

Kula School PTA Meeting Minutes - *Approved* **12/6/2017 | F-103**

Attendees: *Chris Bachaus, Tiffaney Brooke, Gretchen Cahana, Dionne Carvalho, John Cassel, Melanie Devereux, Stacy Downs, Layla Hieda, Daeni Ito, Kristi Kakiuchi, Susan Kim, Lisa McClintock, Annie Mellein, Mira Neal, Amanda Shim.*

Call to order – Meeting called to order by Vice President Annie Mellein at 6:03pm. Emily is unavailable.

Principal's Report (CBachaus) - Monday 12/11/17 we go see the preK program on Honolulu for the second informational meeting. We should know more details.

WASC accreditation will be here from March 5-9th. Self study is done. We can get the PTA a copy and (Amanda Shim) copies available in the office for anyone who would like to look because it's over 200 pages. There is also a digital file on the website. We wrote who we think we are including strengths and needs - the team will read and verify with a visit and they will add their 2cents. We will eventually get a list of recommendations on how we should move forward.

Diana Browning Wright - PONO program - gave high marks for a start up program. They are doing excellent. We are one of 15 schools that are part of the cohort. Working mainly with kids behavior. Met on Monday with staff.

Mrs. Pokini class was the winner of the Kaleo cup. Use to determine: STAR, paw cards, attendance and lunch tags. Trying to model award to emulate Kula Way - respect and responsibility.

Facebook page for Kula School - KulaCougars. Grace in the office is updating. Teachers send her and she posts it up.

Personnel things - financial plan goes Feb 15th - make one small adjustment: teacher is in the tech coordinator position, so will be moving that to a classified position "Data processing utilitarian. . . " excellent job for anyone (don't need a degree) who knows computer, software, keeping phones maintained. Convert that tech coordinator to a second curriculum coordinator - an Amanda-like person Working with STEM, math and Google chrome. This redo will save \$30K. (Susan Kim) Is Ms. Fernandez moving to the second curriculum coordinator position? No, the position will be posted state-wide. Anyone can apply for it. Ms. Fernandez is a teacher and will be in the classroom.

Keokea - waiting for authorization to put power in - will be putting in transformer. Have an electrician that will be doing it pro-bono. Soon electricity in, weather system will be installed into the property.

Harvest Festival Update (Mel) - Mel Devereux has the numbers from Harvest Festival. Brought in \$82K. Last year was \$70K. We have a little more expenses. Overall Net about \$59K. More than made up for not doing the Fall fundraiser. There may be a couple of expenses outstanding - so to be safe, say \$58K. Around \$47K last year.

Want to thank the Harvest Festival committee, staff and all that attended. We did raise about \$900 from the entrance fee.

Any feedback? - Thought it was great.

Briefly talked about transition for next year. Will be quite a few chair positions opening for next year. One of them being the Harvest Festival chair. Amanda was the co-Chair this year. . . would like to step up? Also talking about breaking down things more so that the Harvest Festival Chair doesn't have such a big load - for example, there used to be a parking chair. Need to get together to talk about how to make things more manageable so that it's a bigger group of people helping instead of such a smaller group doing it. (Mel) One idea was that the grade levels would take an area. There used to be a disconnect between PTA and Harvest Festival, but it will come back to the PTA. (Annie) thinks all the PTA meetings should incorporate Harvest Festival talk. (Gretchen) Comment about the grade level taking on an area: suggesting that if one of the chairs is coming back they can work with the grade level. The area follows the grade level. Need a different model to get more involved. First thing is to get the Harvest Festival chair.

Breakdown of the most profitable areas - Silent Auction did almost \$20K with very little expense - software was about \$700 - Corporate Sponsors we got \$12K - Country Store \$7,200 - Crafters \$5K - Activities \$6,700 - Games \$6,300 - Food \$7K profit - Lemonade \$1,500 - Petting Zoo \$1,400

Safety concerns: Spider jump - had some concerns. Some of the people supposed to be watching were "out to lunch" Also some financial issues. If something were to happen would fall under their insurance. Bouncy castles obstacle course had some safety concerns where people were not watching. Parents had a shift but then they left after their shift. With that is the bracelets where the kids can be in there all day. We were short on volunteers. (Stacy) getting volunteers to work is better when asked directly. (Kristi) Parents were not signing up even at conferences. (Daeni) Maybe need to assign an area where they need help, ie we need help here and there, specifically.

Concern for teachers if the Harvest Festival areas move to grade levels? If the parents don't step up then teachers have to step up to take over.

Teacher's Report (Kristi/Amanda) - Harvest Festival was really impressive - massive ticket lines.

Having 2nd quarter assembly coming up on Dec 18th. Winter Wonderland is happening next year. (Amanda) Not having after school things, so having Santa at school.

End of quarter assessments right now - break coming up and coming back Jan 8th. No school on Dec 22nd.

Trying to get science curriculum for next year. Need less than \$1,000 to go.

We had the Hawaii Opera perform with 7 students performing. Have another one coming up in January.

Academic Plan (Amanda)- Amanda passed out WASC cheat sheet of where we are based on the self study. Shows the areas that Kula feels like we want to focus on. Snapshot of data (is on DOE website). Language arts and math (3-5 graders): Language Arts in 2016 was 59% and 2017 is 54%; Math 2016 was 51% and 52% in 2017; science in 2016 is 66% and in 2017 72%. Overall our students are not growing. Can also see on the chart a comparison of where we are vs. state and complex. Kula School is above Complex in all areas. We are BKM (Baldwin-Kekaulike-Maui) area. Scores are reflective of the community: high Title 1 schools do not score as high. Title 1 and scores correlate. Subgroup performance indicators -we are not providing what our high needs students need to achieve. 71% 3rd graders (current 4th graders) are reading at average or above level. Attendance wise, 14% missed 15 or

more days of school in 2016 and 2017. When WASC comes they will talk to all the staff, students and families over a 4 day period. Hopefully PTA will come to the parent/community members meeting

Keokea Recognition 2/24 (Annie) - will be a smaller blessing, not with the whole school. Will do a bigger Grand opening with the whole school later on. There will be Chinese Lion dance, blessing, Mahalo to those that donated and volunteered their time and PTA will be there.

Upcoming Fundraisers - Flatbread? 40 silent auction items left from Harvest Festival. Possible FunRun - need to talk to Amanda. Possibly March date.

Other Announcements - (Annie) Motion to approve both October and November meeting minutes (Gretchen made motion to approve) Stacy second the motion.

A parent expressed a concern: Safety shirts with a neon option? JPO uses them. Would be useful during evacuation and field trips. Would be an option. (Chris B.) Lisa runs a safety committee, which meets on Friday (12/8), so the parent can bring up at the meeting.

Concern about fire alarm working when power is out? (Chris B) Fire alarm has a battery backup. The day when power was out was an interesting day. We have propane, so kitchen was able to serve hot stew. Only complex area superintendent can shut down schools. It's never for electricity - it can be for water.

PTA meeting change - vote for either 2nd or 3rd Wednesday. Meetings will be 2nd Wednesday of the month. (Amanda) The only one that can't be changed is the March 7th because that is when WASC will be attending. Maybe have Uncle Wayne at school? (Mira) He is no longer doing Carden Academy because of the construction and liability. Contact Uncle Wayne to do as a fundraiser - sell food (John) need to find out more about how but can approach Uncle Wayne. Plan a PTA sponsored event with Uncle Wayne. . .

Thanks for your participation this year and for coming tonight everyone!

Have a Wonderful Holiday!

The next meeting is **Wednesday January 10th**, 6-7pm, room F-103.

Adjournment – 7:00 PM

Submitted by Susan Kim, Secretary