

Family-Faculty Connection (FFC)
General Monthly Meeting: February 12, 2025

I. Call to Order: 6:34 p.m.

Blaine Sheppard, Nesra Senol, Christina Liu, Dora Rowe, Jessica Craig-Huyhn, Karthika, Mayumi Caalaman, Joe Marsella, Laura Chai, Kelly Cortese, Sandra Atkinson, Michelle Becker, Kimberly Kennelly, Ely Exner

II. Approval and/or Correction of January 8, 2025 Draft Minutes

No corrections

Motion to approve - Sandra Atkinson

Second- Karthika

Minutes approved

III. Administration & Staff Reports

1. Mr. Pedrotti

It has been a very busy time since returning from Winter break.

Two Art Events have gone very well; serving over 200 families.

We are scheduled to participate for the first time in the Scripps Spelling Bee for 1st-5th grade; 3th-5th grade to school spelling bee then on to cluster spelling bee.

We are finished with the Noetic Math competition.

Two more for Math Olympiad competitions scheduled for the year.

Our second graders will participate in the Math Kangaroo competition for 2nd grade in March.

We are building next academic year's budget this February and we will continue to stay away from cutting from the classroom level with cuts more likely to be from the central office. Supplemental early retirement will be offered to 700+ employees district wide. The final budget will be finalized in March.

Starting to plan for this Spring's Tiger Trot.

We are starting a Saturday CORE academy as an opportunity for students to recoup their days absent and provide us with an opportunity to recoup the associated lost funding. The first session is scheduled for Feb 22nd 8:30 -12:30. Students have to attend for the entire 4 hours; plan is to have a session every Saturday; prioritizing all students with an absence; sign up is open. About 100 students signed up for the first session so far but we still have room for more

2. Ms. Miller

Not present

3. Faculty Representatives

1. Ms. Becker

Staff is grateful for the support; raffle experience was a lot of fun and looking forward to spending time with the kids.

2. Ms. Boelzle

Absent but sent an update:

Raffle: For the raffle, I was thinking that next year we have the Tiger Rally the Friday prior to the week of raffle sales. During the rally teachers can come up and "sell" their raffle opportunity. Just an idea, but I would be happy to lead that next year and get teachers to come up to the mic!

Volunteers: How are things going with getting volunteers for activities/events outside of the classroom? If you need teachers to be sending out emails asking for volunteers for specific events please let us know. We don't want only the main people who help out to always be the only ones helping out.

Veggie Cage Rebuilding Help: This summer we a former student volunteered her time to build new veggie cages for the planter beds in the back garden.

Unfortunately the netting she put on the cages is too thin and the animals ate through it and got to the veggies. I have replaced two of the cages, but I will not be able to do the remaining six on my own. I would love to have some volunteers to help me on a weekend, and I would ask for some financial help from the FFC to purchase the chicken wire to replace them.

3. Mr. Joe

No update

IV. FFC Board Officer Reports

1. President-Christina

Formation of the FFC Nominating Committee:

Motion made to form the FFC Nominating Committee for the 2025-2026 FFC board.

This appointed and approved Nominating Committee “shall nominate one or two members for each elected office:

- President,
- Vice-President,
- (2) Two Vice-Presidents of Fundraising,
- Secretary,
- Treasurer,
- Auditor, and
- Deposits Secretary”

The Nominating Committee will announce all nominations for the elected FFC Board positions and make recommendations to the President-Elect & Principal for

the Appointed Positions on the FFC Executive Board for the 2025-26 school year at the April FFC Meeting on 4/9 at 6:30p via Microsoft Teams. An anonymous voting process will then follow to elect the 2025-26 FFC Board Members at the same April FFC meeting.

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone you know (with their permission, please), for any of the positions listed above for the 2025-26 FFC Executive Board, please fill out the [FFC Executive Board Nominations form](#). Your response on this form will assist the Nominating Committee in their nominations for the elected FFC Executive Board positions.

Nominations for next year’s FFC Executive Board will be accepted now through March 21, 2025.

Christina appoints the following to the FFC Nominating Committee:

- Kaarthika
- Nesra
- Sandra
- Kelly
- Rukmini Bedi

Motion to approve the appointments – Dora

Second – Mr. Joe

The motion carries.

2. Treasurer-Katarina

Not able to attend but provided the following report:

Financial Overview for January 2025				
Starting Balance as of Jan 1 (checking)				\$233,243.58
Ending Balance as of Jan 31 (checking)				\$235,999.81
Savings account as of Jan 31 (savings)				\$30,573.60
		Total assets		\$263,817.18
January Deposits				
1/2/2025	ACH	Benevity	Corporate Match	\$500.00
1/2/2025	ACH	Level Up	Enrichment	\$829.03
1/2/2025	ACH	Venmo	Public House and Spirit Gear	\$141.96

1/8/2025	Deposit	Double Good Popcorn	5th Grade	\$5,273.00
1/8/2025	Deposit	Pledge	Corporate Match	\$300.00
1/8/2025	Deposit	Fitness Quest 10	Corporate Sponsorship	\$250.00
1/8/2025	Deposit	Pledge	Corporate Match	\$200.00
1/8/2025	Deposit	Habit Grill	Family Dinner Nights	\$58.46
1/8/2025	Deposit	Tshirt Sales	Spirit Gear Sales	\$32.00
		Total Deposited		\$7,584.45
January Expenditures				
1/9/2025	JG	Classroom Reimburse	UTK	\$59.70
1/9/2025	CG	Classroom Reimburse	UTK	\$27.98
1/9/2025	NS	Tiger Art Academy	Art Supplies	\$445.89
1/17/2025	SS	Staff Reimbursement	Counseling	\$250.00
1/17/2025	BM	Classroom Reimburse	UTK	\$229.91
1/28/2025	MD	Library	books	\$1,555.54
1/28/2025	AH	Grade Level Grant	Sumdog - 4th Grade	\$1,020.00
1/28/2025	AA	Classroom Reimburse	4th Grade	\$215.90
1/28/2025	MB	Classroom Reimburse	5th Grade	\$308.75
		Total Expenditures		\$4,113.67

3. VP of Fundraising - Sandra

There are four businesses from whom we need to collect funds.

We have an upcoming Parent Social fundraiser scheduled for Friday, February 28 from 5 - 6:30 p.m. at Public House. 20% of the proceeds will be given back to Dingeman.

Christina is requesting a list of our sponsors and their levels to ensure we are collecting correctly.

V. Standing Committee Reports

1. Tiger Art Academy-Sandra/Dora

- Lesson 6 parent trainings are scheduled for the last week of February. Dates and times are on the TAA webpage. Trainings are offered in-person, live via Zoom or parents can view the recordings at their convenience.

- Dora has continued to drop in on art lessons to see how they are going. The projects, curriculum and supplies have been working great and we've been getting a lot of positive feedback.

- 5th Grade Promotion Art Project: We have created a special 5th grade art lesson where kids create a self-portrait using the prompt "The Me I Will Be." Completed art will be sent to Square1 to digitize and the company will provide personalized brochures with options for parents to buy gifts with their student's art printed on them. This is also a fundraiser, with proceeds going to the FFC fund. This week, information went out to teachers, parents and volunteers. Lesson times are currently being scheduled. Completed art is due 2/28/25. Brochures are expected to be delivered and distributed to teacher mailboxes the second week of March. We are happy to provide this fun opportunity for families to have very special promotion mementos.

Annual Art Show

Committee met today to plan the details for the Annual Art Show schedule for March 27 from 5-7 p.m. (times tentative and depending on coordination with Open House.) Scheduled for same night as Open House so the Art Committee will coordinate planning with Mr. Pedrotti.

The theme for the Art Show is Stary Night.

The plan to create a one entry and one exit set up and configuration for the Art Show, requiring students and visitors to stay on one path to view the art. There will be a scavenger hunt provided to the students as they walk through the exhibit.

Cultural Committee will offer snacks during the Art Show/Open house.

The Honor Choir will be invited to perform in the courtyard.

Discussion regarding art submissions to be displayed at the County Fair. Very specific dimensions and requirements for art to be accepted. Does Mr. Pedrotti have someone to talk to so can submit non-compliant pieces anyways? Or maybe come up with a new lesson that complies with the requirements?

Kimberly's husband offered to cover cost of new drying racks for Tiger Art Academy. Sandra is in looking into some options for us.

2. STEAM-Greg/Kelly

Nothing new to report; everything continues to look good and everything going according to plan.

A class set of computer mice is on order for laptops to utilize Tinkercard to create custom 3-D prints.

There was a raffle prize winner for the marble run offered by the STEAM group.

Next round for STEAM challenges is available in March.

We applied for Scripps Ranch technology grant and hope to win that again this year.

The Community Garden and STEAM Mesa Lab located in the SDUSD building by the Livia apartments is up and running but still in set-up phase. Their staff visited Dingeman recently to view our school garden and STEAM lab and were impressed with our programs. We are in the planning phase to partner with them next year for STEAM projects and to have our students work in the community gardens. They may reach out later this year to Gregg and Kelly to coordinate for STEAM.

3. EAR-Jessica

Jessica is on campus weekly on Thursday and Friday 9:30-10:45 a.m. and is available to answer questions and provide guidance.

New volunteers have started and Jessica is moving around schedules to accommodate program needs.

There have been challenges due to the weather since many volunteers read with their student outside.

End of the year celebration for the EAR students is tentatively scheduled for May 9. Jessica is asking for donation of gently used books for the year end celebration.

Working on details for Principal Pedrotti for Read Across America week.

4. Yearbook-Eydie was absent

No Report

5. Family Dinner Night - Anne

Anne couldn't be here but provided a report:

We raised \$412.37 at the Panda Express FDN

Our next FDN is Tuesday, March 4th from 11 am -8 pm at Surfside. They will give back 20% of all sales, all day from 11 AM - 8 PM

6. Cultural-Rola

We are excited to announce a special project organized by our Cultural Committee to celebrate the rich diversity and unity within our school community. This year, we are introducing a school-wide craft project that will culminate in a beautiful display at both our Open House and Spring Carnival. Paper dolls will be sent home with all students on February 24th.

We are continuing to celebrate the cultural festivals that are represented by our student body. To date, we have displayed three cultural banners.

Our fourth Cultural Committee meeting is upcoming.

7. Box Tops-Mayumi

We have earned \$735 from Box Tops so far this year.

Mayumi recently attended coordinators meeting and earned \$10 for attending for Dingeman.

Don't know if check came in? Christina will check in with Katarina to determine if a check for the earned funds have come in.

VI. Special Committee Reports

None

VII. Old Business

1. FFC Monthly Social-Sandra

Parent Social fundraiser scheduled for Friday, February 28 from 5 - 6:30 p.m. at Public House. 20% of the proceeds will be given back to Dingeman.

2. Raffle Fundraiser recap

Lots of excitement from the staff, students and family for the Raffle.

We made over \$5000 for the raffle!

Thank you for everyone who donated and volunteered.

Feedback is welcome on how to make it better next year.

VIII. New Business

None

IX. Announcements

None

X. Adjournment: 7:23 p.m.

*Next FFC meeting: March General FFC Monthly Meeting: 3/5/2025 at 6:30pm on Microsoft Team