

## **Dingeman Family Faculty Connection General Membership Meeting January 9, 2024 - Via Zoom**

### **I. Call to Order**

Call to order by FFC President Cathryn McFearin at 6:31 p.m. on January 9, 2024.

Welcome to our first meeting of the new calendar year.

First order of business is to approve the meeting minutes from December 12, 2023, which were sent out to the board for approval. Cathryn asks for any corrections.

### **II. Approval of December Meeting's minutes**

\*Motion to approve the 12/12/23 meeting minutes – Christina Liu

Second – Michelle Becker

Motion to approve December 12/12/23 meeting minutes passed unanimously.

### **III. Board Reports**

#### **1. President - Cathryn McFearin**

Cathryn shares her screen with the highlights for next year.

#### **[FFC Events 2023-2024](#)**

We will have a special FFC meeting on 2/13/24 and will call for nominations for the Board for the 2024-2025 school year. We have members terming out, and moving on to Marshall next year, so we are looking for new people to fill positions. The following meeting in March will be the elections and then we will go over the proposed budget at the meeting on May 14.

Cathryn adds that the FFC could really use the teachers' help to recruit parent volunteers. If they recognize someone who seems involved and organized or a good fit for an event or committee - a slight push to look into the FFC would be much appreciated. We are really excited for the rest of the year and activities that we have coming up, and will be pushing our recruitment campaign, both on campus and via social media.

Cathryn notes the following highlights for remainder of the year:

- Family Art Nights: January 23rd, February 22nd, March 15th
- Art Show: March 25-29, Art Show Night: March 28
- Tiger Trot: Thursday April 18th
- Staff Appreciation: May 6-10
- Spring Carnival: Friday May 17th

FFC Meetings:

- February 13: Nominations for 2024-2025 Board Members
- March 12: Board Member Elections
- May 14: Budget

2. Vice President - Christina Liu

Vice President Christina thanks Cathryn for the document and will include the dates in emails for the rest of the year, and otherwise, has nothing new to report.

3. Treasurer - Katarina Mansir

Katarina shares her screen and reviews the financial overview for December 2023.

Checking Account Starting Balance:	\$219,493.25
Checking Account Ending Balance:	\$227,229.41
Savings Account Balance:	\$30,567.02
Total:	\$250,060.27

Deposits in the amount of \$10,550.21 included corporate and community service matches, family dinner night profits from Rubios, treat sales for 5th grade committee, parent donations from Family Art Night and the Level Up earnings.

Expenses in the amount of \$2,814.05 included classroom reimbursements, SumDog, and Honor Choir.

4. Principal - Dusty Pedrotti

Mr. Pedrotti opens by thanking all the staff who were able to run and support the school while him and Ms. Miller were out. He knows it takes a village and is very appreciative to everyone who stepped up.

There will be a budget and staff allocation meeting coming up, as well as an ELAC and SSC meeting next week. These meetings are important because the District and State only allow so much money, so it is important to fill out the surveys and know what families and students need and value. Thankfully, the FFC fills in the gaps to help support the needs of the school.

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year is already upon us and we are trying to push it along so that we know our numbers better and can help determine the needs for the school, especially with the new UTK and Kinders coming in.

Ms. Maria Gomez, our are superintendent, will be coming by to help assess our school's needs.

Mr. Pedrotti ends by saying he is sad to see the board positions coming to their term ends, and will definitely help support getting others to step up and help with the positions and volunteer opportunities and hands it over to Ms. Miller.

Ms. Miller is excited to report that, with a special thanks to Christina Liu, our Safety Patrol excelled this year and Officer Martinez nominated the Dingeman Safety Patrol for top squad in all of San Diego City. Those who were able to, attended a big ceremony, where Dingeman was awarded 2nd place overall top squad and received a trophy, which will be kept in the front office. Arrabella Liu also received a top honor and was promoted from Captain to Major, a very high achievement.

5. Staff - Mr. Joe Marsella, Ms. Boelzle, Ms. Becker

Ms. Becker thanks the FFC for their support and is excited about the upcoming BizTown Field Trip.

Mr. Joe shares that everyone is appreciative and super excited about the classroom reimbursement/grade level grant.

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

1. EAR - Jessica Craig-Huynh

Jessica gives a quick update, noting that the team is continuing to work hard and still training new volunteers. There will be a training in the library on 1/18/23 at 8:30 am. She would like have another coffee chat/meet-up to discuss how to continue to make the program work efficiently. As things roll along, she is continuing to figure out how to tweak things and how best to provide support and keep the supplies organized and roles/positions filled. She is also looking into the best time to finish providing support and plan the celebration/recognition party.

Jessica also adds that she would love to see a reading/spirit week happen, or a "drop everything and read day." Another idea is having volunteers come in and be a guest/mystery reader. Mr. Pedrotti and her are continuing to think of different options and possibilities for encouraging and promoting the love of reading.

Ms. Becker adds that she appreciates the support given to the 5th graders who always seem to come back into the classroom with a smile on their face after working with an EAR volunteer.

Jessica adds that she hopes to keep up the number of volunteers we have and hopes to add UTK and K into the program and has Christina's help working with the teachers to see how best to implement any help needed.

Christina adds the following link in the chat.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdHkjZ8vFeqM9jXCgsxoX31oleRGWDOc\\_i aL7Do08pzaifwGg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdHkjZ8vFeqM9jXCgsxoX31oleRGWDOc_i aL7Do08pzaifwGg/viewform)

2. Art Corps - Lisa Shadburn

Lisa is not able to attend, so Christina gives the update.

The registration for Family Art Night has been sent out. It will be January 23 and February 22. It will be the same art lessons that were provided in December, where you can choose 1 of 3 artists/projects. Priority will go to those who did not attend in December, but as of the last check, there are still spots available, so spread the word.

Art Corps workshops are continuing on this week for K-5th grades. If anyone has questions, feel free to contact Lisa or Christina.

3. STEAM - Karthika Arunachalam

Karthika is not able to attend so Kelly gives the update.

Kelly is happy to report that the Otterbox money came through and is in the STEAM budget line/account. We will then be purchasing the 3D printers from BambuLab. Once the printers are ordered, she will order the carts and are also looking into lamp kits for the 5th graders. The project can take 6 hours to print, but she is looking into an iteration that may only take 2 hours. She is also looking into using the school's tax exempt status to order supplies.

Christina and Mr. Pedrotti both acknowledge what great work Kelly and Greg have done and share the positive feedback they got from the teachers who have done the challenges.

The goal is to add more STEAM challenges for UTK-2nd grade in the spring and then possibly expand to grades 3-5. We have a lot of the technology part of STEAM for the upper grades, but he encourages all the teachers to get in there and learn the lessons and help support this new endeavor.

V. Old Business

None.

VI. New Business

Christina shares that Anthony, the yearbook chair who was not able to attend, will be sending the classroom specific links. Please submit no more than 4 photos at a

time for your specific email and then your classroom representative will put them together.

Cat adds that the yearbook sales will start in March.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.**

**Attendants:**

Dusty Pedrotti  
Cathryn McFearin  
Angie Couvrette  
Jessica Craig-Huynh  
Ivy Lam  
Christina Liu  
Eydie Strouse  
Katarina Mansir  
Indu Ramachandran  
Ashley Nover  
N. Martinez  
Nesra  
Michelle Becker  
Joe Marsella  
Linnea Miller  
Kelly Cortese