



SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: November 14, 2012

Meeting Location: SRFACS Library

Recorded By: Emmanuelle Benefield

ATTENDANCE

Emmanuelle Benefield

Brian Benefield

Pascal Stricher

Jon Custer-Topai

Clemence Spita

Marina Bertrand

Kathleen Helleskov

Jennifer Schwinn

Steve Craig

GUEST: Kim Vallergera – Foundation Class Rep Committee Co-Chair

1 MEETING LOCATION

Address: 1350 Sonoma Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

2 MEETING START

Meeting Schedule Start: 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Actual Start: 6:15 p.m.

Meeting Scribe: Emmanuelle Benefield

3 APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER AGENDA

Budget added to Agenda. J. Custer-Topai motioned and P. Stricher seconded. Unanimously approved.

4 APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MINUTES

Pending changes to the October minutes. S. Craig, motioned and J. Custer -Topai second. Unanimously approved.

5 ACTION ITEMS

1. Class Representative Process: B. Benefield explained that the Foundation committee process will be different in 2013-2014 and that the class reps will be elected next year. P. Stricher commented that it is understandable that the selection process was done differently in the inaugural year.
2. 7th Grade in 2013-2014: J. Schwinn summarized Prop 30 outcome. It passed and it will affect the opening of a 7th grade class positively. S. Craig mentioned a letter from the district which included a survey of the 6th grade parents to be conducted in December. P. Stricher talked about the desired number of students for 7th grade next year, there are nineteen 6th graders now. P. Stricher stressed the importance of adding new children for 7th grade next year. In the spring the school will work on the curriculum for this grade. It has been proposed that Math and Science be taught in English and the other subjects in French. It is still a proposal. It will have to be closer to a 50/50 formula. Anna Guzman will provide input. Discussion was had about one teacher being responsible for Math and Science and another for the other subjects. There was discussion about the possibility of adding 8th grade in 2013-2014. There were logistical benefits but it was also noted that it may be too much, too soon. S. Craig, along with various 6th grade parents asked to be included in these steps to build the 7th grade, to bring their experience and expertise. P. Stricher would like to have a working meeting in January with these parents first. This should include an English teacher and a French teacher. P. Stricher is going to ask the district for input. Group includes J. Schwinn, P. Stricher, Elizabeth Evans, S. Craig, Claire Morel-Seytoux, Peyton Willert (5th Grade rep.). After the first meeting with the 6th grade parents, P. Stricher will report to the SAB.
3. Teacher Websites: K. Vallergera raised the question of the future of the teacher websites. P. Stricher commented that the District is developing its own site to host for this purpose and it is expected to be available for testing in the spring.
4. Communication: There was discussion about making every effort to foster the school's culture and improve understanding among the

community. It was suggested that SAB utilize *La Plume* to communicate ideas.

5. Survey: It was mentioned that the Charter School for the Arts survey is done in the spring. J. Schwinn distributed copies of her school's survey. K. Vallerger explained that the survey the class reps shared with SAB was a sample and was not meant as a final draft. She provided background information on the origins of the survey and that the class reps felt the need to learn more about what parents liked about the school and what they felt could use some improvement. K. Helleskov commented that she liked the Monte Rio School survey. She thinks there should be one survey in the spring which would be the responsibility of SAB. She likes the comment sections and the last two questions. She thinks that a special fall survey such as the one being proposed should be generated by the principal. As an aside, it was suggested that P. Stricher give a "state of the state" in an upcoming newsletter. It was suggested that the letter detail progress on several fronts as well as describe challenges that we face. J. Schwinn asked for a motion to move forward with a "very simple" survey with an emphasis on assessing parents' priorities. The goal being distribution in January. S. Craig made a motion and J. Custer-Topai seconded. K. Helleskov abstained, all others voted in favor.

Agreed Survey Contents:

What do you like so far about SRFACS?
List of priorities

6. Accelerated Reader: P. Stricher has discussed the topic with the teachers. Apart from R. Henicle, others were unfamiliar with the program. P. Stricher noted that the teachers need a workshop with the Renaissance Company representative. He also detailed the fees associated with the program. The 5th graders have the Junior Grade book program. P. Stricher likes Accelerated Reader but would like the teachers to choose. P. Stricher will contact the Renaissance representative and schedule a visit. J. Schwinn mentioned the Instructional Resource Center from the Sonoma County Office of Education as a possible reading resource for the school. P. Stricher spoke about the birthday book committee that was in place at his former school. Also, there is another program in place in J. Frazier's old school, Reading A-Z Program.

7. Budget: The Board reviewed the school's budget provided by P. Stricher. The discussion turned to allocation some funds to the teachers for needed supplies. J. Schwinn asked for a motion to approve \$100 per teacher. P. Stricher made a motion and S. Craig seconded. Unanimous approval. C. Spita mentioned the need for additional P.E. supplies and requested that SAB allocate additional funds for this purpose. P. Stricher suggested that there be a fundraiser for the express purpose of raising such funds. The request was tabled for a future meeting.

8. Beaujolais Nouveau: P. Stricher asked that Nas Salamati and J. Custer-Topai meet with him prior to the event to help formulate his speech/announcement.

6 MEETING END

Meeting Schedule End: 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Actual End: 9:15 p.m.

7 POST MEETING ACTION ITEMS

Organize meeting in January with current 6th grade parents regarding 7th grade in 2013-2014. – P. Stricher

Email list of 6th grade parent email addresses to S. Craig. – P. Stricher

Speak with Nas Salamati regarding organizing a fundraiser for P.E. equipment. – P. Stricher

Write draft of two questions for special survey. – S. Craig

Schedule an Accelerated Reader workshop for the teachers. - P. Stricher

8 NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting Location: SRFACS

Next Meeting Date: December 12, 2012

Next Meeting Time: 6:00 p.m.