

School Site Council – 11/16/2023

Attended: Tedd Wakeman (TW), Chad Peters (CP), Heather Pitz (HP), DeeDee Cooper (DC), Dayna, Sara Epstein (SE), Amy Stark (AS), Peri Monte (PM), Vicky Farrell (VF)

NOTES

TW: Sent a sheet to everyone

AS: what grants are we looking for? STEM? PTA? groups of teachers?

TW: wants funding to hire somebody like Kim Brown to run the STEAM lab

CP: Walmart grants were supply grants; all of the grants on the sheet were STEAM related grants...What if we got a grant thru the PTA?

AS: what about the equity fundraising? with the district?

TW: PTA is not involved with the VSS

TW: PTA pays for the aides

TW: In terms of PTA spending money on aides, there is no equity component

Peri: Asked about under prior leadership, if it was for a person, the payment had to go from the district, payroll had to go thru district

TW: asked what other info is needed that wasn't on his summary

VF: asked about breakdown by grade

AS: On top of copy machine, breakdown by grade

HP: Multinational cultural of the parents - students have parents from 28 different countries, etc.

HP: asked for stats about the cultural background of the students

CP: Walmart looked good for materials; the government ones were more convoluted

SE: mentioned there is a Northrup family at Webster

HP: Noted she was one of their attorneys (Northrup)

CP: Explained how most of the defense companies have grants if the child of the employee is a beneficiary of the group

HP: She knows they have gift matching

SE: Wonder if Disney has one; one family has a Disney connection

AS: Was Sheryl going to apply for a STEAM grant at the beginning of the year?

SE: Did any ask if there are any other grants you are applying for?

CP: Was not sure

CP: Some do not have a lot of applicants

CP: Mentioned that most grants have rolling due dates

TW: Have a shared doc for some of the other information

SE: it would be good to share and build on this language

DC: Willing to do some work, but would like to be paired up with a person

AS: would prefer to do this after the holidays

DC and AS: we can work on it together

VF: grant writing is a skill

TW: suggested we get some of the basic pieces in place - maybe we define a project

AS: suggested we put all of the grants on a spreadsheet where we can check it off

Dayna: mentioned the need for a more detailed fact sheet

TW: Need for a shared document and an informational sheet

SE: Mentioned the importance of not duplicating efforts

SE: suggested applying as the PTA

Dayna: suggested asking Sheryl for the STEAM related material

HP: questioned who is responsible for the follow up

VF: mentioned the process and receiving an In-N-out sponsorship previously

TW: suggested reaching out to Taverna Tony's for teacher holiday event

HP: asked about what stemmed this conversation

TW: reiterated how when there's a shared space like the STEAM lab, it really depends on whoever is in it, as to what they bring to the table

TW: Prop 28 money is approximately \$25,000/yr

VF: Asked if funds have to be recurring

AS: Money is needed for planning as well, and materials

TW: Spoke about a place in Torrance called "Trash for Teachers"

TW: He has been talking to Kim Brown - she is interested

TW: goal is for around \$50K - let's look what starting salary is for a full time teacher

SE: if we have access to a pot from one of these grants, we can subdivide it

Minutes adopted from prior meeting

Learning Expo is on Dec 15th

TW: spoke about how the intent of the Expo is truly highlighting process (not like the science fair) - it is where we are and how we got there; what we learned, what we still need to do

TW: mentioned how at Sycamore the challenge was working with their friends

TW: more authentic

AS: Mentioned how a 5th grader made a comment last year with Botswana, paraphrasing: broadened this student's understanding of all the culture, wildlife, of this one tiny community - made the comment, Dr. Drati was present and impressed as well

TW: on the 15th, we need to all be on the same page - it is about coming and listening to kids truly talk about their experience

TW: Holiday concert is on Dec 20th

HP: asked about sustainable book fair

TW: PTA was a bit overwhelmed, and it got pushed out a bit

HP: suggested maybe putting a bin of books out there

VF: commented about the authors who came to visit

TW: both of the authors we have had were free of charge

DC: sometimes authors can be extremely aggressive

There was some confusion about book purchases for the 2nd assembly

AS: Barney Salzburg (Peri Monte said we paid a fair amount and it was from a grant)

AS: Alexis Oneill (The Recess Queen)

VF: will check with Ms. Papale about the author that did the guest lecture previously

CP: the government grants were for all various topics