

## PARENT GROUP

### MINUTES

10/3/2012

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 by PG Co-Chairperson Dorothy P. Pickles. No minutes from the September meeting were available so the approval of the minutes of the minutes was tabled until the next meeting.

The agenda for the meeting was reviewed, altered, and approved.

#### REPORTS:

1. Dale's report:
  - A. Last OP Group students were asking if we were alternative enough. There is the reality that Steller must follow the policies of the ASD. Students felt constricted by restrictions such as the need to take attendance and provide written justification for study hall. Changing to become a Charter School would loosen up some of the restrictions but would come with other requirements.
  - B. By Oct 31 school action plan must be completed with input from students, parents, and teachers. The school action plan helps schools to meet/set goals. Will put out on the Flash to recruit parents/students/teachers to be involved.
  - C. Dale is not personally going to National Coalition of Essential Schools Conference this year; he feels there is so much happening he needs to be in the building until at least February. There is still money for parents/students to attend.
2. Staff report:
  - A. Danielle and Lee are going to CES. Students are going through an approval process to accompany them. Student expenses other than food will be provided.
3. AD Board report:

Rochelle made the report: Quorum achieved but not full board at first meeting. The grant committee is getting ready to make grants as they have completed creating the guidelines for how to submit a proposal and what the criteria are for soliciting funding. This committee was set up to help distribute funds given to them by Parent Group. By the next AD board meeting they will be ready to accept grant proposals. It is believed that the committee will consist of a parent, a student, a representative of the AD Board and Dale.
4. OP group:

Dale reported for OP group. There is an opportunity to have an afterschool acting group led by Ernie Piper who works with Alaska Theatre of Youth and is a past Steller student. There was a discussion

about the value of spending \$800 for the 12 students who have indicated an interest in participating. Suggested that clarity about what the activity is to be provided to the students would help—an understanding that these are training and acting exercises and not culminating in an actual performance. There appeared to be general support for this as a group.

#### Old Business:

1. Souper Steller: There will be a breakfast meeting tomorrow morning to for parent liaisons. As Souper Steller will be involving Advisories in the preparation of the food(different from last year), there will be a discussion about how it will work at this meeting. The first SS will be on Nov. 2 with Philip's Advisory Group in charge. Students will propose what to cook, parents will assist in obtaining the food to cook and in preparation. The AG liaisons will contact parents if anything additional is required. Souper Steller will provide all the support necessary to make the events successful. It is proposed that on Thursdays the lunch will be assembled and cooked; on Friday the finishing touches will be made, bread baked and the meal served. \$2000 has been compiled, enough to get through first semester. It costs between \$200 - 400 per lunch. There are grants available to help fund the program. Dale will assist in the filing of the grant applications.
2. All Community Meeting report: Jennifer presented a visual display of the topics for change proposed during the All Community Meeting held in September. Discussion about how to move forward with all these good ideas. It was proposed that OP Group will be asked if they would like to participate in any ideas presented. Looking for parent leaders to head up more systemic changes in addition to the more project oriented ideas that appear more simple to institute. Parents are being asked to talk with their students to see if there are ideas they would commit to working on. The discussion was tabled for a future meeting.
3. Intensives: Dale lead a discussion regarding intensives. They are being reduced to one per staff member. He would like to see more academically based intensives to enable the student to apply the experiences to their academic credits.
4. Budget approval: We need to come up with final draft budget and make changes to funds allocated from Auction proceeds (which we won't know until the auction happens, after budget approval). Budgets are fluid and can be adjusted as the year progresses. We currently show a negative balance on the proposed budget to utilize some extra money we have stashed in savings. Rebecca would like to start using some of the savings. It would be helpful to have a better idea of where auction proceeds will go before approving budget. Discussion about money that was approved from last year's auction proceeds that was given to AD Board to allocate. Wendy made a motion that the Parent Group retain all auction money rather than sending some of it to AD Board. The motion was seconded. Open for discussion; Dale feels our travel

- needs require fundraising. After lengthy discussion the motion was put to vote and passed. There followed another motion to approve budget as is, with right to adjust as needed. Seconded. Approved.
5. Retention & Recruitment: Rebecca lead the discussion regarding how people have worked hard to make R&R successful. There is a professional video being made by a Steller graduate; Rebecca proposes paying someone to make a sharp recruitment brochure to take to schools.
  6. Volunteer: Victoria reported there is wide support of the volunteering program for students. There will be 5-6 kids going to Mayor's Charity Ball, a school Carnival, Trick-or-Treat Town, Covenant House. Kids are taking leadership, determine what they want to do, and we (Victoria and others) help them do it. Art show for Alaska Cares at Blaine's from some of our own teachers-Lee and Philip.
  7. Other: Wendy completed directory-it will be available for pick up during student teacher conferences.

All other items were tabled due to 7:30 end time. Dale quickly discussed having a vocational/career day to have ground up approach for middle school and again for high school. John has presentations available. Alyse knows someone at Polaris who also does this and can refer John to that person.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37.