

OWL PTO General Meeting Minutes  
10/13/15

Present: Kristin Peterson, Holly Windingstad, Ginger Carroll, Lisa Schibel, Jennifer Lodahl, Carolyn McCarthy (member at large), Traci Hildebrandt-Smith (co-chair), Lisa Gale (treasurer), Zoe Gale (student), Theresa del Rosario (co-chair), Betsy Fabel (secretary), Dave Gundale (principal).

Theresa del Rosario began meeting

- Welcome and introductions of all present

Old business:

- Fall Family Gathering was a success. Switch to La Loma tamales, addition of gaga pit, and addition of Fall Retreat slide show were well received. OWL cakes were once again a huge hit in the cake walk—thank you for making them Anishka’s dad!
  - Next year’s event will be at the same venue, first Thu. in Oct. Gaga ball (free) will replace climbing wall to save money. Tamales will likely be served but we will order fewer. Leftover tamales are for sale \$25/bag of 10—see weekly email for info. Additional leftover tamales (now frozen) will be served to teachers at conferences.
  - Lisa Schibel asked about selling Velasquez coffee at conferences. She will look into her availability to initiate volunteer effort for that activity.
- Outward Bound Service Auction raised \$2500 at the Fall Family Gathering.

Principal’s Report, David Gundale

- Fall Retreats were a great success and an all-consuming effort. Excellent locations this year and strong community building taking place there. The climate at OWL is fantastic.
  - There is presently an \$8000 gap in funding for this year’s Fall Retreats.
- EDL began this week—nearly 1/3 of OWL students are participating.
- Ipads are continuing to be distributed—hope to be up and running within the next 2 weeks.
- 11/13 is end of first quarter. Bulk of first quarter academics are happening between now and then following strong community building taking place in the first half of the quarter.

New business:

- Give to the Max Day is 11/12. Benefits of donating via GiveMN site include opportunity to win “golden tickets” funds, ability to schedule sustaining donations in a weekly, monthly, or quarterly withdrawal, ability to generate energy via online social media. One big downside is the 4.9% admin fee. OWL

PTO is mailing direct donation envelopes via mid-quarter reports. 100% of donations made via this direct appeal go to OWL.

- Please join the Open World Learning Community PTO facebook “group” (red barn cover photo). The OWL PTO “page” will be phased out in favor of this more open format. PTO will remind everyone that this is an optional way to communicate and receive information but is not the only avenue.
- PBIS funds were requested of the PTO. Dave suggested using funds earned at dances to fill this request leaving PTO funds for Expeditionary Learning support which is in keeping with the PTO mission. This idea was approved.
- Dave floated the idea of charging a single flat fee for Fall Retreats. The idea was well received. More discussion and research as to feasibility ongoing.
- Coffee order is extended beyond 10/14. Kristi Gile will be assuming responsibility for this fundraiser.
- OWL Spirit Wear orders are due 11/10. The vendor Rebel Ink has a web store that allows you to order online. This vendor has been great to work with and the PTO earns more per item. We will continue giving them business. There is the possibility that the web store could take orders throughout the year. More thought needed to determine logistics of delivery, etc.
- Holly Windingstad will continue to beautify the existing planters in the lovely manner she has been with the budget allocated. Kristin Peterson suggested adding the additional landscaping to the beautification committee—that idea will be discussed at the November Site Council meeting and results of their discussion will be shared with the PTO.
- Dining Out with OWL dates have not yet been selected. Applebees on Robert is a possible host this year. Kristin Peterson will contact TruBerry yogurt shop. A recommendation to contact BluePlate Restaurant group was also presented.
- The 2015-16 budget presented at the last meeting was approved.
- Treasurer Lisa Gale has an 11<sup>th</sup> grader and is looking for someone interested in being PTO treasurer at any time this year or next—she will work with the new treasurer to teach them everything she knows.

Meeting concluded.

Mintues submitted by Betsy Fabel, secretary