

APC Meeting Notes 9/9/19

In attendance: Margo Burnham, Melissa Hall, Stephanie Moore, Tabatha Tucker, Laura Purdom, Kari Lueman, Julian Dodge, Jessica Wheeler, Madrona Wienges, Jody Spanglet

APC “mission” copied from the Ashwood website:

The Ashwood Parent Community (APC) supports and educates Ashwood’s parents and helps connect parents to all aspects of the life of the school. The APC works in tandem with the faculty and the Board of Trustees to help create a healthy school community.

All parents at Ashwood are considered to be members of the Ashwood Parent Community (APC) and are encouraged to attend the monthly meetings, which alternate between morning and evening sessions to accommodate all schedules. Each year, the faculty participates in the APCC program through presentations on specific aspects of the curriculum.

Throughout the year, the APC’s work includes:

- *welcoming new families*
- *supporting the social life of the school through festivals and other events*
- *providing a forum for the discussion of school-wide issues*
- *fostering communication that strengthens the school community*

Each class has one or two APC Representatives who attend the monthly meetings, help organize APC-sponsored events, serve as liaisons between their classroom and the APC, and coordinate volunteers.

What would you like to see in a parent organization?

- more parent participation- maybe try evening meetings
- more parent feedback from parents who cannot attend scheduled meetings
- parents and families joining together to create a community that supports the students, school and teachers by volunteering and sharing responsibilities
- easy ways to gather
- more concrete focus
- getting together for an activity (craft, campus clean up)
- take pressure off 1 person but still have structure
- strong mission
- support social life outside of school
- spaces where adults come together to learn and support each other
- people can engage at all different levels
- appealing to new parents
- tasks get spread out so people don’t get burned out
- participate in festivals, bring movies and crafts
- Working together with parent and faculty/staff
- Consider inviting other parents to participate or help

The APC committed volunteers feels stronger than in the past--how might we engage a wider group? Is that needed? How might we do it?

Facilitator selection and process:

- Seeking nominations
- Simplify the role

- Someone who can commit to being here every meeting
- Share roles: 1 person to put together agenda, 1 person to facilitate the meeting (rotating position), 1 person to take notes
- Content keepers vs. Process keepers (Chair, Facilitator, Scribe...)
- Consider organic not too rigid structures and processes

Task: Tabatha & Margo will propose a leadership structure and roles for APC

Events:

a. Homecoming Sept. 13: Laura needs help with set up and clean up.

Tasks:

- Each APC Class Liaison will send a note to their class to recruit 1 volunteer for set up and 1 volunteer for clean up from each class. Set up at 3:30, clean up at 7:00. Bring flowers if you have them.
- Tabatha to make flags and set up weaving activity, Julia will get auger bit for drill to drill holes in the ground for the flags.

b. Post-Michaelmas “stay and play” picnic Sept. 27

Task: Julia will reserve picnic shelter and recruit help for the picnic set up and clean up

c. School Tour Sept. 18—encourage all families to attend a tour or two

d. Parent Work Day tentatively Oct. 19 (TBD per Betty’s schedule)

Task: Julia will coordinate, suggests a parent from the Buildings and Grounds Board Committee to head this up (Barney is the chair, Betty is the faculty rep and Julia volunteered to rep the families on this committee). Set goals and tasks, set up sign up genius, formalize childcare plans.

e. All Hallows Eve Oct. 25—to be discussed next meeting. It was requested that early childhood do the entry this year instead of the candles. Contact Laura Purdom with ideas for parent involvement.

f. Assembly Coffee

Task: Madrona agreed to be in charge of getting people signed up to prep coffee Friday assemblies.

Other:

- Rachel Bickham is coordinating Skiing again this year
- Kim Soucy is coordinating CLYNK again this year.
- APC account balance is \$2341. \$400 of that will go to the band for Homecoming.

Task: Margo and Tabatha to write up proposed purposes for APC funds.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion update

- Faculty/ Board/ Parent group met once Spring 2019
- Diversity statement completed
- Faculty attended 2 diversity workshops since that meeting
- Board has taken up study of the book “White Fragility”
- Jody shared an excerpt from the strategic plan on DEI plans
- Laura is gathering resources for next faculty study
- Interested parents should contact Jody. Margo, Madrona and Kari expressed interest

Next APC meeting 10/7 8:30am- 10:00am in the Buttercup Room in EC building

Melissa will bake something for the meeting

Task: Margo and Kari will meet to discuss future APC meeting schedule

APC Class Liaisons (picked from the people in attendance)

Stephanie and Melissa for EC

Madrona for 1/2

Tabatha for 3/4

Margo for 5/6

Kari for 7/8