Ya I got that. Was looking for a calendar invite lol

On Mon, Aug 2, 2021 at 12:04 PM Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:
    Hey, this was sent last Wednesday, u should have gotten it!
    J

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>
Date: Wed, Jul 28, 2021 at 1:26 PM
Subject: updates
To: River Faculty Group <riverteachers@carmelunified.org>

Good Afternoon Everyone,

First, let's catch up on what next week looks like in terms of events/focus:

**August 3 - District Orientation**
8:00 to 8:30 - breakfast
8:30 to 10:00 - approximate Orientation time, this will be communicated by DO shortly
10:00 - Association meetings - exact time will be communicated by DO
1:00 to 3:00 - staff meeting - location tbd, either library or multi
*This is a required event for teachers. Classified staff are not required to be present, but will be paid if they do attend.*

**August 4 - Staff Development Day - details forthcoming**
8:30 to 3:00

**August 5 - Teacher individual workday**
8:30 to 3:00 - workday
*class rosters posted and emailed by 4:00 p.m.*

**August 6 - Breakfast and Grade Level collaboration/planning**
8:30 to 9:00 - Breakfast, outside dining
9:00 to 3:00 - Grade level collaboration/planning - meet as teams deem necessary to cover grade level curriculum/business, any unfilled time may be devoted to individual teacher preparation

Yesterday, our district management team met to decide what practices we'll implement in concert with CDPH guidelines. As a result, please be aware of the following district, approved practices:

- students will wear masks inside school classrooms/facilities, optional outside
- staff will wear masks inside when students are present, but may take masks off when indoors and among vaccinated staff members, staff do not have to wear masks outside
- no physical distancing required inside or outside; however, there is still discussion occurring about furniture arrangements (e.g. single desks) and what practices CUSD will implement, I'll let you know shortly
- parents are allowed on campus and unmasked if outside, if inside they must be masked
- more specifically, at drop off and pick up parents may enter campus in keeping with the above mandate - regardless, we will still operate two lanes for pick up and drop off, which should significantly reduce the number of parents on campus during both periods
- parents may volunteer in class if they are masked and vaccinated, they will be required to produce vaccine documentation
- no health checks required before arriving at school in the morning
- Back to School Night will be virtual
- outdoor parent events are permitted, but we will not host a Welcome Week Picnic due to hundreds of persons that would have been on campus otherwise
- the above does not mean that other events will not occur on campus - we will have larger events outside
per our new bell schedule, we will not have defined, small cohorts of students traveling together throughout the day, but we will operate separate kinder and first grade recess and lunch periods, and we will operate separate 2/3 and 4/5 recess and lunch schedules

currently, but subject to change, grade 2 will eat on picnic tables outside multi, grade 3 will eat on grass hill; grade 4 will eat on picnic tables outside multi, grade 5 will eat on hill; when inclimate weather occurs a grade level may eat inside the multi and students will be distanced; grades 2/3 and 4/5 will eat at the same time

students who have a "close contact" with a person who has Covid are still allowed on campus/in class provided they have not been confirmed/tested as positive, please know, however, that we cannot mandate that a student be tested - this change in close contact practice is in CDPH new guidelines and designed to keep kids in school as much as possible

other student and staff Covid safety protocols will be communicated in the coming days

I hope this helps, but please expect more details in the very near future.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Jay

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624 4609 Ext  2293

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Re: Kinder Playdate 2021-22

From: Majo Spencer Mon, Aug 2, 2021 at 9:48 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>
Cc: Adrienne Andrews <person1@example.com>; Connie Weilenmann <cweilenmann@carmelunified.org>

Hello Adrienne,
Any details about the play date on Saturday? The day is fast approaching. Let me know. I haven’t heard anything. Do the kindergarten parents know about this? What do you need from me? Should I come to the event?
Looking forward to it.
Majo

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 4, 2021, at 11:59 AM, Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hi Adrienne,
This sounds great, I’ll put on master calendar and in my parent communications.
Jay

On Wed, Jun 2, 2021 at 6:35 PM Adrienne Andrews <person1@example.com> wrote:

Hi Majo and Connie -

I will coordinate with Connie to get the Kinder list in late July and plan for the Kinder playdate to be Saturday, August 7 at 9:30 AM. Does that work?

Also, is it possible to get keys to open a set of bathrooms and get the otter costume?

In the past we've had bagels, coffee, juice boxes and fruit snacks as a "prize" for the kids which they get from the otter once they have found all the items on the scavenger hunt.

I can take care of all this.

Nora Ward usually helps me find a high school student who can get community service time for being the otter.

If there is anything I have missed let me know.

Adrienne

----- Forwarded Message ----- 
From: Sarah Perkins <sperkins@carmelunified.org>
To: Adrienne Andrews <person1@example.com>
Cc: Yessenia Ruggiero <yruggiero@carmelunified.org>; Beth Jauregui <bjauregui@carmelunified.org>; Majo Spencer <person1@example.com>; Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 2, 2021, 05:47:27 PM PDT
Subject: Re: Kinder Playdate 2021-22

Dear Adrienne, Hello again and thank you for your patience! The Kinder team has had the chance to meet and check in with Mr. Marden. For next year, we would like the Kinder Play Date to revert to its original format- a purely PTA sponsored event without teacher or classroom involvement. The event will be a great opportunity for kids and families to meet and mingle, familiarize themselves with campus, have a snack, and participate in a fun activity such as the treasure hunt or whatever you envision. After years of a shorter first week, the academic calendar has changed and for the first time ever- the kinders will start
the year off with a full five day week! This will be a very long week for the little ones with plenty of classroom time! We would like to thank you for stepping into this parent coordinator role and look forward to meeting both you and [name]!

Until then, take care and thank you!
- The Kinder Team

On Sat, May 29, 2021 at 10:31 AM Sarah Perkins <sperkins@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Dear Adrienne, Thanks so much for reaching out. We will be in touch soon once we’ve had a chance to meet as a team and take a closer look at next year. Until then, have a lovely long weekend. Sincerely, River K

On Fri, May 28, 2021 at 11:03 AM Adrienne Andrews [name] wrote:

Hello Kinder teachers -

I will again be the new parent liaison this upcoming school year. If the school allows for the kinder playdate which happens before school starts in August I will be the parent coordinator. I am also very excited that [name] will be a kinder student.

Our family will be in town the weekend before school starts when the playdate usually happens so please reach out if you need any help from me. I can help get any snacks, prizes for a school scavenger hunt, and find a high school student who will wear the otter costume.

I hope you all get a true break and restful summer.

-- Adrienne Mitchell

[signature]

-- Sarah Perkins
Kindergarten
River School

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
All students will be masked when indoors, regardless of vaccination status. If a student arrives at school without a mask a mask will be provided.

We will not be continuing routine wellne check in our district facilities

Everyone will be expected to stay home if they “are exhibiting Covid-like symptoms.” Anyone, including visitors, who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as flu or COVID-19, must stay home and should “seek testing and care”.

Parents/Guardians should notify the school office of an absence and inform school staff if the student has COVID-like or flu-like symptoms. Health staff will then follow up with parents/guardians.

We will continue to require staff members and students with symptoms of COVID 19 infection not to return for in person instruction until they have met the following CDPH criteria to return to school:

- At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and
- Other symptoms have improved; and
- They have a negative test for SARS-CoV-2, or a healthcare provider has provided documentation that the symptoms are typical of their underlying chronic condition (e.g., allergies or asthma) or a healthcare provider has confirmed an alternative named diagnosis (e.g. Streptococcal pharyngitis, Coxsackie virus), or at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset

If a student gets sick at school we will have them rest in a secluded area and we will contact parents/guardians to have them picked up immediately. Students will need to be cleared, following CDPH guidance before they return to school.

As we are working towards as normal of a return as possible, we will return to traditional make up work practices. Students who are quarantining because they are ill should be resting and staff will work with them upon their return to catch up on missed work. We will not be providing simultaneous live instruction (concurrent instruction) for students and independent study will not be provided for short-term absences such as quarantine.

Quarantine and isolation guidance has been adjusted to account for all students wearing masks and students who are deemed a close contact may now stay in school if they meet the following criteria:

- Are asymptomatic;
- Continue to appropriately mask, as required;
- Undergo at least twice weekly testing during the 10-day quarantine; and
- Continue to quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school, including sports, and activities within the community setting.

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hi Manny,
Per below, would you add Melissa Anderson?
J

On Wed, Aug 4, 2021 at 1:47 PM Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:
Hi Paul,

I have always been on the river faculty, river specialist and river aides email groups and am no longer. This has caused me to not receive communications. Can I please be added back on?

Thank you

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Extension Added

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>                           Thu, Aug 5, 2021 at 7:30 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>; Connie Weilenmann <cweilenmann@carmelunified.org>

Hello,
I had a request at the specialist meeting today for my extension to be added to the shortcut buttons of the phones. Do either of you know if this is possible?

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
We could ask Peter L., perhaps IT or work order trouble ticket?

J

On Thu, Aug 5, 2021 at 7:31 PM Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hello,
I had a request at the specialist meeting today for my extension to be added to the shortcut buttons of the phones. Do either of you know if this is possible?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Melissa Anderson, LVN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Nurse</td>
</tr>
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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
On Aug 6, 2021, at 10:24 AM, Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hi Majo,
I'll send! Letter looks great, I did add a sentence about volunteers needing to be vaccinated and providing proof, so I had to change the "all are welcome" sentence.
Thanks!
J

On Fri, Aug 6, 2021 at 10:01 AM [redacted] (via Google Docs) <drive-shares-dm-noreply@google.com> wrote:
Hello Jay and Connie,

Jay, yesterday I send you this letter but I had some corrections to make so here is the new one. Connie, could you send this letter today to all the parents if Jay approves? Thank you so much for all your help.

I hope you both have a great Friday before school starts.

Majo

Greetings from our PTA President

Google LLC, 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA
You have received this email because majos Spencer@yahoo.com shared a document with you from Google Docs.

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hi Majo, Melissa,
I think this goes to you two because the district doesn't receive any of the funds for the yearbook, they run through the PTA.
Thanks,
J

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Elizabeth Dirks <echosign@echosign.com>
Date: Fri, Aug 6, 2021 at 9:25 PM
Subject: Signature requested on "Herff Jones Printing Agreement"
To: jmarden@carmelunified.org <jmarden@carmelunified.org>

Elizabeth Dirks requests your signature on
Herff Jones Printing Agreement

Due on August 27, 2021

Review and sign

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to working with you this next school year and I thank you for your business.

ELIZABETH DIRKS
eadirks@herffjones.com

After you sign Herff Jones Printing Agreement, all parties will receive a final PDF copy by email.
Don't forward this email: If you don't want to sign, you can delegate to someone else.

ELIZABETH DIRKS
Yearbook Consultant, Yearbook
408.857.0709 //
HERFF JONES // BY YOUR SIDE

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Re: Signature requested on "Herff Jones Printing Agreement"

From: Majo Spencer <majo.spencer@gmail.com>  
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>  
Cc: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  

Done

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 7, 2021, at 8:01 AM, Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hi Majo, Melissa,
I think this goes to you two because the district doesn’t receive any of the funds for the yearbook, they run through the PTA.
Thanks,
J

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ELIZABETH DIRKS
eadirks@herffjones.com
After you sign Herff Jones Printing Agreement, all parties will receive a final PDF copy by email.

Don't forward this email: If you don't want to sign, you can delegate to someone else.

ELIZABETH DIRKS
Yearbook Consultant, Yearbook
408.857.0709 //
HERFF JONES // BY YOUR SIDE

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hey,

2 things:

1) Let's schedule spirit meeting.
2) Do you want me to schedule 504s for [redacted]?

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
Fwd: Not able to volunteer?

From: Majo Spencer <majo.spencer@unknown>
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>

Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 6:05 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Andrea Gmail <andreac@gmail.com>
Date: August 9, 2021 at 4:38:15 PM PDT
To: majo.spencer@unknown
Subject: Not able to volunteer?

To whom it may concern,
I'm sorry but I just read the part of your email about how parents are not allowed to volunteer unless vaccinated?! I am wondering what the basis is for this decision given that vaccinated people are still able to contract and spread covid and given that our children are attending the school unvaccinated and live in the same household as the parents?

As a parent, I find it discriminatory to make policy based on personal medical information. And last I checked there is a no discrimination policy on all CUSD campuses. Not to mention the American disabilities act prevents any discrimination against people for any health related abilities or disabilities. I can understand wearing masks inside the classroom but to discriminate against people for their personal medical choices is shocking to hear from a public school that all taxpayers pay for, vaccinated and unvaccinated. Please explain how discrimination is justified?

To make a point, Do you check parents for an active herpes outbreak before they come into the classroom? That too is highly contagious and could be passed onto children. Will you be needing proof of a negative herpes test as well?

Under what circumstances does the school have the right to make a vaccine policy on private medical information of the parents?

Please provide the legal authority the school has to implement such a policy.
Thanks, Andrea Cahill.

Sent from my iPhone
Re: Not able to volunteer?

From: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>  
To: Majo Spencer <majospencer@yahoo.com>

Hey, I just told Melissa to direct her to the district, HR department or superintendent, criticizing pta is comical and misplaced.

J

On Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 6:05 PM Majo Spencer <majospencer@yahoo.com> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Andrea Gmail  
Date: August 9, 2021 at 4:38:15 PM PDT
To:  
Subject: Not able to volunteer?

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Under what circumstances does the school have the right to make a vaccine policy on private medical information of the parents?

Please provide the legal authority the school has to implement such a policy.
Thanks, Andrea Cahill.

Sent from my iPhone
Here’s what we have:
1) 9/10 Black and white day
2) 10/29 Halloween dress up
3) 12/13-12/17 Holiday dress up week
   - 12/13 rudolph red
   - 12/14 grinchy green
   - 12/15 ugly sweater
   - 12/16 holiday hats
   - 12/17 holiday pajamas
4) 1/21 Favorite disney character day
5) 2/14 Valentines- wear hearts, red and pink
6) 3/17 St. Pattys Day
7) 4/29 Mismatch day

We still can add one in August and May if we wanted.

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
Can you please send me specialist pull out schedule.

Thank you

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
Morning,
I can't recall with certainty, but I think for the larger River Dads events were/are they under the PTA's umbrella for insurance? If we're going to go forth with the dinner on Aug. 27 and then the campout on Oct. 1 we'll need to reserve the space with the school district and provide a copy of the insurance. Perhaps I can ask them (the district) to pull the insurance from last year, but they might make us do it annually.
The reservation would be through Facilitron, which can be accessed through the district's website. I do understand, especially with the campout, that because it's a long way off we can't say with certainty that we'll be able to host it, but given the current landscape and rules and that it's only two weeks away, the dinner, which is permissible, probably should be reserved through Facilitron.
Thoughts?
J

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hello everyone,

Yes the PTA insurance umbrella covers some of River Dad's events. Our secretary Jenny Panziera has a copy of the insurance. I am cc's her so Dan can get a hold of her to obtain a copy.

We are happy to help.

Majo

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 12, 2021, at 8:20 AM, Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Morning,

I can't recall with certainty, but I think for the larger River Dads events were/are they under the PTA's umbrella for insurance? If we're going to go forth with the dinner on Aug. 27 and then the campout on Oct. 1 we'll need to reserve the space with the school district and provide a copy of the insurance. Perhaps I can ask them (the district) to pull the insurance from last year, but they might make us do it annually.

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From: Majo Spencer <majo.spencer@example.com>  
To: Dan Mirski <daniel.mirski@example.com>; Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>; Melissa Lemos <melissa.lemos@example.com>

Fri, Aug 13, 2021 at 5:11 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Attachments

- AIM Insurance Certificate - CAUNIT181052.pdf
## MEMBER CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

Thank you for purchasing your insurance from AIM. This is your Member Certificate and should be kept with your permanent records.

### Insured Number:
CAUNIT181052

### NAMED INSURED MEMBER:
Carmel River Elementary PTA
Kim Benson
PO Box 222700
Carmel, CA 93922

### Named Insured & Mailing Address
Education Support Purchasing Group
c/o AIM
P.O. Box 674051
Dallas, TX 75267-4051

### PRODUCER NAME
AIM Association Insurance Management, Inc.
P.O. Box 674051
Dallas, TX 75267-4051

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<td>1/5/2021-1/5/2022</td>
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<td>Oak River Insurance Company</td>
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<td>Each Employee $1,000,000</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Policy Limit $1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Certificate Holder:
This Certificate is hereby issued to any entity requiring Evidence of Insurance

This member certificate, together with the common policy conditions, coverage part(s), coverage form(s), and endorsements, if any complete the above numbered policy. Copies of the Master Policies are available upon request.

**AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE**

[Signature]

1/19/2021
Hi V,
We have a Safeway card that you could use to purchase ice cream or popsicles for the kids?

J

On Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 10:42 AM Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:
Hello,
I poke with our board and we just don't have anything at this time to give out to new students. We don't want to wipe out our shirt and magnet supply. If this is something we want for the future we can discuss.

Thanks

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
Hi all,

I would stick with popsicles due to allergy reason and students that are lactose.

Double check with Abbi but she may have had a different plan for Friday.

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 1:46 PM Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hi V,
Abbi, we can grab popsicles or ice cream (but better if the ice cream is something that comes in a form where we don’t need a bunch of people to serve) for Reading Rewards Party too?
J

On Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 1:44 PM Veronica Craft <vcraft@carmelunified.org> wrote:

And just confirming, I am getting treats for both reading reward and new kids, right?

Verónica Craft

School Counselor
Carmel River School
(831)624-4609 x 3218
Zoom Link: https://carmelunified.zoom.us/j/3322946539
Meeting ID: 332 294 6539

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On Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 1:43 PM Veronica Craft <vcraft@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Cool. I can do that.

So, I will bring my cooler and will be sure to grab the card before Friday.

Melissa, should I stick with popsicles or can I get ice cream?
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On Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 1:34 PM Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hey, I'm happy to help you supervise, and I'll give you the Safeway card, you can spend whatever it takes. Yes, we can have them play afterward for a bit, we could make up some games? I have at least one cooler, maybe two. We already cleared up with Abbi the party issue, which was the reading rewards party, she’s not involved with our new student plans.
Thanks,
J

On Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 1:23 PM Veronica Craft <vcraft@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hey Jay and Melissa,
Sounds good.
I received a message from Abbie saying that she was unaware of the party other than seeing it on the agenda for the week.
I just called her and she said that she has about 150 kids who submitted the reading logs.
Plus, I think we have about 44 new students, so let’s say 200.
How much is the Safeway card for?
Do you have anyone that can help me with supervision on the playground during the event?
Will they just eat the ice cream/popsicles and go back to class or can they get extra play time? If so, would we have someone that can help me with supervision?
I am happy to go and purchase the ice cream for the 200, and I can bring a cooler from home, but I think I will need a second one cooler. Do you have one?

Thanks,

Verónica Craft
School Counselor  
Carmel River School  
(831)624 4609 x 3218  
Zoom Link  https://carmelunified.zoom.us/j/3322946539  
Meeting ID  332 294 6539

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On Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 10:46 AM Jay Marden jmarden@carmelunified.org wrote

Hi V,
We have a Safeway card that you could use to purchase ice cream or popsicle for the kids.
J

On Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 10:42 AM Melissa Anderson manderon@carmelunified.org wrote

Hello,
I spoke with our board and we just don't have anything at this time to give out to new students. We don't want to wipe out our shirt and magnet supply. If this is something we want for the future we can discuss.

Thanks

Melissa Anderson, LVN  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hey, if you’ll provide me with the info below I’ll respond.

Thanks,

J

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Craig Chavez <cchavez@carmelunified.org>
Date: Mon, Aug 16, 2021 at 5:02 PM
Subject: Website Data

I am in the process of updating the data for website publication and need to confirm the following from each site for last week:

Week 1 - Positive cases on site for staff =
Week 1 - Positive cases on site for students =

--

Craig D. Chavez
Chief Human Resources Officer
Carmel Unified School District

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Re: Otter Cover Spirit

From: Majo Spencer <[redacted]>  Thu, Aug 19, 2021 at 7:38 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)
To: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>
Cc: margret watkins <[redacted]>, Jenn Nolan <[redacted]>

Maggie and Jenn,

Ditto everything Melissa mentioned. I loved it all. We order baseball hats through a local company to sell with our new line of spirit gear, maybe we can give some away for the otter store???? Great job on the stuff. So fun and cute. Go ahead and order and send us the bill. Can you give us the total of the whole thing so I can have an idea of what everything will be. I think the kids are going to love this sooo much.

Majo

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 19, 2021, at 5:38 PM, Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hi Maggie and Jenn,

I LOVE the items you have chosen. I think that's a great start!! I also think the amount is great. Jay just mention that we were going to be adding spirit gear to the otter cove. He's aware that we will still have some items. Jay said he would do a lunch for like 150 otter bucks and Myo with him for 50. We can definitely talk more to science and garden about the other two things you mentioned.

You will also see that I sent you a proposed schedule for the store.

Let us know if you have any other questions. Appreciate you guys!

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Aug 19, 2021, at 5:28 PM, margret watkins <[redacted]> wrote:

Hi Majo & Melissa,

We wanted to present the spirit merchandise that we, Jenn Nolan and myself, have been working to finalize. In addition to the items pictured below we have already ordered 300 vinyl stickers with the school logo. We are in communication with a local print shop to have trucker hats and possibly beanies made in the near future. We expect the items below to arrive in the next 1-4 weeks.

*We have indicated the number of each item that we are considering to order and would appreciate your guidance and opinion before we place the order ASAP.*

As we discussed, it may be best to have a few traditional toys for the lower grades. Ray told me there was an assembly with Jay where he told the kids there would not be toys anymore, so I just wanted to confirm where we landed.

We were thinking for a few "experiences" to be:
- Lunch with Mr. Marden
- Fun science experiment with Mrs. Gunn
- Make pizza in the garden with Mrs. McCormick
We are excited to get the kiddos fired up for school spirit this year!

Thanks,
Maggie Watkins & Jenn Nolan

300 $470
<IMG_9908.jpg>

1,000 $330
<IMG_9911.jpg>

300 $386
<IMG_9913.jpg>

300 $100
<IMG_9914.jpg>

150 $230
<IMG_9917.jpg>

500 $178
<image.jpg>

Sent from my iPhone

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>
To: Majo Spencer <mailto:>

Sat, Aug 21, 2021 at 3:58 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)

Welcome Back to Carmel River Elementary!

Otter TUF campaign 2021

First come, first serve

Everyone that donates will receive a backpack.
Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
This sounds fun! How about Tuesday after Jay..11?

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Sun, Aug 22, 2021 at 8:42 AM Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:
This sounds great Krista! How about 10:45 on Tuesday?
Looking forward to it!
J

On Sat, Aug 21, 2021 at 3:33 PM Krista Winkler <kwinkler@carmelunified.org> wrote:
Hello All-

Room 28 is growing germs 😊 We are officially the oldest students on campus and have decided that one of our responsibilities as fifth graders is to do our part to help keep the other students and our staff safe and informed. We have been brainstorming communal locations and surfaces that are visited and touched by most students or staff. We also are going to help solve the age-old debate of what’s best: soap vs. hand sanitizer. The locations the students selected are in each of your domains.

I am reaching out to all of you because the students feel these are the most trafficked locations and would be the most helpful to collect data from. Since this is a community project, our objective is to find a NEED and use data to inform our decisions and our community.

Students would like to interview each of you to find out what THEE surfaces would be most helpful to collect data from. I am hoping you can come up with three surfaces (touched by most students or staff or yourself, that would inform us on what our next steps could be. (Example: Location: Playground/ Equipment Teacher: Shugars possible Surfaces: basketball, playground ladder and the top of the slide.

Would you be okay with students interviewing you this upcoming week and if so, when is a good time for me to send them (they are in groups of three and each group chose a different location)? If this is not something you want to be part of, no problem at all just let me know.

Locations students want to use:
Garden- 😊😊😊
Playground/Equipment- 😊😊😊
Office/Staff Room (includes Jay’s office if okay)- 😊😊😊
Bathroom- 😊😊😊
Multipurpose Room/ Lunch Tables- 😊😊😊
Self/Body (Melissa this is why I included you. They have been brainstorming: swabbing hands with/without soap, hand sanitizer, shoe laces, mouth, mask etc. Whatever you think would "help" inform us best) If you could pick three that would be great.

Thanks in advance,
Wink
Hey.

Can you please send me the [redacted] document. Just want to start "studying" it.

Thank you

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
Hay, let's talk about how we're going to notify the folks who have assignments before school starts.

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hey Melissa,

I just wanted to pass this message along to you. I responded to her and told her that I understood her frustration, but also knew that the PTA only has the child's best interest in mind. I know that it was not intended to be disappointing to the kiddos that do not receive an otter. But, I told her that I would reach out to the PTA to share her feelings.

Thanks,
Natalie

Hello Mrs. Kobza,

I feel the need to express my frustration with the handing out of giant stuffed otters today. I picked up [Redacted] and his cousin [Redacted] today, and [Redacted] had a giant otter with a “thank you for your donation” note attached to it. [Redacted] was very sad that he did not get an otter and I had to try and explain to him why he did not get one, as he told me there were some kids in his class too that got one. As one of the not so well off families that attend Carmel River School, the $200 donation is a lot for our family, and we are not sure if we will be able to make the donation, and thus our son will be punished and not get an otter. This does not seem fair, and I feel these otters should not be handed out in class. There is no reason to bring the kids into the matter of a donation, and shame on River School for putting parents in this position.

Please feel free to pass this message along to whomever you think should see it.

Thank you,
Nikki Henley

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
To: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>

Hey, we still need to figure out how to include River Rec, Erinn and the support programs that will start mid September in our plan to check kids into class after being ill per your approval!

J
Re: procedure

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  Sat, Aug 28, 2021 at 11:23 AM PDT (GMT-07:00)
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>

Kill emailed Erinn to get together early next week to review.

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Sat, Aug 28, 2021 at 9:11 AM Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:
When you're ready!
J

On Sat, Aug 28, 2021 at 7:25 AM Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:
K do you know when the e will tart

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Fri, Aug 27, 2021 at 11:43 AM Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:
actually, I just looked, this is only on Thursday and Friday, 20 kids per class perhaps, maybe on Thursdays and Fridays you could check who was sick the day before in those classes at about 8:00 and alert Erin to ensure they don't enter class but check with you?
J

On Fri, Aug 27, 2021 at 11:37 AM Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:
Well all kids are now being told they cannot return to school without being cleared by me but if they dont come im not sure how she will know?

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624 4609 Ext  2293

On Fri, Aug 27, 2021 at 11:32 AM Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:
But how will Erinn know if someone was out?
J

On Fri, Aug 27, 2021 at 11:14 AM Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:
So I spoke to Sylvia this morning. Once Craig gives me the go ahead to start my 8 hour day (have you heard anything ) I will be here at 715 and the river rec kid will need to come and be cleared by me

For programs like Erinns I say they do the same or they dont attend those until they get cleared.

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
On Fri, Aug 27, 2021 at 11:11 AM Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:
Hey, we still need to figure out how to include River Rec, Erinn and the support programs that will start mid September in our plan to check kids into class after being ill per your approval!

J

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hi Jay,
Totally agreed. It is fine. You know that the otters are just an incentive for the families to donate. I don’t care much for them 😊. Whatever it is fine. As always there are people that are very intense, nothing new. All good with me.
Thanks for all you do.
Majo

P.s- I will look at the document you send me to send to the district but I am sure all is fine. I trust you so all good.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 30, 2021, at 9:35 AM, Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hi Majo,
Sure, but I was talking to Melissa about the Otter distribution, she's already distributed Otters to families that made a contribution, even if less than 200 bucks. This was due to my earlier request. For consistency, I think we need to continue to give them to any family that contributes, but trust me, I agree with you and Melissa about the logic of giving them to larger contributors due to the fact that other families still get a gift. Regardless, we are getting some heat about this from parents, and coupled with some great big headaches we're having now with covid response and sensitivity, we'd rather avoid other battles. We do have enough, more than likely, to give out, we have 200 Otters and 296 families, but 96 families probably won't contribute so we'd be covered. If we do run out though then it's okay, we simply communicate that we'll give a different gift or that the backpack will have to suffice.
Thanks,
J

On Sun, Aug 29, 2021 at 10:04 PM no-reply@via Google Docs) <drive-shares-dm-noreply@gmail.com> wrote:
Hi Jay,
If you consider appropriate to send this letter to explain where the money we get goes, send it to the parents, if not no worries, all is good.
I hope you have a good Monday.
Thanks for all you do.

Majo
Hi Majo,
I'm going to send the PTA letter today, but it says that the team will be out in front of school at drop off and pick up? Not that I'm putting any pressure and you all, but should I remove it?
Thanks,
J
Re: letter

From: Majo Spencer <majo.spencer@<redacted>>
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>

Tue, Aug 31, 2021 at 9:39 AM PDT (GMT-07:00)

Yes please remove it. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 31, 2021, at 9:05 AM, Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hi Majo,
I'm going to send the PTA letter today, but it says that the team will be out in front of school at drop off and pick up? Not that I'm putting any pressure and you all, but should I remove it?
Thanks,
J

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hi Gang,
I sent you a Zoom meeting invite for next Monday, 9:30, for our PTA Exec. Board meeting. While I sent the Zoom invite, I'm happy to meet in person in my office if you wish. Also, I'll send an email correcting the in-person invite for the PTA meeting on 9/15 to make it Zoom. If the exec. meeting doesn't work I'm happy find another date.
Thanks,
J

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hi Jay,
I can't do Mondays. Can we meet this Friday? Anytime after 10:30????
Thanks
Majo

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2021, at 8:01 AM, Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hi Gang,
I sent you a Zoom meeting invite for next Monday, 9:30, for our PTA Exec. Board meeting. While I sent the Zoom invite, I'm happy to meet in person in my office if you wish. Also, I'll send an email correcting the in-person invite for the PTA meeting on 9/15 to make it Zoom. If the exec. meeting doesn't work I'm happy find another date.
Thanks,
J

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Fwd: Document shared with you: "2018-2019 Event Chairs_ke"

From: River School PTA <riverschoolpta@gmail.com>  
To: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
Wed, Sep 8, 2021 at 11:02 AM PDT (GMT-07:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Kim Benson (via Google Docs)" <drive-shares-dm-noreply@google.com>  
Date: June 15, 2021 at 3:30:43 PM PDT  
To: riverschoolpta@gmail.com  
Subject: Document shared with you: "2018-2019 Event Chairs_ke"  
Reply-To: Kim Benson <kimberlymbenson@gmail.com>

______

You have received this email because kimberlymbenson@gmail.com shared a document with you from Google Docs.
Fwd:

From: River School PTA <riverschoolpta@gmail.com>  
To: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
Wed, Sep 8, 2021 at 11:03 AM PDT (GMT-07:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kim Benson <[redacted]>  
Date: June 15, 2021 at 3:20:03 PM PDT  
To: riverschoolpta@gmail.com

Attachments

- CRS Fall Festival Flyer 2019-2020.pdf
Carmel River Elementary School

Fall Festival

Friday, Oct 25th, 2019

2 pm for Kinder Families
3 - 5 pm for all K-5 Families

- Giant double bumpy slide
- Large obstacle course
- Dunk tank
- Carnival games
- Craft tables
- Pie baking contest
- Prize booth
- And many more...

Pizza, Italian Soda and Cake Walk tickets will be for sale with all proceeds going to our 5th Grade Fundraiser.

This event is free, with exception of the food, compliments of our PTA!
## 2019-20 Calendar

*UPDATED 8.26.19*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 8, 4:00pm</strong></td>
<td>New Parent Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 10, 9:00am</td>
<td>Kinder Playdate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 13, 8:25am</strong></td>
<td><strong>1st Day of School &amp; Welcome Coffee</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 19, 11:40/12:30</td>
<td>Welcome Back Picnic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 21, 1:30pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Summer Reading Rewards Party/ New Student Welcome</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 22, 6:30pm</td>
<td>Back to School Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 22–Sept 6</strong></td>
<td><strong>TUF Campaign</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 23, 4:00pm</td>
<td>Welcome Back River Dad’s Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>September 18, 8:45am</strong></td>
<td><strong>PTA Meeting, Ottertorium</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 20, 7:00pm</td>
<td>New Parent Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>September 27, 5:00pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>River Dad’s Camp Out – Lower Playground</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>October 11-20</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fall Break</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12, tbd</td>
<td>Pumpkin Roll on Ocean Ave with River Dads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>October 25, 2-5:30pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fall Festival (2pm Kinder,3pm rest of school)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>No costumes please</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 31, 1:15pm</td>
<td>Halloween Parade, Lower Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 6, 8:45am</strong></td>
<td><strong>PTA Meeting, Ottertorium</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 8, 6:00pm</td>
<td>River Dad’s Outdoor Movie Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 20-26</strong></td>
<td><strong>Turn Off Tech Week, Conferences, 12:30 dismissal</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 27-29</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Early December</strong></td>
<td><strong>Book Fair</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 11, 8:45am</td>
<td>PTO Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>December 23 - Jan 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Winter Break</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 24, 6:00pm</td>
<td><strong>Movie Night, River Dad’s + PTA Meeting</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 27-31</td>
<td>Turn-Off Technology Week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(note: Dates are subject to change)
February 7, 6-8:00pm  Father-Daughter-Family Dance
February 10-14  Kindness Week
February 17-21  February Break

March 4, 8:45am  PTA Meeting
March 6, 5:00pm  Bingo Night, Ottertorium
March 9-13  Conferences, 12:30 dismissal, Read-A-Thon
March 27, 6-8:00pm  Mother-Son, Family Carnival

April 1, 8:15am  Volunteer Breakfast
April 2, 6:00pm  Miss Becca Talent Show
April 3, 9:00am  Miss Becca Talent Show – Student Viewing
April 13 – 17  Spring Break
April 22, 3-5:00pm  Family Oceans Afternoon

May 5, 12:30pm  Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
May 8, 11:00am  May Festival, 12:30 dismissal
May 14, 5:30pm  Open House/Art Show
May 18 - 20  Camp Sea Lab
May 27, 8:45am  PTA Meeting

June 3, 1:15pm  Kindergarten Promotion
June 4, 1:15pm  Fifth Grade Promotion
June 5  Staff vs Students Dodgeball Game/
Last Day of School, 12:30pm dismissal

(note: Dates are subject to change)
Hi Majo and Jay,

I want to congratulate the River PTA in reaching their fundraising goal for the year, but at the same time, I need to express my concern over the decision to distribute stuffed otters to the students whose parents donated. While I appreciate the intent behind this gesture, and my own daughter was thrilled to receive her otter, I feel that it inadvertently publicly shamed students whose parents, for whatever reason, were unable to donate. At this young age, students have little to do with fundraising, and so it doesn't make sense to me that they would be given or denied a prize based on their parents' ability to contribute. Many young kids wouldn't even know whether their parents donated, so it might be confusing or upsetting to them that their classmates received a special gift while they were overlooked.

Perhaps in the future, if the fundraising goal is met, the entire school can partake in the celebration and all students can be honored, no matter their financial status.

Thanks for considering my concern,
Barbara McBride

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hi, I have included the principal in this email replying to your class email. I won’t be contributing money or volunteering as I have natural immunity which is discriminated against at our school. I am not allowed to participate as a mother in my own child’s programs for absolutely no scientific reason. Excluding those who are equal but different is discrimination. I’m disgusted by the school for behaving in a way that goes directly against the policies and standards that it pretends to uphold in its own literature. So I will not be giving any money to a school who does not allow everyone to be a part of the community. Unfairly, I am not allowed to be a helpful parent this year or participate in my daughter’s 5th grade year due to this discrimination. I don’t get those experiences or time back with my daughter. Shame on the school for being part of a discrimination against any group of people. I also don’t get back the money I taxes the school happily takes from me, right before it excludes me from being part of the community. If I am not good enough with natural immunity, my money should not be good enough either. It’s a ridiculous policy to discriminate against parents who live, hug, kiss and eat in the same household as the children who are at school everyday. This is contrived discrimination especially for outdoor activities such as this beach day I cannot attend. I am shocked and ashamed to call this my daughter’s school with such discriminatory policies in place. How dare we treat people in this way.

I know this is not a decision you made personally, but I think it’s important to speak honestly about the new policies and it is the job of every person to stop discrimination when, especially when, it comes from “above” through policy that is clearly unfair and unjust. I will not support the school in any way when it does not support and include all members of the community it has the privilege to serve.

Kind regards, Andrea.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Sep 16, 2021, at 10:13 AM wrote:
> 
> Hi Mrs. Marsh’s Class!
> 
> I wanted to say hello and introduce myself! I’ll be the Room Parent this school year. It is great to have the kids back in the classroom and to resume some semblance of normalcy. This year, we plan to have a couple of classroom parties as well as several Bingo celebrations. The class earns these small celebrations throughout the school year (averaging to about one per month).
> 
> In order to provide food and crafts for these parties, please consider contributing $20 to our “Fun Fund.” If at the end of the school year we have a surplus, I will put it towards our end of the year gift for Mrs. Marsh. I will collect money separately for her holiday, birthday and end-of-the-year gifts. My Venmo is [redacted] Venmo has recently added an additional layer of security to make sure payments go to the correct account. If you are prompted to input the last four digits of my cell number, they are [redacted].
> 
> Additionally, we will resume field trips! The first of which will be on September 28th. It will be an Archaeological Dig at Carmel River Beach. We are hoping for about 3 volunteers per class. You would be responsible for collecting the artifacts from the office at 9am and then taking them to Carmel River Beach to bury them in our designated area. If you would like to volunteer please let me know by this upcoming Monday. I plan to turn in our list of volunteers on Tuesday morning.
> 
> Please keep in mind that this school year, if you plan to volunteer you must register with the office. You will need to fill out a volunteer form as well as show proof of vaccination for Covid-19.” We ask that you have your volunteer registration completed at least three days prior to the field trip.
>
Our Fall Festival will be on Friday, October 29th. The 5th Grade will be staffing the food sales as well as the Cake Walk. I’ll be sending out a Sign-up Genius and hope you will consider volunteering for a shift. Shift times will be 30 minutes, so it still leaves ample time for you to enjoy the festivities with your kiddo. I will be in touch soon with more details.

Please be reminded that tomorrow is a minimum day with school ending at 12:30pm.

I wanted to let you know about a few other upcoming dates as well:
- Archaeological Dig (Sept. 28th)
- Custodial Day (Oct. 2)
- Fall Break (Oct. 11-15)
- Halloween Dress Up Day and Parade (Oct. 29th 12pm)
- Fall Festival (Oct. 29th 2-5pm)

Please let me know if you have any questions!

Thank you!
Jenn Nolan (mom)

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Here you go. We are following protocol with CDPH for outdoor events as we don't exceed 10,000 peeps.

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Beyond-Blueprint-Framework.aspx

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UPDATE: Definitions of Mega Events</th>
<th>Restrictions Applying to Indoor &amp; Outdoor Settings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conchs greater than 1,000 (indoors) attendees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conchs greater than 10,000 (outdoors) attendees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Outdoor Mega Events (example: music or food festivals/car shows/large endurance events and marathons/parades/sporting events and concerts):

- Verification of fully vaccinated status or pre-entry negative test result is strongly recommended for all attendees.
- If implemented, venue and event operators are recommended to not use self-attestation as a mode of verification but rather use verification options for providing proof of vaccination in the CDPH Vaccine Record Guidelines & Standards.
- Attendees must follow CDPH guidance for Face Coverings.
- Information will be prominently placed on all communications, including the reservation and ticketing systems, to ensure guests are aware that the State strongly recommends that they be fully vaccinated or obtain a negative COVID-19 test prior to attending the event.
- Venues should make masks available to attendees upon request.

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
Hi Melissa - I hope you had a good week and are having a wonderful weekend.

I'm just wondering if you had a chance to put forth air quality safety for the classrooms at your recent meeting, and if so, how that went?

Just attaching a snapshot of the air quality at the moment - these things can be so unpredictable.

Thanks much,
Aysha

Sent from my iPhone

Attachments

- monterey air quality today - Google Search.png
Carmel Valley-Ford Road, Monterey, California Air Pollution: Real-time Air Quality Index (AQI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Max</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PM2.5  AQI</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O3 AQI</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weather Information

| Temp. | 18 | 22 |

3 more rows

[https://aqicn.org > city > carmel-vall...](https://aqicn.org > city > carmel-vall...)

Carmel Valley-Ford Road, Monterey, California Air Quality.

More results

Why is it hazy in Monterey?

Why is Monterey Smokey?
I love it!!!

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 1, 2021, at 12:24 PM, Melissa Anderson (via Google Slides) <drive-shares-dm-noreply@gmail.com> wrote:

manderson@carmelunified.org shared a presentation

Unkn. manderson@carmelunified.org has invited you to edit the following presentation:

PTA Tree Lighting

Open

If you don't want to receive files from this person, block the sender from Drive
attachments to the message, you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error and that any review, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this message, including any attachments, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete the original message. Thank you.

Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hi Jill,

Our TUF campaign is what funds the PTA membership dues. I will have to confirm your contribution to determine if you are a member and at that point can give you a hard copy of our bylaws. I will get back to you.

Thank you

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

---

On Fri, Oct 1, 2021 at 1:25 PM Jillian Heisman wrote:

Hi Majo and Melissa,

Can you please send me a copy or link to the bylaws for the PTA?

I also wanted to know if we are automatically added as a member of the PTA with our annual contribution to Tufs or is a next step required to join?

Many thanks and have a nice weekend,

Jillian

---

From: Connie Weilenmann <cweilenmann@carmelunified.org>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 1:00 PM
To: Jillian Heisman
Subject: Re: PTA Bylaws

Hi Jillian,

PTA is a separate organization and I don't have those.

Please reach out to the board.

Majo Spencer
Melissa Anderson manderson@carmelunified.org

They should be able to help you.
On Fri, Oct 1, 2021 at 12:42 PM Jillian Heisman wrote:

Hi Connie,

Can you please send me a copy or link to the Bylaws for the PTA? I looked on our website and couldn’t seem to locate them.

https://www.carmelunified.org/domain/135

Happy Friday!

Jillian

---

Catalyst

Catalyst Strategies® … Make Growth Happen

228 Hamilton Avenue 3rd Floor, Palo Alto CA 94301
510-250-9082 office | 618-409-8456 cell

EA: Charla Radecky | charla@catalyststrategies.com
www.catalyststrategies.com

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Re: PTA Volunteers Needed

From: Alejandra Sanchez (redacted)  
To: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
Cc: Sally Anne Kirkwood (redacted); Majo Spencer (redacted)  

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 5:29 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)

Sounds great!!! Count me in as well! 🎉

On Oct 6, 2021 2:24 PM, Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:
That would be great, thank you so much Sally. We would have someone purchase the paint.

Melissa Anderson, LVN  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 2:23 PM Sally Anne Kirkwood (redacted) wrote:

Hi Melissa,

What a great idea! I will help as much of the time as possible. I will let you know exact days, but count me in. What do you need in terms of donations – can I buy paint or just Venmo a contribution?

Let me know!

Sally

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 1:59 PM  
Cc: Majo Spencer (redacted)  
Subject: PTA Volunteers Needed

Hello All,

If you are receiving this email it is because you expressed interest in helping the PTA. We have a great need for some assistance in an upcoming project. We have decided to give the staff lounge a make-over as a gift to our staff. People have been talking about it for years and it is time to make it happen... it is in desperate need to say the least. It is very important that you do not tell anyone as this will completely be a surprise to our staff when they return from Thanksgiving break. Only Mr. Marden knows about it and we would like to keep it that way.

A couple things we would like your assistance on:
1) We are looking for anyone that would like to donate items (i.e. paint)

2) We will be taking on this project as follows.
   - Friday evening 11/19- clear out room
   - Saturday 11/20- paint and put together items
   - Monday 11/22- put everything in place

Please let us know asap if you’re able to help any of the days. Thanks so much!

Majo and Meli

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Please send out via parent square.

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>  

Could you please send out via parent square
1) New spirit gear arrived  All size available in the office
2) The attachment below.

THANK YOU

Melissa Anderson, LVN  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

Attachments
- Protocol.docx
Hello Parents,

It is very important that you call in and report any absence, to prevent your child from waiting while we get in contact you. With any absence your child needs to come through the office to get a clearance slip to return to class. When you call in it is important you share with me or the office secretaries every symptom your child is exhibiting. This will determine their return to school protocol.

Here is CUSDs current protocol:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1-2 Covid-Like symptoms</th>
<th>COVID Possible</th>
<th>Return to School When at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication AND symptom improvement AND Negative RA/PCR test or Dr. note confirming alternative diagnosis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Close Contact</td>
<td>COVID Probable</td>
<td>Follow Quarantine Guidelines: Day 1: Begin Quarantine Day 6 or later: PCR Test Day 8 or later: Return to School if Negative (if positive, follow isolation guidelines) Day 11 or later: Return to School if not tested and symptom free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccinated or Unvaccinated</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I am performing rapid antigen testing on site. If your child is returning from COVID possible absence, then please make arrangements with me to get a rapid test prior to retuning to school. Here is the link to pre-register for rapid antigen testing to help expedite the process.
[https://my.primary.health/r/carmelunified?registration_type=student](https://my.primary.health/r/carmelunified?registration_type=student)

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you for working with us to help keep our children safe and healthy!

Nurse Melissa
PTA Disclaimer

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  Fri, Oct 22, 2021 at 10:23 AM PDT (GMT-07:00)
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>
Cc: Majo Spencer 

Here is the disclaimer we need to send up before Monday. Jessica Hull reviewed it and said it looks great.

By attending the Carmel River School PTA sponsored events for the 2021-22 school year, the attendee agrees to follow all guidelines below, assumes all risks associated with entering a place of public gathering and voluntarily waives any and all claims and potential claims against CUSD and the PTA relating to COVID-19 or any other communicable disease, or illness, or that arise from or relate in any way to, however caused, the risk of exposure or actual or alleged exposures to a bacteria, virus or other pathogen capable of causing COVID-19 or any other communicable disease or illness, in each case whether the actual or alleged circumstances giving rise to any claim or potential claim occur before, during or after the event.

CUSD follows the mandates and regulations of CAL/OSHA and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Following CDPH guidance, individuals over age 12 are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated prior to attending large capacity events. The safety and wellbeing of all our patrons, students and employees is very important to us and we thank you for understanding. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you at our events!

Thank you for your understanding and for supporting CUSD/Carmel River School PTA.

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
Hey, don't you want to in small print lift the disclaimer message to post on the bottom of this and future flyers?

J

On Fri, Oct 22, 2021 at 10:26 AM Melissa Anderson (via Google Docs) <drive-shares-dm-noreply@google.com> wrote:

manderson@carmelunified.org shared a document

manderson@carmelunified.org has invited you to edit the following document:

Here is the flyer for the fall festival.

Fall Festival Flyer

Google LLC, 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA
You have received this email because manderson@carmelunified.org shared a document with you from Google Docs.

The information contained in this email may be personal and confidential and is intended only for the recipients named above (and any of the recipient’s authorized designees). If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient of this message or of any attachments to the message, you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error and that any review, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this message, including any attachments, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete the original message. Thank you.
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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Re: Document shared with you: "Fall Festival Flyer"

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>                      Fri, Oct 22, 2021 at 10:52 AM PDT (GMT-07:00)
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>

Yes, we can do that.

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Fri, Oct 22, 2021 at 10:44 AM Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:
  Hey, don't you want to in small print lift the disclaimer message to post on the bottom of this and future flyers?
  J

On Fri, Oct 22, 2021 at 10:26 AM Melissa Anderson (via Google Docs) <drive-shares-dm-noreply@google.com> wrote:
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Open

Google LLC, 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA
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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Fall Festival Flyer with Disclaimer

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  Fri, Oct 22, 2021 at 11:23 AM PDT (GMT-07:00)
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

Attachments

- PTAFallFestivalFlyer.docx
Carmel River Elementary School

FALL FESTIVAL

FRIDAY OCTOBER 29TH
2PM FOR KINDER FAMILIES
3-5PM FOR ALL K-5 FAMILIES

Obstacle course         Craft Tables
Dunk Tank               Potato sack Racing
Carnival Games          Cake Walk
And more!!

PIZZA, BEVERAGES AND CAKE WALK TICKETS FOR SALE WITH PROCEEDS GOING TO OUR 5TH GRADE FUNDRAISER.

THIS EVENT IS FREE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FOOD, COMPLIMENTS OF THE PTA!

By attending the Carmel River School PTA sponsored events for the 2021-22 school year, the attendee agrees to follow all guidelines below, assumes all risks associated with entering a place of public gathering and voluntarily waives any and all claims and potential claims against CUSD and the PTA relating to COVID-19 or any other communicable disease, or illness, or that arise from or relate in any way to, however caused, the risk of exposure or actual or alleged exposures to a bacteria, virus or other pathogen capable of causing COVID-19 or any other communicable disease or illness, in each case whether the actual or alleged circumstances giving rise to any claim or potential claim occur before, during or after the event.

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Thank you for your understanding and for supporting CUSD/Carmel River School PTA.
Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

Attachments

- PTAPumpkinCarvingFlyer.docx
By attending the Carmel River School PTA sponsored events for the 2021-22 school year, the attendee agrees to follow all guidelines below, assumes all risks associated with entering a place of public gathering and voluntarily waives any and all claims and potential claims against CUSD and the PTA relating to COVID-19 or any other communicable disease, or illness, or that arise from or relate in any way to, however caused, the risk of exposure or actual or alleged exposures to a bacteria, virus or other pathogen capable of causing COVID-19 or any other communicable disease or illness, in each case whether the actual or alleged circumstances giving rise to any claim or potential claim occur before, during or after the event.

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Thank you for your understanding and for supporting CUSD/Carmel River School PTA.

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**Halloween River School Pumpkin Carving**

Carmel River PTA is hosting a pumpkin carving extravaganza!

**Location:**
On the lower playground grass area

**Winners will be chosen for the top 3 most creative pumpkins.**

Monday October 25th at 3PM

Please bring your own pumpkin and pumpkin carving tools.

After you carve your pumpkin, write your name on it and place it in the front of campus outside Mr. Marden’s office window.
Pumpkin Carving Flyer

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>  Fri, Oct 22, 2021 at 11:35 AM PDT (GMT-07:00)

Disregard last. This is the new flyer with the new date.

Melissa Anderson, LVN  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice

Attachments

- PTAPumpkinCarvingFlyer doc
By attending the Carmel River School PTA sponsored events for the 2021-22 school year, the attendee agrees to follow all guidelines below, assumes all risks associated with entering a place of public gathering and voluntarily waives any and all claims and potential claims against CUSD and the PTA relating to COVID-19 or any other communicable disease, or illness, or that arise from or relate in any way to, however caused, the risk of exposure or actual or alleged exposures to a bacteria, virus or other pathogen capable of causing COVID-19 or any other communicable disease or illness, in each case whether the actual or alleged circumstances giving rise to any claim or potential claim occur before, during or after the event.

CUSD follows the mandates and regulations of CAL/OSHA and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Following CDPH guidance, individuals over age 12 are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated prior to attending large capacity events. The safety and wellbeing of all our patrons, students and employees is very important to us and we thank you for understanding. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you at our events!

Thank you for your understanding and for supporting CUSD/Carmel River School PTA.
PTA Meeting and Agenda

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>  

Please send out today the date of our next meeting- November 4th at 315 while the following agenda. Change agenda verbiage however you need.

Agenda November 4th
  - Melissa is going to present the structure of our meeting.
    principal update
  - Budget review
  - Update of events (Fall Festival, pumpkin carving)
  - Field trips update.

Melissa Anderson, LVN  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
9/15 PTA Meeting Minutes

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 3:07 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)
To: Majo Spencer <jsanchez@carmelunified.org>; Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

Attachments

- PTA Meeting Minutes 9-15.docx
No secretary present. Melissa Anderson appointed to do minutes.

Majo Spencer called the meeting to order at 6PM

Introduction of the new board

Majo Spencer- President, has two children at River School, [grade] and [grade]

Melissa Anderson- Vice President, has one child at River School, [grade]

Alex Sanchez- Secretary (not in attendance), has two children at River School, [grade] and [grade]

Jenny Panziera- Treasurer (not in attendance), has two children at River School, [grade] and [grade]

Jay Marden- Principal

New Spirit Gear

Discussed the new spirit gear that is available in the office. Adult and youth- Hooded sweatshirts, dri-fit t-shirts, dri-fit long sleeve, stickers, magnets, hats. Socks coming soon!

Otter Cove

Very exciting new items this year. Lots of otter spirit items. Maggie Watkins, who is the chair, is doing a great job getting it started. New this year- 5th grade PAL students will assist in working in the store.

Fall Festival

Jen Nolan is the chair for the fall festival this year. Planning is underway. More information and volunteer opportunities to come.

TUF Recap

We did not have a committee spearheading the campaign this year, so PTA board and Mr. Marden ran the campaign. We met our goal. Most donations came in on the last couple of days. We received $69,160 via venmo, checks, paypal. We have some monthly payments through paypal.

A parent asked if we considered reaching out for corporate donations or extending the campaign longer. Majo explained that due to the board running the campaign our time was limited and we only could do so much not having extra help. We could look into corporate donations in the future.
Budget Approval

Motion to pass the proposed budget and then approved.

A parent brought up the petition signed by 5th grade students to change the father-daughter dance. Mr. Marden explained how he addressed the students.

Another parent brought up that they would like to see more PTA monies support programs such as science. Mr. Marden explained that the core programs needs are well funded and met and that the PT is focusing primarily on enrichment. We told her that she can speak with the science teacher about opportunities.

Meeting adjourned
Hello Melissa,

I believe this issue should be discussed at the PTA meeting given the interest in the topic and the different viewpoints that have expressed to me.

I understand the concern about the students, but this could be an invaluable opportunity for them to express themselves as they grow in their ability to become active citizens in their school and community. I am sure all parties present will create a safe, healthy environment for the students to express themselves recognizing that all viewpoints on the matter deserve respect and consideration. I look forward to hearing from them and those present at the meeting.

Sincerely,
Majo Spencer

On Monday, October 25, 2021, 07:14:48 PM PDT, Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Majo and Jay,

I read through the PTA agenda and see that the dance/carnival was not added as an agenda item. Can you catch us up on the discrepancy? My understanding was that Amy made the request in plenty of time and Jay agreed to have the children speak at the meeting. Please let me know if there is some kind of misunderstanding.

Where do you stand on meeting ahead of time? I want to stress that the children do not want to cancel the dance or the carnival, just to rename them and invite all the children.

If you'd like to think through this with a third party, we can meet up with the principle from Tularcitos on how they made the change.

Kind regards,
Melissa

On Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 12:29 PM Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Majo and Jay,

As you may know, I am a new parent at Carmel River Elementary with [redacted]. I have been really impressed with the academics at Carmel River, the beautiful campus, and especially the teachers. I've been volunteering with the science teacher since Majo suggested it.

I attended my first River PTA meeting on September 15th, where I learned about the student concern on inclusivity for the dance and carnival. I reached out to learn more about it and spoke with some of the parents of the [redacted] who wrote the petition as well as other concerned parents such as Jillian Heisman, Amy Melton, Erin and Leti Moses, and Lindsay and Jim Peelman.

Based on those discussions, my understanding is that the students wish to rename the Father/Daughter Family Dance and the Mother/Son Family Carnival to simply Carmel River Dance and Carmel River Carnival. In addition, they would like all children to be invited to both events, rather than extending gendered invitations.

This is a concept that I very much support as the mother [redacted] who love to dance. They danced at the Carmel Dance Center before we moved abroad, and will return after they are able to receive vaccines. That being said, I wondered if we might meet in a small group to discuss this before the next PTA meeting so that the children can raise their concerns privately outside the spotlight of official PTA minutes. I understand that Amy Melton has already reached out to put it officially on the agenda, but if we could address student concerns ahead of the official meeting it might keep things more lighthearted and calm some nerves.

The students are available to meet with you, the rest of the PTA board, and other concerned parents you may wish to invite at the following times:

Tuesday, October 26: 3:00-8:00pm
Wednesday, October 27: 3:00-8:00pm
Thursday, October 28: 3:00-8:00pm
Friday, October 29: 5:00-8:00pm

If this can be resolved ahead of the PTA meeting, then we can withdraw the agenda item and stay focused on the other business of the day. If you do not wish to meet ahead of the next PTA meeting, then we'll keep the item on the agenda as the students have said they wish to speak regardless.

Thank you for hearing us out. I really appreciate your dedication to our students.

Kind regards,
Melissa Ullom

PS: Please share this with Alex Sanchez and Jenny Panziera, as I do not have their email addresses.
Hi,

I appreciate your email and your understanding of what it's like to be involved in a volunteer organization when you have the students' best interest at heart.

We fully support the students coming to speak to us and we look forward to hearing their perspective. I also totally respect your intent of supporting their message.

Unfortunately, it has become less productive with the attacks directed at us and individuals not being open to seeing different perspectives. It gets to be exhausting and hurtful. Again, we have the students' best interests at heart and want nothing more than to create a healthy, enjoyable school community.

We plan to follow CUSD's structure and have an option for you parents to zoom in to listen to the meeting.

We very much look forward to continuing to have a relationship with you and your family of support and mutual respect.

Have a nice evening!

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Tue, Oct 26, 2021 at 12:55 PM [name] wrote:

Hi Majo, Melissa, and Jay,

I wanted to reach out to you and let you know that [name] are all very respectful of what you're doing at the school and your roles and positions. I'm on a local Youth Center board myself and volunteer with [name] Scouting so I am extremely empathetic to what it takes to run volunteer boards / events and the trials that come along with that.

I think with any movement or ask for change comes people who may join in with good intentions and sometimes that can turn into something that is not so productive.

While I am being copied on many communications I want you to know my original reason for bringing this up at the meeting was simply because [name] asked me to and [name] is looking forward to speaking with you all. Her and her friends who started this don't want their message to be lost or warped into something they never intended. So while there may be noise, chatter, or other voices getting loud or trying to take this on themselves I really want to emphasize that the couple of [name] that started this have good intentions and want to control their part of the narrative. I hope that comes across well and you know that we are not looking to wage a war, pick at how you run a meeting, or make anyone feel attacked. They are also not looking to end these events at all, we know they're well loved and supported by many people, the [name] love them too.

The [name] just want to have a conversation about it, anything else is just outside noise. They are looking forward to having the conversation and are grateful you're granting them the opportunity to do that.
I was expecting the meeting to be November 9th when I scheduled to fly to Maryland, with it being moved to the 4th I won’t be here. If you do offer a virtual option I can zoom in but if not it’s okay, I have confidence you all will hear the and ignore the outside noise.

...and I enjoy being your educational partners and hope you hold on to the interactions you have had with us in our years at River. We wish to continue in that manner and continue that relationship of support and mutual respect.

Thank you for all you do.

Sent from my iPhone
Hi Melissa,

I assure you that we are following CDPH guidelines in regard to the hosting of meetings and that all participants are masked, and that with such mitigation we feel that our students are safe to attend the meeting.

The room will be well ventilated and due to its spaciousness we can also safely distance, although distancing is not a requirement. We have had a lot of parents request that the meeting time be right after school for convenience.

Melissa there is no "minor misunderstanding" as long time members of the school community we are well aware that the request is to rename the events, but this does essentially eliminate the intent of both events, which amounts to elimination of events that have enjoyed exceptional historical support.

Lastly, as Melissa Anderson previously wrote, we are allowing Zoom so that parents can virtually attend, but they must be present to address a topic - this is just what the CUSD school board does. This allows for parents to be in-the-know about PTA business and promotes healthy communication between PTA members (in-person that is) because when in a remote environment the desired connections and healthy communication is greatly compromised.

Thanks,
Majo

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 27, 2021, at 8:34 PM, Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Melissa, Majo, and Jay,

Ah! I think I see where the misunderstanding lies. Amy requested that the children be on the agenda 14 days ahead in order for the PTA to be able to call for a vote in the upcoming meeting (if there is a quorum).

If the children only speak during open comments, are you willing to allow us to move for a vote even though they are not on the agenda?

Regarding the in person meeting at 3:15, I do not understand why we can not follow the safety and convenience measures of the September 15th meeting which was virtual and at 6:00pm. Can you say more about that so I understand?

Kind regards,
Melissa

On Wed 27. Oct 2021 at 16:33, Melissa Anderson wrote:

They will be able to speak during open comments so no need to have it on the agenda. We will follow CUSDs protocol and allow others to zoom in for listening purposes only.

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Oct 27, 2021, at 3:54 PM, Melissa Ullom wrote:
Hi All,

Sorry for the redundancy, but I just wanted to check in on the PTA meeting since it is approaching quite quickly. When will we have the revised agenda with the kids’ request to change the name of the dance and carnival listed?

Also, can we know if it will be virtual or hybrid, so we can plan our work schedules?

Thanks again,
Melissa

On Tue, Oct 26, 2021 at 10:08, Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Jay and Majo,

Thanks for the reply. I’m re-adding all the other original discussants so that we stay on the same page. I still don’t have the emails of Alex and Jenny, so please feel free to add them and any other interested parents.

I think that there’s been a minor misunderstanding. Nobody is trying to do away with the dance or carnival -- just make it inclusive to all genders. While it’s clear that some parents think the dance is already inclusive, several students say they feel excluded because of the names and the fact that they do not receive invitations while others do.

Also, as I said in my first email we welcome all PTA board members and any other concerned parents you wish to invite to a pre-meeting. My understanding is that you already changed the name ~6 years ago without a full PTA meeting with an agenda item. I’m proposing we do that again. It’s less intimidating for the little ones, and less likely to give them COVID from an in-person event in the Ottertorium.

If you are not interested in doing it the same way as before, then I think we should officially add this as an agenda item as was originally promised, and make the meeting virtual and in the evening so that more parents can participate and the kids are not at risk of infection unnecessarily.

Thank you for your understanding and support of our students,
Melissa Ullom

--------- Forwarded message ---------

From: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>
Date: Tue, Oct 26, 2021 at 9:33 AM
Subject: Re: Dialogue on Dance/ Carnival ahead of PTA Meeting
To: Melissa Ullom

Hi Melissa,

Please know that the kids are going to speak at the meeting and that they’ll be able to speak closer to the beginning of the agenda. I agree with Majo that the discussion about the topic should take place at the PTA meeting as opposed to a small group discussion outside the PTA that essentially would only include one collective voice on the topic that feels a particular way. Being new to the community, I do feel that you should be aware that there are very strong and differing opinions on the subject and that these particular events have been exceptionally well attended and the feedback to the school has been overwhelmingly positive. This does not mean that traditions can’t be changed or improved, but it does mean that we need to carefully consider all sides and perspectives to arrive at a decision as a school community. I believe Majo will get back to you regarding whether parents will be able to Zoom into the meeting.

In the end, it will be a PTA decision that determines the outcome, and I will support whatever needs the PTA has to facilitate the events.

I look forward to the discussion.
Jay Marden

On Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 7:14 PM Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Majo and Jay,

I read through the PTA agenda and see that the dance/carnival was not added as an agenda item. Can you catch us up on the discrepancy? My understanding was that Amy made the request in plenty of time and Jay agreed to have the children speak at the meeting. Please let me know if there is some kind of misunderstanding.
Where do you stand on meeting ahead of time? I want to stress that the children do not what to cancel the
dance or the carnival, just to rename them and invite all the children.

If you’d like to think through this with a third party, we can meet up with the principle from Tularcitos on how
they made the change.

Kind regards,
Melissa

On Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 12:29 PM Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Majo and Jay,

As you may know, I am a new parent at Carmel River Elementary with [redacted]. I have
been really impressed with the academics at Carmel River, the beautiful campus, and especially the
teachers. I’ve been volunteering with the science teacher since Majo suggested it.

I attended my first River PTA meeting on September 15th, where I learned about the student concern on
inclusivity for the dance and carnival. I reached out to learn more about it and spoke with some of the
parents of the [redacted] who wrote the petition as well as other concerned parents such as Jillian
Heisman, Amy Melton, Erin and Leti Moses, and Lindsey and Jim Peelman.

Based on those discussions, my understanding is that the students wish to rename the Father/ Daughter
Family Dance and the Mother/ Son Family Carnival to simply Carmel River Dance and Carmel River
Carnival. In addition, they would like all children to be invited to both events, rather than extending
gendered invitations.

This is a concept that I very much support as the mother of [redacted] who love to dance. They danced at
the Carmel Dance Center before we moved abroad, and will return after they are able to receive
vaccines. That being said, I wondered if we might meet in a small group to discuss this before the next
PTA meeting so that the children can raise their concerns privately outside the spotlight of official PTA
minutes. I understand that Amy Melton has already reached out to put it officially on the agenda, but if we
could address student concerns ahead of the official meeting it might keep things more lighthearted and
calm some nerves.

The students are available to meet with you, the rest of the PTA board, and other concerned parents you
may wish to invite at the following times:

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- Wednesday, October 27: 3:00-8:00pm
- Thursday, October 28: 3:00-8:00pm
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If this can be resolved ahead of the PTA meeting, then we can withdraw the agenda item and stay
focused on the other business of the day. If you do not wish to meet ahead of the next PTA meeting, then
we’ll keep the item on the agenda as the students have said they wish to speak regardless.

Thanks for hearing us out. I really appreciate your dedication to our students.

Kind regards,
Melissa Ullom

PS: Please share this with Alex Sanchez and Jenny Panziera, as I do not have their email addresses.

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hi Kristin,

[Redacted] and would like for you to take on Monday and Tuesday lunch duty as well. Of course, if there's any covid tracing that needs to be done that's the priority, otherwise if you'll plan on doing Monday and Tuesday as well it would be greatly appreciated. On a different topic, let's sit tomorrow with Melissa to debrief about our tracing and the case we addressed.

Thanks,
Jay

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Re: [riverspecialists] [riverallstaff] [cusdallstaff] Monterey County Indoor Face Covering Mandate Begins Friday, November 5

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
To: Erinn Barca-Hall <ebarcahall@carmelunified.org>; Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>

I will get an answer for you.

Melissa Anderson, LVN  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Mon, Nov 1, 2021 at 6:49 PM Erinn Barca-Hall <ebarcahall@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Does this change the testing to be unmasked at a concert protocol for December?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Je ica Hull jhull@carmelunified.org  
Date: November 1, 2021 at 4 25 41 PM PDT  
To: Je ica Hull jhull@carmelunified.org  
Subject: [riverspecialists] [riverallstaff] [cusdallstaff] Monterey County Indoor Face Covering Mandate Begins Friday, November 5  
Reply To: jhull@carmelunified.org  

Good afternoon CUSD staff,

You may have heard news reports that the Monterey County indoor face covering ordinance has now triggered a mask mandate after Monterey County’s transmission rate is being reported as in the "substantial" tier by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Enforcement of the mandate will begin on Friday, November 5. The mandate will remain in effect for 30 days or until the Monterey County Board of Supervisors ends it.

In September, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors approved an indoor mask ordinance that would be triggered when the county's COVID-19 transmission rate is considered high or substantial according to the CDC data.

The ordinance requires all residents, both in cities and unincorporated areas, to wear facial coverings indoors with some exemptions:
- When people are in their own homes
- If alone or with members of their household in a closed room, office or vehicle
- When taking part in an activity where masks cannot be worn such as eating or swimming
- Where a mask would impede a medical or cosmetic procedure
- At meetings or gatherings where all vaccinated persons show proof of vaccination and unvaccinated persons wear face coverings at all times other than when eating or drinking.

For CUSD campuses and office spaces, this means our current face covering requirement (any unvaccinated person must wear a face covering when around others) remains in place (face coverings are already required by all any time students are present, no matter vaccination status, by California Department of Public Health).
We will continue to update you on the status of this mandate when the county’s transmission rate decreases and/or if ended by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Director of Communications and Community Relations
Carmel Unified School District
P.O. Box 222700, Carmel, CA 93922
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624 1546 ext 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
CalSPRA President-elect
NSPRA Southwest Region Front-Runner 2021

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Re: Staff room

From: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>  
To: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
Fri, Nov 5, 2021 at 1:34 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)

I didn't tell him yet! Just kidding... he told me yesterday that winter will be a good time because Jonny won't have painting outside so he might not be able to do it for a while.

J

On Fri, Nov 5, 2021 at 1:31 PM Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hey Dan,

Jay shared with me that you guys will help the PTA with painting of the staff room. We super appreciate that! Our plan is to have it done when they return from thanksgiving break (our gift to staff. It's a surprise so no one other than jay knows). We planned to spend the 13th and 14th cleaning out the room. Is there any way it can be painted on the 15th and we can come back in on the 16th to finish things up?

Let us know.

Thank you!

Melissa Anderson, LVN  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hi Amy,

Thank you. We will make sure that everyone sees the notes you provided. We will be getting back to the girls after our board meets and has a discussion.

Have a great day!

Melissa Anderson, LVN  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Mon, Nov 8, 2021 at 11:05 AM Amy Williams Melton wrote:

Hello Jay, Majo, Melissa, Alex, and Jenny,

Thank you for allowing us to present to you about the Dance and Carnival in last week’s PTA meeting. This was a very meaningful experience for them. They worked incredibly hard together to create a presentation of their own thoughts and in their own words that they could articulate to you all. I appreciate your giving these kids “the floor” to speak about something they care about so deeply and to take part in this process of citizenship.

...asked me to provide the attached copy of their presentation for those who were absent or unable to hear the girls. ...wants to be sure that all decision makers in the closed session meeting will have heard or read their presentation.

I also want to offer that my husband and I will certainly join an event committee to help make these inclusive events a success should the board adopt such modifications. I am happy to rally more families
to help, too, and show these kids that we can all come together within our school community to make these events welcoming and fun for everyone!

Thank you for your time, efforts and caring considerations that support our River School. They do not go unnoticed in our family and we appreciate you each and all.

Sincerely,

Amy

--
Amy Williams Melton
Hey, so you have a contact for our water dispenser company? In the staff room. I want to see if we can get it moved.

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
Not sure, but Dan or DO business office would know.

J

On Tue, Nov 9, 2021 at 11:52 AM Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hey, so you have a contact for our water dispenser company? In the staff room. I want to see if we can get it moved I nt it tringalll

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nur e
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
Re: Staff Room

From: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>  
To: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
Cc: Dan Paul <dpaul@carmelunified.org>  

Tue, Nov 9, 2021 at 1:31 PM PST (GMT-08:00)

He's already on the door job!

J

On Tue, Nov 9, 2021 at 1:15 PM Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hi Dan,

Couple things I could use your expertise on with our staff room makeover.

1) Our water dispenser system- did you guys set that up? I’m hoping to get it slightly moved?
2) Connie has mentioned in the past putting in a request for a door in between the staff room and the hallway. It’s needed for multiple reasons but I was hoping we could make that happen. Thought
3) Let Johnny know that I need his input on how much paint to purchase so to be sure to come see me by some time next week.

Thank you for your assistance on this. It is greatly appreciated.

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Please read and let me know your thoughts by today....

Good Afternoon,

As you are aware, there is a request before the PTA Board to change the name of the Father/Daughter Family Dance and the Mother/Son Family Carnival to, for example, the River School Dance and River School Carnival. The Board understands that the primary reason for the request is because those lobbying for such change feel that the events are not inclusive of all students. Before sharing the Board’s decision, we would like to recognize and thank the [redacted] who spoke to the PTA to communicate their sincere opinions regarding this topic. They are courageous, thoughtful individuals who should be celebrated for taking the time and energy to compose and present their position.

It is important for those who desire name changes to understand why the events were originally created. The rationale was that River School parents wished to honor and celebrate the relationships between Fathers and Daughters and Mothers and Sons and chose these particular events for parents and their children to enjoy a special afternoon/evening with one another. The parents have also expressed to the various Boards a desire to create a memorable experience for parents and their children to bond before the children enter adolescence when they gain greater independence from their parents.

It has been communicated to the Board that name changes would still ensure that the events would remain intact - this is not true. Changing the names of the events changes the essence and purpose of them as described above. The Board recognizes that there are students whose family dynamics might not align with the names of the events, but the Board fully embraces and invites those students to attend the events as is annually written in its invitations. The Board appreciates the sensitivity of the issue, but it is inevitably up to each family to navigate their particular set of circumstances to decide whether it will attend the optional events (e.g. bring an uncle, grandfather, family friend, etc.). These events have enjoyed tremendous and positive feedback through the years, and the exceptionally high attendance at both events speaks volumes about how well received they are by the parents and students who participate. To advance one group’s own values and belief system by potentially abolishing events cherished by hundreds of participants annually is simply wrong and not something we will support. For the reasons cited above, the Board unanimously has voted to retain the names of the events as currently titled. Please know that if any parent is interested in creating another event that better addresses the concerns that have been shared with the Board, the PTA would be wholly open to such proposals.

Sincerely,

PTA Board

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293
Perfectly said! I wouldn't add nor change anything.

Thank you Melissa! ☺️❤️

On Nov 18, 2021 10:40 AM, Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Please read and let me know your thoughts by today…. 

Good Afternoon,

As you are aware, there is a request before the PTA Board to change the name of the Father/Daughter Family Dance and the Mother/Son Family Carnival to, for example, the River School Dance and River School Carnival. The Board understands that the primary reason for the request is because those lobbying for such change feel that the events are not inclusive of all students. Before sharing the Board’s decision, we would like to recognize and thank the [redacted] who spoke to the PTA to communicate their sincere opinions regarding this topic. They are courageous, thoughtful individuals who should be celebrated for taking the time and energy to compose and present their position.

It is important for those who desire name changes to understand why the events were originally created. The rationale was that River School parents wished to honor and celebrate the relationships between Fathers and Daughters and Mothers and Sons and chose these particular events for parents and their children to enjoy a special afternoon/evening with one another. The parents have also expressed to the various Boards a desire to create a memorable experience for parents and their children to bond before the children enter adolescence when they gain greater independence from their parents.

It has been communicated to the Board that name changes would still ensure that the events would remain intact - this is not true. Changing the names of the events changes the essence and purpose of them as described above. The Board recognizes that there are students whose family dynamics might not align with the names of the events, but the Board fully embraces and invites those students to attend the events as is annually written in its invitations. The Board appreciates the sensitivity of the issue, but it is inevitably up to each family to navigate their particular set of circumstances to decide whether it will attend the optional events (e.g. bring an uncle, grandfather, family friend, etc.). These events have enjoyed tremendous and positive feedback through the years, and the exceptionally high attendance at both events speaks volumes about how well received they are by the parents and students who participate. To advance one group’s own values and belief system by potentially abolishing events cherished by hundreds of participants annually is simply wrong and not something we will support. For the reasons cited above, the Board unanimously has voted to retain the names of the events as currently titled. Please know that if any parent is interested in creating another event that better addresses the concerns that have been shared with the Board, the PTA would be wholly open to such proposals.

Sincerely,
PTA Board

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Beautiful said. It has my approval.
Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 18, 2021, at 10:54 AM, Alejandra Sanchez wrote:

Perfectly said! I wouldn’t add nor change anything.

Thank you Melissa! 😊❤️

On Nov 18, 2021 10:40 AM, Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Please read and let me know your thoughts by today....

Good Afternoon,

As you are aware, there is a request before the PTA Board to change the name of the Father/Daughter Family Dance and the Mother/Son Family Carnival to, for example, the River School Dance and River School Carnival. The Board understands that the primary reason for the request is because those lobbying for such a change feel that the events are not inclusive of all students. Before sharing the Board’s decision, we would like to recognize and thank the [name redacted] who spoke to the PTA to communicate their sincere opinions regarding this topic. They are courageous, thoughtful individuals who should be celebrated for taking the time and energy to compose and present their position.

It is important for those who desire name changes to understand why the events were originally created. The rationale was that River School parents wished to honor and celebrate the relationships between Fathers and Daughters and Mothers and Sons and chose these particular events for parents and their children to enjoy a special afternoon/evening with one another. The parents have also expressed to the various Boards a desire to create a memorable experience for parents and their children to bond before the children enter adolescence when they gain greater independence from their parents.

It has been communicated to the Board that name changes would still ensure that the events would remain intact - this is not true. Changing the names of the events changes the essence and purpose of them as described above. The Board recognizes that there are students whose family dynamics might not align with the names of the events, but the Board fully embraces and invites those students to attend the events as is annually written in its invitations. The Board appreciates the sensitivity of the issue, but it is inevitably up to each family to navigate their particular set of circumstances to decide whether it will attend the optional events (e.g. bring an uncle, grandfather, family friend, etc.). These events have enjoyed tremendous and positive feedback through the years, and the exceptionally high attendance at both events speaks volumes about how well received they are by the parents and students who participate. To advance one group’s own values and belief system by potentially abolishing events cherished by hundreds of participants annually is simply wrong and not something we will support. For the reasons cited above, the Board unanimously has voted to retain the names of the events as currently titled. Please know that if any parent is interested in creating another event that better addresses the concerns that have been shared with the Board, the PTA would be wholly open to such proposals.

Sincerely,
PTA Board

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Re: PTA Update

From: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>  
To: Suzanne Marden <smarden@carmelunified.org>; Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
Mon, Nov 29, 2021 at 11:53 AM PST (GMT-08:00)

Jim,
While you have not posed a question to me, I feel compelled to respond to your email regarding my involvement as you described. I learned that the petition was forthcoming from the classroom teacher, Mrs. Winkler, who invited me to speak to the students about the petition. My "first reaction" was positive and supportive of the students given the interest and motivation they demonstrated in gathering signatures. As Mrs. Winkler will confirm, it was a very healthy discussion as we talked about the petition process, responsibilities of the petitioners, and those in leadership positions once they receive petitions. What you have characterized by describing my reaction as "confronting the [redacted] class and discussing the severity of signing petitions" is wholly untrue.

In my role as a school leader, I always ensure that students, staff and parents are extended "due process" when involved in a conflict or disagreement. You did not speak directly to me about my "first reaction" or, from my perspective or that of the classroom teacher, seek feedback about the nature of the conversation. In the future, please extend us the courtesy of speaking with us directly so that we are afforded that right instead of furthering a false narrative.

Sincerely,
Jay Marden

On Sat, Nov 27, 2021 at 4:07 PM Jim Peelman [redacted] wrote:

PTA Board,

First let me thank the board for allowing the [redacted] to present their perspectives. As our children grow to become adults, the inherent responsibility of parents and teachers is to support growth in the direction that allows them to become great people. Conversely, it is sometimes helpful for our children to see how not to act as well. As adults, we strive to illustrate the former, but often our inabilities cause us to fail to demonstrating the latter. As a leader of a large team and as an active duty military officer that has led Soldiers in combat operations, I realize that leadership is not always easy, quite often it is extremely difficult. Any decent leader would agree that building a great culture requires building trust in the organization. The general response from board members on this matter, the disposition of the board leadership during the in-person PTA meeting, and the decision articulated in the below response will no doubt work to erode trust.

At its purest aspect, the issue started with [redacted] offering an independent reflection of the simple name of the events while appreciating the notion that the name(s) were discriminatory to fellow classmates. From there the students (on their own) crafted the idea of starting a petition in order to gain consensus and subsequent momentum for change. While these actions should have been met with utter joy over the activism expressed by the students, the school and PTA’s immediate response was to defend and to deflect. The school’s Principal’s first reaction when seeing the petition was to defend the name of the dance by directly confronting the [redacted] class and discussing the severity of signing petitions. When the issue was brought up at the virtual board meeting, the board’s initial response was to deflect and fallback on the notion that “everyone loves the dance”; totally misunderstanding the organizing concept of the students’ concern. The aforementioned actions do not reflect serious leadership, they reflect a serious lack of leadership skills. What I found particularly harmful in your response below was the attempt to call out the students’ desire to achieve equality and inclusion as merely a method to “advance one group’s own interests”. The fact remains that families of this district are not all the same. We have families in this community with vastly different backgrounds and situations. Personally, while I’m thankful that I survived a combat deployment so I can watch my daughters grow up, I try to appreciate the degree of unnecessary trauma that a Father/Daughter Dance would have caused if things went another way. There is no one that I know of that is actively attempting to downplay the goodness of these events. The desire to rename these events in order to strike a more inclusive tone does not require the events to be canceled. The simple fact is that as we go forward as a society, we get better at things. We learn more about ourselves and others. We grow to appreciate and to celebrate differences.
As a personal reflection from attending the PTA meeting, while I was very happy with the board’s decision to allow the students to speak, I was also quite disturbed by the two adult men that decided to speak. One male parent actively attempted to suggest that the sheer name of the dance was a positive contributor to the successful relationship he has with his daughter, which as a father of two young women I found both bizarre and sad. The other gentleman actively asserted that non-traditional families were also families with disabilities. Now this was particularly difficult to listen to and I found myself squirming in my seat and wishing he would simply sit down rather than to further subject the audience to incoherent and ridiculous rhetoric. The meeting ended with a bizarre plea from the board leadership asking parents not to send too many emails as the sheer volume of correspondence constituted threatening actions. As a leader, I was literally knocked over with hearing that request. Serving on the PTA board is just that, it is service to others. Any good leader will tell you that once you move into a leadership position, it becomes all about serving others and not yourself. Leadership is certainly not for everyone and it is not a right, but rather a privilege. Leadership is about standing up for what is right. Leadership is about taking on the minority viewpoint because you know it benefits the organization moving forward. In my estimation, albeit an expert opinion at the very least, the board shrank from its duties here. Your written response was not only severely misguided, it was utterly disrespectful. To suggest that parents operating in non-traditional households can simply choose to not attend an event if they feel unwelcome is absolutely the wrong answer not only in a public school scenario, but in any given system. It does seem a bit odd that rather than simply convert the name of the dance to the Carmel River Dance or another name that doesn’t seek to alienate, you would hold your ground and tether yourself to an antiquated disposition.

I’m sure you realize that this issue has not concluded, but rather will shift to a different venue. I’ve included a few examples from across the country that express how other school officials and PTA boards have addressed this nationally growing concern.

Thank you
Jim Peelman

https://apnews.com/article/dc3977d4eb1d44e68fd34805581809d8


On Sat, Nov 20, 2021 at 6:23 AM River School PTA <riverschoolpta@gmail.com> wrote:

Good Morning,

As you are aware, there is a request before the PTA Board to change the name of the Father/Daughter Family Dance and the Mother/Son Family Carnival to, for example, the River School Dance and River School Carnival. The Board understands that the primary reason for the request is because those desiring the name change feel that the events are not inclusive of all students. Before sharing the Board’s decision, we would like to recognize and thank the [REDACTED] who spoke to the PTA to communicate their sincere opinions regarding this topic. They are courageous, thoughtful individuals who should be celebrated for taking the time and energy to compose and present their position.

It is important for those who desire name changes to understand why the events were originally created. The rationale was that River School parents wished to honor and celebrate the relationships between Fathers and Daughters and Mothers and Sons and chose these particular events for parents and their children to enjoy a special afternoon/evening with one another. The parents have also expressed to the various Boards a desire to create a memorable experience for parents and their children to bond before the children enter adolescence when they gain greater independence from their parents.

It has been communicated to the Board that omitting reference to Fathers, Mothers, Sons and Daughters would still ensure that the events would remain intact - we disagree. Changing the names of the events changes the essence and purpose of them as described above. The Board recognizes that there are students whose family dynamics might not
align with the names of the events, and the Board fully embraces and invites those students to attend the events as is annually written in its invitations. The Board appreciates the sensitivity of the issue, but it is inevitably up to each family to navigate their particular set of circumstances to decide whether it will attend the optional events (e.g. bring a family member, family friend, etc.). The word "Family" is also included in the event names to convey that all are welcome at the events.

These events have enjoyed tremendous and positive feedback through the years, and the exceptionally high attendance at both events speaks volumes about how well received they are by the parents and students who participate. To advance one group’s own interests by potentially abolishing events cherished by hundreds of participants annually is simply wrong and not something we will support. For the reasons cited above, the Board unanimously has voted to retain the names of the events as currently title. Please know that if any parent is interested in creating an additional community building event that addresses the concerns that have been shared with the Board, the PTA would be wholly open to such proposals.

Sincerely,
PTA Board

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 19, 2021, at 12:18 PM, Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Majo and Melissa,

I hope you had a productive and fruitful meeting yesterday. Can you tell us your decision and the next steps?

Kind regards,
Melissa

On Fri, Oct 29, 2021 at 8:58 PM Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Majo, Melissa, and jay,

I'm so sorry to bring this up. As Melissa knows, Could we please reopen the discussion of allowing online participation in the meeting?

Thank you for your understanding,
Melissa

On Thu, Oct 28, 2021 at 8:38 PM Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Majo,

I see, I thought CDPH guidelines would go farther in limiting indoor events for children.

Can you say more about what the original dance was all about? Why couldn’t boys and mothers and grandparents and non-binary children be invited without changing the intent? What was the original intent from before I arrived?

Kind regards,
Melissa

On Thu, Oct 28, 2021 at 10:40 AM Majo Spencer wrote:

Hi Melissa,
I assure you that we are following CDPH guidelines in regard to the hosting of meetings and that all participants are masked, and that with such mitigation we feel that our students are safe to attend the meeting. The room will be well ventilated and due to its spaciousness we can also safely distance, although distancing is not a requirement. We have had a lot of parents request that the meeting time be right after school for convenience. Melissa there is no "minor misunderstanding" as long time members of the school community we are well aware that the request is to rename the events, but this does essentially eliminate the intent of both events, which amounts to elimination of events that have enjoyed exceptional historical support. Lastly, as Melissa Anderson previously wrote, we are allowing Zoom so that parents can virtually attend, but they must be present to address a topic - this is just what the CUSD school board does. This allows for parents to be in-the-know about PTA business and promotes healthy communication between PTA members (in-person that is) because when in a remote environment the desired connections and healthy communication is greatly compromised.

Thanks,
Majo

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 27, 2021, at 8:34 PM, Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Melissa, Majo, and Jay,

Ah! I think I see where the misunderstanding lies. Amy requested that the children be on the agenda 14 days ahead in order for the PTA to be able to call for a vote in the upcoming meeting (if there is a quorum).

If the children only speak during open comments, are you willing to allow us to move for a vote even though they are not on the agenda?

Regarding the in person meeting at 3:15, I do not understand why we can not follow the safety and convenience measures of the September 15th meeting which was virtual and at 6:00pm. Can you say more about that so I understand?

Kind regards,
Melissa

On Wed 27. Oct 2021 at 16:33, Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:

They will be able to speak during open comments so no need to have it on the agenda. We will follow CUSDs protocol and allow others to zoom in for listening purposes only.

Melissa Anderson, LVN
School Nurse
Carmel River School
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Oct 27, 2021, at 3:54 PM, Melissa Ullom wrote:

Hi All,

Sorry for the redundancy, but I just wanted to check in on the PTA meeting since it is approaching quite quickly. When will we have the revised agenda with the kids' request to change the name of the dance and carnival listed?

Also, can we know if it will be virtual or hybrid, so we can plan our work schedules?

Thanks again,
On Tue 26. Oct 2021 at 10:08, Melissa Ullom wrote:
Dear Jay and Majo,

Thanks for the reply. I'm re-adding all the other original discussants so that we stay on the same page. I still don't have the emails of Alex and Jenny, so please feel free to add them and any other interested parents.

I think that there's been a minor misunderstanding. Nobody is trying to do away with the dance or carnival -- just make it inclusive to all genders. While it's clear that some parents think the dance is already inclusive, several students say they feel excluded because of the names and the fact that they do not receive invitations while others do.

Also, as I said in my first email we welcome all PTA board members and any other concerned parents you wish to invite to a pre-meeting. My understanding is that you already changed the name ~6 years ago without a full PTA meeting with an agenda item. I'm proposing we do that again. It's less intimidating for the little ones, and less likely to give them COVID from an in-person event in the Ottertorium.

If you are not interested in doing it the same way as before, then I think we should officially add this as an agenda item as was originally promised, and make the meeting virtual and in the evening so that more parents can participate and the kids are not at risk of infection unnecessarily.

Thank you for your understanding and support of our students,
Melissa Ullom

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>
Date: Tue, Oct 26, 2021 at 9:33 AM
Subject: Re: Dialogue on Dance/ Carnival ahead of PTA Meeting
To: Melissa Ullom

Hi Melissa,

Please know that the kids are going to speak at the meeting and that they'll be able to speak closer to the beginning of the agenda. I agree with Majo that the discussion about the topic should take place at the PTA meeting as opposed to a small group discussion outside the PTA that essentially would only include one collective voice on the topic that feels a particular way. Being new to the community, I do feel that you should be aware that there are very strong and differing opinions on the subject and that these particular events have been exceptionally well attended and the feedback to the school has been overwhelmingly positive. This does not mean that traditions can't be changed or improved, but it does mean that we need to carefully consider all sides and perspectives to arrive at a decision as a school community. I believe Majo will get back to you regarding whether parents will be able to Zoom into the meeting.

In the end, it will be a PTA decision that determines the outcome, and I will support whatever needs the PTA has to facilitate the events.

I look forward to the discussion.
Jay Marden

On Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 7:14 PM Melissa Ullom wrote:
Dear Majo and Jay,

I read through the PTA agenda and see that the dance/carnival was not added as an agenda item. Can you catch us up on the discrepancy? My understanding was that Amy made the request in plenty of time and Jay agreed to have the children speak at the meeting. Please let me know if there is some kind of misunderstanding.

Where do you stand on meeting ahead of time? I want to stress that the children do not want to cancel the dance or the carnival, just to rename them and invite all the children.

If you'd like to think through this with a third party, we can meet up with the principle from Tularcitos on how they made the change.
Kind regards,
Melissa

On Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 12:29 PM Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Majo and Jay,

As you may know, I am a new parent at Carmel River Elementary with [redacted]. I have been really impressed with the academics at Carmel River, the beautiful campus, and especially the teachers. I've been volunteering with the science teacher since Majo suggested it.

I attended my first River PTA meeting on September 15th, where I learned about the student concern on inclusivity for the dance and carnival. I reached out to learn more about it and spoke with some of the parents of the [redacted] who wrote the petition as well as other concerned parents such as Jillian Heisman, Amy Melton, Erin and Leti Moses, and Lindsay and Jim Peelman.

Based on those discussions, my understanding is that the students wish to rename the Father/ Daughter Family Dance and the Mother/ Son Family Carnival to simply Carmel River Dance and Carmel River Carnival. In addition, they would like all children to be invited to both events, rather than extending gendered invitations.

This is a concept that I very much support as the mother of [redacted] who love to dance. They danced at the Carmel Dance Center before we moved abroad, and will return after they are able to receive vaccines. That being said, I wondered if we might meet in a small group to discuss this before the next PTA meeting so that the children can raise their concerns privately outside the spotlight of official PTA minutes. I understand that Amy Melton has already reached out to put it officially on the agenda, but if we could address student concerns ahead of the official meeting it might keep things more lighthearted and calm some nerves.

The students are available to meet with you, the rest of the PTA board, and other concerned parents you may wish to invite at the following times:

Tuesday, October 26: 3:00-8:00pm  
Wednesday, October 27: 3:00-8:00pm  
Thursday, October 28: 3:00-8:00pm  
Friday, October 29: 5:00-8:00pm

If this can be resolved ahead of the PTA meeting, then we can withdraw the agenda item and stay focused on the other business of the day. If you do not wish to meet ahead of the next PTA meeting, then we'll keep the item on the agenda as the students have said they wish to speak regardless.

Thanks for hearing us out. I really appreciate your dedication to our students.

Kind regards,
Melissa Ullom

PS: Please share this with Alex Sanchez and Jenny Panziera, as I do not have their email addresses.

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
PTA Agenda

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>

Mon, Nov 29, 2021 at 1:44 PM PST (GMT-08:00)

Please send out today.

December 8th PTA meeting agenda:

1. Reminder about the structure of the meeting.
2. Treasure report
3. Teacher appreciation week report of breakfast and lunch.
4. Field trips update
5. Teachers Lounge update
6. River School Tree Lighting
7. School Principal report

Melissa Anderson, LVN  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624 4609 Ext 2293
River Parent Email

From: River School PTA <riverschoolpta@gmail.com>  
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>  
Mon, Dec 6, 2021 at 1:51 PM PST (GMT-08:00)

Jay,

Will you please send this out to all river parents on behalf of all our PTA board members.

Dear River Parents,

Please know that the River PTA tree lighting will occur on Friday as originally advertised. PTA will not be hosting a menorah lighting. This is a secular/non-religious holiday celebration. It is our understanding that our original invitation sent out this past Friday has been altered, without approval, to change the nature of this event.

Unfortunately, this altered invitation has been sent to dozens of river school parents with this falsified information.

Again, we are wholly committed to embracing all of our families regardless of their faith or creed in this community building event. We hope you will join us on Friday for our holiday celebration.

Please see our attached flier with the correct event details.

Sincerely,

Majo Spencer, PTA President
Melissa Anderson, PTA Vice President
Alex Sanchez, PTA Secretary
Jenny Panzier, PTA Treasurer

Attachments

- image0.png
River School, PTA Tree Lighting

Carmel River PTA would like to invite you to join us for our tree lighting celebration at River School.

Friday, December 10th at 4:30PM on the lower playground, Tree will be lit at approximately 5:15PM.

Bundle up and join us for hot cocoa and a Polar Express Dance Performance.

We encourage students and their families to decorate the tree with an item that reflects their families values, heritage and/or faith. Please ensure, due to capacity limitations, that the item can fit inside a lunch, paper bag.
Fire truck Rides.

From: Majo Spencer <majo.spencer@gmail.com>  
To: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>

Jay,
If you feel this is something people will enjoy please send it to the parents. If not no worries.
We thought at the pta board meeting that this will be fun but we have been swap by everything else.
Thanks for all you do.
Majo

Sent from my iPhone

Attachments

- Holiday Light Rides River.png
Holiday Light Rides

10% of all proceeds will go to River PTA with Promo Code: River

$25 per person Rides in Pacific Grove Holiday Music

Book your ride today at: RedEngineRides.com

Follow us on facebook & Instagram for ride updates!
Re: PTA Update

From: Melissa Ullom <mullom@adl.org>
To: River School PTA <riverschoolpta@gmail.com>
Cc: Alejandra Sanchez <ssanchez@adl.org>; Appel, Nancy <nappel@adl.org>; Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>; Jenny Panzier <jp@adl.org>; Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>; Jillian Heisman <jheisman@carmelunified.org>; Leti Parnell Moses <lmoses@carmelunified.org>; Lindsay Peelman <lpeelman@carmelunified.org>; Majo Spencer <majo@carmelunified.org>; Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>; Michael Ullom <mullom@adl.org>; Nora Ward <nward@carmelunified.org>; <tknight@carmelunified.org>

Tue, Dec 7, 2021 at 2:56 PM PST (GMT-08:00)

Dear Mr. Knight,

I wanted to take the opportunity to follow up on this message. Please put me in touch with the CUSD counsel and non-discrimination coordinator so that I may have access to the documentation and decision regarding the legality of the father daughter family dance and mother son family carnival.

Thank you,
Melissa Ullom

On Mon, Nov 29, 2021 at 10:18 PM Melissa Ullom <mullom@adl.org> wrote:

Dear PTA Board and CUSD Employees,

Thank you for your response to the students' request to change the name of Carmel River's Father Daughter Family Dance and the Mother Son Family Carnival. I believe I finally understand the intent of the dance and carnival. However, my thanks end there. You see, at first I thought the names of the events were from a bygone era that had not caught up to modern understanding of gender roles and family dynamics. In an effort to avoid making you feel defensive or embarrassed, I reached out to you privately to change the name, as you had already done when this campaign began six years ago. I tried to say it was for the children, but truely, I thought you would be embarrassed about how out of touch you are with the very student body you are supposed to support. I thought once you heard the extremely reasonable request and understood all the trauma that discrimination causes, you would act swiftly and in the interest of the children. Now, I see clearly that it was always your intent to suppress the voices of the children you disagree with in order to retain your antiquated agenda.

Let me be clear, so that you do not misunderstand me. It is neither your place, nor your right to choose which students or relationships deserve the school's celebration, and which do not. These are private relationships and you are a public school. You can not use public resources for the purpose of exclusion and discrimination. Elementary school children understand this. I agree with them, and because you have failed them, I will now take up their cause as my own.

I do not think you listened to what the children had to say, so I will summarize it here in writing for you:

- Nobody wants to get rid of the events, just change the name and invite all children and guardians. The children want to help plan and execute these events, and have ideas on themes and accommodation for the larger size.
- The students outlined their remarks on Carmel River's character pillars: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, citizenship, caring, and perseverance.
- They noted that there are kids who don't have parents, lost parents, have parents who are deployed, live with grandparents or other guardians, have single parents, or have same-sex parents. Additionally, they noted that there are kids who may not identify as a gender, and boys who want to go to the dance and girls who want to go to the carnival. Only those identified by the school as girls receive invitations to the dance on their desks and only those who are identified as boys are invited to the carnival.
- All should be respected and included regardless of their gender, gender identity or expression, and/or parental status.
- By being excluded in elementary school, it will shape how they grow in middle school and in high school.
- They told the story of a girl's trauma after receiving the invitation and how it affected her self esteem.
- They described how they came to write the petition and circulate it.
- They asked the PTA to empathize with the trauma that students feel when they are excluded from such events by reigniting the pain of loss or disrespecting their self identity.
- Carmel River Elementary is the only school in the district that has not changed the name of events to be more inclusive.
- They are going to persist in their advocacy out of love and respect for their peers and the character pillars.
Seven parents also spoke for and against changing the events:

- Foster children are deeply traumatized by events like this which exclude them and remind them that they can not be with their parents. There are over 400 foster children in Monterey County and the average age is 6 and a half years old. To protect their identity, schools are not told who is a foster child. Carmel River Elementary has foster children enrolled in it.
- A parent spoke about growing up as a queer foster child and how her progressive school was a lifeline for her. She wants to make sure that Carmel River does not add to the already existing trauma of being a foster child.
- A PTA member spoke about the exceptional events the school promotes, including the recent Fall Festival. He participates in the Dads' Club and helped create the mother son carnival ten years earlier as an alternative to the father daughter dance. He noted that both events are well attended and that parents and children have one-on-one time together. He recognized that there are different families. He appreciated what the kids said, but knows that these events are not done at a snap of a finger. He stated his support for the executive board of the PTA and Jay Marden.
- A parent and teacher at the high school spoke about the district's focus on inclusion. At the high school, they have eliminated many of the gender stereotypical events of the school such as "Battle of the Sexes" and "Homecoming Queen." High school students have told her that they have felt trauma from exclusion from events such as these.
- A parent asked the PTA to consider what it means to teach our children to be activists, and what kind of message it sends for "us to allow them" to speak. This is their school, and we should support them.
- A parent said he brings his swift action. He understands that there is disability and death, but that He's seen mothers that have brought children to the event, and they are included. He feels that the community is already inclusive. He also noted that the event is extremely well attended. He called on parents to guide their children to understand why we do what we do. He argued that people are allergic to honeybees, but we don't get rid of honey. He said he supports the school.
- A father recognized that all the parents in attendance were working to support their children and that these events were started as a way to bond. He noted that he has been saddened by the event, that these stereotypes are already affecting his kids.

Not only is your reasoning lacking, but your procedural obstructions are underhanded. I am particularly aggrieved that you sent these children on a wild goose chase, knowing full well that you would crush them anyway. The children are heartbroken, angry, and distrustful of you and the process of democracy now. This is truly a terrible lesson in civics. We are particularly disappointed that you didn't even speak to them as you promised to at the meeting. Instead, you stalled until the first day of a week-long holiday. I was the one that had to explain your decision. Frankly, I couldn't.

As you know, several created a petition to change the names of the dance and carnival and circulated it. After the confrontation by Marden, which they found humiliating, they convinced a parent to bring it up at a PTA meeting. If she had not, none of the PTA members would have even heard about it. Marden was quick to say that CUSD counsel had already vetted the issue and found it legal. As a new parent, I was continually told the wrong amount of dues to become a PTA member. We were not permitted to have a copy of the PTA bylaws until after we became PTA members so that we could even understand how to make a motion or create an agenda item.

Finally, Marden promised we could have an agenda item at the PTA meeting, but then published the PTA agenda without any mention of it. The PTA went so far as to change the meeting format to in-person instead of online like the last meeting, and moved the time to 3:15 instead of 6:00, making it difficult for parents who work, and unnecessarily risky for the children who did not yet have access to COVID vaccines. Despite all this, we moved our work schedules, masked up our kids, and came. Yet you only allowed the children to speak in open comments. You did not allow us to make a motion or move for a vote. Regardless, 6 children spoke for the change, none spoke against; 5 parents spoke for the change, and only 2 against. It is likely that had we been able to vote, the change would have been made. You may have suppressed the majority opinion on that day, but we persist.

I have added Ted Knight and Jessica Hull to this discussion. I am hopeful after Ted Knight's message to parents specifically about inclusion, that he will see the value in what the children are proposing. I hope he can steer you toward the decision to change the name of these events and begin inviting all children of all genders and all family dynamics to them. In addition, I request that you provide me the name and contact information for your legal counsel and the district's coordinator for nondiscrimination (if it is no longer Ted Knight).

I believe there is still time for you to rectify this situation before it becomes yet another embarrassing stain on CUSD’s reputation. I am tired of reading about racism and legal scandals involving my school district. I want to be proud of this community which should embrace rather than obstruct diversity and inclusion.

Most sincerely,
On Sat, Nov 20, 2021 at 6:23 AM River School PTA <riverschoolpta@gmail.com> wrote:

Good Morning,

As you are aware, there is a request before the PTA Board to change the name of the Father/Daughter Family Dance and the Mother/Son Family Carnival to, for example, the River School Dance and River School Carnival. The Board understands that the primary reason for the request is because those desiring the name change feel that the events are not inclusive of all students. Before sharing the Board's decision, we would like to recognize and thank the [redacted] who spoke to the PTA to communicate their sincere opinions regarding this topic. They are courageous, thoughtful individuals who should be celebrated for taking the time and energy to compose and present their position.

It is important for those who desire name changes to understand why the events were originally created. The rationale was that River School parents wished to honor and celebrate the relationships between Fathers and Daughters and Mothers and Sons and chose these particular events for parents and their children to enjoy a special afternoon/evening with one another. The parents have also expressed to the various Boards a desire to create a memorable experience for parents and their children to bond before the children enter adolescence when they gain greater independence from their parents.

It has been communicated to the Board that omitting reference to Fathers, Mothers, Sons and Daughters would still ensure that the events would remain intact - we disagree. Changing the names of the events changes the essence and purpose of them as described above. The Board recognizes that there are students whose family dynamics might not align with the names of the events, and the Board fully embraces and invites those students to attend the events as is annually written in its invitations. The Board appreciates the sensitivity of the issue, but it is inevitably up to each family to navigate their particular set of circumstances to decide whether it will attend the optional events (e.g. bring a family member, family friend, etc.). The word "Family" is also included in the event names to convey that all are welcome at the events.

These events have enjoyed tremendous and positive feedback through the years, and the exceptionally high attendance at both events speaks volumes about how well received they are by the parents and students who participate. To advance one group's own interests by potentially abolishing events cherished by hundreds of participants annually is simply wrong and not something we will support. For the reasons cited above, the Board unanimously has voted to retain the names of the events as currently title. Please know that if any parent is interested in creating an additional community building event that addresses the concerns that have been shared with the Board, the PTA would be wholly open to such proposals.

Sincerely,
PTA Board

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 19, 2021, at 12:18 PM, Melissa Ullom <[email protected]> wrote:

Dear Majo and Melissa,

I hope you had a productive and fruitful meeting yesterday. Can you tell us your decision and the next steps?

Kind regards,
Melissa

On Fri, Oct 29, 2021 at 8:58 PM Melissa Ullom <[email protected]> wrote:

Dear Majo, Melissa, and jay,

I'm so sorry to bring this up. As Melissa knows, there is a positive COVID-19 case in our classroom. Could we please reopen the discussion of allowing online participation in the meeting?
My children are self isolating and negative on rapid antigen tests thus far. We've signed them up for PCR, but it's a sad reminder that CDPH guidelines only lower risk so much.

Thank you for your understanding,
Melissa

On Thu, Oct 28, 2021 at 8:38 PM Melissa Ullom <[redacted]> wrote:
Dear Majo,

I see, I thought CDPH guidelines would go farther in limiting indoor events for children.

Can you say more about what the original dance was all about? Why couldn't boys and mothers and grandparents and non-binary children be invited without changing the intent? What was the original intent from before I arrived?

Kind regards,
Melissa

On Thu, Oct 28, 2021 at 10:40 AM Majo Spencer <[redacted]> wrote:
Hi Melissa,
I assure you that we are following CDPH guidelines in regard to the hosting of meetings and that all participants are masked, and that with such mitigation we feel that our students are safe to attend the meeting.
The room will be well ventilated and due to its spaciousness we can also safely distance, although distancing is not a requirement. We have had a lot of parents request that the meeting time be right after school for convenience.
Melissa there is no "minor misunderstanding" as long time members of the school community we are well aware that the request is to rename the events, but this does essentially eliminate the intent of both events, which amounts to elimination of events that have enjoyed exceptional historical support.
Lastly, as Melissa Anderson previously wrote, we are allowing Zoom so that parents can virtually attend, but they must be present to address a topic - this is just what the CUSD school board does. This allows for parents to be in-the-know about PTA business and promotes healthy communication between PTA members (in-person that is) because when in a remote environment the desired connections and healthy communication is greatly compromised.

Thanks,
Majo

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 27, 2021, at 8:34 PM, Melissa Ullom <[redacted]> wrote:

Dear Melissa, Majo, and Jay,

Ah! I think I see where the misunderstanding lies. Amy requested that the children be on the agenda 14 days ahead in order for the PTA to be able to call for a vote in the upcoming meeting (if there is a quorum).

If the children only speak during open comments, are you willing to allow us to move for a vote even though they are not on the agenda?

Regarding the in person meeting at 3:15, I do not understand why we can not follow the safety and convenience measures of the September 15th meeting which was virtual and at 6:00pm. Can you say more about that so I understand?

Kind regards,
Melissa

On Wed 27. Oct 2021 at 16:33, Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:
They will be able to speak during open comments so no need to have it on the agenda. We will follow CUSD's protocol and allow others to zoom in for listening purposes only.
On Oct 27, 2021, at 3:54 PM, Melissa Ullo <masked> wrote:

Hi All,

Sorry for the redundancy, but I just wanted to check in on the PTA meeting since it is approaching quite quickly. When will we have the revised agenda with the kids’ request to change the name of the dance and carnival listed?

Also, can we know if it will be virtual or hybrid, so we can plan our work schedules?

Thanks again,
Melissa

On Tue 26. Oct 2021 at 10:08, Melissa Ullo <masked> wrote:

Dear Jay and Majo,

Thanks for the reply. I’m re-adding all the other original discussants so that we stay on the same page. I still don’t have the emails of Alex and Jenny, so please feel free to add them and any other interested parents.

I think that there’s been a minor misunderstanding. Nobody is trying to do away with the dance or carnival -- just make it inclusive to all genders. While it’s clear that some parents think the dance is already inclusive, several students say they feel excluded because of the names and the fact that they do not receive invitations while others do.

Also, as I said in my first email we welcome all PTA board members and any other concerned parents you wish to invite to a pre-meeting. My understanding is that you already changed the name ~6 years ago without a full PTA meeting with an agenda item. I’m proposing we do that again. It’s less intimidating for the little ones, and less likely to give them COVID from an in-person event in the Ottertorium.

If you are not interested in doing it the same way as before, then I think we should officially add this as an agenda item as was originally promised, and make the meeting virtual and in the evening so that more parents can participate and the kids are not at risk of infection unnecessarily.

Thank you for your understanding and support of our students,
Melissa Ullo

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>
Date: Tue, Oct 26, 2021 at 9:33 AM
Subject: Re: Dialogue on Dance/ Carnival ahead of PTA Meeting
To: Melissa Ullo <masked>

Hi Melissa,
Please know that the kids are going to speak at the meeting and that they’ll be able to speak closer to the beginning of the agenda. I agree with Majo that the discussion about the topic should take place at the PTA meeting as opposed to a small group discussion outside the PTA that essentially would only include one collective voice on the topic that feels a particular way. Being new to the community, I do feel that you should be aware that there are very strong and differing opinions on the subject and that these particular events have been exceptionally well attended...
and the feedback to the school has been overwhelmingly positive. This does not mean that traditions can't be changed or improved, but it does mean that we need to carefully consider all sides and perspectives to arrive at a decision as a school community. I believe Majo will get back to you regarding whether parents will be able to Zoom into the meeting.

In the end, it will be a PTA decision that determines the outcome, and I will support whatever needs the PTA has to facilitate the events. I look forward to the discussion.

Jay Marden

On Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 7:14 PM Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Majo and Jay,

I read through the PTA agenda and see that the dance/ carnival was not added as an agenda item. Can you catch us up on the discrepancy? My understanding was that Amy made the request in plenty of time and Jay agreed to have the children speak at the meeting. Please let me know if there is some kind of misunderstanding.

Where do you stand on meeting ahead of time? I want to stress that the children do not what to cancel the dance or the carnival, just to rename them and invite all the children.

If you'd like to think through this with a third party, we can meet up with the principle from Tularcitos on how they made the change.

Kind regards,
Melissa

On Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 12:29 PM Melissa Ullom wrote:

Dear Majo and Jay,

As you may know, I am a new parent at Carmel River Elementary with [redacted]. I have been really impressed with the academics at Carmel River, the beautiful campus, and especially the teachers. I’ve been volunteering with the science teacher since Majo suggested it.

I attended my first River PTA meeting on September 15th, where I learned about the student concern on inclusivity for the dance and carnival. I reached out to learn more about it and spoke with some of the parents of [redacted], who wrote the petition as well as other concerned parents such as Jillian Heisman, Amy Melton, Erin and Leti Moses, and Lindsey and Jim Peelman.

Based on those discussions, my understanding is that the students wish to rename the Father/ Daughter Family Dance and the Mother/ Son Family Carnival to simply Carmel River Dance and Carmel River Carnival. In addition, they would like all children to be invited to both events, rather than extending gendered invitations.

This is a concept that I very much support as the mother of [redacted], who love to dance. They danced at the Carmel Dance Center before we moved abroad, and will return after they are able to receive vaccines. That being said, I wondered if we might meet in a small group to discuss this before the next PTA meeting so that the children can raise their concerns privately outside the spotlight of official PTA minutes. I understand that Amy Melton has already reached out to put it officially on the agenda, but if we could address student concerns ahead of the official meeting it might keep things more lighthearted and calm some nerves.

The students are available to meet with you, the rest of the PTA board, and other concerned parents you may wish to invite at the following times:

Tuesday, October 26: 3:00-8:00pm
Wednesday, October 27: 3:00-8:00pm
Thursday, October 28: 3:00-8:00pm
Friday, October 29: 5:00-8:00pm

If this can be resolved ahead of the PTA meeting, then we can withdraw the agenda item and
stay focused on the other business of the day. If you do not wish to meet ahead of the next PTA meeting, then we'll keep the item on the agenda as the students have said they wish to speak regardless.

Thanks for hearing us out. I really appreciate your dedication to our students.

Kind regards,
Melissa Ullom

PS: Please share this with Alex Sanchez and Jenny Panzier, as I do not have their email addresses.

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Melissa Anderson, LVN  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: David Scher <david.scher@carmelunified.org>  
Date: Tue, Dec 14, 2021 at 1:08 PM  
Subject: Re Carmel River holiday celebration  
To: manderson@carmelunified.org, Tatiana Chacon Ramos

Melissa,

Jay Marden shared your email as a point of contact regarding the PTA.

We have some questions regarding the tree lighting ceremony that took place last week. I believe it would be best if we met with Majo as acting president. Can you please provide the best email to get in touch with her?

Thank you in advance,

David Scher
Re: LCAP committee

From: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>
To: Majo Spencer <Temp:removed>

Thanks!
J

On Tue, Dec 14, 2021 at 2:54 PM Majo Spencer wrote:
Thanks. I will be there.
Majo

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 14, 2021, at 2:48 PM, Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Good Afternoon Folks,

We have to establish an LCAP site committee that analyzes our school data to determine what is working, what we should focus on for improvement, and what actions and services we recommend to the district to improve our program. This has historically been the purview of the School Site Council, which is also why I've included Jon and Sarah as teacher reps per their professional duty sign up earlier in the year. Gretchen and Melissa... we only need one of you unless you both wish to attend.

I don't see this as taking more than two meetings, and they need to occur in January so I'm going to send you invitations to attend on January 6 and 13, 3:15 to 4:15. If we need less time then we could always cancel the second meeting. If you are a classified staff member then you'll be paid for your time if you could possibly join us.

I'll send the invites shortly.

Thanks,
J

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Re: meet

From: Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org>  
To: Majo Spencer  
Cc: Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org>  

Tue, Dec 14, 2021 at 3:45 PM PST (GMT-08:00)

Looks like we are going to do Thursday at 9:30.

Melissa Anderson, LVN  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Tue, Dec 14, 2021 at 2:50 PM Majo Spencer <necropsy@cemarn.org> wrote:  
Yes! I can do it tomorrow too if the holiday store is all set up if not I can do Thursday at 9:30?  
Majo

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 14, 2021, at 2:29 PM, Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hi Majo, Melissa,  
Could the two of you meet either Thursday or Friday morning here at school? Debrief about last Friday's event? 9:00 on either day is good for me.  
Thanks  
Jay

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
Hey, I just scheduled another appointment so whatever we decide my open window is 9:15 to 10:00.
Thanks,
J

On Tue, Dec 14, 2021 at 3:54 PM Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:
I can do 9:00.

**Melissa Anderson, LVN**  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Tue, Dec 14, 2021 at 3:48 PM Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:
I have to be done by 10:00 because I have another Zoom meeting although I could start as early as 9:00 if that is better.
J

On Tue, Dec 14, 2021 at 3:46 PM Melissa Anderson <manderson@carmelunified.org> wrote:
Looks like we are going to do Thursday at 9:30.

**Melissa Anderson, LVN**  
School Nurse  
Carmel River School  
(831) 624-4609 Ext. 2293

On Tue, Dec 14, 2021 at 2:50 PM Majo Spencer <majo@example.com> wrote:
Yes! I can do it tomorrow too if the holiday store is all set up if not I can do Thursday at 9:30?  
Majo

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 14, 2021, at 2:29 PM, Jay Marden <jmarden@carmelunified.org> wrote:

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Jay

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