

**Sequoia APT General Meeting
February 6, 2015**

Amy Mariucci called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Executive Board Officers in attendance:

Amy Mariucci, President; Courtney Odden, President Elect; Tracy Cheney, Recording Secretary; Shannon Myers, Treasurer; Michelle Moriarty, Deposit Chair; Lisa Kanarish, VP Community Relations; Tanya Kaiser, VP Services; Lisa Hoberg, Advisor; Bryn DeFusco, VP Fundraising; Lara Vineyard, VP Communications

Total attendance: 18

VOTE Ms. Myers moved to approve the Minutes from the APT General Meeting held on January 9, 2015; Ms. Hoberg seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Principal Leiper and Asst. Principal Faeh reported on further efforts to tighten security during parent drop-off and pick-up with increased presence and signage at the gates and enforcing use of dashboard placards. They also reported on SUSD Elementary School Master Plan developments and that Sequoia is not at risk for closure. Sequoia will be piloting an integrated honors approach next year where all teachers will work toward their gifted endorsements and use gifted strategies with all students in all grades.

Ms. Myers reported on a request for APT to spend \$255 for Lyndsey Stuttard, gifted specialist, to finish her gifted accreditation. Ms. Leiper is working to staff a gifted specialist full-time next year, particularly in conjunction with the honors pilot program. Administration is exploring options, including placing SCC teachers-in-training in exchange for credit vouchers, to minimize the financial burden on teachers earning their gifted accreditations.

VOTE Ms. Kanarish moved to approve spending \$255 for Lyndsey Stuttard's gifted accreditation. Ms. Myers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Faeh updated the APT on AZ Merit testing. Testing will occur over an 8-week period. The test schedule by grade is being drafted. Scheduled testing ends April 23 with make-up testing following. Ms. Faeh worked the testing schedule to keep Specials uninterrupted. The APT will provide appropriate snacks to accommodate the elongated test schedule. Young Author's Day has been moved to March 27th to be outside of the testing window. As previously reported, test scores will not count this year, including in teachers' performance evaluations.

Ms. Mariucci reminded the APT that it purchased a set of *Wonder* books last year. There is a request to purchase a set of *Out of My Mind* books. A 32-book set of *Out of My Mind* will cost approximately \$500. Both books are primarily for the 5th grade but are kept in the library. Ms. Faeh said these two books are particularly well-suited for developing comparative skills, which is a 5th grade focus. It was noted that *Out of My Mind* is on Cocopah's incoming 6th grader reading list, but Ms. Faeh said it is not a protected title (i.e., reserved for any particular grade).

VOTE Ms. Myers moved to approve spending up to \$500 to purchase a set of *Out of My Mind* books. Ms. Odden seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Mariucci thanked Ms. Myers for organizing the APT supply closet.

Ms. Myers provided a P&L report and discussed timing of inflows and outflows. She noted the APT's policy to only spend from earnings two years' prior to ensure all commitments are funded. It was noted that the New Book Fair results don't reflect what the APT is getting back in Scholastic Dollars, which is double what it would have gotten back in

cash. It was also noted that the APT funded headphones with microphones to test for the language program and regular headphones can be purchased with Scholastic Dollars.

Ms. Mariucci reported that Chaparral has requested feeder schools to donate to Project Grad, an all-night drug- and alcohol-free graduation party. The consensus was to forego this in favor of other opportunities to collaborate with Chaparral. Ms. Mariucci reported she is working with Chaparral to promote the APT's scholarship for former Sequoia students.

Ms. Kaiser solicited feedback on having Movie Night on the same day as Young Author's Day (March 27th). After discussing pros and cons, the consensus was to have the events on the same day, as currently scheduled. The APT agreed that Night at the Museum (PG) would be an appropriate movie. The APT will arrange for people who bring chairs/blankets to Young Author's Day to leave them on campus for Movie Night.

Ms. Hoberg reported the next SPC meeting is Feb. 18 at Mohave Middle School. There will be a review of teacher evaluation processes. The APT discussed education legislation activity.

Ms. Kanarish reported on upcoming Family Nights: The Vig at McCormick Ranch in February, Paradise Bakery in March, and Chipotle in April. There was a consensus to do a Family Night in May with potential tie-ins to Teacher Appreciation Week and Little League games. The APT also discussed selling Scrip cards at Family Nights. Ms. Kanarish noted the success of the Kids in Need program at Sequoia.

Ms. DeFusco reported on the upcoming PV Costco shopping event Feb. 28. There was an idea to design Spiritwear co-branded with Sequoia/Cocopah/Chaparral logos. The APT discussed setting up a school store to sell Spiritwear and Scrip cards.

Pat Moraca and Jenn Nuara reviewed the Apex Fun Run, which kicks off Feb. 17 with a pep rally. Volunteers are welcome. PayPay will be an option to pay for donations this year. This year, businesses can donate 100% to the APT (Apex will not take a cut) and display advertising on the day of the event. These donations are not eligible for Apex prizes, so the APT discussed funding prizes for kids whose parents donate this way.

Ms. Vineyard reported a good turnout for Kindergarten Roundup. The Grow with sUSD Tour was very informative. Ms. Vineyard and Mr. Moraca updated the APT on the SUSD Governing Board bond initiative for school construction and refurbishing.

Upcoming Events:

- Talent Show, Feb. 6, 6:00 p.m.
- SUSD Governing Board meeting, Feb. 10, 5 p.m.
- Family Night, The Vig at McCormick Ranch, Feb. 11, 11 a.m. – Midnight
- Future Mustang Parent Orientation, Feb. 12, 6-7 p.m.
- Yearbook order deadline extended to Feb. 15
- Apex Fun Run Pep Rally, Feb. 17
- Scottsdale Parent Council meeting, Feb. 18, 9:30 a.m., Mohave Middle School
- Parent Teacher Conferences, Feb. 25-26
- Apex Fun Run, Feb. 26
- PV Costco shopping event, Feb. 28, 8-10:30 a.m.
- APT General Meeting, Mar. 6, 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.