

CARPENTER AVENUE ELEMENTARY
SSC/LEARN Minutes
February 19, 2009
Cafeteria West / 2:40-4:00 pm

I. Welcome – 10 minutes

- Meeting came to order at 2:45pm.
- Staff in Attendance: Linda Parth, Sandy Hartshorn, Mrs. Midiri, Mrs. Finer, and Mrs. Colbert.
- Motion to approve January 2008 minutes by Michellene DeBonis, seconded by Cyndi Menegaz.

II. Old Business – 5 Minutes

- Approved January monthly minutes were posted on school website. (www.CarpenterAve.org).
- Natalie Kurlander volunteered to assist Secretary, Tonni Ratcliff, in the event of a meeting absence and help with meeting minutes.

III. UTLA – 10 Minutes

Chris Colbert

- LAUSD Teachers approved the Health Benefits package.
- It is locked in as a 3-year package until 2012.
- Contract negotiations are currently underway.
- March 12, 2009 the strike authorization vote will take place.

IV. Principal Update – 20 Minutes

Mrs. Parth

District Update

- The needs of non-Title I schools (four in District 2) are tremendous.
- Superintendent Cortinez is actively looking for ways to support and find funding for the non-Title I schools.
- The \$26,000 School and Library fund for Carpenter is in jeopardy of being cut.
- There is an estimated \$600-\$700 million budget shortfall for the State of California.
- March 15, 2009 is "Pink Slip" Notification day in LAUSD.
- The teachers in the district with the lowest seniority may receive a pink slip notification.

Campus Visit from Mrs. Alma Sanchez, Local District 2 Superintendent

- Local District 2 Superintendent, Mrs. Alma Sanchez, visited Carpenter on February 3, 2009.
- Superintendent Sanchez expressed her joy over how beautiful the campus was kept.
- Mrs. Sanchez also commented on how she was impressed by the teachers, classrooms, high level of student work posted in and around the classrooms and class organization.
- She commented on how beautifully Carpenter Students not only carried themselves and classroom behavior but also on their ability to write and verbally speak in full and complete sentences, and how well they used and went beyond utilizing grade level vocabulary.

Microsoft Settlement

- The Technology Committee met and agreed to spend the \$18,780 on the following:
- 11 new computers – 17" Mac Desktops
- 3 combination LCD/overheard projectors.

V. New Business – 5 Minutes

Consolidated Charities Campaign - Mrs. Colbert on behalf of Mrs. Midiri

- Consolidated Charities is a LAUSD fundraiser done every year.
- There is an envelope with various charities listed. This is a voluntary charity drive.

- Charity envelopes are to go home, Tuesday of next week.

Gardening Proposal

- Two Green Team Parent Volunteers (Mary Kuser and Oona Hanson) put a proposal together for a small plot on campus to be dedicated and used as the "Carpenter Vegetable & Herb Garden."
- They developed a proposal and addressed the Studio City Neighborhood Council for possible funding. The Neighborhood Council was very impressed at the proposal and designated \$3,000 in funding for the project out of the \$5000 that was proposed, with the hopes that the additional \$2,000 in funding needed could be donated by others.
- PTA and PFC, as a joint effort, will equally split a total of \$500 towards the project.
- The garden is on a small plot of land just behind where ice cream sales takes place on campus.
- The large pine tree originally there, has been removed; the stump is remaining however, soon to be removed as well.
- A drip system is to be attached to the original waterspout that is nearby, along with plastic piping that will be run for proper watering of the garden.
- Plant Manager Rigo Rincon has graciously offered to help assist in these needs.
- The Stucco along the building will also be tested to make sure it is not "hot" (to ensure it's asbestos free).
- Science Enrichment Specialist Lori Belateche is very excited about the project and is currently developing lesson plans in conjunction with the garden project for next year.
- There is an honorary tomato plant that is currently growing now in the new garden area.

VI. Committee Reports – 20 minutes

PTA - Mark Johnston

- Reflections program was again highly popular amongst Carpenter students.
- Carpenter had seven (7) district winners, more than any other school in the San Fernando Valley.
- Book Exchange to begin next week. Books collected will benefit students at El Dorado Elementary School.
- February 26th, Sophia Lee will hold another Special Education Parent Awareness meeting in Café West at 8:15am
- \$250 dollars was voted on and approved to be donated to the gardening project.
- Thursday March 5, 2009 PTA/PFC to hold an evening General Meeting 6:30pm in auditorium on campus.

PFC – Cyndi Menegaz and Tonni Ratcliff

- 2009 Honorees announced: Jon Scheide, Charlotte Scheide, Tonni Ratcliff, Cyndi Menegaz, Lori Belateche, Barb Brabec, Wendy Schiffer, Mary Odson and the 2009 Community Honoree is Jeffrey Best of Firefly Restaurant.
- \$250 was voted on and approved by board members to be donated towards gardening project.
- Annual Giving Campaign has 246 families to date who have participated, raising a current to date of \$142, 000.

Open Forum

- Mrs. Parth - Tomorrow, Friday February 20, 2009 rain date for Jump Rope for Heart
- Mrs. Parth - As announced in the principal's page in the PTA newsletter, Carpenter has now become an LAUSD satellite kitchen. No meals are prepared here, just warmed. This also has reduced out Cafeteria Staff down to two (2), one six (6) hour employee, and one four (4) hour employee.

VII. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Mark Johnston, seconded by Cyndi Menegaz.

Meeting adjourned at 3:43 pm.

Next meeting – Thursday, March 19, 2009 from 2:40-4:00 in Café West.

2008- 2009 SSC/LEARN Council:

Chair: Michellene DeBonis

Vice-Chair: Dana Romick

Secretary: Tonni Ratcliff

Parliamentarian: Cyndi Menegaz

Parent Reps: Cyndi Menegaz, Dana Romick, Debbie Pisaro, Ross Salinger

Staff Reps: Linda Parth/Sandy Hartshorn (Admin.), Leony Keshishian (Classified Personnel), Betsy Becker/Jill Saletta (UTLA), Christine Colbert/Lynne Alberts (K/1st), Tami Hansen/Joni Finer (2nd/3rd), Melodie Hong/Nazzi Kaufman (4th/5th), Sharon Green/Barbara O'Hara (Special Ed.)

PFC Rep: Cindy Abrams

PTA Rep: Mark Johnston

ELAC Rep: Olga Vigdorichik

If you would like to have a topic added to the agenda, please forward your request 7 days in advance to Michellene DeBonis at debonis@roadrunner.com or any other SSC/LEARN council member.