

Community Council Meeting  
September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
7pm

Attendance: Michael Tetrault, Sara Covington, Melissa Rupe, Staycee Crouch-Keefer, Jan Thomas, Rebecca Ernst, Lyndsi Wilkerson, Tawnia Santos, Brenda Miller, Angela Banning, Darnelle Green, Cindy Hoovel

Michael Tetrault started the meeting with introduction of the two parent representatives to the board, himself and Sara Covington. Introductions continued around the room, including parents, teachers and a student observer from BSU, Darnel Green.

Michael explained what Community Council is and how it has changed somewhat from last year. Meetings will be held monthly, three days after the Board meeting to promote better communication between the Board and the Community Council. The meetings will now be less formal, forgoing Robert's Rules for a more relaxed atmosphere. This is to encourage more participation. Community Council will continue to help in school programs, choose special fun projects for the school and plan and organize fundraisers. Community Council will help direct the resources they raise, but funding will be handled through the business manager now.

School Director, Cindy Hoovel, gave her director's report which she mentioned is now posted on the school's website. She suggested checking the website often as it is now updated regularly. If parents have suggestions or see needs on the website, let her know. She feels positive about the year so far. She thinks the art program has actually improved this year and she has enjoyed teaching art to the students. Yoga is the next project, followed by photography. Upcoming projects will include dance, theater, graphic art and more. Kids are enjoying the Healthy Schools program and staff is more involved and more confident now with the program. She thanked Tawnia for the new playground upgrade and mentioned how everyone is enjoying it. Volunteers running the front desk are working well, but more help is needed. Lunch times are working well and will continue to improve. GCCS will be involved with the Boise Watershed Project. She mentioned the article in the Idaho Statesman regarding charter schools and GCCS and said there are more to come. The upcoming Garden City Dragon Day parade is not a school requirement but a great way to be part of the community. Parents must accompany their students. The first Family Goal night will be October 7<sup>th</sup>. These are different than the student led conferences and will allow parents to be involved in focus for the future.

Cindy then discussed federal funding for GCCS. She provided literature and a parent/student/teacher compact about the Title 1 program and explained how it benefits the school. She emphasized the importance of communication between teachers, parents and students and cooperation to help student's academic achievement.

Jan Thomas, one of our Board Members, handed out information for her upcoming Parent Study Group. Cindy mentioned that this is not a school sponsored event. More information available 338-5858.

Sara Covington then talked about the four main fundraising events planned for this school year.

Penny Drive: there will be 5 gallon jugs place around the school for students to place the money they collect. They will need to decide what this fundraiser will support as people are more likely to donate when they know where the money is going. At the conclusion of the Penny Drive, there should be a Frozen Yogurt Celebration in keeping the healthy goals of the school. This idea will be presented at Family Goal Night.

Tawnia really liked this fundraising idea because it had so many learning opportunities within it. Sara asked us to email her with any ideas for the direction this money should go.

Winter Carnival: Planned for sometime in January. Tickets will be sold to families to participate. A committee needs to be formed to plan, organize and facilitate this fundraiser.

Art Auction: The Visual Arts Collective will again be the location of this year's auction which is planned for March 19th. We need all types of art donations, Sara asked us to all ask around for these. There was some discussion regarding auctioning just art or accepting other donations as well. A committee needs to be formed to plan, organize and facilitate this fundraiser.

Trash Fundraiser: This is planned for May sometime. Parents and students will be involved in a roadside garbage pick-up. Funds raised on pledges per pounds of garbage collected. Needs are: trucks, gloves, shovels, bags and volunteers to plan.

There are lots of other fundraising opportunities; some are listed on the school's website.

E-labels

Albertsons and Fred Meyer participate in fundraisers

Recycling hand held electronics and ink cartridges with Project Kopeg

Mike encouraged us to make GCCS visible and be involved in the Garden City community events. (and wear our GCCS shirts)

The upcoming Dragon Day parade is October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:30

The Garden City Fun Run is October 10<sup>th</sup>. This benefits the Boys and Girls Club.

The next GCCS community council gathering will be October 22<sup>nd</sup> for a family pot luck night. There will be a brief meeting just to explain the community council.

The November gathering will be for Family Fun Math Night schedule for the 19<sup>th</sup>.

For now, December's meeting is still not planned; considerations will be made regarding the holidays.

The meeting ended just a little past the intended 8:00 pm closing.

Minutes taken by parent, Rebecca Ernst.