

**Gregory Gardens PTA**  
**September 13, 2010**  
**Minutes**

PERSONNEL SERVICES

OCT 01 2010

MDUSD

I. Call to order 2:40pm 9/13/10 Gregory Gardens Library

II. **Welcome, Introductions, Attendance**

In attendance:

Cheryl Kolano, Principal

Gail Wojtalewicz, Teacher

Jill Stevens-Nappi, Teacher

Merry Burns, Parent

Tammy Nadeau, Teacher

Shelley Perez, Parent

Lorraine Monaghan, Parent

Shuleen Martin, Parent

Cynthia Tubbs, staff

Guests:

Kathleen Padelford, Parent

Harold Hackmeier, Grandparent

III. **Read and approve minutes of meeting June 7, 2010.**

Edits/comments on minutes from 6/7/10:

III A. – Change correct "Member" to "Merry"

IV A. – Math program Key Skills is in the lab.

Note: Evaluation of math programs by teachers is planned for this Fall.

Meet the Masters – Merry Burns requests clarification of status.

- o \$4,400 was allocated by PTA.
- o Shelley Perez: Candace Raitano bought Meet the Masters, Utako Boomer taught the program. District/grant would not allow payment to a teacher without an Art degree. PTA paid to offer as classified employee, however that person would not be permitted to substitute teach in MDUSD.
- o Could Mr. Ralls be supervisor of the program? - Similar to R. Tesar supervising in Resource.
- o In the event that the Meet the Masters position does not fly, perhaps the money provided by the PTA could be used to fund our ceramics program. Cynthia Tubbs notes that we have plenty of clay but we are very short on glazes. (PTA usually supplies glazes.)
- o Kathleen Padelford notes that perhaps an art student from DVC or a teacher in training would be interested in teaching the program.
- o Gail Wojtalewicz, Tammy Nadeau, and Jill Stevens-Nappi note that the program takes about 1 month and they loved the art program.
- o Lorraine Monaghan notes that at Sequoia, parent volunteers delivered the program.

*Cheryl Kolano moves to post the position and if it is not filled then to return to the PTA for reallocation of funds. Second by Shelley Perez. Motion passed.*

*Shelley Perez moves to approve the minutes of June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 with the amendments. Merry Burns second. Motion passed.*

#### IV. Old Business

**A. Site instructional/tech assistant for the 2010-2011 school year.**

*Shelley Perez moves to increase instructional assistant Donna Langner's hours for a total dollar amount not to exceed \$11,700 as funded by the PTA for the 2010-2011 school year. Lorraine Monaghan seconds. Motion passed.*

#### V. New business

**A. Election results:** Parents Kathleen Padelford, Ono Rothschild-Battle, Lorraine Monaghan and Shelley Perez were on the ballot at Back to School night. (Parent Barry Hightower was interested in more information but did not choose to run.) Shelley Perez and Lorraine Monaghan were elected. No community representative so far. Teacher Jill Stevens-Nappi replaces Roseann Colvig.

**B. Textbook sufficiency:** Waiting to hear from 2 Third grade teachers. Textbooks are here but not workbooks. Kindergarten Math workbook back ordered. Some science back ordered. Update at next meeting.

**C. School Characteristics:** Tabled until next meeting.

**D. Review of STAR, API, AYP**

1. Last year our score was 848. This year our score is 818. API is >800. The decrease is a concern.
2. Cheryl Kolano notes that there will be discussion and follow-up.
3. Shuleen Martin asks how the API is calculated. At our next meeting discuss, and how ELL and continuous enrollment is determined.
4. Cheryl Kolano will offer a meeting with parents. Presented a graphic representation of the student scores: Math for incoming 5<sup>th</sup> grade and Reading for incoming 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. District is considering more bench work data.
5. Merry Burns asks: Does the dip reflect new Math program? At Gregory Gardens it was followed closely.
6. Other schools in our area have hired instructional assistants. Title I schools receive financial assistance. We are in the middle.
7. What do staff need? Jill Stevens-Nappi notes that all at once we lost reading assistants and class size increased. Tammy Nadeau notes that

we also lost volunteers at the start of last year due to fingerprinting requirement.

8. Lorraine Monaghan notes that a meeting with parents is helpful so that they are informed. Perhaps program cuts have brought us to a point where needs cannot be covered anymore.
9. How does large class size impact the class as a whole?
10. Peer help – last year Student Council helped by reading with kids.
11. Merry Burns notes that a conversation with parents is important.
12. There were a number of new students that were at a significantly lower level than 3<sup>rd</sup> graders that have been at Gregory Gardens. Other schools in our area may not have as much flux in student population. This should be communicated.
13. Harold Hackmeier suggests a letter to parents. Kathleen Padelford notes that earlier notification to parents of children that are not doing well is better. Report card time is too late. Cheryl Kolano notes that teachers contact parents then intervention planned.

- V. **School characteristics, goals and SPSA – tabled**
- VI. **ELAC - tabled**
- VII. **Future Agenda Suggestions – no additional items**
- VIII. **Public input – none**
- IX. **Announcements**  
 Next meeting October 4, 2:30pm library.  
 Fall briefing is October 7, dinner 4:45pm at Center Concord
- X. **Meeting adjourned 3:55pm.**

Minutes by Shuleen Martin