

## Sonoma Charter School PTO Meeting Minutes for 8-24-2011

Kathy Pine (PTO President) read the mission statement.

Mission statement reads “The Sonoma Charter School PTO is dedicated to serving the needs of the students, school and parent community by providing a centralized group that fosters parent involvement and allows for resources, talents and communication to be shared across all volunteer efforts, parent-driven activities, and fundraising.”

The PTO board was introduced:

President-Kathy Pine

Vice President-Julanne Lorimor

Treasurer-Nona Gamble

Secretary-Katie Giller

Governing Board Representatives-Tim Wetzal and Gloria Reiter

Teacher/Staff Representative-Darice Dekker

Fundraising-Jen Hagen and Lesley Cannariato

### 1. Committee Reports

**\*Parent Involvement Committee** headed up by Julanne and Jade. They are in charge of all gatherings that do not include fundraising. The pot-luck is the first event. They also are in charge of the buddy families. They want to offer three fun non-fundraising events for the year.

**\*Volunteer Committee** headed up by Sharon and Courtney. They are in charge of placing the parent community in the right place for volunteering based on the on-line survey. They also are there to help the committees get the volunteers they need. The goals of the committee are to get all families filling their 32 hours of volunteerism for the school. They would like to get 80% of families tracking their hours on line. These hours can help the school get grants. They would like everyone to fill out and update their interests on line, so they can better serve the school.

**\*Fundraising Committee** headed up by Jen and Leslie. They are in charge of all fundraising events not including Charter Your Course. These include active programs like the Halloween carnival, spaghetti feed, jag-a-thon, and book fair. Also the passive programs like e-scrip, S.H.A.R.E.S. Card, box tops, one cause, and dine and donate. Goals for the year are to get more of an outreach to the community, businesses and alumni. They also want to know who is using the passive programs and increase that number. They would like to sign people up for e-scrip during the pot luck in the lab. Next meeting is 9-19-11 6pm

**\*Charter Your Course** report by Marnie. The goal of CYC is to raise 100k by Sonoma Charter families for this fiscal school year. Most classrooms will have a CYC representative that can hopefully get every family to donate to CYC. Since July 1, CYC has raised 14K and has 53K in pledges. This goal will help stop deficit spending and add cut programs back into the school. A few fundraisers in the works are Charter Wear and Charter Blend. You may buy Sonoma Charter shirts and stickers as well as coffee on campus Wednesdays and Fridays.

**\*The Green Team (Beautification)** report by Julie. The committee has already been working towards one of their goals. They put drip systems in the gardens. They want to put pavers or

some sort of rock to cut back on weed whacking. Another goal is to have the kids do a mural on plywood that is removable in case a new school is built or it gets tagged. There may be some left over anti-graffiti paint they can use on the mural. The Sonoma Education Foundation is giving the school a green house and shed. The team is waiting to get those. They are also going to be writing more grants this year to improve the overall look of the school. Next meeting is at Hopmonk at 7pm on 8-25-11.

\*Communication committee headed up by Jeannette and Nadine. Their goal is to improve over all communication with the parents and stream line the information that is available. They are working on an on-line calendar that will be available to the school community. The Family Handbook was rewritten and distributed to the K-1 classes. The Spanish version will be available soon. It is available to everyone on-line on the Sonoma Charter School website. They are also in charge of the Facebook page and weekly e-mails. The deadline to add to the next weeks e-mail is Friday by 10am. They would like to get an outdoor, locking message board for the school. Trying to come up with a SCSF family to family guide. If you would like to advertise your business and other families from the school may use your services.

2. President announcements

We still need someone to coordinate the childcare for the PTO meetings. Christina Sloop volunteered to do that. Her son was the babysitter for this meeting. Donations to the sitters will go towards their field trips.

3. PTO/SCSF discussion

PTO will adopt SCSF by-laws and SCSF will file a dba Sonoma Charter School PTO. Julanne motioned for a SCSF election. Scott moved the motion and Marnie seconded the motion. Votes were made for the above board and motion carried. Kathy made a motion to have the PTO accept the SCSF by-laws. Courtney moved and Julanne seconded. Motion carried.

4. PTO Overall goals-brainstorm

We would like to have three main goals for the year. The brainstorm session came up with eight goals. Everyone voted on their top three. Below is a list of the goals and votes.

**Charter Your Course 100K goal-21 votes**

**Parent involvement-11 votes**

Beautify the school-1 vote

**Teacher support-10 votes**

Communication-3 votes

Library and Technology-6 votes

Spanish communication-7 votes

Safety-1 vote

The next meeting we will identify what specifics we need to meet each goal.

• Open forum

How do we make the meeting more enticing? How can we increase teacher salary and get 5 days back that they lost? Should social time be at the end? Should open forum be at the beginning?

In attendance:

Julie Calhoun  
Kathy Pine  
Julanne Lorimor  
Lesley Cannariato  
Jade Filippi  
Jennifer Hagen  
Jeannette Tomany  
Katie Giller  
Tim Wetzal  
Jantzie Trotta  
Christina Sloop  
Sharon Johnston  
Marnie Heitmeyer  
Nadine Harmon  
Amy Alper  
Patricia Morrow  
Rachelle Metnner  
Scott Metnner  
Darice Dekker  
Megan Lee  
Paula Hunter  
Courtney Morgan  
Nona Gamble