



Casa Esperanza Montessori

Parent Faculty Association Meeting

March 6, 2019/8:30 AM/ Faculty Lounge

Executive Officers:

Ghenet Mogos & Teresa Lockhart, Co-Presidents; Ghenet Yosief, Vice President; Bryan Lanspery, Treasurer; Kristen King, Secretary

Members Present:

Sra. Ibis Nunez, Kristen King, Ghenet Mogos, Teresa Lockhart, Teejay Lanspery, Jennifer Fuller, Connie Omari, Rachel Banyal, Bryan Lanspery, Ghenet Yosief, Jennifer Harrison, Erin Dietsch, Julie Stevenson, Anita Rodriguez, Latasha Pittman, Tessa Aiku

AGENDA

Welcome and Call to Order: Ghenet Mogos called the meeting to order at 8:30.

OPEN COMMENT:

- Julie Stevenson gives a quick update on the status of the Teacher Appreciation Luncheons.
 - There are three lunches left this year.
 - Papa Murphy's will be donating the lunch in April for free! That allows for more previously collected monies to be spent on the remaining lunches.

- Kristen updates on the Uniform Swap in Laura Chapman's absence.
 - There will be a Spring Swap, and details will be coming soon!
 - There is a need for 8/9 year old boy uniforms

- Ghenet provides an update on the Playground Committee in Danielle Pearce's absence.
 - They are currently working on obtaining the net for the Gaga Pit.
 - Jennifer states that they are still working on the drainage issue on the playground. The playground needs grading. French drainage would be expensive and there may be physical limitations to this idea.
 - Sra. Nunez mentions that the school got a quote several years ago regarding the drainage, and it was estimated to cost \$15,000-16,000.

- Rachel provides an update on the Marine Club:
 - Marine Club is still in need of volunteers, especially on Fridays.
 - Ghenet requests that Rachel send an email to the PFA that can be forwarded to Room Parents in order to request more volunteers, and that volunteers need these reminders.
 - Teresa states that the request for volunteers can be added to the newsletter
 - Teejay states that she and Rachel are volunteering with the touch tank every Friday, up to three times a week, and on holidays and breaks.

- Ghenet updates the members about the copy team
 - It is going great, and Laura Chapman is doing a fantastic job.

- Ghenet mentions the PFA Dinner Fundraiser at City BBQ from last month
 - A check for \$193 has come in as proceeds earned.

- Ghenet provides an update on Strawbridge Pictures.
 - Strawbridge messed up the recent group pictures.
 - Rachel asks if the extra copies of the group pictures are supposed to be returned to the school.
 - Ghenet states that the PFA will donate extra copies to teacher's kids & Sra. Seymour's kids in need
 - Ghenet adds that the good news is that MG was able to sell a copy, and Sra. Perdomo sold two copies (one to a child in her class and a sibling). \$30 of unexpected income for the PFA with this.
 - Jennifer inquires as to when the pictures were sent home, and Ghenet states that they were sent home last week.
 - Jennifer proposes that an email should go out to announce that the photos were sent home so that parents are sure to check their child's backpack. She states that this is frequently done with regards to field trip permission slips sent home by the teachers. Ghenet notes that this is something that perhaps the room parents could send out.

- Teresa briefly updates the yearbook progress.
 - As of the March 3 deadline, we have sold the most number of PDAs ever!
 - TeeJay inquires as to how the yearbooks are distributed because she didn't get her's last year.
 - Jennifer states that she has extra, and will get one for Teejay
 - Ghenet Y adds that the school is not provided with a list of who has purchased the yearbooks.
 - Jennifer states that there are no purchase lists from Strawbridge, and Teresa states that the purchase information is kept track of in a spreadsheet.
 - Jennifer states that Strawbridge messed up the list last year, and she only had one day to distribute them last year due to testing in the school.

- Ghenet discusses the topic of the upcoming Fun Run
 - It is intended that the proceeds will go towards Brain Pop and Raz Kids for next school .
 - The MG will be assisting with the Fun Run.
 - Ghenet mentions, as an aside, that help is still needed for field day. Teresa states that this volunteer request will go out in the weekly bulletin.
 - Jennifer asks if the bingo grid lap counter will be used for the Fun Run.
 - Ghenet states that we are currently working on the Pledge Sheet for the run.
 - Erin inquires as to whether the PFA could focus on online donations, as this is a donation request that could be posted online, such as Facebook.
 - Ghenet states that Freya Rowena has potential knowledge of a charter school online payment program that might be useful.
 - Sra. Salcedo, who entered the meeting after it had already begun, states that they are still waiting on the Gaga Pit net. Are the Fun Run funds going to be used for this? Jennifer asks if the Fun Run proceeds need to be allocated for a different purpose? Erin states that that is not the goal yet.

- Bryan discusses the budget from February.
 - PFA Main Checking \$10,252.66 (EOM \$3,496.84)
 - PFA Savings \$866.66 (EOM -\$311.95)
 - Scrip Account \$2,912.88 (EOM -\$374.05)
 - Net Accounts \$14,032.20 (EOM -\$2,810.84)
 - *****(See the attached addendum, below, for updated budget details)**
 - Bryan states that Valerie Jong has been buying new books for the library.
 - Teejay inquires as to whether the school has space to store the new books.

- Bryan states that many of the old books are moved from the library to the classrooms, and the torn/ too used ones are trashed.
 - Teresa makes note that the books are too old to sell, but that there are library grants that we could apply for in order to obtain even more books.
 - Bryan mentions that the PFA has received the check from McTeacher night proceeds.
 - Jennifer asks if McDonald's will consider doing two McTeacher nights, such as one earlier in the year, and the one after winter break? She requests that the PFA consider this option. Rachel inquires if the McDonald's has a tie to the school, and the answer is yes. Sra. Gibbs' husband is the overall manager of this McDonalds, and Ghenet states that Sra. Gibbs has already spoken with her husband, and he has already agreed to holding McTeacher night twice a year.
 - Helping Hands is going well.
 - Yearbook PDA's are the most sold ever this year.
 - Teresa also mentions Oriental Trading as a good passive fundraising tool.
- Ghenet briefly discusses the Staff Valentine's Day breakfast that the PFA treated them to last month.
- The breakfast included donated Starbucks coffee and the PFA purchased Dunkin Donuts
 - There were chocolate chip cookies donated from Panera in the afternoon, and lemonade that was donated by an anonymous Food Lion customer.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ghenet states that the PFA had thought of providing Sra. Elliott and Celeste with giftcards as a welcome back after their medical leaves.
- Ghenet asks if it's alright with everyone if the PFA gives each one a check? This way the money could be used at their discretion.
 - Celeste is coming back to work on Thursday, and Sra. Elliott returned to work this week.
- Sra. Nunez informs the meeting about the new coffee pot that was purchased for the teachers.
- Coffee pods and sugar are being donated from our wonderful Casa parents.
 - The PFA will purchase creamer for the staff.
 - The teachers and staff are ecstatic and appreciate it very much!
 - Sra. Nunez states that the positive influence that the PFA has had with the Gaga Pit and gestures such as this, that there has been a rise in applicants for the next school year!
- Julie introduces the idea of the Lego Sensory Wall.
- The lego wall would be constructed on the hallway way on the other side of the playground.
 - The wall would house sensory base plates in which messages could be attached.
 - Teejay mentions that she has legos to donate.
- Ghenet Y proposes the idea of a Casa Calendar as a fundraiser idea.
- The calendar would feature class pictures, and pictures of school wide events.
 - Jennifer asks about the cost of the calendar.
 - Teresa mentions that the calendar would be between 40-50% profit for the school.
 - Jennifer notes that many people may still default to the old calendar, and could contain dates for next year that may be changed at a later date.
 - Julie states that there would not be much on the calendar for next year at this point.
 - Jennifer says it would be best if there were not too many details on the calendar, and that people still need to refer to the school's website for information.
- Teresa proposes the idea of a Food Truck Rally as a fundraiser.
- This could be in place of one of our family night fundraisers.
 - It could run from 3:00-4:30 in the parking lot of the businesses across the street. We have a contact for that property, and the location would be great as to not affect traffic.

- Sra. Nunez asks about the current food trucks, and Teresa mentions that the Filipino and Kona Ice trucks have already stated that they would let the PFA put out a tip jar to earn proceeds.

-Ghenet discusses the CPR/First Aid Training idea for the school staff.

- March 15 has two time slots for teachers (20 have signed up), and April 19 offers an afternoon training session.
- The staff and teachers would receive their Red Cross Certification.
- Papa Murphy's will be providing pizza to the staff on March 15 and April 19.
- Julie asks who is doing the training. (Red Cross)
- Ghenet states that Anna Foley sent out a message to the teachers to see if they were interested in the training, and Sra. Nunez notes that the training is not mandatory.
- Jennifer asks how much it would cost to certify each staff member. Ghenet replies that the cost is \$50/person, which is a discounted rate for the school.
- Bryan asks how long the certification is good for? (Two years) Re-certification will cost \$40 per person.
- Sra. Salcedo states that she is signed up for the training.

-Ghenet also discusses the Physician's Corner idea.

- The purpose is to educate parents on basic preventative health care needs and the importance of check ups.
- This includes the importance of dental exams, ultrasounds, and the need for some to have a General Medical Practitioner.
- Dr. Andy will take the lead, and the idea is to combine this with another type of school event (aka...STEM Night)
- There will also be career discussions going on at this time.
- Sra. Seymour loves the idea of an open clinic. Sra. Nunez stresses the importance of coordinating all of these pieces to make this a successful event.
- Jennifer asks if this clinic will be next school year? Ghenet replies that it will be a seminar next school year.
- Sra. Nunez notes that a Seminar on the Montessori Philosophy and I.T. Computer information would be a great idea for future seminars. This would be a great way to inform parents of the issues and dangers kids face online.
- Teejay also mentions that a Sign Up Genius workshop would be a great idea to teach volunteers how to use the program. Jennifer states that it would be great if this could be incorporated in the Room Parent Training next year. Rachel says that it would be helpful to have online templates and links available. Ghenet Y mentions the idea of a Sign Up Genius committee.

Bryan adjourns the meeting at 9:23 am.

Casa Esperanza PFA Budget Update February 2019

	Feb Balance	EOM +/-
PFA Main Checking	\$10,252.66	\$3,496.84
PFA Savings	\$866.66	-\$311.95
Scrip Account	\$2,912.88	-\$374.05
Net Accounts	\$14,032.20	\$2,810.84

Standing Committee	Budgeted Income	Actual Income	Budgeted Expense	Actual Expense	Budgeted Balance	Actual Balance	% to Budget
Active Fundraising	\$11,150	\$9,829	\$2,500	\$5,196	\$8,650	\$4,632	54%
Passive Fundraising	\$4,400	\$12,156	\$0	\$3,443	\$4,400	\$8,712	198%
Communications	\$2,500	\$3,159	\$0	\$0	\$2,500	\$3,159	126%
Educational	\$2,000	\$2,183	\$18,810	\$15,544	\$16,810	\$13,361	79%
Events	\$9,259	\$9,905	\$10,801	\$11,473	\$1,542	\$1,569	102%
Hospitality	\$2,500	\$2,916	\$6,089	\$5,079	\$3,589	\$2,164	60%
School Support	\$0	\$0	\$8,850	\$5,093	\$8,850	\$5,093	58%
July-February	\$31,809	\$40,147	\$47,050	\$45,829	-\$15,241	-\$5,682	37%