

# OG FFO General Meeting

## Minutes

### August, 24 2023

**Present (in-person):** Suzie Stadheim, Michelle Rooney, Maritza Cardenas, Sherlynn Wong, Teresa Sommers, Mary Grzegorski, Analiza Arandner, Jill Tronziger, Ann Lee, Angela Appel, Jeni Knight, Aly Nevarez, Kristen Pepp, Christina Sanchez, Jessica Lyon, Karin Fiore, Mary Grodman, Rebecca White, Valerie Menke, Anjala Matalone, Celine Cohn, Asia Haubner, Michelle Ijams, Julie Bowden, Catalina Buffum, Jennifer Yau, Georgia Thu, Fatima Bravo, Naghham Gaoriye, Amy Morales Baum, Lizbeth Santos, Mary McAllister, Anne Ennesser, Dayna Anderson, Keri Casper, Jeannette Hartshorne, Susan Wright, Erica Sarnoff, Laura Logue, Donna Saavedra, Mark Rubin-Toles

**Present (online):** Marta Bustamante, Ranya, Emily Edmonds, Ben Levin, Lisa Robinson

**Kate called the meeting to order at 8:45am and welcomed everyone in person and on zoom. Monthly meetings will continue to have a zoom option.**

#### **Principal's Update – Mark Rubin-Toles**

- Mark reported that we are already in week three and have had a good start to the year. Beginning of the year scheduling challenges have been worked out. The 6th graders seem to be adjusting and happy to be here.
- Parent drop-off has been running smoothly. Students are now allowed to unload before the cross walk.
- ZAP (Zero's Are Preventable) will be starting this week to help those students who fall below 80% on turning in assignments.
- Parent conferences will be in October, although parents can always talk with teachers when needed.

#### **Executive Reports**

- President – Kate Spaulding
  - We are in need of a President Elect for this year. That person would be positioned to be President for the 24-25 school year.
  - **Motion:** To add the following positions to the Executive Board:
    - Member-at-Large
    - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Representative
    - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Representative
    - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade RepresentativeMotion received a second and was **approved**.
  - **Motion:** To elect the following people to the 23-24 Exec Board Offices.
    - Member-at-Large – Dayna Anderson
    - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Representative – Jeni Knight
    - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Representative – Georgia Thu
    - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Representative – Angela AppelMotion received a second and was **approved**.
- Treasurer – Jeannette Hartshorne
  - Jeannette presented the 2023-2024 Budget. Hard copies were made available.
    - The budget this year is \$38,200. This includes an increase to Panther Pride since we lost income from Benefit Mobile, Amazon and PE Uniforms.
    - Grants budget was also increased to reduce the amount we have in reserves. Barbie responded to a question regarding the approval process for Grants and shared that most grants are submitted by staff although anyone can submit a grant.
    - **Motion:** to approve the 2023-2024 Budget. Second and **Approved**.

- Question regarding donating to a specific department was asked. Jeanette recommended that all donations be made to Panther Pride in order to keep budgeting system simple. There is not a process in place to manage donations made to specific departments.
  - o Jeannette presented the actuals to date for this school year.
    - We are over half way to our Panther Pride goal.
    - Bashas/AJ's cards are for sale and provides the school 6% back on purchases.
    - Reminder to designate Orange Grove if you have a Fry's card.
    - Student planners brought in \$2,390. This money goes to the Student Council.
    - Some staff reimbursements have been made as well as Panther Pal support.
    - Tax Return has been file for last year.
- VP Fundraising – Laura Logue
  - o Laura encouraged families to make their Panther Pride donation which is a great way to support our staff, students, grants and events at the school. 100% of donations goes to help Orange Grove. We are encouraging families to consider donating \$50 (or more).
  - o Dayna spoke to Family of the Month (FOM). FOM is a fun way to say thank you to families who donate. Every month you donate you have a chance to be selected as FOM. The FOM will be recognized on the Marquee, on the Parking Spot and in the Digest.
  - o Mr. Rubin-Toles thanked the FFO for their direct donation approach to fundraising.
- Grants – Barbie Chang
  - o Barbie provided an overview of the Grants Process. She shared that anyone can submit a grant through the FFO website. The process requires an initial review from the Principal, approval from the Exec Board and then final approval at the General FFO meeting. Grants that were approved last year included Mouse Trap Cars that benefited the 6th grade science classes, tea kettles for science labs and items for the maker space
  - o No grants have been submitted this year.
- DFFO Rep – Michelle Ijams
  - o Michelle explained that she will be our OG representative at the District FFO meetings. All the district FFO Presidents, the Superintendent and Community Schools attend the meetings. The first meeting will be next month.
- Secretary – Karin Fiore
  - o Karin shared that meeting minutes for the General FFO meetings are provided on the FFO website. DropBox has all the minutes from the General and Exec meetings for the last several years. .
  - o **Motion:** to approve the minutes from our last FFO meeting on April 27, 2023. Second and **Approved.**
  - o Our monthly newsletter is sent out the Tuesday before every FFO meeting. Input is requested from all the committee chairs. Past newsletters are also available on the FFO website.

## General Business

- Committee reports & chair positions
  - o 8th Grade Promotion – Michelle Rooney
    - Michelle invited anyone interested in helping with 8th Grade promotion, cookie reception, ice-cream social and the 8th grade dance to contact her. Planning will start in January.
  - o Book Fair –Tracy Rea
    - Kate shared that we have one book fair planned for this year and volunteers will be needed.
  - o Dine Outs – Marta Bustamante
    - Marta reminded everyone that next week is our Panda Express dine out. Chipotle is planned for September and El Charro Cafe will be in October. The flyer is available on our OG Facebook Page and in the Newsletter. Marta is looking for someone to help her so they can learn the process and take over next year.
  - o Education – Jill Tronziger

- Jill shared that she will be working to bring in a presenter this year for parents and/or students. Grants budget is one way to help fund speakers. We have had Tyler Duram in the past as well as presentations on mental health and suicide prevention.
  - o EduKits - Jeni Knight
    - Jeni introduced herself as the EduKit coordinator for this year. So far her contact with the EduKits rep has been positive.
  - o Family Support – Suzie Stadheim
    - Suzie explained that the OG Counselors work with Students and Families to identify needs that our OG community can help with. When the needs are shared with the FFO the families being helped are kept anonymous. We will need to find someone to help coordinate this for next year.
  - o Foundation Liaison
    - Kate shared that we currently do not have a CFSD foundation liaison. If you are involved in the CFSD Foundation or would like to be let us know.
  - o Hospitality – Jessica Lyon
    - Kate explained that Jessica has created a sign-up if you would like to bring treats to our FFO meetings. This allows us to not use FFO funds since we have people willing to bring in items. Another great benefit is that all the leftovers are taken to the staff lounge.
  - o Lunch Volunteers – Ann Lee
    - Ann shared that lunch volunteers are always needed. This allows the EAs to be available in other areas. We are also able to open the Game Room for the kids during lunch.
  - o Passive Fundraising
    - Kate requested that anyone who would like to look into new passive fundraising opportunities please let us know.
  - o Pick-Up & Unpack – Laura Logue
    - Laura reported that everything went well at PUUP this year. The planning for next year will happen in June and July.
  - o Staff Appreciation – Teresa Sommers
    - Teresa shared that each month is a staff appreciation event. Sign-ups will be sent out if you would like to provide a donation for the staff lunches. We will have Raffle-A-Day in May and gift card donations will be needed. Last year our numbers were down but ideally we would like to have enough gift cards for each staff member to receive something.
  - o Spirit Wear / Athletic Wear – Michelle Ijams
    - Spirit wear can be ordered online and will ship directly to your house. Selection includes t-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts and accessories. There are also some items in the shop to help celebrate Orange Grove’s 50th birthday. The online shop will remain open, there is no order by date. A QR code to the online shop is available and a link will be on the FFO website. Kate acknowledged the amount of research and work Michelle did to get this setup for us!
  - o Student Action Committee – ?
    - A chair is still needed for our Student Action Committee. Historically the committee has organized one or two events per year but his committee has not be active since 2020. Past events included making PB&J sandwiches for Casa Maria and a Supply Drive for Youth On Their Own. The committee is free to come up with their own ideas.
  - o Website – Lynsey Brewer
    - Kate thanked Lynsey for her continued work on the website.
- Community Schools – Mary Grodman
  - o Mary shared that there are lots of fun classes being offered with a great response from instructors and the community.
  - o Parents are encouraged to go to the CS website and look for the OG Section for an up to date calendar for Athletics. Expect communication from coaches if there are any last minute changes to the schedule due to weather, etc... The district can send out notices to parents if before 5pm.

- o CS is looking for instructors for next quarter, which includes soccer/basketball and enrichment classes. If there is something you have a passion for teaching let them know.
  - Sarah D is the contact for enrichment at Orange Grove. .
  - Miranda C is the contact for sports at Orange Grove.
  - Process to be hired is not super quick so please plan ahead. A fingerprint card and approval from the district is needed.
- o Follow CS on facebook and instagram to stay up to date.
- o Financial assistance is available. Contact the office if you want to look into a fee reduction or payment plan for your student.
- o OG Yearbooks will be sold through Community Schools. Online orders made before the end of the year will receive current pricing, price will increase after.
- Other news
  - o Color Run
    - Dayna provided an overview of this year's Color Run. Anjala and Deborah will be co-chairs this year. Color run is an event that is held every other year. Students who participate will receive a t-shirt and powder packets. The 5K course will be setup around the school and parents can throw color as the kids run by. We will definitely need volunteers to help on the day of the event. Planned for after school on Friday, January 26th.

**Kate thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting at 9:50am.**

Next FFO General meeting will be September 21 at 8:30 in the library and via Zoom.