Menlo Park District Council Meeting Minutes

Friday, June 7, 2019

To Be Approved September 6, 2019

In attendance:

Janelle McCombs, Erik Burmeister, Caroline Bowers, Sharon Schick, Anjali Patel, Julia Molise, Vidya Kagan, Marianne Badawi, Jenny Buddin, Sarah Sobel, Parke Treadway, Caryn Wasserstein, Liliana Perazich, Christa West, Astor Toyos, Ben Wang, Terry Thygesen, Carrie Chen, Willy Haug, Azadeh Rasmussen, Kelly Parisi, Patty Lopez-Jaramillo, Ken Schieble, Eunice Cardenas, Laura Wiggs, Amy Bagdasarian Porter, Linda Creighton, Sharon Burns, Kristen Gracia, David Ackerman, Ahmad Sheikholeslami, Sara Teeple, Ellen Kraska, Christa West, Willy Haug, Jenny Buddin, Katie Rottier, Carolyn Kreiger, Debi Rice, Ellen Kraska

The meeting was called to order at 8:50am by Janelle McCombs, District Council President.

Welcome and Introductions — Janelle McCombs, District Council President

Everyone introduced themselves.

District Council Awards Presentations —Erik Burmeister, MPCSD Superintendent

- Award season: PTO and District recognition awards
- District Council Awards given
    - District Service Award: Caryn Wasserstein & Kathy Orciuoli (for their service End of Joint Campaign, Beginning of One Community Campaign (OCC))
    - Parke Treadway
    - Golden Oak: Joan Lambert & Terry Thygesen
    - Erik Burmeister

Approval of May 3, 2019 Meeting Minutes - Caroline Bowers, District Council Secretary/Parliamentarian

Ben Wang motioned to approve the May 3, 2019 minutes. Janelle McCombs seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Changes to District Council Bylaws — Caroline Bowers, District Council Secretary/Parliamentarian

Liliana Perazich moved to approve the proposed changes to the District Council Bylaws. Eunice Cardenas seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed

Caroline will send updated Bylaws.

Treasurer's Report — Sharon Schick, District Council Treasurer

- Expenditures on Programs:
    - $1000 for banners
    - $950 for programs

    - Insurance
    - $3140 left over for the year
- Proposed budget (refer to 2019-2020 proposed budget report for details)
- Last year DC received $1250 from each member school and $250 for MPAEF
- Of what DC receives $1000 from schools goes to speakers, $250 from schools goes to admin/awards
- MPAEF funding provided $4000 for OCC. Schools will each contribute $1000 ($8000 total for OCC)
- In addition to $8000, Sharon moved the $3140 of budget surplus into OCC funds
- Sharon needs contact information for Oak Knoll & Laurel Treasurers
- Sharon will circulate final budgets
- Caroline Bowers moved to approve the budget as presented. Liliana Perazich seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Budget approved.

Speaker Series Update — Vidya Kagan & Christa West, District Council Programming Co-Chairs

- Provided list of speakers for next year:
    - Dr. Jo Boaler, "Limitless Mind: Learn, Lead and Live without Barriers" - 9/4/19
    - "8th Grade the Movie" and Q&A with Erik Burmeister & Willy Haug - 10/2/19
      Showed trailer of Eighth Grade: Concept to bring kids and make PAC like a theatre: popcorn, etc.
    - Karen Junker, "Restorative Parenting" - 1/8/19
    - "Parenting Landmines" discussion forum - 2/5/19
    - Vanessa Kellam, "Let's Talk about Sex...and Puberty" - 2/26/19
    - Kim Brooks, Small Animals: Parenting in the Age of Fear" - 3/4/19
    - "Like" Screening and Q&A with Naama Barnea-Goraly - 4/15/19
- Well done ladies!

Superintendent Update & Q&A: Erik Burmeister, MPCSD Superintendent

- Guided question for Principals: Tell one thing you are proud of and one thing you are looking forward to next year.
    - Erik is proud of crossing the finish line with OCC and is grateful to the team
    - Looking forward to solidifying the vision of what it is to be a great public school district
- District has settled on Parent Square as the recommended online platform (PTOs will fund, but schools are not required to roll it out).
- Schools are no longer allowed to use Shutterfly as the platform is not FERPA & COPPA compliant.

Community Campaign Update — Caryn Wasserstein, Community Campaign Co-Coordinators

- We are getting new lockboxes to put up in offices. PTO representatives can take them today. Need to be mounted in school offices.
- Shout out to Carrie Chen for taking on a bigger role to help with OCC beyond the scope of her job description.
- Thank you to Janelle McCombs and Ben Wang for taking on the OCC role for next year.
- OCC signage should be up on campuses.
- Staff needs to be more educated to remove old joint campaign materials (ie. Are You In). Information will go into staff newsletters, etc.
- Janelle McCombs noted that OCC is not yet an official non-profit, so checks should not be made out to OCC. Checks should be made payable instead to MPAEF - PTO (One Community Campaign)
- PTO websites need to be updated to remove all references to PTO donation and everything should instead be directed to donating to OCC.
- Staff / non-District parent donations will be tracked separately and it will be determined which school they are associated with and it will apply to their site PTO. District staff donations will be retained at MPAEF.
- The first $250 that is matched by Corporate Match and received by March 31 will be applied to the respective PTO.
- Copies of the MOU will be provided to all PTO board members for reference.

MPAEF Update - Astor Toyos, MPAEF Co-President

- Last Board meeting was on May 30, 2019.
- Approved grant $3,766,450 (goal was 3.7M). The extra came from Fund a Need!!
- Wine walk: 130 tickets sold
- Done with events for this year.
- New Presidents: Katie Rottier & Sarah Thayer
    - Looking forward to fulfilling District needs next year

School Principal Updates

Guided Question: One thing you are proud of and one thing you are looking forward to next year. PTOs too.

Laurel -- Laura Creighton, Principal

- Proud: Laurel hit the 3 year mark of PBL implementation. Every class went through 3 units of PBL.
- Looking forward to: More work around math instruction.

Oak Knoll -- Kristen Gracia, Principal

- Proud: Oak Knoll targeted raising connection with 5th grade and with boys and survey data shows it worked.
- Looking forward to: Launching a site-based innovation team. 30 staff members stepped up to work extra time on these innovations.

Encinal — Sharon Burns, Principal

- Proud: Awesome Me assemblies.
- Looking forward to: Launching "Global Action Week" in addition to Engineering week. Next year planning to focus on water and the Long Walk some have to get to it.

Hillview — Willy Haug, Principal

- Proud: Creation of the Profile of a Hillview graduate. This was put together in collaboration with Site Council, staff, parents and students who were asked what they care about in addition to strong academic foundations. Next year Hillview will launch concepts, descriptors and imperatives associated with this profile.
- Look forward to: Expanding work in advisories. Goal is to connect with students 2-3 times per week.

PTO Updates

Guided Question: Highlight of the Year

Hillview:

- Liliana Perazich discussed improving the engaging experience of students and staff
- Balanced budget simplification
- 7th & 8th grader Upstander projects
- Hoping to implement Hillview / Middle school parent events
- Hillview hiring 3rd counselor for next year
- Need host families for Spanish immersion teachers

Oak Knoll

- Jenny Buddin discussed the focus on community connection
    - Saw uptick in survey feedback
    - Highlight was dunk tank at Fall Family Picnic which provided a lighthearted, connective beginning to the year

Laurel

- Ben Wang gave the example of Pop Pop Read A-lot ported onto an online platform driving interest in reading

Encinal

- Proud to have two co-Presidents and a VP seated for next year
- Proud of improving Hot Lunch challenges this year, Laura Wiggs made it happen
- Brought back Spring Social dance for all parents & kids

Next District Council Meeting: Friday, September 6, 2019, 8:45 a.m., TERC A&B

2019/2020 District Council Meeting Dates: Sept. 6th, Nov. 1st, Jan. 10th, Mar 6th, May 1st, June 5th

Thank you to Laurel for providing snacks for this meeting.
September snack -- TBD

Janelle McCombs adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.