



Van Buren Elementary School

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April Elementary Board Meeting Minutes:

I hope everyone had a relaxing spring break and looking forward to a wonderful Easter with their families! We are busily preparing in the elementary for many spring activities and for the final few months of school...here are some updates:A

- On April 12th the PTO held the semi-annual Donuts with Dad and hosted approximately 400+ students and dads for a quick breakfast before the school day began!
- With spring comes many IEP meetings that I am attending and every time I attend I'm amazed at all the hard work our teachers do to ensure all of our students receive the best education around!
- With the warmer weather our students will again begin to "spruce up" the garden! We recently found out one of our parents in the elementary is a certified arborist and is willing to help us with some of our trees and plants! Vantage students and 5th grade students are also being incorporated in planning how much mulch we need for our beds out front!
- We have already begun our spring round of state testing for ELA and Math.
- I'm looking at our staffing needs for next year and see the potential need for an additional aide role to help with our ESL needs and some students with additional needs. The ESC has already hired an ESL Coordinator for next year to split between McComb and Van Buren but this also requires additional support on the days the coordinator is not available. In addition to this we have some in-district students that up this point have utilized state scholarship funds that the school has paid out to attend elsewhere and may be returning to Van Buren and require additional attention that is not possible through the general education teacher alone. These additional needs could require adding to my resources already in place and I'm simply letting the board be aware of this potential and do not require a decision as I try to get a better gauge on how I can utilize my already current resources. More info to come in the May board meeting and beyond.
- At our K screening on March 29th we successfully saw and screened 63 incoming K students and every indication have at least 10 more students coming our way!
- Miss VanVlerah, Miss Troyer, and Mrs. Ramlow have organized again this year a "Music and Art Extravaganza." This will take place on Thursday May 5th in the HS gymnasium with each grade performing as a group before going to the elementary to view an art show of all the students' artwork. The VBPTO has kindly offered to provide the cookies for the event! Show starts @ 6:30PM!
- Thanks for your support and visit us anytime!