

Trace PTO Meeting Minutes

Thursday October 9, 2014

Location: Multi-Purpose Room

Called to Order & Welcome: Veronica Loera-Ano, PTO President**Attendance:** Heather Bilich, Leif Christiansen, Patricia Griffith, Brent Haley, Mitzi Haley, Brian Kuehnis, Veronica Loera-Ano, Jeanette Marin, Cecille Nowlin, Robert Nowlin, Mary Pascual, Vanessa Pinedo, Matt Quarneri, Michelle Quarneri, Troy Reiwe, Riya Reynolds, Pia Rieppo, Ms Rocha, Randi Rosen, Jeanne Rupperecht, Catherine Sam-Long, Michele Seaton, Lindsay Telucci, Sarah Vogel, Joanne Warburton, Shari Martinez, Stephanie Taylor**Approval of Minutes:**

- Motion made by Mary Pascual to approve the September meeting minutes. Unanimous approval.

Current Business:

- Fall Festival Update – Michelle Quarneri, Co-VP of Seasonal Fundraising
 - Saturday Oct 18th 11-4pm. Set-up will start ~8am, items start to be delivered at this time.
 - 10:45 am -- food trucks arrive
 - 11:00 am – event starts
 - 12:00 pm – kindergarten singing
 - 1:00 – 2:00pm – Sharkie visit
 - Activities include pumpkin path, walk-a-thon, games, obstacle course, food, bake sale, etc.
 - Buy your pumpkins at the festival, pumpkins are great quality & good price
 - Walk-a-thon led by Jeanne Rupperdt & Mary Pascual, contact information below
 - mpascual@mindspring.com
 - jfrupp@att.net
 - Help Needed – We need canopies, pop-up tents, shade structures, etc. and a few wagons or wheel barrels
 - Veronica (2) and Michele S. (1), others to contact Michelle and/or Sonia if you can help with items above
 - michelle@quarneri.org
 - hrhsonialee@gmail.com

School Update: Ms Rocha

- College week currently in progress, Oct 6th – Oct 10th
- Family University event Saturday morning, Oct 11th at 8:00am at the District Office
- ESL classes Mon & Wed thru end of May
- Chess club Friday's, open to all grades, room C9
- Gardening club Friday's at noon
- 10/13 -- School site council meeting, 3pm
- 10/14 – SELAC meeting, 8:45am
- 10/15 – VIA Committee meeting, 3pm
- 10/16 – Picture Make-ups and earthquake drill

- 10/17 – 1st Community appreciation coffee, 9am
- 10/21 & 10/23 – 2nd grade performances
- 10/31 – Halloween parade, 1:40pm
- Budget Update
 - In past years Trace received a budget allocation for the Visual Performing Arts (VPA) program. This year, no separate allocation was given.
 - This year the VPA program is being funded by re-allocating money from other areas, see table below,...

	This School Year (2014 - 2015)	Comments
Enrollment	~960	last yr enrollment was 1015
Supplemental Funds	4.2	targeted for intervention specialist. 2.6 reserved for Title 6, 1.6 re-allocated for VPA
	1	flex allocation used for VPA
4th-5th grade class	1	1 combo class eliminated, teachers agreed to increase class size >31. Re-allocated to VPA
Other	0.4	shared resource with Lincoln, currently funded by Lincoln. Funding risk for next year.

- In order to keep VPA program at it's current support level, ~4.0 hdct allocation is required, \$95k per hdct including benefits.
- Key factor in determining budget is enrollment, and enrollment is slightly down.
- Supplemental funds allocation for next year is provided to Ms Rocha Jan'15.
 - Concerns that the budget will be reduced for next year and that this year's re-allocation approach is not a sustainable approach going forward.
- The following brainstorming Options were identified in the meeting:
 - 1) Become a Magnet to get additional funding
Pros: Access to additional funding (we think)
Cons: May jeopardize future ability for neighborhood enrollment because enrollment is done by lottery across the entire district
 - 2) Special consideration funding for "VPA Strand" across Trace, Hoover, Lincoln
 - 3) Make a case that VPA programs help to close the educational achievement gap (plenty of research that will show there is a direct correlation), so we can leverage more of the supplemental funds
 - Data should be sent / presented to the superintendent
 - 4) Grants, Private funding, public-private partners, Corporate sponsors etc.
- Next Steps:
 - Follow up meeting with Ms Rocha to continue brainstorming ideas and additional Q&A, to be coordinated by Mary Pascual / Jeanne Rupprecht
 - Town Hall meeting with Rich Garcia, President of SJUSD Board of Education and potentially other elected officials / candidates, to be coordinated by Stephanie Taylor

Officer Reports:

Treasurer: Pia Rieppo

- We did not receive any feedback on the proposed 2014 – 2015 budget reviewed in last month's meeting. We will proceed with budget voting. Members will receive an online survey next week from Randi Rosen, PTO Secretary.
 - PTO voting survey will include the budget vote as well as the vote for VP of Ongoing Fundraising
 - 1 vote per member
 - Voting decision will be based on 2/3 majority of those who vote
- Membership drive hit our budget target of \$2K, currently at ~2.1K
- Jamba Juice tracking behind target. A few contributing factors are price and location.
 - The price was reduced to \$2 (vs \$3) because the cups are smaller this year
 - Location has been moved outside the campus gate due to SJUSD policy
 - Suggestion to put a sign at the Friday merchandise cart directing people to the new Jamba Juice location
- Budget posted to the PTO website: [http://www.tracepto.com/2014 2015 proposed budget](http://www.tracepto.com/2014%202015%20proposed%20budget)

VP of Ongoing Fundraising (Nominee): Jeanette Marin

- October restaurant night was the most successful restaurant night Round Table has had! We made \$272 from the event.
- November restaurant night is at Chili's, Nov 11th & 12th and December, Dec 3rd, will be at Pasta Pomodoro
 - Pasta Pomodoro has also agreed to ask their customers if they would donate their check to support Trace, the first Wed of every month. Note: 20% would go to Trace
- Several other ongoing fundraising activities such as PTO membership, box tops, e-scrip, safeway cards, target red cards, shop (smile.amazon.com), donors.choose.org (teachers sign up for projects and people can fund)
- Feedback from attendees was that a monthly event was sufficient. Other suggestions for monthly event are bingo night, yard sale, bowling (4th street bowling),...
- iVolunteer demo provided and also showed attendees where the PTO documents are located

Announcements:

- Randi Rosen, PTO Secretary:
 - Membership Drive Pizza contest winner is Maestra Duenas for the 2nd year in row
 - Watch for the PTO Voting survey with 2 decisions -- budget and VP of Ongoing Fundraising

Next Meeting:

Date: Nov 6th, 2014

Time: 6:30 – 8:00pm

Location: Multi-Purpose Room

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes compiled by Randi Rosen, PTO Secretary