

Orange Grove General FFO Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Present: Phyllis Brumfield, Melissa Dean, Carole Siegler, Bianca Rowley, Kate Spaulding, Kim Bourn, Monisha Patel, Amanda Saffer, Bart Pemberton, Lori Pemberton, Melinda McNeilus, Anne Gruber, Lina Haddad, Christeen Bates, Courtney Hinkle, Blythe Edmondson, Becky Swift, Marianne Felt, Gina Mehmert, Jessica Brandt, Mark Rubin-Toles.

Meeting called to order by President Gina Mehmert at 8:39 am.

Special welcome to School Board Member Carole Siegler.

Principal's Update - Mark Rubin-Toles

- Heading toward the holidays and end of the year. Concerts coming up - Dec. 6 choir, Dec. 7 band for 6th and 7th grades, 8th grade band is on Dec. 14.
- The choir is going to have a dress rehearsal tomorrow in the MPR.
- Moving towards the close of the second quarter. The cut off deadline for late work is December 15, the Friday before the last week of school. There may be assignments due during that last week, but all missing work must be turned in by the 15th for credit. The "No Evidence" will revert to a zero which will affect the final grade.
- Looking forward to 2018. February 6th there will be a presentation for parents on internet safety. The date is close to being confirmed.
- Falcon Fly Up will be coming up in the beginning of the year for 8th graders to visit the high school. 5th graders will be coming here on the same day.
- Many of our teachers use Google Classroom to organize and collect assignments; until now, families had no easy way to see what their students saw in Google Classroom. However, families will soon receive an invitation to enroll as a Guardian for their student in Google Classroom. Guardians receive Google Classroom email summaries weekly, which list all assignments and posts for every class for which the student has a Google Classroom. We hope this will allow families to have better information about their child's classes and assignments.

Budget Report - Becky Swift

- Been a really quiet month.
- Couple more teacher reimbursements sent out.
- Frost dine out money coming in.

General Business

- October minutes - Bianca Rowley moved to approve the minutes, Amanda Saffer seconded. The motion was approved.

• Panther Pride - Blythe Edmondson

We are in the season of giving. Be on the look out for an email focusing on 100% participation. \$14000 donated so far. A student made a donation in the office of a few dollars he had earned while working. A great story that we will be sharing with parents to get the idea across that any donation is valued.

- **Grants - Anne Gruber**

Grant request from Chelsea Powers, 6th and 7th grade science, for \$400 to build a school garden structure. Will address many science standards through participation in the garden. This does fit in our budget, \$1600 left in grants. Nancy Loose moved to approve the grant, Shirley Parks seconded. The motion was approved.

- **Dine Out**

Thank you for coming to Frost for the chill out. The date did conflict with another event for Sunrise which may have hurt the turnout. Raised \$125 from sales; the owners raised the donation to \$200. They were very happy with the turnout and want to do dine outs at their other locations. Next dine out will be in January at Sauce.

- **Book Fair - Christeen Bates and Tonya Martin**

We bought the library \$300 worth of books with scholastic dollars. Increased the book fair profits by 30% which enabled us to buy these additional books. We use scholastic dollars to buy magazines.

- **Lunch Duty** - <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c48aba72aa64-ogms1>

This is a very important activity, and a great chance to get to know the social scene at Orange Grove. Even if you only come once and never again, please consider.

- **Staff Appreciation - Cindee Reynolds**

The soup luncheon was the week before Thanksgiving. It is always the highlight of the year, and this year we received great feedback. Thanks to everyone for bringing in so many delicious items. Cindee Reynolds deserves a big thank you for organizing. Thanks also to Galena Robinson, who had students write Ben's Bells Kindness notes that were given to the teachers at the luncheon.

- **Legislative - Amanda Saffer**

No update today.

- **SAC holiday project - Amy Bhola**

The SAC is collecting items for Youth on Their Own, in collaboration with the student council. The last day is Friday, December 1. A sign up genius went out school wide to help sort the items after school on Friday. You will need to pick up your child at 3:15 if they wish to participate. The list is on line if you still want to send in items that are needed. YOTO works with at risk homeless students to keep them in school so they can earn their degree, here in Pima County.

- **Color Run**

Scheduled for March 2. Galena Robinson needs committee members to help organize this fun event. It does need work to make it run smoothly.

- **8th Grade Promotion**

We need a chair person for this. 8th grade parents are not allowed to volunteer for this job. Please consider this if you are a 6th or 7th grade parent. Cookie reception, dance, ceremony, all need people. Please contact Gina.

- **Community Schools**

3rd quarter registration will happen in early December. Please check the website for the correct date. A new registration system is in place and you need to have your new profile set up to register in a timely manner. It is quick and easy. You will receive an email when you successfully set up your profile.

- **Foundation - Melinda McNeilus**

Mission is to raise supplemental funds to attract and retain quality teachers. One way we do this is by providing a Great Beginnings mentorship program for teachers in their first 3 years. \$250,000 is our goal for the year. We ask that every family support the foundation because it benefits every school in the district. Any amount helps, \$1 dollar a day would be great! \$365 for the year, or \$30 a month can be automatically deducted from your bank account. Teacher of the Year receives a \$2000 bonus. Usually get 120 nominations. Please share your stories and how the teachers have made a difference to you and your children. They will receive a copy of your nomination and even if they don't win it is appreciated. The applications are scored by a committee that uses a rubric. You can nominate teachers that have already won or been nominated before. The celebration will be held in the Spring. We are looking for a business to underwrite the \$2000 prize money.

- **District reports - Gina Mehmert**

Key topic discussed at the DFFO meeting was the web accessibility issue. Web accessibility is being addressed across the district. The federal government requires that web site material must be accessible to people with disabilities. This includes FFO websites at the schools. The district will be providing training to all organizations within the district.

- **Reminder of our ongoing fundraisers**

AJ's cards can be great teacher gifts. The school gets a percentage of those purchases, even when it is reloaded by the recipient. Amazon Smile- please use for your holiday shopping. 0.5 percent is given back.

Box Tops - student council is taking this over. The kids are really excited about this. They have activities they want to host, as well as have to pre-pay for the planners they sell. 15 box tops per student is all they need to raise this money. Please remember to save your box tops and ask your family member and friends.

- **Please stay in touch** - and please share our Facebook posts

<http://orangegroveffo.com/>

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ogmsffo/>

Upcoming Events

- Color Run - March 2nd

Thank you for your attendance here at the meetings. Your presence makes a huge difference for the school and your students. Thank you to Monisha Patel for running the PE uniform program. She needs a chair for next year and she will train you! Thank you to Amanda Saffer for her legislative updates. Thank you Christeen Bates and Tonya Martin for the book fair work. Thank you Kate Spaulding for giving a phenomenal presentation about Teen Court. Thanks to the Executive FFO team for your help behind the scenes. See you in January!

Next FFO Meeting: Thursday, January 25, at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 am.