

Valentine Elementary School

November 2007

Vol 58, Issue 2



PTA President's Message



Dear Valentine Families,

I never thought that I'd be the one learning so much through my children's school experiences. But then I never imagined that school could be as wonderful as Valentine School is. Recently I learned that children's brain development is fueled by creative thought, by using their imaginations, and through play. This fact makes the partnership of PTA with our school faculty and administration that much more important. Our successful Red, White and True Blue Fall Fair, the amazing Pumpkin Patch, healthy and fun Red Ribbon Week, Creatures and Creations, and the upcoming Reflections Contest, Book Fair, Holiday Workshops and Holiday Program all give our children opportunities to think outside the box, play, explore, and grow. These activities are not a distraction from classroom learning, they compliment it. What a great reminder to have fun; it's good for you!

Among the other things I've learned through my Valentine volunteer experiences: how to make a balloon arch, use a Riso machine, make personalized notepads, serve tea to kindergartners, say "good morning" in Chinese, serve the same thing for dinner 3 nights in a row and not be thrown out of my house, the thrill of accomplishment and the joy of family friendships. You never know what you might learn, who might become your friend, or what a difference you can make, until you try. There are an unlimited number of ways for you to get involved at school - take a look at the upcoming events described in the Voice and volunteer to help at one or two (or more!) Your kids will be so excited to see you at their school events, you'll have a great time meeting other parents, and you might even learn something new!

I hope that you and your families are enjoying all that Valentine School has to offer, and I look forward to seeing you and working with you at our upcoming events!

Sincerely,

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Form Links

- Reflections Entry Form

November At a Glance

- Friday, November 2
 - **Minimum Day for K-5**
 - Grades 1-5 8:30am-12:30pm
 - AM Kindergarten 8:10am-10:50am
 - PM Kindergarten 9:50am-12:30pm
- Sunday, November 4
 - Daylight Savings Time ends - set your clocks back one hour
- Thursday, November 8
 - 7:00 pm - Partnership for Awareness presentation with Dr. Bob Sears: "Nutrition and Vaccines" at the Huntington Auditorium ([flyer](#) on Valentine website)

Karen Wicke

UPCOMING PTA MEETING

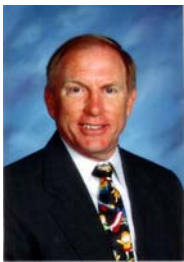
**Wednesday, November 7
9:00 a.m. Little Theater**

Please join us in the Little Theater for a fun and informal PTA meeting. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

The agenda will include recruiting grade-level volunteers for Allocations Committee, updates on the Pumpkin Patch, Book Fair, Reflections, and approval of contracts and ratification of expenses.

Are you Chinese speaking? Dr. Schreiber and Karen Wicke will be available to answer questions through an interpreter immediately following the meeting.

The Principal's Message - The Angles of Success



When Kerri Strug was a young girl, she had a big dream. She wanted to go to the Olympics and become an all-around champion like Mary Lou Retton. And at the age of 13, she made the huge decision to move away from home, from Arizona to Texas, to work with the famous gymnastics coach Bela Karolyi. She worked hard and the move put her dreams within reach.

Eventually at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, Strug seemed to be on the verge of living her dream of becoming an all-around champion. But before she could qualify for that part of the competition, Strug participated in the team competition as a vaulter. On her first attempt, the 18-year-old athlete fell, injuring her ankle. Despite her painful injury, the competition was not yet over for Strug. On her second attempt, she vaulted beautifully and managed to stick the landing before collapsing in pain.

As a consequence of her performance, Strug qualified for the all-around competition. But due to her injury, she was unable to compete.

Now, Strug says that while she was disappointed that she could not compete in the all-around, she realizes that by helping her team win, she had achieved something that she had not been aware was even possible when she arrived at the competition. Life, she says, has taught her that it's important to look at situations from many angles. And it's important to be open to possibilities you might not know are there.

How can we, as adults, increase the angles from which our children are able to see their circumstances? Be sure that you take an occasional moment with your child

- Monday, November 12
 - No School for Students
 - Veteran's Day observed
- Tuesday, November 13
 - **Minimum Days** begin for the entire week - Parent Conferences
 - Grades 1-5 8:30am-12:30pm
 - AM Kindergarten 8:10am-10:50am
 - PM Kindergarten 9:50am-12:30pm
- Wednesday, November 14
 - **Minimum Day** - Parent Conferences
 - 7:00 pm - Partnership for Awareness presentation with Keith Dunn: "Internet Safety Seminar" at the Huntington Auditorium ([flyer](#) on Valentine website)
- Thursday, November 15
 - **Minimum Day** - Parent Conferences
 - Make-up Picture Day (more info to follow)
- Friday, November 16
 - **Minimum Day** - Parent Conferences
 - Reflections deadline
- Tuesday, November 20
 - Homework Free Day
- Wednesday, November 21
 - **Minimum Day** - End of First Trimester
- Thursday and Friday, November 22 & 23
 - No School for Students - Thanksgiving Holiday

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in examining an everyday event. Look - with them - at the event from varying perspectives. Help them to see beyond the "first glance" and "beneath the surface."

And, says Strug, it's critical to have some fun and enjoy your success along the way.

Dr. Tray Schreiber

Book Fair 2007

Camp Out with a Good Book
Please join us for the Book Fair in the Little Theater
through November 7th

November 5th



Don't Miss Opening Day of Book Fair!
Parents, Teachers and Students are invited for free Muffins, Juice and Coffee
For Opening Day of Book Fair on
Monday, November 5th
at 8:15 in the
Little Theater at Valentine
See all the newly released children's books. There will be lots of book
suggestions for all the children on your holiday shopping list. Don't miss this
fun event!



You're Invited to an Evening Around the Valentine Campfire
Tuesday, November 6th, 2007

5:00-8:00 p.m.

On Tuesday, November 6th, the Valentine Book Fair will host an evening around the Campfire for all Valentine families.

At 5:15 the Campfire will begin with guitar singing, poetry readings and storytelling by Valentine parents and some of your favorite teachers.

The Campfire will be built in the courtyard just outside the Little Theater.

Students can participate in camp crafts from 5:15-6:30.

Warm apple cider, popcorn and cookies will be served.

Each family will receive a special goodie bag to take home at the end of the Campfire (while supplies last!) The Book Fair will have the full assortment of children's books (including new releases) available for purchase in the Valentine Little Theater for all your holiday shopping.

Please join in the fun and dress up in your favorite camping gear.

Note: The craft activity involves some painting so please do not wear your best gear!



Library and Class Wish Lists

Please Support Your Library and Classroom Book Collections!

At Book Fair, Valentine families and friends will have an opportunity to donate books to the Valentine library and to the various classroom book collections.

Each purchase for the classroom or library is celebrated by placing a special bookplate in the donated book. In addition, the donor's family name will be placed on the Wish List Thank You Wall at the Book Fair (Nov. 5th -7th).

All donations are tax deductible.

Last year, many Valentine families purchased a Wish List resource book for the library. This giving fosters a great sense of pride in the children as they help to improve Valentine's resources.

Thank you for your participation!

Book Fair Hours	Book Fair--Schedule of Events
Monday, Nov. 5th	Book Fair opens with a Muffin Morning for parents, teachers and students at 8:15. Following

Book Fair's Opening Day Hours: 8:15-3:30	is the schedule of class visits to the Book Fair. <u>Parents are welcome to join their students when their classes visit Book Fair:</u>	
	Times	Monday, Nov. 5th Teacher/Room No.
	8:45-9:05	Mrs. Moreton (35)
	9:10-9:30	Mrs. Wildeman (31)
	9:35-9:55	Mrs. Buranasakorn (05)
	10:00-10:20	Mrs. Abughazaleh (20)
	10:25-10:45	Mrs. Van Hiel (26)
	10:50-11:10	Mrs. Adams (24)
	11:15-11:35	Mrs. Derrick-Fox (24)
	12:45-1:20	Mrs. Yam (16)
	1:25-1:45	Mrs. Allen (14)
	1:50-2:10	Ms. Veverka (37); Mrs. Nott (38)
	2:15-2:35	Mrs. Kuhlman (21)
Tuesday, Nov. 6 th	Book Fair will be open for business and for visits by the following classes. <u>Parents are welcome to join their students when their classes visit Book Fair:</u>	
Book Fair is Open: 8:15-3:30	Times	Tuesday, Nov. 6th Teacher/Room No.
	8:45-9:05	Mrs. Day (28)
	9:10-9:30	Mrs. Santley (33)
	9:35-9:55	Mrs. Caires (42)
	10:00-10:20	Mrs. Schoonover (18)
	10:25-10:45	Mrs. Floyd (41)
	11:15-11:35	Mrs. McGowan (36)
	12:45-1:20	Mrs. Diaz and Grannis (25)
	1:25-1:45	Mrs. Hsu (40)
	1:50-2:10	Mrs. Kuhn (15)

	2:15-2:35	Mrs. LaRue (12)
Tuesday, Nov. 6th 5:00-8:00 pm	<u>Valentine Campfire</u> at 5:00 p.m.-Join us for singing and storytelling around the campfire in the courtyard outside the Little Theater. Students will enjoy craft activities while parents are free to shop at Book Fair and see all the latest releases of children's books. Hot cider, cookies and popcorn will be served!	
Wed., Nov.7th Book Fair is Open: 8:15- 3:30	Book Fair will be open for business and for visits by the following classes. Parents are welcome to join their students when their classes visit Book Fair :	
	Times	Wednesday, Nov. 7th Teacher/Room No.
	8:45-9:05	Ms. Tognazzini (29)
	9:10-9:30	Mrs. Latorre (10); Mrs. Mau (39)
	9:35-9:55	Miss Phifer (30)
	10:00-10:20	Mrs. Pierce (11)
	10:25-10:45	Mrs. Milano (27)
	10:50-11:10	Mrs. Smiley (17)
	11:15-11:35	Mrs. McInnes (25)
	12:45-1:20	Ms. Lindahl (32)
	1:25-1:45	Mrs. Smith (19)

Heartfelt Helpers & Thank You



VIVACIOUS VOLUNTEERS

For every project and program at Valentine, there are people up front and behind the scenes making it all happen so beautifully. Thanks to everyone who has made these first months of school so fantastic. Additionally, a thousand thanks to:

Bonnie Leung - was there ever a more organized First and Second day packet creation, stuffing, and unstuffing?;

Tricia Stenwall and **Diane Lukas** for a Volunteer Fair extraordinaire; refreshments refreshingly provided by **Justene Pierce**;

Debbie Day and **Andrea Ferraco** for recruiting and organizing our Room Parents;

All of our wonderful **Room Parents** for 1st and 2nd day packet unstuffing, organizing Grade Level Coffees, assisting with volunteer recruitment and coordination,

Grade Level Coffee Hostesses for sharing their lovely homes:

Marina Heartfield - Kindergarten

Clarisa Ru - 1st Grade

Dina McCall - 2nd Grade

Wendy Allen - 3rd Grade

Tori Mordecai - 4th Grade

Yvonne Zaro - 5th Grade

Mary Hsu - Chinese-speaking Parents

Kim Halkett and **Gretchen Shepherd Romey** for the lovely Kindergarten Welcome Wagon and festive Ice Cream Social;

Marian Thompson for recruiting and scheduling traffic circle volunteers;

Jessica Chien, **Mary Hsu** and **Justene Pierce** for their assistance with the New Parent Orientations;

Karla Ostrin and **Claire Johnson** for providing us with such stylish and fun new Viking-wear;

Andrea Lunine for the informational Directory and our new cyber-Voice;

Clarisa Ru and **Christina Foo** for the fabulous bulletin boards;

Christy Kral and **Michelle Conn** for the festive and fun Pumpkin Patch;

Kate Clavijo for a health-enhancing Red Ribbon Week (favorite response to the question "What healthy choice will you make this week?" "I won't drive until I'm 16.")

Yvonne Chen and **Shelley Enger** for the creepy Creatures and Creations;

Gretchen Shepherd Romey, **Michelle VanRiper**, and **Nicolette Fuerst** for organizing volunteers for the Art Lab, Computer Lab and Library,

Beth Ezold and **Lisa Gibbs** for keeping our faculty and staff feeling appreciated,

And last but not least, for being true blue, cool as cucumbers, and fun to work with, **Liz Voxman** and **Kelly Wilkniss** for the Red, White and True Blue fair - it was the best!

Many thanks,

Karen Wicke

2007-2008 PTA President



RED WHITE & TRUE BLUE FAIR

BE TRUE TO YOUR SCHOOL

A big Viking Thank You to everyone who volunteered and helped to put on the 2007 Valentine Fair!! The weather was great, the games & attractions awesome, the food fantastic, but it was all your smiling faces and helping hands that made the day so much fun and such a success! Our Valentine family will enjoy the proceeds from the Fair in the coming years.

Thanks for being True to our School,

Liz Voxman & Kelly Wilkniss

A Special Thanks to all these tireless Viking Volunteers:

2007 Steering Committee

Julie Castro, Booths and Publicity

Martine Myronowicz, Equipment

Andrea Lunine, Computer

Cheryl Cabot and Wendy Pratt, Tiles

Stacey Conzonire, Marina Heartfield and Kim Owen, Decorations

Kairavi Daum, Viking Book Nook

Wendy Glazier and Pat Chan, Prizes

Lori Cuccia, Big Win

Helene Jenkins, Viking Vendors

Leslie Long, Staffing

Paula Dunkel and Anita Erskine, Food

Christy Kral and Michelle Conn, Tickets

Adrienne Kreindler and Yvonne Zaro, Sponsors

Laura and Paul Miera, Variety Show

Robin Lahey, Water Squirters and Silly String

Mark Van Riper, Viking Patrol/Clean Up

Cynthia Ary, Cake Walk

Julie Yen and Judy Chou, Treasurer

Susan McDonnell- Balloons

Ross Barker, Master of Ceremonies

Classroom Booth Captains

Amanda Abrams, Cynthia Ary, Peter Brockett, Cheryl Cabot, Jackie Camacho, Birgit Castleman, Michele Carter, Pat Chan, Lauren Chang, Lori Cuccia, Kairavi Daum, Barb Dietzel, Tracy Edmonds, Christina Foo, Lisa Gibbs, Wendy Glazier, Kelly Hensley, Nancy Hittner, Mary Hsu, Patti Koch, Robin Lahey, Bonnie Leung, Pat Mar, Dina McCall, Jannki Mithaiwala, Grace Navarette, Marcel Perez, Wendy Pratt, Dowla Ross, Cindy Sabin, Janet Seid, Debra Spaulding, Natalie Spaulding, Helen Kim Spitzer, Dana Streeter, Jessica Tran, Genevieve Tso, Mary Ulin, Tina Zarifes

Special Helpers and Donors

**Dr. Tray Schreiber and Staff
 Alberto and the SMUSD M&O Dept. & Custodial Staff
 Diane Comi-French/Caffe D'Amore
 Wolfgang Puck Catering/Carl Schuster
 UWink Media Bistro/Peter Wilkniss
 Hows Market
 Howie's Ranch Market
 Partyline Rentals
 Carver School
 The McCall Family for all "barber shop" supplies
 The Hickey Family for the face painting supplies
 Chip Kelly-Booth Equipment Upgrades
 NCL Ticktockers
 San Marino High School Student Volunteers
 Girl Scout Troop # 235**

And,

To everyone who worked at a booth, decorated, stuffed envelopes or did any of the other countless jobs that needed doing, we give thanks for your efforts!!!



Pumpkin Patch 2007

It's all about the children and the smiles on their faces. Pumpkin Patch 2007 was a tremendous success.

First and foremost, our gratitude to Valentine parent Lon Duncan of Duncan Produce for donating all of the pumpkins, corn stalks, bales of hay and candied apples to the Pumpkin Patch. We are overwhelmed by his generosity.

Congratulations to 5th grader Jack Nixon, the winner of the Grand Pumpkin Raffle.

Our tried and true maintenance crew did an amazing job of transporting all the pumpkins, beginning work before 6 a.m. when it was still dark, and cleaning up the field at the end of the day. Dr. Schreiber, Jeanne Lipps and Donna Clements deserve our gratitude for their continuous support.

Our heartfelt thanks to the many parents who helped set-up, decorate and staff booths, as well as providing generous donations of baked goods and snacks: Amanda Abrams, Lisa Amador, Debbie Agajanian, Cynthia Ary, Ann Boutin, Amy Buenabenta, Allison Byrne, Kim Campbell, Michele Carter, Robert Castleman, Julie Castro, Abby Chen, Christina Choi, Jennifer Cockrum, Anita Erskine, Andrea Ferraco, Rick Ferraco, Bob French, Marsha Freedman, Ann Gluck, Karen Harrigan, Marina Heartfield, Kelly Hensley, Ann Hon, Heidi Johnson, Suzie Kim, Adrienne Kreindler, Bonnie Leung, Anne Mallory, Dina McCall, Linda Nakamura, Gretchen Shepherd Romey, Kim Owen, Pam Osgood, Elizabeth Saldebar, Colleen Santino, Lilia Schaefer, Leanne Snaer, Helen Spitzer, Trisha Stenwall, Sharaon Takeyama, John Ulin, Mark Van Riper, Dawn Ward, Maria Wilson, Ann Wong, and Christine Yew.

Michelle Conn and Christy Kral
Pumpkin Patch Chairs



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

Many thanks to the efficient and hardworking volunteers who helped me stuff 750 First Day Packets and 600 Second Day Packets in less than two hours! Thank you to Ruth Roberts, Andrea Ferraco, Kim Halkett, Bailey Halkett, Jasmine Tsai, Donna Sanchez, Mary Hsu, Chun Hui Li, Tina Zarifes, Rebecca Hsu, Alden Cheng, Emily Li, and to the 6 NCL Ticktockers who took time out of their busy summer to help out. Thank you to Dr. Schreiber, Jeanne Lipps, and Donna Clement for helping me with the xeroxing and facilities set-up. Thank you to all of the wonderful Room Parents who unstuffed the First and Second Day Packets for me. You did an outstanding job keeping everything organized and I couldn't have done it without you! Also, thank you to Juliann Rooke, Maria DeJesus, and Karen Wicke for your time entering the data from the First Day Packets. You are an amazing group! You all helped me tremendously; thank you, thank you, thank you!!

Bonnie Leung
Membership Chair



Creatures and Creations

Thank you, everyone, for a fabulous **Creatures and Creations!** We had a wonderful time, and everyone enjoyed viewing the spooky, creepy and creative projects. A big thank you to all our wonderful participants! We would also like to thank our incredible volunteers for all their help and support: **Amanda Abrams, Cynthia Ary, Jessica Chien, Christina Choi, Dipti Dalal, Maria De Jesu, Wes Gonzales, Suzie Kim, Sabrina Kwan, Julie Liao, Liz Lichtman, Justene Pierce, Laura Pollard, Elizabeth Saldebar, Mark VanRiper, Karen Wicke, and George Yeh.** We couldn't have done it without you!!!

Yvonne Chen & Shelley Enger
Chairs, Creatures & Creations



Bike Safety day would not have been possible without the assistance of **Dr. Schreiber** setting up the PA system; **Wes Gonzles** constructing and running the bicycle course; the **San Marino** fire fighters registering the bikes; a **San Marino** police officer telling the kids how fast they could ride; and **Pam Burt, Debbie Day, Tracy Edmonds, Karen Gines, Kristen Lew, Diane Lukas, and Dina McCall** assisting the kids and ensuring that everything ran smoothly. Thank you for volunteering!

With gratitude, **Debra Spaulding**

Reflections Program



Celebrate Your Special Talents!

Participate in the National PTA Reflections Program

Theme for 2007-2008 *"I can make a difference by..."*

The National PTA Reflections Program is an arts recognition and achievement program for students. The Reflections Program provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works of art inspired by a pre-selected theme, while increasing community awareness on the importance of the arts in education.

Participation in the Reflections Program is a great way for students to explore and learn about various art forms. Creating art is a valuable learning process that challenges students to use their critical thinking skills as well as their creative talents. Students may submit one entry of their own original work of art in any of the six arts areas listed below.

- Literature
- Musical composition
- Photography
- Visual arts
- Dance Choreography
- Film/Video Production

The Reflections Program is structured for PTAs to recognize students at the local unit, council, PTA district, state and national levels. Although awards are given at various levels, *at Valentine, we recognize every child who participates and encourage all to contribute*. Thus, students should do their best, but crooked lines, incorrect musical notes, or misspelled words will not disqualify the student's work. In fact, that is often what makes the work of art unique for each child.

Don't miss this opportunity and encourage your children to participate. Just remember, parental encouragement is strongly appreciated but the rules require that the works of art be the student's own original work.

Detailed rules and instructions for each of the six listed areas can be found by clicking the "Rules" link. Entries may be submitted to the Valentine office starting Tuesday, November 13th and will be accepted until **Friday, November 16th at 3:00 pm**. You can download the Entry form by clicking the [Reflection Entry Form](#) link.

For additional questions and/or comments, contact Reflections Chair Helen Kim Spitzer at hspitzer@socal.rr.com.

Photos Needed

I Need School Event Pictures



I'm responsible for taking pictures of our children at Valentine. Since I cannot be at every event, I need your help. I see many of you taking pictures in the classrooms, at the school field trips or at many of our programs at Valentine. I would appreciate it if you would share your pictures with the PTA by emailing them to me. It is very likely that you will see your Valentine student(s) as part of our slide show at the last PTA meeting or in the Yearbook! The year is flying by, please help me keep the Valentine memories alive with your pictures.

Ruth Roberts, roberts5611@sbcglobal.net

Historian

Valentine Directories



2007-2008
Directory

Valentine Directory

Need an additional Valentine Directory for your car or office? Missed ordering your copy of the Directory? We have a few extra copies for sale. Additional copies are \$10 and payment should be made out to PTA. Please contact Andrea Lunine at 799-7649 or e-mail, piatticeramicart@yahoo.com. We have a few copies left and will be sold on a first serve basis.

Heroes from All Services

As Veterans Day (November 11) dawns, imagine the legions of soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and coast guard crewmembers as they march in a parade through history. They come on foot, on horseback, in tanks, and on camels. They fly in planes and they sail on the sea. They are accompanied by support staff who, from their desks, make it possible for troops to move forward.

They are the brave men and women who have defended our country both in war and peace, so that we can enjoy our freedom.

Veterans Day honors all veterans, but focuses on the contributions of living veterans. Numerous cities honor veterans by holding parades or special ceremonies. Individuals can honor veterans by displaying the flag or placing decals on their vehicles.

Official ceremonies for Veterans Day take place at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. At 11 a.m. on November 11, a color guard made up of members of all the military services executes "Present Arms" at the tomb. A presidential wreath is laid and "Taps" is played.

In this time of turmoil, when we can no longer take our freedom for granted, it is of great importance that we acknowledge the men and women who defend us. They may be our brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, fathers, mothers, grandfathers, cousins, or neighbors, and they deserve a heartfelt thank-you!

Help Your Children Improve Their Study Skills



If your children need to improve their study skills, they need to develop the habit of studying in advance of the time papers are due or tests are given. Don't allow them to get locked into pulling all-nighters or cram sessions.

To get into a good study routine, young people need to decide exactly what they need to study and how much. Suggest they look at the class schedule, check class deadlines, and then enter those dates in their planner so that tests and papers don't sneak up on them.

If your children struggle with procrastination, help them learn to study whatever they dread most, first. This is a great principle to live by. It helps free you to enjoy the other things in life. Whatever you are putting off, just do it and get it out of the way.

Suggest children study in small chunks of time, interspersed with short breaks. If they've been working and find themselves not being productive, it's probably time for a break. Just remind them not to procrastinate. Also suggest that if they need to memorize a long list of facts, it is often advantageous to do that just before falling asleep.

If your child needs help in a subject, perhaps he or she can study with a friend. Help the child choose a friend who is serious about studying so that the friend won't just be a distraction.

PTA Minutes September 2007

William L. Valentine
Parent Teachers Association Meeting
Wednesday, September 12, 2007

The meeting was called to order by **2007-2008 PTA President Karen Wicke** at 9:02 a.m. at the Little Theater. The Flag Salute was led by the Webelos Lightning den.

Adoption of Agenda-Karen Wicke called for a motion to amend the agenda to add a report by Debra Spaulding. Justine Pierce so moved. **MOTION CARRIED.** Maria De Jesu moved to adopt the agenda as amended. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Reading of Minutes-Joan Ruskin reported that the June minutes were approved by Kim Halkett, Robin Lahey and Gail Rolfe. Gail Rolfe, Margaret Natarajan and Lisa Higdon agreed to read the September minutes.

2007-2008 PTA President-Karen Wicke thanked Bonnie Leung for her work on the first and second day packets, Kim Halkett and Gretchen Shepherd Romey for the ice cream social, room parents, and Robin Otero for treats at the meeting.

Principal-Tray Schreiber thanked parents for their support, and particularly for the new playground. He presented thank you notes from the children for the playground. Valentine has 673 students this year. There are two new teachers in SDC classrooms.

Tonight is Back to School Night. The teachers will present information on the curriculum, homework, and discipline. On Monday, the teachers will have a seminar on differentiated instruction. Monday evening Nathan Levy will present a program on differentiated instruction for parents. At the next PTA meeting, Billy Jean Knight will discuss redefining the gifted program and the new federal grant for foreign language instruction. API test results will be reviewed at the October or November PTA meeting. The San Marino School District did very well. Valentine was ranked about 80 out of 3000 elementary schools.

President-Karen Wicke thanked all for participating in the beginning of the year activities. The first SIP committee meeting is later this month. Two positions are available. This is a two year commitment.

Treasurer - Juliann Rooke reported the following: **Treasurer's Report** - The beginning Balance on Hand as of 5/29/07 was \$439,070.56. Revenues received were \$53,594.09 and disbursements were \$278,320.39, leaving an ending Balance on Hand of \$214,344.26 as of 6/30/07. The beginning Balance on Hand as of 6/30/07 was \$214,344.26. Revenues received were \$687.96 and disbursements were \$1,885.79, leaving an ending Balance on Hand of \$213,146.43 as of 7/31/07. **Statement of Checks to Ratify** - From 5/30/07-6/30/07 checks 11787 to 11870 were written and bank charges were paid for an amount of \$278,320.39. There were no voided checks or stopped payments. From 7/1/07 to 7/31/07 checks 11871 to 11874 were written and bank charges were paid for an amount of \$1,885.79. There were no voided checks or stopped payments. Ruth Roberts moved to ratify the actions of the Treasurer for the month of June. **MOTION CARRIED.** Pam Burt moved to ratify the actions of the Treasurer for the month of July. **MOTION CARRIED.** **Auditor's Report**-The auditor examined the financials as of June 30, 2007 and found them correct. Gretchen Shepherd Romey moved to adopt the auditor's report. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2007-2008 Budget-Alison McCrary moved to adopt the 2007-2008 Budget as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.** **Budget Amendments**-Juliann Rooke presented two proposed amendments to the budget, to be voted on at the October PTA meeting: an increase in the interest income line item to \$4,500 and an increase in the line item for P.E. Supplemental Supplies by \$9,500 for installation of the new ball walls.

President---Karen Wicke called for a motion to amend the agenda to include the internal auditor's report. Ann Wong so moved. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Auditor-Karen Harrigian reported that she found no discrepancies during her audit of the July 2007 Treasurer's and Financial Secretary's records.

Fair Chairs-Liz Voxman and Kelly Wilkniss presented contracts for approval. Karen Harrigian moved to approve a contract with Chino Ice Service in the amount of \$454.65 for ice. **MOTION CARRIED.** Gail Rolfe moved to approve a contract with Party Pronto in the amount of \$2,255.70 for inflatables, generators, money booth, jail and operators. **MOTION CARRIED.** Gretchen Shepherd Romey moved to approve a contract with Burger Continental, guaranteeing sale of 150 burgers. **MOTION CARRIED.** The Fair will be held on October 6, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Volunteers are still needed. All 144 tiles have been sold.

Bike Safety Chairman-Debra Spaulding announced that there will be a bike safety course on October 8 for 3rd graders.

Meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Ruskin, Recording Secretary

PTA Minutes October 2007

William L. Valentine
Parent Teachers Association Meeting
Wednesday, October 10, 2007

The meeting was called to order by **2007-2008 PTA President Karen Wicke** at 9:03 a.m. at the Little Theater. The Flag Salute was led by Karen Wicke.

Adoption of Agenda-Karen Wicke called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Justine Pierce so moved. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Reading of Minutes-Joan Ruskin reported that the September minutes were approved by Gail Rolfe, Margaret Natarajan and Lisa Higdon. Anita Erskine, Karen Harrigian and Lisa Higdon agreed to read the October minutes.

School District Presentation-Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Billie Jean Knight discussed Differentiated Instruction. She will hold two more in-depth workshops on October 11th at Carver, and October 25th at Valentine.

Principal-Tray Schreiber reported that the playground is complete, other than the installation of the ball walls. Thanks for the playground continue to come in. There is concern with the weight of children's backpacks. The science textbooks will be available on-line as soon as the publisher makes it available. This year VAPA will focus on integrating theater and dance. He thanked Kelly Wilkniss and Liz Voxman for a tremendous job at the Valentine Fair.

President-Karen Wicke reported that the Valentine Voice will be distributed monthly by email starting in November. The deadline for submissions will be the 25th of the preceding month. The SIP Committee is looking for one more parent volunteer. Meetings are the fourth Tuesday of the month at 3:00. This is a two-year commitment. The School Board election is in November. Everyone is asked to vote. The High School homecoming is on October 12, with the parade at 3:30 and the game at 7:00.

Executive Vice President-Pam Burt reported that the wish list funds are a little over \$20,000. Teachers with the same grade and same classroom as last year get a 100% share, those new to the school or a grade get a 125% share, as do 4th and 5th grade teachers due to larger class size. The teachers will be notified of the amount they have to spend shortly.

Treasurer - Juliann Rooke reported the following: **Treasurer's Report** - The beginning Balance on Hand as of 7/31/07 was \$213,146.43. Revenues received were \$80,100.35 and disbursements were \$11,636.37, leaving an ending Balance on Hand of \$281,610.41 as of 8/31/07. Tori Mordecai moved to approve the August Treasurer's Report. **MOTION CARRIED.** **Statement of Checks to Ratify** - From 8/1/07 to 8/31/07 checks 11875 to 11882 were written and bank charges were paid for an amount of \$11,636.37. There were no voided checks. Payment of check 11878 was stopped. Linda Barker moved to ratify the actions of the

Treasurer for the month of August. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Auditor-Karen Harrigian reported that no discrepancies were found during her audit of the August 2007 Treasurer's and Financial Secretary's records.

Second Vice President-Bonnie Leung thanked parents for joining the PTA and for their donations in the first and second day packets. PTA membership cards are available in the office. There are currently 822 PTA members.

President-Karen Wicke thanked Liz Voxman and Kelly Wilkniss for their work on the Fair. It was a great day for the kids and raised funds for many PTA programs.

Fair Co-Chairs-Liz Voxman and Kelly Wilkniss reported that new items at the Fair were popular, including the tiles, money booth, Viking toss, super caterpillar, Chinese culture booth and new vendors. They thanked Julie Castro, Booth Chair, and Martine Myronowicz, Equipment Chair. They anticipate that profits from the Fair will exceed \$50,000.

Book Fair Co-Chair-Linda Barker reported that the Book Fair is coming up in November. This year's theme is "Camp Out with a Good Book." Volunteers are needed to staff and set up the Book Fair.

Reflections Chair-Karen Wicke for Helen Spitzer reported that Reflections is a national PTA program. The theme this year is "I can make a difference by" Every child at Valentine who participates will be recognized. The deadline for submissions is November 16.

T-shirt Sales Co-Chair-Claire Johnson reported that t-shirts will be ready in a couple weeks.

Creatures and Creations-Karen Wicke for Yvonne Chen and Shelley Enger reported that projects may be brought to the Little Theater at 8:00-8:25 on October 25. Projects must be in good taste.

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Ruskin, Recording Secretary

Dr. Tray Schreiber, Principal
Andrea Lunine, Voice Editor

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