

# OGMS FFO General Meeting

## Minutes (DRAFT)

### March 21, 2024

**Present (in person):** Kate Spaulding, Karin Fiore, Helena Yip, Marla Harris, Necoe Otto-Parkinson, Catalina Buffum, Donna Saavedra, Laura Logue, Mary McAllister, April Gering, Suzie Stadheim, Sasha Flores, Amy Courson, Tresa White, Jeni Knight, Julie Bowden, Asia Haubner, Teresa Sommers, Michelle Rooney, Jill Tronzigner, Barbie Chang, Susan Wright, Mark Rubin-Toles

**Present (Online):** Jennifer Yau, Jeannette Hartshorne, Lili Schwartz

**Meeting called to order at 8:30am** (Kate Spaulding)

- We had no board members in attendance but Kate took the opportunity to remind everyone that it will be a big election year with some new openings and encouraged everyone to vote.

**Principal's Update** (Mark Rubin-Toles)

- Please check our Lost & Found. There are always lots of water bottles and sweatshirts.
- Spring Break is next week!
- State Testing will start the Tuesday after break. The test schedule is available in Picks of the Week.
  - Help your student by encouraging exercise, plenty of sleep and a good breakfast.
  - Please note that electronics are not allowed during testing and kids should bring a book to read for when they are finished, they can not open up a text book. Students will be given as much time as they need.
  - This is a “high stakes” test for the school as it helps measure how well schools are doing at achieving grade level standards. It does not impact students grades or transcripts. A little stress and nervousness can be healthy but if a student is overwhelmed our counselors are here to help.
- Promotion will be coming up. 8th grade students who are interested in presenting a speech or poem during the ceremony may audition. Drafts must be turned in by Friday, April 26th with auditions the following Monday.
- Community Schools still has several late start Wednesday classes with low enrollment and would love to have more students register.

**Executive Updates**

- **President** (Kate Spaulding)
  - FFO request
    - The FFO received a lovely handwritten note that the school would very much love a Keurig. Anyone with one that could be gifted?
  - FFO Officers
    - At our next meeting we will be voting on FFO officers for next year. Let us know if anyone is interested. There are several chair positions that will need to be filled for next year as well. These positions will be revisited in August.
  - Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
    - Please join us before our next FFO meeting for a volunteer appreciation breakfast. This is a lovely way the staff shows their appreciation for the FFO by thanking us with lots of home made goodies. Please come and enjoy!

- **Treasurer** (Jeannette Hartshorne)
  - Income is at \$40,264.44.
    - Dine outs have been a huge success! W
    - We have reached our Panther Pride goal of \$20,000.
    - Promotion donations have been coming in along with the Special Project funds for the PE weight room.
  - Expenses are at \$29,205.21.
    - Reimbursements to departments and staff have continued.
    - Some initial purchases for weight room equipment for the special project have been made.
    - Coming up, we expect to have expenses related to our educational speaker and grants.
- **VP Fundraising** (Laura Logue)
  - A BIG Thanks for supporting our Panther Pride campaign and Special Project.
    - The special project will continue. Those who donate are eligible for Family of the Month.
    - Our March Family of the Month is the Zapata Family.
    - The parking spot is great to have for end of year events!
- **Grants** (Barbie Chang)
  - **Solar Eclipse Glasses:** A grant to purchase 750 solar eclipse glasses for all students and teachers to view the April 8th solar eclipse was submitted by Mark Rubin-Toles. \$581 is being requested. The eclipse will be at it's maximum at 10:00am so glasses will make this a safe viewing experience for all. Glasses would be for the students to keep (single use).
    - **Motion:** To approve \$581 for the purchase of solar eclipse glasses. Second. **Approved.**
- **DFFO** (Michelle Ijams)
  - Kate shared that enrollment is key to ensure the district can higher the teachers needed for next year. Please register, especially our in-district families.
- **Secretary** (Karin Fiore)
  - Draft FFO minutes can be found on the FFO website.
  - **Motion:** to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2024 FFO meeting. Second. **Approved.**

## Committee Reports

- **Promotion** (Michelle Rooney)
  - The volunteer sign-up will be available after Spring Break. We will need cookie donations as well as volunteers. The is a great opportunity for 6th and 7th grade parents to pay it forward.
  - Sasha and Amy have been working on plans for the dance!
  - 8th grade families can still make their \$20 donation for promotion on the FFO website. Donation receipts are emailed from [no-reply@editmysite.com](mailto:no-reply@editmysite.com).
- **Education** (Jill Tronziger)
  - Mark your calendars for Tuesday, April 16th! Tanner Clark will be here to speak to parents at 6:30pm. The student presentation will be on Wednesday.
  - Tanner Clark is an international motivational speaker who has spoken to thousands of high school, middle school, and elementary school students to help them find their One Second of Strength to ditch their digital devices, reconnect in real life, and embrace their self-worth to reclaim their happiness.
- **Staff Appreciation** (Teresa Sommers)
  - We will be collecting gift cards for our Raffle-A-Day in May. In the past we have been able to give one to each staff member. Last year we didn't have enough for all the staff but there were some

great items in the raffle. In addition to gift cards, consider donating items from small businesses, certificates for a massage or even a staycation. The deadline will be Friday before school is out.

- In March the staff was treated to a Baked Potatoe Bar!
- For May we will be providing a catered lunch on the last day of school.
- **Student Action Committee** (Asia Haubner, Julie Bowden)
  - We received a proposal from a student for this year's community action project. The request is to provide Squishy Night Lights to kids in the hospital.
    - This student had spend time in the hospital and was gifted a squishy night light which was a big comfort.
    - The squishy night lights cost around \$15 each and can be found at Target, Amazon and Walmart and Temu.
    - The project will run two week: April 8 -19.
    - A flyer is currently being worked on. We love that this is a student led project!
    - The goal is to provide 100 night lights along with encouraging notes our students will be writing during their lunch periods. The items will be delivered to kids at Banner and TMC.
- **Community Schools** (Mary Grodman)
  - 8th Grade Health and PE currently has a few spots left.
  - Outdoor Adventure camp for Joshua Tree National Park is still open.
  - Summer Camp registration is open.
  - Outdoor Adventure for the summer has several options, including trips to Mt. Lemmon, New Mexico, Nevada and Payson.
  - 4th Quarter classes still have space available: basketball, acting, creative writing and improv.
  - Yearbooks are \$45 with the deadline fast approaching. Order on the community schools website. Purchase history can be viewed in your account.
- **EduKits** (Jeni Knight)
  - Orange Grove has been asked to be a test school for EduKit. This would mean we would not have a order deadline but would receive a bulk shipment to sell.
  - Kate will put this on the agenda at our next Exec meeting.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:20am.**

Next FFO meeting will be April 25 along with the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast.