

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

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**October 10th, 2023, 7pm @ Bancroft Elementary Library**

The meeting was called to order by PFC President Sandra Gonzalez at 7:05 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  
Kelly Bottarini / VP Fundraising  
David Barnard / Parliamentarian/Historian  
Andrea Chertoff / Financial Secretary  
Agam Patel / Recording Secretary  
Cynthia Dunn / Principal

## **OTHERS PRESENT**

Evellyn Barrera, Pegah Charest, Deanne Giffin, Dave Greenwald, Roshini Greenwald, Kellie Hoover, Tatiana Khan, Alisa Kutsel, Brooke Nie, Isabel Nguyen, Mary Anne Parker, Amanda Pinkham, Jaimie Ricchiuto, Maggie Rinow, Ruth Rossimov, John Shikuma, Katrina Stortz, Oksana Ushkalova.

**Welcome** Sandra Gonzalez welcomed everyone and we had introductions.

Kellie Hoover gave a presentation of Prop 28 and how Bancroft could potentially use the funding for arts education. Some highlights were that Bancroft would receive ~78k annually. The money is scheduled to be released in 2024 and used to supplement existing programs or new programs, cannot be used to supplant. Once you spend a dollar then you have 3 years to spend the rest of the funds from that year the funds were allocated. Additionally programs funded must be during the school day.

**Approval of September 2023 Minutes** Motion to approve September 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). Also highlighted some of the changes in the spreadsheet to make it easier to track like the approved strategic funds section. Following up from the last meeting, 100k was moved from checking to savings to take advantage of higher interest rates.

## **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:

- Donuts with Dunn Recap (next one is scheduled for October 26th)

- New lunch routine with designated lunch tables
- Yellowjackets issue - exterminator is coming, but it is a recurring issue and haven't found the nest. We must find and eliminate the Queen!
- Another lunch supervisor has been hired and waiting for them to start
- S.T.E.A.M. night recap - 600 meals served
- Teachers will receive Promethean training (new displays)
- Discussion about Walk Through California being canceled for 4th and 5th grade, teachers are looking into alternative programs/options as a replacement such as Young Audiences

## **Committee Reports**

Fall Fest - Alisa Kutsel gave an update on Fall Fest occurring October 21st. Lots of 5th graders will participate in hosting and are still looking for parent volunteers.

Community Service Day - Sandra Gonzalez gave an update that it is occurring October 14th, 9am-12pm with the focus on the garden and cleanup around the school.

Walk-a-thon - Sandra Gonzalez gave an update from Heather Salter. It will be on November 3rd and volunteer requests and donation envelopes will be coming soon.

Dine-to-donate - Tamara Jimenez gave an update the next one is the Kebab Shop on October 18th with giving 50% back to the school. Others coming up include Mendocino Farms and Mooyah.

Auction - Amanda Pinkham gave an update, the date is set for March 9th and initial banners have been placed around the school. Looking to fill committee roles including Create, Communication and Technology chairs. Also need one person to help with procurement. The theme is 80's prom.

## **Old Business**

Sandra Gonzalez gave an update on:

Movie night recap - technical difficulties with playing Elemental so Minions was shown instead.

Marquee Update - has been delivered to MDUSD warehouse and now waiting on maintenance to install it.

Walk and bike to school day - Ruth Rossimov gave a recap, overall seemed like 60% participation, still waiting on final numbers from teachers. Frequent walker cards were given off and those who complete them will be entered into a raffle at the end of the year. Also mentioned Diablo safe street assembly is coming up on October 18th.

## **New Business**

PAC Rep - Sarah Rhodes mentioned we still need a PAC representative. Pegah Charest was ultimately goaded into taking this role.

Prop 28 - Maggie Rinow proposed using some of the upcoming Prop 28 funds to augment Alisa Kutsel existing role

Staffing - Still waiting to hire a math specialist. There are 2 applications for the IA to the resource teacher (district funded)

Halloween Parties - Isabel Nguyen had a question/discussion with teachers on the protocol for halloween parties. Ultimately it is on a teacher by teacher basis to do a classroom party.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm.

Did you know the PFC has a website? Check it out at

<http://bancroftpfc.org/>

## Faculty Reports

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

TK:

Working on Fall Themes. They are learning Apples, Pumpkins, The Pumpkin Life Cycle, Fall and the Four Seasons. They are looking forward to the Halloween Parade.

K:

Settled into their routines and the Kinders almost all have stopped crying at drop off. They are busy learning their letters, sounds, snap words, numbers, writing in journals, handwriting workbooks and are talking about numbers. They are bonding as a class through their SEL lessons!

The Kinders love doing stations, garden, STEAM, PE/music, buddies, and of course playing on the playground.

The big thing they are working on in class is to be kind and respectful to classmates and the teacher.

1st:

We are working on routines in the classroom and on the playground and following the for B's of Being Respectful, Being Responsible, Being Safe and Being Kind and showing the Life Skills that are on our Bancroft Bests!

We are working on our short vowel sounds, sight words and high frequency words and learning about the differences and similarities of living in the 'City or in the Country' and what they may have in common.

In Science, we learned about the Phases of the Moon in our new Carolina Science Books and also learned about the recent Harvest Full Moon.

In math, we are learning about number bonds and creating our own math story problems.

For the Fall season, we are learning about Pumpkins, the Pumpkin Life Cycle, and pumpkin symmetry art.

We received our new Savvas Social Studies books and are learning about our community and California landmarks.

Other information:

We had a great professional development day on Monday learning how to perform Non-Curricular Math Tasks (or Math Task Games) where the children learn to cooperate with a various teams to help develop mathematical thinking.

The teachers also performed the Math Tasks in Teams!

After the training the teachers prepared the Math Tasks for the children, such as gathering the supplies, materials the children will need to perform the team tasks and generating discussion questions and deeper thinking math questions specific for each task.

Shout Outs:

To an amazing Book Fair and teachers are grateful for the classroom books, the children LOVE them!!!

Fantastic Movie Night!!

Walk, Bike and Roll to School – we are going to perform the watermelon drop for first graders thanks to Dave Bernard and the Bernard Family!!!

The Bancroft Science Night was a fabulous Success!

The teachers and students are looking forward to the upcoming Bancroft Walk-a-thon with the theme 'Run Like Lighting'!

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

2nd grade (Ms.Sajjad, Ms.Bogni, Ms.Young and Mrs Barrera):

Reading "Finding Norman" in Wonders, starting measurement unit, place value and comparing numbers.  
Finished weaving in art class, Geology Rocks presentation  
Acknowledging Hispanic Heritage Month  
In class field trip from Heather Farms - Rocks  
Finishing assessments and preparing for conferences  
Looking forward to Halloween

3rd grade (Ms.Ramos, Mrs.Freitas, Ms.Garcia and Mr.Ceja):

Language Arts

My students just started Unit 2 in language arts. Two weeks ago, they did a mini report on their favorite monument in Google Docs and submitted it electronically. We are also focused this year on learning and using new vocabulary words every week.

Mathematics

The students just took the math Module 1 test. We are starting Module 3 which focuses on multiplication and division.

Science

We are continuing our study of weather. The students are learning the difference between weather and climate. We are also looking at extreme weather.

Social Studies

We finished learning about the different regions of California and what is produced in each region. This week, we will start learning about the California Indians.

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

It was great seeing so many families at Family STEAM Night!

We are all learning to incorporate our new Promethean boards in our classrooms. There are many uses to enhance student learning and teachers will continue to get more training.

4th and 5th grade teachers worked together to plan and prep for some random, small group collaborative activities to be used with vertical boards. We are looking forward to adding some new engaging and interactive thinking activities.

4th grade Walk Through California and 5th grade Walk Through the American Revolution programs have been canceled for this year for not matching the values of the MDUSD Equity Team. We are hoping to find an approved alternative to these interactive programs.

#### 4th grade

All students are reading Because of Winn-Dixie using the Notice and Note Fiction Signposts for comprehension.

We have been writing Personal Narratives this month in English, final drafts will be complete soon.

Spanish students are Informational Essays related to Earth Science.

In math we are working on multiplication and division with problem solving, factor pairs, multiples, prime and composite numbers.

In Social Studies we are learning about California Indians and Early Explorers, as well as Hispanic Heritage Month

One class has gone and three more to go this month to Los Vaqueros in Brentwood to learn about the local Native Indians and the watershed.

#### 5th grade

Writing Personal Narratives. Spanish students are working on a personal narrative in Spanish.

New PE stations have been implemented.

In Math students have prepared and shared presentations called "Split the Bill"/"Dividir la cuenta" where they apply math to a real life restaurant situation.