

OG FFO General Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2023

Present (in person): Kate Spaulding, Mark Rubin-Toles, Jennifer Yau, Eric Lyon, Jessica Lyon, JoAn Strafford, Jen Morgan, Zita Brakey, Robert Brakey, Hilary Eshelman, Tresa White, Tracy Rea, Sarah McNamara, Michelle Ijams, Dayna Anderson, Jeannette Hartshorne, Michelle Rooney, Franklin Alejos, Ann Lee, Barbie Chang, Karin Fiore

Present (on zoom): Lilian Schwartz, Jill Tronziger, Melissa Lazarernic, Lisa Robinson

Meeting called to order at 8:45am. (Following 8th grade pre-meet.)

1. Principal Report (Mark Rubin-Toles)

- There is a lot happening this semester!
 - Jan 26 - Open House for Prospective Families
 - Feb 3 - Grand Opening Celebration of Confucius Classroom
 - Feb 7 - Falcon Fly-In, 8th graders will be going to visit CFHS
 - Feb 7 - Welcome to the Pride Land, 5th graders from Manzanita and Sunrise will be visiting Orange Grove
 - March - Student-Led Conferences
 - March - Spring Dance for all OG Students, student council is organizing the dance
 - May - 8th grade promotion, ice cream social and dance

2. Executive Reports

President (Kate Spaulding)

- Would love to fill a few positions for next year.
 - VP Fundraising and Dine Out Co-Chair are needed.

Treasurer (Jeannette Hartshorne)

- Current income is \$22,984.22, which includes passive fundraising, Panther Pride/Family of the Month donations. Special Project has been added to the square shop.
- Expenses are at \$16,272.87, which includes teacher reimbursements and playground equipment.
- Our passive fundraising with Amazon smiles program is going away in February.

VP Fundraising (Dayna Anderson)

- Active fundraising - families able to purchase needed supplies for the school
- Panther Pride - Only 5K short of our goal! So important because it helps support staff and students.
- Parking Spot - goal is for 100% participation from families.
- Special Project - Your dollars donated to the special project will be matched. Mr. Rubin-Toles shared that the campus buildings will be renumbered to better help people know where to go. All students can enter the Art Contest that will design the borders for each sign. 13 designs will be selected and a Phoenix company will replicate the student artwork on the signs. Information will go out to all the students and be included in Picks-of-the-Week.
- AJ's/Bashas' cards are reloadable in any amount when at the store.
- A parent asked about students visiting La Encantada/AJ's/Starbucks. (Which has become a tradition for many students, Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons.)

- Mr. Rubin-Toles commented that the school is not responsible for students once they leave campus but they still need to be respectful since they are representing Orange Grove. There have been a few complaints made by business owners and security to the school due to a small percentage of students but nothing recently. Video surveillance is often available.
- Dayna suggested that parents meet their child there if concerned. Several parents typically are there shortly after kids arrive.
- Consensus was that parents should know the group your child is going to be with and make an informed decision knowing your child.
- There is a safety concern that has come up with students crossing the street against the light. Please remind your child to wait for the light.

Grants (Barbie Chang)

- New grant request being submitted by 7th grade science teachers for \$848 to purchase materials for mouse trap cars. The mouse trap cars would be part of an upcoming 7th grade physics unit. Students would compete in the areas of speed, distance and a precision challenge. This would benefit 220 students. Motion: To approve \$848 science grant for mouse trap cars. Second, Approved!

DFFO (Michelle Ijams)

- High School Grad Night is May 25th and this year's theme is Men in Black. Michelle is leading the decor committee for the event and would love help. Spaceship building skills are helpful but not required. Parent volunteers are also needed the night of the event, 9pm-5am. Please let Michelle know if you would like to volunteer!

Secretary (Karin Fiore)

- There was no general FFO meeting in December. Meeting minutes from our last FFO meeting in November meeting are on the website. Motion: To approve the November 17, 2022 meeting minutes. Second, Approved!

3. General Business

● Clothing Drive (Chair: Karin Fiore)

- Karin reported that a clothing drive to support Amphi Clothing Bank is being planned for February 20th to March 3rd. The drive will kick off the week of Rodeo Break and run through the following week. Now is a great time to start collecting those items your kids may no longer need but could still benefit others. Donation Bins will be located at Orange Grove near the entrances to the school so students and parents can easily drop off donations during the drive. Amphi Clothing Bank supports students from Kindergarten through High School.

● 8th Grade Promotion (Chairs: Jen Morgan and Michelle Rooney)

- Jen reported that planning for 8th grade promotion events is starting. The committee would love parents to be involved! Anyone interested can meet on the AJs patio on Thursday, Jan 26 at 8:30am for their first planing meeting.

● Dine Outs (Chair: Marta Bustamante)

- Please mark your calendars!
 - February 16 at Rubios (Campbell Location) from 2pm-8pm
 - March 20 at El Charro Cafe (Ventana Location) ALL DAY

● Education (Chair: Jill Tronziger)

- Jill reported that she is currently working on submitting a Grant Request to bring Michelle Rigby from the Looking Up foundation to come speak. A grant is needed to cover the cost of brining in a speaker since there are no funds allocated for this in the budget.

- **Staff Appreciation (Chair: Teresa Sommers)**
 - In December the staff lunch was provided by the FFO. In January the staff was treated to an Apple Bar. March will be another opportunity to sign up!
- **Community Schools (Mary Grodman)**
 - The Sports Calendar can be found on the Community Schools' website. Running Club and Pre Season track are currently meeting.
 - Rodeo Break info will be out soon! Offerings include trips to Parker Canyon Lake and Saguaro National Park East (includes a talk and buffle grass pull) Focus is for students to Get outside, Get active, Give Back!
 - Spring Break offerings and 4th Quarter info will be out soon! Here are important registration dates:
 - March 6th - registration for Enrichment
 - March 7th - registration for Athletics
 - March 8th - registration for High School summer classes
 - March 15th - registration for summer camp
 - Yearbooks can be purchased on the Community Schools website by going through the "class" registration process (Go to Elem/MS/Enrichment, Sessions, Purchase Your OG yearbook) Email Mary at Community Schools if you need help!
- **Other Discussion**
 - Health and Human Development material are available at the school for parents to look at if they wish.
 - Would be great to get more parent volunteers for lunch so students can have access to the gameroom. Please consider signing up with a friend!

Meeting Adjourned

Next FFO meeting is February 16th at 8:30am.