

Carmel Middle School PTO  
September 2, 2015

**Call to Order** 1:35 PM

**Present:** Heidi Short, Merrie Potter, Nickel Fitzpatrick, Stacy Meheen, Madigan Ahn, Kristin Hunter, Angie Sullivan, Lisa Morgan, Murial Lin, Zoe Phillips, Ken Griest, Maria Ramirez, Victoria Beach, Kath Uyeda, Nancy Garcia

Introductions were made.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Please see attached report.) Overbudget: last year's 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade end of year parties. Last year teachers didn't ask us for as much money; we budgeted \$10K, teachers only asked for \$6K. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade promotion dance went over by about \$600. Last year, we were only \$139 in the negative which is great.

**2015-16 Budget**—Things different from last year: We bumped up the income and expenditures for the end of year party; Added a line-item for Chinese New Year, cut down expenditures for website, but left \$1000 in there for a new PTO laptop. If we do it correctly, we will 'lose' \$30K which is by design, as we have \$100K in surplus that we need to spend down.

Some discussion over the PTO contribution to MEarth; is it a donation for them to spend as they want, or a specific line item?

Additional discussion about Honors breakfasts/lunches and whether to continue the gift cards

A motion was made to approve the 2015-16 Budget: **ALL APPROVED**

**PTO Open Positions**

**Grade Reps:** responsible for honors breakfasts/lunches and end of the year party (3-per class)

**Dance Coordinator:**

Fall Dance (Leadership Class)

Halloween Dance (Music Boosters)

Winter Dance (help needed)

8<sup>th</sup> Dance (help needed)

**Serve-a-thon:** The Serve-a-thon is off and running; we have one more week to collect money. (Weds Sept. 9). Friday Sept 11 is the actual Serve-a-thon day. We have 21/27 slots filled for the various projects. It's a great fun day that the kids are doing their service for the community. There are several follow-up parties that we will be needing volunteers for. We host an ice cream party, jamba juice, taco lunch, Islands lunch, and Giants game etc. and need volunteers for all of them.

**Principal's report**—A lot of different events are going on now. In general, the start of the school has gone great. Minimal scheduling hassles. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Ohana Day went great. Challenge Day for 7<sup>th</sup> grade is next week. We do a lot to set climate and culture tone for the school at the start of the year. Ken is very happy with how things are going so far. In terms of curriculum, we have a new Math curriculum this year. It's very engaging, and encourages kids to work together in groups. It's a high level and kids are embracing it and doing well. Parent Essay night is coming up; Math night is coming up. We are following Carnegie level learning now, so Parents will need to be able to know what's going on so they can help their kids. Ken is sending home an article about how Parent's math phobias can really hurt their kids. The gist of the article is that Parent's Math issues can be transferred to their kids and hurt them. It's best to tell the teacher if your kid is struggling with math or any other subject, rather than struggle through it with them.

We made a conscious effort to transition from paper calendars to Google (electronic) calendars. If kids are struggling, they can come in next week for a hard copy calendar. It's best to use electronic calendars as that is the way that we are moving in the world. So those kids who need them can have them.

### **Ways and Means—Ken Griest**

With the money we are losing from e-Script, we have looked in to the Target Red Card. Pays 1% annually to those schools that have registered. You do not have to re-register your card every year but you do have to switch your school when your kids move up.

**Renaissance Faire:** (Bills from last year)

**Ms. Chupka—World Languages.** Asks for monies to purchase things for her Euro Boutique. Asking for \$550. We are suggesting to start her with \$300 and if she needs more can ask for it later. **All Approved**

**Mr. Guzzi – Science Support Group.** Asking for \$200 to pay for food to incentive kids who need extra help. **All Approved**

**Mr. Ischler—Industrial Arts:** Would like \$453 for a band saw guide which makes it easier for kids to use the machine. **All Approved**

**Non Agenda Items:** Merrie Potter talked about the Glass Pumpkin Patch. She handed out postcards about the event. Started by a former CMS artist alum. It's a great event.

Nadia is doing spread sheet work for Serve-a-Thon. She could use a clerical worker to help her. Right now Ken's office aide is helping out. Need 2-hours a week. Kristin Hunter volunteered to help as did Angie Sullivan and Lisa Morgan.

**Adjourn 2:35 Next Meeting is Thursday October 8, 2015 at 1:30**