

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Sequoia Parents' Club
Thursday December 13, 2018
Multipurpose Room at Sequoia Elementary School

The following officers were present:

President: Amy Niesen
Vice-Presidents: Dian Ross & Jeremy De La Torre
Treasurer: Katrina Gillaspie, Lisa Cornelius
Secretary: Michael Wanser

The following members/guests were present:

Dustin Simpson	Nicole Rosachi (Hillestad)	Justin Byrum
Mike Cook	Melissa Coleman	Emily Klein
Andrea Card		

Call to Order

Principal's Report:

Principal Brooklyn Clark advised that per the California dashboard, Sequoia's academic performance had improved compared to last year. It has received "green" designation in language arts and math. Compared to last year, language arts scores are up 12.2% and math scores increased by 8.1%. English learners are progressing well and she is looking for extra support for English learners for the end-of-year test.

Fencing update: the fence will be installed in 2 phases. The first phase will include a new fence along Calistoga Road and along DuPont Drive. The fences will be 6 feet. The second phase will be implemented after consultation with an architect, which will itself depend on the fate of the charter school.

Garden: Principal Clark had a meeting with the School Garden Network ("SGN"), which is an organization that has curriculum and staff to train parents and schools with necessary resources to maintain the garden. SGN tries to align its curriculum with science standards. The cost is 45 hours over 3 semesters. They are background-checked and certified, and a great local company.

Vice President De La Torre asked whether the Parents Club could legally fund the SGN service, and that the SPC should review the bylaws to ensure it was appropriate to do so.

Professional Development

Principal Clark noted that three teachers will be going to the Museum of Tolerance. Principal Clark will be attending the English Learner Leadership Conference. The school is putting more of an emphasis on those students learning English.

Principal Clark also requested funding for a California Association for the Gifted conference in Palm Springs in February. Principal Clark was going to check the specific amount of funding requested. President Niesen noted there is a line item in the budget for professional development and the SPC would like to help if possible.

Vice President De La Torre asked whether there is anything SPC can do to support special education at Sequoia. Principal Clark agreed to look into such opportunities.

Review and approval of October and November Minutes:

Vice President De La Torre moved to approve the October and November minutes. Secretary Wanser seconded the motion. The October and November Minutes were approved without objection.

Walk-a-thon Budget:

Pledges are down about \$12k compared to budget but the discrepancy is apparently due to a lack of reconciliation between online receipts and in-person receipts.

It has been noted that more than half of Sequoia families aren't pledging anything. Discussion was had regarding early incentives for participation to try to increase early pledging and enthusiasm.

SPAC Update:

Vice President Ross indicated that RVEF needs help selling flowers at all school concerts.

SPC Marketing/Branding Plan:

Vice president Ross raised the issue of why aren't we seeing more parent participation? Suggested that a survey for parent participation/outreach/data, etc. for development. SPC wants to determine parents' expectations.

SPC should have increased signage and promotion.

SPC should have one logo/brand for 2019-20.

SPC should update the website to roll out for next year.

Vice President De La Torre stressed the importance of parent participation. He is looking for a platform to explain and share with the school community to encourage communication and participation.

School Beautification:

Member Emily Klein discussed the idea of an art installation of a "rock river" on campus. It is an encompassing project which is in conjunction with reading a book, and each student will get to decorate his or her own rock to include in the installation. Questions were raised regarding whether it would interfere with planned construction.

Holiday Gift Cards:

Giving out holiday gift cards to families was discussed and approved.

Lego Club:

Vice President Ross discussed wanting to start a Lego Club to meet weekly or bi-weekly. She will have more information in February.

Adjournment