

PARENT Guild Meeting, December 15, 2009

Quick Notes....Official Draft Minutes coming soon....

FYI #1: "Parent Guild" means all of us parents. "Parent Council" means the parent and class representatives with voting rights.

FYI #2: This meeting lasted 3 hours! Whew....Next time, we'll be adhering to stricter time frames per presenter.

FYI#3: These notes are by no means comprehensive, conclusive or even accurate!!!

Public Comments

Parent, Erica Charlesworth expressed **concern about the reading program**. Lots of good discussion followed with the net result of Director to ask faculty to focus on this important topic at an upcoming Parent Ed night.

Parent, Teresa Markwood has created an opportunity to have purchased, prepared and delivered, **healthy lunches** to our school for a reasonable price (around \$3) one or more times per week. The administration supports the effort however cannot put any resources toward it at this time. If you are interested in helping to fine tune this program, a committee is forming. Please contact Theresa Markwood (theresamarkwood@att.net).

Question/comment regarding **traffic safety on East Ave**: The city provided the school with its USE permit with the understanding that we would not be requesting additional traffic signs on East Ave to alert drivers of presence of a school. So, this means **DRIVE EXTRA SAFE GOING TO AND LEAVING OUR SCHOOL**...when possible, make a right hand turn off of East Ave to avoid crossing the road when traffic is heavy. BEWARE OF FAST DRIVERS ON THE ROAD.

Use of Enloe's field is on hold for now as the city won't allow us to use it without a \$3,000 use permit...and the accompanying 3 month process. For now, we don't have that kind of money sitting around....or the time to focus on the process...Maybe next year.

Blue Oak on Facebook? Why not? Could help with Outreach...and Inreach....Want to help start it up? Contact _Jessica Hunt(worshipyourpassion@gmail.com) (2nd grade rep Ms. Guinney)

Special thanks to: Parent Guild "closet/office" cleaner uppers, all teachers, committee chairs. To celebrate us, Portia donated wax to the Parent Council for stress relief during the meeting.

Committee Reports

Fundraising: Wendy Kaplan, Chair, 1) spoke about T-Shirt purchases coming up, 2) that the Box Top program is going well --- (clip Box Tops from participating packaged food makers...and the school gets money....put your Box Tops in the collection box in main office.) 3) that MaMuse has decided not to donate their time for a Blue Oak fundraiser this year, sorry...maybe next year, 4) a Spring Cleaning Rummage Sale is coming up so stay tuned.....

Site Maintenance: Kelly Munson....1) "We need shelving and bins for the Parent Guild Office...if you can donate, please let me know." Kelly Munson(munson_k@yahoo.com) . 2) **A group assembled to clean up and organize the Parent Guild Office last Friday** ----- Still more to do....inventory and clearly mark all the contents As well as develop strategy for keeping office locked yet accessible to those who need to get in.3) If you are a person who has been posting notices on the walls, **please use the bulletin boards** for this purpose...THANKS! The walls are beginning to suffer from tacks, glue, tape and sticky things... We are looking into long term

solutions so that our student's beautiful artwork can continue to be displayed for all to appreciate.

[Liaison to Charter Council, Marc Kessler](#): Per our request he asked the Council to clarify the policy regarding unattended children....and he reports that the policy is that there are to be no unattended children regardless of age....The irony was noted that concurrent with this policy is the fact that 7th and 8th graders are often asked to provide childcare for younger graders....If you wish for this policy to be addressed further, please go to a charter Council meeting and present an alternative policy suggestion.

[Winter Concert](#) – (This Thursday, December 17th, 6pm)– One of us, a parent willing to step forward and just get it done, ordered chairs for parents and a stage for students so that we might all enjoy and see the Winter Concert.....Please donate what you can at the door to offset the rental cost .

[Library – Holly Nielsen](#), THANKS HOLLY FOR VOLUNTEERING TO BE CHAIR....Holly reported that Carol Fegte is doing an amazing job coordinating the library project whenever she has time.... along with several helpers (more would help even more)....An Adopt the Book program is coming in which people can donate books in the name of their favorite students!) (ie, child, grandchild, etc.)

[Garden and Grounds – Tighe O'Neil](#) and his people are taking a little rest, making plans, working on a grant for \$25 k from Lowes. Thanks to all the volunteers who made the back play space happen, we can apply for this grant with proof that Blue Oak parents put in their time.

[In Reach – Erica Charlesworth](#) – 1) We still need one more Bulletin Board! Purchased, found, or donated...and then installed. Anyone out there can help me pull that off? Call please, Erica, 530-520-9239....2) We are looking into purchase of a black chalkboard either a classroom size, or an A-Frame type, on which to place an Upcoming Events Calendar...We need a person interested in collecting those events And another to record them in lovely cursive or print...

[Out Reach – Dean Fairbanks](#)- Stephen is sending home a letter asking all parents to please complete an update contact information form so that we can move forward with our "Just One Call" system – a phone communication system that will greatly reduce the time required to communicate important information to Blue Oak families. Dean is working on the Parent Handbook updates and School Brochure. Wow. ALSO....coordinating advertising and marketing – something we used to do, then stopped doing--- more students in the upper grades would help our bank balance to put it bluntly...and also we can accommodate almost 100 more students than we currently have, so shouldn't we be reaching out? Yes!

[Festival Coordinator, Summer O'Neil](#) – is forming the necessary understanding to help the festival life of the school flourish....Past Festival chairs can help Summer by documenting their experiences for the Festival Binder. Please contact Summer if you have information regarding your work on festivals. (If you have any information at all, full amnesty will be provided on a case by case basis.)

[Volunteer Coordinator Needed](#) --- Portia reported that Karin Fisk needs to take a detour....and unfortunately can't fill her role as once planned.....this does happen...thanks for being willing Karin! Anyone else interested ? You can pretty much write your own volunteer job description and make what you want out of the role. It's just great to have someone out there looking to match volunteer positions with volunteers...and to collect those pesky volunteer hours. Talk to Portia Ceruti (portiaceruti@gmail.com).

Funding Items and Officer Reports

Classroom still waiting on functioning sinks! Parent Council approved up to \$2500 to finish this job – ie, install sinks (parts and labor)...Kelly Munson is getting final quotes and the plan is to have sinks in and ready by end of Christmas Break.

Julie Quinn, **Treasurer reported** that we have over \$8500 in the bank.... she plans on creating a preliminary budget with projectionsalso, slowly but surely financial controls are coming into place to keep all of us who handle Parent Council monies accountable .

By Laws Update, Portia Ceruti --- The Bylaws Task Force made swift progress and reviewed Charter Council and Parent Council bylaws in detail in order to bring the two sets of bylaws in sync with each other. The Parent Council began discussion and will review and continue the review process at the next meeting. THANK YOU By Laws Task Force for helping rebuild our foundation.

Chris Grettum, Chair of Parent Council....appreciated all attendees and continues to hone our format so as to keep the meeting to two hours in the future.

That is all...thank you...!
Erica Charlesworth, 2nd Grade Rep to Ms. White's class