**Parent Group Meeting Minutes**

**April 18, 2012**

* **Dale:** 
  + Thanks to all the people who have volunteered throughout the year.
  + We are waiting to hear what the funds will be available for school grants
  + Discussion on when registration should be held. Due to peer taught classes, consideration needs to be given for those classes that maybe offered. May 11th is class registration for all current students.
  + BBQ and new school year mentioned and calendar will be discussed later this evening.
* **Ken:**
  + Travel Scholarship applications should be available soon.
  + Monday, May 20th, the last week of school planning is underway, watch for more information
  + End of year conferences will be on Tuesday the 15th and Thursday the 17th.
  + Revised – probation and the travel policies will be posted on the Flash
    - Travel scholarships are normally a one-time scholarship to a student.
* Comment:
  + Regarding the Flash: A number of comments showed people are pleased with the improvements made over the year on the Flash. Forms are being worked to be update on line or able to access on line.
  + Would John be available during conferences should parents/students have questions regarding schedules and paths needed if the student is college bound?
* Calendar:
  + May 10th last day of normal class schedules
  + May 11th registration for current students
  + May 14th Activity day. This is a day of school and should not be considered optional.
  + May 15th conferences\*\*
  + May 16th Graduation and presentations.
  + May 17th conferences \*\*
    - \*\* students attend their conference and may leave for the day afterwards
  + May 18th Teachers Last Day
* New School year
  + Suggestions made to change or suggest the following for next school year.
    - 8/21 BBQ 530 pm
    - 8/21 730 pm New family orientation
  + Auction – 9th grade sponsors; Rebecca suggested that the current 8th grade class meet before then end of school to organize for next school year. Date suggested is May 9th at 515pm. This would allow for everyone to think about this fund raiser over the summer and hopefully keep on the lookout for donations for this event.

Auction scheduled for November 10th from 6-10pm. Parent and students involvement is crucial for the success of this fund raiser.

We would like to have the Parent Group meetings prior to the Ad board. This allows the Parent rep. to attend and for there to be flow if information so that parent group can inform reps. Of how the parent group thinks about a particular issue and will vote accordingly.

* All community meeting, suggested to change to 9/27
* Proposed:
  + 8/21 Parent Group meeting at 530pm with New Family Orientation at 7pm
  + 8/29 BBQ and all community meeting
  + 11/30 second semester registration

Please double check date order on calendar, a few items were out of place.

Alternative School fair, suggested to add this discussion to the Parent group agenda in December so we can plan to assist anyway we can. Everyone feels strongly that this is a benefit to the school and we would like help.

The group suggests that school events, i.e. dances, all night activity would not be scheduled the night before testing is being done.

March 2013, All Community Meeting, suggestion is a date should be put in as a place holder and to hold the meeting prior to spring break.

Would staff and students be willing to change which All Community Meeting they sponsor? Suggestion from feedback of our students due to schedule conflicts with spring break and the time needed to organize the event.

Other suggestions: Move Olympics to 5/3

Move Activity Nite to 4/5

Re: hopefully no snow in May and No exams the next day.

Elections thoughts? Chairs normally rotate.

Recruitment and retention: Mark was present and will be sending out to the Flash a request for a few volunteers to assists in the review of applicants for this stipend volunteer position. This position would report to the Parent Group.

Souper Steller:

Alyse reported that the Souper Steller Committee suggests to give this project more to the students to empower student service and leadership next year. Here are their suggestions to accomplish that:

* Advisory and cooking club students, and their respective families to become as involved as they wish to be to own the process, with a few parents on lead providing a template for advisory groups.
* Each advisory group takes a Friday per semester to plan, prepare and serve (with the help of a few parents, if the advisory would like it). Not every student would be mandated to help.
* Could also be a Passage project (nutrition, leadership, economics, food handling and cooking, marketing, volunteer coordination, etc) if student would like to take on the challenge.
* The few parents on lead will also offer assistance and inspiration to help be sure meals are served every regular Friday.

Thank you to students Aisha and Bridget along with parents Stephanie, Victoria, Patrick, Joe, Michelle for taking an active role in the thinking about whether Souper Steller should continue, how to get greater input as to how it should look, and coming up with great ideas! Thanks also to the advisory groups who reported feedback.

Funding: We will be looking for funds to start this off next year and are considering fund raising options to keep this going. Ideally this could be funded by donations where the students and staff would not need to donate to have soup on Friday. This eliminates issues of someone not being able to afford this lunch option.

Ideas are for an added donation line to the parent form that is distributed at the first of the year. This program can only continue if it will pay for itself. This would need to explain that this is a donation to the program and not a guarantee that this lunch option will continue, or is buying your students lunch for a period of time.

\*\*\*We are also looking for possible business partners looking for an outstanding and healthful way to contribute to the entire Steller Community.

In May’s Parent group we will look at forward funding for Souper Steller. Thank you Camden, Tony and Alyse for bring this option to our school.

Finances:

* Sunshine fund authorized $150, Summer has list of items she will turn over to Rachel who will have someone do the shopping.
* Request for funds to help pay for clickers for the math class were requested. This was tabled until May. – seconded to postpone by Mark
* Gifts and class donations. Donations to the class rooms were approved earlier in the school year and checks will be cut to the teachers.
* Other gifts for thank you, the motion was not passed by the majority.
  + More research and consideration will be done prior to the May meeting where this may be presented again.

Secretary Note: Shortly after our meeting started Ken and Dale heard of the disturbance across from the school. They put us in a voluntary lock down. As events unfolded, this went to an actual lock down. The community meeting was canceled as the streets were sealed off so the police could do their investigating. We had a pot latch dinner planned and had plenty of food and water so we continued the Parent Meeting. A little after 7pm the police gave us the OK to leave the building. (however the parent group meeting continued until 825 pm).

I was impressed with Ken and Dale, how they calmly went into action to make sure we were safe and how they kept us informed on what was going on. I had never been in a lock down before, and I had a sense of security that they knew what to do and although I was nervous, I was comforted that they were there and took charge of the school. Thank you.