WRPC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, September 2, 2016

Attendees:

Jim Manheimer Rays Zheng

Mara Plankers Patty Holman

Amy Stuffman Meighan Baldwin

Sonya Grover Kiley O’Meara

Justin Cole Christine Gkastzimas

Call To Order: 8:50AM

President’s Report – Mara Plankers and Amy Stuffman

Welcome and introduction of new board members. Excited about the year ahead.

•Encourages participation, communication, patience,

•Will form sub-committees to get difficult issues passed without taking up too much time

•Please get agenda items to Larissa by MONDAY before board meeting

•Mara will be e-mailing by-laws and guidelines, expectations and budget, please bring these items with you to each meeting.

Stolen Statue – Leap Frog Statue stolen from Wagner Ranch commemorating past principal

•Started discussion on what has been done and what steps still need to be taken to increase security at Wagner Ranch

•Problems with security (was discussed at OUSD meeting) Need updated cameras and more lighting

•Committee Formed: Christine and Mara will head up security issues and how to improve on campus.

Mara will be campaigning for more cameras on school sites and signage indicating that we are elementary school not a recreational site.

Suggestions welcome on how we can increase donor participation and more ways to raise money

•It was recommended that parents respond better to e-mails with their child’s name included.

•Hit the incoming classes the hardest as they are usually the most enthusiastic about giving.

4th/5th Grade Play

•5th grade parent, Jeremy G. has volunteered to be one of the producers.

•John Skidgel will hopefully do sets again.

•Discussed the problems that occurred with last year’s production – not enough accountability,under estimated the number of volunteer hours needed and money needed to pull it off.

•Board members should encourage parents of 4th and 5th graders to participate in the play

•Suggestion was made to continue considering outsourcing the play because larger parent volunteer positions are not being filled. Should we offer a volunteer buy-out option?

Principal’s Report – Jim Manheimer

•Staffing: New Kindergarten teacher - LeighAnn Kurpinsky off to a good start

Nicole Hills- Substitute for Alexandra Wise who is on maternity leave

Ms. Campbell- Same substitute from last spring covering for Amanda O’Neill who is still on maternity leave

Former Wager Ranch 4th Grade Teacher, Maple Lai is the new OUSD math coach. She will be helping to transition the new text books into the curriculum.

•Kinder Playground: Slow progression but moving forward. Construction on campus has been going well. Estimated completion date – Halloween. Discussed the possibility of ribbon cutting ceremony.

Approved $600 to be spent on four tricycles for the playground bike bath.

•Technology: Discussed timeline for 3rd grade implementation and the purchase of iPads for grades K-2

•CAASPP Testing: Results revealed incredible amount of growth in the Exceeded Standards Category for both Language Arts and Mathematics

•Extra Classroom on Wagner Campus has become the home office for 4-5 OUSD education coaches.

•School assemblies: Possible assembly from Trust in Education - Non-profit in Lafayette that provides school/village aid in Afghanistan. Christine Gkatzimas will introduce charity to Megan Natal as she expressed an interest.  <http://www.trustineducation.org/>

•Discussed the implementation of FOXX Next Generation of Science. Science will be a big priority on our campus this year with a very hands-on philosophy.

•Nature Area/Garden is expected to be great this year. The garden aide underwent new summer training and all teachers are on board and planning to attend the garden regulary.

Superintendent’s Report – Carolyn Seaton

Introduction and Brief Bio – Carolyn is coming to OUSD from Southern California with 32 years of experience in education. Happy to be part of OUSD and hopeful to take our district to higher places.

Very positive results coming back from last year’s CAASPP Testing. Wagner Ranch is showing some of the best scores in the state. Students should be proud of their success, however there is still room for improvement and Carolyn aims to always look for ways to help improve the education for ALL the children

in our district. Hopes we can start to get the support of our local press to make the OUSD successes better known throughout the district.

District site improvements:

•Solar panels installed at each campus.

•New Kindergarten playground at Wagner Ranch

•Mini air conditioning units installed in each classroom.

Staff and Ciricullum Development:

•Three day training for OUSD staff just before the start of the school year.

•KidPower to be giving Parent Ed presentations at each campus.

•New science training for our OUSD staff

•Hired two OUSD tech coaches.

Discussed the formation of a **Fundraising Task Force Committee** to help research the pro and cons of centralizing our fundraising efforts between all OUSD schools. We should not expect any funding from the state for Orinda schools so we need to improve and expand our community support to help keep our schools great. Wagner Ranch representatives will be Sonya Grover, Fred Kaynor, Larissa Kosla, Kiley O’Meara and Shiho Harada.

**OFFICER’S REPORTS**

VP Operations

Christine Gkatzimas

Enrichment:

• Meeting with enrichment volunteer at each school.  Thursday, September 29th at Wagner at 9am.  Time subject to change based on everyone's availability.

• Piano - exploring the possibility of bringing back piano lesson in campus and consider at home option too

• Progressive computer class where kids complete a curriculum each session with specific goals.  We have identified a few vendors and are checking computer resources needed.

• Enrollment is going smoothly with RevTrak

• Spanish - A separate parent's committee across the 4 elementary schools has just hired a teacher to teach Spanish 1A to the incoming 6th grader from 8-8:40am.  Classes start in October.  This will help Wagner students continue their Spanish and no longer have gap year

Bandit:

• Next meeting will review protocol for deliquent accounts

• Will bring up special snack idea at next meeting

• Building - should we form a committee to review space consideration for long term planning.  Also, consider space needs of enrichment classes

• Board voted to write up bad debt in the amount of $1936 (will verify this number) - Bad Debt on P&L

Hot Lunch:

• We served 31,640 meals last year. Lunch program continues to grew thanks to Basil/Rodrigo  (forgot to mention)

• Board approved $300 for start up costs for opening the lunch program each year.

• Stuart is in the process of installing screen door for the chefs to help beat the heat in the kitchen

• Sally has accepted role of deposit treasurer (not just hot lunch checks, but all checks)

• Approved an additional $3300 in funds to cover cost of $6800 water filling station in 4/5th grade pod.  Stuart House to schedule installation.  We previously approved $3500 last year.  Installation will be to the left of entrance to boys bathroom as that wall has both water and electrical available.  One of the new bulletin boards will need to be moved.

RevTrak:

• Everything is going well.  Helps simplify collection of funds

VP Family Connections

Justin Cole

•First Day of School Coffee Connections didn’t go as well as hoped. Discussed the possibility of hosting another one in October and possibly another one when school resumes after the holiday break.

•All remaining volunteer positions are mostly filled. Sally Hua to be the Deposit Treasurer.

•Warriors GAME – 114 tickets secured for Feb 25. High 5 tunnel tickets for 20 kids tickets. Tickets will be sold first come, first serve to Wagner families only. Price is $100 per ticket. Tickets will be available to the size of the buyer’s family only. Tickets will become available to buy in a couple of months. Tickets to be purchased through REV TRAK.

•MOVIE NIGHT – Sept 23, Taco Truck, Lemonade and Popcorn Machine will be available. MOVIE TBD.

Will consider using RevTrak for pre-purchase of meals for Movie Night or Popcorn, etc.

•Halloween: Justin to coordinate 4th/5th Flash Mob Dance

•Discussed the possibility of a Dance for Kindness Assembly with Orly Wahba in October

<http://www.lifevestinside.com/dfk/>

VP Communications

Kiley O’Meara

•Primary goal this year: Different ways to raise more money.

•Wagner Ranch has more parent parties than other schools. Let’s keep that going and trumpet how great the community of families we have at Wagner Ranch.

•Discussed the formation a sub-committee to discuss ways we could improve our fundraising communication strategy to be less judgmental, and possibly the formation of a focus group of individuals who do NOT give to better understand their reasoning.

•Discussed a possible “Why I Give Campaign” (similar to the video put out by EFO) for Wagner Ranch.

VP Fundraising

Laurie Schmitt will no longer be serving on the WRPC Board. Sonya Grover will be taking over her position until a permanent volunteer is found.

Treasurer

Rays Zheng and Patty Holman

•Motion approved to make Patty Holman Co-Treasurer with Rays Zheng

•Approval made for Bank of America Account Signatories.

•Motion approved to pay Jeff Brody $850 to complete tax documents.

•Discussed sub-committee to track funds and continue progress made by Norie Barakeh

•120 days to publish year end financial statements.

Volunteer Coordinator

Meighan Baldwin

•Discussed the need to work on re-structuring the volunteer teams and heads of volunteer teams

•VP Fundraising Role TBD. Job description needed with a clear ROLE definition. To be discussed at the next meeting.

•Sally Hua to fill deposit treasurer position.

•Distributed spreadsheet with contact information for all current volunteers. Thank you Meighan!

•School Loop – need to add more people to admin rights.