

Neil Cummins PTA
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 16, 2008
7:00-7:30pm NC Music Room

Attendees: Catherine Guthrie, Sarah Notter, Susan Christman, Ruby Gonzalez, Misty Nielsen, Allison Ross, Paige Rodgers, Jen Reidy, Susan Underwood, Karen Bond, Andrea Pierpont, Jamie Bueman, Julia Ritter, Marilyn Clark, Pam Bittner, Monica Malone, Jill Struts, Anka Paine, Erin Langs, Hiram Ono, Glenda Swanson, Mike Marrero, Carol Soud, Emily Janowsky, Laura Anderson, Dawn Wiecker, Wendy Hatzhcech, Alice Marks.

Call to Order: Cathie Guthrie called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Agenda

Principal's Report: Marilyn stated that things are finally settling in and that in the future they will look at early release days and scheduling. She mentioned that the teachers truly appreciated the time for parent conferences. Our enrollment is at 740 kids in 36 classrooms. This time last year we had 702 students. She encouraged participation in the upcoming community meetings that will address enrollment and facilities planning. She is a proponent of separating NC into an upper and lower campus configuration. She would support this at the current enrollment numbers with or without an increase in enrollment. More public hearings will be held for the greater (non-school) citizenry of Larkspur and Corte Madera to address citizens' concerns. School families only make up 10-15% of district voters. She noted that historically we have had very good public support.

The proposed facilities plan would include modernization of A,B and C wings. She noted that modernization costs of the D wing would exceed 70% of new construction costs and therefore justifies replacement with new construction. The D wing area would become play area. Three configurations for the new buildings have been proposed.

On another note, the School Site Council has two open positions. One position is for a 1 yr term and the other position is for a 3 yr term. The commitment is minimal at 1- 1 1/2 hours per month. Decisions made by Site Council do include budgetary matters.

Treasurer's Report

Cathie presented the treasurer's report. The gross revenue from the first session of hot lunch was \$90,000. In addition to the \$90,000 in accounts receivables we have approximately \$30k in the bank. She noted that \$75,000 must be paid to vendors. November 10th will be the start of the next session for hot lunch. We have raised over \$4,700 with our PTA membership drive.

PTA distribute \$900-\$1,200 per classroom. Cathie explained that the allotment varies class by class based on the number of students in each class, and with grade level. The PTA gifted \$1,000 to Science Night and gave Sarah Wolf \$1,000 for the music program. Additionally, PTA monies are used to pay speakers for Parent Ed night.

Approval Items

Sarah Notter made a motion to ratify checks the treasurer paid out through mid October. Monica Malone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Karen Bond made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the September 4, 2008 General Membership Meeting. Paige Rodgers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

New VP2 Operations—Julia introduced Erin Langs who will be our new VP2 Operations. She will be overseeing the Communications, Sign in Drop Off Loop etc.,

New Teacher Representative—Julia announced that Mary Creigh Houts has joined the Board as the Teacher Representative. She is a first grade teacher.

Greenraising Fundraiser Report—Julia Ritter reported for Carolyn Caindec that we met the goal of \$5,000 to support the 5th grade Outdoor Education program. Greenraising has extended the 40% donations until October 17th after that 25% of purchases will go to our district.

Hoedown Report—Jamie Bueman/Sarah Notter: Sarah presented Jamie with flowers and gift card. Jamie explained that the Hoe Down is not a fundraiser and that they were very close to break even.

Membership Update—Jamie Bueman stated that memberships are about at the same leveles as last year. The PTA will be having another push for membership soon and will be giving prizes with signups.

Adjournment

Julia Ritter adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm

7:30 PM: Parent Education Speaker Series—Victoria Zenoff: “If Only Balancing Parenting and Work Were Uncomplicated”

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Christman
Secretary