

HSC Minutes

September 25, 2018, 6:00 PM



Attendees: Nancy Cisler, Heather Scharer, Chanelle Brearley, Erin Hammer, Dawn Kragelund, Richele Radcliffe, Sina Croom, Janine Daly, Brooke Arana, Tara Borwey, Ruth Alvarado, Graciela Valencia, Blanca Gonzalez, Lucero Mejia, Ma Edeni Esquivel, Preeti Amin, Ketal Amin, Jaya Godalan, Megan Lane, Oded Klimer, Blanca Rodriguez, Miranda Kwan, Madison Lottermoser, Leila Velic, Vaishali Hosagrahara, Dianna Wolf, Julie Reid, Samira Osanlou, Stefani Brandt, Shobha Rao

Welcome & Introductions

The group went around and everyone introduced themselves. Brooke motioned to approve the minutes, Tara seconded, all in favor.

Erin passed out a copy of the budget for the group to look at during the meeting.

Destination Imagination

Tanya De La Cruz presented on Destination Imagination (DI). DI is an education non-profit that is completely run by parent volunteers. Teams are formed that solve challenges and compete in a tournament against teams from Silicon Valley. It involves creative thinking, problem solving, team building, project management, and risk taking. The challenge experience includes six competitive challenges rooted in STEAM. Teams compete locally and if they move on they compete state wide. If a team moves on from state, they compete “globally” in Tennessee against other countries. Nearly all of the schools in Moreland have had a DI team. It’s completely volunteer run which can be tricky for some parents as it is a big time commitment.

The team challenge can include one of the following categories: technical, scientific, engineering, fine arts, improvisational, service learning, and rising stars. You only need two people to start a team with a maximum of 7.

There is an early learning challenge for preschool through 2nd grade that offers simple experiences with the creative process for young children. One of Latimer’s parents, Pooja Patel, managed an early learning challenge team last school year and highly recommended it.

Instant challenges require teams to engage in quick, creative, critical thinking. You never know what they are going to be and everyone who competes in that category has the same instant challenge.

September/October is when teams start forming. Fall and Winter is when they decide what challenge they want to do, choosing a team name, and practicing the challenge. End of February/beginning of March is usually when the local tournament is.

Once you decide to form a team, you have to pay \$105 for a team number. Silicon Valley has their fee of \$200 to offset the Regional operating costs. DI is now also requiring background checks. \$26 for the team manager and \$17 for the appraiser. To attend the regional tournament, the cost is \$250.

For more information about DI, please refer to the handout or contact Tanya De La Cruz at TanyaDLC@gmail.com or Darlene Sales at dar0812@gmail.com

The school does not sponsor DI but it supports it by providing space for practices.

Music Program

Nils Johnson presented on Moreland's music program. Music starts in 4th grade with three weeks of recorder lessons. During this class, students are introduced to musical instruments and learn what the music program entails. There are 4 music teachers in Moreland. Nils Johnson, Rebecca Ayer (EDS), Barbara Wong (beginning strings), and Emily Chiatt (Payne/Anderson). Students can choose an instrument and rent them from music stores or they can try to rent it from Moreland (we currently have 200 instruments for 600 students). Throughout the school year the beginners have lessons once a week. In April, band students have a concert and in May, orchestra students have a concert. 5th graders are part of honor band/orchestra. They meet at EDS on Wednesdays after school for Orchestra and Country Lane for Band. Honor band and orchestra students have 5 concerts throughout the school year. Their first concert will be at the MEF Pumpkin Patch in October. There is also a traveling day where the 5th graders travel around to all of the schools and play with the other schools.

Students can still join in band/orchestra in 5th grade even if they didn't play in 4th grade.

Principal's Message

We had a total of three break in's over two weekends. The library, classrooms, staff room, and office were hit. Old laptops were taken, a number of ipads were taken and put into a garbage can and left behind a building so we recovered all of those. They caught one suspect who is currently in jail, although, we do think he has a couple of accomplices. They used some of the materials from the succulent garden to break the windows. The district has had security here since then and is trying to figure out what to do regarding security. We also lost a couple apple tvs and some keys.

Our noon time activities have begun! They are available for 1st - 8th grade in the library. We currently have Origami, Chess, Go Noodle, and Legos and Games (Pokemon, Uno). The kids love playing beyblades at lunch! We have playground games that are run by 5th grade two days a week. We have a beautification club. We have Friday dance parties at lunch when all noon duties are here. We also have math olympiad starting at the end of October, Latimer Leaders, Latimer Newspaper Club, and CJSF.

We are in the middle of our first round of data collaboration days. The teachers have assessed their students and they get together to look at the data and plan their instruction and groups.

We were approached by high school students from Lynbrook High School. They run Kids Are Scientists Too! It is an 8 week program for 4th and 5th graders after school. We had an overwhelming response and had to start time stamping permission slips. It starts this Thursday! Miss Cromwell will be helping as well.

We have joined forces with San Jose's Walk n Roll program. We want to encourage kids to walk and ride bike to school and emphasize safety. The city will provide maps of safe routes and give us prizes to promote the program. We will do move your feet Fridays starting October 26th. The kickoff is October 10th which is International Walk to School Day. We have picked a few spots around the neighborhood and we are looking for volunteers. Chappie Jones will be attending.

A parent asked about the Latimer/San Tomas Aquino intersection. We have brought this up several times to the City of San Jose. The city is doing yet another traffic study at the back parking lot at the Latimer/Duval intersection.

We want to thank the community for their support of Latimer during the Fund Drive!

President's Message

Kristin Brown is running spirit wear this year. It has been ordered and it will be here in about two weeks. We plan to sell extra spirit wear one Wednesday a month.

Project Cornerstone/ABC Reader had their first training last week and they had a great turnout! They plan to have monthly meetings as well.

Harvest Hop - thank you to our parents for their help during the event! We raised around \$1,500 which helps to provide Walk A Thon shirts to every student.

Fund Drive - Thank you for your generosity! We had donations in all amounts and we really appreciate it! We set a goal of \$15,000 and we expect to bring in \$21,610. Matching funds from local employers has helped! Apple is donating 2:1 through 2018 and we have about \$9,000 coming from company matching.

This year HSC has decided to pay for two more yard duty positions.

Walk-A-Thon is Friday, October 19th. All students will get a t-shirt. Pledge sheets are going home in tomorrow's Wednesday envelope. There are a number of incentives! We will be having the staff raffle as well which is always popular with the kids! The theme is a bubble dash!

The read a thon will be in February.

Book Fair is at the end of January this year, right before Read A Thon starts. Money earned from the book fair goes directly to the library.

Room Parents - everyone is getting up and running, requesting classroom contacts, coordinating parties, and coordinating gifts for teachers.

Copy Center - up and running! It's going wonderful! The jobs have been coming in and everything is going great!

Art Vistas - art program in the classes run by parent volunteers. Training for volunteers is next Tuesday night in the Maker Space. 5th grade is requesting paper bags for their first project

Bulletin Boards and Activities Calendar - we are looking for a volunteer. We are hoping to purchase 3 large bulletin boards.

WAT Raffle - we will send home sheets to purchase raffle tickets. We will also have tables in the front and back of school the week of WAT.

Latimer Luau - we have had a couple requests from teachers for a movie night. We are thinking of having a movie night on the field instead. We will have to purchase rights to the movie. If anyone wants to volunteer to help, please contact HSC.

Science Camp planning has started. Parents on Patrol/Dads on Duty we are still looking for the best format so that we don't put strain on the teachers. We will update more as we continue to plan this out. HSC has officially moved into the closet by the elementary bathrooms! We are in need of help organizing. If anyone has shelving or large storage tubs we are in need of those as well.

Budget

A big change to our budget is that we are trying to fund a full field trip per grade and staff allotments have been decreased. We have plans to spend \$11,500 of reserves money. We currently have a large chunk of money sitting in our bank since we have earned more than expected in many of our fundraisers.

Tara motioned to approve the budget. Amy seconded. All in favor.

MEF

MEF funds Music in Moreland, Sports in Moreland, and more. MEF runs on parents donations. The pumpkin patch starts on October 19th - Halloween. There are a number of volunteering opportunities. There are also volunteer opportunities within MEF. You can learn more by visiting mefhome.org

Latimer is in need of a Music in Moreland rep to help out with coordination.

Tomorrow, Kona Ice will be here after school. Prices range from \$4-6. Kona Ice will be here one Wednesday a month.

We raised \$111.14 from Panda Express. Our next restaurant night is at Chipotle on Sunday, October 21st from 5:00-9:00pm.

HSC emails will start going out next month. Please check our Facebook page (like and share!)