



BLUE OAK SCHOOL

Approved Parent Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 4, 2022 @ 6pm

Join Zoom Meeting or In-person at Blue Oak in Room 21

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81362996503?pwd=NFRWRWhPclRpMkZ1QmMvY3dkVFROUT09>

Meeting ID: 813 6299 6503

Passcode: t39y2H

1. OPENING (~6:05pm)

1.1 Call Meeting to Order

1.2 Invocation:

This is our school. May peace dwell here. May the rooms be full of contentment. May love abide here, love of one another, love of our school, and love of life itself. Let us remember that as many hands build a house, so many hearts build a school.

1.3 Land Acknowledgement

As we gather here at Blue Oak School, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Maidu people. For many generations, the Maidu lived from the richness of the earth, raising families and shaping the land, and they continue to do so to this day. We pay our respects to the Maidu elders past and present and recognize that this land was not given freely. Together, may we continue to work toward a healthy culture and society that warmly welcomes all people and cares deeply for our Mother Earth.

1.4 Blue Oak Parent Council Mission Statement

The Parent Council serves as the leadership core for the parent body, primarily focused on school community and culture as well as fundraising efforts to help support the financial needs of the school.

1.5 Two-word check-in

PC Reps can help take notes and help relay messages from the PC meeting to each class. This was done last meeting as a Canva summary. This can be done via Parent Square / Acorn. Consistency as a general message is important, but it is also an opportunity to reach out to the classes for specific items related to your class.

Susan D. suggested that Acorn can get lengthy, so suggested that it be posted on the Webpage - on the PC on our own "Vertical"

2. PUBLIC COMMENT > AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL (~6:11pm)

Jackie H. - Community Calendar has some items - weekend of Halloween Middle School Dance. Oct 22nd - Madera's 8th grade class will be having a car show with Chilli, DJ, Live Music.

3. **AGENDA MODIFICATIONS (~6:20pm)** **DISCUSSION**
Please bring forth any edits or modifications to tonight's agenda at this time.

Bylaws to be reviewed at the next meeting.

Jackie H. - Does not need to be reimbursed for the \$150 for Spring dance. See 6.1B.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA (~6:30pm)** **DISCUSSION & ACTION**
4.1 Approve Minutes from 9/14/2022 **1st Karen. 2nd. Paige Approved.**

5. **REPORTS (~6:35pm)** **DISCUSSION**
5.1 Charter Council Liaison - Trisha Atehortua - Kristen Woods to take over this role at next PC meeting. Charter Council held votes for positions. Terms are staggered so that positions don't all expire at the same time. Subcontracts were approved. Unaudited reports. Parents attended to speak about the New School Site.

5.2 Administration Liaison - Susan D - Zoomed with Claire about suggestions for Clothing Swap. Also discussed a Share Board and an evening class for crafting and knitting. Teachers often do this during meetings which can be a balancing for all the heavy work we do. Ridesharing is also a concern, which can help with cost of gas and pollution. Simple and effective ways to support the community.
76 Blue Oak Leaves were handed out for good attendance. The Blue Oak leaves can go to a Party on Wednesday, extra recess and a drawing for a basket. Donations for a basket are appreciated - gift cards, healthy snacks. This week was the Shady Creek Field Trip.
Finance committee - needs three more members. This will be posted in the Acorn.
Committee also serves on the LCAP committee and the Title 1 - which require more parent involvement. Without the parents, the committee will exist, but parent involvement will help. 4:15 is the current time on Tuesdays. 2nd Tuesdays of the month. PC reps can reach out to other parents to see who would like to serve - four positions are open.

5.3 Faculty Liaison - Cheryl Grant - Slideshow was shared of Kindergarten yard playing - play is the highest expression of development. Telling and re-telling of the Princess and the Flaming Castle. 1st - Rhythm of the day - Letters of the alphabet uncovered one letter at a time. 2nd - Shining hearts getting ready for the Harvest Festival. 3rd - Garden beds are being tended and making challah bread as well as working on multiplication. 4th - Celtic knotwork and thinking creatively about animals. Attended floating classroom chinook salmon. 6th - Shady Creek Outdoor School - Study the stars and investigate aquatic life at the creek through direct experience and observation. Celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with recipes in Spanish. 8th - Anatomy and creative writing. Claire's courtyard garden. Some of these plants can be used for dying. Handwork club Tues and Wed. 3:25 - 4 PM. 4th and 5th - Projects "All about Me" projects about their classmates. Spanish - Passport booklet Influential Spanish Icons. Another thing for PC Reps to share with their classes.

5.4 Equity Task Force - Susan D - Hispanic Heritage Month - Spanish Class has decorated. Assembly last Friday too. Continue to build on planning and momentum for the things we planned to do. How often goals are reviewed. Task Force is reviewing novel sets to understand why the novel sets were chosen i.e. Outsiders can be reviewed with the parents and 8th grader, to look at stereotypes and create the conversation. Looking at other options for the next sets. The Givers (25 new sets) - 7th grade - were just replaced for example cost \$400. This could be something that the PC could help support if there are financial needs. Asking for Parent Volunteer to track the novel sets to make sure the sets are complete. Monday 3:30 to 5 in Room 21. Next meeting Monday before Halloween.

5.5 Treasurer Report- Ryan Sanders - Nothing changed from last month. New reimbursements will be reflected next month. Recouped \$150. Currency balance \$19,000. \$3500 earmarked for funding requests. Currently Available \$15,818.65

6. NEW BUSINESS (~7:00 pm)

DISCUSSION & ACTION

6.1 General Funding Requests - Requestor to be present and provide clear up-to amount

- 6.1A - Parent Education Night Speaker, asking up to \$500 - Alicia Trider - Nicole T. asked if there was a list of speakers that have come in the past. Susan D. confirmed that she will be reaching out to the Waldorf community to find a Speaker on Technology. As soon as possible, but date hasn't been selected yet. Current idea will be that a handout will be developed to share the idea schoolwide discussion. Angie E. shared that upper grades were invited to attend in past. In person for Adults only, take the information back to the classroom. Nicole T. suggested that this could be incorporated in the first Friday Assembly so the Speaker could be at the assembly too.

1st Karin Motions to increase the asking funding for Waldorf Media Approach Parent Education to \$750. 2nd Nicole. Approved

Added note from Laurel Stewart the suggestion of the dangers of Mis-Use of media. This was stressed that this should be a requirement of the speaker. Brandy stressed this is important for adults and children. Susan D. - suggested that the additional discussion is huge too. Immediate safety vs. long term brain development. The grades can also be divided to ensure the message is appropriate for younger grades. Reiterating the importance of the speaker. Laurel Stewart - has some volunteers that are from local search and rescue - that are willing to donate their time for this important topic.

Alicia stressed safety will also be discussed for the message to be received. Also discussing the "Think before you act" awareness and discussing the consequences of their actions.

- 6.1B - Nicole T. Motioned to make an Agenda Modification - **1st.Nicole 2nd. Brandy.** Approved Motioned to rescind \$150 allotted Jackie Hammer for Spring Dance allotted to go back to PC Fund. Put back into the PC fund. **1st Ryan 2nd Ashley Approved.**

6.2 Parent/Guardian Volunteers Needed in Spanish Classes

- Please tell your parents/guardians - Live scan approval is required to volunteer at Blue Oak. Talk with Kellie at the front office if you need to be live scanned. Ms. Becca Guerrero would be happy to have help in the classroom. PC reps encouraged to reach out to their parents for help.
- If they speak Spanish, that would be helpful but not a requirement

6.3 Class Fundraiser Reminder - Equity Issues- Be mindful that other classes need to raise funds too.

We are noticing some events are filling up on the calendar. We were reminded to leave room for other classes too. Susan Shared a list of fundraising events that had been successful in the past.

Issues about field trips. Options to pay over time or help other classmates. Thoughts around school-wide fundraisers - ie. Shady Creek is a more expensive field trip. This may be an opportunity for a school-wide fundraiser to assist in making the field trips more equitable.

Brandy - A list of the field trip costs is available in the Lobby for all the expected Field Trips. Field Trip fundraisers usually occur throughout the year. This year was unique because Shady Creek fell early in the schoolyear before fundraising could occur. This request is just for Shady Creek, but it would be a great idea to discuss ways to improve the process in the future. The PC can also help make the list available to their respective classes. Another topic discussed was the potential to reach out to local businesses for additional funding requests.

Brandy shared that these funds should be specific to the activity. Our outreach can be more effective for a specific need.

Dylan suggested that we set up a separate fund for outside donations from local businesses, etc. We can solicit external funds for field trips and this fund can be used to help everyone attend all of the field trips.

Ashley asked if the Parents are being notified of the Field Trips? Teachers are sharing the upcoming field trips throughout the year. Some field trips are not as flexible. Encouraged parents to reach out to the teachers. Early Communication can help mitigate that surprise and associated cost of field trips.

Ryan shared the funds that are expected for each year, with per student cost. In total, it comes out to \$25 per month per student from third to eighth grade to cover all field trips. Stressed that Ryan wants to ensure that monthly contributions go toward specific class fund - and field trips. Maggie shared that funding is always an issue. Susan D. Suggested that we gear the transparency to a suggested donation.

This discussion was great and we will continue to discuss ways we can join efforts to fundraise.

6.4 Clothing Swap on Thursday, October 20 - Nicole Tonelli

- Volunteers needed - Paige will reach out to take any leftovers after the event to be used for a future fundraiser. Time will start at 12:30 on the front lawn. Clean up at 1:45.
- Clothing swaps will continue on the third Thursday of the month. Volunteers are always needed!

6.5 Walk Into Winter

- Set a date: Thursday, Dec. 15? Weekend of Dec. 10+11? Last Year's Walk into Winter - on a December 14th Saturday. 2 to 7 pm. Awesome Music and Cakewalk Which worked well to be able to invite members of the community too.

- Committee formation and volunteers needed
1st. Nicole T. Motions to set date Sat Dec. 10th. 2nd. Paige. Approved

Walk into Winter - Each Class can make crafts for their classroom to sell. Vendors are invited to attend to be part of the Faire too. Food can also be available. And a bake sale. Brandy asked where the raised funds go? Answer: Parent Council fund. Classes who sell at individual booths raise money for their own class funds. Booth Rent goes to PC. Committee needs to be created. If interested in being on the planning committee, contact Alicia at aliciatrider@hotmail.com.

6.6 Music Room Beautification Project

- Volunteers needed - Mr. Anderson told teacher Cheryl that he needs a new rug for the music room.
Cheryl requested up to \$800 for Mr. Anderson to use for the Music Room. Asked if the school has a fund for "Strings". Maggie confirmed that the fund doesn't cover general music costs.
1st Angie E. Motion that up to \$800 for a rug for the Music Room. 2nd Dillan Friendly amendment by Brandy - up to \$800 for Musical items that are needed in his room. Approved.

6.7 Staff Photo Project - Updates? - Waiting for Photos. When they are received. The frames will be updated with the photos.

6.8 Community Facebook Group - Paige O'Connell- Asked if the school has thought about a closed Facebook group for knowledge sharing - events discussion, a place for parents to virtually share information. It could be a double edge sword. We do have a facebook page - can we just use that for our discussions?

There need to be rules to follow: Not bashing the school, welcoming the new parents, sharing of ideas for knowledge i.e. shady creek past years. Does need to be moderated to ensure that participants are parents at the school. Can be helpful for when emergencies arise.

It is important that someone that has knowledge of how to run that Facebook group - Parent Square is also within the parent community. Susan D. likes the idea but it would need to be moderated - Karin, Brandy, Jen.

1st Karin motioned to create a private FB group. 2nd. Paige. Approved.

6.9 Harvest Festival on Friday, October 14 - Updates - Next Friday - Angela Evans - Gave an update. Gates open 4:45 Opening comments 5:00 Play starts at 5:15. This week getting volunteers and donations. Leads will be reaching out to PC reps for what is needed. Potluck and Bakesale - Bring Soups/Breads. More information will be going out next week.

Kristina - Who will be decorating - 1st grade rep - decorations at the entrance - and crafts. There is not a schoolwide sign-up. Each rep will be reaching out to their class for ways to help. Look for an email from Angie Evans.

7. **CLOSING COMMENTS**

DISCUSSION

8. **ADJOURNMENT (~8:20pm)**

