

**Goleta Valley Junior High School
Parent Teacher Association Minutes
Meeting of October 13, 2008**

In Attendance: See below

Nila Shinday welcomed all and called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Presentation by Joe Bruzzese: Joe, an education consultant, made a presentation on “Our Children and Cyberspace and the Internet”. The focus was on the youth popular websites, MySpace.com and FaceBook.com, and how to ensure that our children’s privacy is not invaded if they use these sites. The key point is that most of our children are or will be using one or both of these sites at some point, and it is important that their privacy be protected. The presentation was well received and there were a lot of questions and comments.

Approval of the September 8, 2008 Meeting Minutes: The approval was tabled until the October meeting as not all the board members had reviewed the minutes.

Presentation on the English Department: Ms. Weinbender gave a brief presentation on the English Department with focus particularly on changes that had been instituted over the last year. Because of the cyberspace presentation, time for discussion was limited. Ms. Weinbender also gave out a handout..

Principal’s Report:

The first Teacher’s Lunch was well received by the teacher. They really appreciated it. Thanks to the parents who provided the food.

ISP Update – the initial 6-week training phase is completed which covered many aspects including the use of the agendas and Cornell Notes. During the rest of the year, there will be 5 six-week rotations. For students whose grades are insufficient, they will continue to receive support on their study skills. The other students will have enrichment activities. There are 20 enrichment activities from which to choose, and students were asked to select their top 5 choices. Hopefully during the 5 six-week rotations, students will be able to take all of these. Some of the enrichment activities are very popular and thus not everyone could get their first pick. However, the goal is during the year for students to have a chance to do all of their choices. So far, it appears that ISP is well received.

Teacher Websites – the goal is to have all the teachers have websites for posting the students grades. This allows both students and parents to check grade progress. So far not all of the teachers have their websites up and running. The exceptions are the new teachers. Hopefully this will be 100% by the end of the first marking period.

Sound System for the Auditorium – work on this has already started. The system will be ready for this year’s musical.

Veronica pointed out that there is a ballot proposal for the November 4 election to secure school revenues to offset state budget cuts.

There are openings for the School Site Council. This group is involved with allocating funds to the various schools, e.g., for Title 1 funds, lottery revenues. The group meets once/month: the 4th Wednesday at 2:45-3:45 am. Any parents interested should contact Veronica.

The September Pastries with the Principal went well. There were 25-30 parents attending.

A letter went out on September 8 to all parents regarding Parental Notification about School Choice in Year 1 of Program Improvement. This is related to No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

Finally, seven additional instructional assistants were able to be added in Week 7 – better late than never.

PTA Business and Treasurer's Report:

Old Matters:

- A. The "Make a Difference Campaign" – C.J. Miller that the notices went out recently. So far, 6% of parents have contributed \$4,813.
- B. PTA Membership – Kristen Kovacs report 38% of staff and 33% of parents have joined thus far. The House which has the most parent members will have a root beer float party.
- C. Directory: nothing new this month.
- D. Safety Issues With Charter School: No discussion/significant news to report..
- E. Coffee Sale: Caribbean Coffee Company: No discussion/no significant news to report.
- F. Electronic Sign for School Front – nothing new. This was put it into this year's proposed budget.

New Matters:

New Volunteers – Nila offered thanks to several new volunteers. However, there are still positions with vacancies. These are listed on the website.

2008-09 Budget – this was discussed separately after the main meeting by the Executive Committee.

PTA Bylaws – Nila indicated that it is a PTA regulation to have our Bylaws reviewed. Anna Sorenson, who has accepted the Executive Committee position of Parliamentarian, will coordinate the review process. CJ Miller and Paulette Rainbolt offered to help.

Treasurer's Report:

Stacey Matson presented a revised draft budget for discussion. Paulette Rainbolt motioned for acceptance and Jack Tiethof seconded the motion. It was approved.

Stacey also requested approval of checks/transactions/upcoming bills for the period, July 1-October 13. Stacey motioned that they be approved, it was seconded by Carrie Hawn, and approved.

Stacey also discussed additional expenses that had come up since our last meeting. These items, which totaled \$2,232.21, included PTA dues (15th District), Newsletter expenses and various expenses for the “Make a Difference” campaign. These were also approved by a vote of the PTA.

ATTENDEES:

Lauren	Adler
Judy	Akiyoshi
Susan	Berg
Louise	Blair
Tambra	Boydston
Dawn	Burley
Felicia	Capelle
Heidi	Casper
Cherie	Cox
Kim	DeVenne
Ginger	Gillquist
Russ	Green
Carrie	Hawn
Mary	Hernandez
Kristen	Kovacs
Ginger	Kronman
Mick	Kronman
Mike	Lawson
Bridget	Lewin
Vicki	Lewis
Stacey	Matson
	McCoy-
Barbara	Lawson
C.J.	Miller
Paulette	Rainbolt
Kathy	Randmaa
Veronica	Rogers
Cara	Schipper
Linda	Sessler
Nila	Shinday
Alena	Skala
Gina	Smith
Anna	Sorensen
Roma	Temkin
Jack	Tiethof
Rose	Trapp
Todd	Trapp
Holly	Wallis
Liesel	Wodtke