

**Hillview PTO Executive Board Meeting  
Hillview Conference Room  
November 7, 2016**

**Meeting Minutes**

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

**Call to Order**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Chris Sewell moved to approve the October 3, 2016 Executive Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Cara Magliaro, and approved unanimously by the Board.

**Patti Buck, Volunteer Coordinator**

No new people filling out the volunteer form. We are in decent shape. If anyone knows of anything coming up that you need you need volunteers please let me know so I can help you reach out in other ways.

The volunteer Icon was changed on webpage. I think we should reserve the newsletter for asking for volunteers before the event that we need and not every week so that we don't burn out the parents.

We need various ways to highlight the volunteer needs. We are still asking every family to put in 5 hours a year, **Jody Buckley**.

**Communication - Betsy Muhlnner**

Happy to announce that we have a new Editor for the newsletter, Alexandra Stadelmann. She did her first edition. She is perfect for the job, very detailed. We are still looking for someone to take over for Helen Chen in the spring. Please thank Alexandra if you know her.

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

### **PTO Membership**

MPAEF ended their parent fundraising drive last Friday. For the PTO, we had a spattering of people join the membership after our closing. We reached 101% of our monetary goal. Still only at 68% participation rate. Last month there was a trend. Encinal bucked the trend - same number of families participating but with less money. In addition, they lost 100 families this year who went to Upper Laurel.

Laurel had no difficulty bringing in the money. They had lower participation, but got closer than we did. Everyone, except for Encinal, was about 10-15% down in participation.

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

**Mini Courses** - I will be sending out a communication to entire community later today, that due to the structural deficit we need to be proactive for reserving our basic programs. We are not going to hold mini courses this year in the way that it has currently been done.

The one caveat is the 8th Grade trip to Washington DC. Because of this trip, we are going to have an 8th grade only experience that week for all the 8th grade students who are not attending the Washington DC trip.

Our District gives Hillview \$80,000 for the sole purpose of mini courses. When we compare that amount of money to the Library program and other enrichment programs, we can't justify spending this amount on MiniCourses. Also, we are thinking about the public perception when we go out for a Parcel Tax.

We are going to open the DC trip up again for 8th graders that did not originally sign up. We have about 100 or so students signed up for DC. We can fill up the 2nd bus and perhaps fill up a 3rd bus if there is a desire.

We don't know the future of mini courses for next year. We need to see if the parcel tax is restored before we look at the possibility of mini courses for the future.

I will also share this information with students via the morning broadcast.

The Mini Course Week will be school only different for the 8th graders. But logistics will be complicated. Because there is a line item in our recently approved budget - PTO does provide \$10,000 for supplementary funding. Mini Course Coordinator cost. It is more than \$90,000.

It's likely that the PTO amount will be the sole funds for the alternate experience. We pay teachers \$200.00 per night to send them to DC. We are proposing to save 1/3 of the original mini course costs by only doing 8th grade only mini course.

Not all of the mini course teachers for the 8th grade course are 8th grade teachers. There is a teacher to student ratio that is required so we will need to make sure we have enough teachers even if we have parents who volunteer.

Mixed feelings with the staff. We have staff who love the mini courses and have staff who think that they are so much work. Many of them put their heart and soul into the course and so by then end of it they are wiped out. There is a reason it has been right before Spring Break.

6/7th grade classes will be business as usual. The teachers have already planned their instructional year. Perhaps we can plan something fun for the 6/7th graders.

It's going to be different. We've got a little bit breathing room right now to figure out.

When I think of the mini courses, I think of Outdoor Ed, and team building and academic learning, all together and bonding. Perhaps we can rethink the mini course for an all grade enrichment trip like Outdoor Ed, **Julie Nelson, PTO Co-President**.

**Next Generation Science Standards** - Today we have a lot of our science teachers attending a training on Next Generation Science Standards. This year, 6th grade has fully transitioned. And next year, 7th will be transitioned and so forth.

Now there are more strains of science that goes through all three grade levels. There is a Earth Science strand, Engineering strand, Life Science strand, Chemistry and Physics strand etc.

This year there will be a different science test this year. A new assessment. Not sure if it will be online or paper and pencil. Part of their curriculum will be NGSS and part of it will not be.

**8th Grade - Spanish for Spanish Speakers** - Have developed a capstone project for the program. For students that who made it all the way through the emersion program. They might be taking an AP test.

But the County will bestow upon them a Seal and will recognize them and we will recognize them at graduation as well.

- Students will need to complete 20 hours of community service in Spanish Community

- Provide a portfolio of work
- Will need to write an essay on what it means to be a bilingual.

**Jody Buckley, PTO Co-President** - There will be a school board meeting on Wednesday, after the election tomorrow. The Board received a ton of input from the Panorama survey. Sent it to all voters in the district. Return rate has been exceptional for parents not so much for community. One of the big push backs was about transparency.

Discussions on the Parcel Tax. The Board will be asking for PTO endorsements for the Parcel Tax. Timeline is very short.

### **Bylaws**

We are looking at possible bylaws changes that the process is in place so we can support these measures but not support a particular political candidate.

This requires a general membership vote. We need language in the bylaws to address these needs. There is a lot of district conversations and the assumption that the PTOs will be supportive of the Parcel Tax.

Do PTOs in other districts support Parcel Taxes?. Rules for 501c3 (non-profit organizations) - say it is legal because it is in the interest of the school. It's legal to do so but gray enough.

Our Standing Rules actually say we are supposed to have three general meetings a year. Normally we don't have business to conduct. Therefore, we will call the January meeting as a General Meeting. We may hold it in the PAC. We will conduct the normal executive business, and we will change the bylaws etc during that meeting.

We will remove a requirement for a 3rd meeting and add a provision to be able to call a general meeting. We only need 7 days notice for the meeting and for the bylaws changes. We will announce this meeting early in the PTO newsletter.

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

- **7th/8th Grade Dance** - From Brian Darmanin- please express gratitude for PTO volunteers that chaperoned the 7th/8th grade dance. Nancy Witeck did a fantastic job with volunteers and there were 300 student attendees.
- **Mock Election** - Students will elect a fictional president - Katniss of the Hope Party and the Grinch are running against each other and they will debate at lunch and will be voted on this Tuesday.

- **Character Strong** - this October we wrapped up Respect month. November is Patience Month. Patience - Responding with our values or our beliefs rather than our impulses or our immediate feelings. #CHOOSELOVE. Hillview will be adding a Patience box as a Hawk Hooray, **Willy Haug, Principal**.
- **Band/Orchestra** - 7/8th band performed with Woodside High and at Menlo Atherton in the MA PAC. They performed at Oak Knoll for their halloween parade. Rebecca Lindsay and Hannah Drucker have been asked to represent the band at the CMEA Jazz Festival in January.
- **PE** - thank you to PTO for purchasing new volleyball nets.
- Thank you **Academy Parents**, Regina Skinner and Theanne Thomson, and the great job they are doing keeping all the Vesuvius Parents informed.
- **Staff Lunches**- Thank you for amazing lunches. It was noted that at this point half of teacher population is male and we ran out of sandwiches - had enough salad but need more sandwiches.
- **Asset Team**- we are revamping our Character Education Curriculum this year. We are trying to make it deeper and more powerful.
- **ASB** -weekly pledges and Weekly Dare. There will be a Newsletter piece.
- **Oregon Shakespeare Festival** is coming up - will have an school assembly on Monday, November 14th in the PAC.

**Jody Buckley, PTO Co-President** - Thank you for coming. Meeting was adjourned at 10:04am.