

Oster Elementary Home & School Club

Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2023

Oster Staff Lounge

Executive Board Members

Rebecca Taylor, President
Nicole Perakis & Julie Park, Co-Vice Presidents
Vibhor Goyal, VP Technology
Julie Quinn, Secretary
Christina Herrera & Chanel Kim, Co-Treasurers
Melissa Lim, Auditor
Lisa Taormina, Principal

Board attendance

Rebecca

Julie P

Julie Q

Nicole

Call to Order (6:30 by Rebecca Taylor)

- Welcome
- Minutes from the May HSC Meeting approved by unanimous vote
- Floor open for public comment - none

Principal's Report, Mrs. Taormina

- Apologized for missing the first meeting, family matters.
- Excited for year 2 with Rebecca and board, off to a great start again this year, please to have met goal with fundraising.
- Great start to school year, enrollment down slightly, especially TK and Kinder – had to collapse a K/1 class (within 10 days of school starting), didn't have enough Kinders to make full classes for the other teachers.
- First 10 days of school, count kids in seats, factors into \$ for school, average daily attendance.
- Attendance is super super important. Last year, Oster did not meet the threshold of 97% of students attending regularly, only about 80%. Parents should send kids to school when healthy, only keep them home when they're sick.
- Also educating parents on independent study. If students go beyond 14 days, lose a significant amount of funding, it's a really big deal for the school. She will be focused on educating parents, importance of sending kids to school each and every day
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- Around 650 students, average for Oster. Did have a few employees join and an experienced teacher join. Oster staff. Oster took every interdistrict transfer requested.
- Extended care is bursting at the seams – they are even using classrooms, tight for space.
- Getting excited for October break – 19th and 20th, this is the first time our district has offered. Hoping these extra days off will cut down on absences.
- Halloween parade will happen on 10/31 from 1 – 1:45, that way kinder can participate.
- End of Oct teachers start to send notices out to parents to set up parent teacher conferences.

- Request from attendee – it would help families if we had the school calendar out earlier (Union District issue, not specific to Oster) – this drives families to plan vacations without having an academic calendar. We have to wait for High School to approve calendars, which they do annually

Teacher's Report, Ms. Pesavento & Miss Gsoell

- Teachers thank HSC for all of the snacks and taking care of teachers.
- Nice to see volunteers on campus, the events, movie night, frozen Friday, welcome back picnic, community feeling is coming back. Love the clay class, teachers and students love it.
- Starting Arts first session is coming to an end, it's been amazing to have on campus, HSC supported this again this year, students love it. Younger grades haven't had theater in a long time, and they love it. Parents should be getting invitations to a show – kids highlighting what the kids are doing in the enrichment classes, experience the enrichment that the kids are getting
- Historically, how have yearbooks for staff been decided – teachers with a classroom are paid for by HSC, one for Gladys, one for the district – that's been what's happened in the past. Rebecca – we can discuss if there's a better way, we don't want anyone to feel left out and we have to pay the full cost.
- Staff is bigger and they don't have enough chairs, if they can't get funding from the district or other source, can we appeal to hsc for chairs? Rebecca, let us know
- Thank you for mileage club coming back!

Officers' Reports ([Attachment](#))

President's Report (Rebecca)

- Theme for the year, Connected Community
- Volunteer needs: teacher appreciation week, etc (See LIST). Did have people step up for haunted house and Math Olympiad

2023-24 Calendar

- ~~Aug 16th Principal's Coffee~~
 - ~~Aug 18th Back to School Picnic~~
 - ~~Aug 30th Back to School Night / Enrichment Fund Kick Off~~
 - ~~Sep 6th HSC Board Meeting (1st Wed of Every Month)~~
 - ~~Sep 15th Fall Movie Night~~
 - Oct 28th Harvest Festival
 - Nov 17th Volunteer Pie Party
 - Dec 8th Glow Party
- Mar 4-8th Book Fair
 - Mar 8th Spring Movie Night
 - Apr 26th Walk-A-Thon
 - May 6-10th Staff Appreciation
 - May 22nd Open House

- Recess PE approval for budget increase. Will vote on PE budget at officer meeting because we don't have a quorum at this meeting, two board members out for sick kids. Also look at increasing 4th grade field trip funding, they may need more budget. Buses are twice as expensive.

Treasurer's report: (Reecca on Christina's behalf)

- Budget Overview, PLC sharing
- We are tracking well to budget, \$78k left to come in for the year
- Enrichment fund, including match, is \$120k to date, which is great

Secretary (Julie)

- Sign Up for Membership Toolkit to get communications, donate, and volunteer.
- Follow HSC on Social
- Flier Transition (no longer printed in Wed envelopes)
- Weekly newsletter deadlines (Friday before for printing, Monday at noon for newsletter)
- Send details to add to calendar and for reminders
- Post events share photos to be posted on Social!

VP/s report (Julie P.)

- Harvest festival and glow fest are biggest events coming up, chair of harvest fest will speak later

Committee Reports ([Attachment](#))

Enrichment Fund (Rebecca on Nicki's behalf)

- 50% participation is better than last year, which was 33% and we want more participation at any level of giving. We continue to push participation even though we've hit the goal.

Classroom Volunteers (Room Parent, Garden, Art Vistas, Cornerstone)- Swapnaja, Rima Hadiya, Shruti

- Rebecca presented, room parent kickoff last Friday, roadmap of how to support students and teacher, one of the ways a WhatsApp for every classroom.
- We have only 2 teachers who haven't completed their survey (including their birthday, so kids can celebrate with their teachers, etc, supports theme of Connected Community).

Harvest Festival, Haunted House (Ariane, Paola)

- Will have carnival games, food trucks, not sure they have enough support for 5th grade haunted house. We have all of the plans from last year, but it takes a good amount of man hours to plan, set up and break down.
- Still looking for volunteer leads for cotton candy and popcorn, decorations and set up and breakdown.

Enrichment Update: Clay (Liz)

- It's been really positive so far, lots of smiling faces, kids leaving proud of their work. Each teacher had the chance to pick from 3 projects, in total there are 9 projects. Everyone will have them back mid-Oct.
- They've gone over where ceramic clay comes from, how to construct properly.
- The art medium is new for most of them

Spirit Wear (Lindsey)

- Spirit Wear is now for sale online. Order for the week will be filled on Friday, pick up at Frozen Friday.
- Had 2 in person sales at the shed
- We are trying to provide at cost and had to raise prices to cover fees.

Mileage club starting (Destiny & Marlyss)

- Started yesterday, working out bugs.
- Still need more volunteers

Math Olympiad (Kalpana & Rani)

- Restarting, wondering if there are any teachers willing to help them get the first few sessions off the ground, particularly around classroom management. Mrs. P said she could put out a request

Yearbook (Harshada Jog)

- Pre-order sale is on now, price will go UP.
- Details for cover contact coming out soon.
- Sign up for all events for volunteers to take photos. About 5 parents at the moment.

Garden program (Shruti)

- See Presentation: bringing it back this year. Need teacher feedback on how we can support classroom learning and volunteer support from parents in the classes listed in the presentation.
- You don't have to be a parent, could be grandparent, etc and you don't have to volunteer for your kids' class, it could be any class. Time commitment differs, there is maintenance (ongoing), but can be once a year for a few hours. Goal is for it to function more like Cornerstone where there is a monthly or quarterly project.

Art Vistas (Rebecca)

- They cleaned out their area, parent meeting was 2 weeks ago

Project Cornerstone (Rima)

- Going well, Trudy Ludwig is coming, hopefully another author visiting in the spring.
- Anita is kinder lead, Rima is 1 – 5 lead, We have a TK lead (kick off meeting for tk tonight) books have been updated

Announcements/Q&A

- Spirit Wear is now for sale online. Order for the week will be filled on Friday, pick up at Frozen Friday, and for some item we did slightly raise prices to cover costs.

Adjournment (7:38)