

**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
1-18-12**

- 1 - Call to Order** Read School Verse
- 2 - Role Call/Class Check In** - Class update/parent concerns

4th Carrie-grade wants to be able to do a co-op between 2:00 and 3:00 let out, could the 1st or 2nd grade classrooms be used? (See notes below)
5th Lisa-grade working on a play for next week, Mr. Bell and Tasha are expecting a baby in May! The last 5 weeks of school are in question. He has asked for a 5 week leave, so looking for a long term sub
6th Machio-has switched to rice bole instead of sandwiches, a gluten free option for lunches.
8th-Veronica play of 12th Night on Feb 9,10, 11th, site of 8th grade trip is to be announced

- 3 - Approval of Minutes** - Minutes of 12-14 meeting already approved and posted-approved

	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Time</u>
4 - Presentation/Discuss			
Follow-up on last mtg actions	Mark	Discuss	10

- the YRCS flag competition idea (Lisa and Caleb)

Tabled, nothings been done yet

- all to review descriptions of roles, and update as needed -- at least start it (all)

PC members were reminded to update and review their roles as described in a document that Mark sent out to everyone in December. Members discussed the use and helpfulness of this information especially during a persons first year on PC.

To Do: Mark and Joshua will get together and see what is available electronically and where they should be uploaded and how, perhaps on Google Docs

- look into why YRCS fingerprinting costs are so high (Caleb)

The State says that regular volunteers have to be fingerprinted. The CC gets to interpret the term regular, and decided that YRC CC wants parents to get fingerprinted for driving on any field trips, not just overnight ones. The Charter council is required to get both the Department of Justice and State of CA and that is why the cost is so high. Caleb reported back to Charter Council that PC did not want to a scholarship...This new policy will be phased in next Fall. The roll out will come in the news letter. The PC position is that we'll see how it goes, and if funding is indeed an issue, we'll bring it back to PC.

- check with faculty on whether they think fingerprinting costs will be an issue (Suzanne)

To Do: Suzanne to e-mail Mark re faculty feedback later this week

YRCS Survey Results	Mark	Discuss	10
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Many of the survey comments indicate a lack of awareness of the school committees. PC members were reminded to send PC minutes to parents in their class and keep the dialog going between parents and committees.

Some comments about Grandparents Day being on a week day and being a fundraiser were discussed. Grandparents Day is not advertised as a fundraiser. The festivals are all on the school calendar at the beginning of the year.

Volunteerism, Parents are required to commit 5hrs/months per family, plus one more hour per kid. PC members were reminded to remind parents to log their hours. Veronica shared that parents in her class tell her and she logs the hours for them.

To Do: when PC members send PC notes to families, remind parents to log volunteer hours

YRCS Mission All Discuss 5
The mission statement was read out loud and adopted- Adoped-3:50 Shown below.

Parent Council 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 school fairs and festivals. With Waldorf education as our inspiration, we serve as the ears and voice of the Yuba River Charter School parents with the goal of strengthening our community, so that our school can more joyfully support and enrich the lives of our children and parents.

Parent Buddy Program Caleb Discuss 7
Once upon a time new parents were assigned a veteran parent to help them get them oriented when they started at YRC but overtime things have shifted to where there are only a few new parents and a lot of experienced parents and this system has not been implemented in recent years. Should this be reinstated for the lower grades. This could be done at the beginning of the year and during drop off times. Class parent reps could do this for each class, help people connect to new families. The Parent Council rep and Class parents could team up on this.

YTD Financials Catherine Discuss 7
Currently \$300 in the red from a YTD operating budget view. Rebates have been better than ever! This will be posted in the news letter as a thank you to parents for remembering YRC at the checkout counter. Parents can bring a paper receipt back to Briar Patch and get the school rebate in arrears. **To Do: Confirm with Catherine that the rebates are indeed running much higher than last year, and include a rebate announcement in the news letter-Thanking parents**

Fundraising All Discuss 7 (4:30pm)
Melissa mentioned that Laurie in the front office has experience maximizing school fundraising with scrip. **To Do: The two of them will be meeting in the near term, and Melissa will report back.**

Co-op's

Caleb, would like to know the ages and how many people, it is hard to find a space in the rain, parents need to be finger printed, get permission to use a class room and get them signed up, PC would need a co-op chair, still seems uncertain if a room will be available,

To do: Mark will craft a letter to go out to classes re coop policy to gauge interest etc.

5 - Vote

Playground Non-oper funding request	Makio/Caleb	Discuss/Vote	8
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Non-operating means not already in expense budget. PC already approved some funds for playground advancements. This request is for \$1,000 to build a shade structure or have an artist in the Spring do a mural on the walls and/or on the ground. Specifically, a seasonal tree of life to go around May Pole is one idea. Warm weather is needed for some of the painting. Money is needed for wooden structures/platforms for shade, little bridges, decks, shade eg \$1,800-\$2,000. Perhaps families can bring in lumber to cut some costs. Many carpenters have volunteered their time already, but need to be organized and directed. Structures will be made so that they can be taken to the new campus. These structures can be built now, in the winter, because we cannot paint due to the cold. The \$1,000 request will be matched by Charter Council, \$2,000 total. After discussion, it was noted that the money could be used to build shade structure immediately. This will cover one 12ft by 12ft deck. Another option is to make a couple roof only 12 by 12 structures.

Mark suggested expanding our non-operating expenses to \$3k as a cap for the year. That would help PC to prioritize non-operating requests such as these.

Vote to approve \$1,000 toward play ground design that addresses shade-approved 5:27

School Store 6 th Grade Fundraiser	Makio	Discuss/Vote	8
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Will be a 6th grade fundraiser, rather than a school fundraiser, loan payments are due as part of this move to new fundraiser exclusive to 6th grade.

Vote on 6th grade owning this every year as a fundraiser, part of curriculum is business math-approved 5:33

Scholarship for Fingerprinting	Caleb	Discuss/Vote?	5
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Not voted on. See commentary under section 4.

6 - Action/Discussion

Rep Roles/Descriptions	All	Discuss	3 (4:54pm)
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There is a potential need for a Co-op chair.

7 - Committee Updates

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

Cynthia Hogan is coming Feb 7th, flyers will be up soon

Sports Programs	Veronica/Makio	Update	2
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Veronica shared that the boys need adult size jerseys, and the girls need balls and jerseys, Mark explained that \$925 is in the operating budget for Sports Programs, and so no vote is needed. Should the Sports Programs run over budget, then PC would need to approve expense overruns.

Technology	Joshua	Update	2
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Treasurer	Catherine	Update	
Volunteerism	Benjie	Update	2
Fundraising	Jen	Update	2 (5:08pm)

8 - Notification Items

Report from Administration Caleb Report 10
 e-mail report to follow, County Board votes on Charter Renewal on Feb 8th, there were no questions, Caleb will announce next year teacher positions in February, one being the transfer of Mr. Bell to next years first grade

Report from Charter Council	Caleb	Report	4
Report from Faculty	Suzanne	Report	4
Report from Development	Melissa	Report	4 (5:30pm)

9 - Talk it Up!

Cynthia Hogan is coming Feb 7th
 Wild Things 1/20

10 - Next Meeting - Wednesday, 2/15/12 3:30-5:30 p.m. (YRCS Library)

Snack: Makio Child Care: Lesli

11 - Adjourn