

Yuba River Charter School
Parent Council 2011 / 2012

*This is our school. A community of teachers and families uniting to inspire
A love of life and learning for the whole child, for the whole world.*

AGENDA
12-14-11

1 - Call to Order Read School Verse 3:43

2 - Role Call/Class Check In - Class update/parent concerns

Dawn-lavender has had lots of parent help with candle making and lantern making.

Mark-Great winter assembly, thanks for every ones help.

Bengie-First Grade did the felt trees for the Winter fair.

Suzanne-Sweet Pea is doing really well, 11 students is so perfect. 3 home school 3 days a week and a potential 5 more that would like to home school in that way. Trying to design a program to market this opportunity for next year.

Laura-3rd grade was having a hard time getting enough volunteers for the particle arts, after a parent meeting things seem to be off to a good start.

Mark-parents should log hours, PC reps please remind parents to log hours.

Laura-a friend in home school program at Farm school, feels disenfranchised, They want to be part of Winter Assembly for example and were not invited to participate. We should reach out to them for festivals they could sing a song etc as a "class", and should they have a PC rep? Perhaps Mrs. Noel could be that rep? Caleb-suggests a PC rep at some point especially if the program grows. They are invited to all school events and assemblies on Friday's. Mrs. Noel is currently on point for communications to the home school families.

ACTION ITEM: Mark-Will email Mrs. Noel and see what communication process would work best for the home school program.

Carrie-4th grade participated in their first strings assembly. The coffee house went well on Wednesday. Strong attendance as well as for Eugene Swartz event. Coffee house continues to only be able to sell to parents and not to kids.

Lisa-5th grade went to Christmas Story play and a man followed the class back to the school. The police were called and were very responsive.

Makio-6th grade was there as well

Cathrine-7th grade trying to push the dress code.

Veronica (not present) Mark shared-8th grade getting ready to decide on their field trip. The school has hired a play director and will present Shakespeare Twelfth Night in February in the school auditorium.

3 - Approval of Minutes - Minutes of 11-16 meeting-approved 4:05

	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Time</u>
4 - Presentation/Discuss			
PC Rep Communications	Mark	Discuss	2
Is google groups working for everyone. Mark is adding Suzanne manually and she may be missing follow up e-mails.			
ACTION ITEM: Mark will add Suzanne and Christina to the google groups list look for the e-mail invite			

YRCS Flag Competition	Lisa	Discuss	3
-----------------------	------	---------	---

Lisa-Galen Lee in 5th grade would like to have a flag on the flag pole. Lisa encouraged him to write it up and a note has been delivered to Mark's box. Perhaps a parent with silk painting skills could help with this. Should this be a competition, or a cooperative activity? Admin may have some guidelines similar to the t-shirt contest, such as including the school name etc. We would want a parent to lead this effort, it may start with a meeting where everyone is invited to learn more about it and contribute ideas on how it should be done. This could be announced at the next Friday assembly.

ACTION ITEM: 1) Lisa will get back to Galen and encourage him to be part of the committee.
2) Caleb will put together the school guidelines for this project and will likely put Mellissa in charge of this committee.

YRCS Survey Results	Mark	Discuss	5
---------------------	------	---------	---

End of last years comments were sent out to PC members. This discussion is tabled until next PC meeting after the break.

ACTION ITEM: PC members will read the survey results before the next PC meeting and come ready to discuss.

YRCS Mission	All	Discuss	7
--------------	-----	---------	---

Mark-some of the schools have missions for their Parent Councils. Mark provided an example mission statement from the Live Oak Waldorf School and Mark sent it around. We revised it as a group and included it below. We will vote on it next week.

Parent Council DRAFT Mission Statement

The mission of the Yuba River Charter School Parent Council is to be a strong voice for the parents in our community, encouraging their input and participation, and facilitating dialogue between them and the school; to be an umbrella that connects the parent initiatives; and to manage the school's fairs and festivals. With Waldorf education as our inspiration, we represent the Yuba River Charter parents with the goal of strengthening our community, so that our school can more joyfully support and enrich the lives of our children and ourselves.

ACTION ITEM: PC members to review the text above and come ready to vote next meeting.

YTD Financials	Catherine	Discuss	7
----------------	-----------	---------	---

Mark-we reviewed an operating budget at previous meetings and then we discussed that we get ongoing requests for stipends etc that are non-operating expenses. A proposal is to have operating expenses be on a passive approval basis and everything else go through a voting process. We approved the operating budget already this year these additional things are not included until next year. Going into next year we will have enough information to tell each rep their budget in advance for planning purposes. For example the festival rep will be told they have \$700 for the year and then they will be expected to manage it for the year. That way reps can report to PC about their expenses, for example hospitality can report on expense of events as they occur. One way to manage this is to have PC terms go into the next year. The tracking and timing of getting reimbursed and submitting receipts is not always real time with the budget. Mark has drafted a budget for each PC rep position, this should be reviewed and included in PC rep binder.

ACTION ITEMS: 1) Mark to send out draft description for each PC position
2) each PC rep needs to update the binder that covers the roles and responsibilities of their position.

Fundraising Brainstorm	All	Discuss	10 (4:30pm)
------------------------	-----	---------	-------------

Mark-financials, look not so good when you include pending items, we are running at a deficit. PC needs to think about fundraising opportunities. 1) Such as a restaurant one day a month donating 20% of proceeds. 2) Public parking for Nevada City street fairs.

ACTION ITEM: All members keep thinking about fundraising ideas that will help raise funds in a substantive way.

5 - Vote

School Store	Makio	Discuss/Vote?	8
--------------	-------	---------------	---

The 6th grade wants to make the store a 6th grade fundraiser. Majority of income came in Oct, Nov and Dec months. We could move the store into the foyer, operate during the coffee house hours. Parents may be more interested in volunteering hours if it were an official 6th grade fundraiser. Perhaps it could be at the last Victorian Christmas event. It would need to be transported. Will be up for PC review in a future meeting.

Snack Shack	Catherine?	Discuss/Vote?	4
-------------	------------	---------------	---

Cathrine- 7th grade wants to sell snacks in the auditorium during lunch hours, snack and recess, the list of proposed snacks will be sent out for email on approval.

ACTION ITEM: PC reps look for e-mail about snacks to be included and vote via email.

Scholarship for Fingerprinting	Caleb	Discuss/Vote?	5
--------------------------------	-------	---------------	---

Benjie wants to know the cost breakdown. Caleb-YRCS does a state clearance and department of justice clearance, which is a national coverage. We need every parent to do it and it costs money. It may come to be that the PC should offer a scholarship for parents. The law says that any "regular volunteer" at a school has to be fingerprinted. Charter council reviewed the volunteer policy, which includes that all regular volunteers to be finger printed because they may be alone with a child. Field trip drivers, who are alone with kids in a car, even for day trips, should be finger printed. The cost is \$52 which many make it less likely for parents to volunteer for field trips etc, can we have a scholarship for this? Other programs seem to have fingerprinting that costs only \$15, why is our so much? Perhaps we should create a fund for families that need assistance? It should be brought up at parent teacher meetings that it will be required.

ACTION ITEMS: 1) Caleb to check with Krissa costs of fingerprinting clarified, about why it costs \$52 at YRCS to get finger printed.
 2) Suzanne to check with faculty to see if they think a fund will be needed for parents to get fingerprinted

Second Grade Fundraiser idea, Yoga at Dragon fly Studio, %100 of proceeds donated to second grade field fund. Perhaps a \$10/class discount could be offered.

Voted-passed unanimously 5:27pm

6 - Action/Discussion

Rep Roles/Descriptions	All	Discuss	5 (4:52pm)
------------------------	-----	---------	------------

7 - Committee Updates

Festival Committee	Veronica	Update	2
Hospitality	Lisa	Update	2
Parent Ed	Christina	Update	2

Christina is not present, Dawn brought up that eurhythmy teacher Cinthia Hogan is interested in having a parent ed night to gage interest in her teaching eurhythmy to the kids. The process of

selecting a Parent ED talk has been ad hoc this year, next year we may have more of a plan in advance especially if we had a budget to pay people with.

Sports Programs	Veronica/Makio	Update	2
-----------------	----------------	--------	---

Makio-Still discussion re: trying to get permission from Nevada City School District to use the auditorium for basketball and volleyball. NCS D needs to specify what protections will be needed to use it, eg lights and windows.

Technology	Joshua	Update	2
Treasurer	Catherine	Update	
Volunteerism	Benjie	Update	2
Fundraising	Jen	Update	2 (5:06pm)

Mellissa-wants to form a committee to take this on but is getting swamped with her normal duties and has not gotten to it, needs someone to take the lead on this. The back to school event could be a successful fund raiser next year if we keep costs down. Next meeting we should spend 10 min brainstorming on this. Maybe Laura and Jen can meet before next meeting to get a sense of structure needed.

8 - Notification Items

Report from Administration	Caleb	Report	10
----------------------------	-------	--------	----

Caleb-is submitting a county wide charter from 12 pages to 120 pages, it will be reviewed by the second Wednesday in January, the ed foundation is planning social events in the auditorium, eg dances, This is being led by Nichols. It would be the 3rd Friday of every month, January 28th is the first one, it will be family friendly, with ticket prices going to Ed foundation. Caleb is looking for feedback on the Winter Assembly and/or the Strings Assembly. Perhaps next time the kids will all be backstage after having performed to themselves as a dress rehearsal. The Spring Assembly will be outside and will include the open house. There is a faculty party afterschool tomorrow, and a winter spiral for preschool and kinder gardeners. The Governor delayed the per student budget cut until next year, and instead of \$250/child cut it was only \$20/student.

Report from Charter Council	Robert	Report	5
Report from Faculty	Paula	Report	4
Report from Development	Melissa	Report	5 (5:30pm)

9 - Talk it Up!

Winter Break
Monks in Jan?

10 - Next Meeting - Wednesday, 1/18/12 3:30-5:30 p.m. (YRCS Library)

Snack: Benjie Child Care: Lesli

11 - Adjourn