V.A.S.E. MEETING
MARCH 6, 2008

Board Members Present: Rania Lavranos, Christine Winters, Melissa Morrill

Other Members Present: Marissa Ortiz, Rebecca Baldwin, Trina Waniga, Laura Zell, Donna Walther, Julie Bangs, Dona Mahoney

The meeting was opened at 9:10 by Rania Lavranos

Secretary’s Report: Rania filled in for Suzy, the minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer’s Report: Christine reported that we opened a new account for the school store. We have approximately $40,297 total which includes about $2,000 of outstanding checks. The Treasurers Report was approved as submitted.

Principal’s Report: Dona reported that the budget is not set. We submitted a 2.6% increase. Which in reality is not an increase because costs of fixed items such as utilities have gone up. There is a Public Hearing to vote on the budget at the next school committee meeting. District Strategic Planning will begin next week, there are 150 members. We will be going to a 3 term report card system next year, plus progress reports. Mrs. Almeida’s fifth grade is participating in a recycling program.

Teacher Liaison: Julie commented that Lyn Hoops is coming for teachers as well as students. Kelly Kelleher and Lynn Rivet are conducting workshops on how to get children to read more.

School Store: Trina announced that the School Store has been a huge success. The teachers have been utilizing to coupons. We had a gross profit of $233 and we are still looking into a charity to donate the proceeds to. The kids have been requesting for the store to carry LOGO items. The store will utilize SCOOP to announce new products.

Sippican Art Space: Laura Zell spoke on behalf of Lynne Parks Kuhl. We need to send out a flyer to see how much interest there is from parents as Lynne is only hear one more year. Laura will e-mail Dona a flyer for approval. Hopefully we can utilize the new Art teacher also.

Skip the Screen: Skip the Screen is April 7th thru the 11th. Monday is Gameright Game night from 6-7. Garrett Gryska is chairing the event. Tuesday we will have Bret Outschunis, the YoYo man, from 6:30-7:30. Wednesday is open. Thursday is the Math and Science fair from 6:30-7:30. Friday at the all school meeting the winners will be drawn, and that evening Drama club will be putting on a production.
Arts in Action: Arts in Action is Sat April 12th. If you have an artistic talent or know someone who does, Stacy has the invitation letter. VASE will help fund the lunches and gifts we provide the artists.

ACE: Marissa reported that she only had 4 people offer to teach a class. We threw around a couple ideas, StarLab, possibly HS volunteers, HipHop.

Fundraisers: The NStar fundraiser was approved and it will begin April 4th with an 11:30 kickoff from Radio Disney. We were also approved for Shaw’s receipts, so we are encouraging people to start turning them in.

PTO Expo: The VASE board will be attending the PTO expo on March 19th. If interested in joining us please contact a board member.

Staff Appreciation: Staff Appreciation is May 5th thru May 9th. VASE will do a luncheon on Thursday and we are requesting children to write Thank you notes and distribute them utilizing the school Post Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15.