

Orange Grove General FFO Meeting Minutes

Friday, March 22, 2019

Present: Heather Blakely, Amanda Saffer, Heidi Williams, Shirley Parks, Lucy Young, Nidal Sandi, Clyde Brumfield, Phyllis Brumfield, Anne Gruber, Leslie Beckett, Paula Richards, Lina Haddad, Mary Grodman, Courtney Hinkle, Phillip Hinkle, Marianne Fett, Ashleigh Kruk, Steven Kelly, Michelle Ijams, Brenda Pinto, Gina Mehmert, Jessica Brandt, Mark Rubin-Toles.

Meeting called to order by President Gina Mehmert at 8:42 am.

Principal's Update - Mark Rubin-Toles

- Spring break next week!
- AZ Merit testing April 4-19. We have an altered schedule for the testing days. Goal is to maintain stability and regularity in the classes, while giving kids a lot of time for testing. Kids will go to first period class. Most students will enter testing in second period. Not a timed test; students have until the end of the day to finish. It's a fully computerized test. 2/3 of kids will test everyday because of computer availability. On the other days they will have activities with their first period teacher. Students taking HS math will take their grade level test and the HS level test. Those students test on the 18th and 19th.
- Make sure that your child is going to bed early with no screens, and getting good sleep. Make sure they eat a good breakfast. Please don't schedule appointments during the testing days if you can, or make them later in the day. All students must take the test at sometime. No gum or candy allowed this year.
- We have a student competing in the State Geography Bee.

Treasurer

- The book fair did really well. Our gross was higher than the spring fair last year, almost \$2800.
- Thanks to your outstanding donations we are very much in the black this year. We are working on plans to spend down our reserves this year while your kids are here. At next months FFO meeting we will present a plan.

Panther Pride

- No update.

Grants

- One grant for approval. Would like to purchase six tickets for the Teacher of the Year event to support Travis Michalak, \$225 expenditure. Motion to approve seconded and passed.

Secretary

- Please read the newsletter and encourage your friends to subscribe.

General Business

- Motion to approve minutes seconded and approved.

- Community Schools
 - Track and field has over 100 kids, all the sports teams are full.
 - Had to cancel some enrichment classes due to low enrollment. Hiking club starting Wednesday after spring break. Would love more kids in the lights, camera, action class on Thursdays and will waive the late fee if you sign up.
 - Starting a football camp after the break M-F 5:30-7:30pm for 8th graders, with the new HS football coach. Working on summer football camps as well.
 - If you register for Camp Foothills before May 17 you get 10% off.
 - HS for credit PE and health is full. Add your name to the wait list in case we get another teacher to work over the summer.
- Edukits - pre-packaged supply kits will go on sale after spring break. We have completely reviewed the contents, so the boxes truly contain what the students need. Contents are different from previous years.

- Committee and Officer Positions: New president and new secretary for next year. Amanda stays in Grants, Heather stays in as Treasurer, and Blythe stays in Panther Pride.

The Executive Committee recommends this slate of officers for next year.

- Joe Arnett, President
- Leslie Beckett, Secretary
- Heather Blakely, Treasurer
- Amanda Saffer, Grants
- Blythe Edmondson, Panther Pride

Motion to approve slate of officers seconded and passed.

- Most committee chairs are filled for next year, even promotion! However, parking lot safety is still open and very much needed for the first 10 days of school. Please reach out to your networks to find someone to coordinate the volunteers. Also need a dine out chair. This is a revenue line item so it is needed. Looking for an education chair to coordinate 4 presentations a year. Social media chair still needed, and a few others.

Committee Reports

- 8th grade promotion is ready to go.
- **Book Fair** -massive thanks to Christeen for putting on another great book fair and thanks to the volunteers. We need a book fair chair for next year.
- **Bus Driver Appreciation** - Kate Schwartz is leading this effort again. Kate will be getting cards signed by students and purchasing gift cards for the drivers. Feel free to add your own personal note to a bus driver if you would like.
- **Community Cards** - In February we had 3 people use the benefit mobile app and we raised \$417! Please use the benefit mobile app. We will get the instructions on our website, or ask Gina for help.
- **Family support** -no updates

- **Hospitality** - Lynn Cosgrove brought the breakfast this morning - thank you! April is our last FFO meeting and hospitality still needed. The sign up genius is on our website.

- **Legislative Update**

On March 11, 2019, **House Bill 2364** failed again. This bill would have given each teacher in the state \$200 to spend on school supplies. Democrats and Arizona Education Association stated the proposal was not enough money and not a permanent solution to the state's funding crisis.

Following the mass school shooting at Parkland HS last year, AZ students wrote their own law, **House Bill 2597** (School safety; plans; task force), which would require schools to create safety plans by the 2022-23 school year to show how they will offer "preventative" mental support. As of February 18, 2019 the House ED Committee voted to pass the bill, and on February 20, 2019 the House PS Committee voted to pass as amended. Among the bill's requirements, every school must adopt a plan that outlines:

- How teachers and staff will respond to a crisis situation when a student is an imminent danger to themselves or others;
- How they will respond to warning signs of emotional or behavioral distress in students;
- Partnerships with public agencies to refer students to mental-health, substance-abuse and social-support services; and
- What support the district will provide to students after an incident of violence or youth suicide.

Senate Bill 1468 (Schools; suicide prevention training) - House ED Committee voted to pass the bill on March 18, 2019. This bill requires that, beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, school districts must require training to be completed for any personnel who work with students in grades 6-12 at least once every three years in the following matters:

- Suicide prevention;
- Identifying warning signs of suicidal behavior; and
- Appropriate intervention and referral techniques.

- **Staff appreciation** lunch was held with the book fair. Also hosted an unplanned staff appreciation breakfast with the Esperero staff in conjunction with the Tyler Durman talk.
- **Student Action Committee** - We are getting excited for the sandwich making event which is Friday, April 12, 2:45-3:15. We need donations of bread, meat, cheese, non-perishables, and paper goods. We need adult help and supervision. Our goal is 1000 sandwiches. Bring bread donations on Thursday, fresh and not smashed please. Meat and cheese drop off on Friday morning. Sign-up genius link in pics of the week and the newsletter.
- **Foundation** - TOY event Sunday, April 7 at Westward Look. Please attend to support our distinguished educator Travis Michalak.
- Printer and copier paper needed in the office. Thanks for donating.

- Still need lunch volunteers.

Upcoming Events

April 12 SAC sandwich making

April 25 Bus Driver Appreciation

April 25 LAST FFO meeting of the year with Dr. Kameronzell

May 21 8th grade promotion and dance

May 22 8th grade ice cream social and last day of school.

Next FFO Meeting: April 25

Meeting adjourned at 9:23am.