

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 24, 2017
Room 304 at 5:30 P.M.

OPEN SESSION

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER** by Board President

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm.

- 2) **ROLL CALL:**

Robert Feinberg (RF), Board President (2019)	X
Meg Rydman (MR), Secretary (2018)	X
Heather Fletcher (HF), Treasurer (2018)	_____
Mark Swanitz (MS), Member at Large (2019)	X
Melanie Sutton Hodgdon (MSH), Member at Large (2018)	_____
Elizabeth Dowhower(BD), Member at Large (2020)	X
Linda Mayer (LM), Elementary Teacher Rep (2018)	X (left at 6:31pm when closed session was called to order)
Debbie Trujillo , Middle School Teacher Rep (2018)	X (left at 6:31pm when closed session was called to order)
Jim Brown (JB), Superintendent College School District	X (left at 6:31pm when closed session was called to order)
OTHER ATTENDEES:	
Mark Palmerston (MP), Executive Director	X

- 3) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** for October 24, 2017

Motion to approve the agenda: MS

Second: BD

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved 7-0-0

OPEN SESSION

- 4) **Public Comment**

None.

- 5) **Board Business (5:30-6:15pm)**

- a. Board Training-Brown Act, Board Roles and Responsibilities provided by Alan Blakeboro

Alan Blakeboro presented information to the Board to further its understanding of the structure of school governance and Board member responsibilities. Topics included: general information about the Ralph M. Brown Act; how the Brown Act affects how the Board conducts business, including what constitutes a meeting, requirements for Board agendas, and closed session matters; statutory regulations regarding conflict of interest; other guidelines for conducting meetings and memorializing Board actions; and general keys to good governance.

- 6) **Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of Minutes for Meeting September 19, 2017

Motion to approve the agenda: BD

Second: LM

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved 7-0-0

- 7) **Standing Reports**

- a. Teachers' Report

Primary Grades

Kindergarten

Kindergarteners are excited with all that has been going on around campus. In language arts they have been discussing parts of a book, characters, and predictions. Students were able to learn about the bookmaking process with the help from one of the Kindergarten parents who created her own

children's book and brought it in to share. In math they have been using manipulatives to represent numbers and add/subtract numbers. They are also exploring 2-dimensional shapes. Students are excited about their upcoming field trip to the pumpkin patch next week, and to prepare they have been learning all about the pumpkin life cycle. They have also been enjoying learning about watercolors in their Arts Outreach class on Friday afternoons with Ms. Megan.

First Grade

First graders are having fun with the spooky holiday, Halloween. They are learning to draw the Ed Emberley as they create Halloween stories with skeletons and haunted mansions. They are learning expository writing through telling how to carve a Jack O' Lantern. In math they are working on learning how to add and subtract within 10. They are exploring measuring lengths with non-standard units as they measure tables, books, and themselves. In science they are exploring solids and have created tower structures. In social studies they are completing their self portraits and name interviews. They are beginning to work on their autobiographies. Recently, they visited Lane Farms in Santa Barbara and learned that a pumpkin is a fruit and not a vegetable. They had fun on a hayride, petting baby goats, and picking out pumpkins.

Second Grade

Second graders have been busy. They started the week with a field trip to Avila Valley Barn where students took a tractor ride, picked out two pumpkins, ran through a hay maze, and enjoyed feeding farm animals. Inside the classroom students have completed unit 1 in their Math Expressions book and are experts at solving problems using Common Core. Second graders have become familiar with the Chromebooks, they are focusing on their next literacy theme (Nature Walk), and they are working on strengthening their writing skills. They have been talking about the life cycle of pumpkins and also the lifecycle of a butterfly as they welcomed a caterpillar "pet" to their classroom. Students are keeping an observation journal in their science binder to keep track of each lifecycle stage. In addition to this they are focusing on hands-on learning activities using inches and centimeters. For social studies, students are finishing up their unit on "needs vs. wants" and "goods vs. services" and are preparing for their "community helpers" unit.

Third Grade

Third graders were busy and excited this past week as they wrapped up their rain forest unit with baking rain forest bread in the kitchen on Tuesday and a rain forest buffet on Wednesday. Students brought in their rain forest dioramas and shared them with students in grades kindergarten through 4th grade as well as teaching them what they have learned on their researched rainforest animals and why it is so important to save the rainforests. They have already raised over \$330 for the endangered Sumatran Tiger. Their next unit of study will be the Chumash culture. They will have a teacher(s) from the Chumash Reservation come to teach lessons to the children about the Chumash language, history, and culture starting in November. They are in the middle of their reading series about "Traditions" and are learning about traditions from different cultures and parts of the world such as immigrants from Russia, the Ashanti people from Ghana Africa, and the Pueblo Indians from New Mexico. In math they have finished both units 1 and 2 on multiplication and division facts and strategies. They will continue to work on their facts throughout the year with fluency checks. The big focus has been on reading and writing word problems and how to solve them. In unit 3 they will continue with measurement and measurement word problems using multiplication, division, addition and subtraction facts. From the October 9th training at the high school, they have incorporated mindfulness breathing, Mind Yeti videos, and are learning to be in more control of their bodies and actions towards others.

Fourth Grade

In language arts the 4th graders finished their first novel study. The students enjoyed learning new ways to analyze the text and have continued to apply them to the series of short stories they started reading. In math they have successfully completed their first unit. Ms. Ackermann was happy with the students final assessment and it allowed her to group the students for reteaching group rotations. Even though their Math Expressions training was cancelled, she was able to get an email response to several questions. She is exploring the adaptive aspect of the program to help challenge the students who have already mastered certain skills. She also registered for the CMC math conference in December. She is excited to learn new math strategies that can be implemented in the classroom along with the Expressions curriculum. The 4th graders have also started their Arts Outreach classes. They are working on "California Dreaming" which aligns nicely with their current unit in social studies.

After the Valley Wide Conference Ms. Ackermann decided to start using a few mindfulness activities along with a journal for tracking behavior and for personal accountability. She has incorporated it into their Google classroom. This allows her to easily comment on and respond to their reflections.

Middle School

Language Arts

Fifth graders are starting their second novel of the year, The Whipping Boy. The focus will be on developing reading comprehension skills as well as vocabulary. The goal is for students to not just memorize words for a test, but to be able to integrate them into their own spoken and written vocabulary.

Sixth graders have also started their second novel, The Sign of the Beaver, and are looking closely at how authors use literary devices to enhance their stories and draw the reader into their world.

Seventh grade students are writing a thematic essay exploring a chosen theme topic from the novel Crispin: Cross of Lead. Some of the chosen theme topics include: power; courage; love; friendship; and perseverance. Students will use evidence from the novel to support their ideas as well as draw parallels from their own lives and the world around them.

Eighth grade students completed their thematic essay exploring a chosen theme from the novel The Outsiders. Some of the chosen themes include: identity; reputations and stereotypes; loyalty; friendship; family; and social justice. They are about to begin their unit on Greek mythology.

Mathematics

Fifth grade students will explore and understand the base 10 number system and how place values are affected with the multiplication or division of a power of 10. They will be using place value to add and subtract, round, and graph decimal numbers.

Sixth graders will be looking at additional methods for displaying data, including dot plots and stem-and-leaf plots. They will also explore area and how multiplication relates to area by using generic rectangles to model multi-digit multiplication.

Seventh grade students will be working with repeating decimals, understanding how to write equivalent portions in fraction, decimal, or percent representations. They will be introduced to justifying/writing a proof. A major focus will be on understanding integers and how to combine positive and negative numbers using all four math operations. Students will also practice creating graphs using appropriate scales in order to accommodate all the data in a graph.

Eighth grade students are continuing their work with the algebra tile manipulatives in order to gain a concrete understanding of simplifying expressions/solving equations. They will then continue to make connections between graphs, equations, tables, and story representations.

Social Studies

Fifth grade is coming to the end of a big chapter studying the tribes of the US. They have also just about finished their state reports. The state poster has been handed in, the project is due Friday, and presenting begins next week. The class is very excited to show each other their state floats.

Sixth grade is coming to the end of studying ancient man. They all know the Homo habilis song by heart and randomly break out in song during class. They will end the unit with an art project where they draw cave art like the Cro-Magnons.

Seventh grade is also coming to the end of a big chapter studying the rise and fall of Rome. They have been presenting their research projects for the last week and should finish up this week with a chapter test on Friday.

Eighth grade started studying the American Revolution and just finished their slide projects about "20 Important People of the Revolution." Wednesday, the class is going to the Reagan Library. The special exhibit is on the Titanic. The class is looking forward to their visit.

Science

Fifth grade students are wrapping up their first unit learning and experiencing the scientific method, variables, data analysis, states of matter, solutions, & mixtures. In the next unit, they will learn about the physical and chemical properties of matter.

Sixth grade students are wrapping up their first unit learning and experiencing the scientific method, variables, data analysis, states and changes of states of matter on a molecular level. In the next unit, they will learn about geology - the structure and processes that make our planet so unique.

Seventh grade students are wrapping up their first unit learning and experiencing Earth's geologic and biologic history including erosion & the rock cycle, principles of uniformitarianism & superposition,

plate tectonics, and the fossil record. In the next unit, they will learn about the microscopic world of cells - different types of cells, their structure and function.

Eighth grade students are wrapping up their first unit learning and experiencing the physical and chemical properties and changes of substances, comparing and contrasting elements, compounds, and mixtures.

Other Classes

Physical Education

Coach Gills is pleased to report that the students continue to impress her. Students in grades 5-8 just completed a football unit. Middle school students will complete the trimester 1 project which involves making a 2-3 minute fitness routine that includes components of fitness. Students in grades K-4 practiced drills such as throwing, catching, and handoffs.

The Jog-a-thon was a complete success. Overall, students ran with better breathing and pacing. The number of students that put forth a genuine effort has steadily increased in the years Coach Gills has been at the school.

Genius Hour

Genius Hour in full swing. Topics and groups have been chosen. Beginning next week students will start to build their group projects. Research has begun with students each participating in developing investigative questions and finding the answers.

Music

No report.

Garden

No report.

RF asked if there is a way to learn more about some of the challenges teachers might be confronting. He commented that he appreciates the detailed information, but he wonders if additional feedback or information could help inform the Board's work. There was a brief discussion of whether this would be in addition to or in place of what the teachers already provide. The Board is in favor of in addition to. MP will add "issues and concerns" to shared Google doc for teachers' use to make reports.

b. PTSO Report

The minutes from the PTSO meeting dated October 11 were shared with the Board. MP commented that the PTSO-organized jogathon was successful.

c. Treasurer's Report

MP reported that the auditors came last week. Mercedes's diligence is key to the efficiency of the audit. MP is still working to provide proper information for accounting.

Processes have been put in place to make sure safeguards are in place during HF's absence. MP will be making deposits, two additional (separate) people are counting/verifying funds.

d. Director's Report

Camps

Sixth graders are off to Camp Ocean Pines in Cambria Monday, October 23 thru Wednesday, October 25. This will be a new experience for our students, including a great trip kayaking in San Simeon. They are traveling to and from camp with parent drivers.

Eighth graders leave for AstroCamp in Idyllwild on Monday, October 30 and return Friday, November 3 from their adventures. They will travel to and from camp with a chartered bus.

Negotiations Update

We met to negotiate last on September 20, and mutually declared impasse. The paperwork was submitted to the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) on October 18. The next step is for PERB to assign a state mediator who will work with us on the next steps of negotiations.

Jog-a-Thon

Congratulations to all of our children for their efforts today at the Jog-a-Thon!

Thank you to all the volunteers who came as early as 7am and stayed late to make today a success.

Here's the info we gathered today:

-Students ran 4,546 labs which is equivalent to 413.28 miles! (WOW!!)

-We collected \$3,997 dollars with an additional \$10,096.81 pledged.

-We are within \$1,000 of our goal to raise \$15,000. If we do so, Mr. Mark has pledged to be subjected to some sort of fun (like last year's silly string). Please help us get to that goal.

-November 6 (Monday after everyone returns from camp) we will have our awards assembly to give away all prizes.

-We recognize that there are a few errors with our t-shirts and we are working to help make amends with each family. We apologize and thank you for being patient and understanding, you should be hearing from us early next week.

CSD Board Presentations

A quick note to refer the Board to MP's update from the CSD presentation on our Student Support Services, Facilities, and Budget. The next presentation will be on Curriculum and State Assessment Results provided in December.

Program Updates

Working closely with our teachers, we are implementing two rather large new systems this year: Math Expressions curriculum and Canvas LMS. Both of these systems take time to understand and implement, in addition to our regular work with students, planning and implementing engaging lessons, and responses to parents and families. Our work is never without flaw, as we are human. Our support for staff is critical during this time of transition that improves both our student experiences in mathematics, and our ability to transition our gradebook and access to students and parents in a new online format.

In addition to these two systems, Middle School Extended Learning Time has been organized and started.

MP further commented that he was impressed by number of miles run at jogathon.

MP is going to visit the 6th graders at camp to participate in a meal and a hike.

MP encourages additional recognition of and support of staff's efforts when possible.

8) **Discussion Items**

a. State Accountability-Local Indicator: Priority 1 (Basic Conditions)

MP provided background information about the state's new accountability system. This system measures school performance in ten priority areas using a combination of state and local indicators. Four of the priorities make up the local indicators. These four local indicators must be reviewed by the Board and submitted by December 1 through the school's Dashboard. Though elements of these local indicators are items that have already been presented to the Board in other places, they were reviewed and discussed. The priorities reviewed tonight were Priority 1 Basic Conditions and Priority 3 Parent Engagement.

The Board reviewed the summary and analysis of Local Indicator: Priority 1 Basic Conditions, including the section of the State Accountability Report Card (SARC) directly related to Basic Conditions. There were no questions.

b. State Accountability-Local Indicator: Priority 3 (Parent Engagement)

The Board reviewed the summary and analysis of Local Indicator: Priority 3 Parent Engagement, including the many ways parents input is gathered and the many ways parents are involved, including Board representation, conversations, surveys, meetings, and parent volunteers. MP encourages all volunteers to record their hours. There were no questions.

Priority 2 (Implementation of State Standards) and Priority 6 (Student Perceptions of Safety and Connectedness) will be reviewed and discussed at the November 14 Board meeting. no questions

9) **Action Items**

a. None

10) **Next Board Meeting Date**

a. Regular Board Meeting November 14

- 11) Public Comment on Closed Session Item

None.

CLOSED SESSION

Closed session was called to order at 6:31pm.

- 12) CERTIFICATED TEACHER NEGOTIATIONS

Closed session adjourned and open session resumed at 6:52 pm.

OPEN SESSION

- 13) Report out from Closed Session

MP informed the Board about the current status of negotiations with the certificated staff.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.