

## SMPO Meeting Minutes

This meeting took place on Tuesday, February 9 2016 in Carin's classroom. The meeting was called to order at 5:45pm. Present were Romie Steffenson (President), Jeanette Conery (VP), Michelle Yezbick (Director), Jessica Ordaz, Stephanie Norlie, and Daniella Vittoratos. Secretary Russell Shapiro was absent due to a work obligation. Jeanette Conery taking notes and typing minutes.

Before we got to the actual agenda, we had an impromptu discussion of Sherwoodstock. Peter DiFalco is heading up the effort this year, and is going to appreciate all the help he can get. Jeanette will consult the volunteer sign-up spreadsheet and forward names and contact info of people who expressed interest in helping out at the beginning of the year. SMPO would like to have Sherwoodstock planning team represented at each meeting until the event for updates and to coordinate support.

The Lost and Found will be cleared away before winter, spring, and summer breaks. This is in the parent handbook. Please be responsible for claiming your items, or they will disappear. SMPO intends to send reminders in the future.

### Director's report:

- Good enrollment for next year.
- January trip to Montessori mega-school in Reno was inspiring.
- Sherwood has been getting lots of positive press lately.

### School Board update was given by Michelle:

- Board retreat didn't happen due to scheduling issues. Board is looking at ways to prevent this in the future.
- CUSD will have a bond (E) on the ballot in November. If they don't include charter schools in the bond, charter schools will oppose the campaign and it will fail. Meetings regarding this matter are ongoing. We await further information.
- Board is in talks with Chapman Elementary about the possibility of renting space from them. There are only talks, let's not jump to conclusions. Perks for us would include plenty of outdoor space at adjacent 20th Street Park and shared use of multi-purpose room.
- Board is discussing how to replace Danielle, the Spanish/Language Arts teacher. Teachers will attend Montessori-based Language Arts trainings every other year, and put to use in classrooms. English Language Arts Intervention Specialist to be hired. Still working on a plan for the Spanish program.

Discussion of usefulness of having Room Parents. Conclusion was that they are useful, and we should continue to have them. Room Parents should come to SMPO meetings OR send a brief written report if attendance is not possible. Next year, SMPO will be more insistent that Room Parents commit to attending meetings.

Daniella Vittoratos (Green Committee) toured the campus with Robyn DiFalco, Executive Director of Butte Environmental Council. They identified areas for improvement in regard to our "greenness." Still expecting to book an educator from BEC to come school us on recycling. Discussion of using older students as "recycling monitors" at lunchtime.

Volunteer Tracking- Some feel that we should go back to paper reporting only, and not use internet. Next year, we will ask one parent to collect forms from office each week and record data from home.

Sarah Richmond has volunteered to organize the Skill-a-Thon. She will need help. None signed up at the beginning of the year....

Open forum discussion regarding Chef Richie's Cookbook. Parents want to be sure that the cookbook is not taking away funds from garden/cooking program.

Discussion about fundraising. Fundraisers should not compete against each other (bake sale during soup sale). Parents would like to see a cost/benefit analysis of our fundraisers, to see if we can maximize our effort.