

April 8, 2025

A FACILITIES UPDATE FROM THE VESD

This week the Club heard from **Collin Rowe**, who serves as the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services for the Victor Elementary School District (VESD). In his role, Mr. Rowe serves as the chief business official, managing the financial and operational side of the District while supporting its mission to provide exceptional education for all students.

VESD serves students across 18 schools in four geographic quadrants, including two innovative charter schools. With a clear focus on student success, the District's vision is to "provide a path to success for all students to define their own futures as lifelong learners." The mission centers on building strong foundational skills through a comprehensive, student-focused approach. True to its motto, VESD is committed to "Learning for all... Whatever it takes!"



Families within each quadrant have the flexibility to choose the school that best fits their child's needs within their zoned area—and also have the option to enroll in one of the District's charter schools. To support this, VESD offers free transportation to any school within a student's quadrant, removing barriers to access and choice.

VESD values community feedback, using the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) to directly shape decisions. A key example: thanks to stakeholder input, shade structures are now either

completed or under construction across all campuses.

Whenever a new addition is made—like the recently opened playgrounds at Green Tree East, Discovery School of the Arts, and Park View Elementary—VESD hosts celebratory "Grand Opening" events complete with ribbon cuttings, making it a special moment for students and staff.

Playground upgrades are prioritized at schools with fewer recess activities, ensuring equitable playtime opportunities throughout the District.

VESD takes pride in maintaining and upgrading its facilities through smart budgeting and grant funding. Recent HVAC and ductwork improvements at Irwin Academy were made possible by the ESSER Grant

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This Week's Functionaries

Invocation:	Bill Edwards
Flag Salute:	Bryan Gillespie
4-Way Test:	Darron Poulsen
Fine Master:	David North



GILLESPIE'S GAB

Thank you to Collin Rowe for stopping by this week and sharing updates on some of the 18 schools that are part

of the Victor Elementary School District. Thank you for your hard work and stewardship of tax payer dollars.



Next week is our Easter Baskets service project. We plan to make these baskets our largest yet! Immediately after the meeting a team of six of us will head out and deliver them in two teams! I for one cannot wait! We will also hold a special "Farewell to Stew Anderson" next week as he and Diane move to Arkansas in a couple of weeks. Please share a story, give a roast, or just say thank you to Stew.

On September 6th we will celebrate our 75th Anniversary as a Club with a big fundraising event at the Spring Valley Lake Community Center! With great food and a look back on our many years as a Club, we will also be giving away \$10,000 that night! We will be selling 100 tickets at \$250 each with one lucky person getting some surprise wealth! We are looking for people to join the event committee, so please let Bill Edwards know if you'd like to be a part of the fun!

Bryan

Collin Rowe

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(Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund), a federal grant aimed at addressing needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Looking toward the future, the District is planning two new schools over the next decade—and here's the remarkable part: instead of relying on bond measures or raising taxes, VESD is budgeting carefully and planning to pay cash for both projects, demonstrating a deep commitment to fiscal responsibility.

With experienced leaders like **Collin Rowe** at the helm of administrative services, VESD continues to move forward with integrity, innovation, and heart—ensuring students have every opportunity to thrive.

Next week we will say farewell to Past District Governor and Past President Stew Anderson who will be moving to Arkansas on May 1.

Please bring your favorite stories, best roastings, or just to say thank you to Stew. Please invite spouses as well, as we want a full room to honor Stew Anderson!



THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

Big Blue Poker Chip



Don Lager had the chance to draw the Blue Chip but picked green and saved the chance for another.

We will continue next week with 6 chips and \$400 for the lucky Rotarian who can draw the Blue Chip!

Fine Session

David North was our Fine Master this week and started by giving **Don Lager** a \$25 fine for announcing that he sold his building (previous site of Midway Home Solutions) to Del Amo Motorsports. This weekend Providence St. Mary will hosts its annual Gala, with the theme this year being "Boots and Ballgowns". **Mike Page** was levied a \$20 penalty for the bad theme name. Finally, **Bo Goulet** shared that mortgage rates are down, and it is a great time to refinance, which earned him a \$20 fine.

Raffle

Bill Edwards brought four boxes of Fanny Mae candy that will be enjoyed by **Bill Scott**, **Ryan McEachron**, **Don Lager** and **Chris Ackerman**. Chris himself gave away a Victor Valley Transit bean bag phone holder that will be used by **Bill Scott** and an Earth Day stress ball that will be used by **Jim Murray**. **Don Lager** gave away a Presidential Towel that will be enjoyed by **Steve Murray**, while Steve donated a bottle of wine that will be savored by **Angel Espino**. Not to be outdone, **David North** also donated a bottle that was received by **Jim Cox**.



Rotary Guests



This week we welcomed back **Brad Letner**, who attended as a guest of **Steve Murray**.

Proposed Member

If you protest the admission of this member please respond in writing by 5 p.m. April 22 to President Bryan Gillespie.

Brad Letner
Retired Military

Classification: Military: US Army Retired

Sponsor: Steve Murray

Rotary 
Club of Victorville, CA

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$27.00

Polio Pig: \$22 + Chip (Don Lager) \$5 = \$27.00

Collected to Date: \$21,351.83

Total equals: 103,682 Doses!

One dollar equals 2 Doses of Vaccine!
\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2024-2025	Bryan Gillespie
President 2025-2027	Bill Edwards
President 2027 - 2028	Please be Interviewed
Immediate Past President	Steve Murray
Executive Secretary/Foundation/Grants	Margaret Cooker
Treasurer/Scholarships	David North
Youth Services/Ethics Essay	Ron Boyd
Club Service & Membership	Bill Edwards
Community Service/Speech Contests	Please Volunteer
Vocational Service	Please Volunteer
International Service	Ben Tafoya
Member At Large, Young Leaders Contact	Arsalee Morales
Member At Large, Special Projects	Rob Kilpatrick

Members-at-Large: Bob Basen, Darron Poulsen, Angel Espino

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD/PP Secretary	Pam Murray
Special Billing	Esther Mears (TBD)
Public Service Awards	Please Volunteer
Teacher Mini-Grants	Angel Espino
Dan Stover Music Contest	Angel Espino
Joshua Tree Editor	Chris Ackerman
Read B4K	Please Volunteer
Foundation & Grants	Margaret Cooker
Food Baskets	Bill Edwards
Interact (Junior Rotary)	Please Volunteer
Programs	Mike Page
Fundraising	Stefanie Montoya
S.T.A.R. Students	Angel Espino
Club Learning Facilitator	Please Volunteer

The Victorville Rotary Club meets every Tuesday for fellowship
at 11:30 a.m. and meeting at 12:00 noon at the Bear Valley
Country Club, 13229 Spring Valley Parkway, Victorville

Make-up Days and Locations

MONDAY:	San Bernardino East, Imperial Palace, noon
TUESDAY:	Rancho Cucamonga Sunrise, 7:15 a.m. Empire Lakes Golf Course Rancho Cucamonga, 12:00 p.m., Etiwanda Gardens
WEDNESDAY:	San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, DiNapoli's Firehouse, 1358 E Main St, Barstow, CA
THURSDAY:	Apple Valley, Rusty Bull, 13685 John Glenn Rd, Apple Valley, Noon. Ontario, 12:15 p.m., Doubletree Hotel San Bernardino, Denny's at I-15, 7 a.m. Redlands, Masonic Temple, noon
FRIDAY:	San Bernardino North, Elks Lodge, 12:05 p.m.

Calendar Dates

- April 11: District Assembly**
Disneyland Resort Hotel
1150 W Magic Way, Anaheim, CA 92802
- April 11- April 12: District Conference**
Disneyland Resort Hotel
1150 W Magic Way, Anaheim, CA 92802
- April 14: Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm Fellowship
5:30pm Board Meeting
Location: Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, CA

Upcoming Programs

- April 15: Service Project: Easter Baskets**
Eggstravaganza for Families
ALSO...
A Farewell to Stew Anderson!
- April 22: Congressman Jay Obernolte**
- April 29: Evening Meeting at Havanazucar**
Cuban Restaurant
5:30pm at 15550 Main St c14,
Hesperia, CA 92345
- May 6: Ryan McEachron TOPIC**
"Understanding the County Board of
Education" (Page)

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