



# BLUE OAK SCHOOL

## Official Parent Council Regular Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, October 1, 2019 @ 6pm in the Band Room**

### 1. **OPENING (~ 6:06 pm)**

- 1.1 Call Meeting to Order
- 1.2 Invocation/2 word check-in
- 1.3 Roll Call of Council Members & Introductions (not needed)

Parent Reps and Officers Present: Nick Kartychok, Franki Boisseree, Michelle Doherty, Liz Martin, Renae Turner, Tara Ayala, Amanda Chambless, Christine Wilson, Amber Pierce, Angie Ernest.

Liaisons Present: Summer O'Neill, Riley Murray, Trisha Atehortua.

### 2. **PUBLIC COMMENT > AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL (~ 6:10 pm)**

Persons addressing the Council without giving previous notice need to realize that there will be no action taken on the items not on the agenda. The Council may limit presentations to no more than three (3) minutes each.

2.1 Angie E.: Presented idea of Mini Movies – Film fest for middle school grades.

2.2 Franki B. asked if the school kindness campaign has ever occurred at Blue Oak. There is a Kindness organization (non-profit) that will come to schools during assemblies. Susan D. suggested that Jennifer Wagner, school counselor can provide input on this subject.

### 3. **AGENDA MODIFICATIONS (~ 6:20 pm)**

Revisions to presenter for 6.3 revised from J. Hammer to N. Kartychok.

### 4. **CONSENT AGENDA (~ 6:25 pm) Approved**

- 4.1 Minutes from 5/7/2019
- 4.2 Minutes from 9/10/19

1st. Michelle Doherty. 2nd Nick Kartychok. Motioned to approve the consent agenda. None opposed.

### 5. **REPORTS (~ 6:30 pm)**

5.1 Administration Liaison - Susan Domenighini - Matching Grant for \$25K. All classes to be aware that field trip contributions can count toward matching grant now! PC Reps can help get this out to the classrooms. Matching is good through the end of October. Still about \$5K short. Reviewing needs and working on getting a new back office provider, before cuts will be discussed. Thanked everyone for support at the Harvest Festival. -Looping- Middle school – Kids do better from going to highschool from a K-8 than from a middle school into high school. Looking at starting middle school loops with a change at either 4th or 5th and starting a separate loop. Giving the teacher the option to choose in this looping as well. There will be a focus on child development break. 6-8 along lines of traditional options. Taking into consideration the knowledge needed for the upper grades. Teacher retention also something to consider in this conversation.

PC reps reflected on benefits of watching both the children and teachers grow together. Switching teachers does develop that transition to the middle school. Electives and main lesson same teacher. Charter council hasn't been consulted yet. Looking at ways to reach out to the parents. Some type of feedback – survey from Executive Director may be sent out. Educating parents sooner would also be a benefit. It was also discussed that



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continuing to boost the Middle School for the students would help. It was brought up that we may want to ask what do the kids think they would be missing?

Next steps: Susan wants to honor the parent advisory (PC) to the Board. A survey may be done, but it is also important to get input from a good cross-section of the school community, which is why this PC discussion occurred.

5.2 Charter Council Liaison - Trisha Atehortua- Graphs were shared to show percentages of students that left the school and why. 20.6% were from the Camp Fire. Population dropped from 373 to 223. There were also 59 new students and graduating students to consider. Some reasons are also unknown. Some moved out of the area.

Mentors will be coming to work with Blue Oak teachers. Outside teachers from Waldorf will come to spend time and provide feedback so teachers can then choose what they want to work on to improve. Another mentor will be coming to work on Core Curriculum. Finally, George will be performing the Waldorf evaluations.

SWOT analysis and Budgets were also discussed.

5.3 Faculty Liaison- Riley MacMillan - Thank everyone for the Harvest Festival Setup. K - Moving into fall with songs about the change in season and getting their lanterns ready. 1<sup>st</sup> - Studying the alphabet 2nd - Fables about the Lion and Mouse. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Life Science, RARE (Recycling Education). 4<sup>th</sup> - Zoology block. 5<sup>th</sup> - Guest Presentations including Worm bins, will be visiting GRUB farm. 6<sup>th</sup> and upper grades are practicing Writing and Meteorology. Seasonal songs are being practiced in all grades.

Dia De Los Muertos will be displayed in the halls as part of the Spanish class at the end of the month. Assemblies are being held. The next one will be this Thursday (10/4/10).

Parent conferences and Lantern Walk coming up. Parade of Lights this Saturday (more details discussed below).

5.4 Parent/Community Liaison- Summer O'Neill - Shared thanks and gratitude for everyone's involvement at the Harvest Festival.

-Shifting focus now into Annual Giving Campaign and Parent Square. All parents should have received an invite into Parent Square by now. October 19<sup>th</sup> - Booth at Patrick Ranch. Looking for volunteers to help from 10 - 4. There will be an outdoor Booth focused on Gardening. Parents and Staff will be requested to help.

Parent Square- Summer can re-invite people if they haven't received information yet. There will be more attempts. Check spam if you don't have an invite yet. Parent Council Groups will also be available. Look for new page just about Parent Square.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS (~ 7:00 pm)

## DISCUSSION/ACTION

6.1 Fundraiser Reports and Planning - A. Chambless - Christine Wilson will check in on our location spot and time for the Parade of Lights. Encourage participants to wear Blue and Blue Oak Garb. Bring lanterns that



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were previously made. Angie E. has quarter page flyers that will be handed out this week. Songs will be sung that are traditional with the Lantern walks. Blue Oak Banner will be used. Flyers and information will be provided this week. Students and their parents can walk. Christine will Check in at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Salem for the school. Rest of school participants can meet at Laxon. Riley will reach out to Teachers to help. Look to Constant Contact, Parent Square and Facebook for info. TLDR bullets will be provided to summarize. Wear good shoes. There will be lots of standing. Fundraisers – Applications need to be submitted at least a week in advance to

Coordinate and have request approved. Box tops. Box tops need to be submitted

By November 1<sup>st</sup>. This will require a fundraising application. Michelle and Amber will ensure that that happens.

Potentially Pie donations (Example)– as soon as a structure of fundraising event is designated, submit the application to the front desk.

Winter Wonderland needs to be submitted in advance of the event for the school to consider.

Materials Fund Drive – Visibility can increase now. Matched contributions go through to the end of October.

Teacher appreciation in May. Discussions are still in the works.

Treasurer Update: Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> - \$18,990.45. Approved Games, Handwork, Chess Shirt requests (see September Approved Minutes for Amounts. Made \$520 from the Harvest Festival bake sale. \$50 from the store, plus internet sales still pending. \$18,119.45. Considering liabilities/allocated still outstanding from funds committed in June (Box dinners \$2k set aside for this year), therefore **\$16k is available**.

#### 6.2 Funding Request, up to \$500 - S. O'Neill - **Approved**

Childcare budget to provide childcare at Blue Oak events from 10/2/18 to 10/31/19.  
Motion to approve 1<sup>st</sup>: Angie Ernest, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Liz Martin. All approved. None opposed.

#### 6.3 Funding Request, up to \$1,000 - N. Kartychok - **Approved.**

School Store restock items (beeswax, colored pencils, silks, crayons, etc.)  
Motion to approve 1<sup>st</sup>: Liz Martin, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Michelle Doherty. All in favor. None opposed.  
Discussion: Nick will work to bring the cost down in light of our current budget. This funding request could be used through May 15<sup>th</sup> for additional orders if needed for restocking. Holiday orders can be made in advance if they are paid for before order is placed. Markups will be included. Large orders will reduce re-stocking costs for each order as well.

#### 6.4 Funding Request, up to \$2,000 - R. Turner - **Approved**

Winter Wonderland event advertising, decor, food & drink, entertainment, and materials for crafts to be sold.  
Motion to approve 1<sup>st</sup>: Franki Boisseree, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Liz Martin. All in favor. None opposed.  
Resources available may need to revise after considering the Budget. Entry Fee would be a source of income. Hay bale lighted walk. Goodie bags, Food for resale, crafts, storefront making. Marketing and entertainment. The supplies would be re-useable for the next event. Outside vendors \$60. Vendors associated with the school could get a discount more like \$40. Summer can reach out to local artists.



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Vending applications would need to be approved. Many vendors may be booked for fairs already. Location: At the Blue Oak School and some events outdoors. Time slot of 2 – 7 pm was discussed. Potentially Thursday could be an option, but sales may be better on Saturday or weekend. Parent commitment for staffing the booths could be better if classes are grouped.

#### 6.5 Funding Request, up to \$15,000 - R. Murray

Teacher induction program - Handful of teachers who are new needing to complete their preliminary credential work. Teachers who are working full time and still need to continue with Teacher Induction Program. New teachers are required to pay \$3,600 to go toward the program and must start and complete the first year of the program within the first 5 years of teaching. Program takes 2 years to complete. Wanting to see if there is a way to support these teachers for this program. This request was also brought up to the Charter Council with a letter read to the council. After orientation and completion of assignments, approval of this program would benefit teachers the following year. Previous years inductions were also discussed. This past summer budget reductions and increased number of new teachers. Pel Grants were received last year, but not this year. This request could be revisited next spring. Currently there are a number of teachers (5) who haven't started the program. Gifting the School as a whole at the end of the year is one way PC can help school needs as a whole. There are more opportunities for fundraising opportunities throughout the year. PC reps were cautioned to decide without knowing what all other funding needs there are within the community. PC typically supports specialties requests. A large request would affect the PC's ability to fund future requests. If a Surplus in PC fundraising efforts is found, the PC could go propose grants at the end of the year. This is a good opportunity for the group to work on scholarships grants. PC could work on assessments of what needs there are. The Charter Council Finance committee would also be good to attend for financial details, needs and discussions. PC to keep this on our radar.

#### 7. CLOSING COMMENTS

#### DISCUSSION ONLY

Amanda Chambless reminded PC Reps to send out information to their classes.

#### 8. ADJOURNMENT (8:22 pm)