

Oak Knoll PTO
Minutes of the Regular PTO Executive Board
Oak Knoll Teachers' Staff Room
April 8, 2015

2014-2015 Executive Board Officers:

Jill Wurster, President	David Ackerman, Oak Knoll Principal
Stephanie Chen, Vice-President	Kristen Gracia, Oak Knoll Co-Principal
Tracy Watt, Parliamentarian	Stacy Jones, School Board Rep
Page Curtin, Secretary	Ashley Honerkamp, MPAEF Representative
Regina Skinner, Treasurer	Tamara Russell, Communications Chair
Emily Record, Financial Secretary	Trish Stella, Teacher Rep

I. Call to Order - Jill Wurster

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 a.m. by President, Jill Wurster.

II. Approval of Minutes - Page Curtin

The regular PTO board meeting minutes of March 11, 2015 were approved as presented.

Motion: Trish Stella Second: Tracy Watt

III. Treasurer's Report - Gina Skinner

Gina reviewed the Oak Knoll Budget v. Actual for August 1, 2014 - April 7, 2015. Still receiving corporate matching.

Reversal coming for erroneous charges Gina discovered.

IV. Update – Ashley Honerkamp

Old Hollywood Auction to take place Saturday from 7:30-11:30pm. Admission to stay at early bird rate. Raffle Tickets on sale this week.

Online auction in progress. It was noted that the cost of auction items has increased. Also, there was some concern that people may not go to the auction because they want to stay home and bid.

As of Monday, only 150 coming. Need 300 to break even.

Fund-a-need: Music and Performing Arts.

V. Oak Knoll School Update – Kristen Gracia and David Ackerman

Teacher's college coming. This is the final round for K-2 teachers. Came twice for upper level teachers. This will be second time for lower level teachers. Lab to be set up in one class.

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District is offering reader workshop professional development to teachers June 15-17. Testing this model for reading since workshop model worked so well for writing.

Coffee talk yesterday. 12 people attended. The topic was how to talk to your kids about race and the importance of doing so. Oak Knoll has seen progress in this area due to "equity work." There has been professional development for teachers on how to tackle the achievement gap. And school wide work on issues of unconscious bias, racism, building relationships with people who do not look like us. Jennie Ryan recently reviewed this topic in the Otter Weekly.

Goal will be to get more parents to coffee talks next year. Will continue evening events as well.

Placement: Parent input process closes on April 27th. Kristen Gracia will read all forms submitted and contact parents if there are questions. This year, placement will happen in the form of an all staff meeting including specialists. It will be a collaborative event. The group will break into grade level groups.

Willy Wonka was a huge success. Field trip to Hillview went well. Mrs. Tee was recognized among staff at Oak Knoll. There is a desire to get more boys involved next year.

Staffing: Having to make a few changes. 1 more teacher in 3rd. 1 less teacher in Kindergarten and 4th. Getting an instructional technology person. This person will provide professional development for teachers and push into classrooms to help with tools students are using.

Spanish to be piloted at Oak Knoll next year. Working with District to understand California standards. Program will evolve.

Talent Show – June 3rd. Portfolio Night – June 4th.

Kids walked to Hillview yesterday. Parent orientation held in the evening.

Received the Kent Award for Compassion work. Nicole Scott applied for this award on Oak Knoll's behalf.

VI. Teacher's Update - Trish Stella

The teachers negotiated a nightly stipend increase from \$120/night to \$200/night. Good for Outdoor Education chaperones as well as teachers who chaperone overnight mini-courses at Hillview.

Teacher's college next week. Over 30 subs needed across the district for K-2 teachers. There has been an issue getting subs at times this year. Discussed training parents interested in becoming substitute teachers. Must take a test and renew credentials every five years. Kristen Gracia may host a test for parents. Regarding subs, any time there is someone new, Kristen peeks in during class and talks to students afterwards.

Report cards are complete and teachers are looking forward to Spring Break.

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VII. District Update - Stacy Jones

Congratulations to Kristen Gracia for the Kent award. The 2015 Kent Award winners include programs that focus on innovation in the areas of professional development, STEM, student leadership and mentorship, school climate, and multi-subject project-based learning. Oak Knoll received the award for the school wide yearly theme.

Congratulations to Brian Benelli, Hillview's Technology Support Technician, for being recognized as 2015 San Mateo County Classified Employees of the Year in the Maintenance, Operations, and Facilities category.

Superintendent Ghysels is will be distributing a water reduction plan.

There is a tract of 31 homes on O'Connor in the Willows petitioning to join the Menlo Park school district. Currently in the Ravenswood district.

The California Advisory Commission on Charter Schools will hold a public Board Meeting for the Wei Yu Charter Petition appeal today for the Moreland School District.

VIII. District Ed/Parent Education - Stephanie Chen

The Are You In Run will transition to a MPAEF event following the auction model. Event will remain at Oak Knoll.

There will be some form of an online directory next year. This effort is being led by Tracy Watt. Kristen Gracia has joined the communications committee because the website needs to be updated.

Ahmed attended District meeting. There will be some deficit spending at District level. 2016-17 parcel tax will need to be renewed. (Measure C.)

Gina Skinner to be Treasurer for District.

Stephanie is working on filling PTO Committee Chair positions for the 2015-16 school year. Composting is open.

IX. Nominations for next year – Tracy Watt

The slate for next year's PTO Board was presented and approved.

President – Stephanie Chen

Vice President - Janelle McCombs

Parliamentarian – Jill Wurster

Secretary- Jennifer Joe

Treasurer – Emily Record

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Communications Chair – Tamara Russell

Auditor – Sherrie Feinstein TBD

Budget to be approved at May 13th PTO Board meeting.

Volunteer Appreciation Lunch to take place May 27th. Allison Chao is in charge of the HSA awards. Teachers will do the centerpieces. General Meeting to follow.

X. Adjournment - Jill Wurster

President Jill Wurster adjourned the meeting at 9:35a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Page Curtin, PTO Secretary

Date approved: May 13, 2015