



# Steller Parent Group 20160509

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Call to Order at 6:00 pm.

## **Greetings and Introductions.**

### **Attendees.**

Amy Beck. Andrea Senn. Angie Southwould. Ann Rembert Safranek. Becky Gerik. Carolyn Gove. Charles Wohlforth. Dan Safranek. Deborah Bonito. Eric Lauderdale. Holly Rinehart. Iris Tullar. Jane Gnass. Janine Nesheim. JoAnna Hill. Jonathan Halpern. Judith Davis. Judy Francis-Woods. Karen Gillis. Kevin Hedin. Liberty Kyser. Mark Begich. Michele Hoffman. Nathan Pannkuk. Randy Gibbs. Reed Whitmore. Teresa Toliver. Ty Nesheim. Victoria Weindel.

## **Approval of Agenda.**

Click [here](#) to view May Agenda.

MOTION: Add the following items to New Business: c) Be the Change Proposal, d) Funding Request from Svetlana, e) Parent Group Meeting Night, f) Funding Request from Iris. Approve May agenda as amended.

Motion By: Ty.

Second By: Eric.

All in favor. Motion approved.

## **Approval of Minutes.**

Click [here](#) to view April Minutes.

MOTION: Move discussion regarding graduation to beginning of the Minutes. Approve April minutes as amended.

Motion By: Kevin.

Second By: Ty.

All in favor. Motion approved.

## **Reports.**

### Staff Report.

Becky reporting.

Staff Changes. Jean is retiring.

Intensives. May 8 to 19.

Graduation. May 22 at 3:00 pm. Becky is having problems uploading a couple graduate videos. If anyone has experience with this and can assist, contact Becky.

Conferences. May 23-24. Student led.

Schedule for Fall Semester. Staff is finalizing.

### Student Report.

Karen reporting for Op Group.

Op Group had approximately \$11,000 in reserve at the beginning of the semester and put forth effort to fund smaller scale passage projects. They were able to fund over a dozen projects with approximately \$4000. Op Group would like to encourage students to consider this source of funding for passage needs in the future.

Op Group also worked on ways to help the group run more efficiently. They are now using a projector to display proposals and amendments during the meetings for all to see and to increase student involvement. Officers have been working to increase attendance and recorded a 90% attendance rate for the last month of the school year.

Parent Group requests that Op Group share meeting notes with the Steller community.

### Treasurer Report.

Kevin reporting.

Distributed Treasurer Report for 05/09 including Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss, Profit and Loss by Class, and Transaction Detail by Account for Travel Scholarships.

Available bank balance from 05/09: \$16,755.99.

Parent Group will need a better fundraising plan next year to continue current spending trends.

### Principal Report.

Reed reporting.

All Community Meeting. Highly successful. Staff is considering celebrating and showcasing student projects twice a year.

Self-Directed Learning. Reed and staff are making a conscience effort to integrate self-directed learning more directly into the Steller program. Staff has determined a two year implementation plan for making this more programmatic.

Intensives. In progress with excellent feedback from students.

Sprinter Vans. Reed would like to work with the school district to allow travel by van.

Staffing. Steller was originally expected to lose 2.2 FTE; this was later reduced to 1.4 FTE. Reed, with strong support from the Steller community, was able to limit this loss to 1.0 FTE with Jean's retirement.

#### Website Committee.

Kevin reporting.

Kevin is one of the only parents across the district who has gone through the process of obtaining edit access to the ASD content management system for school websites. The process is arduous and the website maintenance itself is not straightforward or intuitive.

Kevin requests that a Website Committee be formed to determine how the ASD school website (<http://steller.asdk12.org/>) and the Parent Group maintained website (<http://www.stellerschool712.org/>) can best be implemented to complement each other.

Suggestion to populate the ASD website with static information that does not need frequent maintenance and updating and clean up dynamic content on the Parent Group website for currency and easier access. Reed suggests that there may sections of the website that can be maintained as a staff member responsibility.

MOTION: Use the ASD website as the base homepage (starting point) with immediate links that redirect users to the Parent Group website. Endorse the Parent Group website as the primary space for dynamic content. Create a Website Committee with parent, student, and staff representation.

Motion By: Charles.

Second By: Judith.

All in favor. Motion approved.

#### Volunteerism.

Randy reporting.

Distributed tentative Activity Calendar for 2017-2018.

School Auction. Tentatively on the calendar for October 14. Parent Group agrees to leave it on October 14 but suggests that Op Group move the Halloween Dance so they don't fall on the same weekend. Janine volunteers to assist in organizing the auction again but would like two other co-leads. Karen and Judith volunteer.

Back to School BBQ. Randy volunteers to organize but would like additional volunteers who will be needed around 4:00 pm on the day of. Ty and Charles volunteer. Karen will provide Randy with amount of items purchased for the previous year's event. Suggestion for a donation table at the event. Liberty volunteers.

### Fundraising.

Kevin reporting.

Looking for ways to increase family contributions. Parents want to know what their donations are going towards.

Suggestion for a curbside donation station during student dropoff and pickup at the beginning of the school year. Kevin, Michele, Liberty, and Randy volunteer. Suggestion to recruit students for this effort as well.

Marianne has suggested outside fundraising through an orienteering event. Holly volunteers to assist if the idea moves forward.

Other fundraising opportunities include Amazon Smile and Fred Meyer Community Rewards. Market these to the Steller community at the Back to School BBQ and other venues.

### **Discussions.**

#### Parent Group Goals.

Karen reporting.

Would like to establish Parent Group goals for the 2017-2018 school year. Suggestion to dedicate a Parent Group meeting to establishing goals. Suggestion to use the first meeting of the school year for Goals and Budget.

Suggestion for improved communication between Parent Group and Op Group.

Suggestion to use Parent Group time more wisely. Consider splitting up into work groups for simultaneous discussions and decisionmaking during the first 30 minutes of the meeting. Address goals that were previously identified at an All Community Meeting a couple years ago.

### **New Business.**

### Scholarship Requests.

Randy reporting.

Requests from 9 students totalling \$5000 have been submitted for 2017-2018 travel.

MOTION: Approve \$5000 for travel intensive requests for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion By: Eric.

Second By: Deborah.

All in favor. Motion approved.

### Souper Steller.

Becky reporting.

Becky and her intensive group will be hosting a Souper Steller on Thursday, May 18. Becky needs parent volunteers to assist with preparations on Wednesday, May 17 at 2:00 pm and to assist with final preparations and serving starting on Thursday, May 18 at 9:00 am. Note that this Souper Steller is on Thursday and NOT Friday.

### Be the Change Proposal.

Victoria reporting.

Victoria's last Parent Group meeting as a Steller parent. She has been the driving force behind Steller's Be the Change program and there are excess funds in that account.

MOTION: Earmark excess funds from the Be the Change account for a function, such as a speaker to the Steller community, that fulfills the original intent of this program.

Motion By: Victoria.

Second By: Charles.

All in favor. Motion approved.

### Funding Request from Svetlana.

Becky reporting.

Svetlana would like to once again purchase Upfront Magazine and Junior Scholastic for her social studies classes for the 2017-2018 school year.

MOTION: Fund the purchase of Upfront Magazine (\$93) and Junior Scholastic (\$99) plus shipping for a total of \$205.

Motion By: Holly.

Second By: Charles.

All in favor. Motion approved.

### Parent Group Meeting Night.

Discussion.

Amy would like to propose that we revisit the meeting day for Parent Group.

Suggestion to distribute a Survey Monkey to collect parent input. Karen volunteers.

#### Funding Request from Iris.

Iris reporting.

Distributed a thorough funding request including a personal history that led to this project.

Iris is participating in an exchange program in Taiwan this summer that will last from 6 weeks to 3 months. She has been studying Chinese language and culture for 3 years at Bartlett. Iris is contributing \$1200 from personal funds and is requesting up to \$5600 to help cover the remaining cost. Iris will use the knowledge gained during this experience to conduct a student led course, Chinese Culture and Language, under Becky's guidance next year.

MOTION: Provide \$1500 to help fund the exchange program experience.

Motion By: Charles.

Second By: Carolyn.

AMEND: Provide \$1500 towards program fees to help fund the exchange program experience.

Motion By: Karen.

Second By: Holly.

AMEND: Provide \$1500 towards program fees to help fund the exchange program experience after the remaining funding has been secured.

Motion By: Reed.

Second By: N/A.

Motion approved.

#### **Comments.**

Stolen Bikes. Bikes were replaced almost immediately through community outreach of donations.

#### **Adjournment.**

Adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Minutes recorded by Angie Southwould.

#### ***Upcoming Events:***

Intensives on May 8-19.

Graduation on May 22 at 3:00 pm.

Student Led Conferences on May 23-24.