

Sunnyvale Middle School PTSA
Preliminary Minutes of the December 4th, 2007 Meeting

Adult Attendees: Edie Eggen, Susie Lamarche, Linda Slavich, Charetta Long, Chris Roberts, Jayme Vanderwege, Nancy Messner, Sandra Summers, Frances Dampier, Kristine Lawrence, Valerie Spierling, James Realini, Laura Healy, Tynna Jones, Julie Kilpatrick

Student Attendees: Ms. Keri Wilson, Ms. Symmona Roundtree, Ms. Keiko Kawana, Mr. Steven Bi

I. Call to Order: President Susie Lamarche opened the meeting at 7:07 P.M.

II. SMS Leadership: Symmona Roundtree, Keiko Kawana, Steven Bi

- *Held the Spartan Citizen Award Luncheon
- *The November 9th dance for 7th/8th graders was fun and a success!
- *November 16th was the Renaissance Luncheon for the students who achieved the requirements for the program. They had food, activities, and Tshirts.
- *Held Athletic Activities during lunch.

III. Guest Speakers: The Science Department which included, Chris Roberts, Jayme Vanderwege, and Nancy Messner

- *Graciously thanked the PTSA for the money donated to help run their department. Since the Brunch Cart was taken away due to new laws in selling food to make money for any school programs, they have lost out in the approximate amount of \$10,000.00 that was funding their science lab.
- *Nancy Messner detailed the cost of running the lab. Every student has Science and the sheer cost of supplies to make it a "Hands On Science" curriculum takes money and they are at a deficit around \$5000.00 for the above reason.
- *Chris Roberts showed us the 6th grade components of science. Examples of how to Observe & Predict and Earth Sciences. He showed us an experiment they use to Observe & Predict as well as the paper that takes them through the steps of how to write the process down to display it scientifically. AMAZING!
- *7th Grade: The Kids are learning about Biology and Genetics. One example shown was "Bob", a fetal pig. When the kids are dissecting the fetal pigs, they learn that humans are about the same internally except for the reproductive system. The kids are amazed and fascinated by this and they've learned volumes by this experiment! Also, the 7th grade students are going to the S.F. Zoo to learn how to classify different species.
- *8th Grade: They are learning about the Laws of Motion. There was an assembly by NASA & Honeywell that explained/showed/taught the students about the Three Properties of Physics. Because of this awesome assembly, the 8th grade students really got an understanding of what it all means. This seemed to really inspire the students about science and get excited about learning more about science.
- *8th grade students do two hands on experiments that build on the knowledge of the Laws of Motion. They build a Mousetrap Car and build and let a rocket off.

IV. Principal Report: Frances Dampier

*** Ms. Dampier brought in Sandra Summers to speak on Special Ed.**

1. Sandra Summers: Special Education Teacher at SMS

*She's been a Special Ed. Teacher at SMS for 10 years now

*Currently working on her Thesis as well at San Jose State

*Explained the Three Special Ed. Programs at SMS

a) Emotionally Impaired Students

b) Learning Handicap Students

c) Social/Cognitive Program (Students with Autism or Asbergers)

A. Program Ms. Summers is building at SMS , "Increasing Disability Awareness"

* Explained that it's best to Educate in the Least Restrictive Environment for not only the Special Ed. Students but for ALL students.

*Showed 4 Big Panel Boards that her students help put together that explains and shows students "what" these disabilities mean and how it looks like in the classroom.

"How you can Help"	O.H.I. (Other Health Impairment)	"Looks Like" (what it looks like in the classroom setting)
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"How you can Help"	Emotionally Impaired	"Looks Like" (what it looks like in the classroom setting)
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"How you can Help"	P.D.D (Pervasive Development Disorder) 1 in 150 children born are autistic	"Looks Like" (what it looks like in the classroom setting)
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"How you can Help"	Learning Disability	"Looks Like" (what it looks like in the classroom setting)
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* These boards as well as 8 Special Ed. Students will be going to each of the 6th grade classrooms during the Language Art scheduled time to explain to their peers all this information. They will also be able to physically see and feel what it's like to have these disabilities by students replicating what they see if they are dyslexic or autistic. Parents can come see one of

these demonstrations - please contact Ms. Dampier! EXTRAORDINARY PRESENTATION!

V. Teachers Report: None Given

VI. Review Previous Months Minutes: Julie Kilpatrick

*No changes made

VII. Treasurer Report: Diane Cressler (see report on the website)

*Motion made by Laura Healy to approve disbursements, 2nd made by Valerie Spierling, No discussion, All in Favor, Motion Carried.

VIII. Old Business:

VIII. New Business:

*Courtney Tan is not getting enough help collating the monthly Spartan Spotlight.

*Suggestions were made to get the word out to receive the help.

*Mr. Realini said for the January Spartan Spotlight, he'd be willing to offer the Leadership Students to help.

*There will be NO PTSA General Meeting in January.

*The PTSA Executive Committee will meet in January to form Action Plans on topics such as, Annual Direct Appeal, how to help raise money for the Science Dept., trying to raise awareness that more Parent Volunteers are needed to make programs happen at SMS.

X. Meeting Closure: Diane Cressler made a motion to close the meeting, Edie Eggen gave the 2nd, All were in favor - meeting adjourned at 8:35P.M.

*****Reminder*****

The Next PTSA General Meeting will be on February 5th, 2008

There is NO January Meeting

Respectfully Submitted by Julie Kilpatrick