

Walnut Acres Parent Faculty Club
Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:06pm by Cherise Khaund. Cherise announced that she will continue as the PFC President at Walnut Acres, following the results of the MDUSD School Board election.

Board Members Present: Cherise Khaund, Colleen Dowd, Marita Louw, Hanna Svensson Grant, Christianna Cohen, Elise Lewis, Brooke Giddings, Carmen Tapia, Carolyn Alekna, Debbie Sullivan, Dulce Conley, Glendalee Soto, Gosia Rees, Jessica Johnson, Megan McBride, Mia Carella, Terri Lindeman, Doug Grebe, Tricia Dila, Caroline Clerempuy, Danielle Getty

Non-Board Members Present: Glenn Skidmore, Tim Lennon, Sarah Hickman Auger, Carla Callao

Approval of Minutes: Marita Louw. The October 18, 2016 PFC Minutes were approved by Doug Grebe, Second by Jill Riddlehoover, 24 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.

State of Our School: Colleen Dowd

Personnel

1. We must replace Sandy Villers as IA science lab person as of January, 2017.
2. We are getting close to a new district music teacher at WA to provide 1st-3rd vocal music classes.
3. I am asking for the PFC to shift the IA position that supports Judy Ryken (our vocal music teacher) from a 100% after school position to an IA position that provides school day support on Tuesdays and continues grade level vocal music presentation support after school.

Curriculum & Instruction

1. We are making the most of our Workshop coaching with Nicole. We are focused on Reading Workshop and talking about strategy groups. Last year, our coach walked us through the basics of Reading Workshop teaching us the architecture of a lesson, and guiding us through the pacing and decision-making of initial strategy teaching. We also learned about assessment, including completion of running records. This year we are getting some support around pulling small groups of students with the same needs to teach or reteach a particular strategy.
2. We are exploring a variety of Colab activities. Every student has been in the new Colab room. We have used Spheros, Ozibots, littleBits, and other sorts of contraptions. We will continue our exploration and use our experience to begin to develop a curriculum. Every student has had an opportunity to 'play' with devices, now we will begin to experiment with ways we can enhance our current or planned project-based learning units using the space and tools in the Colab.
3. Maintenance & Operations will be doing more work in our library over winter break. We will likely be looking for some parent volunteers to help us reconfigure the library when the work is done. We hope to use our student library time to support Workshop through book collections for students based on what's being studied in classes, and interactive Read-Alouds designed to reinforce strategies being taught by teachers.

Facility

1. Maintenance & Operations will be updating the A and C wing bathrooms this summer.
2. We need more space for music. Vocal music is using the library on Mondays. Instrumental music is in the library on Tuesdays. Our new music teacher will need to teach in classrooms. I'm hoping there can be a better solution for 2017-18.

Upcoming events

1. Our annual Hour of Code is coming the week of 12/5-9. Patty is confirming the schedule now with teachers. Once the timeframes for each grade level are set, we will ask for volunteers on Konstella. We will also be getting helpers from Foothill and Northgate.
2. Parent conferences are our teachers' major focus in December. Please attend and prepare for your teacher meeting by reflecting on your own questions after talking to your children and looking at their work. The National PTA suggests you bring notes and take notes at your meeting.
3. Our next Sing-out is 12/14. We are focused on the life skill of caring.
4. District community meetings are scheduled.
5. MDSD is collecting donations for HOPE outreach.

Treasurer- Financials

Motion #1: A motion was presented by the VP of Activities, Marita Louw, to move that we reimburse the district for the cost of one 0.15 FTE Instructional Assistant position for 2016-17 estimated at \$4076 for the entire year. The motion was made by Terri Lindeman. Marita Louw called for someone to second the motion. Mia Carella seconded the motion. Marita Louw stated that it has been moved and seconded that we reimburse the district for the cost of one 0.15 FTE Instructional Assistant position for 2016-17 estimated at \$4076 for the entire year.

The motion was then up for questions and discussion. It was explained that the PFC is voting on a position and title. Marita Louw took a vote on the motion. There were 24 votes in favor, 0 against, and 0 abstentions. The vote was a count of hands.

Motion #2: A motion was presented by the VP of Activities, Marita Louw, to purchase 2 black and white printers from the technology replacement fund. The motion was made by Tim Lennon. Marita Louw called for someone to second the motion. Glenn Skidmore seconded the motion. Marita Louw stated that it has been moved and seconded that we purchase 2 black and white printers from the technology replacement fund.

The motion was then up for questions and discussion. Dr. Dowd shared that the printers will cost \$238 per printer. It was discussed that as we are no longer paying for printer ink, so we have the technology funds to cover the printers. Marita Louw took a vote on the motion. There were 24 votes in favor, 0 against, and 0 abstentions. The vote was a count of hands.

Financials: We are still \$33,000 short of our fundraising goal for Jaguar Fund.

Happening Now:

Communications:

VP of Communications Opening: Jill Ridlehoover was presented as the nomination for the open VP of Communications role on the PFC Executive Board. Marita Louw asked for a vote. There were 24 in favor of Jill Ridlehoover taking the position, 0 against, and 0 abstentions. Jill Ridlehoover was welcomed as the new VP of Communications.

Open PFC Role: Nominating: Cherise shared that the only role still open on the PFC Board is the Nominating role. She explained the position, and asked that anyone interested reach out to the PFC.

Activities

Carnival Review: Gosia Rees, Carnival Chair, announced that there was \$10,000 in income from the Carnival this year. They were down 12% in expenses. After expenses, they made about \$2,000 in fundraising. She said attendance was down because it was held on a Saturday, and conflicted with a theater performance of Aristocats. But the event ran smoothly. It was suggested that the PFC consider investing in fold up tables, if they can find somewhere to store them.

PFC Holiday Party: The PFC Holiday party is December 6th from 7-9:30pm at the Contreras Residence. All parents and teachers are invited, adults only. It will be a potluck, and families can go on Konstella to sign up to bring something to share.

Toy and Clothing Drive: The toy and clothing drive will be December 5-9th. They will drop off the donations to the school on Friday, 12/16.

Fundraisers

Book Fair Review: They had \$13,989 in sales. The PFC received \$3,000 in cash, and 446 Scholastic Dollars. Next year the Book Fair team wants to consider partnering with another group instead of Scholastic.

Read-a-thon Update: Jill Ridlehoover reported that the read-a-thon is in full swing. Final details will be shared at the January PFC Meeting.

Teacher Updates by Mia Carella and Doug Grebe

TK: Language Arts- F, G, H. Math- Shapes, counting by 10. Science- Leaves and Trees. Social Studies- Thanksgiving. 21st C Learning with the TK version of STEAM called the Creation Station.

Kindergarten: Language Arts- CVC words, sight words and Readers and Writers Workshop. Math- Number bonds, Science-trees and animals. They dissected owl pellets. Social Studies- Americans of long ago. 21st C Learning- collages to illustrate things they are thankful for. Next field trip is to a pizza parlor.

First Grade: Language Arts- Soon they will be beginning their non-fiction unit. Math- beginning subtraction through 10. 21st C Learning- latest STEM project was building houses with toothpicks and marshmallows.

Second Grade: Language Arts- first units of Readers and Writers Workshop and starting non-fiction soon. Math- just finished place value and beginning double and triple digit addition with regrouping. Science- STEM challenges, physical science, measurements. Social Studies- learning about our community. Next field trip is to a show at the Leshner Center.

Third Grade: Language Arts- Writer's workshop, personal narrative writing and beginning informative writing. Reader's workshop completing fiction and beginning non-fiction. Math- Multiplication and division, distributive property and commutative property. Science- Fossils, dinosaurs, just completed plants and adaptation. Social Studies- community, continents, countries, states and cities. 21st C Learning- collaboration, communication, technology from I-Ready, Reflex Math and SeeSaw. STEAM activities, collaborative activities. Next field trip is to the Bedford Art Gallery.

Fourth Grade: Language Arts- they have completed the Narrative Unit of Study in writing class. They will begin Opinion Writing. Readers Workshop will move on to non-fiction reading, all about weather. Math- Module 3 with a focus on multiplication and division. Science- unit on life science, Social Studies- finishing Regions of California and moving on the Early California. 21st C Learning with communication, collaboration, explaining, reflecting and discussing. Next field trip is to the San Jose Tech Museum in January.

Fifth Grade: Language Arts- Readers workshop and Writing workshop with opinion writing, and Book Clubs, Math- Decimal, fraction and percent. Science- Body Books. Social Studies- Explorers. 21st C Learning coding with Spiros. Their next field trip is the Christmas Carol.

Old Business: Danielle Getty shared that the Buy-In Parties are going well. They now have three families to host the Wine Walk, and tickets will go on sale the for the September 2017 event in May of 2017.

New Business:

Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm by Cherise Khaund.

Next PFC Meeting: January 10, 2017, Walnut Acres Staff Lounge, 8:15am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooke Giddings, PFC Secretary