



Director's Report

For the Board of Directors of Sherwood Montessori

October Meeting 10/4/2011

- Back to School Night was incredibly well attended. Next year we will schedule kindergarten earlier and have an extra staff person for child care in response to feedback that the youngest kids were tired and the playground was crowded.
- Response to Annie B's seems to be greater than last year; final numbers will be available by the next BOD meeting. In other fundraising news, we are gaining clarity in our direction as SMPO co-presidents, Lisa Schmidt, and motivated parents meet with me and exchange ideas. SMPO members expressed that identifying things that would be cut if fundraising goals are not met would motivate participation, making this an upcoming task for the budget committee.
- Expansion has led us to another unforeseen cost: the need to add some rooms to the security system. We need to add three more rooms to the system (library, director's office, and the 6th/7th/8th math and science room. The cost is \$1065. Under spending on other lines will balance this cost on the budget.
- More staff members are adding benefits this year, but the cost will remain under budget as the old plan was replaced with the choice of two less costly plans. Employees were also given an opportunity to purchase Aflac to supplement their benefits and the sales representative reported 5 teachers interested.
- We had a visit from CUSD's head of Maintenance Operations and a few tasks will need to be completed, including modifying the playground boxes to provide ADA access (cutting boards and laying down rubber mats), adding more fall material, closing "S" hooks on playground swings, using a smaller table outside the kitchen and replacing a vent in the kitchen.
- I have been giving tours to interested families and we have added two students in the kindergarten and we have had one second grader add and two kindergarteners add. We have two openings in kindergarten, one in the 1st/2nd/3rd grade class, two in the 4th/5th class, and five in the 6th/7th/8th class.

- Working with the teachers and Paula as the SBIT coordinator has our school running as a Professional Learning Community (PLC). In the PLC model, all staff members and volunteers are coordinated to give students who need more support the help they need. I will be conducting guided reading groups for students in seven groups, and Paula has been working with students on Read Naturally as well as training parent volunteers to run this research supported program.
- Initial requests for Proposition 39 are due on or before November 1st. I have begun gathering information and creating the document that will need to be submitted. Charter renewal paperwork is due in December; the CCSA urges charters to get it done early to give time for process. Russell and I have begun combing through the charter and MOU to find places we want to revise.
- Attending a California Charter Schools Association (CCSA) did not result in any major news to report. I will be attending two meetings in the first week of October for charter schools. The Charter Action Network hosted by Butte County Office of Education will meet for the first time, and Chico Unified, our authorizing district, will hold a meeting hosted by John Bohannon. Both groups have conveyed that these meetings are intended to clarify expectations and roles and to support area charter schools.