

Westlake PTA Meeting

September 15, 2016

Board Members and Teachers Present

Clyde Curley, Principal

Sarah Wickens, PTA President

Julie Graff, PTA Vice President

Tim Madsen, PTA Treasurer

Christine Mantua, PTA Secretary

Shannon Cuff, PTA Parliamentarian

Sabine Crawford, PTA Art Co-Chair

Michelle Nicely, PTA Art Co-Chair

Adrienne Kramer, Teacher

Julie Nolte, Teacher

Jen Simington, Teacher

Jane Forbes, Teacher

Approximate attendance: 31 people

Meeting called to order at 6:40

Welcome/Introductions

Guest Speaker: High Ground Organics- Sarah Brewer

-High Ground Organics is a subscription CSA that donates \$1 per box to Westlake.

-School is paid quarterly.

-Boxes cost \$24 each and contain seasonal fruits and vegetables.

-Families can pick up a box every week or every other. No contracts, families can choose to participate for how ever many weeks they would like.

Guest Speaker: CAC- Paris Trudeau

-CAC is Community Advisory Council for Special Education. They are a local non-profit. Any child with an IEP would fall under this umbrella.

-They are offering staff and parent education classes throughout the year.

-Please see attached flyer for a list of meeting dates and times.

Review of last meetings minutes

-Secretary, Christine Mantua, reviewed the minutes from the last PTA meeting, which was held May 26, 2016.

****MOTION ****

Motion to approve minutes was brought by Julie Graff

Second by Michelle Nicely

Approved unanimously

Review and Report from the Principal- Mr. Curley

-Walk to Read starts the week of Sept. 19. Student assessments have been completed and letters will go home on Monday to notify parents who their child's Walk to Read teacher will be.

-PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports): All classes rotated through the stations.

-Eureka Math: Teachers are getting trained. All teachers will go to math training 5 times this year.

-School district has bond measures A & B on the November ballot. A is for the high school district and B is for the elementary district. The money raised will come from a tax added to home owners and will be used for facility repairs.

Q: There is a lot of release time for training and lots of sub time. Will teachers need to do this every year?

A: Math training is extra and it is the only way for teachers to collaborate and plan for their grade level.

Q: If the bond measure is approved, what are Mr. Curley's top projects for campus?

A: Permanent buildings instead of portables, minor repairs such as new paint and carpet, improved security (maybe a fence around campus), and new playground equipment.

Q: Who pays for the subs for Eureka math training?

A: Math training subs are funded by the state. The money comes from a one time grant, Educator Effectiveness. Writers Workshop subs are funded from local control and the PTA.

Q: Who adopted Eureka math, only Santa Cruz schools or the whole state?

A: Eureka math was created by Engage New York. It was written by teachers for teachers. They are a non-profit who actively seeks feedback from users. It addresses the national common core standards and is on the state approved list for math adoption curriculum.

Report from the Treasurer- Tim Madsen

-Treasurer, Tim Madsen, reviewed the 2015/16 audit and check register.

****MOTION****

Motion to approve 2015/16 audit and check register was brought by Julie Graff.

Second by Shannon Cuff

Approved unanimously

Q: Who does grant writing?

A: Deana Rabiah is the grant writing chair

Q: Why is there a difference between the projected income and actual income?

A: The 2015/16 direct appeal only met 2/3 of the target goal. The appeal was \$15,000 short.

-Treasurer, Tim Madsen reviewed the 2016/17 budget and direct appeal. As of 9/15/16, the direct appeal was at \$11,400. The goal for the 2016/17 year is \$75,000.

****MOTION****

Motion to approve the 2016/17 budget was brought by Lisa Peevers

Second by Ben Abrams

Approved unanimously

Arts Committee Overview/Update- Dorothy Franks

-K-2 music will be with Anne Cleveland and started this week. It runs through December.

-4th & 5th graders will both do hip hop dance. 3rd graders will do capoeira. Classes start in mid October, will run every other week through April.

-Dorothy received a \$1,500 specter grant to help with art supplies and expenses.

-Carrie Haber is running the Artsonia program. She is looking for volunteers to help scan art work.

-Currently art meetings are on Mondays or Tuesdays at 3pm. Three art meetings will be held at 5:30pm, prior to the PTA meeting, so more people can attend. Dates: 10/20/16, 2/16/17, & 5/25/17.

-Family Arts Night will be in November

Life Lab Update- Jane Forbes

-K-3 will have a salad party

-4th/5th grades a stir-fry

-Jane is always looking for help. The next work day will be 10/2/16 from 9am-1pm. The planter beds are over 30 years old and she needs help replacing them. Parents are helping to get materials donated.

-Plant sale will be in the spring, March or April. It will be on a Thursday and Friday.

-Environmental club will be for 4th & 5th graders on Tuesday morning recess

Back to School BBQ Update- Kris Chopra

-BBQ will be on Thursday 9/22. Last year we sold over 400 meals. There will be food, games, raffle, & desserts. Please use sign up genius to volunteer. We need help running games, cleaning up, and a PA system.

-Money raised goes toward outdoor science camp for 5th graders

Discussion: Measures A & B- Tim Madsen

-The state does not have a way to raise funds for school facility improvements, so there will be 2 bond measures on the ballot this fall

-The board of trustees is asking for financial contributions to help pay for the campaign.

****MOTION****

Motion to donate \$1,000 to Measures A & B campaign brought by Michelle Nicely

Second by Cristine Chopra

Approved unanimously

Program Approval: Chess Club- Sarah Wickens

- Chess club will be for 2nd - 5th graders this year. Chess master is a district position because it requires a TB test and background check
- Fee for instructor will be \$1,800

PTA News/Program Updates- Sarah Wickens:

- Sweatshirts: chair position has been filled
- Spirit Wear: open
- Movie Night will be on 10/7: Nightmare Before Christmas (PG)
- Education chair (Cristine Chopra) will meet with Sarah Wickens to discuss meeting topics for the year.
- Dining for Dollars: only a few families participated on 9/14 at Surfrider Café. Next event is in October at Kianti's.
- Event Chair meeting: Tuesday, September 20 at 8:30am
- Drive for Schools: Anna Turner is chair. Last year our school made \$8,000. Westlake gets to keep all the money raised.
- Popcorn/Popsicles: We may need to have a price increase for this year. New prices may be: popcorn \$1 and popsicles \$1.50 ea. Chairs are trying to get donations.

Open Chair Positions Remaining- Sarah Wickens

- Please contact Sarah Wickens if you are interested in chairing any of the following:
 - 5th Grade Culmination
 - 5th Grade Day Away
 - Enrichment Co-chair
 - Goodwill Truck Drive
 - Spirit Wear
 - Wildcats and the Arts

Open Forum for Questions/Comments re: Direct Appeal Incentives- All

- Incentive ideas for getting families to participate in the Direct Appeal:
 - extra recess/class party for class with most families participating in direct appeal, buy a brick, giving tree
- 5th grade class is always the highest participating grade.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:15pm