

**Paradise Canyon Elementary School
Open PTA Meeting
November 18, 2008**

1. Call To Order

President Laura Campobasso called the Open Meeting of the Paradise Canyon Elementary School PTA to order at 9:15am in the cafeteria. A quorum was present.

Laura Buchanan led the Pledge of Allegiance. Laura Campobasso welcomed those in attendance and thanked the many Volunteers who worked over the past few months on PTA activities. She asked the group to see the back side of the agenda for the list of Volunteers.

2. Business

Paige Hulseley **moved** to approve the minutes of the October 14th Open Meeting, and Lisa Dick seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Treasurer Susan Marki gave the Treasurer's Report. According to Susan, our beginning cash balance as of October 4th was \$89,623 and our ending cash balance as of November 7th stands at \$73,806. During this period 55 checks were written totaling \$44,317.

Susan Marki referred to the Cash Report and the Warrants Report, copies of which were being passed around the room. She announced that she had made minor adjustments to the budget, which she had indicated by color on the Cash Report.

Susan stated that, even with this year's economic difficulties, there is good news about our financial situation, thanks to the hard work and generosity of the PTA. On the income side we have had four big fundraisers: One Check Order Forms, Back to School Picnic, Harvest Festival, and Gift Wrap. Her comparison of the fundraisers from last year to this year is as follows:

	2007-08	2008-09
One Check (Net)*	\$29,707	\$38,036
Back to School Picnic	\$ 4,378	\$ 4,277
Harvest Festival	\$ 3,277	\$ 3,984
Gift Wrap (estimated)	\$27,343	\$22,000
Total (estimated)	<u>\$64,705</u>	<u>\$68,297</u>

*Net includes net membership, technology, beautification, classroom, library, 6th grade and general donations less the cost of the mailing.

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According to Susan, this year's One Check did much better than last year. The Back to School Picnic was about the same as last year and just over budget. The Harvest Festival was better than last year and almost \$1,000 over budget. Gift Wrap is estimated to be well over its budget of \$20,000. So our totals are about the same as last year and are almost \$15,300 OVER our original proposed budget for this year.

Our big expenses have included the new mimios, the reading program, and district technology. Although year-to-date we have spent more on these items than last year, it has been a result of front-loading rather than overspending on our part. Our enrichment budget, where our big expenses have occurred, still has 61% of its funds remaining.

Susan announced that we are currently on track and in a very good position. However, given the state budget problems, next year could be different. She cautioned that careful thought should be made in preparing next year's budget. She encouraged the group to email her with suggestions about funds allocation for next year to be discussed at the next meeting.

Susan Marki **moved** to approve the November 2008 Cash Flow Report. Lisa Simone seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Susan Marki **moved** to approve the November 2008 Warrants Report. Laura Buchanan seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Susan Marki **moved** to approve the adjustments, which had been made to the budget. Kim Hershman seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

3. Principal's Report

Donna Robinson announced that construction is going well. Palm Crest is about a month ahead and concrete blocks are up so we aren't very far behind.

At this point, Laura Campobasso announced the arrival of Jim Kambe, a member of the Board of Directors of the Lanterman House Historical Museum Foundation. Mr. Kambe made a short presentation about Lanterman House in which he informed the group of its wonderful history and its continuing benefits to La Canada children and adults.

According to Mr. Kambe, Lanterman House belongs to the National Registry of Historical Homes. It is owned by the City of La Canada, but the Lanterman Historical Museum Foundation keeps it going. Their

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goal in presenting to our schools is to keep parents informed of the benefits to its children. Lanterman House is the location of one of the 3rd grade field trips, fulfilling a history requirement for the children. It is also a great place to take groups such as boy and girl scouts.

Not only is Lanterman House a great place for school and club field trips, it contains historical artifacts, including photos of old homes in La Canada, which adults would find interesting. There are also many opportunities to volunteer there. He encouraged everyone to join and get their kids involved. Mr. Kambe distributed information about Lanterman House including some free passes and membership applications.

4. Chairperson's Reports

Nominating Committee/Safety: Connie Becker reminded everyone about the CPR offering which she and Jennifer Yoshida had introduced earlier. At this point only one parent has responded. Anyone interested in taking the class should let them know.

They have also been looking at the traffic situation at Paulette and Knight Way. They are currently working with the city to make the crosswalk there more apparent to drivers.

Connie announced that she is taking nominations for Nominating Committee members including an alternate. With existing members and additional volunteers, the panel will include Caren Colburn, Susan Marki, Mikaho Hara, and Laura Buchanan with Lisa Simone as an alternate. Connie **moved** to submit the panel for approval. Lisa Dick seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Gift Wrap Update: Laura Buchanan announced that the Gift Wrap fundraiser has grossed over \$47,000. She thanked all of the volunteers who helped distribute the items and praised everyone for picking their deliveries up in a timely manner. She announced that 60 kids attended Roundtable Pizza for the pizza and limo prize.

Donna Robinson talked about how excited the kids were and added that she had heard a little girl say that it was the "best thing ever!"

Caren Colburn added that we continue to make a profit on the Gift Wrap sales for an entire year.

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Laura Campobasso mentioned that she had gotten many nice emails from parents on how great and efficient the Gift Wrap process was this year!

Gift Presentation from Korean American PTA: Stacy Park, the PCY representative for the LCF Outreach Committee and a member of the PCY Korean American PTA, announced that the Outreach Committee has raised \$49,000 so far for the Educational Foundation, in addition to holding drug awareness seminars and sponsoring luncheons for firemen.

She went on to talk about the PCY Korean American PTA and explained their role and their contribution to the school. The Korean American PTA was formed by parents who wanted to contribute time and money but felt awkward because of the language barrier. This group has since dissolved but has some money left in the budget, which they have decided to present as a gift to PCY. On their behalf, Stacy presented us with a check for \$2,638.

Laura Campobasso thanked Stacy and announced that the front bulletin board would be dedicated to them.

Poker Social: Caren Colburn announced that the PCY Poker Social is being held on February 7th.

Book Fair: Samantha Heer announced that the Book Fair will take place December 3 through December 8. The hours on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will be from 8:00am – 4:00pm; the hours on Saturday and Sunday will be from 12:00 – 4:00pm; and the hours on Monday will be from 8:00am – 4:00pm. She announced that a Book Fair Preview Dinner will be held on December 2 at 7:30pm. Participants in the Preview Dinner will be able to order from Los Gringos.

Samantha also reminded the group that red volunteer forms would be coming home in the Thursday folder in case anyone is interested in volunteering.

PTA Staff Luncheon: Ashley Gish announced that the date of the PTA Holiday Staff Luncheon will be moved from December 10th to December 16th due to the 6th grade play. The luncheon will take place at Ashley Gish's home. More information will be forthcoming.

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Reflections: Laura Campobasso spoke for Christine Chant who was not able to be at the meeting. According to Christine, there are over 60 entries. Winners will be announced after Thanksgiving.

5. Program

Laura Campobasso introduced Kathy Hernandez, former President of the Educational Foundation as well as a former PTA President. Kathy has a background in Engineering and Consulting as well as extensive experience in technology on Internet Safety.

Kathy's goal in giving this presentation was to make sure that we as parents are aware of the various types of technology our kids are using so that we can keep them safe.

Kathy talked about cell phones, instant messaging, and virtual worlds such as Club Penguin and Webkins. She also talked about Internet/Facebook safety and gave some valuable Facebook tips for parents. One of her main messages to parents is to know how to use the technology yourself so that you can guide your children.

5. Announcements

- Spirit Rally is Friday, November 21.
- THANKSGIVING BREAK –NO SCHOOL, 11/24-11/28.
- Book Fair Preview Dinner is December 2nd at 7:30pm
- Book Fair is 12/3-12/8: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm, Saturday and Sunday 12:00-4:00pm, Monday 8:00 am – 4:00pm.
- Jogathon is December 5th.
- 6th Grade Play is Thursday, December 11 at Lanterman Auditorium.
- WINTER RECESS – NO SCHOOL. 12/22-1/02.
- Next meeting is Tuesday, January 13th @ 9:15am.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.

Submitted by:

Paige Hulsey
Recording Secretary