

Valencia Elementary Home and School Club

December 11, 2007 Minutes

by Kate Sandusky

I. Call Meeting to Order/Introductions

Wendy Clarke called the meeting to order.

Present: Wendy Clarke, Dian Higginbotham, Jennifer Nowark, Renee Roberts, Heather Jones, Liz Pickart, John Pickart, Kate Sandusky.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Heather Jones made a motion to approve October 2007 minutes. Christine Cornejo seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

B. Christine Cornejo made a motion to approve November 2007 minutes. Heather Jones seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

III. Principal's Report, Dianna Higginbotham

A. On Monday Congressman Sam Farr spoke to the upper grade students. He also took questions from the crowd. Then we had a brief meeting about the playground. He will mention our new playground in the Congressional Records to try to get funding from other sources. He was very impressed with our plans. Then we took photos outside. It was a very nice long visit. He was so good with the kids. His brother-in-law is disabled so he has a personal interest in handicap-accessible playgrounds. Kim DeSerpa is working on a press release about the visit. Kim arranged for his visit. Valencia was the only school he visited. He said they are working on making changes to No Child Left Behind. He then met with Dr. Mayes to discuss the changes. They want to make it friendlier to educators. Because of the election year, progress will be slow.

B. Kim DeSerpa had contacted Michael Watkins, County Superintendent, about our playground. He walked a grant request to a group and we just heard that through his connection Valencia will receive a \$10,000 grant! The group will be named after we receive the check. We only need \$10,000 more for the project.

C. We are still waiting for the number of children from the Parkhurst Community on Freedom. Dian was hoping to make the changes to classrooms over winter break, but she doesn't have enough information yet. We know numbers from 38 units; there are still 30 more units to fill. The two new teachers hired this year are working in classrooms with the children. They are very qualified teachers. One will be for an upper grade room, one for lower grade. They will be contacting the new parents. We will be getting one new portable classroom. It will be installed by the baseball backstop on the basketball court. Dian will be making student changes in the rooms no matter how many kids we get. She will make good balanced classes.

D. Dian handed out a spreadsheet from the school's budget. She wanted to make sure the Home and School Club knew it is an integral part of funding, especially for supplies. She does not know if more money will be coming from the District with the new students.

E. The Student Council will be having a Bake Sale on Tuesday during the first recess. Proceeds from the sale will be going into the playground fund. A picture of the new structure has been on display in the library for the kids to see. It is also posted on the website.

IV. President's Report, Wendy Clarke

A. Eileen Shay requested that the H&SC give the Student Council some seed money for having events to raise money for the Adopt A Family program. Discussion followed about having two things happening next week, the last week of school. Student council

wanted to sell candy canes with messages for the students to buy for each other or popcorn. Mar Vista School has a popcorn machine we can borrow. It was decided that they should not undertake another project, especially selling more sugar, before winter break. Kate Sandusky moved to give the Student Council \$100 as seed money for a popcorn sale to happen after winter break and add as a budget item for next year. Heather Jones seconded the motion. Approved.

- B. Michelle Galipeaux, the librarian, reported that the Book Fair made \$13,676 in sales this year. Last year was \$13,891. She can take 20% of sales in cash or 40% of sales in merchandise or a combination. She got a book for teachers from their wish list and cash. There was a great turn out on Thursday evening.
- C. Staff Luncheon is tomorrow. Decorating will be happening this afternoon. Help with cleanup is always welcome.
- D. In an email from Kim DeSerpa, she suggested that we have two new club officers next year. Communications Director and Fund Development Officer. We need to make sure we have sent thank you notes for all of the money we have received. Perhaps Kelly Austin, corresponding secretary, can work on that. Christine and Heather will help. Nichole Benford would be a good communication officer. Kate will ask Kristen Tyra if she would design stationary for the H&SC.
- E. Karen Richmond wants to buy some redwood to make tables for disabled access to the garden. It was decided that the garden should spend the \$2,500 they received as a grant first before requesting more money.

V. Treasurers Report, Renee Roberts

- A. See attached reports. Since the reports were printed, we have paid some expenses. \$20,000 for Science School, about \$30,000 deposit to order the play ground structure. We hope to have the structure installed this school year.

VI. Fundraisers, Christine Cornejo and Heather Jones

- A. Quizno's Valencia weekend. There were only 2 people who showed up. It was a hard time to have a fundraiser, coming after so many others. Sally Foster, rev drive and coffee, and weekend before Thanksgiving break. Don't do it again next year. Baskin Robins gives us a % of sales every Tuesday evening. Same day as Showtime Pizza's \$1/cheese slice day.
- B. Recycling. A parent, Corin _____, will be taking this over. Year to date income is \$47.88.

VII. Meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 12, 2008 in the library.