



Graystone H&SC General Meeting Minutes

January 3, 2012

Welcome – Patty Dworkin: The meeting was called to order by Patty at 9:00am. Minutes for the December 6th meeting were approved as written, motioned by Angie Stanton and seconded by Mai Elardo.

Old Business – Patty Dworkin: All board positions are open. Volunteers are still needed for: next year's Movie Night and Back-to-School Night DVD; and the Grown-Up Gathering's Live Auction this year.

Treasurer's Report – Patty for Jeannette: Budgets are available for review. Box Tops program is under way – Carolyn Amey is looking into awards for a classroom competition. Reminded Mrs. Marino to have teachers turn in their receipts.

Stephen McMahon, San Jose Teacher's Association President: SJTA has been around since 1941, represents 1,700 teachers, 32,000 students (grades K-12), and 40 school sites. Teachers want the education system to change. (Currently there is 10% turnover every year). This is a contract negotiation year for teachers. At the Jan. 12th district board meeting, new bargaining priorities/ideas are being presented. Key changes: teachers want more time to collaborate with each other; develop consistent grading across each grade level. During this collaborating time, students would possibly participate in enrichment activities. Another idea: year-round school to help with kids that aren't reading by 2nd grade. Want to be preventative with early intervention, not spend millions on delayed intervention during the high school years. Teachers are committed to changes, nothing major has been changed in the district in a really long time. Early out Tuesdays – staff meetings, not necessarily collaborative (daily, or more frequently than just weekly). Professional development time also needs to be built in to teacher's time. How can parents help? Keep an open mind. Help by voting to support changes in the next election – we will probably need a dedicated parcel tax and bonds (larger meeting areas; food service issues). If we were to reduce class size again, it would be more strategically implemented. Teachers need to meet the needs of each learner – "excel and enrich" – keep each student moving forward, no matter what level they are at academically. Parent volunteers – must be fully credentialed to be with students without teachers around. In the future, volunteers can help with enrichment portions of the day.

Teacher's Report – Liz Marino: Liz is a union teacher rep for Graystone. Suggested an evening information night to reach more parents, especially prior to voting in the fall. Will check on dessert sign-ups for Grown-Up Gathering.

Media Center – Melissa Powell: Thanked everyone for the book faire help, gross sales were ~\$13,000. Instead of Scholastic bucks, took the cash/credit to purchase things outside of just Scholastic stuff. (Approx. \$3,000 - \$3,500 in income.) Instead of giving teacher's money towards individual books for their classrooms, wants to purchase grade-level sets of books. Also wants to put this cash towards electronic subscriptions. Book swap – kids bring in 5 books max., then they can select 5 books. Flyers will come home on Friday, start collecting books on Monday. Next event: Mom's Night Out – kids/dads make a gift for mom for Valentine's day. Holly Case is new helper in library.

Principal's Report – Priscilla Spencer: Sheila Brewer (Murphy-Brewer) got married and is being reassigned. Her other ½ time job will be asst. principal at Simonds. Her schedule will be: M/W @ Graystone, Th/F @ Simonds, and alternating Tuesdays. Transitional Kindergarten – informational meeting next Tuesday, Jan. 10 from 6-7pm in the Super Dome. We will have a class here at Graystone (also one at Los Alamitos, and possibly Simonds). Kindergarten tours start this week.

Volunteer Recognition – Anne-Marie Nijssen: Joey Keller and Jennise Towle were recognized for the Diner's Night Program.

Cash Cards – Gina Freitag: \$26,000 in sales in Dec. 115 parents/families participating. We are \$1,100 ahead of proceeds/profit.

Grown-up Gathering – Holly Case/Katrina Healy: \$5-6,000 in donations, after going thru mail, hoping for more. 3 sponsors so far. Trying to get a J. Lohr discount on wine. No volunteer has come forward for Live Auction and is still desperately needed (big item donations).

Heritage Day – Carol Chiu: Planning meeting on Friday, Jan. 13th after drop-off. Turn in a form if you want to help (all volunteer run). Event day is March 23rd.

General Info/Close Meeting – Stacy Pimental: Dates on agenda reviewed. The meeting closed and adjourned at 10:40 am.