss Quote from Air Castles in other business today.

- c. PTO will be providing the decorations for tonight's Military Family Dinner. Tia and Sam to decorate at 4pm today. Table Décor, Photo Backdrop, Balloon Wreath. Total Cost \$182.63 or less (likely have supplies that can be returned).
- d. PTO is donating 18 mini pies, plus 1 regular pie to BISD admin. Total cost = \$120. Included in the budget but at \$100 (price increase from prior year).
- e. 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.

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:
 - i. Sponsorship
 - i. \$1,750 ahead of budget on funds raised – Katrina will provide details in Sponsorship Update.
 - ii. Membership
 - i. Approximately \$1.8k ahead of budget on funds raised
 - ii. Approximately \$1.5k under budget on Teacher Amazon Grant purchases.
 - iii. Field Trips
 - i. Approximately \$600 under budget on field trip expense. All funds have been paid to the school for all grades.
 - iv. Educational Grants
 - i. Approved spend of \$12,264 in October Board Meeting. We were able to purchase all approved items for \$11,420 for a savings of approximately \$850. Total spend of \$11,420.
 - v. BOA Support
 - i. Approved expense up to \$1,200 in September board meeting. Actual expense was \$675, which helped 9 students to attend. This was technically a budget increase so we should not consider the remaining \$525 as budget "savings".
- c. Outstanding Receipts – [not aware of anything missing as of now, but did notice that several transactions came through early this morning. If you need to submit receipts for those, please do.](#)

5. Sponsorship Update – Katrina Doran

- a. Wildey Pediatric Dentistry committed to Bronze Level Sponsorship. Check received and should be deposited this week.
- b. Blume Haus will be a bronze level trade sponsor for their carnation donation for Grandparents Day.

toward the purchase of swag for next year’s membership drive. This will allow her to have the merchandise on-hand when the school year starts, prior to the budget being approved. To date, we have approximately \$1,500 in under-spend on the Teacher/Classroom Amazon Grant purchases.

7. Fundraising Update - Natalie Samson

- a. Spirit Nights: [We need 2 volunteers for Kendra Scott night, Natalie will send email about sign up and Kendra Scott rules.](#)

MONTH	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EARNED
MARCH 2025	RECEIVED LATE	(EARNED PRIOR YEAR)	CHICK-FIL-A	\$ 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	\$ 154
OCTOBER	9/29/25 - 10/3/25	Online*	BULVERDE PUMPKIN PATCH	\$ 55
NOVEMBER	11/21/2025	6pm - 8pm	KENDRA SCOTT	\$ -
DECEMBER	12/12/2025	4pm - 8pm	RAISING CANE'S	\$ -
JANUARY	1/27/2026	3pm - 10pm	TXRH	\$ -
FEBRUARY	2/22/2025	4pm - 8pm	PANERA BREAD	\$ -
MARCH	3/26/2025	5pm - 9pm	RAISING CANE'S	\$ -
APRIL				\$ -
MAY				\$ -
YTD TOTAL				\$ 1,321

*Purchase pass online now through October 3rd. Pass can be used any weekday in the month of October.

Annual Budget \$ 2,100
 LTG \$ 779

- b. 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 kids.)
 - i. Still a couple of open volunteer spots in December, January, February & March

DATE	VOLUNTEERS		SALES \$\$		
			CASH	ONLINE	TOTAL
MEET THE TEACHER SALES					\$ 37
GRANDPARENTS DAY SALES					\$ 16
AUGUST 29th	NATALIE NATALIE	LAINÉ LAINÉ	\$ 159	\$ 90	\$ 249
SEPTEMBER 26th	TIA TIA	CATALINA VALDES SOFIA COUTTOLENC	\$ 162	\$ 60	\$ 222
OCTOBER 31st	NATALIE NATALIE	ADA ZIMMERMAN LAINÉ BEATTY	\$ 81	\$ 150	\$ 231
DECEMBER 5th	OPEN OPEN	OPEN OPEN	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
JANUARY 30th	LAUREN OPEN	AVERY VIRY URDIALES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FEBRUARY 27th	TIA TIA	FLORISOL MCQUEENEY OPEN	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MARCH 27th	LAUREN OPEN	OPEN OPEN	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
APRIL 24th	NATALIE NATALIE	SAM SAM	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
YTD TOTAL			\$ 402	\$ 300	\$ 755

- 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
LTG	\$	445

- c. Apex Roadrunner Dash – Monday, November 10th – Friday, November 21st
 - i. Financials (for Awareness):
 - i. Revenue Budget = \$49.4k
 - ii. Donation Budget (Teacher / Classroom Give-Back) = \$10.3k
 - ii. Monday 11/3:
 - i. First post to social media - **COMPLETE**
 - iii. By Wednesday 11/5:
 - i. Principal Newsletter (distribute electronically) – **COMPLETE Tuesday 11/4**
 - iv. By Friday 11/7:
 - i. Distribute SUG for Event Day
 - a. Ask Summer to include in this week’s newsletter
 - v. Monday 11/10:
 - i. 1:45pm - Kick-off Pep Rally for Students [Katrina will help on the 10th](#)
 - a. Natalie & Sam to attend to help distribute VIP badges to teachers as they enter. Could use one additional volunteer for upper grades if anyone is interested. Should also consider distributing classroom flags (ordered 11/3) on this day.
 - b. Sam to hang progress tracker (banner) in cafeteria.
 - ii. 3:30pm – Teacher Huddle

- vi. Wednesday 11/12:
 - i. Apex Spirit Day – Wear Orange & Blue from Head to Shoe [Create something to advertise on social media and add to Summer’s weekly newsletter this week.](#)
- vii. Thursday 11/20:
 - i. 8:00am – 2:45pm – Roadrunner Dash Day
 - a. Brandi is working to finalize volunteer SUG:
 - i. Katrina reached out to Fair Oaks ER to see if they will provide First Aid for the day. [They weren’t able to find a provider for that day, so we will need to get a volunteer. Katrina talked to Summer about possibly getting a sub-student nurse for the day.](#)
 - b. Merchandise – SALE
 - ii. Board Members Assignments (decide today):
 - a. Managing Volunteers - [Natalie](#)
 - b. Videos / Picture / FB Live throughout the day – [everyone can send pictures & videos to Erica throughout the day. Katrina will help Erica with FB live. Tia will take actual photos with camera.](#)
 - c. Merchandise Sales – [Laine will create plan and notify us of what volunteers are needed.](#)
- viii. Friday 11/21:
 - i. Follow-up / Finalization Day

8. Merchandise Update – Laine Beatty

- a. Roadrunner Dash Shirts
 - i. Scheduled for delivery on Monday 11/3 – [Shirts are in!](#)
 - ii. Total cost is \$5,110 vs budget of \$5,250 (includes students and all staff)
 - iii. Plan for Sorting & Distribution – Laine and her team will meet at the school to sort and distribute just ahead of race day. [Laine and her team will meet next week to inventory and sort the shirts. All shirts will be delivered to teachers the afternoon before the dash. Shirts do not get sent home with the students. The students will come in their own shirts Thursday morning and change into their school shirts.](#)
- b. October pre-order for Spirit Sticks – had record amount of online pre-order sales in the month of October. Total amount sold was \$150 and all spirit sticks were collected by the students (no carry forward).
 - i. We started pre-sale of spirit sticks in October 2024. Last year we sold a total of \$265 in online pre-orders. We are already at \$300 YTD for this school year.
 - ii. Open pre-order on Friday, November 28th or Sunday, November 30th? (Spirit Stick sales moved to December 5th because of Roadrunner Dash and Thanksgiving). [Pre-sales will open Monday, Dec. 1st. If we post any sooner, we don’t think people will see it. The window will be shorter this month, but it should be fine.](#)
 - iii. Close pre-order on Friday, December 5th at 8am and provide file for sales that same day.

- c. Merchandise SALE for Roadrunner Dash 11/20 – Old Merchandise Only or Old and New? One price for all older items? All merchandise – t-shirts \$5, sweatshirts \$10 and new hats only. Will evaluate if we want to offer a discount on the hats that day.
- d. Cyber Monday – Do we want to do another Cyber Monday Sale, or do we anticipate completely selling out during the Dash? All of the old merchandise was already included in the cyber sale last year. See how inventory is and see what we have spent and made on new merchandise to determine if we want to reduce the price on those items and by how much (if we do). Laine will run numbers on new merchandise and send to Sam for discussion.

9. Campus Improvement Update – Hannah Bowers

- 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. Summer submitted all four of the below requests on our behalf on Wednesday, August 27th. Current approval status for each request:

PROJECT	SIDEWALK	BUTTER BLOCKS	PLAYGROUND SUN SHADE	COURTYARD ENHANCEMENTS (RIVER ROCK)
ESTIMATED COST	\$ 8,400	\$ 3,800	\$ 46,000	TBD
SUBMITTED	8/27/2025	8/27/2025	8/27/2025	8/27/2025
Gilbert Salinas	9/16/2025	9/16/2025	9/16/2025	9/16/2025
Ramior Guerrero	9/17/2025	9/17/2025	9/17/2025	9/17/2025
Eddie Ashley	9/17/2025	9/17/2025	9/17/2025	9/23/2025
John O'hare	9/21/2025	9/21/2025	9/21/2025	9/23/2025
Jill Rhodespruin	9/22/2025	9/22/2025	9/22/2025	9/23/2025
Rick Goodrich		9/22/2025	9/22/2025	9/24/2025
Larissa Flores		9/23/2025	9/23/2025	9/24/2025
Sean Babcock		9/23/2025	9/23/2025	9/24/2025
Krista Pomeroy		9/24/2025	9/24/2025	10/1/2025
Wesley Scott		9/25/2025	9/25/2025	10/2/2025
America Jones		9/25/2025*	9/25/2025*	10/2/25*
Patricia Flores		9/25/2025*	9/25/2025*	10/2/25*
Liliana Jaime		9/25/2025*	9/25/2025*	10/2/25*
		APPROVED	APPROVED	APPROVED
*Copy Sent				

- c. Met with Wesley Scott and Ramiro Guerrero at BISD this morning (11/5) to discuss next steps on the above projects. – Provide Update / Outcome of Meeting / Next Steps to Board – Reviewed each project in detail and attempted to work through next steps. Generally speaking, the process is still being built. In the future, there’s a reasonable chance that each project will need to be discussed since the scope of projects can vary significantly. As a result of the 4 projects previously submitted (3 approved, 1 still pending), an engineer was on campus at 10:30am Wednesday and walked through each of the proposed projects with Summer and Tia. He will now provide drawings/plans for each project, which will include the full scope/specs for each. From there, the specs will

be entered into a hub and contractors will be given the opportunity to bid on the projects. If there's a contractor that wants to bid on the projects but isn't an existing approved BISD vendor, they can submit the necessary information to become an approved vendor (Certificate of Insurance, etc.). Still more info to come on the process, but we are starting to move forward/make progress on the projects identified last year!

- d. Possible additional campus improvement projects for this year:
 - i. Additional (shaded) benches for the playground – revisit once new Sunshade is installed.
 - ii. Additional (safety) window coverings for classrooms that face the drop-off / pick up loop in the front of the school.

10. Staff Appreciation Update – Lauren Tijerina

- a. Monthly Staff Appreciation Events - What's coming up?
 - i. October 20th – Charcuterie (Alyssa) – How was it?? [Did a large display. Teachers loved it, loved to-go boxes again. Will scale back a little next time as there was a fair amount of leftovers \(even after scaling back from last year\).](#)
 - ii. November 17th - Pies with Ice Cream “A slice of Appreciation” (Lauren)
 - i. Pies with Ice Cream
 - ii. HEB Gift Cards \$15
 - iii. December 12th – Poppin’ in to say Thank You! (Lauren, Alyssa, Rachel)
 - i. Popcorn, toppings & salts
 - ii. Decorate with Xmas Movie Posters, Erica to do balloon arch
 - iii. Check with Theatres for sponsorship opportunities or discount tickets. – Didn't hear back from AMC, need to check with Palladium.
 - iv. January 9th – TXRH Welcome Back Lunch (Hilda)
 - i. Texas Roadhouse Lunch, plus salads & dressings from HEB
 - ii. Sam and Erika to own staff presentation, game / give aways.
 - v. February 6th – Blake BBQ: Tailgate Party Lunch
 - i. Superbowl Theme
 - ii. 3 Sides, Brisket, Sausage, Turkey, Pork Belly
 - iii. Scoreboard for teachers to predict winning team for super bowl, encourage staff to wear their favorite sports attire
 - vi. March 17th – Feeling Lucky Chocolate Bar
 - i. St. Patty's Day Décor
 - ii. 1 Golden ticket hidden – need to decide on prize
 - vii. April 13th – Snowflake Donuts ([replacing this with the Sonic idea](#))
 - viii. May 4th – 8th – Teacher Appreciation Week
 - i. Summer Moon Coffee Set Up
 - ii. Raising Cane's \$1k Sponsorship Order
- b. Monthly Recognition Days
 - i. November
 - i. Veteran's Day – November 11 - PTO will provide a yard sign, coffee & donut holes. All other items are provided by the school.
 - ii. December – NA

- iii. January
 - i. January 12th – SRO Appreciation Day
- iv. February
 - i. February 2 – 6th – National School Counselor Week
 - ii. ~~February 15th~~ – SRO Day **Actually Jan 9th, but we will celebrate Jan 12 because school isn't in session on the 9th.**
- v. March – NA
- vi. April
 - i. April 4th – School Librarian Appreciation Day
 - ii. April 6 – 10th – Assistant Principal Week
 - iii. April 10th – Fiesta Friday
 - iv. April 20 – 24th – Volunteer Recognition Week
 - v. April 22nd – Admin Professional Day
 - vi. April 22nd – Military Connected Kids
 - vii. April 28th – School Bus Driver Day
- vii. May
 - i. May 1st – Principal Day
 - ii. May 4 – 8th – Teacher Appreciation Week
 - iii. May 6th – School Nurse Appreciation
 - iv. May 21st – Last Day of School – Congrats Grads!

11. Principal Update – Summer Gault

12. Events Update – Carissa Heuertz

- a. Future Events: **Nixing winter event, stick to larger event in Feb with Peace, Love and Glow Dance**
 - i. Winter Event – Suggested Date & Time: Friday, December 6th 6pm – 8pm

For a December event we were thinking Friday, December 6th from 6-8pm.

1) Holiday Movie Under the Stars

- Rent a blow-up Movie Screen and Popcorn Machine
- Have everyone bring their own chairs/blankets
- Provide Popcorn & Soda
- Have a self-pay truck like Travelin' Tom's Coffee for cocoa and coffee. Or if the budget allows, cover the cost (100 Servings for 2 hrs - \$575, so maybe double that)

2) Photos with Santa

- Rent a Santa that comes with full backdrop set up, or hire a photographer to do the set up.
- Have the photographer provide a QR code or link to the digital gallery where each family can download their own digital photo.
- Provide cookies and milk

- i. Spring Event - Suggested Date & Time: Friday, February 20th or Friday, February 27th **Peace, love and Glow – voted on Feb 6th because there are other larger school events on Thursday, February 19th and Thursday, February 26th. Carissa will send info to Erica so she can create/post a save the date (after Apex fundraiser is complete).**

For the Winter Family Give Back Event, we plan on doing another Glow Dance, but with a slightly different theme and some improvements.

Title: "Peace, Love, & Glow" or "Bright Lights & Boogie Nights"

Date: Feb 20th or 27th 6-8pm

Ideas: Still a neon, glow theme, but with a 70's vibe. Probably use the same DJ and bring in a disco ball type light. We love the 360 Photo booth, but not sure we want to use the same vendor if we can find a good deal with another.

- Still provide Pizza and water, and have a few food trucks outside.

- Hire a look-alike celebrity/character dance artist.

- Instead of making favor bags, we will spend the money on just a couple items like foam glow sticks, etc.

13. Volunteer Update – Brandi Wright

a. Upcoming SUGs Needed:

- i. Finalize and distribute the SUG for Apex Roadrunner Dash [need to figure out nurse situation, but in the meantime we will include a nurse volunteer on the SUG until/unless we are able to confirm sub-student nurse.](#)

b. Blessings in a Backpack (Nicole Amedee / Sam Cooke)

- i. Nicole will continue to be our point of contact for Blessings. She is now working full-time, so Sam will serve as backup point of contact.
 - ii. The SUG was created and distributed. Will ask that each Board Member volunteer to deliver at least twice throughout the year.
 - iii. For informational purposes, the number of blessings bags for VRES has nearly doubled from prior years. With this change, as well as the change in packing space/process, the PTO purchased 2 additional wagons. Total cost \$214.48.
 - iv. We also replaced the reusable bags this month. More bags were needed as a result of the increase in bags for our school. Total cost \$150.82.
 - v. Change of location for this week. Special packing with first responders only at the fire station. Volunteer will still need to drop off the reusable bags and pick up the snack bags (at regular time) to return them to the school. [Further Update: The city sent the wrong start time \(earlier\) to its volunteers, so Sam took the blessings bags to Kathy Wednesday evening. Our school volunteer will pick the packed bags up and deliver back to VRES on Thursday, though.](#)

14. Communications Update – Erica Cepeda [go to 16:9 in camera for the correct size for Instagram, vertical pictures also work much better.](#)

- a. Status on initial recognition / shout out for all sponsors. [4 left, will add Blume Haus](#)
- b. Status on sponsor updates on our website / cleaning up this area of the website / getting the information to flow from one tab to the others, etc. [The website has been updated, but Erica had to do it page by page. She wasn't able to get in contact with the person Laine sent to her. Before the updates are required next year, Erica will submit a request for help through Wix. This should streamline the updates \(hopefully\).](#)
- c. Upcoming Communication Needs:
 - i. Apex Fundraiser:
 - i. SUG for 11/20 Roadrunner Dash Event – [Sam made the necessary updates and sent to Summer on Thurs 11/6 to be included in the newsletter and to Erica on Friday 11/7 to be posted to social media.](#)

- ii. 11/3 – Monday – Level Up & Save the Dates – COMPLETE
- iii. 11/5 – Wednesday (Summer) – Principal Newsletter (sent electronically) – COMPLETE 11/4
- iv. 11/9 – Sunday - Pep Rally Tomorrow
- v. 11/10 – Monday - Pledging Now Open
- vi. 11/11 – Tuesday – Apex Level Up, Level Up Starts with Me
- vii. 11/12 – Wednesday – All Students to Log In at MyApexEvent.com
 - a. Apex Spirit Day is 11/12 – Wear Orange & Blue from Head to Shoe – How soon do we want to start advertising this? [Summer will include in her newsletter this week. Erica to create social media post for early next week.](#)
- viii. 11/13 – Thursday – Starts with Me
- ix. 11/14 - Friday Evening or 11/15 - Saturday Morning – Share Challenge
- x. 11/17 - Monday Event Day Schedule
- xi. 11/18 – Tuesday – Top 5 Classes
- xii. 11/19 – Wednesday – Obstacle Course Image
- xiii. 11/20 – Thursday – Event Photos
- xiv. 11/21 – Friday – Thank you Image
- xv. 11/22 – Saturday – Final Message, Thank You to Contributors and Volunteers, etc.
- ii. Blessings in a Backpack SUG (on-going)
- iii. Save the Date – Fiesta Friday April 10th (After Apex Fundraiser is complete.)
- iv. Membership Drive Class Parties for 100% Membership and One & Done Celebrations
 - i. 100% Membership – 3 classes Pizza & Ice Cream
 - ii. 100% Membership – 2 classes Popsicles & Extra Recess
 - iii. One & Done Celebrations – 3 classes (
- v. November Spirit Night – Friday, 11/23 @ Kendra Scott 6pm – 8pm [Natalie to send a Kendra Scott flyer to Summer to include in her weekly newsletter – COMPLETE.](#)
- vi. December Spirit Stick Sales - Laine will open the pre-sale Monday, [December 1st](#) and send the link to Erica. Erica will communicate via SM. [Will open 12/1](#)

15. All Other Business

- a. Fiesta Friday – Review quote from Air Castles:
 - i. Budget for carnival rides and games = \$22,000. (\$21,495 spent in prior year.)
 - i. We can add additional rides this year. – Review of quote received from Air Castles, which does not include all necessary “premium” and regular games for sponsors, but does include additional rides.
 - ii. Our insurance policy does not cover bounce houses, dunk tanks or rock walls.
 - a. Air Castles is willing to add us as “additional insured” on their insurance policy. [Keep one rock wall \(but do not add a second\) and have AC add us as additional insured on their policy. Remove all bounce houses and the dunk tank \(but possibly look](#)

into a reverse dunk tank where a bucket of what drops when the sensor is activated). Eliminate one of the swings and the Ferris Wheel (from prior years), Add Wild Slide, Dragonfly Ride, Tumble Weed ride (similar to Rock-In-Roll), a second Euro-Bungee and the Pirate Boat. Consider face glitter and tattoos as a fun alternative to face painting or possibly a balloon artist. Summer suggested sending the Fiesta SUG to the high schoolers and middle schoolers as early as possible, which we can do as soon as we have the rides & games finalized. Sam and Katrina to review possible needs for games and premium games and determine next steps. The updated total for rides, tables, generators could be \$23k based on the above changes. Sam reached out to AC on Friday 11/7 for an updated quote. Also asked them to review/confirm the amount of the delivery/distance charges and set up charges as those seem to have more than doubled from prior year. This price does not include any games.

- b. Decorating for Christmas – Would be ideal to have 6 – 7 volunteers. Shouldn't take long to put the trees up. December 1st to decorate 9 am - could reach out to high school to see if there are any student groups who could help. Summer will send an email to inquire.
 - i. Do we want to refresh anything this year? Do we want to add anything?
 - ii. What day works best for everyone? Apex runs through Thursday 11/20 with wrap up on Friday 11/21 and then we break for Thanksgiving.
 - iii. What day works best to take the decorations down? Friday, December 19th is early release day. Do we want to stay for and take down that day? We seem to struggle with getting volunteers the first couple of days back to school in January. December 19th for take down – will stay after early release and the kids can help us.
- c. Staff appreciation feedback: The teachers were thankful for the LMNT hydration packs, but are already overwhelmed by the number of cups they have been given.

16. Future Business

- a. Review/Update VRES PTO Bylaws – Over time things have evolved informally with only minor updates to the bylaw document.
 - i. 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. TEA Celebration (Sam)
 - i. Ideas on what we could do to CELEBRATE (not necessarily treat related)?
 - i. Spoke with Summer and determined we would push this closer to STAAR testing so that we can celebrate past success + build enthusiasm.
 - a. Have the high school drum line come to the school one morning (also have the mascot out?)
 - b. Create a specific brag tag
 - c. Provide snacks during STAAR testing, as well.
 - c. If you have any ideas or suggestions for a Spring school assembly, please let us know!
 - d. Graduation Walk – the seniors walking this year will be the first 5th grade class to graduate VRES. Let’s brainstorm how we can celebrate this! [Sam reached out to Ms. Polk and she confirmed the library does have a copy of the school yearbook from their 5th grade year.](#)

Important Upcoming Dates:

- 11/5 – November PTO Board Meeting 10am – 12pm
- 11/10 – Apex Roadrunner Dash KICK-OFF – time 1:30pm
- 11/11 – Veteran’s Day
- 11/12 – Apex Spirit Day “Wear Orange & Blue from Head to Shoe!”
- 11/17 – Staff Appreciation – “A Slice of Appreciation”
- 11/20 – Apex Roadrunner Dash (DASH DAY!)
- 11/21 – Spirit Night at Kendra Scott 6pm – 8pm
- 11/28 – VP & Committee Updates due to Sam (send early if traveling for Thanksgiving)
- 12/3 – December PTO Board Meeting 10am – 12pm
- 12/5 – Spirit Stick Sales during Lunch
- 12/12 – Staff Appreciation – “Poppin in to say Thank you!”
- 12/12 – Spirit Night at Raising Cane’s 4pm – 8pm
- 12/17 – VRES Staff Christmas Caroling
- 12/19 – Last Day of School / Early Release (Grade Level Parties)
- 1/9 – Staff Appreciation – TXRH Welcome Back Lunch
- 1/9 - VP & Committee Updates due to Sam
- 1/12 – SRO Day (actual day is 1/9, but we will celebrate 1/12 since school isn’t in session on 1/9).
- 1/14 – January PTO Board Meeting – 10am – 12pm
- 1/27 – Spirit Night at TXRH 3pm – 10pm
- 1/30 – Spirit Stick Sales during Lunch

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	
Purchase Gaga Ball Pit Rolling Star Cart, once available	Sam	FUTURE - TBD	
Put flyers in breakroom and cafeteria or where teachers will see when an appreciation lunch will be happening	Lauren	ON-GOING (change to monthly process)	
Post flyer in front office with a link to follow PTO on social media	Erica	10/17/25	
Add a link in the room parent GroupMe to follow PTO on social media	Erica	10/17/25	
Send trade sponsorship logos and info to Erica	Katrina	11/12	
Check with Sonora bank about sponsorship	Carissa	11/12	
Send Kendra Scott flyer to Summer	Natalie	ASAP	COMPLETE – 11/5
Send out SUG for 2 volunteers for Kendra Scott night	Natalie	11/13	
Look into the possibility of getting a substitute nurse for Thursday 11/20 during the Roadrunner Dash (vs. a parent volunteer)	Summer	11/12	
Run numbers on new merchandise – sales vs expense – to determine if we want to put any of this merchandise on sale for Cyber-Monday	Laine	11/15	
Send info to Erica about Peace, Love and Glow party so she can create and post save the date	Carissa	11/15	

Send sign up for Fiesta to high school	Sam to send to Summer to distribute (once games and rides have been finalized)	ASAP – Once games and rides have been finalized	
Send Apex Roadrunner Dash SUG to Summer to be included in her weekly newsletter	Sam	ASAP	COMPLETE – 11/6
Send Apex Roadrunner Dash SUG to Erica to post to socials	Sam	ASAP	COMPLETE – 11/7
Get updated Quote from Air Castles and secure 4/10 date for rides (based on ride review in mtg.)	Sam	ASAP	Updated Quote and Contract Requested 11/7
Reach out to high school contact to see if any students/groups of students are available to help with VRES holiday decorations on 12/1.	Summer	ASAP	
Coordinate holiday decorating with board members & FOB once we hear back from HS.	Sam	ASAP	

Meeting Adjourned: 11:50 am