

Lanikai Elementary PCS

Minutes of Board Meeting, September 25, 2013

Board Members present:

Phil Whitesell
Ed Noh - School Director
Todd Cullison, President
Tim Dietrich
Espie Chapman
Liam Gimon
Eun Strawser
Eddie McDonald

Community members present:

Kristin Cleveland
Marnie Ackerman
Callie Lewis
Tara Young
Jenn Johnson

1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes of August 28, 2013

- Meeting was called to order at 6:37pm by Mr. Cullison.
- Approval of August minutes was moved by Mr. Dietrich and seconded by Mr. Gimon. Motion approved unanimously.

2. Community input: Kristin Cleveland, Community Member

- Request for Information about Locked Gate/Back Fence – A discussion regarding procedures for locking the gate at the back fence occurred. It was referred to the Health & Safety Committee for review and recommendation.
- Status of Technology Assessment Committee – A discussion regarding the status of this committee occurred. The Board will try to find a chair so that the TAC can hold its 3 planned meetings.
- Mrs. Young brought up the issue of a homeless woman directing traffic at the Alala/Kawailoa crosswalk. The school has called the police and Mr. Rocky has been at the crosswalk to enforce crosswalk rules. The situation is being closely monitored.

3. Lanikai School 'Ohana Report: Marnie Ackerman, President LSO

- Love of Reading is this week. They have 2 illustrators, a dog from Tales of Aloha, and some military volunteers to help staff.
- LSO would like to formalize a volunteer program for community members that are looking for volunteer hours. They would also like to build a spirit of volunteerism within the school.
- They are working on a budget, and have also been reviewing mini-grants (<\$300) from the teachers. This will happen monthly.
- They are creating a staff manual to instruct staff members on 1) how to communicate and 2) how to get funding.
- They are looking at big projects like the shade project. Also trying to make better use of the café space with the help of Mrs. Johnson. Also working with Blue Man Group to try to design a stage around the banyan tree.

4. Development Committee: Kristin Cleveland, Chair

- The Development Committee had its initial meeting of the AY13-14 year on 9/17/2013. Minutes of the meeting have been submitted.
- Report of Action:
 - Auction is deferring circulation of “ask” letter to the community until the administration hires a Hawaiian Studies teacher (see Director’s Report for update on Hawaiian Studies teacher).
 - The committee has handled several fundraising requests using the new procedures and believes it is successful.
 - Committee is exploring possibility of staffing a booth at the Lanikai Craft Fair in December to promote school, collect additional information from alum who attend, etc. This requires coordination with the 50th Anniversary Committee.
- Request For Information from Board:
 - Status of 50th Anniversary Committee – The committee expected that several of the fundraisers for AY13-14 would involve references to historical events or pictures of the school from days gone by. Last year, the Committee deferred to the 50th Anniversary Committee for collection of that information.
 - The Committee is waiting for the Final 50th Anniversary Logo
 - Auction Special Appeal candidates from board by 9/23.

5. Director’s Report: Ed Noh, Director

- Celebrations

“Aina in the Schools” is up and running and gaining momentum. The number of parent volunteers and hours served on campus has been phenomenal and our garden program is engaging all students. In addition, a parent volunteer, Dodge Distad, designed, built and established our very own aquaponics system. Special thanks to Espie Chapman, PCNC, for helping build this project since last year as a volunteer and carrying it through.
- Grade Level Meetings

The Admin Team, composed of Ed and Jerelyn with Curriculum Coaches, Lorna and Hillary, met with every grade level this past week to discuss student data. We are using a “Data Team” protocol to discuss students and their strengths and areas of need. What is exciting is our new progress monitoring tool, referred to as “Star Math” and “Star Reading” by Renaissance Learning. It is an on-line tool that is norm-referenced on a national scale so that we can see what students know compared to peers all over the nation. We are enjoying this tool because a school wide monitoring tool was not in place in years past and now we have a consistent way to measure student ability and growth over time, JK-6th Grade.
- For students who are not at grade level, we were able to correlate an intervention strategy through the Curriculum Coaches and other resources here at the school. Per the data, we also began to shift our attention to students on the other side of the spectrum who are well above grade level standards and also in need of a type of intervention. As a staff, we will explore more enrichment strategies so that all our students will have access to appropriate learning opportunities.
- Strive HI Update
 - The Strive HI Performance Index is the State of Hawaii’s new accountability measure to

offer more measures of growth through the No Child Left Behind Act. Under NCLB, academic achievement was the chief measure of school growth. With Strive HI, there are multiple and varied measures for elementary, middle and high schools. The new system weighs more heavily on a growth model (counting twice as much as achievement) as well as focusing on the students' achievement gap for high needs students. High needs is defined as students who are in Special Education, lower socio-economic status or English Language Learners. For higher performing schools with a smaller number of high need students the Strive HI index will not that be significant. While the DOE projects that 75-85% of schools will fall into the Continuous Improvement category, we will continue to strive to be a Recognition school. We believe our new Reading and Math Assessment program and response to intervention model will help address the needs of all students and better reflect our effectiveness as a school.

-At the last Governing Board meeting, it was reported that a majority of Charter Schools were missing data points which affected the school's overall index. For Lanikai specifically, enrollment data was excluded under "Readiness" for elementary schools. However, under pressure from the Charter School Commission office, the DOE reversed their decision and included all omitted data and readjusted their index list. While some charters were able to move categories, our school's index did not change.

"Chronic Absenteeism" was recorded at 12% for our school. Overall, this specific category only accounted for 5% of the total composite score, so again, no change.

- Junior Kindergarten Funding ceased for 2014-15 SY

It was brought to the Governing Board's attention that the Junior Kindergarten program will be cut statewide. The program funding was supposed to cease at the end of the 2011-12 SY, but a clear exit strategy was not in place and it was extended to the 2013-14 SY.

-A JK Committee was formed and met on 9/19/13 to possibly explore other options to keep the program at our school. Pros and Cons were listed for either keeping the program or ending the program and the discussion was rich and thoughtful. Several ideas were presented such as seeking outside funding per a grant and/or develop a payment model for JK services or a combination of both. The Commission advised us that charging "tuition" would require a separate 501(c)(3) from the school to be established who will then administer the program. It was thought by the committee that grants are non-sustainable and payment for the program may not be financially feasible. A breakdown of costs to determine a tuition rate will be compiled in the coming weeks.

-Another issue raised was the administration of the program as it would be a strain of resources on the school. For example, there are issues such as facilities use, electricity and water, and insurance as well as access to school resources such as our Specials program and main office. The most compelling argument is who could actually teach the class? Under our current model, our JK teacher is Highly Qualified and part of HSTA (Hawaii State Teachers' Association). If the funding does not come from the school or State, as part of our per pupil allocation, would that person still be considered a state employee or a private employee?

-As part of the JK program discussion, the majority of committee members stated that if funding were still being provided by the State, they would support our existing JK program. However, because no funding is available, it is thought that it will be more work than it is possibly worth at this time for only 18 students. With the exit of the JK program, this will also help move back one of the 2nd Grade classrooms currently in a portable to

one of the main buildings.

-The committee concluded that it would like more information about the total cost of running a separate program and to confirm whether or not the teacher would be a HSTA member before making a recommendation. If the committee decides to pursue a privately funded JK program, the Commission advised that a proposal be submitted to the Attorney General's Office of Education to determine viability. A final recommendation to the Governing Board will be made by the October meeting.

-The committee will contact a private vendor about renting our facilities, and a decision will be made by the October meeting.

- We have finally hired a Hawaiian Studies teacher, Ulu Makuakane, and a 4th Grade EA was hired, Christi Gimon.

6. PCNC Report: Espie Chapman, PCNC

- 'Aina in Schools – at least 125 volunteer hours from parent and community Docents (about 25 docents) given to Lanikai School
- Walking School Bus on Oct 4th – HPD will be there at the 2 traffic points, safe sign waving, safety assembly, Senator Thielen to walk with students and speak at the assembly; Eun Strawser collected \$1000 in donations for pedometers for the walkers.
- Rotary Club to donate dictionaries for grades 3-6 in late Oct/early Nov.
- Ms. Watanabe, Ms. Lowe, and Ms. Chapman to partner with Alliance for a Healthier Generation. This is a 3-year program that gives free resources and guidance to eliminate childhood obesity and help with health and wellness.
- Tracking of volunteer hours at the school has begun for the Presidential Service Awards program.

7. President's Report: Todd Cullison, President

- Mr. Cullison has been trying to meet with Ed at a minimum twice per month for general conversations. These have been helpful for me to learn about the various moving parts of the school and an opportunity for Ed to fill me in on various progress, issues or concerns. On September 4, 2013 he met with Ed Noh and Jerelyn Watanabe discussing general Lanikai School issues. Topics included:
- Supplemental teacher contracts, HGEA, UPW and HSTA union contracts and how they all fit with the school.
- Association Policy Committee (APC). Group identified by teaching staff to meet monthly to voice any grievances
- Mr. Cullison attended the 9/17 Development Committee meeting and the 9/23 Strategic Planning Committee meeting .
- The group discussed the Kao'hao Learning Center, next steps, vision, etc. Todd is committed to following up with the DOE on partnerships and an architect friend for general cost. The group will generate a set of questions for the DOE facility development department and invite DOE to a future meeting. There was a discussion about other roles of the SPC. Several folks volunteered to help with the 5^{0th} Anniversary committee.
- Mr. Cullison attended the Lanikai Traffic meeting on 9/25. It was suggested to let beachgoers park at the school. Is there a possibility of making addition money by doing this? What are the issues associated with this (safety, crime, DOE facilities)?

8. Other

- Mr. Whitesell moved that the school Director is hereby authorized to expend funds from the Lanikai School Savings Account in the amount of approximately \$20,000 to install a sun shade on the learning center, Building C. After discussion, Mr. Whitesell withdrew the motion and the board recommended getting a specific plan and quote for board approval next month.
- The 50th Anniversary Committee was formed and details are getting finalized. The next meeting will be on 10/2.

9. Adjournment: Members adjourned to closed session at 8:29 PM.

Next Meeting Scheduled for October 23, 2013

Submitted by Callie Lewis, Scribe