



MVSEG Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

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1. Welcome and Introductions:

Benita Spector called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. She welcomed everyone and thanked Claudine Czerny for all of the delicious New Orleans dishes she made for the meeting and thanked Jasmine Jaffe, Uttara Natarajan, and Marie Duquesnay for all of the decorations and Mardi Gras masks.

2. General Business:

a. Minutes: Joey Brandt made a motion to approve the January 2012 minutes as written and Harriet Yoergler seconded.

b. Treasurer's Report: Mike Spector shared the Treasurers report. We received \$600 for the photo fundraiser. \$108 for the woman doing workouts at Mar Vista Park. We received a lot of silent auction RSVP's and payments. Phon-a-thon is up to over \$80,000!

Treasurer's Report Summary – July 1, 2011 - February 8th, 2012

Net Receipts:		Program Expenditures:	
Phon-A-Thon	77,735	Music: Assemblies	0
Silent Auction	10,951	Music: Materials (Donation Carryover)	190
Party Book	4,350	Visual Arts Teacher + Materials	13,856
Gift Wrap	14,072	Playground	0
Spell-A-Thon	330	ETC –(34 New Apple Computers, cartridges, enrichment, professional development)	44,148
Scrip	5,774	Kinder Aides + Teacher Aides	5,598
Big Boo Raffle	13,529	PE Instructor	0
Big Boo Boo-Tique	2,611	Computer Instructor	16,000
Restaurant Night	2,058	Student Activities Coordinator	6,183
Power Broker	0	Tutoring Coordinator and materials	13,792
Talent show DVD sales	20	Librarian	14,166
Photo Fundraiser	600	Science Aide + Supplies	10,690
Spirit Wear	547	Teacher Funds	5,600
Other Donation	374	Field Trips	0
Green Dolphin	300	Community Day	2,860
Emergency Kits	1000	Landscape Maintenance	1,040
Interest Income	119	Dolphin News	1,073
Tile Program	(176)	Publicity	106
Library Bookshelf Donations	0	Website	46
5 th Grade Culmination Donation 2009/2010	3,500	Growing Great	0
5 th Grade Culmination Donation 2010/2011	3,284	Misc. Admin	1,861
Fundraising Total:	140,976	Total Current Year Funding:	137,206
Balances:		Prior Year Commitments	165
Cash Balance:	195,121	Total Funding:	137,370
Scrip-on-hand:	9,955		

c. Principal's Report: Mrs. Choe reported: Computer classes are going great. The 2nd semester of the dance program just started and the 1st semester of theater started for some classes which will go until the end of June. Third grade teachers had lots of great things to say about their students at their grade level assembly yesterday. The third grade teachers spoke about the code of conduct and the kids are responding well. Mrs. Choe has lunch with the grade level award recipients later in the week, which is a highlight for her. The 5th grade trip to Big Bear is next week, and Ms. McFerren is going, but the other two fifth grade teachers chose to stay behind. Ms. Berman and Ms. Douangsitthi will go in their place. All



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students that want to go are going, but some chose not to go. We are still looking for some camp counselors, and may have some students from New Roads who will receive community service hours. They will all receive training from the Outdoor Science School once at the camp, and there will be at least 4 cabin leaders for the girls and 4 for the boys. 5th grade spirit series is in progress, with the show on Monday. The 4th grade will be starting their spirit series and their performance is next Friday, Feb. 17th.

d. Teacher's Report: Ms. Berman, Ms. Douangsitthi, and Ms. Rees reported: Joey Brandt thanked teachers for going on the 5th grade trip, as did Melanie Rhalter. Ms. Douangsitthi mentioned San Diego wild animal park trip being planned for the third grade, thanks to a Fedco grant. She also thanked Jasmine for writing the grant and Mrs. Choe for the idea. Mrs. Choe mentioned appreciation for teachers at Mar Vista who are open to suggestions and follow through with action. Mrs. Choe is going to go to the Wild Animal Park too. The teachers also mentioned the kids are loving the computer classes.

e. PTA Report: Joey Brandt/Kristen Purcell reported: Box tops drive is going on, so send them in for popsicle party, and please cut on the lines as Mary Connor has to clean up any prior to sending in if not cut neatly. New parent information night is February 22nd at 6:30, and Samantha Snyder is still looking for help if you're willing. Founders Night is February 24th at 7pm and honorees are a mystery. There will be a theme of an awards night like the Oscars. Student council members will participate and the 5th grade chorus will perform. It will be a great night to come together to celebrate the PTA, and everyone is welcome. Typically it's a full house. They also need help monitoring the 5th grade chorus while they're waiting in the cafeteria. The Reflections winners were announced and are: For Literature: Jinu Song - Award of Merit, for Photography: Nicholas Allend - Award of Excellence and two awards of Merit, and for Visual Arts: Ethan Rund - Honorable Mention.

3. MVSEG Business:

a. Silent Auction/ Party Book – Uttara Natarajan/Marie Duquesnay reported: The Silent Auction is coming up March 3rd. Please register and buy your tickets if you haven't already. So far early bird tickets yielded 120 RSVP's, but we need to keep momentum to get another 120 to sign up. Uttara and Marie will come to the staff meeting to explain how it's going to work in case teachers have any questions. Ads and sponsorships will end on the 13th. Bruce said we're getting some big sponsorships in, and trying to get families to sponsor too. Some families sponsor at the \$75 level, all the way up, and any donation is helpful. You can also sponsor online by adding it to your account. The auction committee meets every Tuesday at 8:30 am. Claudine Czerny reported on behalf of Heather Turner, regarding Raffle ticket sales. Raffle tickets went home yesterday or today with kids. The Wine Raffle was approved, and Kaz Saito graciously offered her home, across the street from school, to be the drop off place for the wine, during certain dates and times. Raffle tickets for the wine basket will be sold at the silent auction only for \$5 a ticket. Depending on donations you might win the whole loot, or we might split it up if there are tons of donations. No more party book parties schedule until after the auction, but hoping to sell some parties at the auction. Still online and can rsvp there. Need more volunteers at the event to help with set up. Lots of great donations already and the online catalog will be up soon.

b. Restaurant Nights –Lillian Matayoshi and Beth Sampson reported: Lillian mentioned the Brian's Shave Ice fundraiser today and yesterday, and lots of new families went today. The Champagne Bakery fundraiser yielded \$200 the first night. Timona Bridges did an all call and we doubled the second night



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with \$400. The owner was so happy that he's going to do another one for the 5th grade culmination next month. The Robeks/Pops hot dog's next door was so impressed with the crowd that they want to schedule one for us soon for two nights. Beth mentioned there is a Kay 'n Dave's 5 day/night fundraiser Sunday February 26th-Thursday March 1st where we'll receive 20% of the proceeds. Islands on Pico Blvd. by Westside Pavilion will also have a Restaurant night (dinner only) for us March 28th. The 5th grade is also doing a fruit juice bar sale this Friday after school.

c. School Cents – Benita Spector reported: \$1500 made last year, it's so easy, just turn in your receipts. February 20th and 21st Westside Pavilion is having a blood drive, which Mar Vista can receive 10,000 points per donation. You can make an appointment or walk in, and there are flyers with all the details in the hallway. We're in 7th place and need to pick it up. Thanks to all of those who took receipts in January for double credit.

d. Grants – Elaine Coleman reported: They wrote a grant to test the soil in the area of the playground where the bungalows used to reside, so the plans for that area can move forward, and we won the grant for \$3000! Waiting on a Whole Foods grant for \$2000 that we think we'll win too, and we think they might want to continue supporting the garden with materials as well. They're starting to look at some foundation grants this month and next. There are many grants we apply for that we don't get, but Elaine likes to share the successes. We won an \$800 grant for recorders for 3rd and 4th graders. Teachers are the recipients of many of the grants and they're so thankful for the parents who write the grants. Ms. Rees mentioned the desire for a summer school grant for kids who need just a bit of instruction so they don't get behind.

e. E.T.C. – Melanie Rhalter reported: Planet Bravo is doing so well, and they are so proactive in fixing anything that needs fixing. Craig Jaffe was instrumental in getting this going and Melanie thanked him, as he was present. Energy and movement behind the learning is going so well. 3 teachers immediately signed out carts for Monday using the form online! Melanie is doing a story for the Dolphin News. Mrs. Choe added that no matter how high tech we get, we still need some low tech things too (bought a tarp to cover a \$40,000 cart, and magic erasers to clean the laptops with.) Amy Dugre donated a smart board about a year ago and just donated a projector arm, which will go into Ms. McFerren's room because she has enough seniority that she most likely won't be RIFed and she's very tech savvy. Elaine asked about future LAUSD testing plans to move to tablets, and Mrs. Choe mentioned that she's not sure, but since tablets (not iPads) are pretty cheap, where textbooks are expensive, believes it could be a possibility. Mrs. Choe thinks this plan starts 2014.

f. Art - Melanie Rhalter reported: 5th grade LACMA field trip went really well. Working out adjustments and planning for next year's plans while still fresh in our minds, with some adjustments to curriculum and areas of the museum. Mr. Miceli is hard at work on his art blog for kids, so there are even more opportunities for kids and our community to see these programs. Hope to see this idea expand to other enrichment activities. Updating wall of enrichment to showcase these programs and the great opportunities they provide the students.

g. P.E. - Melanie Rhalter reported: Jolie Berman and Melanie have been working on 3 point plan with STAR to take P.E. in a completely different direction to model behavior for play and interaction. Ms. Berman requested STAR to incorporate good sportsmanship into lessons, and they've started seeing students use this behavior during recess and lunch now on their own. Kids seem to be more about fun



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and playing, rather than winning. Part 2 is to work on team dynamic, picking of teams, playing, rules, etc. Part 3 is to work on a comprehensive plan going forward so they can implement this every year. Benita mentioned she sees teaching going on, not just kids sitting on the bench, and kids that previously would have sat out are joining in.

g. Tile Wall – Jennifer Boulanger reported: Total of \$5100, costs were \$2300, so total of \$2700 made. 15-20 tiles purchased. Installation logistics are being figured out.

h. New Business –

1. Bruce Dembo: Phon-A-Thon, donations are still trickling in, and they're still happily accepting donations. School gets 95% of the money donated, so please make donations whenever you want, not just in the Fall.

2. Benita Spector: If you have an assembly announcement, it needs to pertain to the kids, and can only be a minute or two. Let Marcia Haresh know several days in advance if you have an announcement.

3. Benita Spector: Next month, bring a friend to the meeting and we'll have great snacks. Also, remind kids there is to be no food in the library during MVSEG meetings.

4. Claudine Czerny: Thanks so much to Jasmine for the decorations and masks. Happy Birthday to officers Joey Brandt and Benita Spector this month.

4. Additional Items/Announcements:

Next MVSEG Meeting: Wednesday, March 14th 7pm

5. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:19p.m.

Benita Spector
Beth Sampson
Bruce Dembo
Claudine Czerny
Craig Jaffe
Elaine Coleman
Harriet Yoergler
Jasmine Jaffe

At the Meeting

Jennifer Boulanger
Jeri Rees
Joey Brandt
Jolie Berman
Katherine Choe
Kristen Purcell
Lillian Matayoshi
Marie Duquesnay

Melanie Rhalter
Mike Spector
Palamy Douangsitthi
Rab Brown
Steve Hanna
Uttara Natarajan