

**Hillview PTO Executive Board Meeting  
Hillview Conference Room  
December 5, 2016**

**Meeting Minutes**

Present: Jody Buckley, Julie Nelson, Michelle Box, Chris Sewell, Ashley Wagstaff, Christie Tonsfeldt, Betsy Muhlner, Cara Magliaro, Gina Skinner, Sherwin Chen, Deanna Schroder, Patti Buck, Willy Haug, David Babbington, Laura Paul.

**Call to Order**

Jody Buckley, PTO Co-President called the meeting to order at 9:04am.

**Approval of Minutes**

Sherwin Chen moved to approve the November 7, 2016 Executive Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Chris Sewell and approved unanimously by the Board.

**Cara Magliaro, Treasurer**

We came in over what we anticipated for our budget. We are in very good shape at \$203k.

**Jody Buckley, PTO Co-President**

It has come to our attention that our school board doesn't have a policy in place for non-affiliated volunteers. I have put in a request with Maurice and the board for best practices for these types of volunteers. We have a number of community volunteers that help our schools in a number of capacities such as the little old lady at Oak Knoll who helps clean the lunch tables as well as hot lunch volunteers etc. So we need a best practices in place for these community helpers.

**Patti Buck, Volunteer Coordinator**

We are in good shape with volunteers across the board as well as Hot Lunch. There have been some discussions on the new hot lunch vendor. Many parents and volunteers having issues with technology with LunchMaster website and app. The consensus seems to be that the app for Choice Lunch was better, but the food is better with LunchMaster.

Afterschool programs are deciding on whether to offer classes again in spring. Kim Hinshaw will have the information before the end of the year and be getting it in newsletter soon.

## **Communication - Betsy Muhlnher**

Newsletter is in good shape. We are looking for a volunteers to take over in the spring. Alexandra is great.

## **Laura Paul, MPAEF Representative**

- Annually we have raised \$3.28 million which is 95% of goal and ahead of last year at this same time. We have \$170,000 to go. The Auction is March 25th. SchoolHouse Rock Run is May 21st. We will be hosting this at Hillview with lots of wellness booths.
- We raised \$16,000 on Giving Tuesday almost reaching our goal.
- Would love volunteers for Auction and Run.

**Sherwin Chen-** Do you know what the total gross amount raised is and do you know what the costs/expenses are?

**Laura Paul** - This information is available on the MPAEF website but it is over \$4m. Costs are mostly administrative along with credit card fees and the Jeannie Ritchie grants.

## **Principal's Report - Willy Haug**

- The **end of the trimester** was on Friday. New electives start today. Finalizing grade books. We are doing a lot with reimagining grading. You will also see something different on the report cards. We are struggling with Power Schools' new gradebook- PowerTeacher Pro. Super buggy, beta. So teachers who are using it are figuring out workarounds. Report cards will be revamped only slightly. Sent 5 more teachers to Portland for Sound Grading Practices Conf.
- **Achievement** - A-F - Teachers sticking to traditional grading will have an A-NY or F (Not Yet.) Not Yet is used across the board in 6th but some 7th and 8th grade teachers use F.
- For the most part, the teachers who are giving rubric feedback on the 3,2,1 scale for formative assessments will choose to use this new version on the report card.
- For 8th grade Science - they are doing 3,2,1 - 4 is above standard. But since they are not teaching above standard they are not grading up to 4.

- **Commitment to Learning** - A-F grading
- **3 C's** - Will have grades of E, S, U and S-,S+
- **Grade Fog** - There are lots of things that go into the gradebook that don't have anything to do with mastery at all. Extra credit, participation could help with the score, where as turning in something late could cause the score to go down. We are trying to remove anything that might misrepresent a student's true level of mastery. Trying to remove all of these grade fogs so they reflect a focus on mastery. In addition, attendance may be affecting a student's mastery.

**David Babington** - I have stopped doing the 3,2,1 rubric for achievement with the students because this scale wasn't changing student behavior. Students are concerned that they don't know how they are doing. They see the 3 but don't know how that relates to their grade. The Trailblazers Academy are doing the best on this and have communicated the idea best to the students.

**Sherwin Chen** - Within certain subjects, it seems easier to use. English for example is easier to use a rubric than with Math.

**David Babington** - For every subject you must have a target and for every target you must have standards to support the targets. Every target is defined, levels of proficiency are defined. If I give you a 2 and I don't tell you what you need to do to make a 3 then you can't or won't be able to get a 3. Sports metaphor. Do you get graded on your practices?

**Sherwin Chen**- It seems like the system is trying to focus on Mastery. But the grading system increases stress around testing.

- **Mastery** - Should the student be penalized for a temporary state of knowledge? I would recommend you listen to Ken O'Connor. He is an independent consultant specializing in grading and reporting. If you hear him speak you would agree with him. Trying to implement assessment for mastery is challenging. For example, when there are two questions on science test - if you miss one then you have to retest. Homework and in class work doesn't count anymore towards the achievement grade. There are students that spend a lot of time studying things that they already know.
- Currently our Math teams are highly integrated. English teams are more or less doing the same stuff. Science is completely aligned for both assessments and the grading system.
- Algebra 1 is not applying the new grading system right now.

- The 8th Grade Trailblazers Academy currently has an extra period to build this from the ground up and the way they are implementing these practices is ahead of the other academies.
- **Transitioning from Hillview to High School.** To commit to this type of work, you take some risks and you buck the trend. We haven't talked to MA about this.
- **Hour of Code this Friday** at the end of the day. All students will do one hour of coding at the end of the day.
- In January we will be conducting our **Site Council Survey** via our vendor Panorama. Lots of information to review during Feedback February. Many of the questions will feel different due to LCAP - Local Control Accountability Plan.

### **Teacher Report - David Babbington**

Repeated thank yous and gratitude from the teachers for the coffee carts and food stuff!

I had a lot of questions from parents this trimester over the new grading standards. Students are always pushing for extra credit to bring up their grades. How do we have a uniform approach across the district but then when it comes to transitioning to high school maybe we can move to this as they students get older.

Many 8th graders come back to say how crushed they are to have all this homework in high school. Colleges have to change if high schools are to change. If a student is putting an average amount of work and gets a B then that's where they should be - they are at standard. A B grade is at currently at standard. But if a student is working very hard and comes in for a conference and they work extra hard then they are going to get an A grade. The ELA program in 7th grade has a Jeannie Ritchie grant called the **Genius Hour** - 20% of class time to research projects that they are interested in.

### **Jody Buckley, PTO Co-President**

First of all, our meeting on January 17th is, in fact, a General Meeting and will be held in in PAC - it is a Tuesday. Will essentially be business as usual. Primary use is to look at an endorsement for the Parcel Tax Measure.

We are not really required to have an executive committee approval of the Parcel Tax ahead of time. I will be recommending that we do an endorsement unless they come up with some really strange language.

Tonight there is another Board Meeting regarding Parcel Tax. Tomorrow is a kick off Campaign Meeting at Mark and Diane Baker's house.

Thank you for coming. Meeting was adjourned at 10:17am.