

Friends of Farallone PTO
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EXECUTIVE BOARD
2022-2023

Angela Ekberg
President

Kristi Gillis
Vice President

Claire Lacy
Financial Recorder

Danielle McGee
Secretary

Allison Bunch
Communications

Sara Neale McGregor
Treasurer

Amy McVicker
Principal

www.fofpto.org

Attendees:

Board Members Present:

- Angela Ekberg
- Kristi Gillis
- Allison Bunch
- Danielle McGee
- Amy McVicker

Additional Attendees:

Rebecca Jeffs
Whitney Dewar
Meg Tabaka
Jen (Kinder mom)

Call to Order: *Angela 6:36*

Approval of Meeting Minutes – August: Kristi motions to approve, Sara seconds; approved

President's Report: *Angela*

- Back to School Night recap
 - Successful sign up of volunteers for events throughout the year
- Book Fair schedule changes
 - Previously preview day Friday, open fulltime M-F
 - Had a hard time staffing for volunteers, and some of the time was staffed when students were in class
 - Also met with teachers at the end of last year for feedback; book fair open at lunch posed some issues for younger students
 - This year, we changed to have a Preview Day Friday, Open M-W only during morning drop off, lunch recess for 4/5 grades until after pickup; will have Tuesday Family night as well
 - Volunteers have been signing up via sign up genius; list initially sent to volunteers that signed up at Back to School Night, and link was also included in SPLASH
 - PTO does not make money from book fair; we earn points and can spend at Scholastic online; with those points:
 - We purchase books for book vending machine
 - Provide teachers \$ to spend at the Book Fair
 - In addition, we have over \$6,000 scholastic dollars/points to spend
 - We will regroup on proposed amounts to allocate to teachers, and will coordinate the purchases
- BGCC Wizards Tournament
 - January 2, 2023
 - Request of FV is to have 2-5 teachers and 1-3 parent volunteers
 - If we participate, they would split proceeds with us
 - Amy sent out email to teachers/staff requesting volunteers

President's Report continued...

- 4th Annual CEF Cornhole Tournament
 - Sunday, September 25th from 10-5; registration still open for those that wish to attend.
- Holiday Bazaar updates
 - Angela will reach out to all vendors who participated last year
 - Will also reach out to list of volunteers who signed up at Back to School Night
- Assembly: Lion Dancers
 - Will likely be in March (to avoid \$ markup); potentially a Friday afternoon
- Catch A Fire meeting update
 - Provided us one year membership to Catch A Fire; a group of professionals who offer support for non-profits
 - Angela reached out to someone to help with transferring our Google email account to @fofpto.org so we can send SPLASH and other communications (WIX doesn't let us do that with the @gmail.com account)
- Enrichment Wheel ideas
 - This year, the district decided to help PTOs, and funding Music for Minors, Art in Action and another art program
 - We typically fund Ms. Julia for Art; we contracted with her this year for Performing Arts, Recess Coordinator and Talent Show
 - Angela learned that Kings Mountain does an Enrichment Wheel for their programs; i.e. Art for 10 weeks, Performing Arts for 10 weeks, etc.
 - Something we can think through for next year
- VAPA Programming
 - We don't have it in the budget for this year, but will think through it for next year

Financials: Sara

- Currently have \$173,000 in checking account
- Money Market fund at \$81,000
 - In good position to pay out contracts for this year
 - Sara requested to move \$40,000 from checking account to money market account as we have more than we need; little interest earned in checking
 - Sara will look into how/what we need to do to do that
- Voluntary Tuition update
 - Currently at 53% of our goal; almost at \$29K
 - Last year raised \$61K (\$67K with matching)
 - Offering a cupcake party to class with highest participation (3rd grade is in the lead)
- Venmo account
 - Sara looked into getting a Venmo account for FOFPTO, but they are not currently set up for non-profits; they don't offer proper tax reporting for end of the year
 - After researching and speaking with other non-profits, Sara wouldn't recommend for fundraising
 - We won't move forward with setting this up; we will stick with square/cash/PayPal online
- Mamadou: willing to do African drum circle at Continent Day; 20-30 minutes for each class
 - Amy/Rebecca will check with teachers if they would be interested (Cost would be \$1,000)
- SMC museum – traveling truck \$45 for the month; if teachers are interested
 - Amy/Rebecca will check with teachers if they would be interested

Principal's Report: Amy

- Thought Back to School Night was great; nice to have people come in person, have information available for parents
 - Open to ideas how to make timing and format work for all families to encourage more participation in presentations and teacher's classrooms
- Science, Art, PE and Library has started up for the year
 - Library purchased a lot of new books over the summer; lots of diverse, environmental and sustainable topic books
- Music for Minors starting next Wednesday for every class, K-5
- Amy having more meetings to discuss Art in Action, how that will work
 - FV used to do this; had 2 parents lead per class
 - Art materials in Art room were used for Art in Action, so will need to think through materials for this
 - Potential "Art Cart" PTO can keep full?
- Ms. Julia has been helping a lot at recess; teaching classic games and newer games; she is here everyday for lunch recesses k-3, part of 4-5 recess; lots of kids are loving it!
- Restarted weekly and monthly announcements
 - Weekly announcements include total minutes read from Whiskers Logs, draw a student winner each week
 - Monthly announcements include Lexia tokens
- Have been discussing waste sorting with each grade during lunch; 1st grade doing particularly well
- Handing out safe, respectful, responsible coupons
 - Could use more prizes
- Green Team moved FV to reusable utensils
- Continuing outdoor educational focus, incorporating environmental education
- Reminder: Super Friday – September 16th (minimum day)
- Picture Day – Wednesday, September 21st
- Received persuasive letters from 3rd graders for student store; they would run the store. Amy responded asking for more information on how they would like to implement
- 5th grader expressed interest in starting an event club; would like to host fun events at school; Kaia will support as they think through ideas to propose

Discussion Items:

- Outdoor Movie Night update (Kristi)
 - Students voting on movie morning of Friday 9/2
 - Kristi will reach out to team to schedule a zoom call to make decisions still outstanding
 - Moonraker truck will be here to sell food
 - PTO will sell candy/drinks/merch with help from High School Volunteers
 - Halloween theme – will encourage Halloween costumes
 - \$15/ticket
- Outdoor Classroom update (Kristi)
 - Received \$4,000 Grant from SMC Office of Education
 - Total budget for Outdoor Classroom this year is \$5,000
 - CERT provided District canopies - is going to deliver canopy this week
 - Kristi would also like to ask of CUSD to help secure shed
 - Will also look to have Volunteer workdays when we have the mulch delivered

- Need to reconnect with HMB High School woodworking to create items
- We will also put a seed library in the teacher's supply closet
- Kaia has set up watering schedule across the classes
- **New Merchandise order (Danielle)**
 - We received some new options/colors from Graphic Works; would like to have by Book Fair Movie Night, if not by Outdoor Movie Night
 - Looking to add Adult Crew Neck sweatshirt, Adult Long sleeve shirt, Youth Long sleeve shirt and Youth zip up sweatshirt
 - Danielle to work with Graphic Works on colors/design and send to board for purchase approval
- **Yearbook: Kelly Davis taking over for Ms. Jenny who has done Yearbook for many, many years; looking into another company aside from Lifetouch; ordering from this new company is simple, have a rep with # to contact; parents can continue to order after school year;**
 - Ideas to explore: 5th grade ad fundraiser – funds for 5th grade year end activities

Items Needing Action:

- ✓ Approval of Meeting Minutes – August

Important Dates:

- **Voluntary Tuition:** August 24th – September 7th
- **Labor Day – No School:** Monday, September 5th
- **Goal Setting – Minimum Days:** September 26th – 30th
- **Scholastic Book Fair:** September 26th – 28th
- **Scholastic Book Fair Family Night:** Tuesday, September 27th