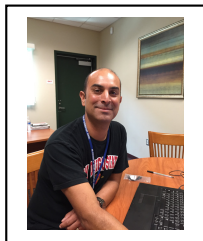
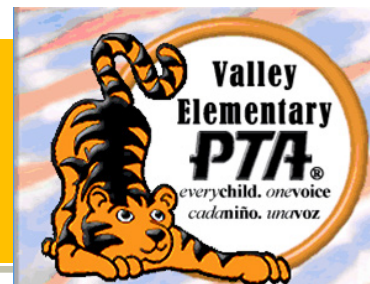


# TIGER TALK

*The Voice of Valley Elementary PTA*

September 2015 Issue 1 (2015–2016)



## The Principal's Desk

~ *Ricardo Ceceña*

**And away we go!**

The opening days at Valley have been AWESOME! Excited teachers, students, and parents filled the hallways, and sharpened pencils, new crayons, and glue sticks fill new backpacks. As I walked the halls and classrooms these first few weeks, I could feel the excitement in the air. I know we're going to have another successful year preparing our Tigers for their futures in college & career.

For those of you new to Valley Elementary School and the community of Poway, welcome! You have come to a wonderful neighborhood that offers numerous opportunities for the family. We hope that you become involved with and informed about all of the exciting programs and events that take place at Valley. To our returning families, we welcome you back!

It's with heartfelt thanks to the staff for their dedication to setting up their classrooms and preparing for the start of the school year. I wish to thank the many parents & students who helped us with the staff luncheon, the posting party and the first day "Meet & Greet" breakfast. Another HUGE thanks goes out to our custodial staff for getting our site ready for the staff and students. We couldn't have done it without you! Also, we want to publicly thank Lisa Betterton and all of the staff at ESS for their great job this summer of keeping our Tigers active, involved and safe.

Again for security purposes, all visitors on campus must come through the office, sign in and wear a visitor badge. PUSD will continue to have a policy of having volunteers pass a Megan's Law background check which includes a TB test. If you haven't submitted a form, please do so in the office. **Each volunteer must have clearance prior to doing any volunteering on campus.** It has been a terrific first month; I know we will have a great year!

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## PTA President's Message

~ *Denise Anger*

Welcome to the 2015–2016 school year! My name is Denise Anger and I am your new Valley PTA president. I have been at Valley since 2009 when my son started preschool. My oldest has now moved on from Valley and started middle school last month. I still have a 4th grader, a 2nd grader, and a preschooler here at Valley and I am looking forward to the years we have left at our amazing school.

August was a busy month for all of us. Your Valley PTA has already organized or participated in several major events this year:

- We met parents, answered questions, and handed out over 150 PTA welcome packets and over 300 otter pops at the school **Posting Fair** on August 3rd.
- That same day, we provided a **Welcome Back Lunch** for our exceptional Valley teachers and staff. Thank you to our VP of Programs, Audra Rosati, for coordinating and setting up.

*PTA Message – continued on page 2*

*PTA Message – continued*

- We hosted over 300 Valley parents on August 4<sup>th</sup> at our annual **Welcome Back Breakfast** on the first day of school. A big thank you to Sara Langer and her hospitality volunteers for making our first day so welcoming! We were also able to meet our new principal that morning, Mr. Ricardo Ceceña, who has already been an amazing asset to the PTA in the short time he has been here.
- August 13 and 20 were Valley's **Back to School Nights**. We held our General Association Meeting, rolled out our Events, Fundraisers, and Budget. If you attended the general assembly meeting in the MPR, you know that we have a full year of fun programs and activities planned for our Valley students and community. It is my hope that there is something that interests and inspires you to help make these events a reality for our children.
- A wide variety of **After-school Programs** began the week of August 24<sup>th</sup>. We are currently offering LEGO, basketball, cheer, flag football, lacrosse and art classes to our students in K-5. Thank you to Jennifer Berk for all of her efforts in bringing these fun activities to Valley!
- **New at Valley – Drama Club!** Our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students were invited to join a lunch-time Drama Club starting the week of August 24 and culminating with a performance for parents on the evening of September 24. Thank you to Lili Husseman for creating this awesome new opportunity for our students. Stay tuned for another round of Drama Club for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders beginning in late September.
- On August 28, we hosted the **Welcome Back Dinner** catered by the Hamburger Factory. We invited teachers and staff to join us and had many Valley parents and students in attendance. The food, music, dancing, and especially the tie-dyed shirt station were a huge hit! Thank you very much to our many volunteers and to Shawna Hamon, Serena Arellano, Karla Valenzuela, Monica Landeros, and Blanca Fisher for helping to make this event a great success!



Even though August has come to a close, our **Membership Drive** is still in full swing! We have over 100 PTA members and are well on our way to meeting our goal of 300. With your help, we know we can do it! Membership is only \$10 and every member counts. Your membership not only supports programs at Valley but supports children nationwide. Join now if you haven't already done so. Membership forms and envelopes were provided at the posting fair, Back to School nights, and the Welcome Back Dinner. They are also available in the office and can be turned in any time. Our VP of Membership, Yerika Tovey, and her committee, Darcy Slansky and Yadira Terrones, are working hard to make this our best membership drive ever!

Of course, what would the PTA be without our wonderful volunteers? Please fill out and return the "Bring What you Love to Valley" form. Do you receive the weekly Paw Prints email with event reminders and volunteer opportunities? If not, please email [valleypta@yahoo.com](mailto:valleypta@yahoo.com) or fill out the orange sheet in your PTA Welcome Packet and turn it into your teacher. We concluded our **first fundraiser** last month with Charleston Wraps. Thank you to all who participated in this fundraiser and to those who have made **extra donations** to the PTA via the membership form. Your donations of funds and time are essential and very much appreciated! As always, please visit [www.valleypta.com](http://www.valleypta.com) for the most up-to-date reminders and calendar of events. You can also contact me with questions anytime at [valleypta.president@gmail.com](mailto:valleypta.president@gmail.com). I look forward to working together this year to do great things for our children!



## Foundation President ~ Krystn Monroe

### Valley Elementary Educational Foundation

The Valley Elementary Educational Foundation is a nonprofit organization made up of parent volunteers. We bring other parents and community members together to raise money to enrich the educational experience so that every child at Valley Elementary School can succeed.

**What is the Foundation?** The Valley Elementary Educational Foundation was established in 2006 by three Valley parents who had a vision. Its mission is simple: to raise money to help bridge the gap between what shrinking district budgets can provide and what students need in order to have the best, most well-rounded education possible.



### Donate a Dime a Day

Thank you to the Valley families who have participated so far in this year's Dime a Day campaign. The Dime a Day campaign is the Foundation's annual giving campaign. We know, during this difficult time in our economy, that every gift is a sacrifice. So when structuring our annual giving program, we were deliberate to create options that could fit every budget — that could allow every family to participate at the level that worked best for them.

One dime a day is \$18 for the whole year. There are 180 days in the school year. There are about 720 students at the school. If every student donated one dime for every day of school we could raise \$12,960 for Valley. That's a lot of computers or iPads for our students and teachers. But for each one of us, it's just a dime.

It's amazing what a dime can do. It's amazing what

we can do when we work together. Thank you to the following family for sending in their contributions\*:

*\* Donor contributes monthly.*

*\*\* Donor obtained matching funds from employer.*

*\*\*\* This list is current as of Aug. 24, 2015.*

The Amidei Family	The Lucca Family
The Anger Family	The Manuelli Family
The Brintle-Franklin Family	The Martinez-Vizuet Family
The Carlson Family	The McGhee Family
The Castelan-Garcia Family	The Medina Family
The Cazares Family	The Monroe Family
The Cedillo Family	The Moya-Inzunza Family
The Colin Family	The Murillo Family
The Collins Family	The Mycek Family
The Crepeau-Boyd Family	The Newham Family
The Cuevas Family	The Nguyen Family
The Culleton Family	The Ohta Family
The Davisson Family	The Ornelas Family
The Deleon-Ford Family	The Ortiz Family
The Doud Family	The Pankretz Family
The Doughman Family	The Portales Family
The Dow Family	The Prather Family
The Falucho Family	The Pruginin-Jaramillo Family
The Frasor Family	The Rath Family
The Gagnon Family	The Roberts Family
The Garcia Family	The Rosas Family
The Garrity Tsunoda Family	The Rose Family
The Gharst Family	The Ruiz-Soto Family
The Gonzalez Family	The Russo Family
The Graham Family	The Sandoval Family
The Gutierrez Family	The Sessoms Family
The Guzman Family	The Sidhpura Family
The Hamon Family	The Sierra-Miller Family
The Hashemi Family	The Silvestri Family
The Headley Family	The Slocomb Family
The Javier Family *	The Smeal Family
The Jimenez Family	The Thyagaraja Family
The Jones Family	The Tognetti Family
The Krehbiel Family	The Traynum-Sears Family
The Lamey Family	The Vasquez Family
The Lapastora Family	The Vega Family
The Lehrer Family	The Visoka Family
The Little Family	The Widjaja-Harjanto Family
The Lockyer Family	The Zambrano Family



## ~ Calling all Tigers ~

### Our Volunteers Make Valley a Great School

### Volunteer Spotlight

Research shows that when parents are involved in their children's education, the children are more likely to:

- have better social skills.
- show improved behavior.
- be more positive in their attitude toward school.
- complete homework assignments.
- graduate and continue their education.

There are many ways to volunteer at school. Parents can volunteer in the classroom, help out the teachers by participating in Workroom Wednesdays or fill one of the various open positions with the PTA. This month we are highlighting the position of **Corresponding Secretary**.

The Corresponding Secretary (CS), a PTA board position, would be great for either a working or a stay at home parent with a few hours available each month. The CS is responsible for sending out monthly e-mail reminders for board members to turn in their reports. As the PTA relies largely on donations and kind souls in the community, the CS will have 5-10 hand-written thank you letters per month to deliver in a timely manner as well. An individual with nice handwriting would be beneficial. An optional extension of this position would be to work with the local newspaper, the Poway Chieftan, to send in articles/pictures about events (either upcoming or already transpired) at Valley to be published. Please contact [valleypta@yahoo.com](mailto:valleypta@yahoo.com), if you would be a good fit for this position. We'd love for you to join our team!

### School Site Council Needs You!

Valley Elementary is currently seeking to fill two vacancies on the School Site Council. The terms for these positions are 1 and 2 years.

The School Site Council is an advisory team to the administration composed of Valley staff and parents. The Site Council, following the framework of Valley's school improvement plan, works to improve effectiveness of school programs. The council is part of the decision-making body for expenditure of the school & library improvement budget. Members of the SSC meet 4 to 6 times per school year. In the past, meeting times have been on Monday's at 2:45pm but dates will be set at the beginning of the new school year. If you would like an opportunity to participate in this important process, please fill out the information listed below the dotted line and return it to the school office by September 11th. If we receive more than two applications, selection of our next members will go to a vote.

Sincerely, Ricardo Ceceña – Principal

### School Site Council Nomination Form Deadline – September 11, 2015

I would like to be nominated for this position because:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_



### Get Your Money Matched!

Thank you to everyone who has made a donation to the Foundation! Don't forget to see if your company, or that of your spouse, matches charitable donations made by its employees. We encourage you to take that extra step to double your donation — and double the difference you're making for the students and teachers at Valley. Please go to <http://valleyeef.org/corporatematching.html> to see if your company matches. Thank you for your support!

### Volunteers Needed!

It only takes one person to make a difference to a student. We think you're the one. Whether your student is just starting preschool or kindergarten or is about to go into fifth grade, it's never too early, and certainly never too late, to be part of something big.

The Foundation's biggest need: **Volunteer Coordinator**

The Foundation's other needs:

- an organizational freak?
- good at keeping the books?
- able to rally the troops?
- the ultimate event planner?
- a born salesperson?
- part of the in-crowd at the Chamber of Commerce?
- a techie or a wiz on the web?

You don't need to be faster than a speeding bullet. You don't need to leap tall buildings in a single bound. You just need to be you. We'll think you're super just the way you are — and your kid will know you're a hero! For more information about how to help us — with jobs large and small — email Foundation President Krystn Monroe, at [kmonroe@ValleyEEF.org](mailto:kmonroe@ValleyEEF.org).

To learn more about the Foundation's initiatives and events, go to <http://ValleyEEF.org>.

### MONTHLY REMINDERS

- *Wednesdays – Workroom Support & Spirit Day (wear your Valley or College T-shirts)*
- *Fridays – Valley Pride Day & Tiger Trackers*
- *Monday, Sept. 7 – HOLIDAY (no school)*
- *Monday, Sept. 14 – Kindergarten goes to a full day schedule*

**AFTER SCHOOL MANDARIN** Registration for the [All About Mandarin Academy](#) is now available. Classes run 9/9/2015 – 1/20/2016 on Wednesdays 12:10–1:40pm (K&up); 12:10–1:10pm (Preschoolers). Please see attached flier for more details.

**CHARLESTON GIFT WRAP ORDERS STILL AVAILABLE ONLINE** If you didn't have a chance to get your paper order in, you (and other family members) still have the opportunity to order online until **Sept 9th**. [Visit the Website here](#). Thank you for supporting our school!

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BRING HOME YOUR CHILD'S WORK IN A CLASSROOM BOOK?** We have lost our [Student Treasures](#) Book Coordinator for 1st–5th grade. The coordinator role requires about two weeks of commitment in the Fall and another two weeks in the Spring. It should not involve working in the classroom, but working with the teachers and checking to make sure the book kits are done correctly. While this is not a PTA project, we would hate to see this program end. The kids love it. The first wave of kits need to be ordered by mid-September. The prior coordinator said she would be happy to assist whoever takes over the program. Please contact [valleypta@yahoo.com](mailto:valleypta@yahoo.com), if you are willing to help keep this program going.

**ARTS ATTACK MEETING FRIDAY** Are you looking for an opportunity to help bring art into your child's classroom? If the answer is yes, please join us for a training meeting on our school's Arts Attack program. Arts Attack is an award-winning, video-based art curriculum for Grades 1–5. There is no specific experience required. The PTA provides the videos, manuals and art supplies. The training will be held in the school library immediately after pickup on **Friday, September 4th, at 2:35pm**.





## Elementary School Counseling Program Student Support Services Department

### A MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR Veronica Flores Tapia



*I'm on campus the following days: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday.  
858-748-2007 Ext. 2114 vtapia@powayusd.com*

Welcome back Valley Tigers! I hope you all enjoyed the summer. I had a wonderful summer taking my boys to the beach and to the parks, all around San Diego. It's sometimes hard to transition from summer to a new school year, but I always look forward to seeing your smiling faces on the first day of school. As you may have noticed I changed my name. My new name is, Veronica Flores Tapia. I look forward to working with all our Valley staff and families, so that we can continue to see our Valley Students grow academically, personally, and socially.

We do have a new Student Services Assistant, Mr. Richard Mamaradlo, also known as, Mr. M. He will be helping with the Second Step classroom lessons and out on the playground. Please welcome Mr. M. and introduce yourself when you see him.

Have a memorable school year and remember...work hard! Take care of each other! And, Take care of our school!

### Upcoming Parent Education Classes:

#### Positive Parenting Program Series

\* Call 858-668-4084 to register today! Please leave your name, phone number, English or Spanish series and childcare needs. If you are interested in free childcare please give the age and number of children needing care. Thank you!

Mon-Wed-Wed - 8/31, 9/2, 9/9 from 6-8 PM @[Valley Elementary](#) (English or [Spanish](#))

Tues-Thurs-Tues - 1/12, 1/14, 1/19 from 6-8 PM @Los Pen Elementary (English or Spanish)

Tues-Thurs-Tues - 4/19, 4/21, 4/26 from 6-8 PM @Valley Elementary (English or Spanish)

#### ACTIVE PARENTING OF TEENS SERIES!

\*This series fills quickly! **Reserve your space online TODAY at [www.theparentworkshops.com](http://www.theparentworkshops.com).** Series is \$39/individual or \$69/couple. Tuition is due on the first evening. Cash or check made out to PUSD only. Active Parenting of Teens book will be available for purchase on the first evening also. Sorry, no refunds.

Thursdays: 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. @Oak Valley Middle

## Valley Elementary PTA Board 2015-16

Elected Officers	First Name	Last Name
Principal	Ricardo	Ceceña
President	Denise	Anger
Executive V.P.	Sandie	Sears
1st V.P. Ways and Means	Darcy	Slansky
2nd V.P. Programs	Audra	Rosati
3rd V.P. Membership	Yerika	Tovey
4th V.P. Health and Fitness	Preston	Betts
5th V.P. Art Program	Heather	Schmalbach
Recording Secretary	Kim	Jones
Treasurer	OPEN	
Financial Secretary	Kelly	Tognetti
Auditor	Veronica	Alvarez
Historian	Nicole	Rose
Parliamentarian	Kelly	Kersey
Committee Chairs		
Character Counts	Diana	Aldrete
Corresponding Secretary	OPEN	
Hospitality	Sara	Langer
Newsletter	Carolyn	Lemm
Website Administrator	Shawna	Hamon
Room Parent Coordinator	Lili	Husseman
School Admin Assistant	Cris	Rollins
Teacher Liaison (DL)	Marisa	Contreras
Teacher Liaison (DL)	Suky	Romero
Translator	Elizabeth	Hulterstrom
Volunteer Coordinator	Shawna	Hamon
Workroom Wednesday	OPEN	
Spirit Wear Sales	OPEN	
After School Programs	Jennifer	Berk
VEEF Liaison	OPEN	
Assemblies	Liz	Collins-Smith
Facebook Administrator	OPENM	



### GET INVOLVED & JOIN VALLEY PTA

- Visit the Valley PTA website <http://www.valleypta.com/>
- Contact Denise Anger if you are interested in any of the open PTA board positions.

