

**Dingeman Family Faculty Connection General Membership Board Meeting
January 11, 2023
Via Zoom**

I. Call to order

Call to order by Cathryn McFearin on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 6:32 p.m.
Happy New Year to everyone – thank you for being here.

II. Approval of last meeting's minutes

*Motion to approve the 12/14/22 meeting minutes – Christina Liu

Second – Dusty Pedrotti

Motion to approve December's meeting minutes passed unanimously.

III. Board Reports

1. President - Cathryn McFearin: 2023 overview highlights, shed clean up

Cathryn shared the FFC “save the date” document she created with upcoming events. All families seem to be excited about these events and getting together after school hours. Some highlights include grade level play dates, family dinner nights, the jog-a-thon in March, the Scholastic Book Fair in April, followed by Staff Appreciation Week and the Art Show. More details to come/shared by others.

Cathryn also encouraged anyone interested in helping clean out the FFC shed to let her know.

2. Vice President - Christina Liu: Family Art Night, By-Laws review committee, playdates, FFC Board elections for next year

Christina says hi and wishes everyone a Happy New Year. She is excited to announce that we have a lot of fun things coming up. The first up is the grade level play dates. We will meet, socialize and build a good school community. The play date for UTK and Pre-K will be Sunday, 1/29 from 2:00-3:30 at Scripps Ranch Community Park. Parents, teachers, admin, families and siblings are all welcome to attend. We will send out a google form for interest to get an idea of how many would like to participate. That will be followed by a playdate for Kinder and 1st grade, and then we will go from there.

As the VP, Christina is responsible for heading the By-Laws committee, which has to consist of the VP, our FFC counsel, Melody, and our secretary, Angie. We will track/document any necessary changes, bring back to the board with amendments and will then need a quorum for that meeting to approve the amendments. The committee will review job descriptions, protocols, etc., to see if it all still makes sense and applies, given our changes/community.

Christina is also happy to announce we will be hosting two more Family Art Nights on January 25 and February 28 from 6:15-7:30. They will be huge events – we should be able to accommodate 120-130 participants each night. We will send out an email to RSVP, but we won't let people register until Monday, 1/16 at 7:00 a.m. The registration will include different fields requesting info, such as whether they already attended, preference on which dates, etc. We suspect it will reach capacity with a wait list since it is such a popular, fun event. We had a great turn out in October at our initial night and it was so much fun.

Christina also gets to chair/come up with the election committee. She will come up with a nominating committee and they will present their nominations to the board by the March meeting. The faculty representatives are already on the committee, so they will be receiving an email. We need a minimum of 3 people on the committee, in addition to the faculty. She will be reaching out to people and will send a general email to everyone going over the positions. We need to have the nominating committee in place by February.

Katarina says that she will sign up to retain her position as treasurer of the board, as well as be part of the election committee.

Both Katarina and Cathryn thank Christina for everything she is doing and for making sure we do everything we are supposed to. Her eye for detail is really appreciated.

3. **Treasurer - Katarina Mansir: website update/content request, monthly budget**

Katarina first thanks Cathryn for the “save the date” FFC event list and then shares the December financial overview.

Checking Account Balance	\$ 235,008.01
Savings Account Balance	\$ 30,561.01
Total	\$ 265,569.02

Deposits of \$9,517.35 included corporate matches, 5th grade committee snack sales and the Literati book fair. The book fair grossed around \$15K and we deposited around \$5K in cash collected. She reminds everyone to check with their employers about corporate matches and volunteer grant matches, like Qualcomm offers.

Expenses/payments of \$8,335.63 included classroom reimbursements, petty cash for the book fair, taxes, reading subscriptions and the 5th grade Star of India field trip.

Katarina has been working on the website and coming up with a firmer timeline. She has been trying to do the content and pull it on her own but is now asking if everyone can help. She has made a list/outline of the needs for some updated content and will work with a couple volunteers who have worked on the website in the past. She has emailed a few people to get info/updated content and requested help in getting things moving. We own the domain name, so we will be keeping that and the emails will remain the same.

Cathryn thanks Katarina for all her hard work on the financials and website.

4. **Principal - Dusty Pedrotti**

Mr. Pedrotti echoes what others have said and expresses his appreciation for all of the hard work that has gone into the FFC events. He recognizes that some family events may seem simple, but he sees the amount of work that goes into it. He has enjoyed seeing all of the kids get together and enjoy hot chocolate and treats and see the families talking and hanging out together.

Mr. Pedrotti gives a shout out to Ms. Boezle for her gardening efforts. Dingeman is such a huge campus and he recently realized just how many gardening boxes and areas there are on campus that could use some beautification. He is sore from the last gardening day, but is happy to be turning over some planter boxes/spaces to teachers to adopt and plant stuff in.

Mr. Pedrotti announces that we are still going to have 3 UTK classes next year. We will be getting our projected enrollment soon. He will be hosting a principal coffee chat in the near future and will also be sending out a needs assessment survey to families to get an idea of how we should spend our money and what we need.

Mr. Pedrotti also shows his gratitude to Mrs. Miller. It is such a huge help to have a second person and in addition to all the help she provides, they get along very well and she fits in great with the staff.

IV. **Committee Reports**

1. **EAR - Jessica Craig-Huynh**

Jessica is not in attendance, so Mr. Pedrotti gives the EAR update. They met today and discussed what is going well and what she can use support with. EAR is off to such a great start reading with students in 1st and 2nd grade, and some kids have already phased out from needing the extra support. We still hope to expand it and are going to send out an interest survey to the upper grade families to get an idea of how many might need the extra support.

Mr. Pedrotti agrees that our volunteers are such a huge part of the success of the programs, but we can always use more. Mr. Pedrotti would like to get some more details and the cost of getting clearance/finger-printing done so that volunteers can read alone with students. If volunteers are cleared, it might make it easier to read with the upper grade students in a quiet space.

Katarina inquires about the cost, but Mr. Pedrotti is not sure, but thinks it is around \$100. He points out that it could also be helpful to have people cleared so that they could also substitute for noon duty. This is something we will look into so that we can perhaps have the

option in place for next year. Katarina confirms that there is potentially some money left that could be used.

Mr. Pedrotti is planning on making Read Across America week special, and highlighting the importance of reading.

2. Art Corps - Lisa Shadburn

Lisa reports that the whole Art Corps. team met before the holiday break. The art show is starting to get planned. They are still looking for another art show coordinator so that it doesn't all fall on one person and so that there will be someone to take over when the other one leaves Dingeman. The Art Show will be the second week in May. We will set up on Monday, have art work displayed Tuesday through Thursday, with the art show night on Thursday, and then to take down on Friday.

Lisa is happy to report that the classroom lessons are going great and also happy to share that the UTK and TK lessons will be starting soon. Lisa is so grateful for Christina taking on the Family Art Nights. She has done a great job getting the RSVPs and registration done. They got a little slack last time for it filling up so quickly, so they are hoping everyone will be able to attend 1 night. Christina has done a great job of managing the RSVPs and wait list so that if someone can't make it, we make sure their spot gets used.

Lisa concludes by expressing how grateful she is for her team.

3. STEAM – Karthika

Karthika gives a quick update on all of the STEAM and math extracurriculars. A noetic math interest survey went out. She is still looking for coaches, as she only has for grade 3. She still needs coaches for grades 4 and 5. She should know more by the end of week and have more answers to her questions, but is hoping to start coaching sessions by February 1.

She is also working on better content and homework for the Math Olympiad for next year.

Karthika talked to the District coordinator who was helpful. We need more Ozobot markers, so she is trying to get some deals on equipment. He gave some great pointers and they found a \$2 discount and waived shipping. We have to update the Ozobots, as they have content that dates back 2 years, so she is trying to figure out how to update them. They work great but need to be on par with the latest formula/content available.

Cathryn gives a big thank you to Karthika for all of the hard work she puts into the STEAM program.

Mr. Pedrotti also acknowledges how the STEAM room is being used all the time and sometimes even double booked. It is so great to see the classroom filled with classes/students, and parents. There is a calendar out for teachers to RSVP - it has been great to get the classes in there. We are still looking for ideas for our youngest students, to get them in there and give them the experience of being in the makerspace.

Mr. Pedrotti adds that the 2nd Math Olympiad contest was recently administered and the next one is coming soon. And also that the Noetic math survey will go out to 3rd-5th grade classes so teachers can send out to families.

Mr. Pedrotti appreciates all the work being done in the STEAM room and all the time and effort Karthika puts into the STEAM program.

V. **Old Business**

No old business.

VI. **New Business**

No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Attendants:

Dusty Pedrotti
Angie Couvrette
Cathryn McFearin
Christina Liu
Ivy Lam
Katarina Mansir
Lisa Shadburn
Joe Marsella
Indu Ramachandran
Vanessa Samulis
Sireesha Kasturi
Michelle Becker
Linnea Miller
Karthika