

Dingeman Family Faculty Connection General Membership Board Meeting

February 8, 2023

Via Zoom

I. Call to order

Call to order by Cathryn McFearin on Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at 6:32 p.m.

Welcome everyone – thanks for being here tonight.

II. Approval of last meeting's minutes

***Motion to approve the 1/11/23 meeting minutes – Lisa Shadburn**

Second – Katarina Mansir

Motion to approve January's meeting minutes passed unanimously.

III. Board Reports

1. President - Cathryn McFearin: jog-a-thon, library budget vote

Cathryn starts by discussing a “Request for Funding/Request to Amend FFC Budget” submitted by our librarian, Morgan DaVersa. Ms. DaVersa submitted the request to increase the library budget on January 20, 2023. The budget is currently \$600 and she is asking to increase it to \$1300. The reason for the request is because we have had so many new books come into the library from our book fairs and donations. In order to properly display and access the new books, Ms. DaVersa is requesting money to get clear acrylic shelving and more clear plastic laminating to protect the books (which Ivy works so hard on applying to the books). She also needs more bar codes so that she can track all the books. The cost for shelving and plastic coverings is going to cost around \$350 and the bar codes will cost \$300. The ongoing need for funding for the shelving and covering will continue as we acquire more books, but the bar codes should last for several years.

Katarina clarifies that Ms. DaVersa is looking for an additional \$700, to the already allotted \$600 budget line, increasing it to \$1300. Cathryn confirms.

***Motion to amend the budget line for the library from \$600 to \$1300 – Katarina Mansir**

Second – Dusty Pedrotti

Motion to approve the increase of the library budget from \$600 to \$1300 passed unanimously.

Cathryn adds how great of a librarian Ms. Morgan is, and how great she is with the kids.

Cathryn addresses the next item of business which is the nominating committee. We need 3 volunteers to be on that committee. It can be anyone in the FFC and the duties are minimal – they just need to compile a list of nominees for the FFC Board positions by the end of February.

Ivy, Katarina and Christina all volunteer for the committee. Kathryn raises a question about whether Christina as the VP can be on the committee. Christina clarifies that as the VP, she is to call the first committee meeting to order and then the committee goes from there. There is discussion about the 3 nominating committee members preferably not currently serving on the board, or at least 1 of the 3 not being a current board member. Lisa Shadburn as a member-at-large and not an executive board member, offers to join the nominating committee.

Cathryn is excited to announce that we will be having our annual Jog-a-Thon. We will be calling it our Tiger Trot. The planning is in the works and we will be sending information and an envelope home with the students. It is the FFC's second biggest fundraiser of the year. We are hoping the students will reach out to friends, family and neighbors for donations to support their efforts in the Tiger Trot which will benefit to the school. Kathryn asks for everyone to be on the lookout for announcements about it and as always, will be looking for volunteers to help with the event. The event went great last year and it was essentially one of the first school-wide in person events to happen after Covid. The students are always very excited about it and she is hoping to add a few surprises, which maybe would involve Mr. Pedrotti.

2. Vice President - Christina Liu: Family Art Night, playdates

Christina begins by elaborating on the nominating committee, noting that it would ideally comprise of 3 people who are not on currently on the board.

Christina adds that they are continuing to work on hosting the grade level play dates. We had Pre-K and UTK as well as Kinder play dates and will be have having 1st and 2nd grade play dates very soon. She was pleased that so many families came, even when it was rainy. She gives a big shout out to Ivy and Kathryn for being there, as well as Vanessa, Ivy and Kathryn the other week. Kathryn adds that people are already asking when the next play dates will be. She was impressed with the turn-out.

Christina discusses Family Art Night that is coming up on 2/28. It is full and people are still trying to get on the wait list. In order to avoid no-shows, she has been sending out reminders and confirmations. There were no, no-shows at the last family art night. Christina thanks those who have been helping for all their support. She will be looking for someone to help with the April show and also someone to take over for next year.

Christina announces that we will be reviewing the FFC by-laws, and gives a thanks to Katarina and Angie for meeting with her today. The last time they were reviewed was in 2018. The by-laws revisions committee will review them and also send out particular sections to the board members they apply to for their feedback. We will make revisions, turn over to counsel for review and then give notice to the school about the proposed amendments.

3. Treasurer - Katarina Mansir: monthly budget

Financial Overview as of 1/31/2023

Checking Account Balance	\$209,648.62
Savings Account Balance	\$30,552.45
Total	\$240,201.07

Katarina went over the financial report. Deposits in the amount of \$1,470.16 for the month of January included Family Dinner Night, t-shirt sales, E-Recycling, corporate matches, etc. We get charged a transaction fee when people pay for t-shirts via credit card. We are working on getting a charity rate for Pay Pal. Expenditures in the amount of \$26,829.55 included reading subscriptions, classroom reimbursement, 3rd grade level grant, etc.

Cat thanks Katarina.

4. Principal - Dusty Pedrotti

Mr. Pedrotti reports that we started out this week with a site visit. He works very closely with all principals of the Scripps Ranch elementary schools. They started at Miramar Ranch and then came to Dingeman. Monica Hazel and a board member were present on site. They will be going to Jerabek tomorrow and then EBS. It went well but it was a bit of crazy timing as UTK and 4th graders were in VAPA and the 5th graders were at Biztown, and it was recess time. He appreciated that some teachers changed their schedule so that the group could visit their classrooms.

Mr. Pedrotti gives a shout out to Ivy and Katie. They have been really busy trying to raise money for the 5th grade promotion. He gives them a thank you for all the work they are doing and he is excited to have a great 5th grade party and promotion.

Mr. Pedrotti addresses the fact that there was an incident at a neighboring school where a man made contact with a student, but thankfully the child was able to get away. In response, Ivy has reached out to Kick Force and they are going to come to the school and do a demo of self defense with all grades. Mr. Pedrotti emphasizes that we take the safety of our students very seriously. He just bought new cones and signs to help with the parking lots and drop off.

Mr. Pedrotti is happy to report that the first student led tiger rally was a success. He had the student council lead the entire assembly and it was nice to see that they could run it without him.

Mr. Pedrotti has been working on the 2023-24 budget. He will be having a more in depth meeting to go over staffing, how much money they will have and how the FFC can support the school's needs. He adds that he is so appreciative for how much the FFC does for the school. The staff were just recently trained on how to use Smarty Ants and other subscriptions.

He is also happy to recognize that we have had a lot of assemblies at school, field trips, fire safety demonstrations, etc., made possible through grade level grants and reimbursements. He is thankful for those opportunities. This is the most "real" school year for him so he gives his thanks to the FFC for everything they do to help, as it is a never-ending job.

IV. Committee Reports

1. EAR - Jessica Craig-Huynh

Jessica gives a thank you to everyone, including those behind the scenes doing stuff. She is happy to report we have volunteers working with 1st and 2nd grade and she is working on a schedule to work with students in 3rd-5th grades. They have sent letters out to parents to get permission for their child to participate in EAR. There have been requests for both one on one support and small reading groups. She gives a thanks to everyone who has helped fix up the space and to Mr. Pedrotti for clearing stuff out and also to Mr. Joe for the storage bins.

Jessica asks about the EAR budget so that she can assess where we are at. She would like to budget for some umbrellas and furniture so that we have more comfortable places to read with the students. She is looking into bistro sets and little chairs but wants to use our resources wisely and would love if she can get some donations for more seating options. She is still trying to figure out the process for finger-printing so that volunteers could read with the students in other locations. She learned that if you have been finger-printed for one organization, it doesn't necessarily transfer to another.

Katarina confirms that EAR has a \$1500 budget. Jessica is happy to hear and intends to use the funds for furniture and seating options as we currently have a good number of books. Jessica encourages anyone who is able to help pick-up or deliver furniture to let her know.

Christina thanks Jessica for branching out to 3rd-5th grades and inquires if she will host another training for volunteers for the upper grades. Jessica doesn't have another training session scheduled but has been working through her list of people who expressed interest in volunteering. She is also working with the current volunteers and she will work with as many 3rd-5th graders as she can, like she did last year, if she doesn't have enough volunteers. Christina and Dusty offered to help get the word out and maybe send another interest form in case people were waiting to work with the grades their children are in. Christina also inquires if the EAR coordinator would come out again and do a big group training? Jessica is not sure, but knows that she requests a minimum of 15 attendants. Jessica adds that she is also willing to train people.

Cathryn explains to those who are not familiar what the EAR program is and adds how Jessica single handedly got it started last year and what a great program it is.

2. Art Corps - Lisa Shadburn

Lisa starts by giving a huge shout out to Christina for the success of family art night. She adds that the Art Corp committee have all been rock stars this year. They are still looking for some more help with the art show. Dora is heading it, but we could use one more person. Dora is going to be holding a few zoom meetings to get input on what people would like to see at the art show this year. Lisa adds that the regular grade/classroom lessons are going really well and that teachers, students and parents all seem to be happy with how it is going. She gives a thank you to everyone who has been helping with the program this year and announces that the art show will be the second week in May. She will be calling on the Art Corp classroom volunteers to help get the art work prepared and ready to showcase, but will also be looking for other volunteers to help set everything up.

Christina adds the zoom links for the art show idea/discussion meetings to chat.

Time: 09:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/89733725514?pwd=MUtPYllpbE1qYTQwYkN1VnpHZndWdz09>

Meeting ID: 897 3372 5514

Passcode: 8CzpiY

Time: 05:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/81601783851?pwd=aFpvdEljMHQ5dzF4dDNGSXlyU2xMUT09>

Meeting ID: 816 0178 3851

Passcode: SY14sX

3. STEAM - Karthika

Karthika starts by sharing that STEAM has had a really busy month. She has been trying to install the we-do software on the laptops we have. The equipment came with a lesson plan but she would also like to make copies to be able to leave with parents. She is also working on finding a fun project for the wonder-bots that we can use across all the grades. She has also been trying to do some security updates with the laptops we have but she has had trouble and has reached out to the company and is waiting for help.

Karthika also reports that she has Noetic math started in grades 3-5. They will start coaching 3rd grade this week or next. Mrs. Wagner has been on top of it and is hosting for 3rd grade. They are going with the flow for 4th and 5th grades and have had 2 weeks of coaching for 4th grade as well as homework sent out. They have not started coaching for grade 5 but everything has been planned and homework has gone out.

Karthika addresses the issue of whether devices should be taken home with parents. She thinks they should stay in the maker space; and she will make them available on a case by case basis. She would like to open up the maker space for more exploration but needs Dusty's approval.

Cathryn asks Mr. Joe and Mrs. Becker if they have anything to add from a faculty standpoint.

Mr. Joe gives a thank you to Heidi as his class had their first art lesson. He also thanks everyone for including his class in all the events. They can't always do all of them, but he appreciates being included and invited.

Mrs. Becker adds that she is so appreciative of the opportunity for the 5th graders to go to Biz-Town. She thanks the FFC for the funding and hopes they got the cards and slide show the students made. Cathryn acknowledges that they were received and shared the thank you note from Wes, with Ivy's permission. Jessica and Ivy were both in attendance and Jessica added that it was a great field trip and glad they were able to participate. Christina asked if anyone knows whether other schools attend and how they go about funding it.

Mr. Pedrotti adds that Dingeman will be the host of summer school this year. The site will be providing general education and special education. Registration is open until 2/14 and encourages everyone to turn in their application if they want their children to attend.

Christina asks if Dingeman families will be turned away if it is a first come first serve basis. Mr. Pedrotti doesn't think anyone will be turned away, but has already received 200 applications and EBS has received 200. They are date-stamping all applications, so he encourages everyone to get their application in, in case there is a space issue.

V. Old Business

None.

VI. New Business

None.

Cathryn McFearin calls the meeting to a close at 7:21 p.m.

Attendants:

Cathryn McFearin
Dusty Pedrotti
Angie Couvrette
Ivy Lam
Christina Liu
Jessica Craig-Huynh
Katarina Mansir
N. Martinez
Heidi Jhung
Jasmine Gandi Wilbert
Diana Saldivar
Joanne Ngo
Joe Marsella
Lisa Shadburn
Vanessa Samulis
Indu Ramachandran
Karthika Arunachalam
Michelle Becker
Iphone
Jyotisna
Tom Lee