

# Boosters Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, October 10, 2024

Called to order at 6:05pm

**Attended by** Lynnette Duncan, Arianna White, Harmony Harvell, Priscilla Lowell, Tasha Lopez, Carrie Wilson, Kandice Rose, Leonna Beccio, Lizzy Allan, and Elly Irby

## Admin

- Lynnette motioned to approve previous meeting minutes, Tasha seconded, all in favor
- Proposed addendum to bylaws Cash Box section (will be voted on at the next meeting):
  - Treasurer (or an alternate Board Member if Treasurer is not available) will take responsibility for secure storage of the cash box after each event. (Who has possession of the cash box should be documented, e.g. in the group chat or via email, at the close of each event.) If two Board Members are not available to count the cash box at the close of the event, Treasurer or alternate Board Member will take responsibility for secure storage of the cash box until such time as the cash can be counted.
- Kandice nominated Carrie Wilson for Events, Lynnette seconded, all in favor

## Treasurer's Update - Tasha

- Bank balance is \$4,121.97
- Bubble Boogie event brought in \$2,066.41
  - Goal was \$2,500, but we budgeted \$2,000 and only spent \$525.88
  - This does not include spirit wear sales from that night
- Spirit wear has brought in about \$1,100 so far this year but we spent \$2,100
- \$371 from Dine and Donates so far (mostly Kona), some checks still outstanding
- At the Bubble Boogie we found only \$65 in the cash box instead of the \$200 float that is supposed to be maintained at all times
  - No one knows who counted the cash box that night
  - Spirit wear sales that night made \$621.81, so it is likely that we sold less than that and \$135 was incorrectly grouped with sales money instead of the standing float
  - Amend bylaws so Treasurer or Board Member can take cash box home, should not be stored in the shed

## Principal's Update - Harmony

- Special Olympics Coach Jay and Coach Deb (adaptive PE coaches) organize Special Olympics for Binkley, 4th/5th/6th RVP class participate with student buddies from 3rd to 6th grade, athletes got their silent applause sendoff this morning
- Service above Self award from Rotary club was awarded to Landon Hildebrandt for his volunteering with Special Olympics
- Superintendent Advisory Committee starts tomorrow, 6th grade students apply and Harmony chooses one per class, committee members from all schools meet with Superintendent
- UTK conferences start next week (earlier than other grades)
- Rest of conferences in November
- Teachers and students are learning new math program this year, good feedback from teachers and students despite growing pains
- School tours start soon, priority registration starts next month
- Girls basketball in full swing, Binkley has won both games so far, one more home game next week and then away games, tournament November 2 (not finalized)

- Boys basketball starts after girls ends
- Book fair coming soon
- Staff did safety training today
- Great Shake Out October 17<sup>th</sup> 9:15am
  - Need parent volunteers to help practice student dismissal
  - Will be opening one emergency suitcase to check expiration dates, etc.
  - After classes get out of school, line up like for a fire drill, then classes get together with their buddy classes, one set of teachers stays with students and other teachers are on teams (counseling, ingress and egress, search and rescue, etc.)
- Essential 5 training for five types of emergency response:
  - Shelter in place (for environmental causes, like a wild animal on campus)
  - Drop Cover and Hold (for earthquakes)
  - Secure Campus (stay in classrooms, don't allow campus ingress or egress, but can continue teaching, would be used for something like a threat nearby but not on our campus)
  - Lockdown (hide in classrooms, silent)
  - Evacuate (where to depends on the type of emergency)
  - Harmony goes over with teachers, teachers go over with classes at age appropriate level

### **SPAC – Arianna & Lynnette**

- Superintendent Parent Advisory Committee (meeting of other PTAs/PTOs and superintendent)
- Parent groups brought their budgets to discuss
  - Whited, Village, Binkley ~\$25k
  - Manzanita - ?
  - Madrone ~\$43k
  - Sequoia, Austin Creek ~\$100k+
- Raises questions of equity
  - How do we make sure teachers are similarly taken care of with stipend checks
  - Some schools require teachers to purchase items and submit receipts to be reimbursed
  - Binkley is one of the lowest at \$200 per teacher, even that has required an anonymous donor to help the last two years
- Superintendent said teachers should be able to get most of what they need from the district, so there's a question of whether we need stipends going forward
- Teachers can also ask parents to provide items through a wish list
  - Can no longer get hand sanitizer provided by district (was not allowed in schools pre-covid because of alcohol content, then was provided by covid money, rules have changed now to allow it but not provide it)
- District has to cut \$4 million next year, discussion of whether we want to continue to cover 6th grade camp
  - Arianna asked if schools could fundraise together and pool funds so all students across district could have the same experience
  - Madrone, Sequoia, Austin Creek vetoed
- Prop 28 gives district \$425k per year, has to be spent on new arts program
  - 80% has to be spent on educators, 19% on materials, 1% on extras
  - Superintendent Mike Herfurth will be organizing a Fine Arts Day this year
  - Funds cannot be used to enhance existing programs
  - Harmony would like to get more murals around campus where artists work with students like we did in the 6th grade pod
  - Would also love for money to go to arts specials, drama, art, dance, etc.
  - Priscilla will reach out to Mike to talk about how Prop 28 money is being spent

- Measure G funds
  - Binkley's funds going toward:
    - Expanding office
      - Used to be a large classroom, dividers put in to separate office from conference room, Harmony's office, and Gustavo's office are not soundproof
      - Office will move/expand out closer to the front gate, get a bigger window for visibility
    - Extended care area will expand and improve, add office and conference space for people who need it (speech pathologists, IEP meetings, etc.)
    - Portables will go away, provide clearer view of big toy
  - Big wish is living skills space for RVP classrooms, maybe could be like a STEM lab but a kitchen that all classes could use

### **District Budget – Lynnette**

- Survey went out asking what three positions/programs district should and should not consider reducing/cutting, have to make a \$4 million cut because of California budget cuts
- We don't even know what the possible answers are for the survey
- Fear is that support staff will be cut
  - Student Advocate, Counselor, mental health support
  - Learning Lab team, academic support
  - Paraeducators
  - Without these people won't be able to do USE groups, small SIPS group instruction, etc.
  - TK aides are required by law but other grades are not
- If cuts aren't made, school district will be taken over by the state in 2 years

### **Loteria – Arianna & Harmony**

- October 15, 6-7pm
- Harmony ordered some cards for ELAC, Jana Adams is providing more
- Gustavo will look in shed for prizes, Leonna can donate some small toys, Boosters budget \$100 for prizes beyond that if necessary
- Boosters snack bar with popcorn, snacks, drinks
  - Arianna and Carrie

### **Trunk or Treat – Arianna**

- Friday, October 25, 5:30-7pm
- Trunk or Treat in the parking lot like usual
- Haunted House
  - Fundraiser for 6th grade camp
  - 6th graders can volunteer to work in the haunted house IF they have a parent volunteer working the event (with a trunk or haunted house)
  - 5:30-6pm no scare, 6-7pm some jump scares
  - Set up behind stage in cafeteria
  - \$5 each, as many trips through as they want, hand stamps, no charge for parents to go with their kids
  - 6th graders check in at 5:45 to get ready for jump scare time, shifts as necessary
  - Can have a fog machine but no strobe lights
- Pumpkin contest
  - Elly will run pumpkin contest

### **Hot Dog Fundraiser – Carrie**

- October 15 (Basketball game), October 24 (STEM Night)
- Hot dog sale today went well, sold out, about 45, will buy more for next time
- Will add chili and toppings for the 24th (ask people to eat near lunch tables that night because of placement of STEM night activities)
- Raising funds for 6th grade camp
- Boys basketball tryouts happen around Thanksgiving break, games start in January

### **Playground Projects – Priscilla**

- Still waiting on maintenance to be able to install items that attach to buildings, fences, etc.
- Next steps are create a wish list for parents to buy from (rather than fundraising and Boosters buying items), put together flyer asking for people to reach out if they have specific materials or can help with painting projects, etc.
- Carrie volunteered Girl Scouts to help with some of the work
- Priscilla reaching out to JC students and Marie Carillo students who need volunteer hours to come as “recess helpers”
- Want fake grass to go under fairy land

### **Sprit Wear**

- We are still about \$1000 in the red, so let’s focus on selling what we already have before we make another order
- Will restock kid size sweatshirts before Winter Festival if we can sell enough to break even, but let’s not change companies this year (next year we’ll do a resign of the logo and can change companies then if we wish)

### **Other Upcoming Events**

- STEM Night, October 24
- Dine & Donates
  - Shake Shack, October 28
  - BJs, November 14
  - Chipotle, December 16
  - Mary’s Pizza Shack, January 15
- Turkey Trot, November 21
- Winter Festival, December 6
- Next meeting, November 14

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm