

Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 17th, 2019 5:45-8:00 pm

Location: Ceri and Ezra Beeman's Home

334 I St, Davis

Tuition Discussion

Christine Crawford went over DWS tuition, how much of the budget comes from tuition and other resources. Christine also went over how the budget is used and shared an information sheet with the PC. The planned increase for tuition will be 3.5% for next year.

The following are comments about the tuition increase.

- Cost of expenses goes up each year, including the pay for teachers. (Ceri)
- Felt the increase was reasonable (Angie)
- The tuition is affordable compared to other Waldorf schools (Heather)
- Our teacher's pay is low in comparison to other Waldorf schools (Michelle)
- Board's plan is for next year's tuition review will be done earlier (Ceri)
- Board's plan to have a preliminary budget approved by November (Ceri)
- Add to handbook about anticipated increase of tuition, so parents are aware (Mary)
- Knowing where the money goes might help parents be more willing to accept the increase if they know the money goes to the teachers (Gina)

Here are some of the suggestions made to increase revenue or enrollments:

- 1st grade parents to mentor kindergarten families (Mary)
- Solution is to bolster enrollment and keep children
- Summer camp enrollment to get children at the school to see what it is like. It is important for the summer camp to be well ran. (Maria)
- Video of the school, interviews of students and alumni. Similar to the Live Oak and Peninsula Waldorf Schools videos, Here are some samples:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/waldorfpeninsula>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_at6ilwOC0
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0VOFDY1bDA>
- Share more information about the tap funds/tuition assistance funds
- Breakdown the increase by the costs per month which is much less than the thinking about it as 3.5%
- Focus on teacher retention

Class Announcements

- Climbing Rose-Rosemary
Class is in need of a Queen of Hearts for 2/14 tea party in the classroom. They need someone that the students will not recognize. Gina suggested someone she had in mind.
- Morning Glory-Rachel
Stove is not working in the class room, several items burned on Thursday.

- 7th grade-Michelle
Michelle, her husband, and several other parents and staff completed a remodel of the 7th grade class room. They removed the door that went nowhere, they painted the room, using the Lazure technique, and updated bookshelves.
The teacher is looking for someone to prepare Ethiopian food for the class and he is looking for African drums. Rachel use to own an African drum store and offered some of her drums.
- Feedback was given about how great the newsletter was.
- Suggested was made by Rosemary to have the concerts earlier in the day or on a Saturday so that the younger children can attend.
- Idea was given to offer a Lazure Painting class for parents.

Jenn's Update:

1. Calendar has been updated and was passed out to the PC
2. Open House 02/01/19 from 6:00-8:00pm
3. Auction 3/16/19
 - a. Letters to families went out on the 16th
 - b. Classes are working on auction items
 - c. Tickets will be available to purchase Tuesday
4. DWS Logo Wear
Discussion about locating shirts made out of sustainable product for a reasonable price.
5. Sports Logo
Hawks has been picked by the staff and now it is time to design a logo.
The idea was shared to have everyone submit their rendition of the logo for a committee to pick the top 3. Those will then go out for a final vote. It will be open to everyone in the community and give the parameters.

Board Update:

Christine shared that the Air Quality Policy has been approved by the board, and will be reviewed annually.

Action Items from 1/17/19 Meeting:

- Class parents to share the budget worksheet to class at next class meeting. If there is not a class meeting scheduled soon, please send out by e-mail.
- Angie to contact Nick Anderson about video for the school
- Add to February Agenda: Review action items from previous meetings with goal to start getting them completed. (see Action Items from October and November meetings on next page)
- Add to February Agenda: Discuss Open House topic of food
- Add to February Agenda: Strategic Plan Discussion

Action Items From 10/18/18 Meeting:

- The Ferris wheel at the Farmer's Market could be used as a fundraiser. Someone is needed to look into this. (Please check with Jenn to see if she will be looking into this)
- PC to put together a committee for festivals and events.
- PC to review volunteer sheets filled out by parents to see who would be interested in PC leadership
- Mary to check out Facebook (FB) for donation to a non-profit. This will allow parents to put a link on their timeline and request donations for the annual giving through FB. (Was for Annual Giving, this was done)
- Volunteers needed for School Store. Volunteers to decide what is being stocked and when it is changed.
- Gina to send an e-mail prior to each PC meeting asking for agenda items to be submitted prior to the meeting. (Done)

Action Items from 11/15/18 Meeting:

- Please send Mary Norris any pictures you have on field trips or other school events. She handles the Instagram page and would like more content.
- Bring to the Board: PC believes that we need a consistent structure for teachers in regards to puberty and sex-ed.
- Jenn to add that the diversity committee needs a chair and 2-3 additional people to assist the chair.
- If a parent has an item to be added to the PC meeting agenda, please send those to Gina the Monday one week before the meeting. The suggestion was made for class parents to reach out the week before and have the agenda items due the Friday before they are due to Gina, so you have time to get them to her. (Done)
- Kelly to put parent volunteer sheets on Excel so they can be organized and we can reach out to parents that have listed items they are interested in. (Done)
- From the volunteer list, we will reach out to parents that are interested in PC leadership and invite them to the next PC meeting.
- At next PC meeting go over the calendar of events for the upcoming year to discuss what items the PC will be helping with.
- Parent Welcome committee may reach out to their parents one last time if they would like to see how the beginning of the year is going, invite them to PC meetings, and see if they would like to discuss anything.
- Gina has requested that when she sends Class Parents correspondence in regards to PC, that Class Parents confirm they received the email and cc her when they forward it to their class. This will help her make sure all classes are getting meeting notices, agendas, minutes, etc. (Done)
- Please review the Strategic Plan goals for the PC and give feedback to Ceri on what you believe should be the main priorities for PC. (Strategic Plan approved)