

## Dingeman Family Faculty Connection General Membership Board Meeting

October 12, 2022

### I. Call to order

Call to order by Cathryn McFearin at 6:33 p.m. on Wednesday, October 12, 2022

Cathryn welcomes everyone to our October FFC meeting.

### II. Approval of last meeting's minutes

\*Motion to approve the 9/7/22 meeting minutes – Dusty Pedrotti

Second – Christina Liu

Motion to approve September's meeting minutes passed unanimously.

### III. Board Reports

#### 1. President - Cathryn McFearin

**Recap of September Events and Upcoming Events - Pledge Drive, Movie Night, FDN, Art Corps Orientation; October at glance: FDN, STEAM Orientation, Family Art Night, T-shirt Sales, Boo Bash, Gardening Day (Nov 5)**

Pledge Drive - we raised approximately \$63,000 and budgeted \$55,000, so we did really well. Cathryn is very appreciative.

We had a great turn out at the EAR training and Family Movie Night was a success. We raised approximately \$800 from Family Dinner Night ("FDN") at the Kebab Shop and \$150 from FDN at On The Border. We also had a really good turnout for the Art Corp. orientation. Art Corp workshops will start in November. This Friday, October 14 is the STEAM orientation and Family Art Night is next week, Thursday, October 20. We will also be having another T-shirt sale on October 21 at 8:10 a.m. ahead of Spirit Week. We are hoping to bring back the unspoken tradition of Friday Dingeman Spirit Day, so remind your kids to wear their Dingeman spirit gear. And finally, we will be having school gardening day, lead by Ms. Boelzle, on Saturday, November 5 from 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Cathryn expresses a huge thank you to everyone for their help and participation and turns it over to Claudine Ricanor for the Boo Bash announcement.

Claudine Ricanor - We have the Boo Bash scheduled for Friday, 10/28 from 6-8:30 p.m. We will be hosting a trunk or treat from 6:30-7:30 in the faculty parking lot – this will be the first time since 2019. It will be great to see all the students and families. It will be more of a family engagement and less of a fundraising event like the spring carnival. Families to come and meet and mingle and celebrate the

fall season. Some classes have signed up to do performances, and there will be food trucks and music. This event is a lot of fun for families and students to come and enjoy. We have been publicizing via social media, flyers and through room parent communication

Christina asked when and where the performances will be. The performances will be in the 6:00-6:15/6:30 p.m. timeframe and will take place in the space between the library and the MPR. The food trucks will be next to the lunch court.

Question - any insight into how many want to participate in the trunk or treat? Cathryn has only had a little interest so far, but would like to get a sense of what the participation will be like. She is hoping to have a full parking lot and asked Dusty and the teachers to encourage the parents to participate. Dusty thanks Claudine for the coordination of the event and confirms we are looking for 1 car per 2 spaces and 2 cars max for each class.

Cathryn thanks Claudine for this effort and her and Nil for coordinating the Family Movie Night.

2. Vice President - Christina Liu

Christina is happy to report that we have 150 parents signed up as volunteers.

3. Treasurer - Katarina Mansir

**Monthly Budget Review**

Checking - \$216,653.42

Savings - \$30,547.25

We raised approximately \$64,000 from the pledge drive and had income from the FDN fundraisers.

Expenditures – approximately \$14,000

Some of our expenditures have been funding the advertising of the pledge drive, hospitality for our teachers and staff, teacher reimbursements, family science night in November, decorating in the library with cool lettering and Art Corps. training.

Cathryn thanks Katarina for taking this on and learning as she goes.

4. Principal - Dusty Pedrotti

Dusty starts off with a huge thank you to the FFC and all of our families, as this is the most normal year and we have been able to do so much. He is amazed by the amount we raised from the pledge drive and is happy to go full force with EAR and Art Corps. It has been amazing to see all of the volunteers at the trainings and he is happy that EAR has gotten started and that volunteers read with the first students yesterday. Dusty is also happy to report that the final numbers came in and they had

to assess the staff/student ratio and we were able to stay the same and not have to make any changes due to numbers.

We have a new Speech Language Pathologist, Marta Ippolito, who will be working 2.5 days per week at Dingeman and is also at Marshall Middle School. We also have our PE teacher an additional ½ day per week, which really helps and gives the teachers some additional prep time.

This is the second year Dingeman is participating in the “Leader in Me” curriculum. Each month, we will be focusing on one of seven good habits and he hopes the students will go home and discuss what they are learning.

Dusty is happy that we are able to continue with so many great programs, like Achieve 3000, RAZ Kids, Smarty Ants, and other great reading programs. He is appreciative of the support we get from the FFC for funding these programs because they are really expensive. He is excited about the Noetic Math competition/program and is continuing to work to make sure it is available to all. Dingeman is also participating in the Math Olympiad for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders and has 95 students interested and he is proud of those students for putting themselves out there and participating.

Dusty expresses his gratitude for our great community and board members, as well as the amazing staff and teachers at Dingeman. Dingeman is very fortunate to have so many dedicated and amazing teachers, para-educators, office staff, nurse, cafeteria, groundskeepers, etc. We are all very lucky to be in such a great place – and we are so happy to be able to roll out with a normal school year.

#### IV. Committee Reports

##### 1. EAR - Jessica Craig-Huynh

###### **Update given by Christina Liu**

The EAR training on 9/14 went very well and she is appreciative of those who came and signed up. We are going to get started with grades 1-3 in this first wave. We are using the previously trained volunteers to train others and coordinating with teachers for their availability and students’ needs. Shanana and Angie read with the first students yesterday. Jessica has been working tirelessly to get the program up and running for this year and get volunteers trained. Thanks to everyone and Ivy for helping behind the scenes. There will be an additional EAR orientation/training in October for those who couldn’t make the first one. Lots of teachers have reached out and thanked us for how great the program is and how much it helps. Any questions, email Jessica or Christina.

##### 2. Art Corps - Lisa Shadburn

Lisa is excited that our enrichment activities are taking off and so happy with the number of people who have shown interest.

Our first Family Art Night will be Thursday, October 20. The spots filled up immediately and they made a huge wait list. We will be having 2 more Family Art Nights in January and February and will do our best to make sure everyone gets in.

The Art Corps. parent volunteer workshops begin on Wednesday, November 2. UTK lessons will start in January.

Lisa also wants to clarify that if you sign up as an Art Corps volunteer, that doesn't mean you have to teach every lesson, even as the liaison – the liaison coordinates who will teach the lesson, attend the workshop and coordinates the date/time with the teacher. Reach out to Lisa with any questions.

We will have an art show this year – the second week of May – more information on that to come.

A reminder that there is still room on the Art Corps. committee if anyone wants to join. There will be a few who will be graduating this year – so we are looking for people interested in taking over the lead and other roles and get trained on how to do it.

### 3. STEM - Karthika

#### **Update given by Dusty Pedrotti**

There will be a STEAM orientation this Friday, October 14 at 8:45 a.m. If you want to be a volunteer you have to turn in your paperwork to the office. The applications are in the office. Everyone is encouraged to complete your volunteer application and come check out the exciting STEAM program. It is going to look different from years past, as we are rolling out new technology that was bought in 2019 – we are going to incorporate it with the old equipment. Just before the COVID shutdown, the FFC purchased new equipment and things for the Maker Space and since then, we attained a \$25,000 grant to complete the Maker Space. Teachers are already utilizing the space. The more volunteers, the better. Dusty hopes the teaching part won't hold volunteers back and assures that the leads, teachers and admin are used to working with the kids and will always jump in and help.

### V. Old Business

No old business.

### VI. New Business

Question – should students wear costumes on Friday and Monday? Dusty clarifies that students can wear costumes to school on Friday and participate in the parade. Students should not wear costumes on Halloween, Monday - we are just going to wear fall colors so that the kids have their costumes clean and ready for the night's festivities.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

**Attendants:**

Dusty Pedrotti

Cathryn McFearin

Ivy Lam

Vanessa Samulis

Christina Liu

Angie Couvrette

Claudine Ricanor

Lisa Shadburn

Kris Lee

Joe Marsella

Katarina Mansir

N. Martinez

Keith D. Hughes

Sheila

Rukmini Bedi

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858 number

Robert Luo

Audra Rosenberg