**April PTA Meeting Notes**

**Tuesday, April 14, 2015**

6:34 p.m. Call to order– Stacey McReynolds

Attendance–Recognition of Quorum, Trustee Introductions

Approval of Minutes of previous meeting. Motion: Steve Gillespie, Second: Alisa Loigman. Motion approved. Passes unanimously.

6:35 p.m. Administrative Updates

* Interim Principal - Bruce McGirr
  + Slope restoration – could be June before we are finished. Bugs, spiders, scorpions are being found. We are dealing with the bugs as best as possible. There is a paleontologist on site. He will share findings with our science classes. It is pre cursor to the big construction. We are losing 2 classrooms next year, we’ll figure it out. Please remain flexible and patient. We are working with our planning team to keep safety top of mind.
  + Concerns about lower classrooms – noise and dust. Team is trying to locate portable AC units. Another meeting with construction team is scheduled for every Wed. Will meet tomorrow.
  + A letter is coming home tomorrow to parents. Principal Don Craig is not returning to Grant K8. The process for selecting a new principal will start shortly
  + Community meeting has been scheduled for this Monday. Within our area there are 5 vacancies
  + Meeting info: April 20th, 7 am. Staff can meet in lounge and discuss characteristics of next principal. At 8 am on Monday, 4/20 will have the same opportunity. Normally it’s done in an evening meeting but things had to change this time. We apologize for the short notice. Mitzi Moreno is the area superintendent
  + Mr. McGirr is here until we need him. His last day is June 15th. As a retired administrator he can only work 70 days.
  + Transition plan will be determined once we see candidates.
  + There will be an interview panel convened. Looking for 3 certificated members (1 lower grade, 1 primary and 1 middle school). Shouldn’t impact. 1 classified rep (probably Marci). Also, need 2 parent representatives – identified from governance team.
  + The coral tree – over Spring break one of the large branches fell. It could have damaged someone severely if it happened during school. Recommendation was to cut it down; it was cut Saturday. This summer they will grind a stump. A new tree will be planted. Mr. McGirr’s goal is to preserve the 3 oak trees by middle school and the pavers.
  + Bathrooms for MS are not going to fit like they do now (makes fire line too small) during construction
    - They will be right in front of brick wall. Everyone will see them during assemblies.
* Foundation/Imagine Campaign Report – Julie Morgan
  + Have raised $56K – within striking distance of $65K goal.
    - We fund the whole science program, first in math, art programs (expanding next year)
    - We still need to fundraise. This year the school district had a $62M deficit. This year district reached budget goals only by selling off property (one time fix)
    - If you haven’t already please donate
  + Ginger Tyson is helping to get an inventory of IT computers. Foundation wants to help fill in the gaps as well. We want to try to bridge the gap with I21 now initiative.
  + Have been looking into scholarship programs – 6th grade camps and after school tech programs. We are still lacking funds for next year’s 6th grade camp. Foundation is stepping up to help financially. If you are interested in helping see Julie
  + Anna Lowe is helping develop the capital investment fund – this project is to help fund Phase 3 of construction. We are trying to get a better handle on how much money needs to be raised.
  + We meet the first Tuesday of every month. We have open elections. We are focused on STEAM focused programs. If you want to participate more with the foundation please let Julie know.
  + Kudos from Stacey goes to Julie and Jill for all of their hard work on their fundraising efforts
* ASB Report – Elizabeth
  + ASB was collecting ink cartridges – raised over $200
  + International Day is a week from tomorrow – 4/22/15
  + 5th grade tour is in 1 week – 4/21. ASB members will be walking the 5th graders around middle school area and classrooms.
  + Need insurance – MS spring formal (5/8), JR Gala (5/2). Motion to approve insurance for 2 above events. Motion: Dana Lingard, Second: Steve Gillespie. Motion passes unanimously
  + JR. Gala will only be $5 and held in Grant K8 auditorium. That is for the whole night – 6 pm – 10 pm. We are limiting it to 100 kids. Forms will be going out on Monday. Will take younger siblings if they are potty trained. Email Karen to RSVP – [kfarson@sandi.net](mailto:kfarson@sandi.net) . It is not a requirement that you attend the Gala to drop off your kids. There will be music, games and movie at the end of the night.

6:56 p.m. Information Items

* Presentation by IB Coordinator from San Diego High School (Ms. Varti)
  + There is a lot of confusion in regards to language – see attached notes for IB Group 2 – Language Acquisition Course Sequence Guidelines
    - SD High Recommendation: we are looking for 1 year of solid language instruction. Need strong vocabulary and strong knowledge of grammar
    - SD districts minimum requirements for HS graduates – 2 years with a recommendation of 3 years. If children do 1st year in grade 8 it will transfer to HS as long it’s high school level of 1-2.
    - Colleges are looking for the rigor they are doing based on the rigor the high school is doing. They should do foreign language for all 4 years they are in high school.
    - For IB program – if they don’t have language they can still get into IB but they end up doing 2 years in 1 year.
    - You can always take a diagnostic to get your child in a higher level of language
    - IB program does not follow the district sequence. The IB program is much more rigorous. After first 2 years, the sequence totally changes
    - IB uses European model - by 5-6 they are learning literary terms
    - Students that come out of the IB program are biliterate not just bilingual
    - IB doesn’t have a degree
    - Effective with class of 2017 (current year sophomores), IB has changed their whole diagram of what their diploma program looks like.
    - It’s a 2 year curriculum. It’s like taking a major. There are 2 concentrations - 1. Diploma and 2. Coursework. For more information please see attached IB diploma Programme (IBDP)
    - Effective next year there will only 3 schools on campus: school of business, school of IB, and school of science and technology. School of media, visual and performing arts is closing.
    - Academics are within each school. They get a diploma from the specific school they are attending not SD High Complex
    - Application process:
      * If you live with in the residence boundary of the high school. You choose the school you want to go to and they enroll you. As long as the cap of 3000 students isn’t met for the complex you are in.
      * If you live outside of residence boundary – you need to apply within the school you want to go with using the magnet/choice application. Your name goes into a lottery. Lottery is based on where your residence is. Priority goes to: 1. Continuity (5 schools: PB Middle, Roosevelt, Albert Einstein, Language Academy and Longfellow), 2. Cluster 1 (communities that are north of 52 but still within SD city limits, i.e. Scripps ranch) 3. Cluster 2 (between the 52 and the 8 freeways), 4. Cluster 3 (south of 8 and before residence boundary), 5. Out of district (need permission from current district to leave)
    - If there is an IB program at your high school in your district the distrct may not release you to go to SD High
    - Roosevelt students have priority over Grant. They do not have to apply. Grant non residents must apply.
    - You can look up your residence boundaries on sandi.net
    - Teachers in IB program are native speakers. After few weeks, there is not English in the classroom
    - Best way to prepare your kids: Your child is responsible for their own learning.
    - IB is about the student – its student directed and student motivated.
* PTA Budget for Next School Year
  + It has been confirmed that the district will fund the Spanish/PE position. Saves the PTA approximately $35K
  + Do not have a budget to present tonight
  + Looking to fund science program, feel really strongly about funding more art and other programs.
  + Will have representative go to staff meeting to ensure we have teacher’s input
  + Budget doc will be presented next month and voting is planned
  + In process of securing supplies before we lose money
  + Motion to ratify net expenses for March 2015 totaling $7,520.59. Expenses includes some previously approved expenses from the motion passed at the March 10, 2015 PTA meeting. Motion: Alisa Loigman, Second: Jill Baltan. No discussion. Motion passes unanimously
  + As of 3/31 we have $86K in account. April will be busy month with Gala.
  + Motion to approve 2015 carnival expenses not to exceed budgeted amount for $12K. Motion: Dana Lingard, Second: Toni Rushing. Motion approves unanimously
* Gala and Auction Update - Lydia
  + Gala is coming May 2nd. Can buy tickets on grantgala.com. Limit to 125 people for venue. Live band, Middle schoolers are preparing fun movie. Will have live auctioneer. Will have silent auction items as well. Food will be prepared by local restaurant. We received beer and wine donations; no hard liquor.
  + It will be a more casual nice event. No sit down dinner; not as fancy
  + Still looking for donations.
    - On grant gala website you can find donation letter and donor form with our Tax ID.
    - Looking for big tickets items. Unfortunately, can’t do some of the vacation homes we have auctioned off in the past. We need stuff for live auction. You can leave donations in PTA box or contact Jessica.
    - Currently, we have 75 small items. A little concerned on large items.
    - We are doing a wine pull – bottles ranging from $25-$50. You put in $20 and you walk away from a bottle.
    - We really want parent participation
* Talent Show- We need a Coordinator and Volunteers to make it Happen!!
  + If you are interested in coordinating the event please reach out to the PTA board
  + Not looking to hire someone this year.
  + The event usually takes place in early June
  + There may be parents in 1st grade parents interested in taking it on. Request for help will be put out in Grant Blast.

8:05 p.m. Action Items

* Appoint Vicky Knapp at the PTA Auditor. Motion to appoint – motion: Steve Gillespie, Second: Alisa Loigman. Motion passes unanimously.
* Annual Election of PTA Officers for next school year. Candidates include
  + President: Jessica Leider and Daniel Sakai as Co-presidents
  + Vice President 1: Juliet Davenport
  + Vice President II: Steve Gillespie
  + Secretary: Rachel Kennedy
  + Treasurer: Alisa Loigman
  + Motion to elect above mentioned people for PTA board for next school year Motion: Dana Lingard, Second: Anna Lowe. Motion passes unanimously

8:07 p.m. Roundtable

* Parent suggestion: New board members put together bio for grant blast
* Steve Gillespie: Pt. Loma Athletic Association is hosting Bite of Pt. Loma. School is looking for Grant support. 80-85% of our students go to Pt. Loma HS. Event is 4/21 and cost is $35. Steve has flyers. Will be announced in blast as well.

8:08 p.m. Adjourn