

**Carpenter Avenue Elementary
SSC/LEARN Minutes
April 16, 2009
Cafeteria West / 2:40-4:30**

- I. Welcome
 - Meeting called to order at 2:55

- II. Old Business
 - Motion by Mark Johnston to approve March meeting minutes. Motion approved.

- III. UTLA Update – (Ms. Becker)
 - 2 Carpenter teachers had pink slips rescinded
 - Proposed action by UTLA, May 15th a one-day walkout, was discussed
 - New class sizes mandated by district were discussed. K-3rd will be 24-1, and 4-5th grades may be 36 to 1 (average class size)

- IV. PTA Update – (Mark Johnston)
 - Pennies for Patients raised \$1,400
 - Book exchange went well; donated books to El Dorado have made a marked difference in their library
 - Spelling Bee was a success
 - Nominations of PTA officers for 2009/10 school year is underway
 - Disaster Drill is scheduled for upcoming Monday
 - May 4th – 8th is Teacher Appreciation Week. May try to merge next year with PFC's teacher appreciation activities (which are currently scheduled after the dinner dance)

- V. Principal Update – (Mrs. Parth)
 - School Garden
 - Installation of the new school garden began on April 4
 - There are five new beds, some pots, and drip system is still being addressed
 - Classes will start to use the garden in the next two weeks.
 - Open House
 - To be held May 5th with classrooms open from 6-7 pm
 - PFC will host music. Raffle will be available for Dancing with the Stars and American Idol
 - District Budget Update
 - Mrs. Parth provided a lengthy update on proposed budget cuts and staff reductions, based on the most recent principal's meeting she attended and information provided by the district
 - Proposed reduction to APEIS positions is 475 to 200 – not certain how it will impact us at the school level, but we do know that we will no longer have a full time Assistant Principal at Carpenter
 - There may be funds available (approximately \$69,000) to purchase an additional support position (non-classroom staff), but it is unclear how exactly it can be spent. Mrs. Parth is investigating so we can

- develop a final budget for the 2009/10 school year. PFC may be asked to cover the shortfall if the position costs more than \$69k
- There was a lengthy discussion about funding discrepancies of between non-Title One schools and those who receive Title One funds (\$35 versus \$805 per student)
 - This year, we received a stipend so a teacher could manage materials the school receives for all teachers. Stipend may not be available next year (another example of budget cuts and how they are affecting our campus)
 - Mrs. Parth requested an emergency SSC/Learn session, at a date to be determined, to review the proposed school budget for next year and vote on its adoption. A motion was made by Cindy Abrams to approve holding a special session and seconded by Ruth Goodman. Emergency meeting was approved.
 - Additional discussion regarding No Child Left Behind and its relevance to the budget; loss of teaching positions at our school (due to retirements and class size changes).

VI. PFC Update – (Cindy Abrams)

- Annual track meet is this Friday
- Kindergarten coffee was held and well attended
- Greeting Card fundraiser is still underway (have raised \$1100 this year, but cards still available online)
- Annual Giving update – total money raised up, but percentage of participation is down
- Computers were approved for purchase and 22 are being installed before Open House. 20 older computers will be repurposed into classrooms where needed. Licenses have been purchased for software updates so all computers will be up to date
- Dinner Dance is in full swing and there was a call for volunteers to help
- One-liners are being sold for the next few days. Ads are finishing up on the 24th.

VII. Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn by Dana Romick and seconded by Cindy Menegaz.

2008- 2009 SSC/LEARN Council:

Chair: Michellene DeBonis

PFC Rep: Cindy Abrams

Vice-Chair: Dana Romick

PTA Rep: Mark Johnston

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.)

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.