

Westlake PTA Meeting

April 24, 2014

Board Members and teachers in attendance:

Clyde Curley, Principal
Jeanie Darling, PTA President
Mel Sweet, PTA Treasurer
Papaya Van Dyke, PTA Secretary
Tim Madsen, PTA Parliamentarian
Terry McInerney, PTA Arts Co-Chair
Jane Forbes, Life Lab Instructor
Jane Heyse, Teacher
Adrienne Cramer, Teacher
Kristen Lenz, Teacher

Approximate attendance: 30 people

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

President, Jeanie Darling, opened the meeting and called for order.

Natural Bridges Re-Opening Update

Tim Madsen reported on the work of the Committee working on the Natural Bridges reopening. A meeting was held last week concerning the proposals for reopening, and a large number of Bay View parents attended, as that school looks to be the most heavily impacted by all of the proposals. There is an online survey available for all parents to express opinions on the proposals. The committee meets again on May 5, and will present their suggestions to the school board, which is expected to make a decision in June.

Review of Last Minutes by Papaya Van Dyke

Secretary, Papaya Van Dyke, reviewed the minutes of the last PTA meeting, which was held on March 20, 2014.

***** MOTION**

Motion to approve the minutes was brought by Deana Tanguay

Motion was seconded by Jane Heyse

Minutes were approved as presented unanimously

Principal's Report

Mr. Curley reported on several ongoing and upcoming events:

Mr. Curley encouraged parents to respond to the survey regarding Natural Bridges to express any concerns and comments for the committee. This survey will be used to make recommendations to the board. Parents can also send an email with opinions to Kris Munro at kmunro@sccs.net. There are still many outstanding questions about how the reopening will work, such as grandfathering, staff, etc.

He congratulated the 3rd-5th graders who participated in the field test of the SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) this week. Students used Chrome books for testing, which was a new experience. A certain amount of money from the state is set aside for technology, and the school will receive money to purchase 250 Chrome books. Because the testing format is changing, students will be working more on typing skills beginning in 2nd grade. Results from these initial tests will be looked at by the Assessment Consortium only. School districts, schools, and parents will not receive any results. Parents or teachers can contact the curriculum director with any concerns with the testing process, etc.

Mr. Curley expressed his appreciation to everyone who made International Day/Night such a successful event, especially Deana Rabiah and Victoria Sanchez Toledo.

Walk to read will end on May 16.

The new program by the PBIS is called PROPS, which allows staff members to recognize other staff members for excellent work.

Several events are coming up, including the Day of Dance on May 23, Open House on May 22, the STEM Assembly on May 16, and 5th grade Science Camp, field trip and graduation.

Treasurer' Report by Mel Sweet

Mel reviewed the budget report, a copy of which is attached. The final numbers from the Art Auction show gross income of approximately \$57,000, and the expenses of approximately \$23,000, so the net income was approximately \$34,000. (50% goes into arts income, and 50% to general income). Last year's net income was approximately \$36,000.

The Art Card fundraiser made approximately \$2800 this year, down from \$4500 last year.

International Night cost approximately \$620 overall. This event should not be a fundraiser, but could likely break even in the future.

The Direct Appeal is currently at just under \$51,000, and the PTA is still receiving corporate matching funds.

Mel also reviewed the check register, a copy of which is attached. The check register includes checks written from March 17, 2014 to April 23, 2014.

*****MOTION**

Motion to approve the budget report and the check register was brought by Terry McInerney

Motion was seconded by Deana Tanguay

Motion approved unanimously

Life Lab Report

Jane Forbes expressed thanks to the members of the Environmental Club for their efforts over the school year, including campus cleanups at recess. Life Lab has been busy with stir fries and salad parties, and Jane is preparing for summer planting.

Arts Committee Overview

Terry McInerney reported on upcoming events. There is an off-campus art exhibit at the Library through May. Artwork will also be going up in the halls for Open House. Work is progressing on the culminating art project with Linda Piera. Art card orders are in, and this program did not generate as much money as last year. Next year they are planning to use Artsonia, which would allow parents to purchase artwork year round. She thanked Lisa Koenig for all her work on the art cards.

First Friday in May will have an art exhibit with 48 students' artwork at the Salon on the Square next to MAH. The district music concert will be Wednesday, May 7 at the Civic, and will include high school, middle school, and elementary school performers. Day of Dance will be May 23. Shakespeare to Go will be performing for 4th and 5th graders on June 4. Finally, Ms. Egdahl's class and Ms. Diebert's class will be performing plays for students and parents.

PTA News and Program Updates

Jeanie Darling gave updates on several items, as follows:

- a. Jeanie expressed appreciation for all the work done for the International Day and Night. Teachers suggested that they would like to meet earlier in the year to incorporate their ideas. An International Day parent can be added to the Back to School night sign-up to get parents in the classroom involved even earlier.
- b. Nicole Levey presented information concerning the playground painting scheduled for this weekend. Mr. Curley has been told by the district that they plan to seal and slurry the playground this summer. This would mean that all lines would need to be repainted, and it would be better to postpone the playground painting project until later. The paint and stencils are ready to go.
- c. PTA Board Elections: Elections will take place for the PTA Board Elections at the next PTA meeting on May 29. Jeanie announced that there are several parents who have stepped up to fill board positions. There are still some open chair positions, such as Movie Night chair, Sweatshirt chair, and Drive for Schools chair.
- d. Movie Night (Frozen) will be Friday, May 2.
- e. The Walk-a-Thon will be on Wednesday, May 14. Information will be going home along with a pledge sheet. There will be prizes for students, and Mr. Guy will be playing music. Lucy Navabpour will make announcements to the students and staff.
- f. 5th Grade culmination preparations are underway. The 5th grade day away will be on Monday, June 9, and the graduation ceremony will be on Wednesday, June 11.

- g. Dining for Dollars: Nicole Levey will look into the possibility of Dining for Dollars at Mission St. BBQ.
- h. The Teacher Luncheon will be on Thursday, May 12 at Messiah Lutheran. They will need parent volunteers.
- i. Emi Willet is starting to get advertising for next year's Directory. She is planning to send out an email to Westlake families about the ads in mid-May. Costs are \$200 for the front inside/back outside; \$100 for the back inside; \$90 for a full page inside; and \$65 for a half page.
- j. Parent volunteers will be needed for the STEM Assembly on May 16, and an email sign-up will be sent out.
- k. The Goodwill truck was filled and earned \$1000 for Westlake.
- l. Carrie Haber will be working on improving the PTA website next year.
- m. Everyone is invited to the Bridges to Kinder celebration in the MUR on Saturday April 26 from 3-5 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.