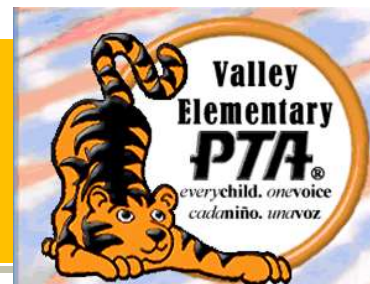
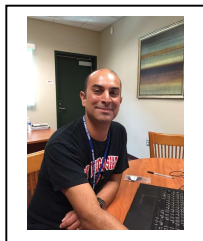


TIGER TALK

The Voice of Valley Elementary PTA



September Issue I (2017)



The Principal's Desk Ricardo Ceceña

Welcome Back to School

The opening at Valley has been AWESOME! Excited teachers, students, and parents filled the hallways; sharpened pencils, new crayons, and glue sticks fill 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 amazing 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, preparing for the start of the school year and holding Back to School Night presentations. I wish to thank the many parents & students who helped us with the staff luncheon, the posting fair and the first day "Boo Hoo" breakfast. Another HUGE thanks goes out to our office & 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.

This year we look forward to implementing our newly adopted Language Arts program, Benchmark-Advance, in our kindergarten, first and second grade classrooms. The Benchmark curriculum is aligned to the new California State Standards and will be supporting our instruction with reading, writing, listening & speaking. Our K-2 teachers will be participating in the first professional learning session with the new materials on our Professional Growth Day on August 18th.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Principal's Desk	1
Reflections	1
PTA President's Message	2
Counselor's Message	3
Valley Elementary Educational Foundation	4-5
2017-2018 PTA Board	6

We are also excited to share that the Poway Unified School District X-ploration Program will continue for all of our students in grades TK-5. Every three weeks starting on August 24th, our Tigers will be receiving instruction from our X-ploration Teachers on Physical Education, Visual & Performing Arts, Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) and Coding. Lessons will be delivered to our students in their classrooms by the X-ploration staff. The X-ploration sessions will also continue to strengthen our system-wide process for collaboration and professional development for our teaching staff.

It has been a terrific first month; I know we will have a great year!

Reflections!

The PTA's Reflections Contest is going on now. Reflections is a student recognition program for the arts that encourages creativity and artistic reflection on an annual theme. This year's theme is "Within Reach". Choreograph a dance, produce a film, write a poem or story, compose a song, take a picture or create a piece of visual art, and show us what the theme means to you. Reflections is open to all students, of all abilities, in pre-K through 5th grade. Entry forms and rules for participation are available in the front office. Entries are due by October 9th and can be turned in at the front office. For more information, please visit:

<http://capta.org/programs-events/reflections>



PTA President's Message

Lili Husseman

Welcome Valley Tigers! With the start of the 2017-2018 school year, I begin my two-year term as your Valley PTA President. No doubt my goal in this role mirrors your own as a parent: to ensure our kids have warm memories of their childhood that they will cherish decades from now. When they send their own kids off to kinder, I want our kids to be telling their own how much fun they had at Boogie Bash! I want them to remember learning healthy habits while running during Tiger Trackers! I want them to recall how much fun it was when *they* went to the zoo on a field trip with *their* class (even if they never realized that PTA made the bus ride possible).

While I'm new to this role, I've been at Valley since 2008 when my oldest, now a 7th grader, started preschool. I have a daughter in 4th and son in 1st grade. PTA brought the Spelling Bee to Valley when my oldest was in 4th grade. My daughter was able to participate in Ballet Folklorico and my youngest can't wait to get on the track every Friday. All of these things are possible because of our PTA. Like any team, our PTA is strongest with support all of its members. Who are the members? All of us! If you are a parent, guardian, grandparent, aunt, uncle...we want you! Whether you love to be in the classroom or can only help for an hour to clean up an event – or so many things in between – there are many, many opportunities to get involved with in our Valley community and make it that much stronger with your support. Our membership drive is going on now, and we hope you'll join us.

Thanks to a wonderful group of parents, we are already off to a solid start. Our Posting Fair was a success, thanks in large part to **Yadira Terrones, VP of Membership**, who created a fun photo stop with a donut theme. Always a quiet force behind the scenes, **Treasurer Sandie Sears** helped and kept our finances squared away even as the first membership dues (only

\$10 per person) started to come in. August 31st was a full day, and while we were passing out donut holes, **Executive V.P. Denise Anger** was busy setting up lunch to welcome teachers back and give them energy before the first day of school. Thank you to the 60 or so people who joined us at the Welcome Back Breakfast on the first day of school, when we held our PTA Fall General Association meeting. A big thank you to the **Hospitality Chair, Sara Langer**, who kept many a Mommy's separation anxiety at bay by providing us with coffee and pastries. To finish off a very busy month, **Denise Anger and a fantastic team of 5th grade parents** made sure everyone felt like part of the community at our annual Welcome Back Dinner. By the time Kaminski's had finished serving up the last sandwich, our PTA membership was close to 200 strong. What a fantastic start to what is sure to be a year full of memories! With Family Art Night (9/14) and Eat with Your Student Day (9/21) on the horizon, September is sure to be a great month as well.

If you've looked through the PTA packet given out at Back to School Night, you know we have a ton of fun events planned throughout the year. We are always in need of volunteers, so please watch your inbox for opportunities to help. Please feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions for YOUR Valley PTA at ValleyPTA@yahoo.com.



A Message from the School Counselor

Veronica Tapia

Welcome back Valley Tigers! It was very nice seeing many familiar, new, and happy faces on the first day of school. I'm excited and ready for another memorable year. For those who don't know me, I'm Mrs. Tapia, formerly known as Mrs. Flores (which I still respond to). I'm a native San Diegan, a wife, and mother to Andrew, Elijah, and Josiah. This summer we spent countless hours enjoying San Diego and not going too far since I had to help my boys' transition out of diapers. I'm sure many of you can relate to that. I have been working as a school counselor in the Poway Unified School District for 11 years. I have experience working with elementary, middle and high school students. I have been at Valley Elementary School for about 7 years and this unique, diverse, and warm place is like my second home. This year, my team and I will continue to implement classroom lessons such as the Second Step lessons on Social Emotional Learning and the Second Step Bullying Prevention lessons for grades K-5. We will also be providing fun activities along with support during recess. I will continue to provide the individual and small group counseling sessions for students in need and with a signed permission slip. Although you will only see me on campus Mondays, Tuesdays and in the mornings on Fridays, I look forward in continuing to meet all of you and to be a supportive counselor for students, teachers, staff, and families. The best way to contact me would be by email vtapia@powayusd.com or calling 858-748-2007 ext. 2107. Please let me know how I can help!

Thank you to those who stopped by our resource table during Back to School Night to say hello, to introduce yourself, to pick up resources, to schedule an appointment, to ask questions and/or to register for our upcoming Triple P: Positive Parenting Program. Laura Gonzalez Garcia, our Parent Liaison, and I always look forward to this evening.



Student Support Services Team (room 7)

Veronica Tapia, School Counselor
Colette Bradley, Student Services Specialist
Ursula Vinas, Student Services Assistant
Laura Gonzalez Garcia, Parent Liaison

FREE Positive Parenting Program

****Register Today! Space is limited!****

When: August 31, Sept. 7, and Sept. 14
6:00-8:00pm

What: 3-Day Seminar, with FREE Childcare for
School Age Children

Where: Valley Elementary School

How: Contact the Caring Connections Center
at 858-668-4084 or register with Laura
Gonzalez Garcia in the school office.

What is the Valley Foundation?

The Valley Elementary Educational Foundation is a nonprofit organization made up of parent volunteers who 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. 100% of the money the Foundation raises provides resources directly to Valley students and teachers. We bridge the gap between what the school district can provide and what our students need to succeed.



Donate a Dime a Day

Thank you to the Valley families who have participated so far in this year's Dime a Day campaign. This is the Foundation's annual giving campaign where we ask that families give what they can to support our children's educational needs. Your support last year helped all students in grades 3rd - 5th get an individual Chromebook for use in their classrooms. It also paid for educational subscriptions - RazKids, BrainPop, NewsELA - that the teachers use to augment their lessons, plus much more.

A dime a day is just \$18 for the whole year. If each family gives one dime a day for each of their Valley students, with ~720 students at Valley, we could raise \$12,960 for our school. That's a lot of resources 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.



Our goal is to reach 100 percent participation from every family. Last year over a 100 families donated. This year, we can aim even higher! Orange Dime a Day fliers and envelopes went home on back to school night. Fill them out and return them to the front office — or donate directly through the Foundation's website, <http://ValleyEEF.org>, and click on Donate Now. For additional information, e-mail Foundation President Jackie Silacci at jsilacci@ValleyEEF.org.

Abrom Family	Medina Family
Alonso Family	Miranda Family
Anaya Family	Mish Family
Anger Family	Moya-Inzunza Family
Barragan-Su Family	Mycek Family
Barrus Family	Nandola Family
Bell Family	Newham Family
Carmona Family	Niehans Family
Cassara Family	Oshika Family
Castelan-Garcia Family	Palacios Family
Castillo Family	Perkio Family
Cedillo Family	Prather Family
Chavez Family	Rath Family
Cox Family	Reeves Family
Crepeau-Boyd Family	Rivera Family
Cuevas Family	Rosales-Solano Family
Denisac Family	Rose Family
Dickens Family	Sanchez Family
Farrow Family	Sandoval Family
Galarza - Boquin Family	Saterlee Family
Garcia Family	Sears-Traynum Family
Gharst Family	Sebastian Family
Goldstein Family	Sessoms Family
Halbert Family	Silva Family
Harris Family	Sjoberg Family
Hashemi Family	Slocumb Family
Headley Family	Smeal Family
Hendricks Family	Smith Family
Hernandez Family	Talamantes Family
Hovel Family	Tanaka Family
Javier Family	Tognetti Family
Kacapyr Family	Valdez Family
Keppler Family	Valencia-Cedillo Family
Klitgord-Mora Family	Valenzuela Family
Langer - Weida Family	Velasco Family
Lapastora Family	Villa-Balbuena Family
Lizondo Family	Vinson Family
Lockyer Family	Vizvet Family
Manlove-Smith Family	Ward Family
Martinez-Cedillo Family	Woodward Family
McDonald Family	

* Donor contributes monthly.

**This list is current as of August 17, 2017.

Thank you to these families for sending in their contributions**. Don't forget to see if you or your spouse's company 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> for more information on matching. Thank you for your support!

SUPPORT VALLEY... WHILE YOU SHOP

If you love to shop online, take advantage of the Foundation's Amazon Rewards link. Go to the Foundation's website at ValleyEEF.org and click on the Amazon icon, which will take you directly to the Amazon Smile website. Then shop 'til you drop! Once you're done, Amazon will donate a percentage of your total purchase price back to the Foundation. Promote the program among your friends and family so Valley can benefit from everyone's holiday shopping.



FOUNDATION GRANTS DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 30th

The Foundation has a grant program for the various organizations, programs, teachers, and administrators that support Valley students. The Foundation awards mini grants four times during the academic school year. To apply for a Foundation grant to support your activity or program, download and complete a grant application at ValleyEEF.org and click on Apply for a Grant. The next deadline is Sept. 30, 2017. In addition to administering mini grants, the Foundation also helps prepare proposals for large grants funded by outside organizations. For additional information, e-mail Wendy Hovel at whovel@ValleyEEF.org.

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: **Assistant Volunteer Coordinator**

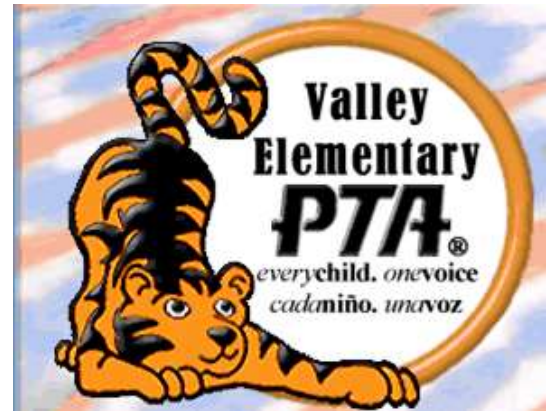
The Foundation's other needs:

- an organizational freak?
- good at keeping the books?
- able to rally the troops?
- the ultimate event planner?
- an excellent translator?
- 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 Jackie Silacci, jsilacci@ValleyEEF.org.

Valley Elementary PTA Board 2017-18

Elected Officers	First Name	Last Name
Principal	Ricardo	Ceceña
President	Lili	Husseman
Executive V.P.	Denise	Anger
1st V.P. Ways and Means	Monica	Valdez
2nd V.P. Programs	Adriana	Gonzalez
3rd V.P. Membership	Yadira	Terrones
4th V.P. Art Program	Selena	Pankretz
Recording Secretary	Erica	Fandino
Treasurer	Sandie	Sears
Financial Secretary	Angela	Gutzmer
Auditor	Kelly	Tognetti
Historian	Serena	Arellano
Parliamentarian	Kim	Jones
Committee Chairs		
Character Counts	Emilie	Koford
Corresponding Secretary	Heather	Schmalbach
Hospitality	Sara	Langer
Newsletter	Paul & Kelly	Tognetti
Website Administrator	Shawna	Hamon
Room Parent Coordinator	Emilie	Koford
School Admin Assistant	Cris	Rollins
Teacher Liaison (ENG)	TBD	
Teacher Liaison (DL)	Juana	Molina
Translator	Erica	Sierra
Volunteer Coordinator	Shawna	Hamon
Workroom Wednesday	OPEN	
Spirit Wear Sales	Kim	Jones
After School Programs	Pinata	Sessoms
VEEF Liaison	OPEN	
Assemblies	Liz	Collins-Smith
Facebook Administrator	Kayla	Dickens



GET INVOLVED & JOIN VALLEY PTA

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

