

Oak Knoll PTO

Minutes of the Regular PTO Executive Board

Oak Knoll Teachers' Staff Room

February 10, 2016

2015-2016 Executive Board Officers:	
Stephanie Chen, President	Kristen Gracia, Oak Knoll Principal
Janelle McCombs, Vice President	Leah Kessler, Oak Knoll Assistant Principal
Jill Wurster, Parliamentarian	Trish Stella, Teacher Representative
Jennifer Joffe, Secretary	Terry Thygesen, MPCSD Representative
Emily Record, Treasurer	Ashley Honerkamp, MPAEF Representative
Karen Dobbyn, Financial Secretary	Sherrie Feinstein, Auditor
Tamara Russel, Communications Chair	

Absent: Leah Kessler, Sherrie Feinstein, Ashley Honerkamp

Quorum present: Yes

I. Call to Order - Stephanie Chen

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by President, Stephanie Chen.

II. Approval of Minutes – Jennifer Joffe

The regular PTO Board Meeting minutes of January 10, 2016 were approved as presented.

Motion: Stephanie Chen, Second: Janelle McCombs

III. Treasurer's Report - Emily Record

Emily reviewed the budget and compared actual expenses to budgeted numbers. Everything is tracking as expected. We are in the 2nd half of the year, not expecting a lot of income. Corporate matches are trickling in as well as a few late PTO memberships.

Pass thru expenses are coming thru: \$625 Multi-Age overnight/\$1700 Balclutha/\$548 Outdoor Ed shirts.

Expenses from the District are tracking as expected: 3k directory, 5k bus transportation.

Emily briefly reviewed how afterschool program scholarships work. OK covers half the cost of a student, the program provider covers the other half.

IV. District Update – Terry Thygesen

May 3rd, 2016 Ballot Measures A & B will be presented to voters.

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District is now restricted in terms of promoting a yes Vote. No campaigning, no messages. The District can & will provide factual information. The Citizen Campaign takes over the ballot measures at this point.

PTO's can vote to endorse, and the Citizen Campaign will come by to discuss how we can all assist in spreading the word. Terry advised Tamara check on what is allowed as far as communication on these measures over District email & platforms.

2 Measures will be put before the voters:

Measure C from 2010 was passed with an expiration date based on the uncertainty that enrollment would continue to increase. Enrollment has increased, and is projected to continuing increasing. As a result two measures have been written. 2,938 is official enrollment number at this time. Projections show an additional 213 students over the next 5 years will enroll. Measure A & B will address expiring parcel tax, and projected growth.

Measure A is a straight renewal. If passed Measure C will sunset a year early and Measure A will kick in, \$201.28 per parcel.

Measure B prepares us for future student enrollment. This Measure would grants the District permission to levy \$2.20 per each additional student that enrolls OVER the projected enrollment and up to 213 students. Levied if and when the students show up. The assumption is this tax would be levied come Fall with 71 additional students projected to enroll.

Currently we have two ways fund the District and keep small class sizes, as well as continue the breadth of the programs we currently offer. The Foundation & Parcel Taxes.

We spend less per student than comprehible districts, so accusations of money being wasted, or in excess of what is actually needed, are simply false.

Scott Hinshaw & Jody Buckley are leading the Citizen Campaign

V. Teacher Update – Trish Stella

The Communication Team (a rep. from each Grade level meets with Kristen) met and discussed downsizing of parent committees. Reps will reach out to Teachers to identify actual needs. Definitely will not be needing 4 room parents per room. Also agreed Teachers can manage Noteworthy Art w/o additional parent volunteers in each classroom.

Kristen added that Flower Day could be reorganized to just be children presenting their Teachers with flowers.

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Teachers are very thankful for coffee carts, luncheons and all the support they get from the Board & Community. Everyone is very happy!

Brainset/Mindset conference is coming up and Teachers will have a panel there.

VI. Oak Knoll Update – Kristen Gracia

Assembly's have been really great this year and OK is really fortunate to have some amazing guests. Next up we have a Spanish musician coming who is highly sought after, and his CD is being used in our Spanish Curriculum.

Kristen presented to the Board last night on the current progress of our Spanish Program:

The program has been implemented in two parts. The FLEX Program is for Grades K-4 and is "exposure" to Spanish. Scope & Sequence begins in FLEX. FLES (Foreign Language in Elementary School) is for Grade 5, and this is 75 minutes per week of instruction.

Kristen pulled some initial data from the current parent survey and feedback from community is looking really good. Initial data shows 79% enjoy learning Spanish, 71% find the program valuable.

OK also assessed 5th graders to collect data on their progress. Test scores were very positive. Students were also asked to translate three passages. 90% of students successful translated at least two of the three passages.

As part of the Flex (exposure) KNOL does the Pledge of Allegiance 2 times a week in Spanish. For fun Kristen went onto playground during a 3-5th recess and asked the kids to recite the Pledge of Allegiance in Spanish. She showed the video. Kids did an amazing job just off the cuff, reciting the Pledge in Spanish flawlessly.

Spanish program was a brand new pilot program this year developed in-house on 50k.

Board asked about future of FLEX/FLES. Kristen advised the Program could run as is, no additional funds. Could roll it down each year, increasing FLEX. She feels it could be done, and with great results. Though this does not necessarily mean it should be grown. She expressed it gets increasingly hard for Teachers to fit it all in. So many great programs, Digital Citizenship, Jim Wiltens, Coding, Mindset, so on.

Mindset program is ready to go, and Kristen is very excited for that.

We are also working to become a "Digital Citizen Common Sense Media Certified School". Jonathan Coldoff continues to do great work with this program.

VII. MPAEF Update- Calla Griffith for Ashley Honerkamp

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Some changes have been made and the Auction will now be held at MacArthur Park Restaurant. Still set for Saturday, April 30th.

Theme is The Wild Wild West and will be a casual & fun. Asking Board Members to please participate.

Silent Auction Items online helped get more people involved, but attendance dipped. This venue will accommodate a smaller number of people.

Deadline for submitting Auction Items was last Friday, this has now been moved to after ski week so please help get the word out!

The 1st Annual MPAEF Foundation Run will take place May 22nd.

Calla announced she will be stepping down so they are looking for a co-president. She asked the Board to spread the word.

VIII. District Council / Parent Education Updates – Janelle McCombs

Active recruiting for Board and committee positions continues.

IX. Other Business – Stephanie Chen

Stephanie for Jill. Working on nominating committee for PTO Board.

Spring Picnic is now scheduled for May 6th.

X. Adjournment - Stephanie Chen

President Stephanie Chen adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Joffe, PTO Secretary

Date approved: March 9, 2016