



COUGAR Parents Club

We're here to help with high school

Meeting Minutes Thursday November 1st, 2018 7:00 PM – Staff Room

In attendance: Karen Holl, Hilde Largay, Jeff Calden, Mindi Broughton, Lise Brooke, Melissa Avilla, Heidi Kamei, Karin Gallagher, Nicole MacArgel, Tiffany De La Torre

1. **Call to order** – Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM. Hilde motioned to approve the minutes from the September meeting, Melissa seconded, all in favor – motion carried. Karen motioned to approve the October meeting minutes, Melissa seconded, all in favor – motioned carried.
2. **Treasurer's Report** – Checks went out to the California Secretary of State for incorporation, to Monarch Services, and to Charlotte for the bus trips, all of which were approved at previous meetings. A request has been submitted to the SLV Foundation for Education for reimbursement for \$1,900 to cover the outgoing checks.

Benefit Balance:	\$42.00
Money Market:	\$15,046.36
Checking:	\$6,257.55

3. **Principal's Report:**
 - **College and Career Week** – Off to a great start. There have been various lunchtime activities scheduled all week. The Freshman got to attend an assembly to help prepare them for the rest of their High School career. It included a 20 minute video of teachers, staff, and seniors giving them advice. There was also a “college schwag” raffle, and each freshman was given a t-shirt.
 - **Grading Period** – Ends Friday. The next grades will be the final official semester grades.
4. **Application for non-profit status** – Mindi submitted the Articles of Incorporation to the state. The officers are in the process of finalizing a draft of the By-Laws which will then be submitted to the attorney for review. There was discussion about how to make the meeting minutes and agendas available to the public. It was agreed that making them available online made the most sense, however currently the only website the Cougar Club has is the one run through the school admin office for which we have to ask Jakeh Hall to update. It was agreed that the club should have its own independent website able to be edited by officers, even if there is a fee attached. Karin suggested asking Mikey Henderson if we can get some of his students to help design the Cougar Club website. Karin will check with him.

5. **Donation fundraiser update** – Fifteen additional donations were received since Karen sent a reminder email out last week, and the club is getting closer to its goal of meeting the \$5,000.00 match. However, since so many teacher's requested equipment this year, it would be great if we could exceed the \$5,000 goal in order to allow the club to fund as many of them as possible. Members were asked to reach out to any additional parents they could.
6. **Review of equipment requests from teachers** – The proposed budget for the year allowed for approximately \$2,000-3,000 in teacher requests, assuming that the donation fundraising goal of \$10,000 is reached. However, the club received roughly \$9,000 in requests from teachers. The Club will not be able to fund them all. The list was reviewed by the members present and items were ranked in order of priority. Jeff was able to identify a few requests for which other sources of funding were available (i.e. district, school, or departmental funds). After eliminating low priority items and items for which district/school funds were available, the club members agreed to fund or partially fund requests for a total of just under \$4,000.00. Karen motioned to approve up to \$4,000 to fund teacher requests, Lise seconded, all in favor – motion carried. Karen will check back with Mr. Winkler to get more information about his request and will try to leverage the requests to encourage additional donations for the direct donation fundraiser.
7. **Review of past activities:**
 - a. **Monarch** – Monarch presentations went very well. The Seniors went first this year, and it was well received. Students asked great questions and gave great feedback. Like last year, there was a survey at the end which will help inform future presentations.
 - b. **Diversity Club** – This was presentation along with a student panel designed to just sort of help introduce the topic of LGBTQ related questions and issues and open up a dialogue among freshmen. It was our first year doing this and it was well-received. The student panel makes it worthwhile and helps the audience connect. Feedback from the students was positive. Jeff recommends doing it again.
 - c. **College Essay-Writing Workshop** – There were 12 enthusiastic parent volunteers for this, and only 3 -, 4 students showed up. Some parents suggested doing the workshop in English class for seniors. Others suggested possibly doing it earlier (to help hit the early application deadline). Karen suggested that maybe it would be more useful if a student could upload their essay online when they were ready and we could help match the essay with a parent volunteer for editing/feedback.
8. **Planning for upcoming activities:**
 - a. **Career Expo** – Scheduled for December 3rd. Beth is getting lunch for the presenters.
 - b. **Summer Experience Workshop** – This will be held on December 6th from 6:30-8:30 and is being facilitated by Kathryn P. The Cougar Club does not need to take any additional action on this. Kathryn is working with Charlotte to finalize the details.
 - c. **Movie & Panel** – This is scheduled for January 17th. The theme of the movie this year is students making a difference. Two movies have been identified as possible candidates: *Havana Curveball*, about a boy who decides to send baseball equipment to children in Cuba; and *High School 911*, about a school that starts its own ambulance service. Karen, Karin, Beth and Lise will do some additional research and decide on

the final film. Karen also spoke with someone at the Changemaker Project, which sounds very interesting, but the contact is unavailable for the 17th and the date has already been set. Possibly for another time.

9. **Next meeting** – Scheduled for Tuesday, December 4th (due to conflict on Dec. 6th).

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