



## SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

*Minutes by Laurence Zede-Humbert, Kindergarten teacher*

**May 11th, 2015**

Last meeting of the 2014-15 school year  
3:25-4:45 PM

### Attendees

Headmaster: Christian Jarlov (CJ)

Students: Tia Perdereau and Yann Baglin-Bunod

Parents: Anne Girard (AG), Ainara Biloboa (AB), Amanda Coalier (AC), Nahid Awad (NA)

Administration: Virginia Berracasa (VB)

Teachers and Directors: Sophie Ricouard (SR), Francis Carlier (FC), Erin Wallen (EW), François Trégouët (FT), Laurence Zede-Humbert (LZH)

### **1. Students' report**

Middle School students' suggestions:

- More fountains, especially on the field
- More field trips

Elementary students' suggestions (from FC):

- Girard Gourmet: different lunch options
- 5th Grade: a proper graduation ceremony
- French map painted on the playground
- Recess: sharing the field for one entire week, instead of 2 days/week
- Pokemon cards: being allowed to exchange them at school recesses
- Music program: children really liked it and would like it next year.

Responses to students' suggestions:

CJ:

- It is complicated to have water fountains on the field. Students can bring their

- own bottles or drink before or after being on the field.
- Field trips: the schedule will be the same next year with the 6th and 7th grade overnight trips in October.
- The music program will continue next year and there will be an art program.

EW:

- Beach clean-up field trip
- Dance survey
- Increasing student voice
- New balls were bought (funds from the jog-a-thon) and there are two different boxes to put them away, one for MS and one for Elementary.

CJ reminders:

- School Council minutes are published on the website.
- Calendar for next year has been published
- Calendar of events will be published at the end of June
- Next School Council will be in October 2015
- Parent survey is coming up in May (the last one was two years ago)

The School Council decided that the Pokemon cards are not allowed at school, even after 3:00 PM.

## 2. Class activities and projects

### Middle School

EW:

- Beach clean-up
- Last dance
- Montreal for 8th Grade
- Graduation for 8th Grade
- School climate
- MS reviews and updates the rules with student and teacher input
- Future High Schools for the 8th Graders: La Jolla HS, La Jolla Country Day, Bishop's, Mission Bay HS (IB), San Diego HS (IB), Francis Parker, Cathedral Catholic, UC HS, LILA (Lycée International de Los Angeles) LA, Coronado HS, COSA.

### Cycle 3

FT:

- End of the year show: the trip
- 3rd Grade: Museum of Art/Cabrillo National Monument
- 4th Grade: Rawhide Ranch (May 20-22)
- 5th Grade: Astrocamp (May 13-15)

### Cycle 2

FC:

- 1st Grade: Writing a book with the students, the planters, show, field trip at the pool (with Diesa and Nicolas)

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: The electricity, the earth (being green), compare La Jolla landscaping in the past and now

### Preschool

#### LZH:

- All classes: the end of the year show (Colors are back!)
- PKO: The sea, Wild Wonders visit (May 22<sup>nd</sup>)
- PK1: How to protect the Amazon rain forest (the animals, Brazil), the recycling and in June: the water (pollution, wasting), 1 PK1 will cook a Brazilian specialty; the other will do a short animation movie, field trip to the Birch Aquarium.
- PK2: The insects (observation, classification), transition PK2/K, field trip at the Science Museum (Imax movie)
- K: "The Colors," the Graduation, transition K/1st Grade, field trip to the zoo, K-A will write a book (main character is their 3D wolf sculpture), KB will make an animation movie (main character is their 3D snail sculpture).

### **3. Events to come and information on campus life**

#### CJ:

- "La troupe" is just back from Dallas where they performed their play, "*Et si on jouait au Petit Prince.*"
- Visit of a writer, Jill Santopolo
- Visit of Top to Top expedition
- Art Fair (May 18-20)
- Music event "*Fête de la musique*" June 4<sup>th</sup>, open also to the parents and teachers (more info in the Echo this week)
- SAT tests for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades
- Internal testing for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades (French curriculum)
- Last month, DELF (Diplôme d'Etudes de la Langue Française) for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade

#### SR:

- K Graduation: May 13<sup>th</sup>
- Mini forum special Mandarin (PK1-K): May 27<sup>th</sup>
- Sun project to be concluded (how to protect your skin). The new nurse, Amanda Dalby, will come in the classes to talk to the children about that.
- Parent-teacher conferences (PKO-K): week of June 8<sup>th</sup>
- Preschool report cards: June 12<sup>th</sup>
- End of the year shows: elementary on the 12<sup>th</sup>, preschool on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### CJ:

- Regarding the lunch program, it will be reviewed in November: do we keep the same or do we change?

The lunch committee met and looked at different proposals. According to the school expectations, they selected 3 providers (GG + 2 others) on a list of 5 bidders. Price, quality, organic food, experience with schools were the main criteria as well as their flexibilities (different options for students), possibility of making online reservations. By the end of May, they will come to present their program.

#### 4. Parents' questions

- K parents: not enough balls on the field or playground.

SR response: Transition K/1st Grade, the children can choose to play with the elementary at lunch and afternoon recesses: more students, less balls, need to adjust and to share. We do not have 1 ball for each child.

Balls for the K only: new basket balls (bought with the jog-a-thon funds) for the morning recess.

CJ: New game at the elementary recess: throw the balls over the fence. Less balls available.

- Questions: Could we have a breakdown of the gala money?

Expansion: more classroom spaces?

School calendar 2015-16: Presidents Day, why school that day?

More shade in the middle of the black top?

About the elementary daycare inside?

NA: New transcripts for MS students going to HS? Graduation has changed?

CJ response:

- It will be given by Veronique Rhamati during the fall.

For now, the school is working on quotes regarding the air conditioning in P&C buildings, the Art project, the music project, the transportation (purchasing or leasing of a larger bus), landscaping improvement and other campus improvements.

- Extension of the lease: next year will be the final year (after 10 years). Process to renew the lease, the discussion will take place next year to get more than 5 years.

- Expansion: It will depend on the duration of the lease. For now, the school has room for everyone.

- Presidents Day: 175 days of school.

We have to comply with the expectations of AEFÉ and French Ministry of Education.

The rule is 5 periods/year. Each period has to be 7 or 8 weeks.

This year (Sept. 2015) we will start early: on September 1st.

The only possibility was to work on Presidents Day (see the minutes of January, 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015).

It is exceptional; it will not be like this every year. No tests that day if some children will miss. May be different activities.

- For security reasons, there will not be a permanent shade structure. We need to open the gate for the fire truck.

May be more tables with umbrellas but no shade on the playground.

- Daycare: From 2:45 to 3:00 PM it is the pick-up time.

At 3:00 PM, all the children go in the study hall. 1/2h for the 1st grade, 45mn for the 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5th grades.

After that time, they all come out and play outside. Depending on the weather, daycare can be in a classroom.

There was a lot of coordination this year with Valérie Asensio and the daycare staff regarding the activities until at least 5:00 PM.

- The graduation ceremony has not been changed. Just the time has been. 5 to 10 slides for each student. Individual slides and speech.

EW response:

Recommendation forms for placement for languages (Spanish and French) and math are ready now and will be sent with transcripts at the end of the school year to the high schools.

The official request for the transcripts comes from the HS to our school once the child commits to the HS s/he chooses.

VB: The AP French class is now AP French language only and not French Literature. Our students can take the test without taking the class in AP French language.

A big thanks to Nahid Awad for the yearbook, to the room parents, parent - volunteers and especially to Amanda Coalier who coordinates and helps a lot with:

- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Room parents
- Interactions between the admin and parents
- The admissions and prospective families

CJ: Yes, it is very important for the school community, for the teachers to have the support of the volunteers. Thank you very much.

Thank you also to the members of the School Council.

Minutes by Laurence Zede-Humbert (Cycle 1)