



PTO Meeting Notes
January 9, 2019

NEIL CUMMINS

Neil Cummins PTO

AGENDA 01/09/19

1. Welcome and call Meeting to Order
2. Approve prior meetings minutes
3. Principal Welcome and Updates - Patty Elliot
4. Neil Cummins Teacher Rep - Katherine Marcus
5. Board of Trustees Welcome and Updates - Katherine Chan
6. SPARK - Beth Mitchell
7. Treasurer's Report - Carey Crumpler
8. PTO VP Updates and Discussion Items:
 - Auditor - Amanda Dickerman
 - Campus Conservation - Laura O'Shea
 - Campus Events - Jessica Edelen
 - Holiday store wrap up
 - Variety show
 - Communications - Lisa Losee
 - Fundraising - Sarah Youngs
 - Readathon update - Dina Harrison
 - Health and Safety - Daniela Kratz
 - Safe Routes - Megan Acevedo & Kathleen Ralston

Representation at meetings:

BoT January 23 Dina Harrison

Spark January 8

Additional Discussion Items/Questions/Comment

Adjourn

In Attendance:

Dina Harrison
Carey Crumpler
Amanda Dickerman
Sarah Youngs
Jessica Edelen
Katherine Marcus
Daniela Kratz
Catherine Chan
Kim Jones
Lisa Morozoff
Kate Lowe

8:17 a.m.

Patty Elliot Update:

- o We had a productive staff meeting on January 8th as we looked at student data with Cove teachers. We spent time looking at how to guide students depending on their level and focusing our individual and grade level goals to address student/class needs. We are approaching the examination of curriculum and instruction as a continuum versus specific data points. Every student develops at a different pace. Benchmark data points and assessments are used with a wide lens in order to capture all levels.

- o English Language Arts Leadership Team Committee – piloting programs to that focus word work, vocabulary, spelling, etc. to supplement the Lucy Calkins Readers and Writers curriculum. This additional curriculum will be adopted to supplement the programs that are currently active. Technology Leadership Team with representatives from each school will be meeting at the end of this week. During the week of January 23 we will have math/CGI Lab Days that will engage teacher teams in professional development with their grade level colleagues from Cove.

- o Five new families started this week. Two returning families. Approximately 5 exited and 5 arrived.

Catherine Chan Update (new trustee):

- Outgoing trustees: Dan Durkin (5 years of service and Charles Schumacher (1 year of service)
- New Trustees: Monica Canas and Katherine Chan
- Election of Officers: Sarah Mueller, President; Jill Sellers, Vice President; Katie Zwarg, Clerk.
- Technology Infrastructure Upgrade Approved – will be paid through funds designated for facilities upgrades (E-rate and Fund 35) – wireless network upgrade.
- Updated tobacco policy to include vaping, an issue in middle schools and high schools are facing nationwide
 - o Hall Middle School is conducting a presentation to both students (different levels of communication based on grade level) and to parents to educate all regarding vaping problem. Parent presentation will happen February 6 in the Hall Library.
- First Interim Budget has been approved
 - o If the CA school funding model isn't improved, LCMUSD will face layoffs. We are hoping for a positive message from the Governor in January when he releases the budget proposal.
 - o For 2018, the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF – how most CA schools are funded, which is based on ADA, or Average Daily Attendance) was fully funded; however, what that means is that now school funding has been restored to a 2007-2008 level of funding. A lot has changed in the last decade, and CA continues to be towards the bottom in regards to school spending per pupil when compared to other states.
 - o A board Budget Study Session has been scheduled for 6:00 on February 6 in the Hall Library.
 - o Next Board Meeting is Wednesday, January 23 at 6:00 p.m.

Catherine Marcus Update:

- o TK - TK'ers are busy discovering how to write words phonetically. They are learning to title their illustrations and are beginning to create small books with intentional and interesting content.
- o Kindergarten - Kindergartners are working on writing personal narratives. We're working on using our "reading superpowers" to read more books. We're doing a mini unit on polar animals and animal adaptations. We're doing word problems and combining numbers for math.

- o 2nd grade – After many months of studying fiction, they will be writing and reading non-fiction for the next six weeks. This provides an opportunity for students to share their expertise as they write about subjects in which they are interested. They are also learning a new game called Get to 100 and practicing word problems with a wide range in levels of difficulty. They are sharing subtraction strategies for two-digit numbers, including number lines, quick drawings of tens and ones and hundred charts. They are also learning about landforms and how they are shaped by wind, water, and resulting erosion.
- o 3rd grade - Third graders are practicing mastering our basic multiplication facts, finishing up on our informational animal reports, and we have begun cursive writing!! So many exciting happenings! Third grade is preparing for our winter/Valentine music Performance with Ms. Klaubert. They are working on biographies in class. Gallagher and McGuinness used some of our classroom PTO funds to buy alternative seating. The chairs are called scoop chairs and the kids love them though teachers are not positive they're a good addition to the classroom.
- o 5th grade - Fifth graders just finished a "Race to the New World," with each table group representing a boat that set sail from Portugal to America trying to be the first to reach the gold and treasures they thought would await them there. Students wrote journal entries about life on the boats, completed tasks such as making maps and charting navigational courses. First team to arrive received chocolate gold coins (luckily it was a 5 way tie!)
- o Art - Art is working on the tempera paint unit. Concepts include color theory, art styles, and art masters. They are also putting together portfolios.
- o PE - The 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders in P.E. classes are wrapping up a volleyball unit. Students have been enthusiastic learners, participating in the skills of passing, setting, and serving, and learning how to rotate and communicate on the court as a team.

Carey Crumpler Update:

- o Will send budget for review.

Laura O'Shea Update: Not in attendance

SPARK Rep Update: Not in attendance.

Jessica Edelen Update: Events Coordinator – great team for Variety Show and Readathon:

- o Variety Show – Kim Jones – communications for the show, Lisa Morozoff & Lisa Buoy running the show. Announcement at assembly January 11th for Variety Show and Blu Pod will be sent. Sign ups will be next Wednesday (1/16/19). Preview will be January 28th & January 31st. Wednesday March 13 is actual show. Rules for variety show will be covered for 2nd-5th graders at assembly on Friday after K and 1st graders have left. Communication will go through the Weekly and Blu Pods, in addition to communication to teachers (K & 1st to let them know show is for 2-5). Emcee tryouts will happen two weeks leading up to show. Practices will be Mondays and Thursdays. Website with all information can be found: neilcumminsvarietyshow.com

Dina Harrison Update: Readathon

- o Readathon to be held January 30th. Banners have been posted along with communication being sent to teachers, students and teachers. This year we have a few guest authors to come throughout the month to increase excitement for raising funds. The Goal of the fundraiser is 100% participation.

Lisa Losee Update:

- o NC kiosk is available anytime to post information for upcoming events. No School MLK needs to stay.

Sarah Youngs Update: Spirit Wear

- o Sales are currently low. The group is brainstorming different ways to increase sales. Potentially looking at online sales though there are some obstacles to online - team will be researching methods for online sales. Currently team works with printer out of Tiburon; however, they are looking at other possibilities. Potential ideas for increasing sales: Teacher appreciation - t-shirts with new logo. Spirit day – Fridays – wear your spirit wear to Friday's assembly.

Daniela Kratz Update: Good Eggs

- o Good Eggs Fundraiser launch will occur March 4 – April 30.
- o First Wednesday of every month is Walk n Roll to School Day

General Discussion:

- o Board Meeting – Dina will attend
- o SPARK Meeting – Sarah Youngs will attend
- o Electronic manual – Current board is discussing creating an electronic manual (on Googledocs) for each PTO Event as well as SPARK events so that event procedures can easily be passed down from year to year.

- o PTO Board – looking at staffing the board for next year – need to recruit new parents to fill roles and get involved. Tap into teachers to find out which parents are heavily involved in classroom and potentially recruit from those classes. PTO to look at ideas to recruit new parent involvement: monthly coffee chats, quarterly coffee chats, etc.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:18 a.m.