

December 4, 2019
PTO Board Meeting
6:30pm
Montera Library

Call to order:

Meeting called to order by PTO President, Ken Sorey at 6:34pm. 14 members present. Quorum is 4. Quorum is met.

- Approve Minutes
 - a. Linda motion to approve the minutes from the November meeting; Ashley seconded. All approved.
- Mr Avent Update
 - a. Ken S. reports Mr Avent unable to attend meeting, will not have report from Mr Avent tonight
- Health and Safety
 - a. reports about safety and cleanliness about bathrooms
 - b. is there any way that this can productively be dealt with so that students feel safe
 - c. Concerns are raised on how often bathrooms are cleaned, issues with security
 - d. the issue of SYL and no Student Council and suggests that the PTO propose to the admin that it's important for Montera to have an active Student Body Council
- Spanish teacher for 6th grade a proposal to Start Early
 - a. Board President reports that he has received a request from Mr Avent for the PTO to fund a Spanish Teacher for the 6th Grade class while the district slowly moves to authorize the teacher to teach at Montera
 - b. Concerns were raised about the precedent it would set, liability issues and the risk of the timing
 - c. Uncertainty on which budget line this would come from, salary line?
 - d. Proposal by members of the board for an organized protest and/or day of action at the district to move quicker in getting teachers onboarded
- Music Events
 - a. 12/5/19 is the Holiday Stroll in Montclair Village, PTO members will be there and take pictures and have drivers. Next ones are 12th and Thursdays,

requests pizza pickups and email and add to the list PayPal the \$20 to collect more food. More email blasts/communications & Schoology links via signup genius. The Christmas fliers are up and ready

- b. Question raised as to why only Jazz and Orchestra bands were invited and not advanced band - probably due to size and organization challenges
- c. Jazz Band payment \$150 per month from Nov. - May. Admin to work out who is paying for Band Instructor re: BACR or through school, logistics for after school jazz band teacher payment to be sorted out
- Next General Meeting - NoBully and STEM Jan 15th (6:30-8pm)
 - a. NoBully group is coming to talk to the general group. The women STEM group is also invited to come and talk, possible enticement for more parents to be involved. Should have food
 - b. Proposal to discuss PTO funding and where money goes and also plug the auction at the general meeting
- Tours and Events
 - a. If you haven't yet sign up and do one
 - b. Board Member was part of Joaquin Miller info nite, issues re: Montera came up, worries and anxiety. A group of parents are hearing bad press
 - c. A prospective parent from Edna Brewer mentioned their great marketing, reiterates that PTO could create an evergreen slide or materials digital that can be used over and over again
 - d. Suggestion to contact a journalist from Montclarion to do a fluff piece article in February before March decisions
 - e. Play up the sports angle as a marketing department, and/or do clinics where parents could see that the athletes do well academically
 - f. Promo video, (Greg(who did Fall Fest Video possibly do another?))
 - g. General Discussion on safety and fights and administration having hands tied, Montera's reputation not being based in facts
- Auction Update -Loryn
 - a. We have about \$30,000 worth of donations, goal for \$40-45K by the time of the auction. 80-85 attendees - goal is 150 attendees. Schoology announcement, postcards. Food will be donated by Rocky's Market and Farmer Joes - Christie and Ryan will provide the Jambalaya - two bands are playing and learning Mardi Gras tunes. Teachers can personally email Loryn
 - b. Last year we had 80 attendees
 - c. Cheer Team can personally invite teachers
- Financial Update and Feedback on Fall Fest - Naomi and Gia
 - a. Annual Giving we are at 50%
 - b. Fall fest brought in 2K and was projected \$1500
 - c. Not getting a whole lot from eScript and Amazon
 - d. Suggestion to post reminders on Schoology/Facebook/Instagram

- e. Push Amazon smile! Trick is that we're called Montera Junior Faculty Club
- f. Spending right now is coming out of Sports, Mini Grants, need to bring in more Annual
- School Culture and Teacher Buddies - Linda
 - a. SYL to become staff buddies to do teacher profiles to put up in eBulletin and website
 - b. Goal is to get the entire staff profiles done
 - c. There are 3 coordinators for Teacher Buddies, they do need a new coordinator. Each take a letter per month for buddies to send out. 7th grade parents need.
 - d. Sent a note to Ms. Howard to that during staff development days survey and improve program, also wanting to get more perks for the teachers, there are also current perks that need to be explored. Hope to have emergency lesson plans and resources.
- Salesforce and Other Corporate Funding - Loryn
 - a. at the JAM Montera Info nite, Salesforce \$\$, Edna Brewer used Salesforce building and raised over 50K - could be an opportunity for Montera, we need to put together events and ask them to work with us.
 - b. Board Member's partner/spouse is Salesforce employee, they do a lot of matched giving.
 - c. Suggestions: could they match our Mardi Gras party revenue?
- Sports - Request for a cricket machine for printing (make own t-shirts)
 - a. Board President -request made for Fall Fest funds to be allocated to a cricket machine to make own t-shirts
 - b. We'll research the machine and investments to see if there is a ROI
 - c. Ink jet device is where the expense is and longevity
 - d. Everyone go to the Volleyball Game on Saturday(!) - they are champs and will likely win
- Schools and Communities First Campaign - Nina Senn
 - a. Nina Senn introduction: on advisory board of Evolve & League of Women Voters. Unions are supportive of the campaign, all Oakland electeds have endorsed the campaign
 - b. Intro to campaign and initiative: this is about 'fairness and our future' we're constantly having to scramble for funding and 40 years ago that wasn't the case. Uneven playing field re: taxes. Reforming Prop 13 - split role and corporations. We need to gather just shy of a million signatures by March 20th currently have gathered 250K signatures. Goal is two-fold, first to impart information about the impact of lack of funding, second is asking for help for signatures gathers. Tremendous grassroots effort comprised of hundreds of individuals with ambition to get one signature per family at school
 - c. Roles about what can be done at school: no advocacy during their (teachers) workday, on non work days and on public property is okay. A little more flexibility with PTO meetings but need to be very careful to not campaign on school during school hours schoolsincommunityfirst.org
 - d. Board member asks "electronic?" No. Paper and ink only.

- e. Suggestion: we can push at the General PTO meeting and at the music concerts and at the holiday stroll

Board Members Present:

Ken Sorey – President

Mark Lavar – First VP

Elisa LeBlanc – VP Academic Enhancement (Mini Grants)

Dunia Wilder – VP Academic Enhancement (Athletics)

Maria Rapier – VP Communications

Ashley Dunning – VP Volunteer Coordination

Katherine Falk – VP Technology

Glenn Alvarez VP Technology

Naomi Levy - Tresurer

Linda Hamilton - Teacher Buddy Program Liaison

Gia Calvillo—Auditor

Jason Tempestini – Parliamentarian

Loryn Hudson – Auction Coordinator

Eric Schweickert – Dad’s Club Liaison

Minutes prepared by: Maria Rapier