

Lanikai Elementary PCS

Minutes of Board Meeting, September 19, 2012

Board Members present:

Phil Whitesell - Vice-Pres, Community
G.G. Weisenfeld - President, Community
Jeff Mizuno - Staff
Ed Noh - School Director
Judy Pao - Teacher
Todd Cullison – Parent
Eddie McDonald - Student Council

Community members present:

Cj Baehr
Marnie Ackerson, PTA
Kristin Cleveland
Espie Chapman
Ken Zitz

Board Members absent: Louis Saint-Cyr - Parent (interim), Tim Dietrich - Community

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 5:08 PM by Dr. Weisenfeld.

2. Presentation of First Tee National School Program by Coach Ken W. Zitz, the founder and Executive Director of the program in Hawaii. Board member Tim Dietrich invited Mr. Zitz to brief the board on the program as a consideration for its addition as an after-school activity for our students. First Tee is active in more than 4800 elementary schools. Lesson plans teach age appropriate golfing skills as well as life skills; for example, he cited three life skills that are applicable for all: be patient, be positive, and ask for help. The program begins with 5-year-olds and handles groups of as many as 24 using one equipment kit. For more information about the program, go to www.thefirsttee.org.

3. Approval of Minutes: Approval of August 30 minutes was moved by Dr. Whitesell and seconded by Mrs. Pao. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. School Director's Report:

- Hawaii State Assessment
 - Though Lanikai consistently places in the top tier of all schools, we are convinced that there is much room for improvement. It was suggested at today's staff meeting that we visit the schools that are performing at the 90% proficiency level in both Reading and Math.
 - Lanikai is in the Top 20 of all elementary schools in the state, and compares with other schools that achieved at least 84% proficiency or higher in both Reading and Math.
 - Lanikai Reading scores dropped 6% from 93% of students proficient in 2010-11 (third highest in the state) to 87% proficient in 2011-12 (ninth highest in the state). Conventions and Skills are weaker than Comprehension and Literary Response and Analysis. Social Studies assignments are expected to reinforce these Language Arts skills.
 - The Math score increased 1% over last year's score. Science teachers,

especially in the 5th and 6th grades, are integrating more math skills into science lessons.

- Vision Management: Schoolwide, discipline problems were virtually non-existent for the first month of school! We believe it was the implementation of “Vision Management” at the middle of last year as a school-wide discipline policy. While there have been some playground incidents this year, the director has had to address fewer than five students officially.
- CSAO updates:
 - The new board governance structure must be in place by December 31, 2012 unless a waiver is granted. The CSAO has committed to provide resources during the conversion process.
 - According to an August 8 memo produced by the Office of the Attorney General, charter schools may not seek independent legal counsel. The letter will be on file at the school.
- WASC Revisit to determine the length of extension of our accreditation will take place in March, 2013. A training for Oahu school representatives is scheduled for next Wednesday (9/26). Barb VanDerKamp, who has been on the WASC Leadership Team for several years, will attend with Mr. Noh.

4. Student Council Report: Eddie McDonald reporting

All 17 Student Council members attended the Kalaheo Complex Leadership Camp at Camp Erdman, August 23 -24. We had a great deal of fun but also learned a lot about how to be good leaders and how to set and focus on plans and goals for the year.

- Goals focus on 3 areas—school, community, and world, one area each quarter using 1st quarter for planning. Goals discussed so far:
 - School - cold water drinking fountains, campus beautification, school garden
 - Community - cleaning mangrove from streams, helping the homeless
 - World - helping poor countries get clean water

Other ideas generated include a surf contest, dances, pizza days, Valentine Carnation Sales, mini Olympics, school-wide craft fair or market day, lock-down sleep-over, plant sale, Spirit week, Pennies for Patients, and food drives. Each fundraiser will have a specific goal; for example, a dance can raise money for a drinking fountain.

- Miss Kristi spoke at the regular meeting yesterday about her December mission to Africa. She will tell the Council what the most urgent needs are and members will plan a fundraising activity to help her and the Cede-Nest Orphanage. She also suggested making friendship bracelets that she can take with her from us to give to the children.
- Council president, Meghan, has written a spirit cheer that will be the school cheer. Miss Young-Pohlman is working with individual classes to learn the cheer.

5. PTSA Report: Marnie Ackerman, PTSA President, provided news of several activities:

- Membership is at an all-time high with all teachers and seventy-five percent of families enrolled.
- Our PTSA teamed with Ocean Devotion to recruit volunteers to participate in the Kailua-to-Lanikai beach clean-up on September 15, International Coastal Cleanup Day. Over 1,700 pounds of rubbish were removed.

- Planned Upcoming Events
 - “An Ocean of Discovery,” Love of Reading Night - Sept 21 at 5:30 PM, will feature spaghetti dinner, live music, and a bedtime story.
 - “Eat & Meet,” Round 2, a PTA membership dinner meeting, Tuesday, October 9, 6:00 PM, followed by a meeting for parents and interested students
 - Haunted House? Maybe, maybe not. As the Marine support will not be available this year, there will be no Haunted House unless enough parents step to provide the labor. Interested parents may contact Marnie Ackerman at lanikai.ptsa.pres@gmail.com.
- Thanks go to the more than 200 parents and students who “Occupied Lanikai” over Labor Day weekend. All pitched in and some pitched tents for the overnight sleep-in. More than \$2,200 was raised and “I survived Occupy Lanikai” tee shirts are available for \$12 until September 26.
- “Free money” is available for the school with credit card purchases made through the eScrip.com program. All are urged to register their cards online. The school ID# is 141587946.
- 137 votes for Lanikai School on the Target Facebook page earned the school a \$125 gift card.
- The PTSA structure is still under review. The organization is discussing ‘fiscal sponsorship’ with the school in lieu of non-profit status. Some members will meet with PTSA officers prior to the next board meeting to discuss implications of this change. Dr. Weisenfeld will work with Mrs. Ackerman in coordinating this meeting.

6. Finance Committee report:

Board Treasurer Todd Cullison met with Mr. Noh and Business Manager Callie Stevens on September 17 to review the August 2012 financials and the 2012/13 draft budget. Their main focus was to familiarize Mr. Cullison with budget details, including specific line items and sources of income and expenses. Mr. Noh and Ms. Stevens noted that the unaudited financial statements have been submitted to CSAO and the audited financial statements are due by December 15th.

The final 2012-2013 budget based on per-pupil count will be completed after the October 15th enrollment count has been submitted. Following this, the committee will have a better understanding of budget surplus/deficit.

In the future the committee will receive financials on the Friday prior to the regular board meeting and will meet the following Monday afternoon. This gives committee members time to review documents before meeting as a group. The next finance committee meeting is scheduled for Oct. 15th.

7. Lanikai Mission:

Mr Noh expects to use the October 8 staff meeting to work on revising the school mission statement.

8. Work to be accomplished:

- Evaluation of Director - In discussion, members agreed that designing the process and instruments is the first step and can begin now, whereas surveying staff and parents will happen later in the school year.

- WASC - It was noted that while board members will meet with the WASC Visiting Team, members are not responsible for preparing for the visit. Mr. Noh will report WASC activities to the board so that board work will align with WASC activities.
- Board Membership - In regard to restructuring board membership to comply with Act 130, Dr. Whitesell will take responsibility for gathering information about how other boards based on expertise rather than on constituency are selected. Dr. Whitesell, Mr. Dietrich, and Mr. Cullison will meet to plan next steps. Members who have questions to be considered should contact Dr. Whitesell.
- Afterschool Activities Plan - no discussion
- Strategic Planning - The Strategic Planning Committee will not proceed until the mission and vision have been finalized and endorsed by the teachers and staff. Mr. Noh will keep the board abreast of this progress.

9. New Business: none

10. Community Input: none

11. Adjournment to closed session.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 24, 5:30

Cj Baehr, Scribe