

## **Orange Grove General FFO Meeting Minutes Thursday, October 21, at 8:30 a.m.**

Present via Zoom: Jeannette Hartshorne, Dayna Anderson, Mark Rubin-Toles, Leslie Beckett, Liz Doak, Suzie Stadheim, Alex Mastrangelo, Ivonne Lawrenz, Eileen Pastorious, Roxan Olivas, Karin Fiore, Kate Spaulding, Susan Wright, Abbe Goncharsky, Tony, Asia B, Tracy Rea, Michelle Ijams, Jill Tronziger, Marta Bustamante, Sarah McNamara, Bianca Rowley, Barbie Chang, Anjala Matalone, Teresa Sommers, Evie C, Ann Lee

Meeting called to order by President Alex Mastrangelo at 8:31am.

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

- OG hit the ground running after a nice first week-long Fall Break. Staff has been reinforcing expectations for students (to be respectful, responsible, compassionate) with the minor things that kids can often blunder into sometimes around dress code, cell phones, gum and food policies.
- Starting next week, there will be a game room option for the students in the Commons, which is closed to eating right now. Thankfully OG is fully staffed with educational assistants so will be able to staff the game room. This provides an additional option for kids besides the field, courtyard, or library, and will allow that library space to be more for reading or a tranquil time that some kids may need.
- OG is excited to roll out this week the implementation of "Character Strong" curriculum for advisor base times. The first weekly character dare is the same one for all students: to write down one sentence of appreciation for someone in their family or household and leave it where they can find it. These "dares" are optional and there is no penalty for not engaging. It is another way to practice those things that help them develop social-emotional skills.
- Donations are always needed for more water and masks. It's recommended that students have 2 masks in their possession.
- There is a family support need for some students who do not have computer access at home. Gift cards to help provide for computing options are appreciated.
- Leave No Panther Behind initiative for pick up in church parking lot asks the community to look out for one another and stick around if one student is left last. Thanks to Jeannette Hartshorne who stayed and helped a kid whose grandparent did not know where to go and was able to connect with relieved family later with her help. It is also encouraged to help students develop independence and head back to school if they notice they are last one.
- Parent conferences are happening next week remotely. There will be more details in the Picks of the Week. Parents will wait to be let in the Google Meet, and it is 10 minutes for touching base time. Any longer problem solving discussions can be scheduled at a different with the teacher.
- Looking back on 1st quarter report was great to see that average grades of kids kept increasing as the quarter went on, which is a sign that kids, teachers, and families are putting in the efforts to getting work done and building back up after a challenging year last year. Thank you!

### **Executive Team Updates:**

- President: Alex Mastrangelo
  
- Panther Pride Direct Donations: Dayna Anderson - The Panther community really came together and miraculously made the shade structure into a reality. It has been approved

by Facilities and is still progressing through and moving along in the procedure for final approval. The shade structure will be a long-lasting gift to the school; other models have stood the test of time. It protects from sun and other elements and will be a big benefit for the front of the school. There was great collaboration with parents, the school, and the district; everyone came together to make this happen.

- Panther Pride in total brought in \$25,000 in the short first few months of the year! We are super thankful and proud of the FFO members.
- Treasurer: Jeannette Hartshorne - Budget report was shared in the chat.
  - Income: \$44,712.28 - Special project donations, Panther Pride donations, EduKits, and Kroger (Fry's VIP cards) were main sources.
  - Expenses: \$12,471.38 - Grant payment to World Language department, PE uniforms that were reordered, student council planners, and teacher reimbursements were the main expenses this month.
  - Jeannette has filed the annual report for our non-profit status.
- Grants: Barbie Chang - None.
- Secretary: Leslie Beckett - Please rename Zoom account with first and last name for attendance purposes. If anyone is interested in being the Secretary next year, this will be Leslie's last year. Let her know and can shadow her this year.

### **General Business**

- Approve minutes – September minutes shared in chat.
  - Moved and approved to accept the September meeting minutes.
- Committee Chair Updates
  - Family Support Committee: Suzie Stadheim - This committee responds to needs of those in the Panther community. It is behind-the-scenes provision of mutual support. Current need is for computer access and another new one for a family being evicted at the end of this month (groceries and gas cards). Suzie emails the committee details on how to help. She shared her email for anyone interested in joining the committee.
  - Book Fair: Liz Doak - Fall book fair will be virtual and starts this Monday, Oct. 25th through Nov. 7th. She will be sending an email with the link to shop on the first day. There will be many books to choose from and will arrive in time for holidays. If anyone is interested in chairing book fairs next year, they can shadow her now for next year.
  - Staff Appreciation: Teresa Sommers & Tracy Rea - In Sept. the committee did a popcorn treat for staff with a variety of flavors. For October, the goal was to utilize local, small business but it is sometimes difficult with pricing for providing meals. They looked into Salad & Go and will pick up salads on Wednesday, Oct. 27th (during conferences) for staff lunches and a variety of beverages from Costco.
- CFSD Foundation: Roxan Olivas - TOY nominations are opening up on Nov. 1st and information will be in the Picks and foundation emails. If your student has a teacher they really like and/or has done a great job, please submit them for nomination. Please donate and consider that corporations often match employee donations if applicable with your employer.

**Upcoming Events:**

- Oct. 27th & 28th: Half Days - Parent Conferences online
- Nov. 11th: Veteran's Day - No School
- Nov. 18th: FFO Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:57am.