



SANTA ROSA FRENCH-AMERICAN CHARTER SCHOOL

PAF Open Meeting

2/6/19 | SRFACS Library

Attendance

PRESENT:

Elif Alton (Vice President)
Travers Ebling
Ronit Glickman
Jeff Gospe
Megan Hernandez
Tracey Klein (President)
Samantha Makinano (Secretary)
Brianna Matel
Crystal Santorineos
Rachel Sweet (Treasurer)
Dana VanBlair

NOT PRESENT:

I. Meeting Called to Order

5:35 PM by President Tracey Klein

II. PAF Mission Statement

Read to selves

III. Public Comment

- 3rd grader George Martin presented a petition signed by 217 people (including Mr. Sheppard!) requesting that PAF purchase 2 soccer goals for the field so that students can play soccer at recess. George's soccer coach has volunteered to transport and set them up if purchased. Blerta Zilji (soccer enrichment teacher) recommends ones with wheels.
- 2nd grade parent Severine Verge expressed disappointment in the lack of support for ELL students, she feels the instructional aides are not assigned as to fulfill the student needs. She would like the IA's and permanent sub schedules to be restructured. Mr. Sheppard responded that he is working on a plan to meet those needs.
- 4th grader Marian Staroba and her mother Ashlee Staroba read thank you letters they wrote to PAF for our support of the school and community. Marian read hers in French.

IV. Consent Agenda and Approval of Minutes

A. **AGENDA:** Approval of Agenda for this General Meeting of 2/6/19

T.Klein added Discussion Item D: SRFACS app. Remove Action Item A: Funds for 5th grade Field Trip. M. Hernandez motioned to approve amended agenda. C. Santorineos seconded. Unanimously approved.

B. **MINUTES:** Approval of Minutes from General Meeting of 1/16/19.

D. VanBlair motioned to approve minutes pending inclusion of total asset info coming from R.Sweet. B. Matel seconded. Unanimously approved.

V. Board Reports

A. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** T.Klein welcomed Mr. Sheppard, our interim principal, and stated that she feels the tone of our campus feels lighter and more supported. The playground progress is coming along great, though the coming rain this weekend may make installation challenging. She would like to thank D. VanBlair for his work on LaPlume, and thanks M. Hernandez and C. Santorineos for their work on Carnaval.

B. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** R.Sweet did not present a report.

- We just received a check for \$142.50 from Box Tops.
- Mr. Sheppard said that he would contact the district in regards to providing itemization for our \$6k nutrition bill.

C. **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** Steven Sheppard introduced himself as our interim principal while Lori Flanagan is on a leave of absence. He was at our school assisting former principal Pascal Stricher when it opened, and this is one of his favorite schools. He has an open door and welcomes discussions with teachers, parents, and students. Quick response to emails is promised. He is trying to bring staff together and has been impressed with their leadership team. His time here is unknown and a district decision, and he reminds us that he is not a permanent solution and that existing problems will take time to fix. Issues he is working on currently include:

- ELD (English language development) program - student pullouts for specialized instruction started today. After school tutoring will begin in 1 week. By 2/23 the program should be fully functional.
- FSL Instructional Aide solution: he is formulating a plan and is willing to ask the district for more aides if needed.
- Hiring of teachers is happening now for next year.
- Detachements are going out tomorrow (a French Ministry requirement).
- Discipline - he will be contacting parents in any events of verbal or physical abuse. He has already had 25 parent contacts in this regard.
- 5th and 6th graders have requested a dance/concert.

D. **SAB / DISTRICT REPORT:** J.Gospe reported

- Per Jason Lea at the district, administrative credentialing is not required for our principal position.
- The CBEST test (a standardized test administered throughout the state of California to assess educators' basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills in the *English* language) is a statewide challenge for immersion school teachers, as they are inherently not native English speakers and are by design not teaching in English. Appealing this is a long legislative process. In the meantime, the district has indicated that as long as teachers keep trying to pass there will be no repercussions if they don't.
- Our enrollment is down (we are less 29 students that last spring), and this is an issue the district cares about: solvency in numbers.
- Cesar Chavez Language Academy is at 371 students, and they have 3 full time TOSA's. CCLA is projected to grow over the next 2 years.
- The district is seeing a general decrease in revenue, while also seeing an increase in expenditures.

VI. Committee Reports

A. **CARNAVAL:** M.Hernandez reporting

- We have 18 ten-top tables.
- We have 140 RSVP's so far... we need teachers to RSVP (most thought the invite was their ticket)
- They are meeting on Friday with the event coordinator at Ellington Hall. He will be hiring a bartender. We will supplement with volunteers as needed.
- Sipsong Gin has donated alcohol and a "signature cocktail" is being developed. It will be along the lines of a French 75.
- We still need insurance.
- We need volunteers for setup and auction.
- Auction will open 2-3 days prior to the event.

B. **PLAYGROUND:** T.Klein reporting

- This Saturday will be the swing install by parents (they'll do as much as possible if it rains).
- Next week the concrete pad and ADA ramp will be installed by professionals.
- A plumber is donating his time to install the water fountain.
- Dennis Clark (our custodian) has been tireless in donating time to this effort.

C. **NUTRITION:**

- B. Matel and Jennifer Frengel (SAB) are looking for a new Nutrition coordinator and strong committee.
- Michelle Klemak will work with the district on salvaging the rest of the year's program.
- T. Ebling will be involved if we go independent.
- Per J. Gospe, we likely have 3 outcomes regarding the district going forward :
 1. The district lets our program go.
 2. Our program continues as is, with the possibility of hiring a supervisor rather than a chef.
 3. We go independent, which is expensive (around 50% of our revenue) and the process would have to start now.

D. **FAMILY GIVING CAMPAIGN:** E.Alton reporting

- All existing families now have established accounts in our donor software program, only incoming families will need to be inputted going forward.
- We will also be establishing corporate accounts.
- Our welcome package for incoming families needs to have more info on FGC. It also needs to be multi-lingual.
- We need a cohesive theme.
- We need new magnets.

E. **CALENDAR:** D. VanBlair will be running it on our website now, so forward all pertinent dates to him.

F. **VOLUNTEERS:** B. Matel reporting

- She is working with J. Frengel to establish new parent-run committees under PAF's umbrella:
 - Neighborhood Safety
 - Green
 - Kindergarten Welcome
 - Talent Show
 - Public Relations
- She is also looking for a list of ideas of what we want for our school to utilize when she looks for grants.

G. **LA PLUME / WEBSITE:** D. VanBlair reporting

- Please refer to our website as the source for info when commenting on Facebook.

- We all need to be active in updating the bulletin board.
- Our menu needs translation.
- Our Restorative Specialist (Brianna Clark) and Counselor (Nicole Valle) will be submitting content for LaPlume in the future.
- We would like teachers to submit content as well.
- Ask families to please cc: letters@srfac.org in their letters to the district so that we also have copies.

VII. Discussion Items

- A. **COFFEE WITH PAF/ PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT / ENROLLMENT:** T.Klein would like to start informational outreach gatherings in the spirit of the “2nd Cup of Coffee with the Principal” that Mr. Johnstone used to do. She and B. Matel and E.Alton will work on this... It is also felt that an informational evening to support enrollment is needed (separate and more immediate from the educational events J. Frengel is working on for SAB). Teachers would speak, invitations would go out to preschools and all who went on school tours, and an ad would be placed in the Press Democrat. B. Matel will find a person to drive this. T. Klein, C. Santorineos, M. Hernandez, E. Alton, Najine Shariat (founder/SAB), and Pascale Bon (TOSA/SAB) will be on the committee, and we will ask J. Frengel to also be a part of it.
- * R. Sweet motioned to approve up to \$2000 for promotion of enrollment and these events. J. Gospe seconded. Unanimously approved. We will ask SAB to reimburse \$1000 from their parent education budget.
- B. **PADDLE RAISE:** George Martin’s petition for soccer goals is going to be adopted as our paddle raise concept. Cost is estimated at \$5-8k. Overage will be used to purchase balls, uniforms, etc..
- * D. VanBlair motioned to use soccer goals as our paddle raise concept at Carnaval this year. C. Santorineos seconded. Unanimously approved.
- C. **DISTRICT THANK YOU:** B. Matel wondered if we should send a thank you to the district for listening to our concerns about our principal. It was decided that while individual parents can do this, we as a board should wait until it’s clear what is permanently happening in that regard.
- D. **SRFACS APP:** Parent Ben Wolfe has volunteered to develop an app for us. Cost is estimated to be an initial \$1k with further \$100/mo to maintain. We requested a presentation at our next meeting.

VIII. Action Items

- A. (removed as previously voted on - see below)
- B. **FUNDING FOR ROSE PARADE:** B. Matel motioned to approve up to \$200 to cover entry fee and decorations for SRFACS to participate in the Rose Parade this year. J. Gospe seconded. Unanimously approved.
- C. **APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR GRANTS:** No vote needed, B. Matel has discretion.

IX. Future Meetings

5:30 pm in the library
 3/6/19, 4/3/19, 5/1/19

X. Meeting Adjourned

8:34 PM by President Tracey Klein

XI. Motions Passed Between Meetings

2/1/19 M. Hernandez motioned to approve \$11,196 to pay for the 5th grade field trip to Westminster Woods. T. Klein seconded. Approved by majority. (This was supposed to be paid for by Principal Lori Flanagan out of the school's field trip budget, but she did not do this before going out on leave. It is an immediate need. This money will be reimbursed to us in full by SRFACS school site funds)

Minutes prepared and revised for review by Samantha Makinano.