General Meeting Minutes  
February 25, 2013  
Longfellow Cafeteria  
Meeting called to order by Colleen Kleege at 6:15

In Attendance: Amy and Tom Cobb, David Farschon, Dina Sanchez, Jenn Ragusa, Angie Dockstader, Nathan & Jana Lay, Amy Highfill, Linda Bertin (1st Grade), Carma Sanchez, Jeff & Shaw Sheeron, Julie Moore, Arthur Alluin, Bradley DeLuca, Karen Wells, Paula Cunningham, Ana Ellard, Becky Sloan, Dawn Harrison, Anita Lanzar (YMCA), Ray Wilson (YMCA), Mike Martinez, Luisa Sanchez-Olsen, Carmela Lurie, Maria Leon, Becky Jarrett, Nancy Starr, Amanda Dahlgren, Donna Valverde-Flores, Colleen Kleege, Anastasia Shupp

Board Members In Attendance:  
Colleen Kleege, Carmela Lurie, Donna Valverde-Flores and Karen Wells

Board Members Not In Attendance:  
Courtney Browne, Michelle Chappell, Susan Flieder, and Kathy Guevara

Minutes taken by Shawn Sheeron

Welcome and Introductions were made for the Executive Board, Teams, and Attendees

Approval of January 28, 2013 General Meeting Minutes was unanimous, after being motioned by Carma Sanchez

Reports

Principal - Principal Dina Sanchez, presented information about upcoming events.

- March 5th will be STAR writing testing for 4th and 7th grade (March 6th is makeup day)
- The week of March 11th will be all minimum days in order to accommodate parent/teacher conferences
- That same week will be the Scholastic Book Fair
- March 22nd will be coffee with the principal
- March 23rd is the Silent Auction
- March 25th will be the next Los Compadres PTO general meeting
- March 28th will be minimum day and there will be no school on Friday, March 29th due to the start of spring break

- Due to budget cuts for next year and in order to raise needed funds, the District is planning on selling four identified properties and will discuss another four properties at their meeting in March. Also due to the budget cuts, classroom sizes for next school year are expected to increase to 27 students for K-3; 32 for 4th & 5th grade; and 28 for middle school.

- Sra. Sanchez gave us an update on Proposition S and Z. Prop S ran out of money and the District is now waiting to sell bonds after they sell the aforementioned properties. The bonds are expected to go on sale in March. We are still waiting on Prop Z funds. Sra. Sanchez is trying to get the District to move to permanent structures for the Middle School.

- A discussion about parking followed. Sra. Sanchez said that several options are being discussed. Some things mentioned were making July street one-way and/or opening the back gate near the Middle School rooms and creating some sort of U-shaped pick-up/drop-off area on the pavement there. It was noted that citations are currently being issued for drivers doing anything unsafe.
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**Nurse** – Not present

**Teacher Liaisons** – No report

**Librarian** – Not present

**ASB Liaison** – No report

**YMCA Liaison** – Anita Lanzar introduced Ray Wilson, of the Mission Valley YMCA Outreach Team, to discuss a physical education program that they offer to support local schools. Sra. Sanchez had spoken with him previously and wanted to present this idea to the PTO to see if the PTO might be interested in supporting this program. The first step in the process is for Sra. Sanchez to call a teacher/staff meeting to discuss whether it might be a good program to supplement our current PE time. If the feedback is positive, then Sra. Sanchez would inquire into whether the PTO might fund the program. A decision is needed by June in order for the YMCA to implement it for school year 2013-14. The cost might be around $30K/yr, plus minor supplies (monthly billing can be arranged). Ray indicated that the YMCA would also work with us to help raise money to fund the program (one example was a carnival day). It was a little confusing, but it sounded like we could do our own local fundraising (Anita recommended this) or we could utilize the combined Mission Valley YMCA fundraising projects.

District rules require that our children should be getting 200 minutes of PE every two weeks. They are currently getting only 80 minutes provided through the PE teachers, and classroom teachers are supposed to be supplementing this by covering the difference themselves. Some of the teachers are responding by pointing out that they don’t feel qualified/trained to teach PE and that’s not really where their time is best spent. The Y's program, called PLAY, is designed to provide those additional 120 minutes every two weeks by using the Y staff that has more credentials and education specific to PE. The YMCA would provide 3 teachers per scheduled day, teaching 2-3 classes at a time, with four to five 30-minute rotations per scheduled day. The cost is much less expensive than hiring another PE coach, even part-time (partly because coaches typically want a minimum amount of hours, which requires the payment of substantial benefits as well). There are currently five schools in the San Diego utilizing the PLAY program; some of the schools do not pay for the program, and others are private schools who pay more. Ray said he would follow-up and provide us with an invitation to a VIP tour day, which would be during school hours, for a demonstration.

Anita mentioned that March 8th is the last day to make donations to have your name put on the hearts in the Y room and be counted toward the pizza party goal. The YMCA care will be available during the parent/teacher conference week when there are minimum days.

**VP & Team Reports**

**Community Relations** – Karen Wells

Several running programs are being worked on. Chelsea’s Run is coming up and is being lead by Eric Hannigan. The ING Kids Rock Run is being researched and a possible grant is being worked on so that all our school registrants would be able to attend this event for free.

Becky Sloan brought up that she wanted us to start thinking about the sign-in protocol for the multi-cultural event. Sra. Sanchez pointed out that “after-school” functions don’t require sign-in, but the rehearsal earlier in the day (during school hours) will require parents to sign-in at the office before coming on campus.

**Communications** – Carmela Lurie

Carmela apologized for forgetting to send an email out regarding today’s PTO meeting. Carmela’s assistants are doing a wonderful job and Carmela was very appreciative of their work.
1. Progress on approved projects from last meeting:
   - Multi-media lab computers:
     The Purchase Order for Sra. Knight’s multi-media lab computers was placed. Courtney Browne (VP of Educational Enrichment) is attempting to get the District to cover some of the costs of these computers. Once we know final dollar amount spent on these computers, we will purchase the video cameras. Sra. Knight is so moved by our actions that she is going to write a Jimmy Johnson grant to finish upgrading her lab.

   - P.E. Equipment:
     The order was placed and most items are already on campus

   - Auditorium screen:
     Polly and Linda are in the process of selecting a model. Order will be placed in the next two weeks.

   - Middle school shade:
     Met with Larry Jones, Planner Estimator Inspector for SDUSD in charge of this project. He gave us approval to proceed with the purchase and installation of this permanent shade structure. A check for $3,418.37 was paid to Moran Canvas and the contract was signed. Moran Canvas was onsite marking where the footings will go in. Administration needs to choose the color of the shade. We estimate the installation will happen over Spring Break.

   - Temporary canopies over the bleachers on our field (partnership with the YMCA)
     All self-help documents are signed and approved on our side. Curtis Hall, Planner Estimator Inspector for SDUSD in charge of this project met with me on campus last week. Waiting on final approval from the District to purchase and install canopies.

   - Los Compadres laptop
     Has not been purchased yet. I will make it a priority to go and buy it in the next couple of weeks.

2. Grass field
   Met with Larry Jones last week. He approved the architectural plans that we have so far, but has asked for more detail on them. Specifically we need a grading, drainage, irrigation, and electrical plans.
   We need an electrical engineer. If you are an EE or are you married to one, please contact me so that we might avoid the cost of hiring one.

3. Family Dinner Nights
   The parent who was coordinating FDNs is no longer able to continue. Michelle will take over scheduling the next four and these will likely include Rubios, Souplantation, Pat and Oscars, and Mountain Mike's again.

4. Grants
   Michelle will start focusing on them again, but there is nothing in the immediate future

5. Silent Auction
   Paula Cunningham reported on the Silent Auction. The event will be held at Brick by Brick, on March 23rd, at a cost of $10 for tickets in advance ($15 at the door), and the band will be the Weiner Pigs. Tickets will be sold online, starting a couple of weeks before the event, and on campus the week of the event (in front of the admin office). Parents will be able to preview a list of the items for auction. Teachers are encouraged to attend for free

**Educational Enrichment – No report**

**Treasurer’s Report** – Shawn Sheeron gave report in Kathy’s absence

We have over $93K in the bank accounts, of which $41.7K is restricted for specific purposes such as the field, leaving the other $41.7K to use for budgeted expenses. The taxes are in the process of being completed and the
1099's have been filed. The Valentine’s Day sale grossed $1388.30 and the family dinner nights brought in $289.35 from Mountain Mike's and $182.37 from Corvette Diner.

**President’s Report**

Colleen announced that nominations are being sought for next year’s Executive Board positions. First, a nominating committee needs to be formed. At this point, it looks like Colleen, Courtney, Kathy, Donna and Karen are vacating their positions and new volunteers need to be sought to fill their positions. We need a list of nominations by April, so that PTO members can vote in May.

Nancy Starr and Becky Jarrett were introduced and they discussed their new mentoring program that they have created and will implement in April. They have chosen, in coordination with recommendations from the teachers, older students (6th-8th grade) that will be paired up with younger students (K-1st). The mentoring will take place on Thursdays, for one hour each week, and will run for six weeks during this pilot program. If interested, please let Nancy or Becky know.

Next, the new drop off/pick up procedures and security issues were discussed. Sra. Sanchez said that a traffic study was ordered. The preliminary comments were that the signs on July and August Street would be replaced with 3 minute loading/unloading signs. Sra. Sanchez did not have the full results of the study yet. Arthur Alluin spoke up and shared the information that Officer Robert Feely (?) gave him during discussions. The officer said he would recommend five changes: 1) the signs on July and August Street need to come down, 2) we should enlist the help of parent volunteers to help with traffic control (wearing special vests), 3) there should be a crosswalk coming from the south side of Milton, 4) the second gate over in the kinder area should be utilized, and 5) ? . Those present requested that Arthur arrange to have Officer Feely attend our next PTO meeting on March 25th.

Colleen once again thanked Jenn Ragusa for researching the unified dress code possibilities and for bringing her information to the rest of the parents. It appears that this issue needs to be researched a little further and more information presented to the Longfellow parents and students before any definitive decision is reached. Since it is too late to take action on this for implementation next school year, the issue was tabled for now...to be readdressed next year.

**Next Meeting**

The next Los Compadres General Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 25th at 6:00 P.M.

**Open Discussion** - There was no further discussion.

Karen Wells motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

**Approval of the Above Minutes:**

The majority of Board Members in attendance of the February 25, 2013 General Meeting Approved the Above Minutes by email to post on the web site.