PTA AGENDA

Tuesday, September 9th, 2014

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**6:30 p.m. Call to Order** – Lara Gates

* Introduction of board of trustees

**Attendance** – Recognition of Quorum, Trustee Introductions

**6:32 PM ASB Representative – Lizzy Gravit**

* Been in ASB 3 year
* In 8th grade
* Tim Shoeman presenting plans for the year
  + Want entire school involved in ASB (specifically K-5 students)
  + Want middle school to set good examples of students
  + Fundraiser
    - 1st – school wide magazine sale
      * Subscription area in grant blast
      * Organize a magazine booth before/after school
      * Need consent of PTA
* ASB will have a rep at each meeting

**6:34 PM Eric Karpinski**

* Running club after school – laps around the park. Do a couple of 5K runs on the weekend
* At least 2 days a week
* Parent volunteers needed- checking laps, making it fun
* Jog-a-thon will be in the Fall – November 13th
  + In discussions about support internally versus externally
  + Big prize – the party is back
  + T-shirts and other fun prizes – Grant oriented
  + Volunteers needed

**6:35 PM Admin Updates**

* Lefty’s fundraiser – September 24th
* Look at PTA packet that came home from school
* Gecko Garden sign up – see Elena Banks if you want to sign up
* Maggie Boyd organized the after school program
  + Some vendors are here – ThoughtStem, MadScience
* Imagaine Campaign is giving way t-shirts if you donate in the month of Sept
* Cone Zone – Zone 1: K-5, Zone 2: K-8. Use the cone zone, don’t pull out on side streets to drop kids off.
* Science Night – Friday, Oct 3rd. Lots of hands off things – bugs, wind tunnel, hands on experiments.
* Site Governance Council – Group of parents, teachers and principal. Discuss the budget that the principal gets. Needs of the school are discussed. We don’t get a lot of LCFF funding. We don’t get a lot of discretionary money. Talk about class size, teacher allocation. Talk about things that are happening on campus – safety issues, etc. Gives parents a great insight on what is going on school. Members are part of interview boards; at least one representative.
  + There are a quite a few members terming out
    - 2-3 parents are needed.
    - Meets once a month on a Monday at 2:45 pm
    - 1st meeting is 9/22. Notice will go out in grant blast after the sept meeting. New meetings will start in October.

**6:40 PM Principal Don Craig**

* Introduction of interim vice principal
  + District posted a position
  + Hired a retired employee
  + Lynn is experienced - principal at Gage Elementary (10 years ago)
  + Since then, 2nd career at a middle school VP – Clark and Bell Middle
  + Status of VP: Posting closes tomorrow, 9/10
    - Pre-interviews, screenings and board interview will occur
* Enrollment – school is exploding
  + A small number of kids were taken off Choice list – 5 kindergarteners, took 5 6th graders
  + As of now, not taking any kids off choice list
  + As of June 1, 2014 – 685 kids enrolled
  + Right now – 719 students enrolled
* Certain grade levels are impacted – we have overcrowding
  + Looking at increasing staffing – not sure of exact numbers
  + Plan to address overcrowding in some of the grades; depends on how many staff we get
* Able to get a full time Spanish teacher – Mr. Montes
  + PTA covered other ½ of position to make position full time
  + Will get going on elementary rotation in the next couple of weeks
  + Starting with K-3 rotation in lab setting
* Music program – last year we were able to keep music teacher extra time. Working with grades 4-8. Looking for kids to get mastery of instruments.
  + Current count of kids in 6th grade orchestra – 30 kids
* Art – Joe Nierhi
* Science Program – Elena Banks
  + Previously hands on science coordinator at Rueben H Fleet Science Center
* Status of school rebuild
  + Begin Phase 1 – Summer 2015. Start tearing down old bungalows. Building sister building. Getting a new cafetorium. New teacher’s lounge. New parking lot – 50 car capacity. Take 1 ½ year before we are move in ready
  + 3 more phases scheduled
  + School is not closing down – plan to transition through.
* Questions:
  + Where are you bringing in teachers in for? High grades are 2, 3, 5. Combos are an option. Waiting on district to give number of new teachers we get. Timeframe: End of Sept. is usually when they make a decision. Trying to get it escalated
  + Spanish teacher schedule in elementary. Looking at 1 grade at a time/chunks – once a week is a goal. The vision needs to be focused.
* Kinder and 1st grade classes are lower – not willing to commit to taking more kids on via Choice. Would like to keep K-1 smaller if possible.

**7:00 PM Presentation Items**

• Halloween Carnival Update and Call for Volunteers – Jen Cavanaugh

* Call volunteers – need a lot of bodies
* October 25th – 12:00 pm – 5pm
* Haunted House coming back. Thursday night starts set up in the library.
* Need help Friday for set up of booths and haunted house
* Need tools, etc.
* We have lost a food court manager volunteer – run the food vendors and liason with the middle school classes. Need during set up/tear down. Station set up.
* Looking for high schools that needs volunteer hours – haunted house actors
* Looking for big items for raffle prizes
* Dunk tank is coming back
  + Need teacher volunteers
  + If a class gets a teacher to get in, you don’t have to a do a booth
* If 25 people volunteer tonight, Lara will get in the dunk tank

• Skooltopia Fundraising Presentation- Karen Evenson

* Courtney Grant – CEO/co owner of Skooltopia
* School budget cuts – up to 20%
* Class sizes have increased and resources are low
* Local fundraiser platform – can buy/sell your services. Donate percentage of revenue to your school
* Supports local business and the school in one breath
* Modern marketplace online
  + Each school has it’s own dedicated marketplace. Show you what you community members have to offer.
  + Can buy something from another school and the donation still goes to your school.
  + Purchase online, pay through skooltopia. Service marked as delivered. Donation is taken from payment and passed on to school
* Started 1 year ago; currently in 7 schools. Continuing to grow
* Would like Grant to consider working with Skooltopia. Fundraising contract is required.
  + For September, just started. For one school – raised $300
* Schools are paid bi-annually – end of calendar year and end of school year
* No costs to set up storefront
* Transaction fee at time of purchase. Ranges on 5-9% depending on cost of items (includes Paypal).
* No set up fee
* How to sign up – you can register online. You can shop now – www.skooltopia.com

• PTA and Foundation Bylaws, Coordination, Duties and Responsibilities

* Listed on website – [www.sandi.net/grant](http://www.sandi.net/grant). You can download a copy
* The bylaws were updated last year.
* Lara Gates can provide hard copies if requested.

• Call for Gala Volunteers and Donation Procurement Coordinator

* Lydia is chairing gala
* Small committee of parents are meeting on Friday to meet.
* Need a lot of volunteers.
* Want to start in the fall asking for donations
* Largest fundraiser – raise $60K
  + If you are interested in participating, stop by in the chatio Friday morning or talk to the committee.

• Grant Foundation Responsibilities**–** Julie Morgan

* 2 non profits at Grant – 1. Grant PTA and 2. Foundation
* Foundation founded in 1933
* Goal is to have STEAM focus programs.
* Mission: to enhance academic achievements through this program
* Fundraising arm. Also, branch out to community. Wide bunch of people that are members of the board.
* Initiatives
  + Imagine Campaign – lead by Jll Baltan
  + Last year – grossed over $43K. $37K was given to the PTA
    - Helped fund the arts and science program
* Focused on technology. After school program – andrino club. Ran by Mr. Snyder
* Community outreach – getting interest from community members
  + Mrs. Goodpastor is part of the board. Rich history with grant school
  + Leading an effort for an alumni reunion – 2/28/15 at Brooklyn event
  + Give names of alumni to Julie – grantelem@gmail.com
* Meet once a month with the PTA – 1st Tuesday of the month – 6:15 pm

• Imagine Campaign**-** Jill Baltan

* Annual fundraiser drive – part of foundation
* Supports many of the special programs that makes Grant a leading school
* Need support and donations
* If you give the month of Sept, you get a special Imagine Campaign t-shirt for free
* Donations packages are available
  + $1,000 – all in package – tickets to the Gala, Halloween carnival, year book and magnet
  + $500, $250 levels also
  + Do not have to pay your donation all at once – can do installments
  + Any donation level is welcome and appreciated
  + Goal: $65K
    - So far, raised just over $21K
    - Can donate online

**7:25 PM Action Items (60 Minutes)**

• Approve Insurance for Halloween Carnival

Kristin – motioned, Whitney – second. No comments. Motion passes.

• **PTA BUDGET (ATTACHED) REVIEW AND APPROVAL** - The Foundation and PTA will need to raise approximately $191,350 this school year to pay for the enrichment programs and other PTA related functions. If we cannot raise sufficient funds through the Imagine Campaign and other fundraising events we will have to consider reducing or eliminating the positions at the mid-year budget review set for January that could impact the programs for the following school year. The most significant costs include: o $45,000 –½ time Spanish Teacher

o $35,000 – Science lab coordinator

o $18,500 – Music teacher - CORRECTED should be at $18,200

* .8 of the music teacher is covered by VAPPA and the district
* .2 of the time is spent at another school
* Scheduling, traveling, etc is getting difficult
* A lot of effort has been put into the music program

o $6,500 – Art teacher

o $7,000 - Teacher stipends

o $3,500 – First in Math Program

* Average donation per student – average $275
* Motion to accept the PTA budget: Kristin, second: Whitney
* Discussion: Ice cream social/sock hop - was replaced by back to school picnic
  + Welcome back picnic attracted a lot of new parents/students
* Budget passes unanimously
* Expenses motions. Approve expenses for the below programs, to not exceed the budgeted amount
  + Science Nights
  + First in Math Program
  + Teacher stipend
  + First: Toni Jean Rushing, Second: Stacey McReynolds. Motion passes

**7:50 PM Roundtable**

* Book fair – December and March
* Sally Foster – wrapping paper fundraiser – can we bring it back?
  + Overrun at the time and parents wanted to move away commercial fundraising. Focus on local community fundraiser.
  + Bring ideas to the PTA if you want to head up a new fundraising idea
* Lice – issues last year. Put your kids’ hair up in ponytails.
* Need 2 volunteers for childcare duty for PTA meetings – see Lara
* 6th grade camp fundraising - raised just under $2K at park concerts
  + Need $23K that needs to be raised.
  + All 6th graders have to go
  + Looking into Thursday food trucks. Asking for help from parents
  + 6th graders come to next PTA
* Anne Anthony – Christine Baldwin, Elena Banks, Ginger Tyson (science group).
  + 8th graders still take a science test (STAR testing)– 90% of students were proficient and/or advanced
* Go to website
  + Upper grades – find out grades
  + Check out e-books
  + Tons of information is on the website – sandi.net/grant
* Leanna Rios – founder of parent/teacher autism support network
  + Organizing parent/teacher meet and greet in October
* Spanish teacher
  + Tenured teacher – pacific palasides school
  + Committed to bringing it to a grammar based program
* Next month meeting- talking about sustainability program
  + Making a dent in recycling
  + Going to compostable plates
  + Got rid of plastic milk bottles
* Email Lara with October agenda items
  + 2nd Tuesday of the month – 10/14

**7:59 PM Adjourn**