

## **Orange Grove General FFO Meeting Minutes** **Thursday, March 18, at 8:30 a.m.**

Present via Zoom: Mark Rubin-Toles, Leslie Beckett, Alex Mastrangelo, Jessica Brandt, Jennifer Peters, Carole Siegler, Teresa Sommers, Amy Krauss, Heidi Williams, Michele Thompson, Marla Handler, Keeley, Lucy Young, Lina Haddad, Kavita, Mary Mokhtarian, Courtney Hinkle, Sarah, Sanderson, Dayna Anderson, Erika Loredo, Georgette Stathis, Jennifer Ford, Liz Doak, Abbe Goncharsky, Jennie Buban, Ana Grandner, Gabriela Urquidi, Tanya Martin

Meeting called to order by President Alex Mastrangelo at 8:32am.

**Welcome Governing Board Members:** Amy Krauss and Carole Siegler

### **Principal's Update: Mr. Rubin-Toles**

- OG is back to 5 day in person learning for the first time this school year. Kids are doing fantastic; teachers are happy having more kids back and how it has changed the classroom dynamic. The ongoing challenge is to continue to bring remote learners into the educational experience and make sure they feel as integrated and valued as in-person students.
- AZM2 statewide testing schedule is settled after a few changes. Four dates are coming up in April: 6th, 8th, 13th, and 15th. The 6th will be for 8th graders only. Remote learners will be brought on campus for state testing, will be offered bus services, and spaced out in the MPR. The goal is to have 95% students tested. These tests can provide valuable information for the school and district such as measuring any learning loss with whom and where during this unique year. Some funding is also attached to it.
- SLCs happened last week and have gotten great feedback. This was the most challenging year for these since all were done remotely.
- 8th grade promotion is coming up the last week of school with a whole set of different offerings: 2 days of in-person mini-ceremonies, a car parade Thursday, and the ice cream social during the last 2 periods on that half day Friday.
- Question: Does AZM2 testing affect gifting programming status? Answer: Gifting looks at 10 criteria, 2 of which are tied to state testing. They will always find solutions to place kids. Mr. RT will talk with Mr. Bindschadler, the gifted coordinator. Goal would be to make sure family's choice re: health would not affect placement in services for which they qualify.

### **Executive Team Updates:**

- Treasurer: Jeannette Hartshorne via Alex- Budget report was shared in chat.
  - Income: \$23,950. Recent changes include \$500 for promotion that came in since last month (\$1832 total now), \$200 from AmazonSmile, \$125 from Benefit app (thanks to new donors/users to Benefit; Jeannette is happy to help set up Benefit for anyone interested), and \$120 came in for Panther Pride. Thank you, families!
  - Expenses: \$26,377.09. Recent changes include \$500 for the art project using grants, department and teacher support funds. Other expenses were teacher reimbursements. Thanks, families, for your support in a thin year.
- Panther Pride Direct Donations: Dayna Anderson
  - Shade Structure Special Project: Dayna shared link for a 360 Google view of the shade structure's latest update including the massive beam and anchors for covering a huge

area. Thanks to all who donated and to 2 district families (Masterson and Matalone) who have been involved with the project directly. There has been a long process of red tape behind-the-scenes work going on and we are excited to finally see it come to fruition. They had to move out so much cubic feet of dirt to set up. Sail is scheduled to go up over Spring Break. An enormous 3600 square feet of shade will be covered.

- **Panther Pride:** We have almost hit our goal with only \$200 to go to hit our mark. Continue to see Pedro's adventures and guess while donating towards supporting the school and staff. The dollars are being put to good use with money coming in going right back out for current students. This has been a fantastic year to show how we come together as a community and keep moving forward in a difficult situations.
- **Question:** Will there be more tables placed under the new shade for students to eat?  
**Answer:** Tables have less seating because of fixed distances and kids seem to prefer to sit in chairs to fit more students in a space. So they plan to add more chairs for kids to expand the seating areas. Many kids elect to sit on the floor. The area covered includes walking space as well, so for most functionality, socially distant sitting (10 chairs vs 2 tables) will be incorporated.
- **Grants:** Michelle Ijams - None.
- **Secretary:** Leslie Beckett - Newsletter link was shared in chat. Renaming Zoom account to include first and last name helps with attendance record keeping.

### **General Business**

- **Approve minutes** – February minutes shared in chat. Moved and approved to accept the February meeting minutes.
- **Community Schools:** None
- **Committee Chair Updates:**
  - **Book Fair:** Liz Doak - Virtual spring book fair is scheduled for April 19th through May 2nd. This time we are hoping to have a book wish list for teachers somehow or e-wallets for teachers that families can provide. Stay tuned for more details to come.
  - **Dine Outs:** Allison Corkey - Pleased to report that the last Dine Out on March 9th at Chipotle brought in a total of about \$380, which is a very nice return for OG. Thanks to Chipotle for a generous 33% back and to the strong OG community for supporting it. Check should be in the mail in time to be used for this school year. This year the 3 dine outs raised around \$1,100 in total.
  - **Staff Appreciation:** Jessica Brandt via Alex - Raffle-A-Day in May is coming soon! To celebrate teacher appreciation month this year, the staff appreciation committee will be having a raffle every day in May. That's 20 days of prizes. Thank you to the families who have already made generous donations to this cause, but we still need many more. Please visit the signup genius to make a gift card donation from \$10 up. You can find the link in the OGFFO News or in the chat. (Link to Sign Up shared in chat.) Gift cards can be dropped off at main office. Teresa Sommers is interested in chairing next year.
- **8th grade promotion:** Mary Mokhtarian - Committee talked about having interested parent volunteer Debbie Claggett and other 6th and 7th grade parents take on car

parade support, but it sounds like the school has that part mostly covered. Ice cream social by the lunch room will also be handled at school. For the mini-celebrations, they are hoping to set up a photo booth from a previous district vendor and give swag bags to take during the ceremony with items for kids to wear during car parade and/or on last day at the ice cream social. Budget is \$2,000, but if donations for promotion come in above that then those donated funds can be spent on promotion as designated. There is a separate link for promotion donations (link shared in chat), and donations are always tracked and shared. Last year's funds that weren't used have already been reallocated. Esperero wants to work together in planning the promotions. Another possibility is having a photographer there to take professional pictures. There was a Sunrise parent who did that in-kind for Sunrise so possible to check as an option. Also possible to garner in-kind donations from parents via Sign Up Genius if needed. Initial plan for promotion was virtual totally, surveyed families and changed plans accordingly with mini-ceremonies, recognize the disappointment in not having one huge ceremony, but providing something as safe as possible per mitigation plan and to include all kids in a meaningful way.

- Foundation: - None
- Other News: None

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- March 18th: FFO Meeting
- March 22nd - 26th: Spring Break

Meeting adjourned at 9:36am.

**Next FFO Meeting:** April 15th