

Los Gatos-Saratoga Observation Nursery School
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 11, 2017

Board Members (Voting and Non-Voting) Present: Michele Moore, Lanyll Smith, Elizabeth Wallace, Patricia Darby, Thuan Pham, Teacher Sarah, Christi Zenteno, Pedro Perez, Tandem Hayden, Kerri Webb, Tania Vong, Britta Kinkeldei, Elliott Myers.

Administrative Director: Leslie Bergh.

- I. Called to Order at 7:08 pm.
- II. Review and Approval of Minutes - Motion to approve March minutes:
1st Michele, 2nd Thuan, minutes approved.
- III. Family Partnership Discussion
The following includes responses from individuals both in person and through email, some responses are a summation while others are quotes:
 - ✧ This conversation should be made public with the names removed. By evident of these detailed notations included in the minutes represents a consensus of both the board and the visiting guests.
 - ✧ In the past the coordinator would listen to what the parents wanted and would do the best they could to accommodate while working with the best interest of the school. Let's not rewrite the book as it worked.
 - ✧ More people will need to remain the same or otherwise people will flip out.
 - ✧ I need a friend to be my partner in order to trust my child will be safe.
 - ✧ The Partnership coordinator needs to have conversations with the parents as they push back, not texts.
 - ✧ The coordinator needs to talk to people personally. Parents need to feel supported.
 - ✧ I have never heard anything from staff or received direction on how partnerships are formed.
 - ✧ Teachers need to maintain the continuity of the culture.
 - ✧ Biggest concern of new people is the insecurity of the partnerships and the resulting provoked anxiety .
 - ✧ Parents need information going into class and meet the needs of each family.
 - ✧ Parents need to coordinate carpools and childcare needs.
 - ✧ We need to follow the current partnership structure not reinvent the wheel.
 - ✧ The coordinator needs to have interpersonal skills to have conversations with individuals.
 - ✧ Problems are created if people are put into groups without know individuals.
 - ✧ The "must partner" statement of the proposed change is creating a problem.
 - ✧ If parents and child's needs are not considered in the partnerships a significant increase of parents participating in the class will ensue.
 - ✧ Without the trust or relationship with my partnership, I will be in attendance to be sure my child is safe.

- ✧ Without the ability to have input on my partnership I will leave the school.
- ✧ Children need to know and have a relationship with the people in the partnership.
- ✧ Changing the partnerships each year makes it harder for the kids.
- ✧ Perhaps its a good growth experience for the children and parents to learn to trust other parents.
- ✧ When you are new to the school you are all new to the idea of partnerships.
- ✧ At the beginning of your experience at the school parent should be made aware of the partnerships by the teachers.
- ✧ There are many families that are new or haven't feed into the next class and third wheels have a tough time fitting in.
- ✧ It is a skill to work well with strangers.
- ✧ A significant number of people are unhappy and filled with anxiety over the thought of changes made to the partnerships.
- ✧ There are some people I do not wish to be partnered with, for example the mom who blatantly expressed her need to text while she drove, or did not strap in a child properly on several occasions. That is a deal breaker for me.
- ✧ I find it stressful that this is not figured out.
- ✧ Having a mixer for new families to get to know on another would be a good way for new families to familiarize themselves with others and build a sense of community and partnerships.
- ✧ Having a sign to connect with other incoming families at the Mayfair would be a nice way to connect.
- ✧ I have a severely allergic child. I need to know in advanced who will undertake this big responsibility. It is a lot to ask of another mom and for me to be assured of my child's safety.
- ✧ We need to come up with an organized way to complain, perhaps an ombudsman to take complaints and feedback.
- ✧ For some children continuity of the partnership members is incredibility important.
- ✧ I need to be sure I am able to insure safety both physically and emotionally and address any other issues to discuss with partnership.
- ✧ Lead teachers in each class needs to take a stronger role.
- ✧ My child needs more work and I have identified parents willing to it take on the extra needs of my child.
- ✧ I did take issue with the line of the form with "who didn't you want to be partnered with", I would like to see that removed.
- ✧ Perhaps a change of bylaw with a specific plan to form partnership and a follow up discussion is warranted.
- ✧ Please do not removed ability to choose our partnership.
- ✧ We wouldn't be able to go to school without a place to voice our concerns.
- ✧ Why is this a problem now?
- ✧ I do not care about carpool, I care about partnerships.
- ✧ Helpful to keep as it is, otherwise I would have to come to every class.
- ✧ Please do not force partnership.
- ✧ Why not set up with neutral party.
- ✧ Having the option to choose my partners makes sense to me.

- ✧ Geographic helpful, but not always the an accurate indicator of the best partnership.
- ✧ People are self organizing and need the opportunity to choose partnerships.
- ✧ Do the teachers truly have concerns of corrosion of the culture?
- ✧ Are there simply a small amount of discontents given a large disruptive voice?
- ✧ What is the end goal and how does this reflect the core values of the partnerships?
- ✧ I would love for teacher to talk about partnerships.
- ✧ Let's remember to be open to the beliefs and values of others.
- ✧ We cannot take away the parents ability for special needs child's needs to be properly addressed.
- ✧ We need better training for partnerships.
- ✧ Adding verbiage of partnerships in information packets would be helpful.
- ✧ Suggest making partner information available on line.
- ✧ We cannot dramatically change the process.
- ✧ Remind people to be flexible.
- ✧ We also need to discuss family partnership earlier to coordinate play dates during summer.

IV. Alma College update - Jane discussed the ensuing conversations of the possibilities of Bear Creek Preserve and Mid Peninsula Open Space.

V. Technology Presentation- Thuan and Britta. A motion of discontinue Greater Giving and replace with Event Bright. 1st Tandem, 2nd Michele. Motion passes unanimously.
Motion to replace current website with website with Square Space. 1st Tandem, 2nd Tonia. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Chair Report - Elizabeth- No Report.

IV. Administrative Director's Report (Leslie) - Along with the executive Board, rejoined CCPNS.

V. Lead Teacher's Report (Marie) - No Report

VI. Voting Chair Reports

- Secretary (Lanyll) - No Report
- Treasurer (Elliott) - No Report
- Information (Michele) - LGSONS will be featured in the Bay Areal Parent Magazine.
- Registration (Kerri) - Update of 2017-2018 school year, 4/5's down to 15/16 families with no wait list. 3/4's to 16 with no wait list. 3's full with 4 wait list all classes full with waiting list. Saturday's at max. Saturday 2's at 11 with not wait list.
- Forms (Christi) - Reported approximately one third of forms are in properly.
- Program (Patricia/Jordan) - No Report
- Facility (Pedro) - Boat to be painted in April.

- Purchasing (Tandem) - No Report
- Webmaster (Tania/Ky) - No Report
- Newsletter (Marissa) - No report
- Fundraising (Thuan) - Updated May Fair activities.

VII. Non-Voting Chair Reports

- Alumni Liaison (Cristina) - No Report
- Animals Chair (Gina) - No Report
- Community Service Liaison (Caroline) - No Report
- Family Partnerships (Michelle) - No Report
- Garden Coordinator (Nels) - No Report
- Health and Safety Coordinator (Jane) - No Report
- Librarian (Courtney) - No Report
- Marketing (Maggie) - Mountain School Parties (Jesep) - No Report
- School Photos (Jesep) - No Report
- Social (Xi) - No Report
- T-Shirt/Sweatshirt Sales (Jen) - No Report
- Workday Coordinator (Gavin) - No Report

VII. New Business

2017-2018 Board Nominees.

Postponed to move the vote to the May meeting and invite proposed new board members. Discuss adding a non voting Board liaison.

VIII. Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.