

Terra Nova High School
Minutes of the PTO Meeting of February 27, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 pm by Beckie Patane, President.

The evening's agenda was approved by the board after deletion of Staff Presentations by Visual Performing Arts and Physical Education, changing Terra Nova Academic Foundation to Terra Nova Education Foundation, changing Membership to Mini Grants, deletion of Staff Appreciation and Escrip updates, and adding Brisbane and Daly City bus/transportation issues to Open Forum Q&A.

Minutes from last meeting 1/23/18 were approved.

Staff Presentations: Social Science- Diane Fornasier

- expanding AP in social sciences: 2 AP US History & 2 AP Government and 1 AP European History; 4th year of AP Psychology
- Peer helping class for juniors and seniors (85 applicants last year, choose about 32 per year): caring, empathetic students, meet with freshmen monthly, notify staff and wellness counselor if see bullying on social media, help freshmen adjust to TN, help any student in crisis, advocate for teaching within classes to help keep students in line in class; multimedia presentations about various topics (body image, mental health, bullying, etc) with personal testimonials; receive sash (paid for by PTO) to wear during graduation; applications are given during course selection; course teaches about being a counselor, peer mediation training, crisis assistance, sometimes meet individually with other TN students, modeling behavior and giving suggestion to freshmen and other students, coping strategies, conflict resolution, learn public speaking, run sessions with freshmen
- Ms. Fornasier is retiring after this school year; 4 of her former students are teaching or subbing at TN.

Terra Nova Education Foundation: Jason Selli

- Jason Selli currently teaches at Carlmont and has a student at TN, and will be teaching at TN next year.
- TNEF is in early development with goals of working closely with principal to support her vision; sole purpose is to raise funds and have principal use them to enrich academics at school (not for sports, etc); some options: smaller class size, more class choices, money for professional development, more collaboration time (pay subs), teacher support, college and career counseling and support for guidance counselors, enrichment, technology, books, anything for the classrooms.
- Examples of other foundations and their fundraising: Carlmont Foundation serves Carlmont high school which is in an affluent community next to Silicon Valley and has about 2100 students (more than double TN): first year raised \$36K, 2nd \$77K, 3rd \$100 K, in 6th year raising \$521K
- Cost effective for parents to donate to education foundation rather than pay private school tuition
- Funds come from: matching corporate gifts, fundraising bash/ball, business partnerships, direct donations from parents/families, giving Tuesday, grants (but those usually need to be tied to specific item/goal)

- Takes time but growth happens
- Discussion about doing a district foundation versus just TN: parents seem more willing to donate directly to their own school; most education foundations at HS level are specific to just one high school; different schools have different needs/goals; discussion of equity issues; different from PTO by being an aggressive fundraising body but need to coexist and not step on toes of PTO, athletic boosters, etc; foundation would do bigger ticket items while PTO does more community meetings and staff appreciation.
- Meeting 2nd Thurs of each month at 7:00 in TN library

JUHSD: Andy Lie

- Dual enrollment with Skyline at each school is starting next year with American Sign Language and auto mechanics at TN, which is part of reason for rotational schedule stopping next year; meeting with SMCC board to work on this partnership.
- Vision of district to help students be prepared for whatever their next step is (college, trade school, direct to work, etc).
- Working on changing expectations within the district.

Grad Night: Heather Campagna & Megan Carey

- Superintendent has new rules: no non-TN students, no underclassmen (because they have finals the next day), must be in good standing, ample and sufficient security throughout and comprehensive.
- Some discussion of why the changes: primarily to focus on safety and make it a night for just the seniors.
- 230 seniors this year
- Goal is safe and sober event for graduating seniors.

Budget Update: Heather Campagna, Treasurer

- \$90,102.94 in account

Membership: Lynn Anderson

- About 75 donors, about \$3,500
- Tax letters done and ½ are mailed
- Can do second request via email in spring

Principal's Report and Open Forum: Megan Carey

- Daly City bus situation: Brisbane School District is trying to work with SamTrans and JUHSD; City of Brisbane was paying \$150K/year but won't be able to anymore and bus service is being cancelled; about 50 students use this bus to get to Oceana and TN (drawn by positive school community, sports, etc); parents are looking for support and solutions; advised to show up at SamTrans Board Meeting; Heather Campagna to contact Oceana PTO to keep them connected with TN PTO; district can give numbers of students from Brisbane zip codes so families can bring data of numbers of people affected to meeting.
- JUHSD advisory committee meeting: suspension rates are a problem throughout the district

- Information on California dashboard website: hope to have presentation at future PTO meeting explaining dashboard more thoroughly
- Discussion of textbooks being online to cut down on books needing to be carried to/from school: cost is an issue and not all textbooks are online; encourage students to be strategic with using locker so not carrying around all books all day.
- PSAT 10 tomorrow 8-noon
- AP exam fees being collected now
- PE update: Coach Adams going on short leave so will have long term sub
- Google Classroom training for teachers to prepare for nonroational schedule
- Pacifica Family Summit 3/10 10:30-2:30: youth groups and adult groups; info on FB page
- Starting 3/5 juniors and seniors will have 3 days of workshops on violence prevention in English and History classes with counselors available as needed; focus is on sexual assault
- Students wanted to do a banner supporting Parkland School after shooting there; staff member arranged donation of banner and students will be signing it and sending it to the school; banners are serving as a barrier on school fencing to give privacy from media and show support.
- Looking at Link Crew Program: outside group that trains staff who then train students to specifically support freshmen with transition to high school.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22. Next meeting will be held on March 27, 2018.