

Willett PTA Meeting Notes
October 18, 2016

PTA Meeting Notes; October 18, 2016

Joe Dinunzio called the meeting to order at 804pm

Call for a vote on September meeting minutes by Joe DiNunzio. Motion by Angela Schneider; Jamima Wolk seconds. Motion Passes.

Ms. Perry / Principals Report

- Bike rodeo is after school on October 19th.
- October 26th 6pm ELAC meeting
- New asphalt on the playground and HVAC school wide is scheduled for the summer.
- Working on HVAC in the MPR, hope to have completed by spring.
- Kindergarten is getting new rubber tiles for the play structure area.
- Youth truth survey will be given to 3rd-6th grade
- Girls on the Run program for 4th-6th grade is starting up, will be creating a team of 15, run by Mrs. Guansing
- Shortened day on December 23rd – TBD but likely 12:30p pick up. PLEASE pick up students on time that day, and remind other parents that it is an early release day.
- Kelly Hill & Covington Oler have proposed activities for Black History Month next February.
 - Goal is to recognize all groups starting with Black History month on a school wide scale. Want to celebrate diversity at elementary level, have exposure to other cultures, address potential stereotypes, as most are innocent misconceptions. Want to address negativity that exists in our culture, develop positive environment of acceptance of differences.
 - Proposal is for a Sandy Holman-presentation entitled: “The Culture Co-op”
 - Requires \$1200 to fund assemblies for the whole school, tentatively scheduled for February 9th.
 - Joe notes that this is the kind of activity – new program that was not anticipated in the budget process -- that the \$5000 PTA reserves was meant to fund.
 - Parents are welcome to come to the assembly
 - Ted Tucker question: Would this affect dance program? Answer from Heidi is that this would be a new program, not change the dance program in place.
 - Heidi Perry moves that the PTA fund the program. Michelle Agnew seconds. Motion Passes.
- A new lunch table has been ordered for the quad, where the fourth graders sit. This was partially funded by principal’s fund through PTA.

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Joe DiNunzio, President's Report

Joe thanked auction committee for the auction "a wonderful venue"

- Measure H PTA endorsed encourage to write a letter to the editor about Measure H Strongly encourage
- Still walking precincts
- Come ask Joe if you would like to do anything to help
- Fundraising has been met

DTAC

- Plan is to give all students equal access to the Internet
- Reliable Wifi and Chromebook carts are on every campus
- Goal to have 1:1 Chromebooks: Students in the next 5 years
- Maker spaces for robotics, coding, 3D printing, and other activities a goal as well.
- Finally, looking for new ways for us to support CTE

SPAC starts next week please see Kiby and Joe. Most important issues include Measure H, fundraising, and strategic plan for the District.

Michelle Agnew, Treasurer's Report

deposits for the month of December

2nd sheet is the budget thru the end of September

2737-2749 simona moves angela seconds

checks are all approved

Natalia Baltazar, Fundraising Report

- Everyone had a great time
- Natalia thanked all the people that helped make it a success, including:
 - Community officials, other schools
 - Gina Meyer and Jessica Tomilson
 - Simona Ghetti
 - Nicole Flemming Nancy Luft
 - Angela and Todd Pannier
 - Kelly Clark
 - Carolyn Baker
 - Matt Donner
 - John Churchward and Tim Baker
 - Joe Dinunzio supporting us
 - Ms. Perry
- Logistics-please check out
- Fund an item please check your receipts
- Still can donate to fund an item
- Full report in November
- Put sponsors in the record

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Statements from Board Candidate Presentations.

Alan Fernandez

- Currently on the board 2.5 years appointment but ran again in 2012.
- Did not feel that it had a focus on elementary students wanted the voice of young children
- Provide the most relevant public lawyer
- UCD student and stayed to raise his family
- Deeply involved in the community
- What have I done
 - President of the board
 - Board office hours
 - Two retreats focused on the well being of the child
- What to focus on
 - 50% of AA and Latino students are below grade level
 - Supporting struggling students
 - New teachers –lowest pay schedule recruiting
 - Facilities- need to be improved

Jose Grande

- CSUS chemical engineering department
- Was an ELL student
- Provide opportunities to ELL
- AYSO referee, well versed on children in the community.
- Organize presentations to schools about engineering
- Contribute-Science math
- TTT technology teaching taxpayers
- AIM should be open to all children, including disabled and unrepresented students
- High priority on languages
- Cultural diversity to the board
- Oppose Measure H as biggest tax increase in the history of Davis
- Proposition 51&55 should be supported
- Teacher for 34 years

Susan Lovenburg

- Elected in 2008, this would be her third term if reelected
- Long time supported of the DJUSD, was previously on Willett PTA played an active role in the school community.
- Important to note that Measure H is not supporting emergency funds, but rather is providing critical funds for core programs for the District

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- Also important to note how the state funds schools – the local control and accountability plan. This creates a disadvantage for Davis in terms of the amount we receive to fund our schools.
- Recruiting quality teachers not just through higher pay – critical challenge for the District
- Have been strong advocate for schools getting sufficient funding
- Critical that we look at investing in facilities

Bob Popaganda

- Davis schools are good – how do we make them “Even better yet”
- Does not feel that we are using our potential not utilizing our resources
- UCD School of Veterinary Medicine faculty member for 29 years
- Served on parcel tax oversight committee
- PDAT
- CTE STEM
- Priorities-increase teacher take home salaries
 - 50% of teachers don’t live in Davis
 - Look into using district land to build housing for teachers
 - Also daycare for teachers
- Build more partnerships with UCD
 - Make summer camps affordable
 - Grow the partnerships with the veterinary school
- Need a focus on early education

QUESTIONS

Covington Oler: How to rectify lower performing students below standards?

Alan Fernandez

- Multiple measures studying the achievement gap
- Preschool more available
- Class size reduction
- Thousand mentors program
- Look at every grade

Jose Granda

- Find the root of the problem
- Problem is understanding the culture homes and families come from
- Research shows that the family is important

Susan Lovenburg

- Achievement gap = opportunity gap
- Partnerships to target all of the resources that children need
- Michael Fullen “strategy for coherence”
- New accountability structure- state of California

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Bob Poppenga

- Holistic approach to help the family
- Partner with county agencies
- Early education
- Summer opportunities
- Technology outside of the classroom
- CTE programs

Ted Tucker: Is there a shortage of teachers to particular subjects?

Susan Lovenburg

- Math, science special education teachers are in shortage
- DJUSD is offering a below average salary

Alan Fernandes

- We will lose 1/3 of our teachers in the next 5 years
- Teachers appreciate teaching working in Davis

Bob Poppenga

- We are losing more teachers than gaining
- Teachers are not diverse in their background

Jose Grande

- To attract teachers you want a place that provides a stability, tenure track teachers need to be hired from the \$77million state budget not measure H

Joe Dinunzio: A number of Willett parents have asked about the District's approach and plans for Differentiated instruction – what are your thoughts?

Jose Grande

- We should make it as easy as possible for every student to learn process of identification and students be put in different levels of learning.

Susan Lovenburg

- Interested parents should review the Enterprise – this question was asked recently and will be in the Wednesday edition
- We should be more flexible purchasing more technology, teacher training

Bob Poppenga

- It is a worthy goal in every classroom
- Concerned with consistency across the grade levels
- Proper oversight in every classroom
- Parents need to have choices

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Alan Fernandes

- We are committed to increase the professional development opportunities
- There is constant oversight by the district and board 2/3 of our teachers are involved

Joe DiNunzio thanked the Board Candidates for spending time with the Willett PTA

Meeting Adjourned 835pm