

**Chaparral Elementary School
Parent Faculty Club (PFC)
Multipurpose Room**

November 4, 2015

Pre Meeting:

Jessica explained that the yellow sheets on each table are a survey to gather information on how people get their information from the PFC (FB, Cub Corner, Website, etc).

A. Meeting Called to Order

1. Approval of Minutes: Any Grey, Ann Park 2nd

2. Treasurer's Report – Ann Park

Reserves: \$200,630.68

Money Market: \$231,124.98

Checking: \$23,984.40

3. Hospitality – Lisa Dumke, Jennifer York, Vaishali Mehta

Thank you!

B. Old Business

1. Fall Festival- Meredith Sesser

-Thank you to DeeDee for being an unofficial co-chair

-No numbers yet.

-Each booth did well

-Laura B&G booth made over \$200

-Kinneret: Mini Golf booth made over \$100

T-hank you to everyone who volunteered

Thank you from Sybil to Meredith. She added great new things this year.

2. Restaurant Night and Community Cards– Lisa Opolion

-Sybil spoke on behalf of Lisa

-Thank you to everyone who came out to support Chaparral at CPK last week.

Still waiting for final numbers. Golden Spoon is today. Remind your friends to get an after school treat. Rosti is coming up 11/16 through 11/18. Watch your email for more information.

-Community cards still for sale in the office if you want

-Please shop on amazon.com

-Register your Ralphs card

-Box tops are back. New contest in January

3. Red Ribbon Week- Maria Nicolacakis

-Great convo w/ 2 point teachers. Collaborated. Theme was "Respect"...a national theme. Teachers more invested this year. Hearts on the fence. Coach Felicity was awesome...Maria got to go in and co-teach PE w/ games connected to the theme.

-Collected 4 huge bags of candy this AM for the veterans!

4. UNICEF- Lisa Steinmetz-Snebold

Pretty successful. In the process of counting the money collected. Official ending day to turn in boxes is Wednesday. Goal for this year: \$1600. Last year \$1200 raised.

5. Gift Wrap – Heta Wiley

Assembly over a week ago. Raffles everyday. Kids are getting into it. Orders are starting to come in. As of yesterday, almost at \$1000. Idea to start after Halloween next year b/c Heta feels it gets pushed to the side due to Halloween.

C. New Business

1. Book Fair – Amy Gray and Susan Harrison

Theme: The Monster Book Fair Nov 16th-20th. Sign-up genius is out already. Still shifts available. Fair open: 8-9am. 11am-3pm. Laura from B&G Club will provide childcare with advanced notice.

Online book fair 16th-27th.

Tuesday AM: Donuts and Dads 7am start time

4th graders have required reading and Amy asked for them to be available but they are sold out. However, they can be ordered online. Link in eblast for sign-up too.

2. Holiday Boutique- Deb Navins and Jessica Epstein

Tuesday, December 1st. Blast sent out for volunteers. 38 vendors (capacity). Jewelry, clothing, edibles, housewares, gifts. Need volunteers please! Even do part of a shift if you can. Ad in Cub Corner. Bring family and bring friends.

Brazell: letter to kinder parents discussion w/ Deb. "Dear Kindergarten Families" "Dear New Chaparral Families"

New this year: tattoos and gift wrapping

Advertising on: Peachjar, Jen's List, The Patch

Deb Shapiro mentioned she liked how Meredith put up signs around the City for Fall Festival so maybe we can do the same to advertise boutique. Sybil and Jessica said the City was not happy with that.

3. Toy Drive –Ava Teherani

Same as last year. Motor 4 Toys. Will bring in their fancy cars. Our school got a lot of publicity in the Acorn and other publications for this program.

December 2nd. Collections through the classroom

Assembly on the 16th. Room parents will bring the toys up to the assembly.

\$10 a toy. New and unused, in original packaging.

4. Cub Wear – Deb Shapiro

So far: \$4,631. Out of everything except v-neck t-shirts. New stuff coming in for boutique.

5. Auction – Chrissie Hand

Jessica spoke for her: Starts in March. Kickoff meeting at Chrissie Hand's house Tuesday the 10th. It takes a village event. People get competitive about what items they can get. It's always best to ask for something when you are spending money. Starting to pound the pavement in the next few weeks.

6. Library- Mary Solis

B-day books program still going on here. Stephanie is back at work so it's a little more difficult for her to run this. Mrs. Davis has a great inventory.

Emily Clinton: Currently decorated w/ theme of "Wild for Books". Changing it to "Cozy Up With A Good Book". Will change it up the week of parent/teacher conferences. Please come help. Wintery gift wrap, scissors, white tissue paper. Using found items to decorate. Keep the kids excited and keep the library looking fresh.

Mary: December 2nd: Community Reading Festival 2-6pm at Founder's Hall

Brazell: looking for something that the kids could physically do to get involved. As parents we are good models. But this is something they can physically get involved with. This is a book drive with Children's Hospital. Student Council will focus their fundraising funds on buying gift cards to give to Children's Hospital to buy books for this program.

Mary: We had a small book drive last year. This is kids helping kids. Kids buying a new book for kids in the hospital. A lot of restaurants at the Commons that day will be doing a "give back" program that day too. There will be music and fun. Please come. Teachers and celebrities will be there reading books. There is a scholastic wish list too so you can buy the books at book fair and both organizations benefit.

7. Literature Circles- Mary Solis

Started last year in the 2nd grade. Utilizing the "Friends of the Library" group. Like a mini book club. They meet for a week and use discussion questions created by the teachers. Groups of up to 7 kids. Really takes "Cubs Spirit" to volunteer for this as you may not get your own kid. Looking for consistency. Either the same

parent for the week or split between 2 parents. 1:45-2:15pm. Program for this year started last week.

Ann: works out better if you don't have your kid in the group. Good chance to get to know other kids. First day introductions and talk about reading the book and the book itself. 2nd day book review w/ a "report" card for the book: did you like it? Title? Then head into read aloud and then discuss the different characters and the discussion questions. You don't need to be a 2nd grade parent to do this.

Brazell: this is targeted instruction. Trying to meet the needs of all students. Students may or may not have the chance to do this more than one time this year.

Tara: as a leader you should be familiar with the book
Discussion about the logistics of this program for students and for volunteers.

D. Principal's Report

Lampert: teachers "thank you" for all your support

Mrs. Ferrante starting club: Tech Wizards: helping teachers w/ updates on their ipads. Train students on how to do tech things.

Tuesdays at lunch grades 3-5.

4th and 5th grade teachers remind parents to check grades on Jupiter.

Brazell: explained why we use Jupiter instead of Aeries. Aeries works better for HS grades.

Discussion re: the logistics of Jupiter grades.

Our report card is not aligned with Common Core. We need to take our time to develop a new report card with input from parents and teachers. Will send out a letter explaining that we will be doing things a little different. For ex: the writing program: this year students will get a grade for easy to memorize things: spelling, vocab. At teacher conferences, for writing parents will receive a rubric showing where the student is at and where they need work. Some things may be filled out on the report card and some things may not. We really want parents to understand where their children are at.

Universal assessment (renstar) will be going home as well.

Election: 78.4% yes for Measure E

Mathy Wasserman and Linda Menges are our new board members.

Been receiving lots of questions about permits.

645 students currently enrolled at Chaparral. Still room for a few more students but we don't take permits at this point in the school year.

Lowest school in the district with permits.

The art times are longer. It feels like they have art less. They have it every other week for a longer period of time. Except for the younger grades. In the younger grades (K and 1) they do art in their own classes...pretty much everyday. Mrs. Lowy will work with the teachers on integrating it more. Maybe training some parents.

Furniture questions: we are leading LVUSD in many of the things we are doing: ex: technology (no other school is doing what we do across grade levels). Common Core (4 c's)

You won't see as many desks...tables create spaces for students to collaborate. We got left-over furniture from the district.

Got a few thousand dollars for new furniture in 4th and 5th grades. Will even have a few desks where students can stand-up.

The PFC bought teachers new rugs last year.

Experimenting to see what kind of furniture we want and need before we spend our money. Even exercise balls in some of the classes for seats. Just bought 60-80 new chairs.

No one does what we do!

9 teachers going to the reading workshops coming up.

Lampert got an email from a principal at another school to ask to observe our reading program.

You parents in this room are the leaders at this school. Our teachers are stressed. Please do Cub Kudos, flowers, a note of thanks.

Test scores: surprised at how high they were. LAUSD 23-30%. Ours were 60-80%. It was brilliant of our district to start with writing. It's really a reflection of where a kid is at.

Math scores were lower than usual. Math is different. Real world questions that they have to solve. It's about how they apply math. We were the 8th district in the state and the 23rd in the nation. Only school that did better across the board: Willow b/c every teacher there got to pilot the new math program last year.

Question: any plan of lowering class sizes in the future?

Brazell: would love that. We are hoping money from the Foundation will help with that.

Question: who chose a counselor over an extra teacher?

Brazell: we have a 50% counselor b/c we are the biggest elementary school (other elementary schools have a 40% counselor). The decision to get a counselor was based on a needs assessment and determined by the Foundation.

Yes, I want smaller class sizes, it's a good thing. But the teachers are doing a great job.

Question: in the younger grades are they teaching the basics? Why do I need to supplement my child's education with Kumon for the basics?

Brazell: we do focus on the skills. The difference is we can target the needs of the students now. We are making changes that we think are better for kids.

Lampert: this is something we are still working on as teachers and administration. The grade level teams are working together to prepare the students for the next grade.

Brazell: the expectations for kids are higher today than ever. 20 years ago teachers used to work independently in their own "castle". Now they collaborate. Our students need to be lifetime learners, write speak, problem solve. The jobs your kids get probably haven't been invented yet.

Question: what is the 2nd step program?

Brazell: curriculum for each grade level. Teaches empathy, compassion, problem solving, behavior (calming down strategies). Learning to learn skills, social skills, anxiety, assertiveness training.

Jan 25th staff development. Can someone teach yoga? Maria agreed. Teaching kids they need brain breaks.

Teachers chose to have a "working lunch" during the staff development so they can get more done.

Raffle Drawing: #24 Emily Clinton

Meeting Adjourned: 10:00am

Minutes Prepared By Carrie Slatoff, Recording Secretary