

ACMA Board Meeting – October 9, 2018

Attendees: Carol Biederman, Jami Curl, Catherine Healy, Damarise Davis, Margaret Fitzgerald, Kelton Paul

#### Board Member Session

Carol motioned to approve June 12<sup>th</sup> and July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Catherine seconded. The minutes were approved.

Catherine noted that she logged on to Better Impact and noticed that the PTO committee descriptions and open Board/Committee positions are not visible. A discussion ensued about the Better Impact system limitations. Kelton indicated that students aren't aware of the requirement that they log volunteer hours in Better Impact. Margaret indicated that Bjorn wants to have an assembly to teach students how to do it.

#### Board/Parent/Teacher Session

Attendees: list above + Liz Jurica, Kathy Leis, Kelly & Ryan Blaquiere, LaReina Kyle, Seona Zimmerman, Brian Bertram, Rowena Kohler, Kim Pranger, Jeannine Anderson, April Rose Castillo

Carol called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Introductions by attendees. Well attended.

The attendees reviewed September meeting minutes. Carol motioned to approve the minutes; the group voted; all ayes, and no nays.

Carol indicated she's seeing a need for "building communities". She opened the discussion for building communities Parent to Parent, Student to Student, etc. Mr. Bertram stated that he's seen increased collaboration across departments over the years; suggested we continue to keep that at the forefront to continue to build that community (e.g., Kindness Project by Beth Diel, "don't eat lunch alone club", etc.). If left on its own, it becomes easy to form silos. Catherine indicated that through fundraising, we also have an opportunity to bring communities together (e.g., concessions at different events); agreed that it needs to be a concerted effort.

A parent suggested having a motto that school/teams could rally around. Margaret indicated that Bjorn was working on this. Parents talked about having a value statement or mission statement. Mr. Bertram indicated that we already have one. A parent pointed out that it's hard to have a community because we aren't a neighborhood school...all options schools face this challenge. Mr. Bertram pointed out that ACMA is a melting pot, and that many students value the ability to leave their prior school history behind. Kelton shared that from a student perspective, there are silos...students spend time with those who have common interests and form bonds with other kids in their focuses. Suggested community building occurs through art – recalled that in past projects, that was very unifying. A parent noted that depending on what track a student is in, that may dictate which class times are available for the academic classes, which further reinforces some separation of students by pathway. Spectacular,

Spectacular will be a good way to help bring various focuses together. A parent suggested that there should be parent groups for all the different focuses (e.g., band) to help improve community.

Carol indicated that some parents have complained about their kids being “fat-shamed”. Would like to have further discussion about that during next month’s meeting. Catherine indicated that some of the high schools have experts come in to discuss insecurities, etc.

Pending Funding Request –

Mr. Bertram requested that funding for the choreographer for the summer musical come from the PTO. This would involve the Theater Group paying the PTO and then the PTO will fund the choreographer. This allows them to avoid the 36% surcharge that would be charged if they go through the district.

Nicole Bright – for \$93.54 for use with special education high school and middle school students. Carol motioned to approve. All voted in favor.

Spectacular, Spectacular.

Catherine noted that we will not be performing an auction last year to meet our \$45k funding need.

Mr. Bertram provided a summary of the S,S planning to date. Saturday will be split into three acts. Will showcase some of the best work from each of the departments, along with some things designed just for the S,S. Will leave up student art work that will be available for parents to buy. Want to include film, visual arts, choir. Three act show for Saturday night will include appetizers and dessert. Still trying to determine what Friday night looks like. For family night, the intent is for it to be affordable, but also to provide a view into every focus/discipline. Set for May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. A parent suggested having newsletters and communications go out to be sure parents are aware. Catherine indicated that opportunities to help with this is located in Better Impact. We will start to have meetings about it in November.

Reports

- **Student government.** Kelton shared that movie nights will start in December, possibly November. He indicated that hoodies ordered at back to school night should be in and distributed next week. He also indicated that student government is working with Ohana representatives to provide information back to Ohana classes. Trying to incorporate middle schoolers more this year: added three middle school reps (from 4 to 7 in 2018). Finances raised through hoodie sales are going to the college application fee fund (\$800 set aside from that).
- **No Principle’s Update** this meeting as Bjorn is not in attendance.
- **Treasurer:** Damarise Davis provided the following updates:
  - o Wrote check to ACMA for \$12.7K for PAC improvement from last year’s paddle raise.
  - o Have raised \$6,370 toward Family Fund year to date. Want to collect about \$60 per student to achieve our goal of \$15K.
  - o Benevity is set up (corporate matching). Have received \$75 from Nike.
  - o Current bank balance is approximately \$32K.

- **Volunteer Director** – goal to move student volunteers to Better Impact. See notes under Board Member Session. Also, Linda is going to try to do a training session for Dance and Theater volunteers to improve adoption with that team.
- **Media/Communications.** Jen F-A could not be here. She has been working on a brand new ACMA PTO website: [www.ACMAPTO.com](http://www.ACMAPTO.com).
- **Fundraising.** Catherine asked that if you haven't already done so, "like" the ACMA Facebook page. We have funded film kits for the film making department. We also sent 32 students to Ashland for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.
- **Grad Night.** Conestoga increased their prices, so that is not an option for this year. Tina Izen has agreed to be the committee lead.
- **Staff Appreciation.** Still looking for committee lead. For November 9<sup>th</sup> student day off, Carol will be organizing.

Parent questions/comments:

- Liz asked what is happening for concessions? Concessions, flowers, raffle baskets? What is PTO taking on and what aren't they taking on? Catherine said that PTO is taking on only the concession piece, and we've budgeted \$2k to do that. We're putting a locked cabinet in the kitchen. We'll stock that with items to sell. The PTO is not involved in the box office; each group still responsible for that. Parent and Catherine agreed that we need to get together to collaborate. Mr. Bertram asked for a point person he can reach out to to be sure it's taken care of in advance. Margaret asked about getting change and stocking the money box.
- Catherine indicated that looking at getting flowers wholesale from New Seasons for \$10 per dozen, possibly lower.
- Parent requested that a summary of the topics discussed at the First Friday coffee be communicated out afterward.
- Parent suggested that we communicate out to families how far we are toward our Family Fund raising efforts. Margaret suggested that we add it to the Hello ACMA communication. One parent stated that at another school, if you donate, you stop getting emails regarding the donation status.

Upcoming Dates

11/2 – First Friday coffee with Mr. Paige at 7:30 a.m.

11/13, PTO meeting at 7:00

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.