

Austin Creek Parent's Club
General Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 7th, 2017 8:30am (Science Lab)

1. Call to order 8:36am by Dave Traver
2. Board Member Roll Call: Meets a Quorum

Executive Board Members and General Members in Attendance:

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Tari Power | Teresa Jacobs | Katie Ruppe |
| Susan Leslie | Ailsa Rothman | Dee Bergum |
| L. Kiranmayi Acharya | Emily Pope | Nicole Eriksson |
| Angie Caster | Dave Traver | Erin Stammer |
| Deanna Holzapfel | Jenny Lynch | Janine Taylor |
| Lynnea Mackey | Stacey King | Courtney Negrevski |
| Mary Traver | Melissa Romandy | Laurel Chamness |
| Cindy Wu | Lisa Brown | |

3. Approval of meeting minutes from 5/5/17
 - a. Motion to approve: Deanna Holzapfel
 - b. Second: Mary Traver
4. Principals report: Jenny Lynch
 - a. New school year is off to a great start: new language arts program, much more integrated with technology, can be accessed from home by students – more user friendly and helps students decode, built in ELL so it allows same program for all students, will take time for teachers to learn program – already getting good feedback from teachers
 - b. Upcoming meeting for parents – addressing academic challenges September 18th and September 25th
 - c. Wanting to take Science Fair and turning it into a Stem Fair – more work coming from the students, teachers are excited about it, need parent input
 - d. NGSS at SCOE – Amanda Probst and one other teacher attending class to explore what standards look like and how that transfers to the classroom
 - e. Contacted about Hurricane Harvey – adopting a school? How can we help? Looking into how that will look and what can we do.
 - f. Money given at last meeting for Kinder tables and Gaga pit: proposed place for Gaga Pit was in the fire lane which is a no, other site is the library lawn but would require astro-turf which is not effective. Needs other options for how to spend this money. Kinder tables – teachers wanting to remove wood chip drain and

place tables there. Needs to talk to maintenance staff about getting an outside bid for timeliness in getting the wood chips removed.

Question: can we rearrange playground? Gaga Pit takes up about half a basketball court

Question: by Janine Taylor – who is in charge of scheduling regarding 6th grade camp so students don't have to miss Halloween Parade. A: Principal Lynch will check on set up camp date.

Question: by Dave Traver – why are we affiliated with a camp that doesn't respond to our emails which raises questions for quality of care for students. Can there be alternative camps? Concerns for safety and quality issues. West Minister Woods is the camp. Great science and outdoor experiences. Camp does an excellent job of bringing students together. Experience from previous camper/parent was that there were no safety concerns.

2. President's Report

a. Concerns about recent hurricanes in Florida and Texas. Wanting feedback from Principal on how to help with relief.

b. In terms of gratitude: thank you to Yen Ngo and previous board for all the hard work over the past two years.

c. Garden: kept up over the summer with lots of volunteers and interest. Overflow of tomatoes, lots of gourds. John Harvin is working with Principal on plan/design. Wanting a Garden Club. Plan is to have 6th grade competition to design the garden and work with other classrooms to determine what goes in the garden.

d. Two barren walls around garden: wanting to do murals. Dana Valareno – mural designer around community. Looking specifically at the green walls and hand ball courts. No contract yet. Katie Ruppe: suggestion that 6th graders at another school participate in the painting/designs. Dave is looking into a "paint by number". Water damage and algae is growing on some of the walls. Mechanical cleanup needs to be done – mechanical brushing, etc. Looking into specifically getting mural paint

e. Richard Wassen from Buvaree will come and set up butterfly gardens. We have not had the expertise to keep the butterflies alive in the past. Richard will be doing this for free.

f. Movie Night: upcoming event on Friday Sept. 15th. Please come.

g. Jamie Ballard is interested in organizing a multi-cultural pot-luck. Contact Dave if interested and to volunteer.

h. Executive Board meeting occurred last week: no motions made.

3. Treasurer's Report

a. Budget: same budget as last year. No new items.

Motion: Emily Pope

Second: Ailsa Rothman

Motion Passed, No Opposition

4. Committee Updates:

Walkathon – update from Katherine Larson

- a. Looking for corporate sponsors and soliciting donations
- b. Open positions available: at home positions, day of positions; if we can't fill those positions then we won't have them
- c. Teresa Jacobs volunteered for Crazy Hair!
- d. Dave gave synopsis of what Walkathon is
- e. No baskets this year from Classrooms.
- f. Corporate Sponsors: recently sent home, TBD, currently Smile Orthodontics; lots of perks for businesses, Platinum Sponsor can take out add in Yearbook
- g. Discussion regarding conflicts of Sponsors
- h. Reminder: 2nd Parent's Club informational meeting tonight at 6:30
- i. Room Parents: please grab banners from Multi Purpose Room for tonight's meeting

Assemblies: update from Teresa,

- a. Current agenda: examples include portable planetarium, Chinese acrobats, Science Lab,
- b. All dates have been scheduled

Author's Day: none

Box Tops: Tari Power

- a. Please cut out box tops, worth 10c
- b. Parties in the past for class with most box tops
- c. Offering this year: option for students to exchange box tops for prizes in office
- d. Next collection date is Oct 17th
- e. Go online: there are sweepstakes to enter online, box tops for education

Amazon Smile: Tari Power

- a. We get a deposit into account every month
- b. Have to set up link to account from home computer (can't be done from an app)
- c. Amazon gift cards give 5%

E-scripts: Tari Power

- a. Safeway no longer participates
- b. Participants: Oliver's, Target online
- c. All links are at the bottom of AC website: links are at the bottom of page; sign up as every little bit helps

Family Fun on the Town

- a. Baskin Robbins Scoop Night– can only be done on a Thursday night
- b. Potential Date: October 19th

Family Fun on Campus

- a. Come to Movie Night

- b. Organized by Jamie Ballard
 - c. Wanting to foster community at AC so talk it up
- Field Day, Fine Arts Reception – occur later in the year
- Hospitality
- a. Coffee and treats at meetings
- Concerts
- a. Need someone to fill
- New Parent Liaison – Shelby Moller
- a. Has been going on over the summer
- Staff Appreciation
- a. Dave passed out Thank You Notes from Teachers
- Compassion Fund
- a. Nice note from Parent’s who received \$ from Parent’s Club
 - b. Yen suggested: Kohl’s has a fundraising opportunity to get \$500 – needs approval to use 501c number to get money
 - c. Please bring to Board’s attention if you know of a family who is in need and may benefit from the fund/line item of the compassion fund; confidentiality is importance
- Marquee
- a. Loves the new letters
 - b. We don’t have enough letters to duplicate both sides – Katie Ruppe suggested changing one side where the website has been listed
 - c. May need more letters
 - d. Putting Walkathon Sponsors on one side, Themes for the Month?
- Room Parent Coordinator
- a. Janine Taylor
 - b. One room parent in each classroom
 - c. Still need 3-4 more photo liaisons
- Web Master
- a. Dave Traver is liaison
 - b. Send any requests for blast to acparentsclub@gmail.com or to Dave Traver or Lisa Brown
 - c. Let us know about any needed updates to website – direct to Nicole Eriksson
 - d. Yen Ngo: can we add more photos of students? Send photos to the Parent’s Club email – give permission to use
- Garden Club
- a. Grant request written by Lisa Brown for 5k – included mural project
 - b. Send ideas for projects to Lisa Brown to get grant funding ie Multi-Cultural night could get a grant
- Spirit Wear
- a. Maybe order t-shirt for staff upfront at beginning of school year – Parent’s Club to cover costs
 - b. Suggestions for next year: Stickers for cars, Water bottles?

VII. Unfinished Business

- a. Need resolution to carry over funds for unfinished projects. Large amount of money leftover in checking.
- b. Books are balanced every year. There has been a surplus. Need to be spending surplus down so as not to retain a profit in the checking account.
- c. Tari Power: writing resolution to carry over funds
Motion for resolution to carry over unspent funds from last year separate from operating funds (Dave to explore if that should be around 20k): Susan Leslie
Second: Katherine Larson
- d. Question: should we be looking into projects to spend \$ on? Tari Power will meet with accountant to find out specific dollar amounts to carry over.

VIII. New Business

1. Report from Katie Ruppe
 - a. **Education Fund**: started 15 years ago at Sequoia when Kindergarten Aid was lost.
 - b. Foundation supports and maintains staff
 - c. Any money that parents give does back to that specific school at this point because no one school raises enough to carry over
 - d. Katie would love for enough money to be raised to carry over to other schools. We need all of our kids to be exposed to the same benefits.
 - e. The Foundation can pay for the Science staff
 - f. Top Priority: Science and Arts
 - g. We don't raise enough yet to cover PE
 - h. We don't have the perception of need in our community.
 - i. Tracking % of parents that give. Goal is 25% parent participation at each school.
 - j. **Enrichment classes after school**: AC does really well with filling up. Classes start next week.
 - k. **Directory is going online this year**: expect some glitches
 - l. **Changing structure of Foundation**: looking into community to get new members on PTAG board. In the past, the same parents/teachers have been participating and are getting burned out. Lots of opportunities to get involved. Information will be sent out.
 - m. **Donors get first access to tickets**: sells out quickly and is a small money maker.
 - n. **Katie wants to hear from us**. Needs out feedback
 - o. **Meetings**: 2nd Monday of every month at 7pm at District Office
2. Discussion Item:
 - a. Ammendment to By-laws: Dave Traver would like to add teachers as members of the Parent's Club. Principals will make available substitutes to allow teachers to attend Parent's Club meetings

- b. This will allow all teachers to attend meetings if they choose to.
 - c. Lisa Brown made a motion to ammend the by-laws:
Second: Laurel Chamness
We did have a quorum for this of 14 members to approve this by-law change
 - d. Question: how many evening meeting will we be having?
 - e. Should we include staff at meetings?
 - f. Suggestion raised by Katie Ruppe: look at by-laws that Parent's Club board members should be at least 50% held by parents
3. Cyber Security Report from Janine Taylor
- a. Meeting occurred this summer
 - b. October 21st at Matanzas – Seminar being held regarding Cyber Security, plan is to see how well attended it is, lots of courses offered, Info will come from the District about this meeting
 - c. November 30th on a school night – tentative date to bring seminar to AC if there is poor attendance from AC parents at the Oct 21st meeting
4. Field Trip Spending from Janine Taylor
- a. Discussion took place at meeting in May regarding how much is spent on field trips.
 - b. This gives an estimate on how much money is requested from parents in addition to fundraising to support field trips.
 - c. Parent's Club gives 10k for field trips and 5k for 6th grade camp
 - d. Discussion in the past about length of 6th grade camp and if Parent's Club can fund 6th grade camp.
 - e. We currently do not have a line item in our budget for this year to fund all of the field trips.
 - f. Do we want to focus funds on other grades?
 - g. Suggestion to give info to think about now and discuss at next meeting. Will be put on agenda at next meeting.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 10:07am by Cindy Wu
Second to Jylene Seitz