

Carlos Gilbert PTK Meeting Agenda
November 16, 2022 8:15 a.m.
CGE Teachers' Lounge

Attendees: Jana Amacher, Sarah LeBlanc, Maggie Moore, Alison Walcot, Kathy Primm, Sara April, Brintha Nathan, Steven DeGraeve, Andra Russek, Caitlin Brodsky, Gillian Gonda, Dana Tapia, Kim Pietrocci, Rick Fierro, Evelyn Quinitana, Libby Lokey (via phone)

- 1. Gratitude** - the PTK received cards from 5th graders thanking us for funding the Las Golondrinas field trip. Cards were passed around to sign that will go to donors, Kim P and Evelyn Q.
- 2. Halloween 22 Quick Review** - Everyone agreed this year's Halloween Carnival was a great success. It was suggested that everyone involved add our recommendations / tweaks for improvements and what went well and what went wrong into the Google doc. A few recommendations related to volunteers were floated in the meeting: String Pull needs three volunteers (Ms Q). Work with room reps to get volunteers who might just want to volunteer for a month (October). Teachers can't see the full list of volunteers for games on signup genius (is this true?). There should be a face to face with the room reps at the beginning of the year in the gym / wherever during which the PTK hands out a folder of information (what is in it?) and explains the main points of being a room rep volunteer. The question was raised if we should pay volunteers (not really volunteers) to run the games and have training sessions in advance after several games were not run correctly at all (all the soda ring toss soda was just given away at 4pm by the ROTC kids running the game, a similar thing happened with the stuffies ("everyone wins!")) Many volunteers didn't seem to know how to run the games despite the very clear single page of instructions for each. Even the new stereos were too complicated (the volunteers were muting the music instead of pausing it and going to the next song for the next round)
- 3. Minutes – August 31, 2022** - minutes from September 28, 2022 were passed around and approved by the board.
- 4. Treasurer's Report** - numbers related to Carnival 2022 prepared by Sara A were handed out and discussed. In summary: total income: \$52,737; total expenses through Nov 11 2022: \$14,892; expenses not yet recorded (cash raffle prizes, classroom parties): \$1,775; profit: \$36,070; Of note: expenses were way up in 2022 (more than 2x 2019), profit margin was way down in 2022 (2019: 85.4%, 2022: 68.4%). Related conversations about profitability and simplifying payments included discussion of eliminating Paypal as an option for accepting payments, taking cash next year for the raffles, gift basket was confusing and impersonal for people (the QR code, lack of detailed descriptions on baskets, lack of excitement with the arm's length of tickets, lack of seeing how good your odds are with the transparent containers of tickets); Sarah L mentioned there will be a new "school" option in RallyUp in 2023. The single item gift baskets were much more profitable than the larger gift baskets. Only 3 of the baskets took in more money than their estimated value (which doesn't matter for the donated items, but does matter for the baskets were purchase items for). Ms Q had an excellent point about the baskets from the teachers' perspective: the teachers feel left out of the gift basket process. Traditionally each classroom built a basket. We should strongly consider going back to that

model in 2023 (or have one basket per grade) and have the teachers handle much of the promotion for collecting donations for the baskets. Also: gift baskets need to be completed before Friday carnival set up -- assembling and wrapping the gift baskets takes way too many person-hours on that crucial set up day.

5. Funding Requests - On Nov 7, Mr. Phillips requested funds for a school bus for a 5th grade field trip to the Bradbury Science Museum in Los Alamos for a STEM project. The first bus will be paid for by a grant, and he got a partial grant for the 2nd bus - he is asking us to cover the remainder (which will be between \$200-\$400). Group voted to approve the request.

6. School News

- **Ms. Pietrocci** - The school is fully staffed. Ms Tompkins resigned, but there is a new 2nd grade teacher: Molly Maze. There is a new counselor: Rick Fierro. School enrollment is at 302 today. At the end of the meeting, Rick Fierro was asked to introduce himself more. He mentioned his background which includes a masters in clinical psychology, a BS in psychology, was in HR for SFPS, worked with CFYD, was a school counselor in TX, and has lived in NM for 4 years. His plan is to use data and research to develop a program that aligns with the schools' goals (he splits time between 2 schools). The best way to reach Rick is his school email address.
- **Ms Quintana** - teachers need more storage in the basement. Swap storage rooms with PTK? Furniture storage room is too full and dangerous to navigate with furniture stacked up high. To do: get coordinators on the PTK side and teacher side to clean up, organize. Sara April and Dana Tapia volunteered to help Ms. Q and Mr. John with the project - they will connect offline and get started soon.
- **Priscilla** would like an assistant for writing the eblasts. Ms Q suggested Ms Stark might like to do that. The volunteer needs experience with Constant Contact. A recommendation was made (jokingly) for Priscilla to add something to the eblast calling for an eblast assistant.

7. Giving Tree - Kim P and Frances C to make a list of recipient families (around 17 families). PTK might cover the cost of the grocery gift cards? (later decided no, because it's an easy thing for people to pick up and donate.). In 2020 a little over \$1000 was spent on grocery gift cards. Should it be \$1500 this year? Buy toys from Toyopolis. Promote at Musical Concerts: "grab a tag" from the giving tree and collect cash donations. The group decided to have NO virtual giving tree this year. It is believed the community needs a "human connection" and "physical stuff". PTK will backfill any unclaimed tags at the end. There will be a wrapping party with Ms Frances, Ms Q, and other teachers (at the school).

8. Big Picture, Large Scale Projects &/ Enrichment Programs - a number of "big idea" projects were floated. The idea of the PTK branching out into sponsoring after school programs was a common theme. Many parents have the question of "what can my kids do from 3 to 5pm?" This might be a need / pain point the PTK can fill / fix. Alison W floated the idea of an after school language program: it is also a cultural program (mandarin?, open to all grades? Difficult to do that. How many slots are needed? How many adults? Where? Free for kids? What vendor? "Eight weeks of *language x*"). Can we use SFCC students studying education? St John's students? Maggie M floated the idea of establishing a trust to pay for 5th / 6th graders programs that would promote bonding, emotional support ... an "experience" so the kids leave CGE "enriched" - at 6th grade level, the students scatter, leaving friends, going to different

schools. There will be a garden club run by Kate McCarthy and Ms. Biree. And will take over maintenance of the garden (and get a stipend from the school district).

Next Meeting – PTK: December 14, Meeting at 8:15 a.m. CGE Teachers' Lounge