

10 June 2008
FoF meeting
Paul's last notes
lichterm@usc.edu

?Quiesiera ud. leer estas notas en español? Pidame una version corta. Escriba a lichterm@usc.edu (y disculpeme por no escribir con las marcas de accento.)

opening welcome

Diane Alanraig is our outgoing president. Al Septien had an idea for the Pinewood Derby: Raffle off a 100\$ gas card. The raffle starts tonight.

Treasury report

Tomas is the outgoing treasurer- Jim Contratto is the new treasurer. Tomas pointed out the main figures in the treasurer's report, available on paper and passed out at the meeting. FoF has netted roughly \$32,000 this year, in addition to what we started the year with in FoF's savings account (see the treasurer's report).

Financial misunderstanding regarding hiring a bus for a field trip: While organizing a field trip, we got quotes for costs from different bus companies. On the day of the last fieldtrip, two buses showed up, and of course we only needed one bus company, not two. The kids got on a bus and people didn't realize there were two companies involved- it was honest confusion or misunderstanding about what had happened. The company whose bus showed up but was not used for the field trip wants money. But there was a misunderstanding because we did not think we had told the other bus company to show up.

Several people say that we made a mistake by putting the kids on the bus without finding out first about the bus companies.

Tomas wants to open a second small checking account for e-bay, to cut down on the chance that someone would try to do cyber-theft from FoF's money.

Tomas concludes by saying we have had a lot of consternation this year and lot of differences. . .but we've worked together pretty well over all and he hopes we can get past this and move forward. Says he never meant to cause trouble; his intention was to do the best thing.

Election update

Paul announces that 4 board members met to talk about the election format for FoF, having taken in what people said at our last big meeting at which we discussed elections and officers.

Pinewood Derby

Diane announces that people organizing the derby looked for things to keep kids busy between the different races. That requires volunteers. It would be great to have volunteers. Organizers will be at the school from 8am onward. The organizers also need

- 2 barbecues, propane-powered
- people to get and sell hotdogs and hamburgers, sno-cones, other food.
- people to set up, and clean up
- people to help run the races
- people to do games and activities with the kids

Hot fudge sundae parties

These are happening this Friday and next week on Monday and Wednesday for different classrooms. There is a sign-up sheet. Diane is organizing it and would like people to help go to the classrooms and scoop up ice cream and help serve.

5th grade cake

FoF always buys a cake for the 5th grade dance- the graduating event for the fifth grade. It costs about \$145.

Motion to appropriate money. Seconded.

Voted: Unanimous.

news about e-bay auctions

Last week FoF made about \$930 just from selling little items on e-bay. Al says it is an easy way to make money for the school. If you know someone who is in a band, works on a tv show and can provide an autograph, etc., these do very well. We got, for instance, a t-shirt autographed by a music star and the star's dog's dog-print (did I get that right??)

The e-bay fundraising method will be mentioned to new, kindergarten parents so they can get involved.

Mrs. Schultz's class decided to do their own fundraising. They have brought in \$300 in small change!

Communication committee update

The committee has been discussing community-building ideas of different sorts. Anyone with an idea should join; it's not a club- it's to generate more ideas for how to make FoF bigger and give it more communication channels. Some of the ideas were:

- tap into room parents for their help in getting information out. There could be a packet for them with ideas for generating communication with classroom parents, increasing the chances that parents will find out about different events, helping them organize communications with parents to be more effective, etc. The packet might, for instance, include a list of all the fundraisers, so that parents know about them in advance. It would also give room parents more ideas about what they can do with their classes.

-the committee has talked to Patrick (the webmaster for FoF) about starting a blog for FoF.

-creating an orientation for parents interested in the School for Advanced Studies program at Franklin.

-bring back the Thursday morning coffee club, as another way to get new people involved in FoF.

-getting a room for FoF somewhere in the building, so we have a physical presence at the school

-bring back restaurant night (FoF used to sponsor these often- where people would all go to one restaurant and buy dinners there and the restaurant would donate 10% of their earnings from participating parents to FoF).

-Jennifer (parent) suggests it's a great idea to have a room in the building somewhere, especially for people who work.

NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: August 5, 2008.

Diane comments that flyers work best when they don't have too much language on them- for ease of reading.

Nurse update

Leslie Wilson's family has a foundation that would like to donate money for a nurse for the school. Leslie says the school currently can afford a nurse one day a week and that costs \$15000 a year. A fulltime nurse would cost \$75000. One reason it is good to have a nurse on campus more often is to take care of diabetic kids; her son is diabetic. Mrs. Sasso says that at least 10 kids visit the nurse's office every day. The office staff has to deal with them, being taken away from their own work, and they are not allowed to administer medicines. They need to call parents.

Leslie suggests forming a "den mothers/den fathers" group that would staff the nurse office. They would not administer medication but do what the office staff is doing now. Such a group could be useful whether or not FoF or the family foundation decides to give money for this.

Leslie suggests that her family foundation can give more than the current amount of money they donated this year, which is 10,000. They could donate about \$45000 from the foundation, alongside the 10,000 they donated this year. The school can currently afford 15000. They ask if FoF would fund the last \$5000, that would add up to the total amount of money for a fulltime (5 days a week) nurse.

One parent says she thinks that it's good to have a nurse there
 Another says that attendance goes up when there's a nurse.
 Another asks what Leslie thinks would be best for the school. Leslie thinks it would be great to have a nurse fulltime.

How long does it take to find a nurse if we do want to hire one?
 Leslie says this is why she wants to talk to FoF now about this because it would take some time. Leslie told us that a nurse at Marshall High School did cpr on a student who had collapsed and was clinically dead, and revived the student, who is now alive. This nurse is the kind of person she would like to hire.

Question: What would a fulltime nurse do the rest of the day.
 Leslie: She or he would have the opportunity to create health programs, do nutritional counseling, do a health fair, connect health with eating habits, pair up with Farm Franklin. Leslie sees the nurse taking a lead to do this kind of programming.

Leslie says this is not about her son and his medical condition- it is about what's good for the school. Instead of asking her family's foundation to fund the whole fulltime nurse she would like if FoF put in some money so that FoF has a stake in the program.
 Motion to support the nurse idea and contribute \$5000. Seconded.

The motion's exact wording is:
 We authorize the board to disburse \$5000 without further vote of the membership as long as a search committee has arrived at a decision about a nurse for Franklin, and has communicated that to the board. The committee's communication will include information about whether LAUSD will pay the amount of money for a nurse that it made available this year.

Yes: 31.
 No: 1.

Question- is FoF saying we are going to spend that amount of money every year.
 Leslie: NO, just for next year.

Noel Janis-Norton, the behavioral training woman
 Ms. Janis-Norton is going to be available to give seminars next year.
 One parent said he didn't get a lot from it and other parents thought it wasn't that useful.

Motion to ask Janis-Norton to do the seminar. Seconded.
 Voted: 31 yes, one no.

Aimee Art Productions
 We need approval to continue paying Aimee to do art with the kids.

Motion to keep paying Aimee for next year, similar to this year. Seconded.
Voted: Unanimous.

Jenny Donnel Ceramics

Jenny would like to do ceramic activities with the kids- Franklin has done this in the past.

Motion to appropriate money for Ms. Donnel for next year, like this year. Seconded.
Voted: unanimous.

Kid's Klub Flyer

Would anyone like to do a flyer that can be passed out at an exercise place that encourages people to come and the business will give some money back to FoF.

Fruit and veggie bar idea

Jenni Hetrick reports that this is still in process. Farm Franklin is still working with the school district on it.

Announcements:

Nina announces that if anyone is thinking of having their kid go to Marshall High School in the future, there is a group of "friends of" Marshall's SAS program forming. SAS is "School for Advanced Studies," a school-within-a-school program that kids get into by applying, having good grades, getting letters of recommendation, and going to an interview. It's one of Marshall's "small learning communities," among several others. The parents group wants to support SAS and Marshall the way FoF supports Franklin.