

General Parent Meeting Minutes August 25, 2015

Members Present: Kim Symon, Kelly Crantford, Joie Linser, Jennifer Garcia, Jana Stark, Gina Brenner, Chelsea Meyers, Lissa Ellegood, Lauren Busterna, Juliette Miller, Richard Grosse, Angela Lyman, Sarah Giles, Stacey Camarote, Amy Scharffe, Melissa Volck, Tara Brock, Heather Gerker, Gretchen Bayer, Julie Byrne, Sarah Stitzlein, Kathy O'Hara, Lisa Fleischman, Amy Becker, Carrie Smiley, Sara Sheets, Chris Vockell, Scott LeCates, Craig Rozen, Shawna Wingerberg, Melissa Price, Tim Cook, Karen Huneke, Kelli Jasper, Sarah Gilchrist, Gavin Gilchrist, Margo Smith-Joseph, Gina Wallace, Matthew Wallace, Robyn Appino

Meeting Called to Order at 7:08pm (General Parent Meeting)

- Welcome: Gina Brenner, President – Goal for this meeting is to focus on the budget and the future of fundraising at Sands.
- Presentation of Power Point – overview of SMPO
- Chris Vockell – overview of athletics program. Basketball is kicked off the Friday before Thanksgiving break (looking at 11/20 for the basketball showcase). Little Eagle basketball camp usually runs in January or February – some of the coaches are there and some of the older players as camp counselors.
- Jackie Roberto, Garden Committee – Gina presented her power point presentation in her absence

Principal's Report, Sarah Lord:

- Sands currently has 711 students, we are starting the year by promoting a positive school culture. Everyone is safe, everyone is happy, everyone is learning.
- Changes with morning announcements: Pledge of Allegiance, 6th graders are doing the announcements, Friday jokes, Thursdays recognizing “overcomers”- helping children to learn to persevere
- Business assembly with Ms. Finney last Friday – kids had lots of fun doing different dances. Spirit days on Fridays.
- In the process of hiring someone to help keep the CPS website up to date and assist in the computer lab and with other technology needs.
- The magnet school enrollment process is changing to a lottery system in order to promote a more equitable way for parents to enroll their children. This transition starts in October of this year. There will still be an early window for sibling priority registration, and preschool will also be a lottery. Discussion forums will take place beginning in November.

SMPO Budget & Reserves Presentation (Gina Brenner)

- Capital Reserve Fund, Endowment, Annual Operating Budget
- Education & technology fund drive has to be spent *that year*
- PTO Board, ILT, LSDMC control the Endowment fund for the intention of large purchases – acts as an emergency fund (\$20,000)
- \$5,000/year to spend – this will stay the same unless the board changes that amount
- SMPO Fundraising – our goal of concentrating our fundraising has changed and this has affected our fundraising in general
- Our budget has gone down considerably in the years since 2011
- The biggest chunk of our budget is for direct classroom support (school buses & in-house assemblies, planners for 9-12, etc). With requests to use the funds in the category of direct classroom support, we have to look at the number of students who will be affected/helped with each request.

- There are two budgets on the table tonight: Budget A was discussed at the July Rudder meeting
Budget A – \$10,000 projected for silent auction fundraiser
Budget B – no silent auction (\$10,000 less in the budget – this affects direct classroom support the most)

Discussion followed: Do we want to do the silent auction in the future? We do not have a fundraising coordinator (Kristen Liggett is considering sharing the position. Richard Grosse commented on his personal experience with Sands and school fundraising – there are ups and downs, but we should go with our current positive culture and try to do a silent auction).

Sarah Gilchrist motioned for the Rudder to approve Budget A, Lissa Ellegood seconded the motion
13 in favor, 1 nay vote
Budget A passes
Passed by acclimation

Tutoring Program -Robyn Appino presented information on the tutoring program – need volunteers to come twice a week for 45 minutes. Email Robyn if interested – sandstutoring1@gmail.com

School Enrichment Programs – Lissa Ellegood shared that a separate email address has been set up for questions about SEP
sandssep@gmail.com - Tela Durbin and Lissa Ellegood

Spirit Wear, Sarah Gilchrist – a stand will be set up at all major school events - Open House, Grandparents Day, Carnival, etc, and order forms will also go home in backpacks

Announcements

Next Rudder meeting - Tuesday 9/15 @ 7:00
Open House 9/21
Grandparents Day 10/2
Carnival 10/3

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25pm