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Meeting Minutes

Date March 12 2024 | *Meeting called to order by Emily at 8:16*

In Attendance –

Jennifer Vandenburg, Emily Austin, Sara Niazi, Lexa Safian, Sanan Bardekjian, Jody Green, Tiffany Olson, Erin Reeves, Daisy O’connell, Melody Black, Mellisa V Marshall, Sotheany Phat, Jim Kass, Sandy Nager, Markida Dundore, Natalie Iaccino, Sara Exner

and Zoom attendees

Welcome

* Welcome, good to see you all

Approval of Minutes

* Motion to approve by Sanan Bardekjian
* Second by Sara Niazi
* None opposed
* Approved by PFA General Membership

Principal’s Report

* Maker Space – almost there. Have to put things on wall, coming today
  + Hoping to have it open soon
  + Need some help from parents to volunteer to work/supervise to get kids used to the space
* We are in the middle of APEX
  + Great fundraiser, great program
  + Love the message they bring to the classroom
  + Chose the reward for Friday
* Cultural Fair next Friday, sign up if you haven’t
* Science fair after spring break
* Working to fix the heater in this building, classrooms have space heaters
  + This space gets cold because big and doors stay open
* Attendance letters through Aeries
  + Warning letter
  + Letter should not have said truancy

Treasurer’s Report

* No Treasurer here
* Read a thon estimated at 18K, increase this year
* Family Dance – didn’t lose money, made a little
* 5th grade doing really well, 23K, 24K
  + 5th grade funds used for tiles, field day, off site, decorate, swag, beanies for outdoor ed
  + 5th Grade committee
* Question about funding for district
  + We do LOI, we continue LOI.
  + Can add but can’t take away when we make commitment
  + Kept it level
  + We increased Baker’s hours by 5, she plays games during recess
* Chatter about losing art/PA
  + Special source funding for 2 VAPA shared across 2 Elementary
  + Have had 2 30-40 with certificated person with PA and VA
  + Funding is going away, it was special grant for COVID
  + Will be 1 session instead of 2
  + Don’t know what it looks like
  + Opportunity for PFA to fund non certificated position, classified position. Less expensive, similar to how it was done before COVID
  + We need to think about for budget, we will propose budget in April meeting
* Principal:
  + Extra funding coming out of COVID, we got 3 years out of it instead of 2
  + Art funding – 50% of position
  + We have full time share with YB
  + Prop 28 funding
  + We don’t want to be penalized for smaller vs bigger school
  + We will be 2nd biggest elementary school in the district
  + Allowed classified hours based on size, up to 24 hours per week
  + If we can have person that covers visual and perf arts
  + Maybe we can have stem or choir next year
  + Classified, have to have teacher in the room
  + Pre covid, Kika and Ms Meyer, classified by PFA
  + Funds from PFA went to aids when we got certificated people
  + We have 24 hours, we can share with another school
  + 12 for stem and 12 for music?
  + PFA would pay for the other 40 minutes
  + If we want to increase spending on position, have to fundraise more
  + Getting input from teachers
  + Before had choir
  + Job would be posted, parent could apply
  + In response to question: Parent could fund for position not person if a parent really wanted to
* Playground equipment for kids for recess?
  + Timers for swings not waterproof, clock with second hand for swings
  + Two touch rule sheet, rules always changing
  + Could there be a Wish list?
* Response: Playground equipment line item
  + Will find out from Baker what is needed
* Maybe she can have 4 square and two touch clinic
* There is a responsibility of putting equipment away
* Handball courts will be dark blue (school is being painted)
* Looking at Murals for side of building and handball courts,
* Friend of parent does mural for elementary schools, can sometimes get them paid for, interested? Yes – parent should give Mia the number and they will reach out

Open RMPFA Exec Board Positions for 2024-25 School Year

* Update from Jody
* Have not received any nominations
* Parliament, VP, Treasurer Account Receivable are the open positions

Events and Committee Happenings

*APEX, March 4-15, 2024*

* Going on, run is on Thursday.
* Will send out something to families: participation is lower, 50% participation per class
* Sign up genius for volunteers went out, it filled up quickly
* Can’t book them again, until they are here
* Apex fundraises more total dollars
* We get more percentage of read a thon
* APEX makes more money for them and us
* We run read a thon
* Apex brings in more money for the school
* We can’t run competing events during APEX
* Apex is the biggest fund raiser after Yes Fund
* Used to do Step it Up- they sent people in; Apex is better
* Sumac trying to do one on their own
* Discussion about fundraisers: do people know that we only get a percentage? With YES fund we get 100% but we need to supplement YES fund with other fundraisers

*Around the World Culture Fair, March 22, 2024*

* First around the world fair
* 15 booths, room for more
* Have table (brown tables, get one half of table), and put up stuff from culture
* Do as little or as much as you want
* Food – sample size and know ingredients
* If not signing up, please come!
* Not going to turn anyone away
* Similar to Agricultural fair
* Little passports for the kids
* Will have craft stations
* Food truck coming – fusion food
* Can do trifold, pictures,
* Haven’t gone into classrooms yet, can do it after APEX
* Time to start setting up: 4pm or after school
* Tonight, Zoom call for more info

*Spring Auction, April 9-12, 2024*

* Haven’t promoted because of APEX
* Info is on Website
* Grade level gift baskets

*Book Fair, April 12-18, 2024*

* Core group works for 2 weeks
* If you have flexibility and want to join, email the bookfair email
* There will be a sign up genius
* Theme – Alice in Wonderland

*Staff Appreciation Week, April 29-May 3, 2024*

* We do 3 main things during the day
* Coffee cart, lunch, and a 3rd thing
* If anyone wants to help
* Ask the students to do something on each day: wear teacher’s favorite color, bring flower

*STEM/Science Fair, May 8, 2024*

* Sample flyers
* Stem Showcase
* Fun sharing event, not traditional science fair
* It will be fun event, Prizes
* Thinking about Participation prizes
* Grading categories: TK/K, 1-3, 4-5
* 3 types of projects
  + Experiment
  + Demonstration or Model – create example of how something works
  + Innovation – create something of your own to solve a problem
* Judging based on 3 criteria
* Date changed to May 7, Science and Robotic enrichment may be part of it
* Have to figure out logistics of the space
* Not a fundraising event this year, could be a fundraiser in the future
* 1st step is registration
  + Enter your child name and parent email
  + Don’t have to know the project yet
* Need to have a RMPFA email
* Jim can sit with room parents to give talking points
* Have to determine start time
* Get word out
  + We can put registration on website, will put it in monthly newsletter
  + Do big push after March 22 with flyers
  + Culture Fair and STEM are new, need to build the buzz
  + Colorful flyer is helpful – for younger kids
  + 4/5 science teacher can communicate to kids.
  + Parent asked about extra credit or they could do as a group
  + Can use maker space to promote
* Discussion about STEM vs STEAM – Jim prefers STEM

*Game Night, May 10, 2024*

* Tiki Luau theme

*Open House Art Fair, May 16, 2024*

*Dodger Day, June 2, 2024*

*June end of year PFA Party*

*Yearbook:*

* Still need some 5th grade dedications
* 5th grade memories push via email
* Upload pictures: The more kids in the picture, the more likely that it will be used

Discussion about Campus Safety

* Raining and kids didn’t seem to know where to go
  + Exner: we have a system, don’t want kids on muddy field
  + In back: kids wait under Art overhang, in Front wait under overhang
  + Doesn’t rain often, may need refresher
* Discussion about violence on campus
  + Some kids play rough and some play more than rough
  + Action can be taken by School, such as suspensions
  + Sometimes Principal doesn’t hear about it until a week or two later, need to hear about it soon so can take action
  + Concern about bathrooms; cannot have aids in bathrooms all the time
  + Some kids are special need, individual kids have to qualify for one on one aid
  + Have more supervision from campus aids this year than last year,
  + Discussion between PFA and School: felt like it was enough so maintained levels for next year
  + There is aid coverage from 7:30-8
  + Paras and Aids; Paras work with special needs
* We can flex hours. Some aids come in before 1st recess, can increase hours to in the morning.
* Discussion about size of school
  + There will be 2 more classes
  + It is the TK expansion, younger siblings of current students
  + Some live close or have parents who work in district and qualify
  + Mellick will become TK classroom and she will go to portable
  + Iaccino may need to move
  + TK cannot be in portable due to CA laws
  + Discussion about Dropoff/Pickup
    - Next year, might add another grade to back
    - Get rid of baseball diamond, convert into parking lot
    - Solar panels will go there
    - Outdoor Ed soon, extra aids going and some kids not staying the night
    - Matt Sunny is going to be night aid – behaviorist
  + Discussion about Front pickup
    - Parents connect with parents, sometimes kids are running around
    - Teachers will walk students to front and they will sit in row
    - Parents can have discussion with kids at home, to listen to staff
  + Don’t line up at 2 if your kids get out at 2:38
* Question about more aids in classroom
  + Have aid funding for yard and classroom
  + When pull from yard, get complaint that yard not safe.
  + Campus supervisors not cheap
  + PFA pays 255K for staffing for hours
  + 30 hours of PE and 70 hours of campus and 50 for instructional support
  + Have to increase fundraising to fund more aids
  + Exner hires
  + District funds and we fund additional
  + Hidden Hills funds some
  + Example aid works 30 hours, 5 from PFA some from hidden hills, some from district
  + It is hourly rate depends on how long you have been here

Next Meeting April 9, 2024 at 6:00pm

*Adjourned by Emily at 9:48*