

DRAFT

Garfield Elementary PTA Community Meeting

March 7, 2024

Meeting Minutes

Meeting started 6:31 PM

Attendees:

- Karen Deckard – President
- Tiffany Kulseth – staff representative
- Megan Christopher – Bookkeeper
- Brendon Chertok – Principal
- Gina McCune – Treasurer
- Terra Sullivan – Secretary
- Mr. White – Art Teacher
- Community members

Welcome

Karen

School Updates

- Mr. White – Art Night with Mr. White. Discussion – make this a part of STEAM night (with math and technology)? Will talk more about this idea after Cispus. Have the event towards the end of our spring fundraiser. Community event (free) but welcome donations. Invite Artists from community, could do or could watch, art gallery of kids art. Some artist in community are willing to join already. Jeremy was willing to run games/activities in gym Canvas? Smaller would be less expensive. Could also do bisque ware (same idea as at painted plate). Could do bowls or coffee cups? We can get a good group of volunteers. First, start with planning. PTA would buy the supplies. Fewer activities (compared to crafts on family night).
- Silent auction with a few items?? And/or student art sale to benefit art department.
- Looking at May 3rd. PTA will follow up with MR. White on timing, STEAM vs art night, more specific ideas.
- Classified staff appreciation – next week
- Cispus – next week Wednesday through Friday. Weather is looking promising, will warm up in the next week.
- Parent Education Night 3/14 at LP Brown
- Conferences late March (week of March 25), sign up via Skyward. Half days that week – 11:35 dismissal. Spirit Day March 29.
- Spring Break April 1-5
- Standardized testing coming up in April and May

- Purchase school supplies in Spring for next fall – staff asked to refresh school supply list. School will buy in bulk. Ask families to donate (based on average cost). Ease stress for families, equalize for all kids. Teachers can reach out regarding special items if needed. Overages can go into a budget line item, excess funds would be available for teacher use throughout the year. Think about timing – maybe do this AFTER

Spring Events/Fundraisers

- Feedback on letter – please give to Gina. Megan has info on postcard mailing based on radius from a location, this could be a good way to reach
- Touch a Truck – posted on facebook, next door. Will add on lunch to announcement. First 30 minutes will be sensory friendly, earplugs provided
- Spaghetti Feed - partner with Olive Garden. Need flyers – after spring break. Karen will update flyer from last year. Discuss additional food (on top of donation) – maybe Costco or work on a donation.
- Art Night – discussed earlier in agenda. Need someone to lead on this. Maybe just start with Art Night (STEAM later if we get good traction). Karen will work on these conversations
- Teacher Appreciation. Meals and snacks – difficult recently because we don't have enough participation. Mr Chertok can add to newsletter, Megan can add to sign up sheet. Coffee cart? And Fill the Fridge? Taco lunch was pretty easy to do. Mr. Chertok will do soup on Wednesday (later day). PTA provide bread, salad, desserts?
- Book Fair – sign up, volunteer sign up sheet – add to web site.
- Headless Mumby fundraiser May 23, we need to advertise. Can we open up back room, we could bring paper and markers.
- Teacher supply reimbursement – will send out in April – this is in the budget, Karen will look at amount.

Upcoming PTA Board Elections

- Marianne and Karen will no longer be on the board next year, so we need to bring in some additional board members for next year. Reach out to folks who may be willing and able to participate.

Student Mentorship Program Presentation

- Antonio McClinton and Javone McClelland here to talk about student mentorship program. Why do we have a student mentorship program? Student of color are experiencing things that are pretty embarrassing in 2024. Antonio Shared a parent email – racist event a student experienced this week, and appreciation for BIPOC club and mentorship program as valued resources for this student. Program focuses on community, connections, and confidence. Includes students of color and white students, with a focus on supporting students of color. Peer mentoring – students support each other. Team mentoring – staff in the building have an interest in supporting students/group. Plan – connect schools to feeder schools – so Garfield students would have an existing resource as they move to Jefferson, etc. These groups also give students an opportunity to see

black students and students of color in leadership role. At Garfield, group is meeting every other Tuesday, have had 2-3 meetings. Time to chat and hang out, students are interested in decorating the room – they have given a long list to Javone. How does this equate to whole child? How are students selected to participate? Antonio presented to whole 5th grade class. Anyone who is interested in joining – send a parent interest form, take home and talk with family. Purpose is to support students of color. Parent participation form is sent out. Capacity is 10-15 students per advisor. Prioritize needs based on parent feedback form. Can direct to other resources based on need stated on parent feedback form.

- What is happening in school/district to address negative behaviors? Reviewing handbook. Discriminatory speech/incidents fall into a grey area. Lots of discussion. Response varies depends on context, age of student. Morning meeting/discussion – address the idea of racial slurs in that context? This program is a start (in year three of program).
- You have more interest/need that seats and are currently triaging need? What needs to happen to build capacity in program? Building a procedure manual. Then apply for grants. Ideally – two coordinator roles, one for elementary and one for secondary. Piloted bringing in college student athletes for volunteer/internship hours, would build capacity to support more students. Need to work towards compensating advisors.

Meeting adjourned – 7:50 PM