

GSF Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2016

Called to order: 7:08 p.m.

Present: Michael Mink, Andrea Small, Suzanne Maloney, Sondra Lewis, Adam Treewater, Jaclyn Guelfi, Nicole Cibellis, Chuck Kurz, Sarah Brewer, Ramina Winton, Caroline Jensen, Tami McCall, John Dasher, Matt Winton, Kate Siegel

Approval of December meeting minutes: With one noted change per Caroline Jensen regarding caroling being a community event, not a school program, Caroline moved to approve, Suzanne Maloney seconds. Minutes approved.

Two new members to induct: Welcome to new members Amy Marrino and Michelle Pignati.

Principal's report – Kim Goodhope:

International Play Day for staff and kids is being explored. This would be time for teachers to do project based learning and team building; kids would bring in games from home (no electronics) and/or explore outside. A leader from each grade level met to discuss. Currently three schools in Marin are doing it. We are going to see if we want to pilot it. 1st grade is in for sure but not sure about the other grades. This concept creates extra work for teachers because it involves a lot of stepping in to help kids interact appropriately.

HeadsUp's Rockin' Run, where kids run laps and get sponsors, will be March 25 this year.

Mindfulness training - Seneca provided us with Patty Thayer who has been going into the classrooms for 10 minutes at a time in the 3rd grade classrooms to discuss breathing and mindfulness. 1st grade has asked to be next. We will also be starting "community circles," which provide a safe place for kids to discuss issues and learn about "feeling words." Teachers will be trained.

Mid-Year Kindergarten Check-In is tomorrow, January 14 at 2pm. Topics for review are expectations for centers, how to get involved, lunch time, furthering academic progress, and an open forum for Q&A. This is to help ease them into life here and to help kindy parents feel included. We will also mention the auction, crab feed, the son fun night and daughter dance.

SBAC – This is out standardized testing for 3rd-5th graders. May 2016 will be the testing month.

Green Team is going on field trip on February 8 to downtown San Rafael. Parents will need to sign permission slips for their child to attend. Featured will be art projects, short movies, and similar displays that show how to be green around the world. We currently have 55 green team members, and Mr. Leshnick is the coordinator.

Maria Orendorff– Our beloved computer encore teacher will be retiring at the end of the year. She has been here many years (23) and she is amazing and will be hard to replace. We will put together a Craigslist ad for her replacement. It is a GSF-sponsored position (not Glenwood). We will send out the job description once it's complete. It will be a part-time, 3.5 day position.

VP Updates

Fundraising - John Dasher – As of today we have raised \$135,360 through Thrive, 71 percent of our goal. We still have several thousand dollars to come in through corporate matching. We have names in an envelope for a \$250 Amazon gift card and have drawn a winner. Winners are Jeff and Rebecca Urban! We will notify them. Suzanne Maloney reports the Crab Feed is Friday, January 22. Last tally shows only 7 tickets left before it's sold out. There will be salad, pasta, wine and beer and crab from Washington. Great raffle auction items. The Glenwood Auction will be Saturday, April 2, at the Embassy Suites in San Rafael. The theme is Studio 54. We will get a block of rooms for people who want to stay over. We are getting volunteers now; interested volunteers can contact Suzanne.

School programs – Ramina Winton – The Used Book Fair raised almost \$1700.

Community Building – Tami McCall – The Toy Drive was another big success, with 42 kids participating.

Teacher Liaison – Adam Treewater - This week, Lawrence Hall of Science came out and did some amazing science projects with the kids. GSF pays for this event. 2nd graders are going to Guide Dogs for the Blind on January 28. For their community project, the 5th graders are recording themselves reading books and these recordings will be available to kindergarten children. Teachers attended professional development where Mrs. Foehr taught the “Daily 5,” which is a way to have students choose between 5 language arts-related activities while the teacher meets individually with students or small groups. Mrs. Todd did a professional development on the engineering component of the next generation science standards. 4th grade visited Buck Center which was a popular field trip. Adam will pilot a standing desk for his 2nd grade classroom. They are around \$500 for the desk and stool. Cove School in Corte Madera has a great set up. We are ordering new desks all the time and could start incorporating new ideas. This is the beginning of a larger discussion.

New Business – Michael Mink

Master Facilities Plan – Keep your calendar open for February 10 and a date earlier than that probably. That is the date of our next, very important GSF meeting where the master facilities plan will be the only thing on the agenda. Kim Goodhope has some background on what we are talking about.

Kim Goodhope – As you probably know, we (SR city schools) went out for bond money for the schools through Measures A and B. We had Tami, Mike, and Len who headed up the committee. We had many lengthy decisions to determine how to support the cause. GSF donated \$5k, spent time allocated to phone banking, and overall were heavily involved with the measures passing. A needs assessment was performed on the SR city schools and developed a plan. The phases have been posted and parents have been updated by the principal on the progress. Some of the work on the school that we envisioned included having our 1st grade wing torn down and work on kindergarten classrooms with the idea of creating more room and space for more children. Also included was the idea of a Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) that would be able to hold the whole school community at once. On Monday there was a School Board update with recommendations on what should be done first, and the Board is now reviewing it. Why this is important is that it shows that the work on Glenwood, which is solely a new MPR, is not slated to start until 2022 and end in 2024. The phasing priority that they have developed is to create classrooms that are safe to be in. Laurel Dell and Short are getting entirely rebuilt, as they are currently just portables. Venetia Valley is very old and is getting completely redone as their classrooms are extremely deteriorated. The order on the proposal has Davidson starting first, then Short, then Venetia Valley. Michael Mink - \$108 M was set aside, and they will probably have to go out for another bond

later. We were under the impression that our plan would include some second levels, changing out the portables and child care, and building more classrooms for the growing student population.

John Dasher – the School Board has put this on pause which gives us a chance to look at it again and think about what we need. We can present an argument on why our student body growth can change their priorities. Our argument can stem from practical assessment on what we actually need. We need a representation of the parent body here to discuss what we really need. Then when they meet again, possibly the 3rd week of February, we can be there as a unified voice. Goal of SR City schools is to get it to top left picture, but the phasing and priorities are what created the other pictures. The priority for Glenwood was shifted from creating more classrooms to focusing on the MPR.

Matt Winton – at the School Board meeting, clearly the MPR was a big priority for Glenwood and they talked a lot about parity. It needs to be noted that work on our MPR isn't something that can wait another 6 years.

Nicole Cibellis – Curious to know if their reasoning is that the idea of fixing up local schools, Venetia Valley for example, would encourage people of that neighborhood to actually attend that school. Kim Goodhope confirmed that that was discussed.

Kate Siegel – Think that one way to rally the community would be to let parent community know we got the short end of the stick for our needs.

Michael Mink – We would like to have another meeting between this one and the next to discuss. Want to poll our parents and to hear what people are thinking and then we can mobilize them. We would run questioning through GSF. Thinking of doing an electronic survey and also to try to get as many people as possible to the next meeting.

John Dasher – We need to explain WHY our need is immediate.

Kim Goodhope – They are in the first round of kindergarten enrollments. Once that is done they will be in a better place to project what the needs are for space.

Matt Winton suggests we get someone out to explain. John Dasher - If we were able to have two meetings, have the guy who was referencing parity and stagnant population growth come out with the Board at that first meeting so that we have the info and then we could have the meeting with the parent body there to discuss.

Kim Goodhope – We have been projecting growth. They have discussed talking to the HOAs about forming coalitions and how to get kids to go back to their own community schools. Not sure if that is what they are thinking. Currently 25% of the Glenwood kindergarten community is transfers in. If no new spaces are made available, kids will have to go to their community schools. We should have a new projection for kindy enrollment by Feb 10. Need to find out why they are thinking enrollment isn't going to increase.

Mink – Proposed having another meeting between now and February 10th - Possibly Thursday, February 4th at LLYC (currently being held for another event, but we could use this space). Kim will reach out to District office and find out who came up with these priorities and who can we reach out to discuss it. We need to start promoting the Feb 10 GSF meeting, get the parent body to understand the info and that we are trying to get people together to discuss it. We are going to be talking about the Master facilities Plan at the next meeting. We will get more info out in the coming days.

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Sondra Lewis, Secretary