WRPC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday October 1, 2015

ATTENDEES:

Sonya Grover Sandi Balonick

Mara Plankers Justin Cole

Norie Barakeh Angel Sorenson

Laurie Schmitt Shiho Barbir

Sharon Murphy Jim Manheimer

Called To Order: 8:27

**President’s Report:**

**Sonya Grover and Mara Plankers**

Walkathon money usage (outdoor improvements): A dark blue shade cover is what the teachers would like. It will likely be installed Thanksgiving week. We will still have about $7k left in the Walkathon Fund which could be used to cultivate the garden or for the purchase of a sports equipment shed for PE.

General Parents Club Meeting October 8, 7pm: Healthy food and solar panels will be up for discussion. We hope to have solar panels in by next summer (2016). Now the question is where to place them. We are getting a bird’s eye map of the area to determine the best spot.

Fundraising initiative in lower grades: We are below budget for fundraising, with numbers showing only 69% participation (typically at this point we are about 90% participation). Comparatively with the other schools we are way behind (the other schools are all above 90% participation). TK/K/1st are all very low at 50% participation, and the upper grades are at about 75%. We need to focus on the Annual Fund, and highlight our outstanding test scores. A flyer highlighting the need for more donations will go out both in paper form and electronically, and we will push for more donations through conference week. We did not factor the TK aide salary into the budget so $13k needs to be added into the Annual Fund budget.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Roundup: Our annual event was a big success as we took in nearly $10k (although we do not view it as a fundraiser). The OIS kids volunteering was a huge help. We will need to get new Roundup chairs for next year.

Jump Start: We are still working on the total cost of JS. Budget reports must be done on an accrual basis.

**Principal’s Report - Jim Manheimer**

Fruit Flies: There are fruit flies in Mrs. Wise’s room. Her kids have been moved to the science room for 2 days while her room is being cleaned.

Staffing update: We have hired a first grade Science Aide, and have found a strong candidate for Ms. Murillo’s long term sub. The only unfulfilled position is the Garden Aide but we have 2 people interested.

Garden: We now have a fence for the garden area so that Friends of Orinda can have their own space and Wagner Ranch can have our own space. An irrigation system has been bought and installed by PC, and paid for with PC money. The suggestion was made to move it. Do we want to pay someone to come in and transform our garden? Maybe we should sanction a vision for that area at Site Council and get a nominal input process. We need a formalized plan. Perhaps we can organize a Dad’s Club or Elbow Grease Club to revamp/set up the garden. Stewart is also willing to help in the garden.

Library: Geoff is looking for more help. Sharon wants to get a better idea of what he needs so she can tailor the requests. The library is open 4 days a week during lunch for 4th and 5th graders. Maybe we can open it up for 1st-3rd graders for 10:10 recess.

Intervention: Diana Vee is our aide. She is working with Sylvie Murillo and Dayle Okamitsu to determine programs, pre-and post assessments, etc. It should be up and running by Monday.

This program is in need of improvement and a certified person to lead it. There are about 30 kids in our school who use/need intervention. Burton Valley has a great system that we could look at and possibly implement. At Burton they are 1:1 for intervention.

Single school plan: Our school plan is being written now and going to the School Board on 10/12/15.

Awards: Mrs. Burns has been awarded Teacher of the Month for all of her support for Ms. Coste’s and Ms. Scalise's Kindergarten classes.

Charity in Cambodia: A woman is coming to Wagner to give an inspirational speech to the 4th and 5th grades. There is no request for money.

California shakedown is on October 15 at 10:30 a.m.

**Officer’s Reports**:

**Secretary - Sandi Balonick**

Minutes: September 2015 WRPC meeting minutes approved.

Book swap: Sharon has experience at her prior school with book swap events and will be looped in with Diana Mahar. We will plan to have the swap the week of Spring Sing (good parental traffic). Perhaps eventually we can tie it in with Round Up and include adult books.

**VP Fundraising - Norie Barakeh and Laurie Schmitt**

Update: There is a continuing big push for more donations in the next few weeks. 1\6 of Wager families have not donated. Norie will directly email those families who paid last year but not this year.

Urbansitter: We had higher hopes for this, but it’s not really being used. We will continue to remind people about it.

**VP Communications - Sharon Murphy**

Coordinating Council Meeting update: (See attached notes for details). The Superintendent submitted his resignation effective in January. Next month’s meeting will focus on the parity between the schools. One question is, why isn't Bandit Club’s (and all the other after care programs’) income going to the District? This would impact WR financially in a huge way. On a side note, the District is still negotiating with the unions for last year’s salaries.

CAASPP test score results: WR was ranked the highest of all the elementary schools for meeting and exceeding achievement levels. OIS is low, meeting achievement levels but not exceeding them. In Math, we were the second highest of elementary schools but still have highest exceeding percentage. For science (which was not given in the new CAASP form) WR was 98% in meeting and exceeding achievement levels.

Student Wellness: With regard to the food policies, we will try to enforce more. The only complete restriction is at birthday parties. There is a parents meeting in 2 weeks where this will be discussed further. If there is a more definitive ruling then the district will have to rewrite the District’s policy on food.

Directory update: The directory is being finalized. The app is open now and everybody will receive both.

**VP Operations/Bandit - Christine Gkatzimas**

Lunch: There has been a request for the approval of the purchase of water filling station. Stuart is working with the city and asking the city to pay ⅔ and WR pay ⅓. There is a question as to who would maintain it since it is in the MPR which is shared by the city and school. Water bottles in the classroom is still being discussed - are all teachers okay with it?

Bandit: Bandit has been busy! We have a new flat screen tv that is more safe.

**VP Family Connections - Justin Cole**

4th/5th grade musical: We are still in need of a producer. It was suggested that we hire someone to do this. Other schools hire producers.

Warriors game: There are only have 19 tickets left to sell!

Holiday faire: The faire has been scheduled for the week before the holiday break, running from December 14-17.

**Volunteer Coordinator - Angel Sorenson**

Book Fair: Book Fair is in 2 weeks! We are quickly filling up quickly with volunteers.

Adjourn: 10:13 a.m..