

## VPS News (Feb 12)

Valley Prep <admin@vpredlands.org>

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To: John Black <jblack@vpredlands.org>

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### VPS Community:

Please be reminded that the **2nd Trimester is ending today**. Report Cards will be emailed to parents towards the end of February. Also towards the end of February, Mrs. Johnson will be sending-out the **Re-enrollment Contracts** for the 2021-22 school year. Please see further information below about the new tuition rates.

As noted below, we will not be able to have an in-person **GALA** this year. But we continue to explore options for an **online auction** later in the Spring. Also, many thanks to everyone who has contributed to our **Annual Fund** (Annual Giving Campaign). Although participation is less than last year, total contributions are similar: approximately \$32,000. Between now and the end of the school year, we are hopeful of adding another \$10,000 - \$15,000 to that total. These contributions will help to offset our anticipated **net loss** for the school year, likely to approach \$150,000. However, enrollment has increased from 130 (early August 2020) to its current level of 145, and the school's *reserve accounts* remain fully intact. Accordingly, the school remains **financially stable** and hopeful of returning to full-staffing in the near future.

Finally, we are planning to run a 2-week **Summer Camp** (June 14-25). More details will be shared in the coming weeks. Registrations will be accepted beginning in early April.

**John Black, Head of School**

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **February 12:** End of the 2nd trimester
- **February 15 & 16:** No school (Trimester break)

- **Late February:** T2 Report Cards issued
- **Late February:** Re-enrollment Contracts issued for 2021-22
- **Early March:** Applications accepted (thru SMART-aid) for Tuition Assistance for 21-22
- **Weeks of March 22 & 29:** Spring Break
- **Summer Camp:** June 14-25

### **TUITION 2021-22**

Over the past six years, **tuition rates** (for both one-time AND monthly payors) have increased annually by 2-3%. This approach has allowed us to adequately fund programs (such as IB & STEAM) and maintain our staffing structure (at least until this year when our enrollment & staffing were impacted by Covid). For the next few years, we will take a slightly different approach which we believe will still provide the necessary revenue, while also recognizing the importance of affordable rates for as many families as possible, particularly as the economy recovers. Accordingly ...

- For those families who choose to pay their tuition on a **monthly** basis, tuition rates will not increase for the 2021-22 and 22-23 school years.
- For those families who choose to pay **in-full** at the beginning of the school year, the rates will increase by 2.5% for 2021-22 and another 2.5% in 2022-23. Despite this increase, one-time payors will still save upwards 10% by continuing to pay in-full, rather than monthly.

### **EUROPE TRIP 2021**

As Covid-vaccinations become more widespread around the world, we are hopeful of resuming our international trips this Summer. A group of 11 Middle School students (and parents) are scheduled to travel to France, Spain, and Italy on June 7-17. Additional travelers (from 6-8th) are welcomed to register. The approximate trip-cost is \$5,000. All travel plans (including payment) is facilitated by Explorica Travel. One or two VPS teachers will also attend the trip. To learn more about the trip, please visit:

[Click Here](#)

### **OTHER OVERNIGHT TRIPS**

- **4-5th** grades to Sacramento: May 3-6 (remains on-schedule)
- **5th** grade to Pali Outdoor Adventure Camp: April 19-22 (remains on-schedule)
- **6-8th** grades to Colorado River: April 5-9 (on-hold)
- **8th** grade to Washington DC: Cancelled

### **GALA 2021**

Due to current health conditions in California, we will not hold an in-person

GALA this school year. However, we are moving forward with plans for a **virtual auction** in the Spring. Although various platforms are available to manage such an auction, we obviously want to keep our overhead as low as possible. Accordingly, we are experimenting with a **single auction item**, graciously provided by our very own Dr. Berry. The attached flyer provides more information. Bids for the item can be made using the link below.

**HEALTH UPDATE** (as recommended by DPH to ensure transparency)  
Since September 1, the school has been informed of the following:

- **12 students** have been tested for Covid-19, following possible exposure. 2 students subsequently tested positive.
- **9 staff members** have been tested for Covid-19, following possible exposure. 3 staff members subsequently tested positive.

### **ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN**

Our *Annual Giving Campaign* (Annual Fund) is one of our three annual fundraisers, including the Fall Fest (cancelled this year) and the GALA (which we remain hopeful of holding in April or May). As we continue to rebuild enrollment, proceeds from all fundraisers will be used to "**close the gap**" between the amount of tuition collected, and total expenses. For the current school year, we expect that gap to exceed \$160,000 (which includes monies allocated for Tuition Assistance). Your support of the Annual Fund will begin to close that gap! Last year, more than 90% of our families donated to the fund, which raised nearly \$40,000. Can we push that total to \$45,000? Or even \$50,000?!

- Through the end of January, we have received upwards of **\$32,000**
- Stay-tuned for the February results.

Visit our website to learn more about the Annual Fund and to make your donation. Any amount is appreciated!

**Give Now**

### **HEALTH PROTOCOLS**

Please be reminded that a student (or staff member) is not allowed on-campus if they ...

- **... Have a fever of 100.4 or above.** If a student is sent-home, they must be fever-free (without medication) for 24hrs before returning to campus. In other words, if your child is sent home on Monday, they could not return to school until Wednesday. The school will always confirm the temperature by using two different hand-held, touchless thermometers (not including the kiosks near the stage).

- ... **Are continually sneezing and/or coughing.** If a student is sent-home, they may return the next day, so long as they are not continually sneezing and/or coughing.

### **CONFIRMED TO HAVE COVID-19**

- If a student (or staff member) in a particular class tests **positive** for Covid-19, that student (or staff member) must quarantine for a minimum of 10-days (from the time of the positive test) AND submit a negative test result before returning to campus. **NOTE:** If the student (or staff member) has completed the required quarantine and is symptom-free, but still tests positive, then a "clearance note" from a doctor may be submitted in lieu of a negative test result.
- If the positive test result occurs while school is in-session, then the entire class (including the teacher) must also quarantine for a minimum of 10 days. All students in the closed classroom would transition to 100% Distance Learning during the quarantine.
- If the student (or staff member) is in Middle School, then the entire Middle School would be closed and transitioned to Distance Learning.
- Each student (and the teacher) would need to submit a "clear/negative" test result before returning to campus.

### **EXPOSED TO SOMEONE WITH COVID-19**

- DPH defines "*exposure*" as ... close proximity (within 6ft), without a mask, for more than 15min.
- If a student (or staff member) in a particular class is **exposed** to someone confirmed to have Covid-19, then the student (or staff member) must submit a test result to the school as quickly as possible AND quarantine (for a minimum of 10-days from the time of exposure, regardless of the test result) before returning to campus. If the test result is positive, then the procedure outlined above will be implemented.
- While waiting for the test result (from a student or staff member), other students in the class have the option of transitioning to Distance Learning (DPH does not require a class to be closed while waiting for a test result).
- Further, regardless of their own test result, if the student (or staff member) resides in the same household as someone confirmed to have Covid-19, then the student (or staff member) must quarantine themselves for a minimum of 10-days beyond the quarantine period of the person in the household who has Covid-19 (i.e. if the person with Covid ends their quarantine on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month, then those residing with them must continue to quarantine until at least the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month).

### **SUPPORT THE SCHOOL WHILE SHOPPING**

- October 12-December 31: Shop [Minted.com](https://www.Minted.com) –Gotta Spread Holiday Joy! See details below to support Valley Prep and order holiday cards at the same time!
- On-going: Shop Amazon Smile – Gotta Shop! See details below to support Valley Prep and shop with Amazon at the same time.

## Amazon Smile

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2019-2020 Families*

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