



ALTA VISTA HOME AND SCHOOL CLUB

Tuesday, June 6, 2017, 6pm

Attendees: Elizabeth Ramirez, Jane Findley, Joy Shmueli, Lizl Pienaar, Stacy Badgis, Kathy Yen, Sarah Wager-Ratinoff, Asma Ghorri, Nikki Grist, Liz Werner, Erin Kasenchak, Sunghee Park, John Hart, Rita Hallbach, Yolande Tang, Rebecca Bond

1. President call to Order and Welcome – Jane Findley

- a. Jane thanked Joy for all her support and hard work over the last two years. We will miss you and we enjoyed working with you the past two years. The way you interacted with the kids was amazing and the AVHSC appreciates your support starting the family dance tradition and attending all of the student performances and AVHSC events.
- b. Jane thanked Rita Hallbach for her time on the board over the last 12 years. She has served in Membership, Enrichment and as Historian and has been an outstanding volunteer and Board member! Jane thanked Asma Ghorri for her service on the board. Asma was a huge asset, always pitching in, very diplomatic, great at getting sponsorships and fundraising. She will still be involved by handling the Birthday Books.
- c. Welcome New Board Members: Jayme Monroe (could not make it), Kathy Yen, and Yolande Tang.

2. Approval of May 9, 2017 Minutes

- a. Minutes approved.

3. Approval of May 24, 2017 minutes

- a. Minutes approved.

4. Treasurer's Report – Erin Kasenchak & Sunghee Park

- a. Expenses are still being finalized. As of right now, our income is \$136,000 and our budget was \$139,000.
- b. The dining out income was over \$1000.
- c. Fantasy Faire income was \$6900 and the goal was \$7500.
- d. Teachers are spending their money!

- e. The drama club made \$7,400 and we had budgeted for break-even. The money will go toward next year's performance.
- f. The Multi-cultural night was on budget.
- g. Jane and Erin want to begin the budgeting process in August. Jane will send out an email for anyone who would like to participate.
- h. We don't track CCP. It's up to the teachers how they want to spend it. CCP is \$100 per student. Teachers did not spend all of their CCP. Liz suggested adding another school field trip next year.
- i. There was a discussion about whether CCP participation was down and how to make sure everyone understands what it is and how it is used. Donations were up.

5. Updates:

a. **Principal Update** – Joy Shmueli

- i. The calendar for next year is uploaded and available.
- ii. Joy just wanted to say Thank you!

b. **Teacher Update** – Nikki Grist & Liz Werner

i. **Kindergarten, First & Second Grade** – Nikki Grist

- 1. Nikki thanked everyone for their support of all the teachers and staff. Nikki and the teachers are very grateful for the AVHC and all they do for the school. She is happy and thankful for all the support.

ii. **Third Grade** – Liz Werner

- 1. They had a wax museum project.
- 2. They did a Mad Science project.
- 3. They had a field trip to the Campbell Historic Museum.

iii. **Fourth Grade-**

- 1. They had a field trip to the CA Academy of Science.
- 2. They are having a kickball tournament.
- 3. They are also having a spelling bee.

iv. **Fifth Grade** –

- 1. They are finishing up the 5th grade tile project.
- 2. The 5th grade won the kickball tournament.

3. The 6 & 7th graders came to Alta Vista to talk to the 5th graders about what to expect in Middle School.

c. **Enrichment Survey Feedback/Approval** – Rita Halbach & Lizl Pienaar

- i. Rita reported that 144 people have responded to the AVHSC survey. The response is about 20 to 40% per grade.
- ii. The survey reports that parents especially like field trips, Coach led PE, and technology. They would like to see more of these activities.
- iii. There were suggestions for dance, yoga, Zumba, more tech, robotics, foreign language, and public speaking.
- iv. The top fundraisers were Walk-a-thon, Fantasy Faire, Membership Drive (includes CCP), and Book Fair. Candy sales and eScrip were not as popular (but candy sales were \$4,000 last year). We will need to discuss with the new fundraising chair how to handle eScrip, now that Safeway is no longer participating.
- v. The form of communication preferred included AVHSC blasts, Wednesday envelope, room parent emails, and Vista Views.
- vi. There was a question about texting and whether parents would be interested in that form of communication. About 82% of parents would subscribe but a few mentioned they were in favor of texts as long as we avoided SPAM.
- vii. Parents indicated that the new My School Anywhere program was a positive experience. Parents like that they can do everything online in one place. On the other hand, some thought it was not always easy to navigate. Transaction fees were questioned. We discussed that we add a small transaction fee to each amount to cover the PayPal fees we incur. Otherwise, it is a significant amount taken out of our overall budget, but a minimal amount when charged per transaction.
- viii. There was a complaint that school events are getting expensive. Parents specifically mentioned that they'd like to see the prices for the Fantasy Faire and the Auction reduced. John proposed that next year the fundraising team figure how to make Fantasy Faire more affordable.
- ix. Parents want more structured PE with a PE Teacher. They like Coach-led PE, but not parent-led PE. The Board discussed how it is challenging to find parents willing to volunteer to lead PE, but the district will not pay for a full-time PE teacher, and AVHSC is already paying \$35,000 for Coach-led PE. In order to ensure all students get in their PE hours, adding another PE coach would cost \$70,000 per year, which is not sustainable. At this time, the

only other option is for teachers to lead PE one hour per week. We ask for parents to volunteer to lead PE to support their teachers.

- x. The Talent Show is getting very large and it was suggested that we use the Union Gym for the event.
- xi. A few parents complained about having sugar and candy at AV Events and class parties.
- xii. There was a suggestion that doing clay is very labor intensive and whether we should continue the program. There are only two clay projects: one in the fall and one in the spring.

6. Committee Updates, as needed

- a. **VP**– Jessica Winter (not at meeting)
- b. **Internal Fundraising** – Jill Brehmer (not at meeting)
- c. **External Fundraising** – Asma Ghori
 - i. Jamba Juice did not work out for Olympic day.
- d. **Enrichment Update** – Rita Hallbach and Lizl Pienaar (no update)
- e. **Membership** – Rebecca Bond (no update)
- f. **Auditor** – John Hart
 - i. Thank you to Lizl and Rita for the volunteer party.
- g. **Corresponding Secretary** – Karen Jacobs (not at meeting)
 - i. Angie Lu has offered to update our website and will be re-designing it for next year.
- h. **Recording Secretary** – Stacy Badgis (no update)
- i. **Historian: Box.com Update** – Sarah Wagner-Ratinoff (no update)
- j. **Parliamentarian** – Elizabeth Ramirez (no update)

Thank you, AVHSC Executive Board and have a great summer!

Meeting adjourned 7:45pm; dinner and cake served.

