

Steller Parent Group Meeting Minutes May 13, 2015

Call to order at 6:05 PM

Greetings and Introductions: Ty Nesheim (Chair), Bruce Robson (Co-Chair), Janine Nesheim (Secretary), Sherry Borer (Treasurer), Laura Anderson (New Treasurer), Reed Whitmore (Principal), Danielle Sjoden (Staff), Angie Southwould, Alyse Galvin, Pat Galvin, Joe Banta, Janice Banta, Rebecca Johnson, Setan Kabranian, Jennifer Hall Jones, Colleen Bickford, Heidi Smith, Victoria Weindel, Valerie Moore, Judy Francis-Wood, Carma Reed, Mary Lee Allen.

Approve Agenda: Approved.

Minutes Review: Approved, with amendment to add that Counselor position moved to 0.6, not eliminated.

Student Funding Requests: None presented

Old Business:

Survey to improve Steller – no report.

Reports:

Principal's – Reed; Mary Ann Peterson – new Counselor, Jason Collins – new Math teacher, Becky Gerik – new English teacher. John placed at Mirror Lake. Reed would like student-generated ideas for spending money; writing center for example as a great idea coming from students.

Staff – Danielle; solidifying master schedule and completing orientation meetings with new students. Registration will be on the first Friday of school, as well as Orientation. Co-ed soccer game and Homecoming Social with Polaris is set for September 18th.

Advisory Board Meeting Update – No meeting in April; All-Community Meeting replaced.

Grant Committee Update – \$6000 of \$10,000 spent; set of agreed-upon guidelines will be posted at beginning of year and at Parent Group Meeting (for requests \$500 + from account). Alaska Schools and Anchorage School Foundation grants available in October.

General Comments – None presented.

New Business:

Parent Group 2015-2016 budget review and approval – Budget follows State example; budget ends in June. Fundraising reduced to \$8000 expected; Grant Committee moved to \$6000 depending upon availability of funds. Net income 2015-2016 of \$320. Budget still has funds to be allocated (Souper Steller, CES, etc.). Carry-over of \$3000 expected. Pat; question about what will be proposed. Motion made to pass budget. Seconded. Discussion: motion to amend to change carry over from \$3000 to \$11,000. Discussion: No more Souper Steller; question about where remainder to be moved. Alyse would like to be clear about how much money we have in the bank. Concern about not-for-profit status being taken away if too much money remains in account. Laura will develop reconciled statement for budget. We should know what has been approved, what has been assigned but not received, and what has been assigned and received. Pat suggests an established budget amount for each category, with periodic updates to track changes and reassign if necessary. Treasurers Cash Analysis has always shown itemization. Motion seconded. Approved.

Jennifer makes motion to increase travel budget. Makes note that Parent Group is matching what Steller does with travel money; Intensives Scholarship is need based (for intensives only); Travel Scholarship is for trips. Proposes another \$5000 into Travel Scholarships. Seconded. Note that fundraiser was themed "travel" in support. Alyse suggests focus on goals that support Steller philosophy, such as funding ALL seniors for example to go to a trip. Approved.

Motion made to have allocated \$2000 into a Small Grant and \$4000 into a Miscellaneous Fund from the remaining \$11,000. Seconded. Alyse makes a motion to amend the amendment to flip the numbers. Seconded. Approved; motion to have allocated \$4000 into a Small Grant and \$2000 into a Miscellaneous Fund from the remaining \$11,000. Seconded. Approved.

Alyse volunteers to advertise fund availability to students.

Budget passes.

2015-2016 Calendar Review – August TBA for homecoming deleted. 9/18 Games will be at Steller Field and Homecoming Events will be at Polaris. December 4th – Be The Change Winter Wonderland Social with Polaris at Steller MPR. Souper Steller calendar to be posted as well. Reed would like feedback from night on September 10th. Seconded. Asks that parents please forward any suggestions for what they would like to see money for the school go towards; will be posted when doing the on-line registration. Motion made for the Back to School Barbeque (5:30 – 7:00) and New Parent Orientation (7:00 – 8:00) be set for August 18th. Jennifer makes a friendly amendment to have Orientation on 18th, and Barbeque and Back to School Night on September 10th. Seconded. Reminder that Staff doesn't need to be at orientation; Staff representative states Staff would appreciate having the Barbeque and Back To School Night on the same night. Question asked whether 27th would be too soon; Staff feels pros and cons to both the 27th vs the 10th. Discussion about both motions. Concern about new parents not being formally welcomed by community if later. Show of hands resulted in 10 for, 7 against friendly amendment; Orientation to be Aug. 18th and Barbeque/Back to School Night in Sept. 10th. Parent Group meeting scheduled for August 5th. Motion made to move date from 5th to 12th. Seconded. Approved.

2015-2016 Parent Group Officers – Bruce Robeson – Chair; Laura Anderson – Treasurer; Pat Galvin – Vice Chair; Janine Nesheim & Angie Southwold – Co-Secretaries; Mary Lee Allen & Rebecca Johnson – Co-Chairs for Orientation/Barbeque

Rebecca will do orientation presentation; Bruce will do the shopping

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Steller Olympics	May 18, 2015 (this is an all-day event)
Graduation	May 20, 2015 (3:00 – 5:00 PM -ish)
Parent Teacher Conferences	May 21, 2015 (this is an all-day event)

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM