

**Paradise Canyon Elementary School
PTA Open Meeting
September 2, 2008**

1. Call To Order

President Laura Campobasso called the Open Meeting of the Paradise Canyon Elementary School PTA to order at 8:30 am in the cafeteria. A quorum was present.

Principal Donna Robinson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Laura welcomed parents to “our new building site” and announced that a year from now we would be happy with the results. She reminded everyone that parking would be stressful in the interim.

Laura introduced the old and new Board members. She thanked the many Volunteers who worked over the past few months on PTA activities and also mentioned the wonderful staff. She announced that we had over 2,000 hours of volunteer time last year, which made a huge difference to the school. She encouraged parents to continue with their volunteer efforts

Laura recognized and thanked specific volunteers including Lisa Simone and Caren Colburn for the PTA mailing; Linda Rosenthal and Kristy Goodstein for the refreshments; Mikaho Hara and Susan Marki for the budget; Michelle McGoldrick and Sharon Grey for the Cougar Wear; and Irma Chavez for the supply boxes. She introduced Lisa Dick and encouraged parents to help her by signing volunteer sheets.

2. Business

Paige Hulsey **moved** to approve the minutes of the June 2008 Open Meeting, and Maureen Borland seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Treasurer Susan Marki read a letter from Charlotte Maya who audited the PTA books. The letter praised the accuracy of former treasurer Mikaho Hara’s books.

Susan Marki referred to the Cash Report and the Warrants Report, copies of which were being passed around the room. She announced that the Medieval Faire fundraising efforts netted almost \$59,000 and Passive Fundraising netted almost \$37,000 last year. Our beginning cash balance for June was \$90,044.05. Thirteen checks totaling \$16,468.49 were written between July and August. Passive fundraising earned more than \$7,000 during the same time period. Our ending cash balance for August stands at \$80,699.65.

**Paradise Canyon Elementary School
PTA Open Meeting
September 2, 2008**

Susan Marki **moved** to approve the June 2008 and the August 2008 Cash Balances & Warrants and to adopt the fiscal auditing report. Maureen Borland seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Laura Campobasso **moved** to approve the school Fundraisers and associated Chairpersons for the year. Mary Beth Eckerle seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Laura reminded everyone about the Community Service Bulletin Board outside of the front office. The bulletin board, overseen by Susan Moulin, is called "Pass It On" and highlights kids who have made a difference in the community.

3. Principal's Report

Principal Donna Robinson welcomed everyone. She introduced members of the La Canada Governing Board including President Susan Boyd, Vice President Joel Peterson, Jeane Broberg, Cindy Wilcox, Scott Tracy and Superintendent Jim Stratton. Donna thanked the Board for all of their hard work and support. She also thanked the PTA for their efforts. Everyone gave a round of applause.

Donna announced that we will soon begin construction on the new multi-purpose building. PCY has been working closely with the district to make sure that the construction will not impair the learning process. The building will be larger to allow for PE activities on rainy days and hot days.

Donna reported that PCY, at 650 students, is now the largest of the elementary schools. She also announced staff changes for the new year. We have new teachers: Miss Strople in Kindergarten, Miss Bachmuth in the 3rd grade, Miss Hardash and Mrs. Selsor in the 4th grade, and Mrs. Malhotra in the 6th grade. Nicole Neuman is now Nicole MacLennan and Mickey Reardon is now Mickey Block. Donna joked about having two Wawrychuks and two Hardashes at PCY.

Donna thanked everyone for being a big part of PCY's academic success. She announced that API scores had gone up with over 90% of the students scoring at the proficient or advanced level. One half of the students went up a step on the test in reading intervention. There was a 5% decrease in the number of students that scored below proficient. The 5th grade math score was the highest in the state. She ended by saying that working hard together brings great results – but we're not done yet! We want to work to make our students reach their highest potential.

**Paradise Canyon Elementary School
PTA Open Meeting
September 2, 2008**

4. Chairperson's Reports

Laura Campobasso thanked Debbie Pierce for making sure the office runs smoothly. Laura highlighted the programs that the PTA provides such as Art Docent, Library, Computer Labs, as well as PE and Recreational Activities. She encouraged parents to attend the PTA meetings in order to keep informed.

Laura announced some of the new programs that are being rolled out such as Environmental Week. Also, Joanie Raney is starting creative journal writing program for students, which will be expanded from last year.

Membership: Maureen Borland announced that our PTA goal is 100% PCY family participation (at least 1 person per family). Maureen explained that the PTA provides each teacher with \$25 per student to assist them in their classroom needs. Additionally, we have a classroom fund to help teachers purchase needed supplies (things that aren't typically in the budget).

Membership is just \$7 per person and includes a free student directory. Maureen also mentioned that there are advantages to having a membership card such as getting different types of educational information for free. She encouraged parents to look on the website for more information.

Fundraising: Caren Colburn announced that we have a very successful fundraising plan for this year. She explained the two ways that the PTA focuses on raising funds. Passive fundraising allows us to make money without much work through escrip, Vons, Ralphs, etc. She reminded parents to pay attention to the One Check Order Forms and also look for new opportunities.

We also raise money through various fundraisers throughout the year. Caren gave examples of the fundraisers including the Back to School Picnic on September 12, chaired by Michelle Sabourin, the Pumpkin Patch Harvest Festival on October 10, chaired by Kris Mueller, the 3rd annual Parent Teacher Poker Social on October 25, chaired by Chrissie and Brian Arnold, and the Book Fair in December hosted by Samantha Heer and Chrissie Arnold.

Caren announced that Gift Wrap sales, chaired by Donna Dohi and Laura Buchanan, begin on Thursday, September 11. Packets will go out that day. She explained that we have gone back to Innisbrook for

**Paradise Canyon Elementary School
PTA Open Meeting
September 2, 2008**

our merchandise and that a table will be set up at the Picnic with examples of the items being sold. She encouraged everyone to take a look and to try the cookie dough.

Caren mentioned that there would be four Roundtable Pizza nights.

She announced that the art for the spring Note Card Fundraiser would be made in art class.

Caren ended by mentioning that the Cougar wear is a huge fundraiser as well as the Medieval Faire and the Fun Run chaired by Cissy Belcher. She encouraged everyone to volunteer.

Communication: Laura Campobasso talked about communication from PCY. She mentioned that Doreen Aitelli puts together emails and sends them out. Lori Moody, VP of Communication, oversees what is sent out. Informational emails will go out twice a month. There is a bulletin board and a website that you can check. We are trying to make sure that parents have as much information as possible.

Caren Colburn, who chairs the Cougar Tracks, reminded everyone to submit newsletter information to directly to her email address and include their email at the top. She also stated that there is a lack of space in the newsletter and that only directly relevant PCY information will be included.

Room Reps: Janice Shue thanked everyone who signed up to be a Room Rep and announced the classes that still had openings. She announced that the Room Rep meeting would be held September 10 at 7:00 pm in the library.

CHILD PULLED A FIRE ALARM!

Volunteer Opportunities: Lisa Dick reminded everyone about other sign ups that were not associated with the classroom such as the Back to School Picnic, the Poker Social, the Harvest Festival, and Hearing Screening. She also wished Laura a happy birthday.

Laura introduced Pam Raymer-Lea, who is starting a science club at PCY.

5. Announcements

- One Check Order Forms are due Friday, September 5 no later than 3:00 pm in the office

**Paradise Canyon Elementary School
PTA Open Meeting
September 2, 2008**

- La Canada Books & Toys donates 10% of core literature book sales until October 15. Please Identify PCY.
- LCUSD Master Calendar is on-line at www.lcusd.net
- Check out our website at www.pcypta.org
- Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 14 @ 9:15 am in the Cafeteria. Jim Stratton will be joining us.
- Cougar Tracks will be coming home Thursday, September 4.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 am.

Submitted by:

Paige Hulsey
Recording Secretary