

# BANCROFT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, PARENT FACULTY CLUB (PFC) MEETING MINUTES **FINAL**

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**September 12th, 2023, 7pm @ Bancroft Elementary Library**

The meeting was called to order by PFC President Sandra Gonzalez at 7:04 p.m.

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Sandra Gonzalez / President  
Tamara Jimenez / Vice President  
Yotam Levine / Treasurer  
Hajra Shah / VP Communications  
Sarah Rhodes / VP Strategic Funds  
David Barnard / Parliamentarian/Historian  
Agam Patel / Recording Secretary  
Mrs. Cindy Dunn / Principal

## **OTHERS PRESENT**

Evelyn Barrera, Kelly Bottarini, Jenna Boyd, Smyth Campbell, Pegah Charest, Rakel Cromwell, Deane Giffin, Roshini Greenwald, Dave Greenwald, Tatiana Khan, Alisa Kutsel, Stefanie Lee, Alex Maclean, Brooke Nie, Paul Nissley, Mary Anne Parker, Loretta Ramos, Irina Raven, Joan Reyes, Braydn Reyes, Maggie Rinow, Ruth Rossimov, Maria Sajjad, Heather Salter, Oksana Ushkalova

**Welcome** Sandra Gonzalez welcomed everyone, thanked volunteers and outlined that one of the main goals this year is to build a strong community.

**Approval of August 2023 Minutes** Motion to approve August 2023 meeting minutes was passed.

## **Financial Report/Budget Update**

Yotam Levine went through the current budget and explained the line item income and expenses (available on Konstella).

There was a discussion about moving some of the money into CDs or a higher yield savings account.

## **Faculty Reports**

- Ms. Parker reporting for TK - 1st Grade
- Ms. Barrera reporting for 2nd and 3rd Grade
- Ms. Giffin reporting for 4th and 5th grade

Full faculty reports are added as an attachment and available on the Bancroft PFC Website.

## **Principal's Corner**

Mrs. Dunn provided updates on:

### **Staffing:**

- PFC funded IA positions are filled
- Interviews scheduled for Mat Intervention Specialist and Lunch Supervisor positions
- District has hired a Counselor that Bancroft should have 3 days a week.
  - There was a subsequent discussion related to this to update the PFC budget / paperwork for this position or leave it as is. Originally, the school district was to fund the counselor for 1.5 days a week, and the Parent Faculty Club (PFC) would contribute additional funding to

cover one more day, making it 2.5 days a week in total. However, the district has increased its funding to cover 2.5 days a week. As a result, the PFC now only needs to fund an additional 0.5 days to reach a total of 3 days a week for the counselor. Principal Dunn plans to initiate the necessary paperwork for this adjustment and aims to submit it within a month.

- Working on a bulletin to send out to the community about school updates
- May ask parents to help check emergency backpacks
- Looking for 2 parents to join Parent Advisory Committee, 1 of those would be an alternate
- Mrs. Dunn also briefly talked about the Rainbow program and solicited feedback from the teachers about the first session.

## **Committee Reports**

Strategic Funds - Sarah Rhodes provided an update on the Strategic Funds Committee, mentioning that they are still looking for members to join. Some requests have come in that are addressed in other parts of the budget (e.g. equipment and office funds). Potentially still figuring out appropriate shade solutions would be a good fit for Strategic Funds use.

There was a request that came in to buy 8 convertible benches for the garden. Sarah Rhodes made a motion to use \$2,000 of Strategic Funds to purchase 8 convertible benches and Heather Salter seconded the motion. There was a brief discussion about how long the previous benches lasted and then the motion came to a vote with 32 yes votes, 0 opposed and 1 abstain. The motion passed.

Sarah Rhodes made a motion to increase the field trips budget line item funding from \$1,000 to \$5,000 for each grade level TK-5th grade, for a total amount increase of \$24,000. Dave Barnard seconded the motion, the motion came to a vote with 31 yes votes, 0 opposed and 2 abstain. The motion passed.

Fall Fest - Alisa Kutsel gave an update on Fall Fest, it will be on October 21st from 4:30pm-7:30pm and will be taking donations for 5th grade activities. Will need lots of volunteer help for set up and take down.

Speak Up, Be Safe - Maggie Rinow gave a reminder of what the program entails. Starts in 1st grade and continues in 3rd and 5th grade. There will be a parent information zoom meeting September 19th at 7pm.

Garden Update - Sandra Gonzalez gave an update from Mrs. Burns about Walnut Creek Community Service day on October 14th to help with trash pickup, painting, etc.

Book Fair - Alex Maclean gave an update about the Scholastic Book Fair running from Friday September 25th through September 28th.

Walk-a-thon - Heather Salter gave an update about Walk-a-thon, it will be on November 3rd, everything mostly in place, looking for another sponsor potentially.

## **Old Business**

Vote for VP of Fundraising PFC Board role. Sandra Gonzalez made a motion to elect Kelly Bottarini to become VP of Fundraising, Pegah Charest seconded the motion. The motion came to a vote with 31 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

## **New Business**

Ruth Rossimov presented a proposal to set up a 'Walk and Roll' event on October 4th, requesting \$250 from the hospitality budget to cover materials.. Related the Streets Smarts assembly will be on October 18th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Did you know the PFC has a website? Check it out at  
<http://bancroftpfc.org/>

## **Faculty Reports**

### **TK / Kindergarten / First Grade (Ms. Parker)**

TK:

Learning about Nursey Rhymes, their upcoming theme is 'Apples for Fall'. They are doing Social Emotional Activities and Getting to Know You Activities and working on Routines. They started using Bancroft Bests! The children in TK collect 10 Bancroft Bests to get a prize! The TK class started Garden and love STEAM and they were practicing cutting and gluing with Ms. Alisa. The parent volunteers are excited about participating in STEAM lab, too!

K:

Learning Abounds in Kinder. Kinder classes are still solidifying routines and expectations. They are learning how to write all the letters using correct letter formation. They are practicing reading with phonics and segmentation. In math, they are working on number sense, recognizing numbers, counting, and recognizing what 'is more' and what 'is less' with numbers. Thank you parent volunteers that come to stations on Wednesdays. Kinders are loving STEAM Lab, Garden and Library.

Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Winbery and Mrs. Thornby are doing PE and Music rotations. B5 has Buddies with Mrs. Giffin's fourth grade class and their theme this week is the five senses. During the remaining weeks they will focus on cross curricular activities using Apples!

1st:

First Grade is also working on solidifying routines and procedures in the classroom and on the playground. We also started with Bancroft Bests. Students can earn a variety of prizes and lunch in the Garden with Mrs. Burns. First Grade is working on reviewing the alphabet, sight words and word families. In math, we are learning about number bonds. In Handwriting, we are working on letter formation and number formation. We are also practicing what makes a complete Sentence. Our next theme, as we are transitioning into the Fall Season is Apples! First Grade is waiting to receive the Spanish Wonders Reading Program and we are still missing the Social Studies in Spanish and English Social Studies workbooks. Our first Graders are learning to increase their stamina for school work. They are leaning to become better listeners. Kids want to talk and be listened to, but not everyone can be heard at once. We are learning to wait and limit interruptions and listen when another student or adult is talking. Sharing and taking turns is key in first grade.

The First Graders are loving STEAM Lab, Garden and Library. Shout out to our new Speech Teacher, Mrs. Konrick.

### **Second Grade / Third Grade (Mrs. Barrera)**

Second:

Ms.Sajjad

-Math: subitizing, number bonds

-Language arts: HELP! A story of Friendship/Crayons reading. Sight words, vocabulary and comprehension based on stories.

-Social Studies: Celebrating California

-Learning songs to perform

Ms.Bogni

Finishing i-Ready diagnostic assessments

Ms.Young/Maestra Barrera - Maravillas curriculum started, math- working on measurement and two digit addition, social studies - talking about families and getting ready to acknowledge Hispanic Heritage month

Third:

Ms.Garcia

Language Arts: currently in Unit 1, week 4 learning about problem solving with new inventions

Math: the students just took the mid-module assessment, they will know the results on Friday

Transference: the students already reviewed cognates, now they are learning about false cognates

Social Studies: learning about the different regions of California

Science: learning about how weather patterns help us predict the weather

Ms.Ramos

Math: We are finishing up Module 1 - Properties of Multiplication and Division and Solving Problems with Units of 2–5 and 10, our EOM assessment is tomorrow.

Language Arts: We are in week 4 of the Wonders curriculum. The BIG IDEA for this unit is around growing and learning. We are discussing different traditions, communities, inventions, and landmarks.

Science: We just completed Mystery Science “Stormy Skies” and learned about the water cycle, weather predictions, local weather patterns, climate and global weather patterns, and natural disasters. We have set up our weather station on campus and will start collecting weather data as part of our Carolina Science curriculum.

History: Students have created their own dreamcatchers, completed a Patriot Day agamograph, and are currently working on their own piñatas for Mexican Independence day this Saturday.

Cursive: Students are learning cursive and are working on learning some of their lower case cursive letters.

SEL: We are completing our first 5 weeks of SEL This entails community building, consistently sharing about our lives and community, and self awareness.

Field Trip: D-4 will be attending their first field trip on September 25 to Shadelands Ranch Museum.

#### **Fourth Grade / Fifth Grade (Ms. Giffin)**

4th and 5th grade have enjoyed the last two weeks having lessons in the garden and are starting STEAM this week.

4th:

Students have read My Father's Dragon practicing the Notice/Wonder/Reminds me strategy and are learning the Notice and Note Fiction Signposts for comprehension.

We have been writing for a variety of purposes and will focus on a narrative during the first trimester.

In math we are working on addition and subtraction with regrouping, rounding, and multi step problem solving. In Science we are doing hands-on labs for models of the layers of the Earth, Earth plates, Earth changes, Ring of Fire, and rock study. Spanish students are writing to pen pals to practice Spanish.

Our new Social Studies curriculum is engaging us in learning the five themes of Geography and the Regions of California. All 4th grade classes will be going to Los Vaqueros in Brentwood to learn about the local Native Indians and the watershed.

5th:

Some students are reading In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson for ELA. Students are writing across curricular areas. In Social Studies students are learning about different governments and organized groups of American Indians. This is being connected with a weaving project with Ms. Alisa.

In science, two classes are starting with Physical Science and examining states of matter and two classes are starting with Earth and Space learning about planets and the solar system. 5th grade Exploring New Horizons Camp Information Meeting will be virtual, on Thursday, September 14, at 6:00 PM. 5th graders are excited to look forward to this experience. Some fundraising has begun and more is to come.