

California Montessori Project ~ Carmichael

Campus Advisory Council Minutes

September 1, 2011

Attendance:

Council:

- Kim Aldridge- Administrator- present
- Elizabeth Parks- Secretary (non-voting)-present
- RaDene Girola-Educational Specialist (non-voting)-present
- Kelly Vellanoweth- Teacher Rep-present
- Noah Kocina-Teacher Rep- present
- Rachel Rivers- Parent Rep- present
- Greer Leake- Parent Rep- present
- Elizabeth Parks- Secretary (non-voting)-present
- RaDene Girola-Educational Specialist (non-voting)-present

Committee Chairs:

- **Fundraising:** *Open-* filled by Whitney Hansen
- **Grant Committee:** Valarie Oldham, Deidra Williams, Leigh Bartoo- Leigh present
- **Room Parent Coordinator/s:** Greer Leake /Melissa Horne- present
- **Events:**
 - **Walk-a-Thon:** Lynn Bivens- present
 - **Harvest Festival:** Rachel Rivers- present
 - **Spring Carnival:** Maggie Carmona- present
 - **Book Fairs:** Peggy Fitz- present
 - **After School Enrichment:** Peggy Fitz- present

Approve June Minutes: approved via email

Principal's Report:

• Peace Education –

Presented in Montessori training, plus in workshops at conferences. This is an important component of developing the Whole Child. Dr. Montessori said that in order to have peace in the world, it must first be developed in the children. Teachers give Peace Education lessons with the “Love Light” that shines in all of us (and sometimes people need a boost to their Love Light. Children learn how to resolve peer issues using the Peace Rose or Peace Table. Children take turns expressing how they are feeling and discuss a way to understand each other.

Adults are the role models for the children and should demonstrate respectful and peaceful ways to resolve conflicts. Peer Mediation is also a strong program at our campus. Older students assist students who are in conflict with another, and they come to an agreement. Adults do not get involved. (Physical problems are still handled by adults).

- **Grace & Courtesy** – Being respectful and having good manners are also important lessons in Montessori. Adults, once again, are the models for this behavior. When we demonstrate how to communicate with others in a respectful manner, the children observe and emulate it.

Finance Update: Elizabeth Parks

- **Report of Balances:** tabled until October
- **Allocation of Funds:**
 - Spring Carnival: earned \$3556.00 (split ~\$10 per student) as approved from CAC in June to delegate money to the classrooms

Meeting Schedule ~ 2011-12

First Thursday of the Month: 5:30

- September 1, 2011
- October 6, 2011
- November 3, 2011
- December 1, 2011
- (No January Meeting)
- February 2, 2012
- March 1, 2012
- (No April Meeting)
- May 3, 2012
- June 7, 2012

Discussion Items:

- Mascot –to be considered at a time later (do not want to change Spirit Wear this year)- Student came with idea of changing mascot to match our classroom names. Dolphin was chosen for attributes of intelligence, team work, strength and friendliness. Parents were concerned about the cost of changing the mascot at this time, due to old spirit wear that was ordered last year. In addition, parents and other students felt keeping the mascot (Mustangs) kept something from the old campus.
- Walk-a-Thon fundraising focus- Lynn Bivens-
 - Lynn looking for someone to chair the day of. We always have a lot of fun. Best part this year, we get to hold it here in our own field. It is one of our best fundraisers, and the kids love it! Money comes in from pledges for laps walked by the students. Donations of water and otter pops are needed. All the funds go to a certain cause, Techno Walk, Laps for Lawns, Run for Recess.
 - Suggestions for theme: Teachers said they need play equipment, more technology. One teacher commented her students are more motivated to walk for play equipment or a play structure. We need basketball and a ball wall for older students and the asphalt is in need of resurfacing.
 - Carmichael Recreation and Parks Dept (CRPD) will put in the play structure (necessary since it will be in community space, and it is their liability). CMP and CAC can donate towards the structure to off-set costs and allow us to have a better structure, or have two, for different age levels.
 - Blacktop resurfacing. \$11, 000.00 for mid range estimate for resurfacing.
 - Theme decided upon: Taking Pride in Your Stride, and funds will be held for playground improvements.
- Weekly or bi weekly classroom newsletters- Discussed CMP campuses trying to go green and have hard copies of newsletters for families needing them. Teachers requested that their newsletters go out every other week, with the campus newsletter going out the opposite week. Kim asked for parent input. All parents in attendance (50+) said every other week is preferred.
- Chair/Coordinator needs:
 - Day of coordinator for walk a thon-
 - Saturday Workday Coordinators-
 - Fundraising Chair-
- **Request from CAC:** Lisa Walda- Middle School parent–Lisa would like to do a cookie dough fundraiser for middle school and open it up to other classes that would like to participate to off-set cost of field trips. Take place in September. **Approved by council.**

Committees Reports:

- **Grant Committee:** table
- **Fundraising:** table
- **Harvest Festival:** Rachel Rivers- has met with teachers. Teachers preferred to not focus on crafts, but on a community building. Will charge a flat fee for dinner & crafts/activities for kids. Noah asked if parents or others can set up table to sell items or raffle off items. Fee for table or they donate back to school a percentage. Rachel communicated her desire to have more of a community builder and not have things to purchase, which makes it more expensive for families. Classrooms will put together a craft or activity with parent help to oversee.
- **Walk-a-Thon:** see above
- **Spring Carnival:** Maggie Carmona - Maggie asked about where we are going to have the carnival at new site. She would like to use the field area to expand activities. Use of field depends on community/sports use during that time. Kim acknowledged Maggie for her work on the carnival last spring.
- **After School Enrichment:** table
- **Room Parent Coordinators:** table
- **Peer Mediation:** table

- **Movie Night**- Darcy Flathmann – movie night next Friday to celebrate the beginning of school! Book Fair will also be going in the library space next to the office. Peggy Fitz- also needs volunteers to man the book fair. Book fair will be open during the afternoons during the week after the movie night.

CAC Meeting concluded at 5:58 for a short break in preparation for the facility meeting to follow.

Next Meeting Items for Discussion:

Garden Project

Nature Center