

OG FFO General Meeting

Minutes

September 21, 2023

Present (in person): Kate Spaulding, Karin Fiore, Ann Lee, Jeni Knight, Julie Bowden, Jennifer Yau, Amy Morales Baum, Lisa M. Robinson, Suzie Stadheim, Laura M Logue, Donna Saavedra, Catalina Buffum, Marci Petti, Dayna Anderson, Celine Cohn, Barbie Chang, Mark Rubin-Toles

Present (online): Jeannette Hartshorne, Susan Wright, Georgia Thu

Kate called the meeting to order at 8:42am.

Principal's Update - Mark Rubin-Toles

- Mark shared that we are in week 6 with Fall Break approaching.
- Preparation has started for Parent-Teacher conferences. Parents will soon be able to sign-up for a conference. The number of slots teachers have for conferences are limited. Conferences are meant to target problems so it is not expected that teachers would need to meet with everyone. Families will have the option to request either an in-person or online conference.
- Construction is still ongoing. The new perimeter fencing should be complete by the end of September. The fence will allow the entire perimeter of the school (including the field) to be locked during the day. The gates to access the field will be open before and after school, as well as on the weekends.
- The front office is still waiting on the bullet proof glass to be installed.
- Mark explained that these security improvements are not in response to any event that occurred at the school. The district is using the bond override money to improve security at all the schools as an investment and precaution given the times we live in.
- Students experienced their first lockdown drill of the year, which they had trained for and were expecting. Parents are not notified when drills occur. Per the law, two more will be planned this year. It is the desire to have one occur during a passing period.

Executive Reports

- **President - Kate Spaulding**
 - No update.
- **Treasurer - Jeannette Hartshorne**
 - Jeannette reported on the current budget.
 - Income is currently at \$18,519.90. \$230 was received from our Panda Express dine-out. \$6,300 is still needed in direct donations.
 - Expenses are currently at \$9,308.43, which includes classroom reimbursements and staff appreciation.
 - Jeannette encouraged everyone to take advantage of the community cards and our upcoming dine outs.
 - We have had around 30% of families donate so far.
- **VP Fundraising - Laura Logue**
 - Laura thanked everyone who has already donated. She stressed that our FFO meetings are helpful so we can hear how donations are being used and what grants are being funded.

- Please consider asking grandparents and family members to donate and participate in the Fry's, AJ's/Bashas card programs.
- Next Friday, Sept 29th is the last day to be eligible for the next Family of the Month.
- We are currently at 30% participation but would love to reach 50%.
- Several parents shared suggestions for raising funds.
 - Create video messages to capture parents sharing why they have donated.
 - Designated giving day , i.e. Giving Tuesday.
 - 50th Day of School
 - Marquee Messages. High School does this and receives \$40 for a Happy Birthday message.
 - Please share any other ideas with Laura!
- Grants - Barbie Chang
 - Virtual Meeting Technology
 - Barbie presented the Virtual Meeting Technology Grant that was submitted by Kate Spaulding.
 - \$1,400 is being requested to purchase a Meeting Owl, expansion mic, carry case, and extension cord to be used for FFO General Meetings.
 - This technology would allow us to continue to offer a virtual option for our FFO meetings.
 - At this time, the FFO is no longer able to use school equipment. Kate is providing the equipment we are currently using.
 - The Owl is designed to follow the speaker and automatically focus on additional speakers in the room. It offers improved audio over the school equipment used last year. With the addition of an expansion mic, we hope this will work even better. The carrying case will keep everything together and protected.
 - **Motion:** to approve the \$1,400 Virtual Technology grant. **Second** received.
 - After some discussion, the members agreed by consensus to postpone any further action to allow for other options to be researched and considered. The consensus was that a virtual meeting option would be beneficial but there was some concern regarding the expense and if this would be a wise way to spend the funds giving the amount of time it would be utilized during the year.
 - Further comments and considerations can be shared with Kate. This topic will be included on the agenda for our next meeting.
 - Maker Space Build Kits
 - Barbie presented the grant request for Maker Space Build Kits that was submitted by Christine Blauert.
 - \$500 is being requested to purchase a total of 40 build kits. The request is to purchase 10 each of rubber band racers, kites, air racers and ping pong launchers.
 - The kits would allow students to form teams and build them the over the course of 3-4 weeks and have a contest at the end of the build.
 - The kits range from about \$7.50 to \$10.00 each
 - The maker space is open to all students before school and at lunch. There are a variety of STEM activities available.
 - **Motion:** to approve the \$500 grant for Maker Space Build Kits. **Second. Approved**
 - Parents shared that they would be interested in a short tour of the maker space. It was suggested that the Maker Space could be the topic of a pre-meet. Another suggestion was to provide a video of the Maker Space to share with parents.
 - Maker Space Equipment

- Sam shared that the purpose of the CFSD Foundation is to recruit and mentor new teachers.
 - Tapas for Teachers will be Oct 2nd. Tickets can be purchased online with drink tickets being extra. Community Schools is offering childcare during the event. The cost is \$30 and open to children in grades K-5. Also, silent action items are need for the event. They are looking for businesses, families and friends that would like to provide auction items or gift cards with a minimum value of \$50.
- Community School - Mary Grodman
 - Mary provided a written update that was shared by Kate at the meeting which highlighted the following:
 - Q2 registration for athletics and enrichment are separate. Registration for Q2 athletics will open Sept 26 with practices starting Oct 2. Registration for Q2 enrichment will open Oct 2 with classes starting Oct 16.
 - All positions for coaches for Q2 have been filled.
 - There are lots of fun classes being offered. Please visit the community schools website.
 - Yearbooks can be purchased through community schools.
 - Fall Break offerings are still available, for those classes that are full you can still add your name to the waitlist.
- Staff Appreciation - Teresa Sommers
 - Teresa shared that the staff was treated to some goodies in August and September.
 - October 4 will be putting together a Grading Day Lunch for the staff. The Sign-Up to help with bringing items for our salad bar is available in the Newsletter, Pics of the Week and on Facebook.
 - It would be great to have someone start to shadow Teresa since she will be gone next year.
- Spirit Wear
 - In Michelle's absence Kate reported that we have raised \$190 so far. Free shipping is available with a \$50 purchase.
- Dine Out
 - Our Chipotle Dine Out is September 27th from 4-8pm.
- Upcoming FFO Events
 - Kate reminded everyone that our next FFO meeting will be Oct 19. She also highlighted the upcoming MADD Power of Parent Presentation on Nov 30th.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55am