

Foothill PTO Meeting Minutes

Thursday May 12, 2022; Zoom, 5pm

1. Welcome (Haylie)

- Attendees: Haylie Lott, Nick Vanderpol, Monica Mount, Ranjeet Pawar, Lisa Coburn, Marnie and Suzanne Larson.
- Vote to approve March 2022 and April 2022 meeting minutes; approved.
- Vote to approve Kristen Bendell for fundraising chair; unanimous approval.

2. Officer Reports

Fundraising (Haylie) -

- Kristen Bendele is now the Fundraising Chair for the 2022/23 school year.
- Signage for Blofish and Wong Orthodontics is still needed.
- Morrison Construction is asking to be a sponsor for the upcoming school year. No determination was made by the board as to move forward with this partnership; Nick expressed that he does not feel like the school needs an additional sponsorship given the PTO's current funds but that the \$2500 would be welcome should Morrison Construction like to move forward.
- Nick hopes to have an end of year party that is tied into the Bricks to Grow fundraiser.
- The goal for the Bricks to Grow component of the party is to raise \$5K. Nick feels \$5K is the more reasonable route (less pressure) than the 20K that was initially proposed.
- The idea of having a dash station for the end of the year party was discussed. Bike Bonanza Day had a dash station that was a success.
- Nick suggested possibly purchasing a dash station and donating it directly to the school. It would likely get used every single day, at least for a good while. \$6K is a lot but he feels it is worth it. He thinks it is a priority that the playground have more options.

Community (Lisa) -

- Haylie, Lisa and William met to go over next school year events.
- End of year party scheduled for Wednesday, May 18, 5:00pm-7:00pm.
- 3 food trucks (Lenin's Wood Fired Pizza, Los Dos Bros, Kona Ice); face painting; use the speaker system with William's playlist instead of live music; \$500 budget will dictate options.
- Eblast details to Ranjeet- The families won't really know about this event yet so advertising asap.

Treasurer (Monica) -

- Budget and year end results were reviewed (*please request slides from Monica for exact numbers).
- Spirit gear went slightly over budget so the board won't spend as much initially next year.
- Enrichment was under budget but put back in budget for next year.
- Bike Bonanza spent twice as much as budgeted (\$600 to \$1100) but the extra expense came ahead of time to get approval of extra money. The board needs to brainstorm how to reduce costs for next year; perhaps, an outlet for donations to cover extra costs or an individual/business donate a bike. The \$800-\$1000 budget seems reasonable.
- Staff appreciation and conference meals was roughly \$1200 over budget which Suzanne and Tierney Gerber personally covered. The extra costs were not approved ahead of time. It was agreed that they be fully reimbursed and that next year's budget be increased.
- Nick and Suzanne suggested at least \$3,000 for next year, ideally more if possible.
- Staff appreciation is now broader than the teacher association. Paras felt seen and heard this year, starting from the gift cards at the beginning of the year.
- Spring fundraiser for next year has a budget of \$3000 as of now. Haylie suggested that it be a minimum budget in comparison to past years but ideally even more. Precovid the goal was \$30K (look at 2018/2019 numbers). Then covid happened. Nick thinks we vote 3,000 to stay conservative.
- Everything else was on par with expectations; this is where we want to be as an organization.
- Budget was voted on and approved.
- Nick requests the \$24K by the end of June.

Communications (Ranjeet) -

- Ranjeet emphasized that he needs newsletter submissions by the Thursday night deadline each week.
- Plenty of events are happening but nothing is being sent to him to advertise.
- Calendar items should be provided the moment they are determined.
- Information concerning an event should be given to Ranjeet in a separate email and not something that he has to stitch together by rereading a long email chain.
- Can the PTO ask parents what they are savvy in? Very helpful at Jarrow. Perhaps, incorporate a questionnaire in the new parent packets.
- School administrators are in need of instruction around newer programs.
- Ranjeet likes to push people to the pto website.
- Admin tend to lean towards the school newsletter for information for people who don't know how to access the pto website.
- Bottom line, pto and school admin have worked well enough over the past school year.
- Nick encourages the board to get the changes they hope for and keep staying open administrators' suggestions.
- Engagements on the website were up with 750 views in April. This was the most active

month over the past few months (likely because of all the events like Bike Bonanza, Bricks to Grow, Heritage Night, Walk/Bike to School.

- 350 new users came to the website. This should be taken with a grain of salt given how new users are created; what is more important is the page views which provide a more concise idea.
- Most engagements are going directly to pto.com and email list.
- Facebook also had much more activity in the last month or so than in the fall.

Garden To Table/GTT (Marnie) -

- Should we keep the program given the significant increase in cost that is scheduled to occur for the 2022/2023 school year.
- 2022/2023 is when \$3700 is expected. T
- Increase in fees is over 400%. GTT is saying it costs them \$10K.
- Normally we pay after we get services; payment is not on school schedule.
- The program provides each grade with a lesson designed for that grade level. It gives plants and seeds and is scheduled around planting and harvesting (this takes away flexibility for teachers). It also provides maps, support around care for the garden for summer months.
- Marnie reached out to the teachers to get their feedback and there was an overwhelming consensus that, if we have parent support, the teachers do not want to stay with the program.
- If we leave the program and we're starting from scratch we need to make sure we have the parent support.
- Marnie is willing to be the coordinator for the first year.
- There are a lot of programs in the community that we could utilize.
- Teachers want more flexibility.
- Marnie thinks we can easily create our own program and fund it with parent volunteers.
- Haylie thinks GTT does want our business. Regardless of that, she thinks it is a budget issue which makes us tighter with a \$3700 charge.
- Nick suggests that Foothill discontinue GTT services as of 2023. He will write an email tomorrow to the director, Stephanie, to cancel contracts. We will pay the \$800 for the contract we are under. We will work with the teacher and parents for a new self directed program.
- Combine garden and school grounds funds to have more funds for the spring.

Principal's Report (Nick) -

- Teacher/staff retirements to be announced in the upcoming days.
- Late start Wednesdays will likely stay for many years to come; definitely for next year.
- Onboarding the new principal, Sennan, is going extremely well. "The school is getting a rockstar." Nick has known her for 15 years; she is super solid and kind. He is excited for the community. She was in school yesterday getting to know the community; a seamless transition.

- CMAS - School based goal was reading which blew expectations out of the water.
- Funding staff to work with kids; there is no better investment.
- Nick is proud of the staff and school and to have been a steward of the community for the past 4 years.
- He could not have done all of this without pto support.
- He thanked the Foothill community for trusting him with the students and fundraised dollars.

President's Report (Haylie) -

- Summer meetings backed up to the kinder playdates; these can be added to new parent packets.
- Upcoming school year meetings will be held on Thursdays at 11am, ideally in person at Foothill.

3. Conclusion

Comments from Attendees - none.

4. Adjournment -

Time of adjournment 6:47pm.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday June 11, 2021; 12pm Kinder playground

PTO MEETINGS HELD 2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, WHEN SCHOOL IS IN SESSION, FROM 11:00AM - 12:30PM IN MAIN OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM

DURING PANDEMIC, PTO MEETINGS HELD 2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, VIA ZOOM, AT 5PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83618371248?pwd=ZjAyQ2VtN1V4L2RrcUtpczlvc3Vwdz09>

Meeting ID: 836 1837 1248

Passcode: d1PDmn