



Minutes of Parent Association Meeting,
December 5, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President, Frances Salles at 9:02 a.m. Frances welcomed everyone.

Role Call – Frances Salles (President PA), Mary Versace (VP PA), Linda Hamashige (Parent Liaison, Music) Cynthia Hanna (Parent Liaison, Theater), David Sandoval (Treasurer), Kris Radecki, Amy Weider, Amy Sayers (Parent Liaison, Theater), John King, Soledad King.

Approval of Agenda – Motion to Approve by Mary Versace, seconded by Amy Sayers. The motion approved.

Minutes of Last Meeting - Minutes of last meeting were read on line. Motion to approve was seconded by Mary Versace. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Presidents' Welcome and Report – Frances welcomed the attendees and gave a brief recap of what the PA had done since the last meeting: very successful breakfast/snack donations for Arts Exchange Day; waters/drinks for Fall Dance. Mary Versace who chaperoned at the Dance remarked how fun it was for the students, and reported there were no incidents.

Treasurers Report – David Sandoval reported that after several months, John Wolfe, of the outsourced company that is now handling the school's accounting, was able to provide an accurate figure. The PA currently has \$13,514.88 in its budget, less approximately \$92 in reimbursements due to Frances Salles. This figure reflects an outstanding payment to Phil Baca for the 2014-2015 year book, now paid in full. It includes summer 2015 fundraisers: 2 Il Vicino days; Spanish Market Parking Lot; Indian Market Parking Lot.

PTA has committed \$1000 to each Art Department, providing it is still available when they request it. We have also committed to pay Phil Baca for the 2015-2016 Year Book, pending the submission of his budget. We can now make educated decisions about additional requests.

Smith's quarterly donation is down to under \$1000.00. They will pay up to \$2500.00. David will send out an e-blast to the NMSA community in the new year with the Smith's card attached, asking that everyone please participate by linking the NMSA # to their shopping card. We ask that Parent Liaisons then follow up with their departments.

David will look into costs of a commercial shredder or Shred-It type service to donate to the school's administrative offices.

Administration Report - Joey Chavez, Theatre Dept was unable to attend, as he was at the Open House. (NB – the open house was fully attended)

Department Liaison Reports

Theatre Dept. – Amy Sayers attended the Poetry Reading last night and said it was phenomenal. She was impressed by the number of students in the audience from all of the departments.

Music Department – Linda Hamashige attended the joint Chorus/Orchestra concert, noting that it was the

first joint concert of its kind and said it was just great. She reported that the Tribute to Mara Robinson concert was excellent.

John King said that he videotaped the concert, and will offer it to the school's I.T. department to upload it onto the website. John commented that the photographer the school uses for performances is exceptionally expensive, and offered that the school considers another model.

John also announced that next weekend there are Youth Symphony/Mariachi/Youth Philharmonic performances and some of the NMSA students are part of those groups.

Visual Arts Department – no liaison present. There was a call to everyone to put feelers out to get VA parents to attend meetings, and someone to be co-Parent Liaison with Maria, who works every Saturday morning and cannot attend PA meetings.

John King suggested that the postcards Cindy Montoya sends out so frequently, be pictures of VA students' art work. His business, Paper Tiger would help with the production.

Dance - no liaison present

OLD BUSINESS

1. Holiday Food Drive. Mary Versace made a notice template for students to deliver to their neighbors' houses, explaining the food drive and stating they would be back in a few days to collect. Frances asked that Mary send it out as an e-blast to all parents/students. Parents at the meeting requested it be emailed to them right away, so they could get started.
2. Update on Online Fundraiser. Frances Salles reported that it has been delayed until February, and that Cindy Montoya and Riis Gonzales were receptive and thought that was a better time of year than fall. Frances and Mary will meet in December to finalize the steps, and it will be promoted to parents/students throughout January. Mary announced that we need more parents on board to help out. It was suggested that a group of students head up training the rest of the student body on how to create the individual pages. Frances and Mary will ask to attend a Student Council meeting to ask for their help on this. David (Treasurer) asked that we provide the specs on how the money will come into the school's account so that he can provide it to John Wolfe, and be sure the PA receives the accurate amount of funds.
3. School Directory – Cynthia Hanna has all the info uploaded, but needs to format it. David reminded her that it may not include students' emails or phone numbers. When complete, it will contain parents' emails and phone numbers, then sent by pdf to all families.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Christmas Eve Parking Lot Fundraiser. Joey Chavez (via email) offered to sponsor the event. He will get the bank, cordon off the parking lot that morning, and handle all the details. He needs 6 parent volunteers to magically appear from 4:30 to 5:45. That's it. Stephanie Kirchhoffer volunteered.

2. Parent Volunteers for Parking Lot after School Pick Up. Cindy Montoya emailed that a parent approached her asking if the PA could set up parking lot monitors for after school. Frances asked that the parent attend the meeting, but we did not hear back. General thoughts at the meeting are that the PA cannot take this on; it would require a large amount of steady volunteers. If a parent wants to spearhead it that would be great. Some concerns from David who has done parking lot monitoring previously are that it can be difficult and dangerous, as some people can get hostile. At the school, monitors wouldn't have real authority and could only make "kind requests". We will ask Cindy Montoya what she thinks about making 1/4-page flyers of the school's parking lot policies, and volunteers would deliver them to cars at pick-up for a few days, to be sure that everyone is informed of the protocols.
3. Requalification Process. The notice that went out brought up a lot of worry for some students and parents. The school has found that a very small percentage of students lose interest or are unwilling to stay involved in their art dept. Frances has met with the SITE committee and reported that it has been reframed since the notice went out. It will be a formalized assessment/evaluation, not a requalification—once students are accepted to the school they can expect to attend for four years without requalifying. The assessment/evaluation, to be held in each student's third semester after joining the school, will be based on an objective, standardized rubric upheld by the art teachers. It will be used to help students focus on their strengths and weaknesses, and will provide a mechanism for identifying and addressing potential problem areas early on.
4. No new news on the move to Sanbusco.

Next PTA Meeting, January 16th, 9 a.m. in the cafeteria. (this needs to be changed on the school calendar/website) Update: Mary submitted the change on 12/16.

The meeting ended at 10:02 MST.