

Journeys School
Parent Council Meeting Minutes
January 5, 2011 8:15-9:15am

Members Present:

Julie K, Amy W, Sara D, Heidi J, Caroline L, Dana N, Jane H, Kim R, Joohee M, Carrie K, Meagan T, Jennifer S, Jean L, Cindy D, Karen S, Carin M, Susannah L

Staff Present: Tammie Van Holland, Maggie Schilling

Intro / Admissions: Tammie reported that we have new students starting school in January and February. Please help welcome these new students in Pre-K, Elementary and High School (Grace, Evan, Max and Marena). Tammie reminded everyone that we have information nights for current students "moving up" as well as for the public. Feel free to share these dates with friends as well as let them know that Tammie is available for a campus tour. Call Tammie at 734-3710.

Elem: January 12, 2011, 5:30pm / MS: January 13, 5:30pm / Pre-K: January 19 and February 2, 5:30pm

Re-enrollment: Tammie mentioned that Feb 10 is the date for current families to re-enroll. Tuition letter went home over winter break and re-enrollment paperwork will be coming home mid-January. Parents had many questions about the timing of the tuition letter, the reason for the tiered tuition by date, discount for full-payers, Feb 10 re-enroll date, the note about facility and transportation as reasons for tuition increase, and additional questions about transparency of budget. Tammie shared these concerns with Nate after the meeting and it was decided that a budget presentation will be given at the next parent council meeting (February 2).

Updates by Grade Level Representatives:

Pre-K: nothing new to report as we have just returned from winter break.

Elementary: Carin is going to work on a skating party as a fun family event.

Middle: Sara mentioned that John is taking PE classes to rec center for basketball. Skiing will be 1/14 and 1/21.

High: Amy shared that the semester ends Jan 14 and includes our first International Baccalaureate (IB) exams. She mentioned seniors have received early decision from Brown and Middlebury. Questions arose from parents about the IB Program in both the middle school and high school. Tammie shared these with Nate and IB Coordinator David Porter and it was decided that an IB presentation will be given at the March parent council meeting.

Teacher Appreciation Committee:

Specialty Drink Deliveries: on 11/16 was great! More in the spring 3/18, 6/14

Monthly Lunches/Breakfasts: Kim R used Betty Rock for Oct and Ginny S made lunch for November; Joohee made Indian lunch for Dec. Thank you! Jan-Amy W/Pamela D, Feb-Sara D/Jane H, Mar-Carrie K/Polly F, Apr-Heidi and Danny J, May-Susannah L/Meaghan T, Jun-Cindy D/Rachel W

Teacher's Appreciation Party: Feb 22nd at Maya and Mike C

Home-Made Dinner: April/May, take home dinners, will need volunteers.

Collective Gift: June, class representatives will be asked to organize.

Parent Council Family Night:

Bingo will be 5-7pm on January 21, 2011. During the meeting, Heidi helped confirm that Danny will cook the spaghetti dinner again (thank you Danny!). Kim and Carrie volunteered to assist Danny. Julie volunteered to set-up. Tammie will email a list of help needed for other parts of the event. Bingo is open to the public so friends are welcome! Questions arose about the money made from last year's Bingo. Tammie will have a report on Bingo income/expenses at the February parent council meeting.

Freshman Care Package Idea:

The idea of parent council organizing care package for last year's seniors (who are now freshmen at college) was presented. It was decided that parent council should be focused on current PK-12 students. A suggestion was made to have family groups create and send something as that may be more meaningful to the student.

Development Updates:

Amangani was a huge success! Maggie reported that the fundraising goal was \$175k and \$186k was raised. Maggie thanked the co-chairs and all of the other parents that made the event such a success and mentioned that if you haven't picked up your auction winnings, they can be picked up and paid for in the Welcome Center lobby. Discussion arose about the food at the Amangani and Maggie acknowledged that food was a problem and will be addressed for next year's event.

Lunch Idea:

The idea arose about having options for parents to not have to pack a lunch Mon-Thur. Tammie mentioned that there are some other lunch models that we can look into for outside lunch providers (local businesses). Parents all agreed that they would love to see a test run of a lunch program this year. Tammie will investigate and report back to parent council at the Feb or Mar meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15am.