

Valerius Eagle News - October 2015

Dates to Remember in October

10/1	PTO meeting 7pm in the Media Center
10/5-10/18	Read a Thon
10/6	Skate Party at Incrediroll - Skate North
10/9	Picture Retake Day
10/14	Late Start
10/22	5th grade field trip to Biz town
10/28	Late Start
10/29	2nd grade field trip to Jester Park

Online Calendar

1. Click the web address

https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=urbandaleschools.com_3k6635dg1lvt3b74his743b6n8%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/Chicago

2. Once the calendar pops up, go to the bottom right of the screen and you'll see +Google Calendar. Click on the + sign.

3. The calendar will pop up and a message will say, "Do you want to add this calendar?"

4. Click yes.

Office Announcements

Picture Retake day is October 9th. We want to make sure students that need their picture taken get an order form to bring home. The order envelope with payment will need to come to school with them on October 9th. If your student missed picture day back in September, please let the office know asap. You can call Mrs. Mitchell at 457-6500 or email her at mitchellj@urbandaleschools.com and she'll make sure your student gets an order form to bring home.

Message from Mrs. Mauro

Valerius families,

It's hard to believe, but we're already in our second month of school! Staff and students are hard at work and cooler fall weather is upon us. It's time to get out those jackets! Please be sure to send students wearing adjustable layers and appropriate outerwear each day. As a reminder, the weather rule is that students go outside for recess if the temperature is above 10 degrees (unless it is raining).

Car Drop off/Pick up:

If a child needs assistance exiting your vehicle, please pull into a parking spot to allow the line to continue moving. Children must also exit cars on the right side of the vehicle for safety reasons. Please continue to place name signs on the dashboard or visor. It makes the pickup process move smoothly if teachers can see the names. If you need a sign, please inform the office and we can help you get one. Finally, please be considerate to those who have waited in line, and do not go around the line of cars waiting to pick up students.

Treat Reminder:

If you wish to have a birthday celebration for your students at school, please remember that all treats need to be commercially prepared (no homemade treats) and in individual servings. Please do not send whole birthday cakes. Instead, individual cupcakes, cookies, or donuts ensure that we are preserving instructional time for students. Additionally, students enjoy stickers or pencils if you'd prefer to share a non-food treat.

News from the Health Office

FLU VACCINE CLINIC: Injections and Flumist

UHS Commons

4:00-8:00 PM

Wednesday, October 7 and 21

Students, Staff, Parents, Siblings, and Community

Most major insurance plans accepted.

Please bring your insurance card.

Flu vaccine for uninsured is \$20.

Nobody is turned away for the inability to pay.

Parent/guardian must be present and sign consent

Clinic offered by Polk County Health Department

www.urbandaleschools.com or www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health for more information

Do your part to stop the flu!

- • WASH your hands
- • COVER your cough
- • STAY home if you're sick
- • GET vaccinated

PTO Corner

YOUR LIFELINES!!!

1. WEBSITE...Visit us at: <http://www.urbandaleschools.com/schools/valerius-elementary/pto/> for all the latest information regarding PTO activities, meeting agendas and minutes as well as volunteer sign up links, spirit wear and all flyers/forms.
2. EMAIL...Send your questions, comments or suggestions to valeriuspto@gmail.com
3. SOCIAL MEDIA...Like/Follow us: www.facebook.com/valeriusselementary to receive reminders and updates for upcoming school events
4. CALENDAR (see instructions on page one)

VALERIUS TRACK AND FIELD GRANT VOTING: NOW THROUGH OCTOBER 7!!!

Remember to vote daily!!!

1. Go to:

<http://wellmark.upickem.net/engine/Votes.aspx?PageType=VOTING&incrementnumber=1&c=185080&sort;>

2. Search for the project titled "Valerius Elementary Track & Field Rehab Project";

3. Select our project, and click "Save Vote";

4. Repeat each day until October 7th.

Each IP address can vote once a day every day until October 7th. We encourage you to vote early and often, as well as forward on to anyone else that would be willing to vote for our project. Thanks for your support!

FUNDRAISING OVERVIEW

Primary PTO Fundraisers for the 2015/2016 School Year:

Fall: Read-a-Thon (Oct) and Book Fair (Nov)

Spring: Family Fun Night (Feb) and Book Fair (Mar)

Supplementary PTO Fundraisers:

HyVee Shop and Share (Sept, Nov, Jan, Mar)

HyVee Market Fresh Grill Nights (Sept, Nov, Jan, Mar)

Gift Card Reward Program (monthly - 2nd Monday)

Boxtops/Soup Labels (ongoing)

Community Building Events:

Classroom Parties (Sept, Dec, Feb)

Back-to-School BBQ (Sept)

Skate Parties (Oct and Mar)

Bingo Night (Jan)

UPCOMING EVENTS

READ-A-THON: October 5-18

Valerius is ready to kick off our 4th Annual Read-A-Thon with some fun and exciting improvements! We are focusing more on participation, awarding a Red Box movie/game rental for EVERY student who participates. And we've broadened the definition of participation to include all minutes read in school as well as out of school...all we're asking is that you help your students get pledges. We have added some fun daily trivia questions/prize drawings, more opportunities for kids to receive free books and for those with a competitive nature, we've added some class challenges where the top fundraising classes (K-2 and 3-5) can win a pizza party while the top reading classes (K-2 and 3-5) can win a cookie party!

Read-A-Thon materials will be coming home with your student on **Friday, October 2nd**.

SKATING PARTY: October 6

Our fall Skating Party is just a week away! Join us on Tuesday, October 6th from 6-8pm at Skate North (5621 Meredith Dr). Cost is just \$6 per skater (including skate rental) and the class with the highest attendance wins a prize so make sure you check in at the table just inside the entrance. Non-skaters are free. We hope to see you there!

FALL BOOK FAIR: November 10-13

Some Book Fair fun facts:

- **The Book Fair is more than just a place to get some great books – it is also a fundraiser for our library**
- At least 50% of what you spend on books at the fair, our library gets as a profit to buy more books for our kids and teachers to use. Last year we raised **over \$7000** for our library from our Book Fair – for books that our kids and teachers benefit from.
- The Book Fair is run entirely by volunteers. We need people to help set up and tear down the fair, and to help run the fair registers during conferences and the Book Fair family lunch (the registers are easy to use, and we give you instructions on what to do). Both daytime and evening volunteer opportunities are available. If you would be willing to consider volunteering your time to help with activities for either the fall fair (November 6-13) or the spring fair (February 26-March 4), please go to: <http://valerius elementarypto.bringit.bz/public/b35590>. The volunteers who sign up will be given first choice of open volunteer slots for both fairs before the rest of the school has access to them. There is no obligation to help at a book fair if it doesn't work out for you schedule wise, you just have first shot at the sign-up sheet.
- More information about Book Fair dates and times will be coming soon!

We appreciate your continued support and hope you will join us at this year's PTO meetings where we will continue to fundraise with a purpose, provide support to our students and staff and help carry out the District's mission of teaching all, reaching all!