

Minutes from meeting October 1, 2019

Attending: Kiersten Kotaka, Dave Cort, Hazel Tudryn, Alex Cusick, Cheryl Juliano, Erik Aranda-Wikman, Sarah Lewis, Jill Conroy, Laura Shain, Sophia Baxley, Sarah Wilhelm, Benexy Ott, Tracy Signor, Simone Scott

- Dave Cort from the Community Center stopped by to invite all to the 50th year celebration this weekend.
- The new art teacher, Moira Pucci, is off to a great start. The kids love her, and she's working on fun projects with all the ages. PTO needs to decide if it's feasible to increase her hours to include more time for prep. 2 hours suggested. Need to talk to LEAP and how that could work. Budgeting for 19/20 school year needs to be hammered out. It is possible to reduce the music contract (cancelling lunch time music) to save money and allocate that money toward the art teacher prep. It was generally decided that this was not desirable. Kids like music during lunch and use that option. PTO will ask LEAP for 1 additional hour of prep for art teacher.
- The Spanish program is more expensive than anticipated (\$9,000 instead of \$5-\$6,000). PTO will talk to LEAP about funding.
- Heart's Desire field trip was a success, given the new protocol. Discussed whether that would work for the larger end-of-the-year trip together with Open Classroom. Something to consider.
- Alex's class has a Slide Ranch overnight coming up soon and will begin the yearlong autobiography project.
- Jill's class is working on personal narrative writing. Her classroom is getting a new TV/monitor installed soon that will replace the old projector. She is feeling well supported by Alex and Pauline. Kids love the teepee!
- Treasurer (Cheryl) is working on tax returns. Needs a check signer. Sarah Wilhem and Hazel Tudryn will sign.
- We will start posting these minutes on the Lagunitas website. Need to talk to Liz about it. Simone will continue to send out recaps to parents.
- Playground improvements were discussed. The Facilities Committee in charge of maintaining the school grounds is moving forward with plans to improve the playground. The idea is to put woodchips on top of the sand and repair the slide. There is also a long-term vision to improve the dead space between the community center and

the classrooms. Drainage is an issue. Ashley Fullerton drew up designs for this a while back, but funding is an issue. A Montessori parent is needed to attend the Facilitates meetings to share ideas and represent the school. Their next meeting is Wednesday, Nov. 20th at 2:30p. Laura wants to examine and fix the slide together with parent volunteers.

- New sweatshirts (hoodies and zip ups) are coming soon. Wondering if it's a fundraiser for just Montessori, or if LEAP needs to be involved. Sara check in with them.
- Plans to bring back the spring play were discussed. It will have to be parent run. Simone will try and gauge parent interest. Benexy will reach out to Marlene.
- Monthly parent coffee hour dates are being arranged by Sarah Wilhelm.
- Tracy Signor will follow up about the recess art and game cart. First get the cart, then stock it. It will be stocked by donations.
- Future PTO meetings will be held first Tuesday of each month, except for November. **Next meeting is: Wednesday Nov. 6th in Alex's room at 6p.**